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# Springwater NEWS

Edition 644 - February 2, 2023 Serving Springwater & Tiny Townships and surrounding areas

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## 1000 Trail Miles In One Day By Snowmobile, No Easy Feat

Lisa Whiteman, a local Elmvale resident, will be riding a snowmobile with her team mate, Jayme Hunt, of New Brunswick, for 24 hours to achieve 1000 trail miles. The event starts March 2nd at 5 pm and the entire ride is live and televised. Lisa is a finalist, on the first ever female team, for the 1000 mile challenge. This is a snowmobile endurance challenge to raise money to send kids from low-income families to camp.

There are four riders that qualified for this event. Lisa Whiteman and Jayme Hunt on an all-female team and Myles Darrow and Justin Young on a all-male team. There was a panel of judges that determined the four riders based on skill set, proven safe riders, online presence and brand of machine, as they wanted four brands to be represented.

This event was started by Rudi Fowler and Sam Charters. It started in 2021, as a challenge between friends to see if they could go 1000 miles in 24 hours. They got noticed and people wanted to give to money to see if this task could be accomplished. The men did not need the money and looked for a charity to give to. Now this is a event that will be watched and followed by over 600,000 people so far.

The current 000 Mile Challenge is an endurance challenge where two teams of two snowmobilers set off on a 24 hour mission to achieve 1000 actual GPS Miles on New Brunswick snowmobile trails. The mission is to raise funds that will be used directly to send children to summer camp, who would otherwise not afford to go. The riders are equipped with two-way satellite tracking by Garmin Inreach, and anyone interested can track their location live on social media and on a tracking website.

Lisa's story is that of a modern Cinderella. She was raised by a hard-working low-income family and persevered into a very successful and empowering woman. Lisa has passion to empower women to



embrace life and take on all the challenges even while in a male dominated world. The sport of snowmobiling is a male dominated sport and we are hometown proud of Lisa Whiteman and her team mate Jayme Hunt for rising to the challenge. As Lisa says, "Don't ever let your circumstances define you, don't allow your bloodline to clip your wings and force you into a life you're better than. You owe it to yourself and your own future to do what you want, to put yourself first and to stare difficulty dead in the eye and promise yourself you will overcome it. And if that means fighting for your place in a man's world then you get up every single day and you do that."

Lisa Whiteman is riding an unmodified Polaris 600cc sled. Lisa prefers this model because it has a "bullet proof" engine. It is not the fastest sled in the challenge, but she loves the stability that is has. She wants to finish the challenge. There are no winners for finishing the fastest, the goal is to just finish in 24 hours. The only winners are the kids that can go to camp.

This challenge is a large magnitude event that the average snowmobiler cannot accomplish. An average snowmobile rider may accomplish around 200 km in a day. The speeds that need to be maintained for this challenge cannot be done in Ontario. The trails in Ontario are too windy,

hilly, and heavily forested. Our trails have low speed limits for a good reason, and it keeps us safe. This event is in New Brunswick for a reason. The trails are straight, and the visibility of the trails ahead is very clear. New Brunswick does not have speed limits on their trails (neither do Alberta, Manitoba, or Nova Scotia). To complete 1,000 miles in 24 hours, the speed will need to be minimum of 60 km per hour average. A Polaris 600cc can obtain 157 km per hour on a smooth lake. Don't try this at home folks, it is not recommended in Ontario for sure. Our hospitals are overcrowded, and funeral homes are too busy.

The challenge is not a race but an endurance ride with the goal to finish. Each team of two will be travelling in opposite directions on the same trails in order to reduce the impulse to race. Lisa's husband, Bobby, will have a support vehicle with two backup machines, extra suits, clothing, food, water and essentials for the ride. The riders will connect with the support vehicle every 2 hours or 100 miles. The event organizers also provide a media vehicle and a fuel vehicle.

Fans are welcomed to cheer trailside, record and post content, and get involved. Last year's event captivated the entire province, parts of the country and fans from over a dozen States. People rallied together for the cause and the success of the event continued as race merchandise was ordered and distributed to fans across the nation.

The 1000 Mile Challenge 2021 Raised more than \$19,000 for children to go to camp. In 2022 this event raised \$76,000. Stay tuned for exciting details surrounding the 1000 Mile Challenge 2023! The event is getting bigger by the day and has viewers from all over Canada and the US.

Check out <https://www.1000milechallenge.ca/> for a live feed on the day of this event. Follow Lisa on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1000milechallenge2022/> and send her messages of support to keep her spirits up. She will need it.

**Lisa's Sponsors to date: Clairrose Contracting Inc, Seguin Marina, Hidden Harry's RMC Argo, Bob's Glass, Prefera Finance, Toyloan.com, Amanda Wilson Insurance, Branching Out Landscaping and Fast Forward Audio Video**

Sponsor Lisa and send low-income children, from Ontario, to camp.

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EDITOR’S NOTES

by Linda Belcourt, Publisher, Editor, Owner

Check out the new articles on our council in this edition. Springwater Council has given me a column called ‘Council Connects’. Dominika has spend an incredible amount of time on our column. This edition also has more history content on pages 12-13. This article is in response to the “Keeper of the Coffin Nail” article in the Jan. 19, 2023 Ed 643 on page 12-13. It contains facts for any potential treasurer hunters to follow our laws. I hope you are enlightened by this article. There are new additions of some small community groups enjoying the winter activities. Enjoy all that winter has to offer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please submit your letters to the Editor.  
Email: [info@springwaternews.ca](mailto:info@springwaternews.ca) or drop off at office. Contact information is on the right hand side of this page. **Phone number and address must be supplied for all letters to the editor.** The opinions expressed in articles contributed by interested parties and through the ‘Letters to the Editor’ do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this newspaper and/or the editor.


Dear Editor,  
I am writing to you to ask for your help in raising awareness for multiple myeloma, an incurable cancer also known as myeloma. Please help me get the month of March 2023 proclaimed as “Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month”.  
In 2022, a record number of nine Canadian provinces and territories recognized March as Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month, and municipalities across the country similarly recognized the last Thursday in March as Multiple Myeloma Awareness Day. This year, we are aiming to achieve nationwide recognition for Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month and, we cannot do without your involvement.  
I am living with multiple myeloma. On average, 11 Canadians are diagnosed with myeloma every single day, and this number has been steadily rising for over 15 years. According to a recent Statistics Canada report, the incidence of myeloma is now increasing at higher rate than any other type of cancer for males, and at the second highest rate for females.  
There are some risk factors related to cancer, and myeloma is no exception. Obesity and chemical exposure are important risk factors that contribute to the increasing number of cancer cases in the country. We need to make sure more Canadians are aware of this devastating disease, so that the increasing number of new myeloma cases can be more easily detected, treated earlier, and that people living with myeloma can live longer and better lives.  
In recent years, tremendous advancements have been made in research. Despite the promise offered by innovative new therapies, the stark reality of living with myeloma remains: no matter how effective any treatment is—I will eventually relapse and need a new one. When I relapse, I need to know a new treatment will be available for me and that I will have affordable access to it.  
By participating in our advocacy campaign and helping us make March the Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month, we can raise awareness for this disease that has taken the lives of too many Canadians.  
Help us make March 2023 Multiple Myeloma Awareness Month in all provinces and territories and give people living with myeloma hope for a brighter future. Visit [myeloma.ca](http://myeloma.ca) to learn more  
Sincerely, Martha Middleton

Comments to Council  
and Letter to the Editor

During the most recent Springwater Township budget deliberations I was struck by and thoroughly disappointed by the actions of Deputy Mayor Cabral and Councillors Moore, Fisher and Alexander who, in a recorded vote, did not support staff recommendations to hire a Community Engagement/Communications Officer for the 2023. Those councillors voting against it said that this position should wait until 2024 even though CAO Schmidt and Staff clearly articulated the need and justification for the position for 2023. In my opinion, not making this hire will limit community engagement and public relations activities, due to present Staff resource limitations. Surely they must recognize that our Municipality is growing at a fast pace. Residents, new and old, require information and support as they grow community activities. How can any Councillor not recognize this? COVID has taken its toll on community events such as the weekly Elmvale Farmers Market, The Fall Fair and the Maple Syrup Festival as well as all other smaller very important community events. Surely these are, at a minimum, Township events, and need staff support which in its present form is very sparse.

I was also incensed at the motion presented by Deputy Mayor Cabral and passed by Council to create a special discretionary operating budget of \$7,500 for each of the 7 councillors (\$52,500 a year for four years or \$210,000 for this term of Council from taxpayer dollars). These funds are for “them” to choose how to spend in their wards for “special purchases, services, events and other worthwhile causes”. This is in addition to the \$1,000 each year for each councillor and \$3,000 for the Mayor, which already exists for discretionary spending by them. In my opinion, this is a case of councillors getting involved in operations and not leaving this to staff who are employed to deal with operations based on an annual budget approved by Council. It was stated by councillors that it is too time consuming to come to Council for small items needed in each ward. That is what annual budget reviews are supposed to accomplish. Know your ward well enough to know what is needed for the next year and present the case at budget time for review and decision of the item(s) you want considered. Some councillors did not do this for this budget, in my opinion. I think this motion is a flagrant abuse of taxpayer dollars and is NOT being fiscally prudent as all of you claim to be. I feel it is also encroaching on operations when you are supposed to act like a board of directors.


I think that the other clear and present danger here is that the position of Mayor and Deputy Mayor, who represent “all” of the Wards, could improve their chances of reelection simply by piling this money onto certain wards leading up to the next election date. I presume that this is not something that they would ever do but the optics here are poor at best. I would like so see both of these items to be reconsidered in the next budget meeting on February 1.  
*written and submitted Rick Webster*



THE VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY

## Springwater News

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Articles can be dropped off, mailed or e-mailed 24 hours a day.

THE NEXT PAPER will be on Feb. 16, 2023




Publications Mail Contract No. 1443739

Unaddressed Admail No. 3684814

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**640** in Phelpston L0L 2K0  
**650** in Hillsdale including the Rural Routes L0L 1V0  
**2550** in Elmvale including the former R R# 1, 2 & 3 L0L 1P0 which includes Orr Lake, Waverley and some Tiny Beaches Road areas  
**265** in the Wyebridge area L0K 2E0  
**975** in Wyevale L0L 2T0 including Conc. 8 and some TBRS areas,  
**1325** in Perkinsfield including Balm Beach to Whippoorwill  
**1100** in R.R.# 1, L4R 4K3 (775) & 2, L4R 4K4 (300) areas of Midland which includes Vasey, Ebenezer and the area North-West of Wyebridge  
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### Elmvale Food Bank

Elmvale & District Food Bank is Giving Back Through a Caring Community.

**Food list of Items Currently Needed**

Canned Potatoes  
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Cream of Chicken Soup  
Canned Stew  
Canned Chilli  
Canned Meat - canned chicken  
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Cookies  
Cake Mixes  
Pudding Mix  
Drinking Boxes  
Green or Yellow beans in can  
Canned Tomatoes

The foodbank will gratefully accept any donations of food items. When these items are donated it will save them from having to purchase these items.



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## 2023 Flos Agricultural Society Annual General Meeting

The Flos Agricultural Society AGM took place Tuesday January 24th at St John's United Church in Elmvale.



Photo above: Congratulations to outgoing President Doug Ritchie for his leadership over these past three years.

Thank you for supporting the Elmvale Fall Fair.



It was remarkable to see many community members attend, share stories, enjoy a great meal all while celebrating the success of the 2022 fair!



Photo below: left to right: Doug Ritchie, Lori Clement, Matt Garwood



Photo above: left to right: Brenda Munshaw - President, Tanya King - 1st Vice President, Pat Leonard - Secretary, Doug Ritchie - Past President, Lori Townes - Treasurer and Matt Garwood - 2nd Vice President



Photo above: Editor Linda Belcourt, shown flying Grace, her Harris Hawk.  
Photo courtesy of Gerry Birch

## Bourgeois Motors Sponsors LUSH Curling Bonspiel



### 1986 CHAMPIONS

Tim McGinnis, Wanda Spring, Tanya Rowntree, Paul Archer

The LUSH club is a long standing private club that was formed in 1981. A group of Elmvale and district area guys; Tom and Tim McGinnis, Murray Archer and Todd. LUSH stands for Lost Channel Unemployed Seagull Hunters. The name was created at the first hunt camp adventure they went on that took place at Lost Channel in Loring area. They were playing road hockey and thought that forming a



Photo above: left to right Brad Dwinnell, Lisa Stroud, Donna Sullivan and John Degroot. Champion for 2023 LUSH



Photo above: left to right Larry McMann, Adrianna McGinnis, Bob Colyn and Jim Dixon Runner up for Championship for 2023 LUSH



Photo above: Tom McGinnis and Tim McGinnis both stated that they were the oldest LUSH member. The twins both started LUSH at age of 22. LUSH curling has been running for 36 years.

club would be a great idea. Forty two years later and they are a group of around 20 members that have been friends for life. Larry McMann stated, "The one thing that we done every single year, is we still get together. There has not been one fight". Every member has a nick name and even the name of the Lost Channel Seagull Hunters club has a nick name of LUSH.

The other clubs that have formed in our area are the Wilderness Club and Century Club. Maybe they will submit some facts for the Springwater News.

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## Upcoming Meetings

**Special Council Meeting -  
2023/2024 Budget**  
Thursday, February 2 at 5:00 p.m.

**Council Meeting**  
Wednesday, February 15 at 6:30 p.m.

**Elmvale BIA Meeting**  
Thursday, February 16 at 5:30 p.m.  
Virtual - email [info@elmvalebia.ca](mailto:info@elmvalebia.ca) for link

**Cultural and Heritage Advisory Committee**  
Wednesday, February 22 at 5:30 p.m.

**Committee of Adjustment**  
Wednesday, February 22 at 6:00 p.m.

The Township has transitioned its Council meetings to a hybrid format. Community members may attend in-person in the Council Chambers or remotely online. Council and Committee meetings are live streamed online at [springwater.ca/Live](http://springwater.ca/Live)

To view the meeting agendas, please visit:  
[springwater.civicweb.net/Portal](http://springwater.civicweb.net/Portal)

## Water & Wastewater Billing

Residential water bills will be mailed at the beginning of February with a due date at the end of February.

## Interim Tax Billing

The 2023 interim tax bills have been mailed. Installment due dates are:

- Wednesday, February 22, 2023
- Wednesday, April 19, 2023

Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the taxpayer from payment of taxes or from liability of penalty charges for late payment.

If your mortgage company pays your property taxes, your bill will be marked 'do not pay'.

## Surplus Goods

The Township of Springwater has the following surplus items available for sale:

- Poang chairs (sets of 2)
- Blue/grey computer desk
- Small computer desks
- Double computer desks
- Birch coloured laminate desk

For information or to place a bid, visit [govdeals.com/SpringwaterTownshipOn](http://govdeals.com/SpringwaterTownshipOn)



## 2023/2024 Multi-Year Budget

The proposed 2023/2024 budget is available online. The next meeting takes place on February 2 at 5:00 p.m. Read the proposed budget, watch meetings and learn more at [springwater.ca/budget](http://springwater.ca/budget)

## Official Plan Review Save the Date

**February  
23**

**Statutory  
Open House**  
6:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Administration Centre

**March  
8**

**Statutory  
Public Meeting**  
6:30 p.m.  
Hybrid Format

*Dates are tentative and subject to change.  
Formal notice to follow.*

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Learn more at  
[springwater.ca/OfficialPlan](http://springwater.ca/OfficialPlan)

## Summer

### STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

The Township has a variety of summer employment opportunities for students available in the following departments:

- Roads & Fleet
- Recreation, Parks & Facilities
- By-law Enforcement
- Day Camps

Applications will be accepted until Friday, February 10, 2023. For job descriptions and details, visit: [springwater.ca/Careers](http://springwater.ca/Careers)

Don't see something that interests you? Check our website as we upload new opportunities in the coming weeks.

## Join the Elmvale CRA

**February 21 — 7:00 p.m. — Springwater Room (Elmvale Arena)**

Do you live in Elmvale? Want to make a difference in your community?



The Elmvale Community Recreation Association is being revitalized and is looking for members. The AGM will be held on Tuesday, February 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Springwater Room, located on the upper level of the Elmvale Community Arena. The election of board members will take place during the AGM.

## Don't miss the 51st Annual Minesing Mini-fest

Friday, February 10 & Saturday, February 11

Join community members at the Minesing Community Centre for two days of fun! Events include the adult mixed bowling competition, pancake breakfast, chili cook-off, kids activities, Saturday night dance featuring County Line 2, and open family skate at the Minesing Pavilion.

The parade kicks off at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, beginning on Ronald Road. This year's theme is '**Retro TV Sitcoms**'.

### Where to get your Mini-fest Buttons

- Four Cedars
- Minesing Library Branch

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## Council Connects

### ROMA Conference

Members of Council and staff attended the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) conference in Toronto last week. This conference provides an opportunity to learn, network and delegate to Provincial officials on issues of importance to Township residents and businesses.

The Township of Springwater participated in two delegations to raise awareness, share resident concerns and explore possible solutions.

### Ministry of the Solicitor General



In response to increasing concerns from residents regarding traffic-related issues, such as speeding and disobeying traffic signs; the Township met with the Ministry of the Solicitor General, where Deputy Mayor Cabral led a discussion on regulatory changes to authorize traffic wardens or municipal special constables.

### Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry



The Township met with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, to request a temporary moratorium on all new or expanded gravel mining applications pending a broad consultation process. The delegation, led by Councillor Moore, voiced concerns regarding the number of applications being submitted without a definitive determination on the need for additional supply.

### Flos Agricultural AGM

Congratulations to the Flos Agricultural Society who gathered together on January 24, to hold their Annual General Meeting and celebrate the success of the 2022 Elmvale Fall Fair.

This special community event would not be possible without the hard work and commitment of a group of talented volunteers. A special thank you to outgoing President Doug Ritchie, who provided leadership and dedication throughout the past three years. Under his guidance, the Flos Agricultural Society was able to uphold community traditions while balancing the need for resident safety, throughout the pandemic.

The Flos Agricultural Society truly exemplifies what Springwater is all about, community spirit, traditions, and neighbours working together to get things done.

Council would like to congratulate the new Board of Directors: President, Brenda Munshaw; Past President, Doug Ritchie; 1st Vice President, Tanya King; 2nd Vice President, our very own Councillor, Matt Garwood; Secretary, Pat Leonard; and, Treasurer, Lori Townes. (refer to photo on page 3)

We look forward to celebrating the 161st Elmvale Fall Fair, which will take place on October 6 & 7, 2023.

### Outdoor Rinks

We are grateful to our dedicated community volunteers who are working hard to build and maintain outdoor rinks throughout the Township this winter. Most locations are now open; however, they are weather dependent. Mother nature has not been kind to our rink volunteers this year, so if you see a rink that is closed, please remain off the ice to ensure it is able to be maintained for future use. For location information and to learn more, visit [springwater.ca/OutdoorRinks](http://springwater.ca/OutdoorRinks).

## Township of Springwater Tax Hike Sits at 3.86 per cent as Council Continues Budget Deliberations

By Linda Belcourt and Dominika Zapolnik

Township of Springwater Council met again on January 20 to review and deliberate on the 2023 draft budget. After almost 8 hours of staff presentations, review and council deliberation, the township tax increase now sits at 3.86 per cent. Water and wastewater rates are also slated to increase 2 and 5 per cent respectively this year for residents using these services.

During deliberations some items were forwarded as presented by staff, some were adjusted, some declined, while others were added by councillors. The next budget meeting is on February 2 at 5 pm, where the items that are carried forward are reviewed and finalized for approval in the final budget.

In the opening statement at the January 20 meeting, Mayor Jennifer Coughlin thanked senior management and staff at the township for putting together "... a very progressive and sustainable budget." Adding that she felt the program changes brought forward in the budget were in direct response to what residents have been asking for.

One of the items that was axed in the 2023 draft budget was a Community Engagement/Communications Officer position, with duties to engage community residents, strengthen partnerships and support the Springwater Farmers Market in Elmvale. Council voted 4-3 against this, with Deputy Mayor George Cabral, Councillors Danielle Alexander, Phil Fisher, and Anita Moore opposed.

In response to an email sent after the meeting, Ward 3 Councillor Brad Thompson, who voted in favour of this position, stated he did so because he saw it as an investment that would pay off in the future and that "... with proper support of the farmers market, it will grow into an attraction that will benefit locals and draw people to our community to support local business."

An item pushed forward to the 2024 budget process is a possible renovation of the Elmvale branch of the Springwater Library, which includes accessibility changes to conform to Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) standards. A motion by Coun. Fisher and seconded by Coun. Moore included an amendment to have a special meeting before the 2024 budget deliberations to review the Library Master Plan, which sets this renovation as a top priority. The motion allowed for needed maintenance at the Elmvale library branch to be included in the 2023 budget.

A motion to increase councillor discretionary budgets to \$7,500 per councillor (for a total of \$52,500 per year), funded through taxation, was brought forward by Deputy Mayor Cabral, seconded by Coun. Moore and carried by council for inclusion in the 2023 draft budget. This would give each ward councillor access to \$7,500 per year, with any unused funds carried over for 12 months "for use within their respective ward for special purchases, services, events and other worthwhile causes which in their opinion would be meaningful, beneficial and worthwhile to their ward and residents." The motion also seeks to create a similar discretionary fund for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for township-wide initiatives including partnering with ward councillors on a ward purchase, service, or event.

Additional program changes that were added include an additional 1 per cent for the Capital Infrastructure Reserve, pickleball court painting and a basketball net at Hillsdale Pavilion.

"The (budget) process was extended to ensure there is sufficient time for Council to diligently work through the budget requests and make informed decisions prior to finalization," said Mayor Coughlin in a written statement provided by a township spokesperson. Adding that the next budget meeting is "when members of Council will have the opportunity to seek clarity from staff on any outstanding items and determine how to best achieve our mutual goal of producing a progressive, sensible and sustainable budget."

Budget deliberations continue February 2 at 5 pm and can be viewed live at the Township Administration Centre located at 2231 Nursery Road in Minesing or online: [www.springwater.ca/budget](http://www.springwater.ca/budget)



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Sports with Patrick Townes



After a successful 2022 season, Blythe Latimer of Wyevale is gearing up for the 2023 Snowcross Season! At just 8 years old, 2023 marks her 5th season racing snowcross with the Canadian Snowcross Racing Association (CSRA).

In the 2022 CSRA National Points Standings Blythe finished 2nd overall in Pro 206 1 and 3rd overall in 120 Stock 2. This year she is moving up to two new classes: Novice 200 1 and Pro 206 2. With the support of her sponsors (Latimer Excavating, Bruce Almond Drywall, Line-X of Barrie, Clearview Heating & Air, and B&B Towing) she plans to attend all scheduled CSRA events this season taking place across Ontario. There also may be an event held in Quebec. Just cross your fingers so Blythe gets the snow she needs and that no races get cancelled/postponed!

The first scheduled race was to be held at Georgian Downs in Innisfil on January 27th to 29th, however due to the lack of snow the event changed locations and was held in Lindsay. Overall, Blythe had a very successful weekend. On this past Saturday, in the Pro 206 2 class she earned a 5th and 3rd placing in her heat with a combined finish for 4th overall. In the Novice 200 1 class she earned a 4th and 1st placing in her heat, and then came 3rd in the final race. The results from this past Sunday included a 3rd and 4th place finish for 4th overall, and then finally another 1st and 2nd place finish in her heats with a 4th place in the final race.

Blythe is very excited to get the season started and having a local race to kick things off. There are sure to be many family/friends in attendance to cheer her on at the track. Keep up with this season’s fun by following Blythe on Instagram & TikTok at @ LatimerRacing. After this past weekend and evaluating her results, Blythe is excited for the rest of the season and will be chasing that gold medal! Congratulations Blythe. The Elmvale Curling Club was proud to host the annual Global Controls Group Cash Spiel this past weekend. This is the 20th annual event and has operated continuously, other

than during the Covid-19 years. The event has run historically with 12 to 16 teams from all over Ontario. A team from Calgary has also attended the last two events and are eager to return. There remain teams who still participate in the event who participated in the original spiel.

The overall winner of the event was the Bill Irwin team from Barrie. Bill noted during the awards that he has attend every event except for one, including the approximate 7 years the spiel was put on before the Global Controls Group took over as the title sponsor. It is estimated that the event has run for 27 years overall. The winner of the “A” event was comprised of Chris Krasowski (4th Rock), Don Campbell, Ryan L’Abbe, and Bill Irwin (Skip). A picture of the Irwin team is included in this article. The “A” runner up was one of the teams from Stroud comprised of Andrew Thompson (Skip), Stephane Lauzon, Dave Thompson and Kent Cheesman. The winner of the “B” event was won by another team from Stroud, skipped by Brandon Tippin, Tim Cornfield, Matt Pretty and Jeff Newburn. The “B” event runner up was the local team skipped by Larry Fleming, Darryl Prout, Trent Turner and Jaymie Townes.

Global Controls Group Inc. is an industry leader in Programmable Logic Controls, Human Machine Interface, Robotic Controls, and Supervisor Control and Data Acquisition. The company was founded by Allan Johnstone and Kevin Swan, who have sponsored both a curling event and gold event in order to raise proceeds for the local food bank. Since the last curling event, the company is under new ownership and the new owners graciously supported the event again in 2023. Following donations from both the Andrew Thompson team from Stroud and the Bill Irwin team from Barrie, the event raised \$1,400 for the local food bank.

Over the years, the community has also contributed so much to this event. Along with the title sponsor, there are many local people and businesses that contribute to this event. Again, without the support of the sponsors and our volunteers, the event would not be possible. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the event.

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42	43				44	45			46	
47				48					49	
50				51					52	

Across

- 1 Purpose
- 4 Functioned as
- 7 Cloud setting
- 10 I agree signal
- 11 Move on the water
- 12 Peach or rhubarb
- 13 Playground chasing game
- 14 Some royal tombs
- 16 “The Barber of Seville,” e.g.
- 18 Price word
- 19 Sews up
- 22 Cash register part
- 25 Remark
- 28 Link
- 29 Wonder plus fear
- 30 Dreamed up
- 33 Goes with station
- 35 See
- 36 Green colour
- 38 Monthly mag
- 42 Halifax’s ocean
- 46 Blubber
- 47 Scope out
- 48 Musical pitch
- 49 Longevity
- 50 Dupes
- 51 George Jr. to George Sr.
- 52 Wrong colour for the books

Down

- 1 “Render therefore \_\_\_\_\_ Caesar ...”
- 2 Cleaning bar
- 3 Do lawn work
- 4 Method
- 5 It is better fresh....
- 6 High-five sound
- 7 General mood
- 8 Billy the \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Agreement
- 11 “\_\_\_\_\_ Invaders”
- 15 Encountered
- 17 Backboard attachment
- 20 Concludes
- 21 Stage
- 23 Fish story
- 24 Wielded the baton
- 25 Tube top
- 26 Hogwarts postal carrier
- 27 Kid’s illness
- 31 State
- 32 “\_\_\_\_\_ no big deal”
- 34 Roll-call call
- 37 Kitchen pests
- 39 Leave a mark on
- 40 Motivate
- 41 Regarded guardedly
- 42 Dusty grey
- 43 Social
- 44 Overly
- 45 Auberge



Blythe Latimer of Wyevale is gearing up for the 2023 Snowcross Season

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Thank you to our Sponsors!

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# Ontario Expanding Learn and Stay Grant to Train More Health Care Workers

Province connecting over a dozen underserved and growing communities with more health care workers

The Ontario government is connecting over a dozen underserved and growing communities with more health care workers by expanding the Learn and Stay grant. The grant, which was announced in March 2022 for students who enrol in nursing programs, will also include paramedic and medical laboratory technologist programs in priority communities. Eligible students will receive full, upfront funding for tuition, books and other direct educational costs in return for working and caring for people in the region where they studied for a term of service after they graduate.

“Expanding Ontario’s Learn and Stay grant to include nurses, paramedics and med-techs in more underserved and growing communities is another innovative solution that’s connecting people to care, closer to home,” said Premier Doug Ford. “It’s also one more way we’re making sure that all Ontarians in every corner of the province, no matter where they live, have more convenient access to the care and support they need.”

Grant applications for the 2023-24 academic year open this spring, targeting 2,500 postsecondary students who in enrol in the following programs and regions:

- Nursing programs in northern, eastern and southwestern Ontario
- Medical laboratory technologist/medical laboratory sciences programs in northern and southwestern Ontario
- Paramedic programs in northern Ontario

“This is a historic investment in our students and in the future of our health care workforce in Ontario,” said Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges and Universities. “By providing targeted financial incentives to encourage students to learn and work in priority communities, the expanded Learn and Stay grant will ensure that our health care professionals get the training they need to make immediate impacts

in local hospitals, long-term care homes and other health care facilities after they graduate.”

With more than 12,000 new nurses registering to work in Ontario last year – a record breaking year – and another 30,000 nurses studying at a college or university, the expanded Learn and Stay grant will continue to increase the number of health care workers providing care to people, closer to home.

“We know the status quo isn’t working, so we need to move forward with bold initiatives to add more health care professionals in Ontario and especially in rural and remote communities,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “Expanding this grant beyond nursing, to include two additional health care roles in high demand will help ensure that Ontarians, no matter the size of their community, will receive the care they need in their communities.”

The government continues to take action to build up the province’s health care workforce to ensure patients can access the health care they need when they need it, no matter where they live.

### Quick Facts

- Applications for the Learn and Stay grant will open in Spring 2023.
- The government has committed \$61 million over the next three years for the Learn and Stay grant.
- To be eligible for the grant, students must:
  - be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or protected person and live in Ontario
  - enrol in an eligible diploma, advanced diploma, undergraduate, masters or post-graduate program in a priority region
  - commit to work in the region where they studied for a minimum of six months for every year of study funded by the grant.
- Students can also apply for the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) to help pay for other costs, such as living expenses.
- The program is responsive to evolving labour

market needs and could be tailored for any program, profession or region. In future years, the grant may be expanded to include more programs and regions to help respond to localized labour market needs in underserved communities in Ontario.

• As part of the Learn and Stay Grant, \$81 million will be invested to expand the Community Commitment Program for Nurses for up to 1,500 nurse graduates in 2022-23 and 2023-24 to receive full tuition reimbursement in exchange for committing to practice for two years in an underserved community.

### Quotes

"The Ontario Hospital Association welcomes the Learn and Stay Grant, which will attract new health care workers to small, rural, and northern communities. This innovative program helps ensure that health care organizations in remote areas of the province have the health human resources needed to maintain access to the highest quality of care. Ontario hospitals appreciate the responsiveness of the Government of Ontario in recognizing the unique pressures being faced and in introducing timely solutions that will make a significant impact at improving recruitment and retention over the long term."

- Anthony Dale  
President and CEO, Ontario Hospital Association  
"The Ontario Association of Medical Laboratories welcomes today’s expansion of the Learn and Stay Grant program. We are pleased to see the program will focus on training additional medical laboratory technologists in northern and southwestern Ontario. The community laboratory sector is an essential component of Ontario’s health care system, and we look forward to welcoming these new medical laboratory technologists into our communities."  
- Paul Gould  
CEO, Ontario Association of Medical Laboratories

## Health Unit Shares Tips To Stay Active, Healthy and Safe This Winter

Physical activity keeps the body strong and healthy and can improve mental health. Winter is great season for outdoor activities, such as skating and sledding, but extreme cold temperatures, snow and ice can pose health and safety risks for everyone. The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) offers some tips and reminders to help you stay safer this winter when being active outdoors.

Cold weather is common in the Simcoe Muskoka region and exposure to extremely cold temperatures can cause serious and sometimes life-threatening health problems. Knowing the weather conditions before going outside can help you prepare and adjust your plans accordingly. When spending time outdoors, stay alert and watch for signs of hypothermia, frostbite, and frostnip, and consider shortening outdoor play for children when temperatures are between -20°C to -25°C (with or without wind chill). Keep children indoors if temperatures reach or drop below -27°C (with or without wind chill).

It can be tempting to stay indoors when its cold out but being physically active outdoors is good for your overall health. Getting outside and being active can be as simple as going for a walk around your neighbourhood, or as action packed as hitting the slopes to go skiing, snowboarding or sledding – and be sure to remember to wear a helmet to reduce the risk of head injuries.

Dressing for the weather helps to preserve body heat when spending time outdoors and should include a base layer, a fleece or wool sweater mid-layer, and a wind/waterproof jacket. Top it off with a hat, gloves or mittens, and a scarf to cover exposed skin. Remember that winter boots are not just for keeping your feet warm. A well fitted boot with a good tread that offers stability can help prevent slips and falls on ice or in slushy and snowy conditions.

As respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), influenza and COVID-19 infection continues to be transmitted in our communities, the health unit strongly recommends using multiple layers of protection such as staying up to date with vaccinations, staying home when sick, wearing a mask and cleaning high-touch surfaces to prevent infection and severe illness.

## Midland Town Council Approves 2023 Budget

On Thursday, January 26th, Town of Midland Council voted to approve the Town’s 2023 Operating and Capital Budgets after three full days of review with Town staff.

“In its first budget cycle of this term Council undertook a rigorous review of the proposed 2023 Budget,” said Town of Midland Mayor Bill Gordon. “This budget approval delivers a balanced approach between providing the necessary services to our community while keeping the tax rate as low as possible given the extraordinary economic challenges we face.”

**The approved 2023 Budget will result in a 4.58% levy increase, or a 3.99% blended rate, and includes:**

- Estimated County and Education rates.
- 1% increase in the sustainable capital levy.
- 5% increase in Water Rate = \$1.72 increase per month for a typical user.
- 4% increase in Wastewater Rate = \$1.56 increase per month for a typical user.

This blended rate equates to a \$5.08 increase per month per \$100,000 of property assessment to support municipal, County and school board services.

**Highlights of the approved 2023 Budget include:**

- Upgrades to Little Lake Park, Tiffin Park, Pete Pettersen Park and the Waterfront Trail.
- Launch of the Downtown and Attainable Housing Community Improvement Plan.
- Community safety enhancements to Town buses including automatic radio announcements of bus stops and visual bus stop displays to assist passengers with visual or hearing challenges.
- New pedestrian crossings at

three main pedestrian intersections.

- Increased levels of service in the areas of tourism, operations and by-law enforcement.
- Free Transit and Harbour parking for Midland seniors.
- NSSRC fees remain at 2022 rates.
- Continued support to various community organizations and events.
- Paid resident boat launch services and parking.

“We are pleased to arrive at a budget that allows us to maintain our commitment to the excellent customer service we provide,” said Acting CAO Andy Campbell. “This approved budget came in below the rate of inflation while providing increased service levels and infrastructure improvements for our residents and businesses.”

The amended Operating and Capital Budget summaries will be posted in the coming week to the Town’s website at Midland.ca/Budget.

## MIDHURST PHARMACY

Let’s Talk About...  
**Learning to Swallow Pills**

With Pharmacist Owners Jenna Lougheed and Carolyn Glover  
Many parents ask us to help their children learn to swallow pills. Crushing pills can have a very bitter taste (and not always appropriate based on the release of the tablet) and liquid versions are not always available/wanted.

- Here are some practical tips:
- Have the parent model how to put in the mouth and swallow
  - Practice with candies in increasing size. Often a child can handle smaller sizes to start and will eventually be able to take larger tablets
  - Pills can be placed in yogurt, apple sauce or pudding to ease the swallowing process
  - Sitting up and tilting the head back or to the side is usually more successful
- We can review various options depending on the medication (like capsules instead of tablets). If liquid still seems to be the best option, we are able to customize the flavour at no additional charge. Come in to speak with us today about ways to help administer medications to your child.

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## SPIRITUAL and MENTAL HEALTH

## ANNIE'S JOURNAL

by Annie Warner Donnelly



## Building a Biblical Framework, Part 1

Have you ever thought about what the Bible says about who we are as individuals?

In John 1:11-13, we read: "... as many as received Him - Jesus - to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

In Romans 8:14, we read "for those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God."

In Matthew 5:9, Jesus said, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called the children of God."

In Matthew 18:1-6, Jesus expanded on what it means to be a child of God: "At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, 'Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' Then Jesus called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, and said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me.'"

In Galatians 3:26, the Apostle Paul who was writing to the adults in the churches of Galatia, also made it clear that age is not a factor in being a child of God when he wrote: "... For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus."

Our identity then is this: no matter how young or old we are, we are children of the living God, created by the hands of a loving Father, redeemed by the death and resurrection of His only begotten Son, Jesus, and guided and comforted by His Holy Spirit. As God's children, we are called to love Him with all our heart, our mind, our soul and our strength – and with the same intensity, to love each other.

From these few examples, we see that as children of God, we are to receive and believe Jesus; we are to be led by the Spirit of God; we are to be peacemakers; and we are to humble ourselves as little children.

How can we humble ourselves and love God as we are invited to love Him? How can we stay focussed on the essential elements of our relationship with Jesus when we are in the midst of the evil that surrounds us; the demands that distract us; the relationship issues that sadden us; the inaccurate information we hear about the character of our God?

One way is to build a Biblical Framework that includes: God's kept promises; stories that illustrate God's true character; stories about Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our faith; and stories about the testimonies of others.

You may be asking yourself: Why build a Biblical Framework? Join me next time to hear the 1935 story of Boeing's Model 299 for one good reason. Amen.



Rosie's Devotions by  
Rosemary Hagedorn

## What Is God Like?

When someone talks about God, do you envision Him as an old man with a long white beard, looking down from heaven and surveying the earth and its inhabitants? Or do you see God as an invisible force, unattainable and unreachable?

Sometimes, we expect God to fit our template, our design, and our thinking. But God is not within our limited, man-made boxes. He is outside and all around us. We seek the God we want, not the God Who is!

The God that I have come to know is a personal God; a God who loves us unconditionally; a God who listens to us and promises to be with us until the end of time; and a God Who sacrificed His one and only-begotten Son so that we may obtain eternal life.

But sometimes, we want God to work fast and on demand without suffering on our part. But God knows us better than we know ourselves. There is a reason that He doesn't give us what we want. All we need to do is trust in His wisdom and mercy.

Acts 17:22-29 – So Paul, standing before the council, addressed them as follows: "Men of Athens, I notice that you are very religious in every way, for as I was walking along I saw your many shrines. And one of your altars had this inscription on it: 'To an Unknown God.' This God, whom you worship without knowing, is the one I'm telling you about.

"He is the God who made the world and everything in it. Since he is Lord of heaven and earth, he doesn't live in man-made temples, and human hands can't serve his needs — for he has no needs. He himself gives life and breath to everything, and he satisfies every need. From one man he created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand when they should rise and fall, and he determined their boundaries.

"His purpose was for the nations to seek after God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him — though he is not far from any one of us. For in him we live and move and exist. As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.' And since this is true, we shouldn't think of God as an idol designed by craftsmen from gold or silver or stone." (NLT)

Revelation 1:8 – "I am the Alpha and the Omega — the beginning and the end," says the Lord God. "I am the one who is, who always was, and who is still to come — the Almighty One. (NLT)

What is God like to you?

**Prayer:** Father in heaven, forgive us for putting things that we idolize ahead of You. Keep our focus on doing Your will and trusting in Your wisdom and guidance. Strengthen us to abide in You, even though the road gets rough and we are confronted with uncertainty. Change our hearts to worship only You, the great I AM. Amen.

Rosemary Hagedorn  
Midland, Ontario

## Understanding: The Goal of Healthy Communication

When we have children, we are training the next generation of humans. That is a big responsibility to be sure. We are now seeing so much conflict and disharmony from the individual to the global level. We shake our heads in disbelief, but perhaps we should not be so surprised.

The same negative dynamics that play out in the world are similar to what is happening in some families, in our schools, and in our culture. Judging, criticizing, taking sides, and gossiping about others are toxic human behaviours that are incompatible with creating peace.

Getting stuck in one's ego perspective does not allow for respectful communication or effective problem solving. There is no room for understanding the other. As parents or educators, we can model a different way of communicating that could change those destructive patterns.

For example, sometimes parents feel that in a discussion with their child, the child does not listen, and is argumentative. The irony is the child may have learned poor listening manners from the parents. Parents tend to skip over the part of the communication where the child states his point of view.

This happens for a few reasons 1) we think we already know what the child's argument will be, 2) we already know what our answer will be, 3) we really do not want to be having the discussion.

Now, imagine you wanted to make a point to your boss, and he or she came to you with the above mindset, refusing to listen. You know how you would feel. Children get frustrated and either start responding angrily or disrespectfully, or they shut down and do not even bother to discuss things with parents a because: 1) they already know what the parent's argument will be, 2) they already know what the parent's answer will be, and 3) they see no point in having the discussion with us. What we have is dead-end communication, so why bother?

The more positive approach is to listen with an open mind. Allow the child plenty of time to state their case. Commend them for the good points they make. Then, gently communicate your point of view.

Take the time to ensure they understand why you think as you do. This way, even if your answer is still no, the child at least feels heard, and that his ideas and feelings are valued. You might even find a compromise. If this happened globally, what a different world it would be. Children learn what they live, so we must be ever conscious of what we are modeling.

*Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, CDs or MP3s, visit [www.gwen.ca](http://www.gwen.ca). Follow Gwen on Facebook for inspiration.*

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### RVH's Emergency Department experiencing higher than normal volumes

Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) is currently experiencing higher than normal patient volumes, especially in its Emergency Department (ED), resulting in longer than usual wait times.

As reminder to the public, in the event of a health emergency, RVH's ED is the right place to be and receive care.

As an alternative for non-urgent health issues, RVH's COVID, Cold & Flu Care Clinic is open for pre-booked appointments seven days a week, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To book an appointment at the clinic, please go to the RVH website [www.rvh.on.ca](http://www.rvh.on.ca).



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## \$1 Million Gift Revolutionizes Medical Learning at RVH

### Transformative donation positions RVH as provincial leader in VR Education

Innovative Automation, a Barrie company recognized as a global leader in advanced manufacturing technologies, today announced a \$1 million gift to the RVH Foundation's Keep Life Wild campaign to support the advancement of immersive medical education at Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH).

The Innovative Automation Simulation Lab at RVH will be a state-of-the-art medical education centre focused on the integration of high-fidelity manikin and virtual reality (VR) simulation technologies. It will give medical teams the opportunity to practice their skills in hyper-realistic environments.

The investment has positioned RVH as a leader in immersive VR medical education. Simulations can be customized to match the health centre's physical layouts and equipment configurations and reproduce complex medical scenarios. It can also integrate team-based immersive experiences to train for major traumas and other highly specialized situations. The goal is to establish a first-of-its-kind partnership with hospitals across the region to share these virtual resources and improve the teaching quality and capacity across Simcoe Muskoka.

"For RVH's care teams to advance their skills, they must have opportunities to stretch beyond their current competencies without taking risks on real patients. A modern simulation lab incorporating virtual reality alongside physical patient simulators provides an immersive world where clinicians and trainees can practice high-risk, low-incidence scenarios safely and effectively," said Dr. Chris Martin, Chief and Medical Director for Critical Care, Director of Medical Education, and Co-Medical Director, Trauma.

Dr. Martin emphasized the impact this gift will have on the region to the Innovative Automation team during a demonstration of virtual reality simulation technologies.

"We are excited by this opportunity to transform the learning experience at RVH," said Stephen Loftus, Innovative Automation's founding partner and

CEO. "This investment in simulated learning will give our region's medical community advanced and specialized training, which will in turn positively affect the health of everyone who receives care at RVH."

The Innovative Automation Simulation Centre is part of RVH's expansion plan to bring more world-class care closer to home to better meet the needs of a growing region. The Keep Life Wild campaign, with a goal of \$100 million, will support the expansion to ensure that everyone in our regions stays healthy and can keep living the wild life they love.

"Our vision is to be Canada's leader in immersive medical education in a community hospital setting because we know that to do so will save lives," said Pamela Ross, RVH Foundation CEO. "This gift is an example of philanthropic leadership."

Innovative Automation is using its giving to change the future of health care in the region. This is the power of generosity and imagination in action."

About Innovative Automation: Innovative Automation in Barrie, Ontario is a global leader in automation assembly and production services, specializing in innovative solutions for the most advanced manufacturing technologies. Through a broad range of community initiatives, charitable giving and volunteerism, Innovative Automation seeks to keep our community as a place where Innovators want to live and work.

About RVH Foundation: RVH is the heart of healthcare in Simcoe Muskoka. As the region grows and ages, the strain on this vital resource is significant. In 2022, RVH Foundation launched the Keep Life Wild campaign to rally the community to protect the unique way of life that comes with living here. Our goal is to raise \$100 million to expand RVH, doubling the size of the current site in Barrie and building a new healthcare facility in Innisfil. Donor support will make it possible to reduce wait times, end hallway medicine and bring more world-class, specialized care close to home so that everyone in this region can stay healthy and stay wild.

**Photo Below (front row, left to right): Dr. Chris Martin, RVH Chief and Medical Director for Critical Care, Director of Medical Education; Michael Lalonde, Innovative Automation President; Rhonda MacPherson, RVH Foundation Board Member; Mary-Anne Frith, Keep Live Wild Co-chair, Campaign Cabinet; Gail Hunt, RVH President & CEO; Stephen Loftus, Innovative Automation CEO and the team at Innovative Automation celebrate the company's \$1 million gift to support the advancement of immersive medical education at RVH.**



### A Message from Doug Shipley, Member of Parliament, Barrie— Springwater—Oro-Medonte

I hope that you are all enjoying the new year and that 2023 will bring peace and prosperity to you and your loved ones.

As we make our way through a new year, we must continue to focus and work hard for what is important. On January 30th, the house resumed for the winter session of parliament, and I am pleased to be returning to Ottawa to represent you.

Many Canadians are worried about challenges that our country is facing. Affordability, housing, processing backlogs for government services, and Bill C-21 are among the concerns that are top of mind for residents of Barrie—Springwater—Oro-Medonte.

As your Member of Parliament, I will continue to work hard to try to make life more affordable for your family. I will continue to advocate for our rural residents, many of whom are hunters and farmers, whose ability to protect their livestock and provide for their families will be impacted by Bill C-21, and the hunting rifle amendments that were introduced in late 2022.

As always, if you or your family have concerns with any federal matters, please contact me at 705-728-2596 or [doug.shipley@parl.gc.ca](mailto:doug.shipley@parl.gc.ca).

Sincerely,  
Doug Shipley, MP  
Barrie—Springwater—Oro-Medonte




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Do Something Good This Season

With the Winter upon as many of us rush away to foreign countries, for the 1st time in a while chasing the warmth of the sun, some of us will stay home and enjoy the cold. Whatever you do try to find some time this winter season to give back to someone else there's always someone who's struggling more than you. It could be a person that you know, maybe it's someone you don't know, yet. This act of kindness doesn't have to be even to a person, it can be an animal. There are so many things that you're able to do - you could donate blood? But if you're like me maybe you don't like needles had one break off in my arm in grade 8. So then, you could donate to the food bank or the local animal shelter but this season try to spend some time thinking of others, it will make you feel good.



Honestly, the options are endless I recently went on a trip to Jamaica as I had this amazing opportunity to not only photograph but work with Critically Endangered Hawksbill Sea Turtles, and I couldn't



turn down this opportunity. The things I got to do during this trip were amazing not only the sea turtles at Oracabessa Bay, was amazing and the fact I got to video tape and photograph it as well, made it better. The knowledge I got to share and pass on with people over that 10 day, the with Critically Endangered Hawksbill Sea Turtles I helped on this trip! I swam with a Green Sea Turtle and 100s of baby Hawksbill Sea Turtles, want mom dig the hole and then lay hundreds of eggs and different eggs hatch and baby turtles make their way to the waters edge for the 1st time. And the number of turtles that I hopefully helped I can't wait to get back the figures on the nest that are still to hatch. In 10 days, I moved 549 Eggs to a safer spot, watched 812 walk the sand to get stronger and their 1st few strokes on their 10,000 km



journey back to this beach, hopefully in 20ish years. I'm released lots of videos sharing more in-depth information about all of these adventures but in Episode 55 in Journey's with Jason that will give you a great summary of this educational and exciting trip. So, you can witness the experiences described above. I hope that you enjoy and join in on the journeys' YouTube - Jason George Photography Enjoy this festive season! Until next time, Stay safe, Have fun and enjoy the wildlife! Jason George

*P.S. If you are enjoying reading my articles, please check out my YouTube channel – Jason George Photography - to follow the journey. Jason George Photography Check out www.jasongeorgephotography.com Contact me for all your Photography needs No Job is too BIG or too small.*

Pickleball Is For Everyone



Pickleball is for everyone. It's purported to be the fast-growing sport in North America. It's addictive, fun, entertaining, competitive, recreational while promoting health and camaraderie.

To meet the popularity, the Town of Midland has approved funding for the expansion of the pickleball courts at Tiffin Park to eight from four. Thanks-go to Council for their progressive thinking.

The courts at Tiffin Park are open to all individuals in the community. With eight courts, Tiffin Park could become a pickleball destination centre that would attract new residents and visitors.

Pickleball has experienced significant growth in the

last five years. It is a sport for all ages, and abilities. You can play indoors at the North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre seven days a week



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Cricut Mug Program

Our monthly Cricut project in February is a custom mug. Using our special Cricut markers you can draw your own mug! One mug per booking. Cost \$5. Elmvale Branch: Thursday February 9, 4:30pm-5:30pm or Midhurst Branch: Tuesday February 21, 4:30pm-5:30pm Registration required.

Krafting with Kathy

This month's take home and make kit is a Gnome. Available at branches Thursday February 2, while supplies last.

Tutoring Help

Partnering with the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board we are happy to offer FREE 1 HOUR group tutoring sessions with a certified teacher. Thursday evenings 5pm-7pm at Midhurst Branch. Registration required. This program is for grades K-3 and 7 and 8 who will work in groups of up to five students.

Vaccine Clinics at the Library

In partnership with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, Nurses will be at the Elmvale library on Monday February 6 from 1:30pm-4:30pm as well as Thursday March 23 from 10:30am-3pm. Primary doses are available for eligible people aged 6 months+ and booster doses available for eligible people aged 5 years+. Appointments can be booked at: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine> or by calling 1-833-943-3900. Walk ins are welcome while supplies last.

STEM Program

Ages 7+ sign up with a friend, come as a team and see if you can work together to complete several STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) challenges. Thursday February 9, 5:30pm at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

Minesing Minefest

Swampy is back again and so is the library bookmark contest! Minesing library will be open at 9am and ready with some easy crafts for you to try. Saturday February 11, Minesing Branch 9am.

Kaitlyn Take and Make

This month celebrate Valentines with a cute pom pom love bug. Available Thursday February 16, while supplies last.

Creative Adults

Learn to crochet a pot holder at this month's Creative Adults event. Suggested donation: \$5. Saturday February 18 at Midhurst Branch 1pm or Monday February 27 at Elmvale Branch, 2pm. Registration required.

Family Day Closure

Please note, all branches of Springwater Public Library will be closed Monday February 20 for Family Day.



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## Ontario Expanding Mental Health Services for Children and Youth in Every Corner of the Province

**“One Stop Talk” program connects youth to mental health counselling by phone, video, text and chat**

The Ontario government is investing \$4.75 million to expand the “One Stop Talk” virtual “walk-in” counselling program to connect children, youth and their families with more convenient and timely ways to access mental health counselling no matter where they live.

“Our government is making it easier and more convenient for children and youth in every corner of the province to access mental health care,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “This program offers modern, convenient options for youth to connect to help in ways that they’re used to communicating.”

The “One Stop Talk” service offers convenient ways to talk to a clinician by phone, video conference, text and chat without an appointment. The program began as a pilot in November 2022 with six participating mental health organizations and is now being expanded to additional organizations and their waitlisted patients. When fully implemented, the program will eventually be available to all children, youth and their families.

The government is also significantly expanding the number of Youth Wellness Hubs across the province to make it faster and easier for young people to connect to mental health and substance use support, primary care, social services, and more. Through the Addictions Recovery Fund, the government

is adding eight new youth wellness hubs to the 14 that were created since 2020, bringing the total to 22 across the province.

These hubs help fill the gap in youth addictions services and also provide children and youth aged 12 to 25 a range of other services, such as vocational support, education services, housing and recreation and wellness.

“Through our Roadmap to Wellness, we are focused on fixing our complicated and disjointed mental health and addictions care system once and for all,” said Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. “Significantly expanding our network of Youth Wellness Hubs is one more way we’re creating a system where Ontarians of all ages have convenient access to the highest-quality mental health and addictions supports, when and where they need them.”

Ontario’s Roadmap to Wellness plan – the province’s mental health and addictions strategy – has so far provided \$525 million to use innovative solutions to improve the quality and access to mental health supports while shortening wait times and removing gaps in service. The plan is built on four central pillars – improving quality, expanding existing services, implementing innovative solutions and improving access – that are designed to work together to support the delivery of the services people need, where and when they need them.

### Quick Facts

- The eight new Youth Wellness Hubs will be



in Algoma Region, Kingston Frontenac Lennox and Addington, London-Middlesex, Sagamok Anishnabek First Nation, Sarnia-Lambton, Sudbury, Thorncliffe Park, and West Toronto.

- One of these new Youth Wellness Hubs will be located at Sagamok Anishnabek First Nation and will offer culturally safe and appropriate primary care, mental health and addictions services to Indigenous youth in and around that community

- Ontario’s mental health and addictions strategy, Roadmap to Wellness, was released in March 2020. It sets out a vision for an Ontario where everyone has access to high quality mental health and addictions treatment and support, when and where they need it.

- The Roadmap was developed from the ground up, based on conversations with Ontarians.

- Once fully implemented, the One Stop Talk service will provide immediate, low barrier access to brief counselling services through a single virtual access point from anywhere in the province.

## Under The Glass

*Under the glass is a column by Mr David kai for VMLC. David Kai is a published author nationally, a TV and radio commentator on investments, asset classes, collector and investment markets.*

### Maximizing Your Returns Via Bragging Rights

To an investor, maximizing your returns is important. Most collectors are not concerned about the returns they will get monetarily on a future date. Most collectors’ returns are in the gratification they receive upon acquisition. The problem...How do you collect and be able to sell later, at a profit? This is a big problem we see all the time is in estates (deceased peoples stuff), that is then to be sold without any background or history.

You need to keep associated records with your treasures. You need to tell others where those records are, what those records say, how to get the records, and most importantly, why they need to review those records.

VMLC as an organization, and myself on a personal basis, often get approached to provide an estimate of a sale price for an item. That’s fine, it’s what we are here for. Often there is a hint or a suggestion that such was used here or there, but no documentation or circumstances to add value. To turn a collectible into an investment a certain set of conditions are usually required. Age and uniqueness, it has to be older unique yet attractive to a searcher and potential buyer.

The right number made. Too many in existence lowers value. Not enough, it does not have a following to create a market for it. Condition better equals more value. Provable usage to create a value added. Desirable to an acquirer either by condition, display appeal, future potential appreciation, or my favourite “Bragging rights”. Once I attended a classic motorcycle auction in Las Vegas, where the motorcycles were selling from \$5,000 to \$250,000.

A special speaker came in to explain to all the collectors and investors why and how a classic motorcycle was valued and why its price may be higher or lower. His answer is applicable to almost all investment grade collectibles. The items value is in the fact that I have it and you don’t! That is what he said. So take that as good advice.

If you buy more expensive items that are on the verge of moving from collectible to investment grade, as long as other people want what you have, you can be fairly certain that the item will not only retain its value, but substantially appreciate.

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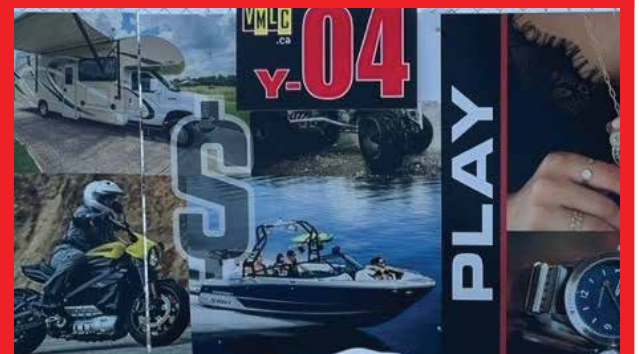
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## Protecting Our Shared Canadian Heritage



Nottawasaga Valley  
Conservation Authority

By Trevor Carter, Licenced Archaeologist (shown below on right) & Kyra Howes (shown below on left), Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority



We are writing in response to Keeper of the Coffin Nail published on January 28, 2023 in Springwater News.

Our Canadian heritage is a fragile gift that requires constant protection. Our buried history is a limited resource. Once an artifact is dug up and its context is lost, it can never be replaced. All archaeological work in Ontario, even on private property, requires an archaeological licence and must follow specific processes to make sure this information is not forever lost.

Most importantly, licensed archaeologists are required to report all of their findings. These reports can then be accessed by members of the public or for future research projects. Since unlicensed excavators do not do this, some of our shared Canadian heritage is lost to researchers.

Activities like metal detecting can be an exciting pursuit, with detectorists often finding items that were recently lost at public beaches or other locations. However, when metal detecting is used to dig up older historical artifacts, it not only causes archaeological damage, but it is also illegal under the Ontario Heritage Act. Any type of unauthorized digging at an archaeological site permanently damages our shared Canadian heritage.

The story of our nation is drawn from three main sources: oral history, historical documents and archaeological artifacts. Just as oral history can be lost to time, historical documents can be lost due to fire, carelessness or purposeful destruction, and archaeological sites can be damaged by accidental disturbance or wilful plundering. With the loss of each piece comes a loss in the ability to learn more about our collective history.

The Township of Springwater is a community with a rich history, and one site in particular has been designated as a provincial and federal historically significant site, now known as the Fort Willow Conservation Area. This property has been owned by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority since 1974, but was once an important site during the War of 1812. Over the decades, this site has seen its share of accidental and purposeful destruction.

Fort Willow is a precious piece of our War of 1812 history. Sadly, it has suffered greatly at the hands of unlicensed excavators, site reconstructions, metal detectorists and periodic looting.

Poor quality excavations in the 1950s by Wilfrid Jury, followed by decades of looting by metal detectorists and curiosity seekers have all taken their toll on the archaeological remains at the site.

Like most professions, archaeologists must follow very specific requirements that guide the profession and must also hold a ministry-issued archaeological licence. Professional licenses require at minimum a Masters' degree and the licensed professional must follow the profession's Standards of Practice set out by the Ministry of Culture. The archaeological studies conducted by Trevor Carter have so far logged over 30,000 artifacts from the site. These items have

helped uncover some incredible stories from before, during, and after the site's War of 1812 period.

When Jury conducted his excavations in the 1950s, he removed the ceramics and generically labeled them all "China", an inaccurate term for all kitchenware, without any additional identification of the different ceramic types, even though proper archaeological methods did exist at this time. More recent studies, based on the location and types of ceramic uncovered, made it possible to identify buildings at the site as being used either by officers or by soldiers at Fort Willow. In the early 1800s, an industrial method for printing designs on ceramics, called transfer printing, was growing in popularity. The trendy printed ceramics were rather expensive and tended to be used by society's elites, while the majority of the commoners still used the 'lesser' hand painted ceramics. When pieces of predominantly transfer printed ceramics were identified within one particular structure at the site, it was determined the residents of that building were higher paid, higher class members of society able to afford these fashionable pieces and were likely from the officers' quarters.

Interesting that now, the trend has changed and hand painted ceramics are highly sought after and prestigious, compared to mass produced, mechanically printed ceramics.

Studies have also uncovered the remains of a homestead, likely from settlers in the early 1900s. The study at this location found items that were indicative of life during that period, including a candle snuff, fragments of a child's doll and kitchenware. Of particular interest was a small thimble. A common tool used at the time, this particular thimble was unique in that a wad of fabric was found inside the centre of the thimble, likely put in place to fit the finger of a small child.

Unlike what many people may envision, a professional archaeological study is very methodical. Think brushes and small trowels, instead of shovels. Measuring tapes instead of metal detectors. Every piece of soil is thoroughly examined, sifted and recorded to make sure no critical piece of information is missed or lost.



Photo above: Student Excavating at Fort Willow Conservation Area - photo by Trevor Carter

When untrained individuals dig up artifacts, this destroys valuable information surrounding those artifacts.

Archaeologists use a wide range of information to learn about an archaeology site. Unlike treasure hunters, they don't only look for individual artifacts, but they also look for patterns in the places where artifacts are found across a whole archaeological site. Archaeologists also look for other finds at a site like pits or trenches that aren't really artifacts at all.

Looters, metal detectorists and curiosity seekers, on the other hand, are only looking for single objects,

and when they dig them up, they destroy important information about them, including their precise location, the layer of soil they were found in, and a list of any other important finds found alongside them.

Those who plunder artifacts from an archaeology site might have a rough idea where they found an artifact, but they do not record their finds using a precise grid system. This precise information helps archaeologists look for patterns in artifacts across an entire archaeological site. Also, looters dig blindly through multiple layers of soil and do not record which layer an artifact was found in, which loses valuable information for dating the artifact.



Photo above: Student Sifting Soil from Excavation Site - photo by Trevor Carter

Metal detectors are particularly problematic: since they only detect metal objects, the detectorist may dig up other important non-metal artifacts like pottery, bones or stone tools as they seek out the metal object that triggered the "hit": in the process, details about these other non-metal objects are now also lost.



Photo above: Digging properly in an excavation at Fort Willow Conservation Area - photo by Trevor Carter

The information that can be learned from an artifact's location, soil layer, and nearby finds is often more important than the artifact itself. Regrettably, this valuable information is forever destroyed when artifacts are dug up by unlicensed excavators.

An example of the importance of context of location was in the discovery of the brick kiln at the Fort Willow Conservation Area. The kiln was protected from damage by looters because of its unique location. It was located in a valley just below the main fort. During the severe 1954 storm known as Hurricane Hazel, over two meters of sediment was deposited in the valley, creating difficult conditions for accessing and excavating the kiln.

In 2015, the professional archaeologist-led team painstakingly sifted through huge quantities of sediment to reach the kiln. Once the kiln was

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uncovered, researchers were able to determine it was constructed at the same time as the other buildings at the Fort, and not built during the late 1800s or early 1900s as had been speculated. The researchers were able to determine this because of the undisturbed layers of soil upon which the base of the kiln was sitting. When these layers were compared to the soil layers in the Fort, it was clear that the kiln and the Fort were constructed at the same time. The kiln's relatively undisturbed state made this conclusion possible.



Photo above: Excavation of the Brick Kiln - photo by NVCA

Uncovering the kiln however, didn't uncover the whole story. For example, what were the bricks from the kiln actually used for? None of the buildings in the Fort seem to have used the sheer number of bricks that the kiln would have produced. This may indicate that the bricks were constructed at this location and possibly transported to another settlement area. Based on the remote nature of this location, this would have been a very laborious task, likely involving ox-carts down the corduroy road and boats to transport them to another location. The report generated from this study will now be available for future researchers to help to continue to uncover the rest of the story of the kiln.

Buried artifacts help us create a shared history for all Canadians, but when they are dug up and pocketed by looters, they become the possession of a single individual. Even if the objects are reburied, information about the artifact is forever lost: the reburied artifact can never be placed back into the same precise location or in the same layer of soil from which it was recovered.

Unlicensed excavation of any kind with the goal of recovering archaeological remains is illegal under the Ontario Heritage Act. This applies anywhere in Ontario, including on personal private property. The Ministry makes it clear that excavating anything produced by past human activity, whether on a known or unknown archaeological site, is illegal under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Please contact the local authorities if you witness any unlicensed excavations of an archaeological site. All Canadians deserve to have their shared heritage protected and preserved for today and for future generations.



Photo above: Example of Artifacts from 1900 Homestead - Photo by Trevor Carter



Nottawasaga Valley  
Conservation Authority



Photo above: Example of Artifacts from 1900 Homestead - photo by Trevor Carter

Photo below: Trevor Carter at Officer's Quarters

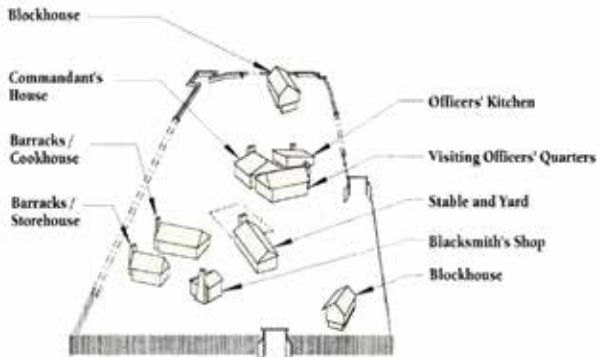


Photo above: Historic Building Layout at the Fort Willow Conservation Area



Photo above: Archeological Findings from the 'Officer's Quarters' at the Fort Willow Conservation Area - photo by Trevor Carter



Photo above: Palisade Entrance at the Fort Willow Conservation Area – photo by NVCA

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Who Murdered Michael Kent?

Another year has almost passed since I first wrote this article many years ago on the murder of Michael Kent and his death has still not been solved almost 57 years after his body was discovered in the arena parking lot in 1966.

I will continue to republish this article every February until hopefully someone will finally come forward to police with information to finally punish the person(s) involved in this crime.

written by Mike Townes

Who Murdered Michael Kent?

Everyone has events and dates that have taken place in their lifetime that they will never forget. If you are around my age, born in 1953, you will remember Elvis and the Beatles on the Ed Sullivan Show, the assassinations of John and Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Neil Armstrong walking on the moon and yes, even the Toronto Maple Leafs winning the Stanley Cup.

The above events were all seen on television and were many miles away, but closer to home, most people my age in our area will remember February 11, 1966. That is the date that Elmvale went from a sleepy, innocent small town to the place where six-year old Michael Kent was murdered.

February 11th was a normal busy Friday night at the Elmvale Arena and Curling Club. The weather was a little snowy but the parking lot was full of cars as teams from Midland came to play hockey against Elmvale.

Michael came to the arena with his father and mother to watch his older brother play against Elmvale. At some point, he became separated from his parents. Investigators are not sure if Michael was taken from the arena or if he had followed his father outside. The family’s car had become stuck in the parking lot, so, after getting the family inside, his father had gone outside to try to get the car out of the snowbank.

After a quick look inside the arena, a search party moved outside in the hope of finding Michael. At about 8:40 pm, he was found outside lying near the hydro pole on the west side of the Curling Club (The addition to the Curling Club was not there in 1966.)

Michael was rushed to the office of the late Doctor Douglas Patchell located where Superior Cleaning is now situated. At the time, the search party had thought Michael had been hit by a car, but after removing his snowsuit, Dr. Patchell soon realized that the young boy had been stabbed several times. Doctor John McKenzie was called to rush down to the office to assist, but it was too late to save the six-year old.

Almost instantly, the Ontario Provincial Police were everywhere in Elmvale, especially at the Arena. Everyone leaving or coming had their cars searched for the murder weapon or clues that would help find the murderer. Eventually, the knife was found on the roof of the Curling Club. The knife had no fingerprints and could not be traced to any stores or owners in the area.

I can remember being at the Arena that night. I had refereed my youngest brother’s hockey game at approximately 6:00 p.m. and had stayed around the rink because I played at roughly 8:00 p.m. I played goal, so halfway through the game I was called to the bench for a goalie change. That is when I first heard about the murder of Michael Kent. I will never forget that. Life in Elmvale changed that night.

Kids that walked to the arena or any other place in town were now driven or accompanied by an adult. Neighbours looked at each other differently as rumours ran rampant on who was being investigated for the murder.

All the kids and adults that were at the arena that night were interviewed by the O.P.P. We were mostly asked if we had seen anything unusual in the lobby or outside. I remember, after telling the officers that I had arrived at the arena 2 ½ hours before my game, why I was there so early.

After fifty-seven years, the murder case of Michael



Photograph of Michael Kent

Kent is still an open investigation. Over that time span, numerous leads have been followed up, but these did not lead to any arrests. Officers involved in the investigation over the years have met to see if anything has been missed. A few years ago, an officer traveled to the east coast to interview the family just in case any new facts about the case surfaced. I was told that any new investigation tools that were not around in the 60’s also were not of any help in solving the murder of Michael Kent.

Police still cannot reveal details of the case because the investigation is still open and the case is being looked at periodically when new information becomes available. I had a chance to talk to police several years ago about my memories, the rumors, and the weapon used but, again, since it is still an open investigation, understandably, they could not confirm or deny any of my questions.

It is good to know that the investigation of this case is still active, even after such a long time. It is a day I will never forget. Michael Kent will always be part of my life. Hopefully, if still alive, the person responsible will come forward, or anyone who has information leading to that person(s) will contact the authorities for further investigation. You can call 24-Hour Police Services at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-8477 with information on this case or any other case that is still open. If you can help, make the call.

Today, we still do not know who murdered Michael Kent. I hope the person responsible for this crime is still not walking among us. If they are, they must have been living their life with a guilty conscience eating away at them for almost 60 years. The family of Michael Kent needs closure. Elmvale needs closure. I know I do.

Over the years, I have hashed over that night thousands of times.

Was the murderer local or from the Midland area?

I feel that whoever committed this crime had to return to inside of the arena and that is why the knife was thrown on top of the Curling Club. They did not want to be caught with the murder weapon. This makes me lean more towards an out-of- town,

as a local would just leave the area with the weapon. This seems like a planned crime as the murderer brought the knife, and if a local, they would not have planned to return to inside the arena.

Why commit the crime on the west side of the arena?

There was a street light next to the curling club near where the body was found on the west side. If the murderer went to the east side, there was less chance of someone exiting the curling club or arena and catching them in the act or being seen. The east side was very dark with lots of room to commit the crime and a lot less chance of being caught. This again, would make me lean towards a non-resident who did not know the lay of the land around the arena. But a resident could have used the curling club to lure Michael to the west and then pull him around the west side when they realized there were no witnesses. A person taking a child around the corner on the east side would not have an explanation for their actions if caught.

Why pick Michael Kent?

Any given night at the arena, kids were everywhere. If the murder was planned by bringing the knife, I think the chances the murderer had picked Michael in advance would not be reasonable. The murderer likely waited until the right opportunity and Michael was in the wrong place at the wrong time. A local that would have stood out at the arena would be less likely to commit this crime, but a visitor would be less visible to the crowd.

There are lots of questions that I cannot answer about this crime. If you know anything, please call Crime Stoppers right away. It may be just a little thing that solves this case.



Photograph of the knife found on the roof of the Curling Club

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## Roasted Beet Salad with Horseradish Dressing

The pairing of roasted sweet beets and hot horseradish is a flavour combination that is sure to wake up the palate. A wonderful side dish using one of the most colourful root vegetables on the planet, beets are an absolute pleasure at this time of year.



### INGREDIENTS (4 servings)

- 4 -6 medium-size beets, tops removed, washed and scrubbed
- 3 cups (750 ml) mixed greens, Boston lettuce or baby spinach
- 2 – 3 tablespoons (30 - 45 ml) prepared horseradish
- 1 cup (250 ml) sour cream, vegan sour cream or Greek yogurt
- 3 tablespoons (45 ml) mayo or vegan mayo
- 2 teaspoon (10 ml) white wine or apple cider vinegar
- 2 cloves garlic, peeled and minced or ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) garlic powder
- ¼ teaspoon (1.25 ml) salt
- ¼ teaspoon (1.25 ml) black pepper
- Fresh herbs (tarragon, dill, or parsley) or thinly sliced green onions as a garnish when plating (optional)
- Salt & freshly ground pepper to taste when plating (optional)

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 375 F (190 C).
2. Place beets on a tray, lined with either foil or parchment paper. Roast in a preheated oven about 1 hour, turning occasionally until tender. Let stand at room temperature until cool, about 1 hour.
3. Thinly slice beets and refrigerate until serving.
4. In a mixing bowl, combine the horseradish, sour cream, vegan sour cream or Greek Yogurt, mayo or vegan mayo, vinegar, garlic, salt and pepper. Refrigerate until serving.
5. To serve, divide the lettuce among the serving plates. Top with the beet slices and drizzle the horseradish dressing on top.
7. Garnish with fresh herbs or green onions and add extra salt and freshly cracked black pepper to taste (optional).

### ENJOY

*Joanne Nijhuis MSc, RD is a consulting, media and culinary dietitian in Simcoe Grey Bruce on a mission to entertain and educate through her love of food. In addition to recipe development and writing for several publications, Joanne offers cooking demos/classes and counselling – in person or online via Zoom Health.*

*For more information, email Joanne at jo.knows.nutrition@outlook.com.*

*www.joknowsnutrition.com*

*Instagram: jo\_knows\_nutrition*



### Did You Know?

Beets, with their vibrant red colour, are loaded with nutrients and antioxidants. A good source of folate, potassium, magnesium, phosphorus, iron and fiber, beets pack a powerful nutrition punch.



So it has happened, I have reached that loathed milestone of half a century. I have never dreaded this birthday as some do, but I was certainly not looking to embrace it either. That would be like looking forward to embracing smelly monkeys, or a group of zombies. No thank you. I have reached that age where my brain is saying that I am still as young as I was when I got married, while my mirror throws back sarcastic comments about the newest wrinkle. It is with disgust that I find out that you can be fifty and watch a new wrinkle form right next to a small pimple. Sigh. I had planned on facing this newest year of my life with the mantra “fabulous and fifty”, but I realized I just don’t have the energy for that kind of enthusiasm. Fifty and flatulent, sure; fifty and flabby, umm, in certain places, but fifty and fabulous? I am told that it is all in your attitude. Well, my attitude would be throwing lots of “f” words out, but not the ones I can use here, only when driving and people forget what their car signal lights are for.

I am not afraid of those wrinkles, though those pimples can seriously return to the teased hair and Duran Duran days of my misbegotten youth, which I must say was a really fun time to live in (I regret nothing, except maybe leg warmers). My face looks older than I would like, with age spots, wrinkles, and lines. Yet, I earned each of those lines and spots. As a seventies and eighties child we did not use sunscreen, instead it was baby oil on the skin and lemon juice in the hair. In my twenties I spent all my time outside; roller blading, rock climbing, cycling and swimming

## Bearbells by Leslie Noonan

in the lake. By my thirties I was hiking and biking and had no thought of using sun screen though I knew I should. Enter my forties and the lines and spots started appearing. I finally grew up and now use sunscreen and wear a hat, but lets be honest, the damage is done. And I am ok with that because I have spent my first fifty years living and not obsessed with how my eyebrows are shaped. Though if that is your thing, well, you do you, just make sure you wear sunscreen.

I spent my fiftieth birthday exactly the way I like it. The daytime temperatures were hovering around zero and the sun was so warm I left my coat open. I headed out on a trail that no one had been on in a while, as I was the first to leave footprints in the brittle snow covering. The sunlight glinted off the ice-covered trees and as the light reflected through the branches, it felt as though the forest was covered in chandeliers. The ice fell through the branches with a tinkling sound, as though I was walking through a forest of silver chimes, or a wall of broken glass. Stay positive Leslie, so chimes it is! I love my time alone in the bush and my time on multi-day solo hikes in the back country. Yet, my hips ache even with the best sleep mat, and my knees are starting to creak and groan (wait, that is me groaning) with my longer hikes. It maybe time to admit that I might not get to do all those great solo back country trips that I wanted, and instead I will have to do Canadian and European solo treks with a hotel to stay in every night. I am sad to potentially give up my solitude and crappie camp food, but it is ok to let go of some dreams and make new ones. After all, I plan of making the next fifty years even better than the first fifty! Cheers everyone!

## HIDDEN GEMS - Indoor Gems by Leslie Gowens

For many Springwater residents, winter is a wonderful time to enjoy many of their favourite outdoor sports and activities while taking in all the beauty of a rural landscape blanketed in snow. For others, winter is a season they must endure and hope for its early cessation. This can often lead to the winter blues or a feeling of being “on hold”. But what to do?

Hailing from a similar climate, the Danes and Swedes have developed a way to combat this general feeling of seasonal dissatisfaction. While the Danes refer to it as “Hygge” the Swedes call the practice “Mys”. Basically, both concepts involve creating cozy spaces within your home to enjoy the peace and warmth of your own company or the comforting



companionship of family and friends. To create this sense of coziness, people embrace all things soft, cuddly, soothing and toasty. Think warm blankets, flannel pajamas, warm cups of coffee, tea or hot



cocoa. Mulled wine and charcuterie boards often make an appearance when friends gather for board or card games or just an evening of good conversation. Cuddling up with pets and a good book are also

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highly encouraged. Indulging in at home “spa time” also makes its appearance with face masks, hot baths featuring essential oils and candles playing a big role. For those wanting to really chill, the crackling flames of a fireplace and some soft background music, adult beverage in hand, work wonders.

Wanting to venture out from home but still enjoy the heat of the indoors, our area has a number of worthwhile activities you may want to check out. If bowling is your thing, why not take a visit to either Springwater Lanes or Georgian Bowl. Offering six 5 pin lanes that feature Glow Bowling and Bumper Bowling, Springwater Lanes in Elmvalle also provides a chance to improve your arcade and billiard skills as well. Collingwood’s Georgian Bowl has 12 lanes with Glow in the Dark Bowling being especially popular. There is also an arcade and a fully licensed snack bar.

For a more intense indoor physical experience, Climber’s Corner, located at 95 Sandford Fleming Drive, Unit 4 in Collingwood offers climbing activities and lessons for both children and adults at the beginner or advanced level. A boulder wall offers an independent, non-equipment experience. Kidding Around Indoor Playground and Parties is a 5000 square foot indoor play facility for children 10 and under that will have the kiddies running, playing and exploring for hours.

Those seeking out pursuits leaning more towards arts and history, may wish to take a trip to Collingwood to visit The Candy Factory to view candy manufacturing up close and personal and to investigate old candy manufacturing equipment. Treat yourself to a sweet before you leave. Our very own Springwater Museum is another wonderful way to spend part of your day. New events and displays are always making an appearance. Check out their website to see up and coming features. For the true artist, Fergusonvale Pottery offers lessons courtesy of Ken Loverock, a potter with 30 years experience in wheel thrown pieces. The facility is located at 1010 Flos Rd. 4 W. in Phelpsston. Register online for February 2023 classes. One often overlooked resource is the neighbourhood library. Springwater has locations in Midhurst, Elmvalle and Minesing. In addition to being able to check out a wide range of books and electronic materials, these libraries also offer book clubs and arts and crafts activities. Lastly, don’t forget the local YMCA (our closest is located in Wasaga) that offers programs and free indoor open swims.

Winter, like it or not, is a fact of Canadian life. Hopefully, some of you will take heart in knowing there are more options beyond adding to the hibernating hermits population.



Today, February 2 is Ground Hog Day. As this column is prepared in advance, the forecast by the furry prognosticators won't be published here. Will they see their shadow and run back into their hollow or no shadow and spring will come early? Winter up to now hasn't been that difficult with the milder temperatures but the lack of sunshine has definitely made it seem longer.



On the positive side, the rink, after a considerable delay, is now ready for skating. Thanks to Chad and his helpers, the ice is in good shape and with the colder temperatures this week a great base has been created. Watch the Anten Mills Community Facebook page for updates and go enjoy the ice while you can.

Another great thing that is now coming into its third week is the Sunday morning Anten Mills Playgroup at the community centre. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents with toddlers to meet others and have an hour of play. A Facebook posting referenced a similar playgroup that met more than three decades ago. The post was from a former resident who had taken her daughter to the previous group and was reminiscing about how fun it was back then. It's great to see the full circle of current parents engaging in fun events from their childhood.

The rink, the playgroup, the Easter Eggstravaganza and all our community events are as a result of our community volunteers working with our Anten Mills Community Recreation Association. Annually there is a requirement that the CRA hold a general meeting to update the community as to the current status of the association and to bring them up to date on activities planned and in the past. Do you like what has gone on in the past? Do you have an idea for an activity that you would like to see in the future? Are there enough activities and events for the children, adults

ANTEN MILLS by Dennis Gannon

and seniors in the community? Is there sufficient recreational equipment in our parks? Would you like to help out at one of the events? The CRA is always open to ideas, comments and suggestions and would like to hear from you. The general meeting is your opportunity to discuss all these ideas so plan to attend on Thursday, February 16 at 7:30PM in the community centre. Our Ward 3 councillor, Brad Thompson will also be in attendance that evening and will bring an update on Council proceedings and as well be there to answer questions that you may have. Put the time and date in your calendars now and be sure to attend. There will be posts on the Facebook page as well to remind everyone.

One of the weekly events that is held at the community centre is euchre on Thursday night. Prior to the restrictions a good number of people attended regularly and enjoyed an evening of fun and some competition. The numbers have unfortunately dwindled but there is still a small group of regulars. You don't need to be a good player or even know how to play to enjoy this fun evening. The euchre group would be happy to have you join them. They are at the community centre on Thursday evenings and start at 7PM.

The Anten Mills community signboard along Wilson Drive is always a great place to announce important family events. Most recently a Happy 65th birthday was announced for a longtime resident and former writer for this column. If you would like to have something posted send an email to antenmillsign@gmail.com and details will be sent to you on how the

process works. The snow accumulations haven't been too severe this winter and until recently there hasn't been much on the ground. Now that there is, it is important to remember that if you have a fire hydrant in your yard or near you it should have a one metre snow clearance around it. When firefighters need to hook up to a hydrant they do not have the time to clear the snow away. Take the time now and make all fire hydrants in the community available should they be needed.

February is Heart Month. During this time of the year we are reminded about good heart health. Do you know the difference between a heart attack and sudden cardiac arrest? Do you know how and when to do CPR? Are you aware that we have available 24/7/365 an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) at the community centre that anyone can use in the event of a cardiac emergency? Take the time this month to learn about CPR, how an AED works and stop by the community centre and look at where the AED is located. Remember, that knowing CPR and applying an AED can make a significant difference in the outcome should a cardiac event occur.

There will not be a Family Day event in our community this year. Our neighbours in Minesing will be celebrating their 51st annual MiniFest on the weekend of February 10. Take some time and go join in their great events.

That's all for this week. Remember that it will be Valentine Day on the 14th and chocolate should be on your list! Thanks for Reading and Be Well.



HEY DADS! by Jason Weening

HEY DADS! When was the last time you went for a visit to your grandmother? I know some of us don't have a grandmother any more but I'm blessed to have two of them around still. I visited both of them with my kids this week. So my kids were visiting their great-grandmothers. Both of them are Dutch but came to Canada from different parts of Holland after World War II. We call them by their Dutch names, Oma and Beppe (pronounced Beh-Pa). They say Beppe's from the Newfie part of Holland so that's why she's not an Oma. They do things differently there apparently.

So while we were visiting Beppe I was snooping around in a box of old pictures and letters and came across the clever poem copied below. After doing some research I found out it was originally written in 1947 by two clever fellas named Dwight Latham and Moe Jaffe who were inspired by a Mark Twain anecdote titled, "Very Closely Related." The Muppets performed it on their show in 1976 (you can find it on

YouTube) and it was also recorded by Willie Nelson in 2001.

It was so clever I was standing alone in an empty room at Beppe's laughing out loud as I read it. You may need a pencil nearby to sketch out this clever, yet legitimate, family tree. So, dear fathers, pay close attention and you'll see how it's possible that someone could be telling the truth when they tell you,

"I am My Own Grandpa."

"Now, many many years ago  
When I was twenty-three  
I was married to a widow  
Who was pretty as could be

This widow had a grown-up daughter  
Had hair of red  
My father fell in love with her  
And soon the two were wed

This made my dad my son-in-law  
And changed my very life  
My daughter was my mother  
'Cause she was my father's wife

To complicate the matters  
Even though it brought me joy  
I soon became the father  
Of a bouncing baby boy

My little baby then became

A brother-in-law to dad  
And so became my uncle  
Though it made me very sad

For if he was my uncle  
That also made him the brother  
Of the widow's grown-up daughter  
Who, of course, was my step-mother  
My father's wife then had a son  
That kept them on the run  
And he became my grandchild  
For he was my daughter's son

My wife is now my mother's mother  
And it makes me blue  
Because, she is my wife  
She's my grandmother too

Now, if my wife is my grandmother  
Then, I am her grandchild  
And every time I think of it  
It nearly drives me wild

For now I have become  
The strangest case you ever saw  
As husband of my grandmother  
I am my own grandpa"

Jason Weening is not his own Grandpa but is Pa to nine bouncing children and one wife who is as pretty as can be. For more clever stories check out his YouTube channel at heydads.ca.



Karen McDonald

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Senior Curlers Go Golfing (1998)

The Friday afternoon Senior Curlers have learned the recipe for fun;  
Make competition secondary while you enjoy the camaraderie of everyone.  
So when a phone call came proposing golf, I accepted the invitation  
Even though I normally try to avoid this expensive form of summertime frustration.

When the twenty-four of us got to Orr Lake the day was both sunny and warm;  
Some golfers complained they should have been back home haying on the farm.  
Bob Newman registered the golfers, and then he verified the count;  
He said he'd be checking when we finished to see if we still had the same amount.

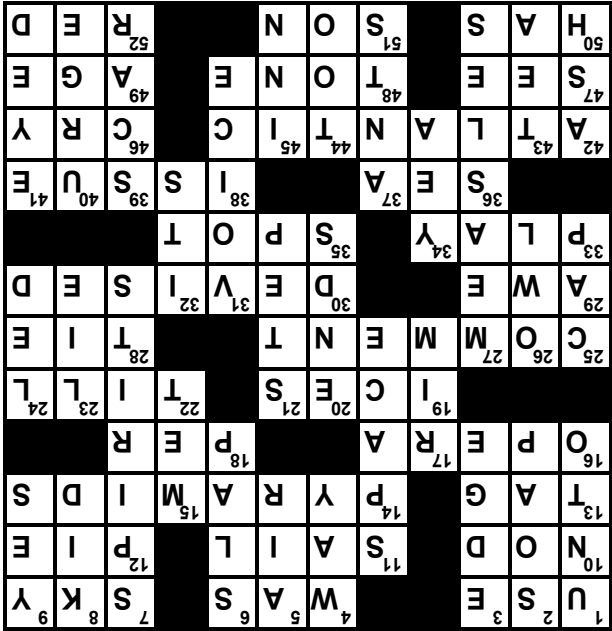
He said you have to be on the lookout for difficulties when you organize a "seniors scrum".  
But he felt a whole lot better with Doc MacKenzie in the middle foursome.  
Now, a round of golf that's played with seniors isn't short on entertainment;  
A lot of golfers learned to play approach shots from a rather treed environment.

I'll spare the reader of all those details that cause golfers unwanted embarrassment;  
I don't want to be excommunicated from this group where my winters now are spent.  
We finished up and headed for the Curling Club for our noonday rendezvous  
Where Ed Reynolds and Allan Brown impressed us with their skills on the barbecue.

Win Downey won for the 'longest drive', Kevin Healey for landing 'nearest the pin';  
Jack Downey got named 'honest golfer' although a lot had scores like him.  
Low score for the seniors' tournament was Boots Ritchie's claim to fame  
Although Ron McAuley and Gary Turner had attained scores that were just the same.

Special thanks goes out to Ed Reynolds, Bob Newman and Allan Brown  
For bringing the "Old Gang" back together when our winter retreat has been shut down.  
I'm a "non-descript" at golfing, and I guess my curling wouldn't open any eyes,  
But I sure look forward to a beer and burgers, and a place to tell some lies.

June 98 - Small Town Philosopher



Vanishing Barns: Remembering the 18<sup>th</sup> century gentle giants through photos, stories, diaries and genealogy.

Cathy Johnston Walton

Available from Cathy Walton at 705 728-1388 or [snow-flake53@mail.com](mailto:snow-flake53@mail.com)  
Ritchie's Feed or Simcoe County Museum.

**Vanishing Barns** - Cathy Walton has been researching barns in Flos and Vespra Townships (now Springwater) for the last six years and has published the results in the book "Vanishing Barns".  
If you are interested in a copy, please contact Cathy at 705 728-1388 or [snow-flake53@mail.com](mailto:snow-flake53@mail.com).

Concession 7, Lot 4, Flos Township  
1169 Flos Road 8, Springwater Township

Concession 7, S½ Lot 9, SE¼ Lot 10, Flos Township  
1446 Flos Road 7, Springwater Township

Owners		
1957-present	Wallace and Myrtle (Beamish) Greenlaw	<b>Built:</b> 1800s
1934-1972	Alvin and Marjory (Kirkpatrick) Greenlaw	<b>Dimensions:</b> 40 x 72'
~1918 <sup>2</sup>	Robert and Elizabeth (Drysdale) Greenlaw	<b>Bents:</b> 5
~1887 <sup>1</sup>	David Ganton owned and Walter Ganton rented	<b>Water Source:</b> 125' well after 1979

A 1" clay tile ran from a spring in the bush to a trough at the barn. The overflow went to the Wye River across the road. Water was pumped from a well for the house.

The barn burned October 14, 1979. Wally broke his leg October 23rd as he was cleaning up from the fire. Thirty five to forty men volunteered and rebuilt the barn between November 1st and 30th. John Draper was the boss. Myrtle worked full time, baked and cooked beef, pork and turkey. Vera (Carney) Lawrence served the noon meal for the men. The Greenlaws were given hay and straw to replace what was lost. The barn included a stable for cattle, two mows and a granary.

The farm is now rented and cash cropped.

Myrtle and Wally Greenlaw



The barn burned down October 14, 1979.



(Photo courtesy of Myrtle Greenlaw)

Owners		
1996-present	Ed and Bev (Madill) O'Neill	<b>Built:</b> late 1800s, early 1900s, demolished in 2015
~1996	Ken and Valah (Parnell) Cooper	<b>Dimensions:</b> L shape 36 x 70, 40-50'
~1887 <sup>1</sup>	Tom D. and Margaret Cooper	<b>Water Source:</b> dug well, then several drilled wells

The L shaped barn was built at two different times. Ed O'Neill grows wheat, soy beans and corn.

Ed O'Neill, Don Robertson, Elmvale Union Presbyterian Cemetery.







### Midland Public Library Celebrates Family Literacy Day

Midland Public Library is excited take part in Family Literacy Day 2023 - Celebrate your Heritage!

Family Literacy Day is celebrated every January 27th to raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy activities as a family. It began in 1999 and thousands of schools, libraries, literacy organizations and other community groups take part. Each year there is a central theme for the day, and this year's theme is Celebrate your Heritage. Midland Public Library will be focusing on Canadian authors and heritage and will transform the children's area into a Canadian wonderland!

MPL's Family Literacy Day events will take place on Friday, January 27th, with activities happening all day long, including giveaways, and two virtual visits by Canadian authors. Marie-Louise Gay will be joining us at 11:00am, and Robin Stevenson will join us at 2:00pm. Families can register for these online author visits by emailing [lessex@midlandlibrary.com](mailto:lessex@midlandlibrary.com).

We're thrilled to celebrate Family Literacy Day and Canadian heritage by hosting these special events intended to foster a lifelong love of reading in our community.

Midland Public Library aims to provide engagement, inspiration and empowerment, and to be a central part of what makes Midland and the surrounding areas a great place to live, work, and play.

For further information about library events and programs, visit [www.midlandlibrary.com](http://www.midlandlibrary.com)

**For more information, please contact:**  
Larysa Essex  
Children's Services Coordinator  
[lessex@midlandlibrary.com](mailto:lessex@midlandlibrary.com)  
705-526-4216 ext. 3308

I'd like to start off my first report by thanking the editor for allowing me to be part of her team of reporters for the Springwater News.

My name is Karen Moreau, no stranger to the area what so ever. I was born and raised in Midland and attended the old Central School, Regent School, Parkview (Mundy's) Bay and Midland Penetanguishene District High School Midland Business College and was employed @ Wagg's Laundry as a Secretary. I was one of five girls, one of twins and grew up on Hwy, 12 at Benson's Garage and Gas Bar. I didn't move to far away when I left home I married my husband Lawrence in 1967. Lawrence was born and raised in Wyevale, where we moved back to in 1970. We purchased 40 acres on Concession 5 and my husband a Haulage and Excavating Business from 1970 till his passing in January 2019. The business continues to operate but on a smaller scale. My Grandson runs some of the business.

Lawrence and I raised two children a daughter Bonnie and a son Jason. Both attended Wyevale School. Unfortunately Bonnie was not able to graduate from this little then small school and had to be transported by bus to Parkview Public (now



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News & Events at the Penetanguishene Public Library  


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[www.penetanguishene.library.on.ca](http://www.penetanguishene.library.on.ca)

**PD Programs are here!**

**Valentines Sugar Scrubs**  
Join our workshop to make sugar scrubs. This will take place on Wednesday, February 6th from 5-6 pm. Recipe is good for 2 sugar scrubs of sugar cookie and candy mint. Registration required by Thursday February 2, 2023 Cost: \$5.00

**Portes Ouvertes a St. Louis**  
Tuesday, February 7, 2023  
At St. Louis Elementary School. Visit us between 5:00 – 6:00pm at the library booth. Sign up and become a member of the library!

**Tiny Winter Carnaval D'Hiver**  
Saturday, February 11, 2023 from 11:00am – 2:00pm  
Valentine's card making workshop will be available hosted by the PPL library.

**Family Day Craft**  
Join us for a Day Craft on Wednesday, February 15th from 10:00-11:30am at the library. This is an adult program and all materials will be provided. Cost: \$10.00. Registration with a valid library card required.

**75th Annual Winterama**  
Join this year's Amazing Race on Saturday February 18th. Register your team at the library the week of Feb 13th – 17th, 2023. This is a free event. The leader of the team must have a valid library card. Teams of 4-6 people qualify to participate. The start time is 11:00am at the library. Good Luck!

**New @PPL**

**Pop-Up Covid-19 Vaccine Clinic**  
Thursday, February 9, 2023 at the Penetanguishene Public Library between 10:00am - 3:00pm  
Primary doses available for people 6 months+  
Booster doses available for people 5 years+

**Winterama Buttons**  
Pick up your 75th Annual Winterama buttons at the library. Cost: \$3.00

### WYEVALE NEWS by Karen Moreau

Mundy's Bay) for grade 6, 7, 8 and then attended Midland Penetanguishene High School. By the time my son Jason was old enough to graduate from Grade eight he was fortunate enough to stay at Wyevale and graduate from there and then onto Midland Penetanguishene High School. Both graduated from Grade 12 and both moved on in their careers. I also have two grandchildren who attended Wyevale School Catherine and Logan. Both graduated from Wyevale. One going to Elmvale and one from Midland High School both graduating from there. Now I do have a Great Granddaughter 15 months old and her name is Genevieve. Hoping she will have the same experience of the Wyevale School.

This past year the village of Wyevale were able to support two Ukraine families and we were fortunate to have them attend our Christmas Eve service and sing for us in their language. This was their first Christmas in Wyevale. They were welcomed with open arms.

I welcome you to help me with this new adventure of mine by asking you to share any news you may have that would be of interest to this paper and our village.

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**Community  
One Time Events**

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

**Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival**  
Sat. April 29, 2023

**Barrie Winterfest**  
**February 4 to 5, 2023**  
Hello Winter Festival Held in the Heritage Park, it features a polar bear dip, tubing, horse-drawn wagon rides, lumberjack shows, snow sliding, and an ice maze. The 300-pound ice blocks are carved into stunning ice sculptures, and there are also premade snow sculptures on display. Additionally, there are indoor activities such as live entertainment, concerts, film screenings, story readings, and many fun things that children can do.

**Simcoe County Museum 1st workshop of 2023**  
**Mon., Feb. 6 at 1 p.m. (Doors open at 12:30)**  
Ann-Marie Kocela will teach on how to applique tulips on fabric that can be framed or be the top side of a pillow. Fabric, needle and thread provided. Light refreshments. Free door prize. Everyone welcome! \$5: members & and \$10 guests.[littlerockimages@simcoe.net](mailto:littlerockimages@simcoe.net)

**51st Annual Minesing Mini-Fest**  
**February 10th & 11th, 2023**  
<http://www.minesing.ca/Mini-Fest.php> for full details.

**Rock 95 - Live to Air**  
**Feb. 16, 2023. 7 pm - 9pm**  
Palace Tavern Elmvale  
Rock 95 Breakfast Crew Brew  
Prizes, Taste Testing & live jam with Randy and The Pug Dogs  
**Feb. 18, 2023**  
Live Band "Jimmy Stowe Radio Show"

**75th Annual Winterama Weekend**  
**Fri. Feb. 17th to Sun. Feb. 19**  
Town of Penetanguishene. The schedule with over 30 activities throughout the weekend will be shared online February 8th on [winterama.ca](http://winterama.ca).

**Snowman Mania**  
**February 17 to 20, 2023 Wasaga Beach**  
<https://calendar.wasagabeach.com/default/Detail/2023-02-17-1700-Snowman-Mania>

**"All U Can Eat" Pancake Supper**  
**Tues. Feb. 21, 2023**  
Elmvale Presbyterian Church, 22 Queen St. E.  
Continuous seating 5-7. Adults \$12, children 10 and under \$6, children 3 and under free.

The Wyevale United Church is an active Church. We gather for Worship every Sunday morning @ 10:00 am. Rev. Bonnie Kelly is our Minister and is available for Pastoral Care and can be reached @ 705-719-6598. The church e-mail address is [wyevaleuc@rogers.com](mailto:wyevaleuc@rogers.com) Sunday services are recorded every Sunday and are available on You Tube. Our Web Site is [wyevaleuc.ca](http://wyevaleuc.ca). Rev. Kelly is in the office on Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 – 4:00 pm and the office is open on Tuesday afternoon from 1:30 – 4:00 pm. The phone number is 705-322-1451.

Groups available for adults, Book Club, Bible Study, U.C.W., and for the Youth, Youth Group on Friday evenings. Contact the church for any information for dates, times or watch for dates in the Wyevale News Report.

If you would like to share a special date, birthday, wedding, birth of a new born, anniversary, graduation or any other celebration, please contact me at [moreau1949@rogers.com](mailto:moreau1949@rogers.com) before the next publishing deadline which will be February 13, 2023.

I would like if you could have your report in by February 12 so I have time to prepare the report for mailing on the 12th. Thank you for your co-operation.



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## Community Events All The Time

### ONGOING EVENTS:

#### Bid Euchre

**Elmvale Community Hall** 1 pm - 4 pm  
Every Monday.  
Call Anne for details 705-322-1232

**Midland Bridge Club** 427 William St, Midland  
**Mon. 12:45pm:** Duplicate Bridge, **Tues 6:45pm:**  
Social Bridge, **Thur. 12:45pm** Duplicate Bridge,  
**Fri. 12pm:** Bid Euchre. Contact Vern 705-730-  
9998. Possible lesson if desired. [midlandbridge@  
gmail.com](mailto:midlandbridge@gmail.com)

#### Good Vibes

**Every Thursday night from 7 to 10 p.m.**

**An open-mic music event** Our location is the  
little white schoolhouse at the corner of Mount  
St. Louis Road and the 4th Line of Oro Medonte.  
Admission is a donation of \$5.00.

#### Let's Do Lunch \$5:

##### **Elmvale Presbyterian Church**

Take-out- held **2nd Thursday of the month:** to  
order, call 705-322-1411 between 9 and 3pm  
on the Monday previous for pick-up Thursday  
between 11:45 and 12:15 at the East side of the  
church, 22 Queen St. E. Delivery in town only.

#### BARRIE-KEMPENFELT PROBUS CLUB

**Meets at 10:00 am, third Thursday of month**  
Canadian Legion, 410 St. Vincent Street in Barrie  
Main Contact: Chief Information Officer, Robert  
Newby, [barriekempfenfelt72@gmail.com](mailto:barriekempfenfelt72@gmail.com)  
(705) 220-3501

#### Bay Shore Senior's Club

**Activities are in full swing** - check out website at  
[www.bayshoreseniors.ca](http://www.bayshoreseniors.ca) for all activities.  
Call 705 361-1331.

**E.D.G.E. Elmvale District Garden Enthusiasts**  
Meetings held **4th Thurs. of each month, 7:00  
pm** at Elmvale Legion.  
Guests always welcome, no charge bring a friend.

#### Coffee Party

**Last Thursday of the month 9:30 - 11a.m.**  
Elmvale Presbyterian Church  
All Welcome, Cost: \$3

#### Low Impact Gentle Fitness Program

**Weds. at 10am & Fri.'s at 11am**  
Elmvale Community Hall, VON SMART Program  
**Adults 55+ FREE**  
Bring good support (running) shoes and water  
Call 705-355-2200 to register or walk ins

#### Georgian Bay Coin & Stamp Club

**3rd Thursday of each month, 6:30pm - 8:30pm**  
Prime Time Club, 1724 Mosley St., Wasaga Beach  
For more info.: [www.geobaycoinstampclub.ca](http://www.geobaycoinstampclub.ca)

#### Elmvale Legion

**Tuesdays at 1 pm**  
Table Shuffleboard, Cost \$1

#### Palace Tavern Elmvale BINGO

**Every Tuesday night**  
Midland Rotary proceeds 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm  
Barrie Rotary proceeds 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

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china - knives - Small wooden furniture - First Nation's art  
- Bar decorations - old hats & accessories - fine jewelry &  
other items of sterling silver & gold - coins - Asian art -  
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email [vendormarketlc@gmail.com](mailto:vendormarketlc@gmail.com)**

## HIRING

### GENERAL MANAGER

**Knight Haven Bowling Lanes and Knights  
Community Hall Penetanguishene**

#### Hours of Work:

September 1 to April 30-40 hours/week or as  
required. May 1 until September 1 (to be discussed)  
**Start Date:** March 20, 2023

#### Qualification:

Secondary school education or postsecondary  
education in related fields (recreation, hospitality),  
business or office administration would be an  
asset. Bilingualism (French and English) would  
be an asset. Applicants must have experience  
with computers ie: word processing, spreadsheets,  
etc. Applicants must have their Smart Serve  
certification. Valid unrestricted driver's license.  
Applicants must have a satisfactory police check  
for vulnerable persons.

All applicants must be in a sealed envelope  
clearly marked "General Manager" private and  
confidential and submitted to the address below no  
later than 12 noon on **February 17, 2023.**

Start date for this position will be March 20, 2023.  
For a copy of the current job description or for  
more information contact the Manager at 705-549-  
3111.

**Knights of Huronia Inc.**

**Attn: Richard Leblanc**

**17 Poyntz Street**

**Penetanguishene, On**

**LOK IPO**

We thank all applicants for their interest; however  
only those selected for an interview will be  
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## WANTED

### REAL ESTATE

**I WANT** – to relocate to Elmvale or surrounding  
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Sheila (Jacobs) Burk at 705-835-6489 or  
Email: [burkbshe@csolve.net](mailto:burkbshe@csolve.net)

## AUCTION NOTICE



online auctions anywhere

### UPCOMING AUCTIONS

**Jewellery Collection - North & Davenport, Guelph** - Feb. 5-9  
gems, earrings/rings/necklaces; 10K, 14K & 18K & costume pieces

**R&J Van Sickle Relocation Auction, Alliston** - Feb. 12-16  
Yamaha Piano, furniture, Royal Doulton, prints, grandfather clock

**Estate of Heather Boswell, Guelph** - Feb. 19-23 - Pyrex, vintage  
Christmas ornaments, antique clock, dust collector, fabulous finds

**Wallaceburg Riverfront Property and Contents** - coming soon!

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OPP REPORT

Two Charged with Drug Offences Overnight in Midland

A pair of males are facing charges after separate overnight incidents in Midland.

Just after 9:00p.m. on January 30, 2023 and officer noticed a vehicle being operated in a suspicious manner on William Street in the Town of Midland. The vehicle was stopped on Bayshore Drive and the officer had a conversation with the driver. The officer gathered grounds to believe that there was a controlled substance in the vehicle and the driver was placed under arrest. During a search of the vehicle and the driver, a quantity of suspected Fentanyl and a prohibited knife were located and seized.

As a result of this investigation, Martin SAUER, 48 years of Grimsby, ON faces the following charges contrary to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and the Criminal Code:

- Possession of a Schedule 1 Substance - Opioid
- Possession of a Schedule 1 Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking - Opioid
- Possession of a Prohibited or Restricted Weapon at Unauthorized Place

The accused was released on an Undertaking to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Midland on March 9, 2023

At around 11:30p.m. on January 30, 2023, a call was received by police regarding a suspicious male who was entering cars on Hannah Street in Midland. Police patrolled the area and observed the suspect who fled on foot. Police followed the footprints to a residence on Queen Street and arrested the suspect who was also wanted on outstanding charges. During a search, a quantity of suspected crack cocaine was located and seized

As a result of this investigation, Brandon HAMILTON, 26 years old of Midland was charged with the following offence contrary to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act:

- Possession of a Schedule 1 Substance

The accused was released on an Undertaking to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Midland on March 16, 2023

OPP Remind Snowmobilers to Check Trail Status and Ice Conditions Before Heading Out

Officers from the Southern Georgian Bay OPP Detachment and staff of the Mid Ontario Snowmobile Clubs (MOST) remind snowmobilers that just because winter returned late this week, the trails may not be open nor may the ice be anywhere near seasonal conditions.

A few routes have been opened in the North Simcoe area but, the majority of OFSC trails are still currently unavailable and snowmobilers need to stay off all OFSC trails except those that are open. Check for trail status updates on the OFSC Interactive Trail Guide when planning your ride and fishing enthusiasts may wish to view the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) website. Those who ride on closed trails face possible fines and risk not having insurance coverage should an incident occur.

If you have to travel out onto an ice surface, always remember that “No Ice Is Safe Ice” and you need to be aware of current & past weather conditions, recent commercial ice breaking activity along with checking with area residents who have “local knowledge of ice conditions”. The following web sites are a must see for those who travel on ice surfaces- Cold Water Boot Camp along with [https://twitter.com/OPP\\_News/status/1342817627077488641](https://twitter.com/OPP_News/status/1342817627077488641).

If You Don’t Know, Don’t Go!

Lastly, booze and drugs never mix with snowmobiling and impairing one’s judgement while riding on newly opened trails and/or unknown and dangerous ice conditions is only a recipe for a tragedy to happen #Never Ends Well!

If you have to travel out onto an ice surface always remember that “No Ice Is Safe Ice” and you need to be



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OPP REPORT (continued)

aware of current, past weather conditions and recent commercial ice breaking activity along with checking with area residents who have “local knowledge of ice conditions”. The following web sites are a must see for those who travel on ice surfaces- Cold Water Boot Camp along with [https://twitter.com/OPP\\_News/status/1342817627077488641](https://twitter.com/OPP_News/status/1342817627077488641)

Two Snowmobiles Fall Through the Ice in Six Mile Lake

Two snowmobiles have broken through the ice of Six Mile Lake near O’Leary’s Island leaving the operators in the water. On January 22, 2023 at 10:45 a.m. a cottager who observed two parties in distress contacted the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Communication Centre to report the incident. Members of the Southern Georgian Bay detachment of the OPP, OPP Aviation Services, Georgian Bay Fire Department, Simcoe County and Muskoka Region Paramedics attended the scene to take over rescue attempts from local residents who were trying to assist the snowmobilers.

One male was removed from the cold water and was transported to a local hospital.

Missing Snowmobiler Located and Recovered

On January 23, 2023 at approximately 2:35 p.m. members of Ontario Provincial Police Underwater Search and Recovery Unit with assistance from the Georgian Bay Township Fire Service located and recovered the body of the lone outstanding snowmobiler.

The deceased has been identified as a 59 year male of Scarborough and the injured operator as a 58 year old male of Toronto who remains in hospital being treated for injuries sustained in the incident.

The investigation is continuing.

OPPARREST 4IMPAIRED DRIVERS WITHIN ONLY HOURS OF EACHOTHER

Members of the Huronia West Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) arrested 4 impaired drivers over the span of eight hours during a nightshift this past weekend.

On Friday, January 20, 2023 Huronia West OPP kept themselves busy committing to keeping our roadways safe by utilizing various methods.

At approximately 6:00 p.m., police were made aware of a traffic complaint in Wasaga Beach involving numerous complainants reporting erratic driving, along with the suspect vehicle making contact with a shed on private property. The driver was located and arrested without incident.

As a result, Michael GORSKI, 62-years-old, of Wasaga Beach, has been charged with the following:

- Operation while Impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Operation while Impaired - BAC 80 plus

Later that night at approximately 10:00 p.m., two RIDE checks were set up within the detachment area (Springwater Twp and Clearview Twp). Almost simultaneously, officers noted signs of alcohol use from drivers at both locations where arrests were then made.

As a result, Ryan HERN, 40-years-old, of Duntroon, & Lisa PINKERTON, 36-years-old, of Barrie have been charged with the following:

- Operation while Impaired - BAC 80 plus

During the same shift at approximately 2:30 a.m., an officer was conducting traffic enforcement on

County Road 27 within Springwater Township where a vehicle was stopped for a violation. During interaction with the driver police detected signs of alcohol use. After failing a roadside test, the driver was subsequently arrested.

As a result, Tayjai LYTLE-BROWN, 21-years-old, of Kirkfield, has been charged with the following:

- Operation while Impaired - BAC 80 plus

Along with the criminal charges and future court appearances, all drivers received 90-day licence suspensions, 7-day vehicle impoundments, and potential upcoming jail time for their decisions.

OPP Search for Missing Tay Township Youth

Officers from the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are searching in the Tay Township area for a missing 15 year old female after she was reported missing to police at approximately 10:15 p.m. January 20, 2023.

Harley DEHANN was last seen leaving a Sandhill Road residence and is believed to have possibly been picked up by a southbound vehicle on Highway 400 near Vasey Road near 10:00 p.m.

Harley is described as an Indigenous female, age 15 years, 5’ 5” tall 110 lbs, with long black hair wearing a white tank top and blue star pajama pants, no footwear. (See attached supplied photograph.)

The missing youth has been located safe near the noon hour in Rama. Investigators wish to thank those community members and media partners who assisted in this search.

OPP MAKE ARREST IN STRING OF VEHICLE ENTRY THEFTS

Members of the Huronia West Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have made an arrest after numerous vehicles were entered throughout the month of January 2023.

During the month, police received multiple calls for service over the span of two weeks involving vehicles being entered overnight. Various items had been taken such as cash, personal belongings, and identification.

After extensive follow up and completing a thorough investigation, a suspect was identified, arrested, and charged for numerous criminal offences.

As a result, Corey ZABINSKY, 31-years-old, of Wasaga Beach, has been charged with the following:

- Theft under \$5000 x 4
- Trespassing at night x 8

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Collingwood, on February 28, 2023.

FATAL COLLISION IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

Officers from the Collingwood and The Blue Mountains Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are continuing their investigation into a fatal single motor vehicle collision that took place early last Thursday morning in The Blue Mountains.

On January 26, 2023, sometime before 5:55 a.m., a grey-coloured Mitsubishi Outlander sport utility vehicle (SUV) was travelling northbound on Arrowhead Road just south of Highway 26 when it left the roadway and continued down an embankment, where it came to a stop and caught fire.

The lone occupant was found deceased in the vehicle at scene.



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Bill & Suzanne Richardson Invest in Imaging



The Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation is thrilled to announce a \$100,000 gift from Bill & Suzanne Richardson to support the purchase of an MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) machine for the Midland hospital.

In December 2022, GBGH announced that the Ontario government would be providing annual operational funding for an MRI in Midland, in order to alleviate wait times across the region and provide equitable access to this service for local residents. Shortly after, Bill & Suzanne approached the GBGH Foundation about making a gift to support this important and impactful project.

“We don’t know when we, or our friends and family, will need the hospital, but we want to make sure it’s here today and in the future,” share Bill & Suzanne. “It’s inspiring to see our hospital growing, and advocating for the best health care services for our community. We want to do our part to support this growth and help bring the best imaging technology to Midland.”

Bill & Suzanne have been loyal donors of the GBGH

Foundation for 16 years, generously supporting the hospital through events and sponsorships. This gift is a testament to their continued connection to the organization, and to Bill & Suzanne’s commitment to having an impact in their home community.

“Bill & Suzanne’s investment in the MRI for GBGH demonstrates the importance of local health care,” says Nicole Kraftscik, executive director, GBGH Foundation. “We all rely on GBGH for care, and this gift is going to have a significant impact for our community. We are so grateful to Bill & Suzanne for helping to kick start our campaign to bring an MRI to our hospital.”

GBGH will be offering MRI service to residents as soon as it is able to complete construction and commissioning of the new machine. The cost for this project is approximately \$4-million and must be raised through the GBGH Foundation. Anyone wishing to join Bill & Suzanne in supporting this campaign can contact the Foundation office, 705-526-GIVE (4483) or visit <https://GBGHF.ca/MRI>.

Charity Ride for Down Syndrome



**Photo above (left to right) Albert Penfield, Susan Gilson, Kristie Penfield, and Jason Schell**

Last July, the Southern Cruiser Riding Club (SCRC), Barrie Chapter 328 once again was able to have their annual charity ride for Down Syndrome Association of Simcoe County. On behalf of Down Syndrome Association, Kristie and Albert Penfield had the honour of stopping by Steelers Restaurant and Pub to present the owners Susan and Jason with a thank you for their continued support of this event. Susan and Jason provided food for the event and because of their generous donation, it helped SCRC 328 raise over \$10,500 for Down Syndrome of Simcoe County.

SCRC Barrie 328 will once again be having their annual charity ride for Down Syndrome Association of Simcoe County, on July 8, 2023. This event is open to all motorcyclist and we once again will have our raffle tickets for awesome prizes.

The “Not the Scotties” Bonspiel Hosted by Elmvale Curling Club



Photo Above: Team Linda Corkum, Coldwater Curling Club

On January 7, 2023 the Elmvale Curling Club’s Afternoon Women’s League hosted a new event, “The Not the Scotties Bonspiel”. Teams from the Elmvale, Midland, Coldwater and Stayner curling clubs competed for cash prizes, and all the participants creatively interpreted the “Spots and Stripes” event theme!

Congratulations to Team Barb Brinkmann from Midland CC who won the 1st Draw, and Team Linda Corkum from Coldwater CC who captured first place in the 2nd Draw.

Special thanks to Paul Stevenson of Tim Horton’s, Barrie and Bryan Wilson of IceHoss Curling for their generous support of the new event!



Photo above: Team Barb Brinkmann, Midland Curling Club



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## German Canadian Club Gemuetlichkeit 70

Askennonia received a donation of \$14,300 from GCCG70 to help with their expenses. After 52 years the GCCG70 was dissolved on November 6, 2022 due to shrinking membership and lack of volunteers to manage the affairs of the club. Any assets of the club have to be distributed to charities. Askennonia is the first of eight charities to receive funds from the sale of the property on Triple Bay Road.

### German Canadian Club Gemuetlichkeit, 1970 to 2022

In July 1969, during the annual German Canadian Pilgrimage at the Martyr's Shrine in Midland, an idea was born to start a German Club in the Midland area. The first membership meeting occurred on May 9, 1970 in the Panorama Inn, Midland, Ontario. The group continued to meet and expand and on January 29, 1979, a 19 ½ acre property on Triple Bay Road was purchased by the club members. Club members built a clubhouse on the property and it officially opened on September 11, 1989.

Many events took place over the last 52 years including Friday Night Socials, Carnival Parties, Canasta Card Tournaments, Pitch-in-Day, Dances, Picnics, Canada Day Celebrations, Meetings, Christmas Bazaars, Christmas Socials, Children's Events, Bus Tours, Oktoberfest, Video Presentations, New Year's Eve Parties, Luncheons, Social events and many more! The club also made donations to local charities especially the Georgian Bay General Hospital over the years.

The Club property was sold in September 2021. The Club continued to have Board Meetings and luncheons in 2022. Due to declining membership and the effects of Covid, the membership voted to dissolve the club at the Annual General Meeting on November 6, 2022.

As a registered Not-For-Profit organization, the club is required under the articles of dissolution to donate any remaining assets to charities. At the AGM, the membership decided to donate to the following charities: Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre, Georgian Bay General Hospital Foundation, Georgian Shores Swinging Seniors, Hospice Huronia/Tomkins House, Askennonia Seniors' Centre, La Maison Rosewood Shelter, Unity United Church and Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre.

The members of the German Canadian Club were fortunate to experience 52 years of events, friendships, and adventures and now as we say "Auf Wiedersehen", we have a feeling of goodwill as the club gives back to eight organizations in our community

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY



## Happy 100th Birthday to Marion Clute!

Our mom, Marion Clute, will be 100 years old on February 17th! She is well, is still able to look after herself and enjoys life at The Villa Retirement Lodge in Midland. Because February weather and driving conditions are often very poor, Mom has chosen to celebrate the day by having a "Birthday Card Party" instead of the usual come-and-go-tea. She is looking forward to receiving birthday cards that she can read and enjoy over and over again.

If you would like to help celebrate her special day by sending her a card, she would feel both grateful and honoured. Her address is:

**Marion Clute**  
**Room 343**  
**The Villa Retirement Lodge**  
**689 Yonge Street**  
**Midland, Ontario L4R 2E1**

Sincerely,  
Jan, Margie, Paul, Louise and their families

## Obituaries



### MARTIN, Jacob Allan

Passed away unexpectedly on January 25, 2023. Jacob Martin of Phelpston in his 20th year. Beloved son of Gerald and Tracey Martin. Loved brother of Howard, Emma, Aaron, and Abby. Cherished grandson of Ruth and the late Allan Lambie and the late Howard and Madelene Martin. Nephew of Leanne (Trevor) Columbus, Mary (Scot) Robertson, James (Birgit) Martin, and the late Scott Lambie and Caroline Martin. Jacob will be greatly missed by his many cousins, family, and friends.

A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvalle from 7-9 pm on Monday, January 30 and from 2-4 and 7-9 pm on Tuesday, January 31, 2023. A funeral service will be held at the Elmvalle Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, February 1 at 1pm.

Please dress casually, Jacob would want everyone to be comfortable.

If desired memorial donations may be made to the Elmvalle Presbyterian Church, or Elmvalle 4H Beef Club.

*Expressions of sympathy may be sent to  
[www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com](http://www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com)*

## THANK YOU

We would like to thank our families, friends and neighbours for food, card, donations, flowers and support at this difficult time.

Also a thank you to the Doctors and Nurses at Midland Hospital and the Doctors and Nurses at Barrie hospital especially the ICU team and Step Down team.

Also a big thanks to the girls that helped with the meal between visitation, your guys are a great bunch.

A special thank you to the Presbyterian Church ladies for the lunch after the service and also to Reverend Tom.

Also to Lynn Stone Funeral Home for their help at this time.

**The Harvey Graham Family**

### THANK YOU - Dorothy Dunn

We would like to thank everyone who attended Moms 90th birthday party. Thank you to our family, relatives, neighbors and friends who helped make this day a success. A special thank you to the Minesing United Church Ladies (The Elf's) for the lovely lunch they provided and for all of their help.

**Sincerely Dorothy Debbie and Terry**

## In Memory



### Remembering our Son, Brother, Grandson, Cousin, and Friend

Max was a person you could hangout with and it was light and easy going. He had the most contagious laugh and you always knew it was him. Max was an amazing person to be around and his energy lit up a room. Everyone wanted to be with Max as he was such a kind spirit.

Max, it has been one year since you have been gone, which feels like the blink of an eye but also an eternity.

You are so deeply missed by  
Mom, Dad, Livvie, and Sarah



Photo at left: **German Canadian Club**

**Front row:** Dianne Paddags, member, German Canadian Club, Helmut Paddags, president, German Canadian Club, Mike MacRae, president, Askennonia, Sigi Krause, assistant treasurer, German Canadian Club, Judy Contin, executive director, Askennonia

**Back row:** Members of the Board of Directors of Askennonia

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Obituaries



**OGDEN, KAROLE DAWN**

It is with deep sorrow and much love that we mourn the passing of Karole Ogden (nee Hunter), peacefully and surrounded by family on January 19, 2023. Supportive and caring wife to Lorne, proud Mother of Holly (Chris), Drew (Joleen), and Kory (Tara), and loving Grandma to Willa, Rilynn, Paige, and Harrison. Lovingly remembered by her parents Eleanor and Jack (Gretha) Hunter, siblings Kim (Alain), Janet (Ross), Travis (Reni), and Ian (Anna). An avid sewist, traveller, and bargain-shopper, she was the life of so many of our parties. Karole was happiest when supporting others, and always had a card, thoughtful gift, or time for a phone call for someone on her mind. Always on the go, she was determined to live each day to the fullest. She had high expectations of those she held close and never backed down from a challenge. When Karole was told she couldn't do something she, without fail, decided that she would. This courage and boldness took her on many adventures around the world, kept her eager to try new things, and kept those closest to her on their toes! A fighter from the beginning, she battled health challenges from very early in her life, and she spent her entire life defying the odds. She continued to defy the odds until the very end, and her determined spirit will live on in those who loved her. When the time is right, we encourage you to pour a glass of wine in remembrance of Karole, and to toast her as she heads off on her next great adventure.

Visitations will be held from 1-3pm and 6-8pm with eulogies at 6pm on Thursday, January 26, 2023, at Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale. Memorial Donations to Hospice Huronia, the Heart and Stroke Foundation, or any charity of your choice may be made in Karole's honour.

*Messages may be sent to the family at [lynnstonefuneralhome.com](http://lynnstonefuneralhome.com)*



**WHITE, James (Jim) Albert Gordon**

Passed away after his lengthy battle with dementia at the Georgian Manor in Penetanguishene on Tuesday, January 24, 2023. Jim White, of Elmvale, dearly loved husband of Shelley (nee Milligan) was in his 71st year. Treasured father of Cindy (Louise), Victoria (Cody), Jennifer (Ashwin) and Braydon (Nicole). Forever missed by his grandchildren, Kieron, Quinn and Emma. Predeceased by brother Gary, and sister Sandy, and lovingly remembered by his sister Elaine and many family and friends. Jim was a small business owner (SMS Window Cleaning) and was a true outdoorsman with a fondness for camping and fishing. He enjoyed a good game of golf and was an avid fan of the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Toronto Blue Jays. Their games were made better when he could enjoy a glass of rum 'n' coke while watching. A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, February 18, 2023, at the Elmvale Legion from 1:00pm - 5:00pm with eulogies beginning at 2:00pm.

If you wish to make a donation in his memory please consider the Alzheimer Society (Alzheimer.ca/on/en)

*Messages may be sent to the family at [lynnstonefuneralhome.com](http://lynnstonefuneralhome.com)*



Obituaries



**ADAMS, Gladys Joan (nee Wood)**

June 29, 1931 - January 21, 2023 In her 92 year, has passed peacefully during her sleep at GBGH. Known better as Joan or Maw, she lived in Waverley all her life. Only daughter of Wallace and Vera May Wood,

married to William Charles Adams (The Chief), she married into a large family and had 3 sons, who she loved and adored very much. She always had her door open to friends and family, often saying, just add another cup of water to the soup, and pull up another chair to the table. She baked with love, always having butter tarts, date squares and pies at the ready. Christmas would bring out her world famous Christmas cake. Her knitting projects have put cozy sweaters and blankets on her many lucky grandchildren. When they were all outfitted, she took to making blankets for Sick Kids Hospital. Joan was a devout member of the Waverley United Church and gave much of her time to the church, and enjoyed the friendships of the lovely church folk. Joan took great pride in her family, and had a wall of photos to prove it. When family told her they loved her, she would answer back, I love you more.

The last letter she wrote said "I was really lucky God gave you boys to me, you have always been special and I hope you know, Love you more, Maw xx

Maw will be missed, never forgotten by sons Charlie (Pam), Mike (Sandy), Pat (who will meet her on the rainbow bridge), her grandchildren Alex (Lacey), Stephanie (James), Carina (Rob), Rachelle (Sean), and her great grandchildren (Cayde, Laughlin, Scarlett, Easton, Ava, Elizabeth, Riley and Josie).

A visitation will be held at Lynn-Stone Funeral Home, Elmvale, on Saturday, January, 28th from 12 noon until time of the service at 2 pm. Spring interment to take place at Waverley United Cemetery.

Memorial donations to Spinal Cord Injury of Ontario (SCIO) would be gratefully appreciated. ([sciontario.org](http://sciontario.org))

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one. I'd like to leave an afterglow of smiles when life is done.

I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days.

I'd like the tears of those who grieve, to dry in the sun of happy memories that I leave when life is done.

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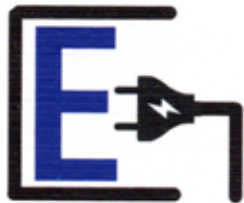
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Springwater News is Found in Iberostar Costa Dorada Puerto Plata



Jerry and Kellie Wicklum celebrated their tenth anniversary in Dominican with around 36 friends from the Elmvale area and beyond. They were married there ten years ago. Thanks for taking the Springwater News on this trip. Maybe the next edition will show this current edition in Costa Rica with the editor. Readers are encouraged to take the Springwater News with them on their travels and take a picture.

Views from the Cottage by Melanie Martyn



‘IS IT LIVE?...OR IS IT MEMOREX?’

Learning to read was the most life-changing experience for me, as a child. It was like being given a golden key. This key would open up a world of adventures with stories of faraway kingdoms where the Princess tossed and turned the night away having had the ill-fortune to find a small pea under her mattress. The mystical world of Narnia kept me turning the pages of The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe, well into the night at nine years old. Every Tuesday I’d hop in the car with my parents to visit the Rexdale Library on Kipling Avenue. I’d immerse myself in the children’s fiction section for at least an hour before I made my selection of the 3 books that would have to last me the week. The smell of the new and aged books still lingers in my memory.

I think of the hours I spent there as a teen, trying to find the information that would specifically meet the criteria I needed to complete my science paper or God forbid, that speech I had to memorize. We were all thankful to Melvil Dewey who in 1876, developed the Dewey Decimal System for subject classification and showed you exactly where you could lay your hands on that book or encyclopedia. You would still have to thumb through hundreds of pages and ultimately sticky note anything you thought pertinent to achieve that ‘A’ mark.

Lately we’ve been hearing a lot about artificial intelligence (AI) and more specifically, about this ChatGPT application. This is short for Chat Generative Pre-trained Transformer, a chatbot that was released last Fall. (I always thought artificial



intelligence was a good description for my ex but I digress....) I’ve played with the chatbot briefly and I think I may never have to write another original line of prose again! Hmmm....

Can we compare a ‘human author’ to an AI author and what about the ethical ramifications of having students use AI to complete their school essays, science papers and the like. That is the question...

In the age of digital transformation, there is much to be said of the potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to revolutionize how we create and consume content. As AI-powered tools become increasingly sophisticated, they are now being used to produce content that is indistinguishable from that created by humans. AI-generated essays, for example, can be tailored to fit specific topics and even mimic the writing style of a particular author.

AI-generated essays can be a convenient way for students to complete their school assignments, there are some ethical implications to consider. For example, when students use AI to complete essays, they are not actually doing the work themselves. This can lead to decreased comprehension of the material and a decrease in the overall quality of the work. Additionally, using AI to complete essays may make it easier for students to plagiarize without being caught. Additionally, AI-generated essays can also lead to a decrease in creativity. While AI-generated essays may be able to mimic the style of a particular chosen author, they lack the unique perspective and creative insight that comes with a human author. AI-generated essays may be able to provide a basic outline for an essay, but they cannot capture the nuances and complexities of the human experience that a human author can.

Did you hear that? Was it live, or was it Memorex? The preceding answer was brought to you by none other than our new friendly app, ChatGPT and it took about 3 seconds to fill my screen. I’m sure this is ‘progress’, but there is a valid concern here for abuse. It is important to weigh the ethical implications of AI if it is used as a tool for the education of our youth and for anyone, for that matter.

I did like the note, though, about the human experience! Maybe I will be able to write again! If I can just beat the 3 seconds....





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