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The Springwater news RE: article in March Issue No. 594 about Brown's Bridge.



In 1928, my parents moved from Saskatchewan to Elmvale, Ontario, my dad's hometown where his parents still lived. In the spring of 1929, they took up residence on the Brown farm beside the Wye River, or as Mother would often call it, the Brown's Bridge. We lived there until 1934. Financial circumstances forced us to move. We landed on a farm on Highway 26, across from the Fred Woodward farm which would later become the

Edenvale airport.

I still have many fond memories of those years on the Brown's farm. Five or six of my 9 siblings started school in Elmvale, and some went to two or three church services every Sunday. It was certainly different for them than living out on the open prairies. Soon there were friends coming to visit from town, names such as Ross and Jack Ritchie, Orval and Everett Edwards and many more.

One day some of my siblings came in to the house to tell of a motorcycle going by towing a skier. His name was Red Storey.

While we still lived at the Brown's Farm, the northbound side of the highway was paved. Traffic going southbound could use the paved northbound side when it was clear, but would have to yield to northbound traffic. A bridge may have been build at that time as well.

Across the road from the Brown's farm, lived a jeweler by the name of Fred Stevens, and across the river from him a lady named Maize McConnell. Further up the road lived a family by the name of Middleton, whose kids used to walk home from school with our family.

I am now 92 years old, last of the 10 kids, and I still think of that place most every day.

I was curious as to where the name "Brown" came from. I had never heard the Wye River referred to as a creek before.

I have always wished we could have stayed on that farm and wonder if things might have been easier for us if we had.

I'd like to send a warm greeting to Eleanor Barnes.

Jack Barnes,
Cambridge Ontario.



NEW PATH INVITES EVERYONE IN SIMCOE COUNTY TO SHINE GREEN FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

Simcoe County – New Path Youth & Family Services (New Path) is celebrating Children's Mental Health Week (CMHW) from May 3-9 by asking everyone in Simcoe County to Shine Green. The colour green is used to celebrate child and youth mental health as it represents hope, growth, and transformation. The child and youth mental health provider and Lead Agency for children's mental health in Simcoe County is inviting everyone to wear green and to download and share tips for mental wellness through a free, downloadable bubbles for mental health comic page available from www.newpath.ca/cmhw2021. Families are invited to hang the finished bubbles in their windows and share the pictures on social media using the hashtag #CMHW2021 #shinegreen #kidscantwait and tagging New Path @NewPathYFS.



"The bubbles for mental health comic pages are really our way of continuing the conversation about the importance of mental wellness and talking about mental health," says Elizabeth McKeeman, CEO of New Path Youth & Family Services. "This has been an incredibly challenging year for everyone and although there is light at the end of the tunnel, sharing tips and building community virtually continues to be exceptionally important."

Approximately 1 in 5 children and youth across Canada has a diagnosable mental health disorder. If left untreated, these can lead to serious long-term consequences for children or youth and their families. By raising awareness through CMHW, we can decrease the stigma and increase awareness of the importance of getting early mental health supports.

"Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Simcoe County counts on the leadership and partnerships with New Path to put children, youth and families first as we know that more than half of all mental health conditions show up before the age of 18," says Dr. Valerie Grdisa, CEO of CMHA Simcoe County. "We work together on many initiatives throughout the region knowing that the more we collaborate and integrate our efforts, the more likely our children and youth will face better futures."

About New Path Youth & Family Services
New Path Youth & Family Services of Simcoe County is a registered not-for-profit charitable organization. We are an accredited children's mental health agency providing a range of innovative and timely services for children, youth and their families. We are the Lead Agency for children's mental health in Simcoe with the goal of enhancing the experience and outcomes of children, youth and their families seeking assistance with mental health and wellness. New Path is currently offering call-in, in-person and virtual mental health services for children, youth and their families in Simcoe County. A range of free mental health services are offered by professional counsellors. Families can access a range of free counselling and therapy services by calling or emailing New Path at 705-725-7656, info@newpath.ca

To learn more about New Path Youth and Family Services, to donate, or get involved please visit www.newpath.ca, follow us on social media Facebook: [New Path Youth & Family Services](https://www.facebook.com/NewPathYFS) Twitter: [@NewPathYFS](https://twitter.com/NewPathYFS) or sign up for our quarterly [TrailSigns Newsletter](#)

Dated - 14 April 2021

After careful consideration, the Directors of the Flos Agricultural Society regretfully announce the cancellation of the Elmvale Fall Fair, scheduled for Oct 8 & 9, 2021. Using all current information, the Directors feel that it would be impossible to safely host our traditional in-person event.

This unanimous decision was made with the health & safety of our Volunteers, Vendors, Exhibitors, Visitors and the Community at large as our primary concern.

We gratefully acknowledge all of the volunteers, businesses, sponsors, and in-kind donors who have supported our Fair in the past. Without you, our annual Thanksgiving week-end Fair would not have been possible. Your support, going forward, will be just as important.

Watch for some drive-thru community events that we are planning to host over the next few months, in support of our local businesses.

We hope you & your loved ones remain safe and well.

Respectfully, Flos Agricultural Society Board of Directors

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Editor's Musings

For all those people who love roundabouts, they are going to put one on Highway 93 between Midland and Penetanguishene where the road intersects with Golfink Rd and Vinden St.

Wasaga Beach - Shoreline road to remain a beach area. The sand stays despite the water level being 9 to 11 inches lower than last year. But that is right now. If it rises any, and we get the storms and we have to clear the drive, it cost \$15,000 four times in one year in the past.

- On the plus side
- Less traffic?? Won't the traffic will be someplace else?
 - It will stop people from driving around and around the same route - more than 50 years ago, I can remember us trying to see how many times we could go round. It was fun. An awful waste of gas I would suppose but fun.
 - Rids the shoreline of those noisy cars and awful music. Remember when it was the fashion to carry a getto blaster on your shoulder - and burn rubber when driving our souped up cars.
 - Safer - but I don't recall anyone getting hit. It was a traffic jam most of the time. We were hardly moving.
 - The businesses??? Fewer parking spots - fewer people.
- But since the fire, and the changing times, some suggest Wasaga Beach is not the draw it once was. It is time for a rebranding.



Have you seen the Olympic jackets/uniforms to be worn by the Canadian athletes at the closing ceremonies of the Japanese Olympics. Some call them a disaster that will garner significant ridicule from the internet. Some suggest the airbrushed jean jackets



aren't inspiring. In fact, some thought it was a joke. Usually, they wear a red blazer with Canada or a giant maple leaf on it. In an online poll of 2429 people, 46% thought it was ugly, 30% thought it distinctive while 24% shrugged and said they have seen worse and they have seen better.

Because Canada's deficit for the last two fiscal years will reach more than \$420 billion, or about 20 per cent of Canada's gross domestic product (GDP), "the highest among all advanced economies and seven percentage points higher than the average for G20 countries." a think tank's report expects that by 2023 the federal

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government's accumulated deficit will be roughly double what was projected before the crisis, reaching 56 per cent of the GDP. To help Ottawa chart its way out of this sea of red ink, the report proposes a **two per cent hike in the Federal Goods and Services Tax (GST)**, a reversal of the expansion of employment insurance, and a reduction in corporate tax rates. It also calls on Freeland to cut by a third its proposed \$100-billion stimulus package among other things.

The report envisages balancing the budget by 2026 and bringing Canada's debt-to-GDP ratio below 30 per cent by 2041.

If you were watching the Pinty's Grand Slam of Curling on television (April 20 to 25th) which consisted of the top 12 teams on the world tour year to date, on the women's side, Team Einarson (Gimli, MB) won \$40,000, Team Homan (Ottawa) for coming second received \$25,000.

On the men's side, Team Mouat (Edinburgh, Scotland) also won \$40,000 and Team Gushue (St. John's, Newfoundland/Labrador) won \$25,000.

There was also money awarded for the third and fourth place finishes but since the essence of the game is the sport, I suspect they don't publicize it much. In fact, once upon a time just for winning a game you might receive \$1000 but I could not find that either. And while publicizing the winners share, on another site it said the prize money was \$75,000 for the winner and \$40,000 for the second place finisher, 3rd \$25,000 and 4th \$10,000.

Over time, the sport has become very competitive. Once upon a time, the winning team may have come from Hometown, Province but now it is winning with the best team possible and the lawmakers at the head has allowed that to happen.

Team Homan which is supposedly from Ottawa has three players on the team residing in Alberta.

Team Einarson's vice comes from Edmonton. The team plays out of Gimli, MB which is over an hour from Winnipeg where the lead and second reside. Einarson lives in Camp Morton a mere 10 minutes further north of Gimli.

Team Gushe's lead is from Edmonton.

Team Mouat is from Edinburgh but three players live in Glasgow which is 74 kilometres/46 miles away.

Kudos to Niklas Edin of Karlstad, Sweden. All four team members live there.

Team Jennifer Jones curls out of Winnipeg, MB. Three of the players live there. Jennifer lives in Shanty Bay, ON.

The prestigious event predates the inception of the Pinty's Grand Slam of Curling itself. Known originally

ocna THE VOICE OF THE COMMUNITY

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- 4280 in South Springwater Township
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- 625 in Phelpston L0L 2K0
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- 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
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as the Seagram's V.O. Cup for branding purposes, the powerhouse foursome of Russ Howard, Glenn Howard, Wayne Middaugh and Peter Corner claimed the inaugural title with a decisive 8-2 victory over Paul Savage's team in the final at the Calgary Curling Club on Feb. 21, 1993. It was a dream season for Team Howard as they also won Brier and world championships that year. The women's division was added in 2006.

A Liberal MP went for a jog, came back to his office and behind his desk, changed out of his jogging clothes

showing him nude before he donned into his office attire and the whole process was caught on camera. Liberal whip Mark Holland suggested there was no intent and that it was an unfortunate error.

First, is there not a washroom in his Ottawa office to change in.

Second - you mean to say after running/jogging, the man did not have a wash but lingered all day with the smell of body odour.

Third - are any of you stupid enough to turn on the camera before changing in your office.

I just cringe at the unsanitary suggestions/thoughts about the whole hygiene process.

With tearful eyes, Doug Ford said he made a mistake. He did not suggest that he was running the province like a dictator and not involving the other elected Conservatives in Ontario. He should have.

Charles - If I have more than one mouse to run my computer, is two or more called mice or mouses?

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Day	Total Cases	Death	Resolved	W/virus	Tests
Apr 6	309 = 4,347	13 = 132	1624	2591	
Apr 24	640 (11,184)	50 = 763	7087	5669	
May 19	427 (23,384)	15 = 1919	17,889	3576	
June 18	173 (32,917)	3 = 2553	28,012	2352	
July 21	203 (37,942)	1 = 2753	33,617	1572	
Aug 11	33 (40,194)	0 = 2786	36,456	952	
Sept 12	232 (44,300)	1 = 2814	39,717	1769	
Oct 13	746 (60,692)	9 = 3016		5947	36,473
Nov 16	1487 (95,496)	10 = 3371	79,295	12,830	33,351
Dec 31	3328 = 182,195	56 = 4530	156,259	21,617	63,858
Jan 19	1913 = 242,277	46 = 5479	209,183	27,615	34,531
Feb 28	1062 = 300,816	20 = 6980	283,344	10,492	48,185
Mar 31	2333 = 349,903	15 = 7366	322,382	20,155	52,532
Apr 14	4156 = 398,835	28 = 7610	354,417	36,608	54,211
Apr 15	4736 = 403,571	29 = 7639	357,591	38,341	65,559
Apr 16	4812 = 408,338	25 = 7664	360,742	39,977	63,304
Apr 17	4362 = 412,745	34 = 7698	364,353	40,694	56,852
Apr 18	4250 = 416,995	18 = 7716	367,691	41,588	53,776
Apr 19	4447 = 421,442	19 = 7735	368,844	43,863	42,873
Apr 20	3469 = 424,991	22 = 7757	374,213	42,941	40,596
Apr 21	4212 = 429,303	32 = 7789	378,417	42,917	51,877
Apr 22	3682 = 432,985	40 = 7829	383,014	41,962	54,246
Apr 23	4505 = 437,490	32 = 7861			56,206
Apr 24	4094 = 441,584	24 = 7885		41,473	52,160
Apr 25	3947 = 445,531	24 = 7909	396,283	41,157	46,694
Apr 26	3510 = 449,041	24 = 7933	400,340	40,586	33,822
Apr 27	3265 = 452,306	29 = 7961	404,248	40,097	34,000

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ANTEN MILLS NEWS



by Dennis Gannon

Last week in Canada, communities and organizations everywhere celebrated National Volunteer Week. The week is dedicated to those selfless individuals who give of their time and energy for the benefit of others. It could have been at a dog rescue, for a hockey or baseball team, food bank, a hospital or charity or any other worthwhile organization. Here in our community there are a steadfast core of individuals who keep the Anten Mills Community Recreation Association striding forward. Their efforts are appreciated as without their contributions the events and activities everyone enjoys would not occur. Being a volunteer doesn't require a full time commitment. It requires people who are interested to step forward and take a role. Thank you to all who volunteer here in our community and elsewhere. The world is a better place because you share your time and energy. If you haven't already, consider donating some of your time to the Anten Mills CRA. You will find it rewarding and appreciated by all.

One person in our community who is actively involved in an organization that helps individuals and their families with those difficult end of life events is Marjan De Jong Deller. You may have seen her Facebook post on the community page seeking donations for the Hospice Simcoe 19th Annual Hike for Hospice this weekend. Marjan has been supporting those who are in need for 20 years and has continued to do so all during this world wide health crisis. She is seeking donations to continue the great work of Hospice and would certainly appreciate any donation she receives. Check out the Facebook posting and contact Marjan with your donation. While fortunately never having to use the facilities or services of Hospice, I can relate that everyone who does receives exceptional compassion and care from what I have observed during my visits there or hearing from others that have. Please support Hospice Simcoe with their virtual walk.

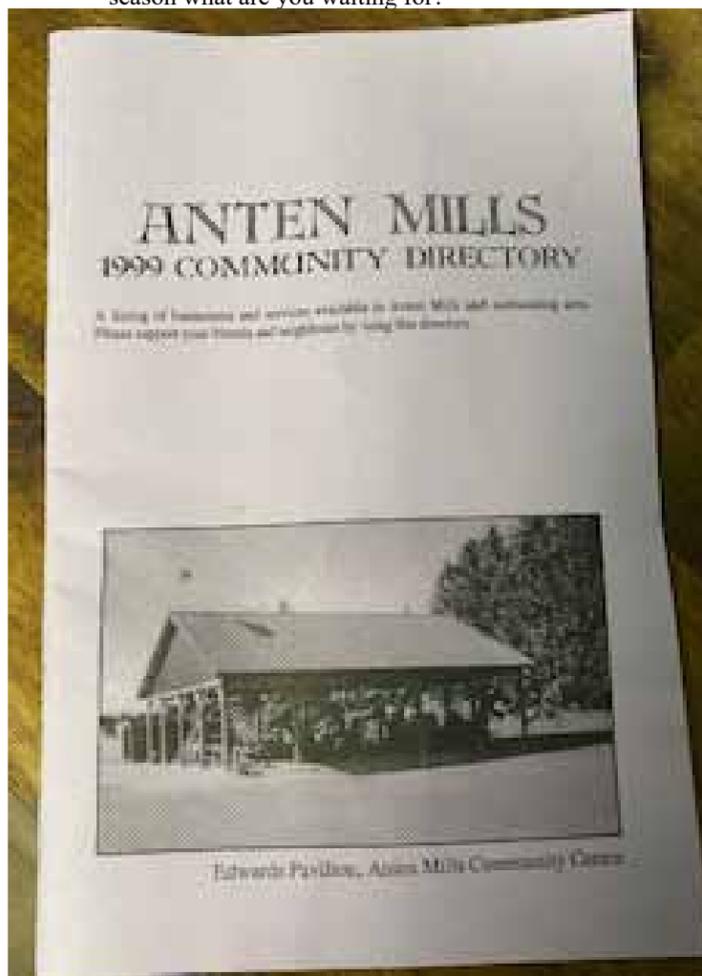
The CRA held a virtual meeting recently and would like to share some important details and dates with you. First, the 50th Anniversary celebration has been tentatively set for Sunday October 3. The current plan is to start the activities off with an Anten Mills exclusive Artisans and Crafters Fair. That will be followed by the official dedication of the 50th Anniversary Garden and some other dedications still in the works. The anniversary garden is being created and built by our community. Gardening season is about to begin and we are seeking donations of perennial plants and grasses either from your garden or from a nursery. There are over 300 homes in our community. If each home contributed just one plant we have an outstanding garden. Feel free to contact me with your donations or to find out more information.

The CRA has also determined that we will continue with our food bank drives in support of the Elmvale and District Foodbank. The Spring drive will be held during the Victoria Day long weekend with several drop off locations. More details on what is needed and locations will be in the next

edition of the paper and on Facebook. Annually the CRA holds a community cleanup. On the weekend of May 15 and 16 you are asked to do your part and help cleanup our parks and roadways. This has always been a successful event and helps to keep our community pristine and clean. More details will be available in the coming weeks.

One family got a head start on the cleanup as they removed the winter debris from the walkway between Luella and Pinery. A big thanks to the Daniels family for their community spirit.

The Fry Guy has opened for the season and Matt has requested that you are reminded that a mask is required on when at their location. They must follow strict health unit conditions and the only way they can serve you is if you are wearing a mask or face covering. If you haven't been there yet this season what are you waiting for?



Quite frequently on the social media pages questions are asked about who can someone call for a plumbing problem or who is the best electrician or painter. Going back into the archives of the community association did you know that they annually produce a community business directory? Local business people or tradesmen placed a small paid ad in the directory which was kept close to the phone (yes landlines) in case an emergency popped up. The money from the ad paid for the directory and gave the community some extra funds for events and activities. Interesting enough, some of the ads are still current with perhaps a family member taking over the business. Maybe someone in the community might propose a digital version which could help support the community and the business people who make this their home.

Finally May 9 is Mother's Day. As the next edition is printed after that, I would like to take this opportunity now to thank all those Mothers in our community. You are all a force to be reckoned and we thank you for all you do.

Stay Healthy, Stay Safe, Stay Strong,
antenmills1@gmail.com

Annie's Journal

Written by Annie Warner Donnelly



Toby first heard about the kingdom of God when he was eight. Being eight was a curious time for him. He wondered how tadpoles grow legs; how hummingbirds can fly, but not go anywhere; how seeds grow. Now his biggest question became: Where is the kingdom of God?

Just before he turned nine, he went to visit his "far away" Grandpa. His first question was, "Grandpa, where is the kingdom of God?"

Smiling, his Grandpa replied, "Let's look in the Bible, Toby. You're not the first person to ask this question, you know." Toby watched as his Grandpa carefully turned the pages.

"Ah, here it is," said Grandpa. "It's in Luke chapter 17, verse 21: *Now when Jesus was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, 'The kingdom of God does not come with observation: nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you.'*"

"But Grandpa," said Toby, "I can't see inside myself!"
"No, Toby, you can't see inside yourself, but by believing the words written in the Bible, you can believe that the kingdom of God is within you."

"But, what does it do there?" asked Toby.
Grandpa turned more pages. "Toby," he said, "This is the book of Romans, chapter 14, verse 17: *For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*"

"The kingdom of God is in our hearts, Toby," said Grandpa. "Our hearts are changed as we begin to live the gentleness of God's words. The Holy Spirit helps us with everything we do. By obeying God's words, we feel peaceful inside because we're doing what's right. Toby, there's a lot of joy in doing what's right!"

"Grandpa, I know what you mean!" Toby said. "Mommy taught me to be gentle with my little sister. When I am, I feel happy playing with her. Oh and another thing: I feel bad when the umpire calls me out, but I feel better when I don't say angry words to him because he did."

Grandpa chuckled as he said, "Good boy, Toby. I'm proud of you!"

Grandpa and Toby talked about God and read the Bible together for a long time that day. Before he went to sleep that night, Toby folded his hands over his heart and whispered, "Dear God, thank You for loving me. I love You too." Toby was smiling when he fell asleep, his hands still folded over his heart.

In the morning, he woke to find his Grandpa's Bible on the nightstand beside his bed. Toby read the words written on the first page: "To my dear grandson, Toby, who found the Kingdom of God within himself. May righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit be yours forever. Love, Grandpa."

One day, Toby will read God's beautiful words of life to his grandchildren, honouring the tradition his Grandpa began. Amen.

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The Human Freedom Index 2019 - Fraser Institute

The Human Freedom Index is the most comprehensive freedom index so far created for a globally meaningful set of countries. It covers 162 countries for 2017, the most recent year for which sufficient data are available. The index ranks countries beginning in 2008, the earliest year for which a robust enough index could be produced.

On a scale of 0 to 10, where 10 represents more freedom, the average human freedom rating for 162 countries in 2017 was 6.89. Among countries included in this report, the level of freedom decreased slightly (-0.01) compared with 2016, with 70 countries increasing their ratings and 88 decreasing. Since 2008, the level of global freedom has also decreased slightly (-0.07), with 61 countries in the index increasing their ratings and 79 decreasing.

The jurisdictions that took the top 10 places, in order, were New Zealand, Switzerland, Hong Kong, Canada, Australia, Denmark and Luxembourg (tied in 6th place), Finland and Germany (tied in 8th place), and Ireland. Selected countries rank as follows: Sweden (11), United Kingdom (14), United States (15), Taiwan (19), Japan (25), South Korea (27), Chile (28), France (33), South Africa (64), Argentina (77), Mexico (92), India (94), Brazil (109), Russia (114), Turkey (122), Saudi Arabia (149), Iran (154), Egypt (157), Venezuela (161), and Syria (162).

Out of 10 regions, the regions with the highest levels of freedom are North America (Canada and the United States), Western Europe, and East Asia. The lowest levels are in the Middle East and North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, and South Asia. Women-specific freedoms, as measured by five indicators in the index, are strongest in North America, Western Europe, and East Asia and are least protected in the Middle East and North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, and South Asia.

Countries in the top quartile of freedom enjoy a significantly higher average per capita income (\$40,171) than those in other quartiles; the average per capita income in the least-free quartile is \$15,721.

The HFI also finds a strong relationship between human freedom and democracy. Hong Kong is an outlier in this regard.

The findings in the Human Freedom Index suggest that freedom plays an important role in human well-being, and they offer opportunities for further research into the complex ways in which freedom influences, and can be influenced by, political regimes, economic development, and the whole range of indicators of human well-being.

Dirt bikes are not permitted on any of our roadways, unless they are properly licenced with a blue and white passenger licence plate. Dirt bikes equipped with a green and white licence plate are not road worthy. Anyone operating ATVs on roadways where permitted, must be 16 years of age, have a valid Ontario driver's licence and valid liability insurance. Riders must also wear an approved DOT or equivalent helmet and can only carry the number of riders specified by the vehicle's manufacturer. Aftermarket seats do not permit an increase of the number of riders carried.



If you wouldst live long, live well, for folly and wickedness shorten life. --Benjamin Franklin

Crown, OPP fail to stop \$16.5M lawsuit by former brewery owner

'It's become a rather strange approach. You can't prove your case criminally, so you then try to seize assets civilly,' says lawyer

Plants growing inside Fermentation Vat (2) When police raided the former Molson brewery in 2004, they found what they described as the largest indoor marijuana grow facility in Canadian history.

The former owners of the Molson brewery property in Barrie — where the country's largest indoor marijuana grow operation was discovered in 2004 — have the go-ahead to move forward with their \$16.5-million lawsuit against the federal government and Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).

In the latest twist following a decade of legal wrangling, an Ontario Court of Appeal panel has unanimously upheld a lower court's finding that the limitation period had not expired for the malicious prosecution lawsuit filed by Fercan Developments Inc. and GRVN Group Inc., dismissing the Crown's attempt to put an end to the case.

Lawyer Brian Greenspan says it's no longer about Fercan and its owner's insistence that he had nothing to do with the illegal grow-op in which his brother and others were convicted.

"It's not just our claim anymore. There's been a determinative finding that the Crown engaged in prosecutorial misconduct, (and) should never have brought the application for forfeiture," Greenspan, one of the lawyers representing Fercan, said shortly after the appeal court released the decision Thursday.

On Jan. 10, 2004, police uncovered "one of the largest and most sophisticated indoor marijuana-growing operations in Canadian history" in the 450,000-square-foot former brewery alongside Highway 400 in Barrie's south end.

Inside they found 20,000 plants, 300 pounds of cannabis and extensive growing equipment located behind concrete block walls, which was all protected by a series of locked doors and surveillance equipment. Nine people were arrested.

Fercan had purchased the 35-acre site three years earlier and was developing a coffee and a bottled water business on the site and renting out sections of the building to small businesses. The former brewery building has since been demolished.

The series of lawsuits began with the federal government's attempt to take ownership of the property through a lengthy criminal forfeiture hearing under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

When that failed eight years ago, the investigator took it to the provincial government, which then launched its own forfeiture proceedings under the Civil Remedies Act. That also failed, as did an attempt to revive it in appeal.

Fercan and GRVN were awarded \$570,000 in costs, which the Crown also tried to appeal, after winning the forfeiture case.

They now want the government to make up for the earnings lost through that process which they say amounted to civil conspiracy, claiming malicious prosecution, negligent investigation and misfeasance in public office.

"It's become a rather strange approach. You can't prove your case criminally, so you then try to seize assets civilly," said Greenspan. "It's bizarre that these two pieces of legislation can live together. But they tried both here.

"What more decisive conclusion can you reach than Fercan, the owners of the property, were absolutely blameless," he added.

A man goes to the Optician for his eye test. The Optician asks him what he can see. "I see empty airports, empty football grounds, closed theatres and closed pubs." That's perfect says the Optician, you've got 2020 vision!

SCEYA's Thrive for Better Waters

Written by: Archi Patel

Throughout the course of this year, SCEYA (Simcoe County Environmental Youth Alliance) has been striving to spread awareness of the issues surrounding the topic of local, provincial, national and international waters.

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a collection of marine debris found in the North Pacific Ocean. The quantity of this patch is unmeasurable because of how deep the garbage goes under the surface of the water. Most of the debris is made up of plastics, which are non-biodegradable. This means that the plastics do not disintegrate but rather break into tinier pieces known as microplastics. Marine litter like plastic interferes with the environment causing risks in food chains associated with the area. Large quantities of materials have been found ingested by many species. Individuals can help prevent the build up of plastics and litter by purchasing less plastic, cleaning up litter in community areas, and using the "r" method (reduce, reuse, recycle, rethink).

When water temperatures in water are too warm, corals will turn colourless because of their inability to sustain themselves in sudden temperature changes. This is called coral bleaching. When this occurs, the coral is not dead but is likely to die if it is not brought back to its normal living conditions. In most cases, the coral dies as it struggles to reproduce leaving few or no corals behind. 50% of all coral reefs have died in recent years and most could be lost in the coming years. Most marine life relies on coral reefs to sustain in its environment. Without the corals, marine life can die and cause fractures in food chains creating harder ways for other animals to adapt. This can also affect people who rely on the waters as a source of food. To prevent coral bleaching, people should do as much as they can to reduce pollution or anything that adds to climate change and global warming.

Not everyone has access to fresh and clean drinking water. Much of the water in our world is suffering from pollution because of human activities. Freshwater is only 3% of earth's water. Learning how to maintain the freshwater and how to use it efficiently should be made an asset to reduce the early impacts of losing valuable water. For some places, clean and fresh water is costly and hard to access. Individuals need to do a great amount to drive water efficiency and to use water in a sustainable manner. Having shorter showers, using less single use plastics and using energy efficient technology can help sustain our waters and keep it clean.

SCEYA is hoping that through the course of this campaign, they are able to spread awareness and create better circumstances related to water with the help of community members.

SCEYA believes that to raise awareness, community members and locals need to work together to prevent excessive issues related to water

Agricultural properties required to obtain permit for open air burns

Township of Springwater / April 22, 2021 – All outdoor burning in Springwater requires a burn permit, including open air burning located on agricultural properties.

Open Air Burn Permits are available for rural properties within Springwater and can be obtained by contacting Springwater Fire & Emergency Services directly to access an application. Prior to a permit being issued, a site inspection must be completed by the Fire Chief or designate, to ensure that the property is suitable for an open air burn and that all rules and restrictions are being adhered to.

The cost of a burn permit is \$15.00 and is valid for the calendar year. In the case of multiple agricultural properties owned by one individual or corporation, a permit is required for each property in which burning is to take place.

The following rules and restrictions are in place for open air burning in Springwater:

Burning is only permitted between sunrise and sunset.

There must 30 meters of clearance from the fire and the nearest structure.

No more than 2 cubic meters of material is permitted to be burned at any one time, unless authorized by the Fire Department.

Only dry materials are permitted to be burned.

Burning of petroleum products, plastic, rubber or anything that will cause excessive smoke is prohibited.

A responsible adult must stay with the fire at all times.

Proper fire extinguishing tools must be kept on site at all times.

Burning during a fire ban, snow, fog, air quality advisory or when wind speeds cause excessive smoke (i.e. over 20 km per hour or frequently changing direction) is strictly prohibited. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to check the fire danger rating.

Fires must be kept at least 15 meters away from combustible materials.

For additional information on Open Air Burn Permits visit www.springwater.ca/burnpermit or contact Springwater Fire & Emergency Services at 705-728-4784 Ext. 2016.

According to Statistics Canada, 75 per cent of deaths by gun are suicides, suggesting mental health is at least as serious of a concern as criminality.

SHOP LOCAL. SHOP SAFE.



Ontario

Honduras Update: April 29, 2021**Biden's USAID Plans for Central America: Slim Chance of Positive Change for Honduras**

Throughout the US presidential campaign, Biden made promises to change the stringent Trump policies on migration from Central America. After 100 days in office, the Biden/Harris team promises have attempted to solve some issues by setting up task forces to deal with the separation of parents and children at the US border and increase government supervision over U.S. border and immigration agencies. But legislation to stop family separations and defunding Trump's border wall has proved to be complicated.

Most complex is the issue of immigration and stopping the influx of migrant caravans entering Mexico on a pathway to the US border. According to the US administration the way to stop people from leaving Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, etc. is to fund USAID programs. (United States Agency for International Development). This institution throws monies at Central American governments and agencies and partners with private sector companies. But will this affect positive change in Honduras and stop the root causes of migration? Hondurans most affected by poverty, climate disasters, COVID-19, lack of jobs, extortion and corruption in their government say NO!

One of Simcoe County Honduras Human Rights' Monitor's concerns is the US and Canada's knowledge of widespread corruption in the Honduran government. In order to implement many of their "development" programs, USAID must work alongside the Honduran government despite knowing fully well, the slim chances that aid money will be managed in a transparent manner. In fact, information surfaced in US courts indicating that the Honduran President Juan Orlando Hernandez said that his government had created fake non-governmental organizations and had used US aid money to help fund his political campaigns. US prosecutors included this information in credible court documents in the Southern District court of New York.

It is also worth noting that several Honduran organizations including human rights organizations, civil society groups, religious figures, women, indigenous and small farmer groups, have requested the suspension of humanitarian aid to Honduras from foreign governments. This is because they believe that the money does not benefit or is received by the people that most need it, and instead, it is used to prop up an illegitimate government and stolen to line the pockets of government officials and their family members and business allies.

USAID provides very little public information about the exact projects and initiatives they support. It is very difficult to verify the locations of their aid programs and evaluate how effective their funds are and will be. This is information that has been made available and SCHRM's comments regarding these programs and support:

USAID has provided the following from their fact sheet on aid to Honduras.

Agricultural Sector: "In Honduras, USAID is scaling up agricultural assistance to serve 40,000 farmer households and providing skills training to returnees (those who attempted to travel to the US), making them more employable and economically resilient and less likely to re-migrate."

Farmers in Honduras have been hard hit by the November hurricanes. They have lost their crops from high winds and torrential rains. The soil has been washed away. Many farmers do not have the funds to recondition their small plots of land and many do not have sufficient land to feed their families. Land is often made very accessible to large-scale farmers growing crops such as inedible African palm fruit and tropical fruits like bananas, pineapple, and melons. Unfortunately, most of the most fertile lands in Honduras are used to grow such crops for export. Although supporting 40,000 farmers with agricultural assistance may provide temporary relief, it does not guarantee their secure access to land – a major impediment to economic advancement of many farmers - and unconditional and consistent support from USAID programs. In addition, Honduras has a population of 9 million people and only serving 40,000 households does not meet the need that has significantly grown over the past 10+ years.



Biden tells migrant caravan to stop heading to the US: Courtesy of Daily Mail

The need is extensive and small farmers have consistently complained about the lack of technical and financial support, land access, and willing state institutions to assist small farmers. Wealthy members of the farming sector have no reason to migrate to the US. Only the large-scale oligarchy farmers who are partnering with companies such as Monsanto, or wealthy African palm oil producers, will benefit from these funds. The poor farmers who have lost their livelihoods attempt to migrate. They do not benefit from this plan.

Humanitarian Assistance: "USAID provides emergency assistance including emergency food, shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene, and other support in response to needs arising from shocks and natural disasters. The Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) is focused on rapidly scaling up emergency food assistance, programs to help people earn an income, protection for the most vulnerable, and other critical humanitarian programs. These response and early recovery programs save lives and ensure people can quickly recover economically after a disaster."

According to the Honduran organizers that our community supports through SCHRM, the people have not seen any aid in terms of food or products to assist them to rebuild homes that were lost through the hurricanes. Often, when aid is given, especially in coordination with the Honduran government, small bags of food are handed out only to families that vote for the governing political party. Makeshift shelters to house the homeless are run by community volunteers or Honduran organizations with no affiliation to USAID or the Honduran government, who rely on funds from organizations like ours. Many families are still living in tents by the sides of the highways and under overpasses.

Reducing Impact of Natural Disasters: "In eight urban neighborhoods of Tegucigalpa, Honduras, USAID helps communities operationalize early warning and response systems to mitigate destruction and loss of life due to landslides as well as supports small-scale improvements to homes at risk of being damaged in extreme weather events. In drought-affected areas, USAID teaches farmers sustainable agricultural practices to build resilience to climate and weather extremes and increase yields, sometimes by up to 50 percent."

According to our grassroots contacts in Tegucigalpa (capital city), there were no proactive effective announcements followed by proactive implementation of prevention measures regarding the hurricanes. Instead, the Honduran government was encouraging people to go on vacation and go to the beaches for a government-celebrated holiday and downplaying the potential impacts of the hurricanes before they hit the country. Roads were washed out and bridges had collapsed before any notifications were sent out. None or very little government assistance or relief was provided to people who needed help the most. Many roads and bridges are still in need of replacement or repair.

USAID coordinates their work through the Honduran government's disaster relief institution known as COPECO. COPECO and its administrators have been heavily criticized and mentioned in corruption cases since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, which saw the complete mismanagement of pandemic relief efforts, including the purchase of \$48 million-dollar mobile hospitals that to date, have not been set up or are completely inadequate to

receive Covid-19 patients.

Supporting Returning Migrants: "USAID will continue supporting the reintegration of returned migrants. USAID provides returned migrants with support for workforce training and job placement, school reintegration, health programming, and psychosocial counseling for Central Americans. The USAID programs give migrants concrete opportunities so that they do not attempt the dangerous trek north again."

According to international human rights groups on the ground, these programs are facilitated by the Honduran government and some NGOs. But they are of no significant help. Instead of the US addressing the root causes of migration, and making agreements with the Central American governments to patrol their own borders to stop migration, people ask, "Why not address the root causes of migration?"

The Biden administration has now secured agreements with the Honduran, Guatemalan, and Mexican governments to put troops at their borders to stop migrant caravans from leaving their homelands. (See photo, courtesy of the Daily Mail) Now the border wall has moved further south, where the military stops their own people from leaving. Instead of addressing the reasons why people are leaving their families, land, and possessions, the US signs agreements to stop them, yet desperation gives them no choice and forces families to make the difficult, dangerous journey toward the US border. There are many migrants that once deported back to Honduras, decide again and again to make the dangerous trip to the US-Mexico border. This is because the root causes and dire conditions that drives migration in the first place, are never actually addressed by USAID or other aid programs.

For further information retrieved on USAID to Honduras, refer to the following link: <https://www.usaid.gov/news-information/fact-sheets/apr-2021-usaid-increases-efforts-address-irregular-migration-el-salvador>

SCHRM Meets with Federal MPs

On April 22, SCHRM met with MPs Bruce Stanton, Doug Shipley, and MP Rob Oliphant, Parliamentary Secretary to the Honourable Marc Garneau (Minister of Foreign Affairs). We gave MP Oliphant an update on the case of Edwin Espinal and other political prisoners arrested during the post electoral crisis of 2017. MP Oliphant will bring Edwin's case forward to the Honduran Ambassador to Canada, Sofia Cerrato Rodriguez, and to the Canadian Ambassador to Honduras, James Hill.

Springwater Township and MP Stanton and Shipley sent a resolution and letter respectively in support of Edwin's case. They received correspondence back from Minister Marc Garneau. Garneau is well aware of Edwin's case and remarks, "Please be assured that the promotion and protection of human rights is at the core of Canada's engagement in Honduras and that we will continue to closely monitor this case. Canada consistently urges Honduran authorities to ensure accountability for human rights violations, and to ensure respect for the rule of law and due process, including for Mr. Espinal."

As Edwin and Raul's case are scheduled for September 13-14, 2021, unless postponed for the third time, Stanton, Shipley, and Oliphant remarked on the importance of making sure Honduran government understands that Canadian officials are "watching." The Spring family and SCHRM thank MPs and Springwater Council for their continued support and concern for Edwin Espinal and Karen Spring.

SCHRM Continues to Support the Food Program in El Progreso

We thank the Springwater residents who continue to support the food program in El Progreso. Our grassroots organizers remark that the need for food donations is great. Also greatly appreciated are funds to help rebuild their battered homes.

If you wish to support the food program, contact us at: 705-734-4238 or via email at: janetspring7@gmail.com.

Thank you.

Janet Spring, Kate Harries, Christine Nugent, Rev. Meg Jordan for the Simcoe County Honduras Rights Monitor Committee

Do British scones always contain raisins? Where can I find a "genuine" recipe?**Those I've tried don't do justice to "real" scones.**

Answer: No, British scones do not always contain raisins; they are optional. Here is a recipe for Cream Tea Scones that appeared in the Canadian edition of *The 1997 Old Farmer's Almanac*: 2 cups all-purpose flour; 2 tablespoons sugar; 1 tablespoon baking powder; ½ teaspoon salt; ½ cup butter; 1 egg; ¾ cup milk or light cream. Combine the dry ingredients and cut in the butter. Beat the egg lightly, reserving a tablespoon for topping. Add milk to remaining egg, beat, and add to dry ingredients. Stir to make a soft dough, knead, and roll out on a lightly floured board. Cut into 2-½ inch rounds. Place on an ungreased baking sheet, and brush with reserved egg. Bake at 425 degrees F for 12 to 14 minutes. We should point out that our "all-purpose" flour is a little harder than the "plain" flour called for in traditional British recipes, which gives a slightly softer scone. A good substitute for plain flour is half all-purpose flour and half cake and pastry flour.

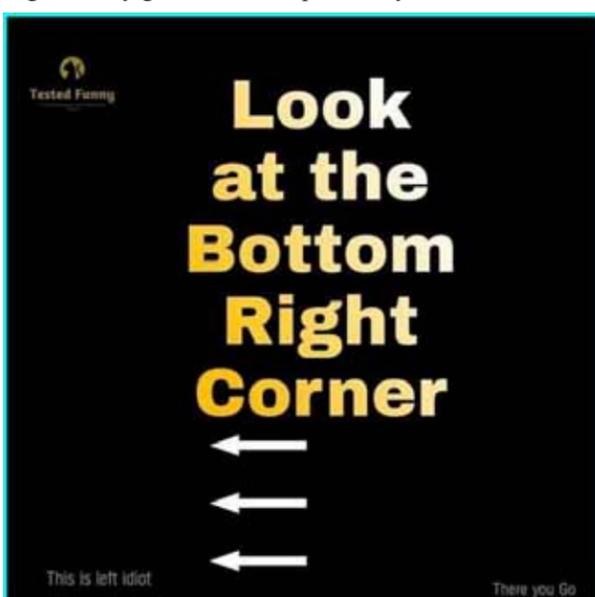
5 ROSE TIPS THAT REALLY WORK

Plant lavender at the base of rose bushes, especially the larger shrubs. Deer are attracted by rose scent, but lavender muddies the rose aroma.

1. Dump coffee grounds and used tea leaves around bushes. Both acidify the soil slightly, which roses love.
2. Bury banana skins or even the entire black, mushy banana at the base of bushes to provide magnesium, an element that the plants crave.
3. Scratch 2 tablespoons of Epsom salts into the soil around a rose. The salts make flower colors more intense.
4. Use rabbit food for fertilizer. The pet food is composed of alfalfa meal, which supplies a growth stimulant, nitrogen, and trace elements to roses. Scratch in ½ cup of pellets around each rose and water well.

REPORTS HAVE COME IN REGARDING THE WORST AVIATION DISASTER IN IRELANDS HISTORY.

A 4 seat Sesna aircraft crashed into a cemetery just outside Dublin, Rescuers have so far recovered 149 bodies and expect the count to grow as digging goes on through the night.



We're Here for You!

The doors to our municipal buildings may be closed to the public, but our phone lines and emails remain open. Need assistance? Contact us by phone or email. View staff contact information: springwater.ca/contact

Upcoming Meetings

Cultural Advisory Committee
Tuesday, May 4 at 6:30 p.m.

Council Meeting
Wednesday, May 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Midhurst Community Rec. Association
Thursday, May 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Meeting
Wednesday, May 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Council meetings are live streamed online at springwater.ca/live. A call-in option is also available. Board and committee meetings can be accessed via Zoom Conferencing. View the agendas for details.

Notice of Heritage Designation By-law 2021-039

Being a By-law to designate the Midhurst Community Centre located at 74 Doran Road, Midhurst

On the 21st day of April, 2021, Springwater Township Council passed By-law 2021-039, being a by-law to designate the Midhurst Community Centre property located at 74 Doran Road, more particularly described in Schedule "A" of the By-law, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to Section 29, Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, chapter O.18, as amended. The said By-law includes both a statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and a Description of the Heritage Attributes of the Property in Schedule "B" thereof.

Review the Heritage Designation By-law 2021-039 on the Township's website at springwater.ca/heritage

Inquiries may be directed to Sasha Helmky, Deputy Clerk at 705-728-4784 ext. 2042, or by email at sasha.helmky@springwater.ca

Water & Wastewater Bills

Water meters have been read by the Township's third-party contractor, WAMCO. Bills will be mailed at the beginning of May with a due date at the end of May.



How do I find out the latest vaccine information and when it's my turn?

Timing of immunizations for various ages and groups may change. It will depend on vaccine supply. Right now, only select groups and ages can make appointments.



Visit smdhu.org/COVID19 for the latest information.

Bid Opportunity

The Township is currently accepting bids for:

Surface Treatments (2021-13-PW)
Closes: May 13, 2021

Fire Hall & Provisional Training Centre (2021-03-FES)
Closes: June 15, 2021

For details and to register for upcoming opportunities, please visit: springwater.bidsandtenders.ca



Spring Street Sweeping

Spring street sweeping has started in Springwater. Two street sweepers will be used throughout the Township. Sweeping is expected to be completed in approximately one month's time.

Please do not pile sand at the edge of the road as the sweeper cannot sweep up piles.



Burn Permits

All outdoor burning in Springwater requires a permit. Recreational burn permits cost \$15 and can be purchased online at springwater.ca/burnpermit

Open air burn permits are required for rural properties, including agricultural properties, and can be obtained by contacting Springwater Fire & Emergency Services at 705-728-4784 Ext. 2016

Student Bursary

Applications are being accepted for the 2021 Simcoe County Student Bursary Program. Up to twenty-one \$3000 bursaries are available to students living in Simcoe County.

To review eligibility criteria and learn more visit simcoe.ca and search for 'Bursary Program'.



Community Garden

Council has approved a pilot project for a community garden at Bishop Park. Interested in participating? **Single Plot: \$10 +HST / annually**

The Township is also seeking individuals interested in operating and maintaining the community garden.

Learn more about these opportunities and register at: springwater.ca/CommunityGarden

Spring Hydrant Flushing and Swabbing

The Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) will be flushing water mains for the Township.

It is very important that residents **REDUCE** water use from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the dates listed below so that we may effectively complete maintenance on the water systems. For areas being swabbed, we ask that residents **STOP** using water during these hours on the dates listed below.

May 3 - May 7 Midhurst & Minesing

May 10 - May 14 Snow Valley Highlands, Snow Valley Lowlands, Centre Vespra (Stonemanor)
SWABBING - Vespra Downs Water (May 13), Parr Boulevard

Notice of Public Meeting Concerning a Proposed Amendment to the Township of Springwater Official Plan, an Amendment to Comprehensive Zoning By-law 5000, as Amended and a Proposed Amendment to the Township Wide Site Plan Control By-law

Reference — File No. OP-2021-002 & ZB-2021-005 — Cannabis Production Facilities

Take notice that the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Springwater will hold a public meeting virtually via Zoom on **Monday, May 31st, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.**, to consider the proposed applications under Sections 17, 21, and 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P 13 as amended.

For more information on how to participate in the Council meeting on Zoom please refer to the "Frequently Asked Questions Protocol for Public Participation in Virtual Public Meetings" document available at www.springwater.ca/planning. Interested stakeholders/residents that would like to comment will be required to pre-register with the Township. The Council meeting will also be live streamed on the Township's YouTube channel at: www.springwater.ca/live

Alternatively, you can listen to the meeting through Zoom by dialing **1-647-558-0588** and inputting the **meeting ID: 869 9014 4136** when prompted.

Subject Lands

Entire geographic area of the Township of Springwater.

No key map has been included in this notice as the proposed amendment applies to the entire municipality.

Purpose and Effect

The purpose of the proposed amendments is to update the Official Plan and Zoning By-law with policies regarding the permission and regulation of Cannabis Production Facilities.

The effect of the proposed Official Plan amendment is to permit federally licensed cannabis cultivation and processing on lands designated for Agricultural uses in the Township of Springwater; require licensed Cannabis Production Facilities to be subject to Site Plan Approval; and identify the criteria to be met for the approval of Cannabis Production Facilities.

The effect of the proposed Zoning By-law amendment is to permit federally licensed cannabis cultivation and processing as-of-right within the Agricultural (A) Zone. In addition, to permit federally licensed indoor cannabis cultivation and processing by way of site-specific rezoning in the General Industrial/ Inside Storage (MI), and General Industrial/ Outside Storage (MO) Zones, subject to meeting the applicable zoning provisions.

Any person may make a submission in support of, in opposition to, or ask a question regarding the proposed amendments. Written submissions are recommended and can be made to the Planning

Department by email, regular post or the drop box located at the Administration Building. Please ensure all written submissions include your name, address and the application number.

If you are unable to make a written submission and therefore wish to make an oral statement during the meeting, please refer to the attached "Frequently Asked Questions Protocol for Public Participation in Virtual Public Meetings" and follow the instructions listed under "How do I make an oral submission during the meeting?"

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Springwater Planning Department, before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted, or before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of Council for the Township of Springwater to the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal and may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so. Written and oral submissions will form part of the public meeting record, including the name and address of the commenters, as information collected under the Planning Act. The minutes, written submissions and a recording of the meeting will be posted on the Township's website.

If you wish to be notified of the Council's decision to adopt the proposed Official Plan Amendment and approve the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, or of the refusal of a request to amend the Official Plan or Zoning By-law, a written request must be submitted to the Planning Department.

Additional information related to the proposed amendments will become available on the Township of Springwater's website as part of the Agenda which is posted six days prior to the public meeting date. Please see link below for Agenda: <https://springwater.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/32435>. Any questions regarding the application or requests for additional information can be directed to the Planning Department.

Dated at the Township of Springwater on April 29, 2021.

Planning Department, Township of Springwater
Administration Centre
2231 Nursery Road
Minesing, ON L9X 1A8
(705)728-4784 x 2019 Fax (705) 728-2759
e-mail: publicmeetings@springwater.ca
website: www.springwater.ca

For Sale

The Township has the following for sale:

2000 Allianz/Johnston Street Sweeper
Auction Closes: May 13, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.

For more information please visit:
govdeals.com/springwatertownship

Planting Hope

This year, Communities in Bloom is asking Canadians to feature yellow, the international colour for hope, in the creation of Hope Gardens.

Springwater is encouraging residents to join in and plant their own Hope Garden or add yellow to their yards in a bid to turn Springwater yellow! Share your hope garden on social media using #HopelsGrowing #PlantingSpringwaterYellow. Learn more at www.hopeisgrowing.ca



Letters to the Editor

Momentum is building for a Climate Emergency Alliance

Dear Editor,
Even though COVID is dominating headlines, we know that the climate crisis is a top issue for people across Canada as we head into a highly probable 2021 federal election. Unfortunately, the status quo of Canadian politics isn't going to win us the kind of bold, ambitious action we need on climate.

Trudeau's had 6 years to lead the way on tackling the climate emergency. But he has consistently failed to deliver by failing to reduce emissions, stalling climate accountability legislation, spending billions in subsidies for Big Oil, and buying the Trans Mountain pipeline -- a project that even Canada's own federal agencies say is incompatible with climate action.

Climate-concerned voters need better options as a possible federal election edges closer. That's why thousands of people across Canada have signed a petition calling for a Green-NDP Climate Emergency Alliance. Under a Climate Emergency Alliance, the two parties would pledge to work together and do everything in their power to tackle the climate crisis with the urgency it demands. In the next federal election, they would collaborate to elect as many climate champions as possible. Then, after election day, join forces in Parliament to pass ambitious climate legislation.

Trudeau's policy of climate delay is guaranteed to lead us to climate catastrophe. A Climate Emergency Alliance might be the best chance we've got to secure a safe future.

Sincerely, Noel Macartney

April 16, 2021

Mr. Trevor Empey

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Municipal Services Office- Central Ontario

13th floor, 777 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

Email: Trevor.Empey@ontario.ca

Dear Mr. Empey:

Re: ERO 019-3292- OPA 5, County of Simcoe I am writing on behalf of the Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. ("FSF"), a non-profit citizens group, with a mandate to conserve the forests of Simcoe County and to preserve and extend parks and greenbelts.

FSF is extremely concerned about the County of Simcoe's Official Plan Amendment No. 5 ("OPA 5"). OPA 5 would allow the establishment of waste sites (which do not involve landfilling) without an official plan amendment. This means that waste sites can be established without public notice and the right of appeal. The proposal effectively eliminates public participation in Ontario's planning process.

FSF is currently involved in a legal challenge of the County of Simcoe's proposal to establish a waste site in the Freele County Forest, a Natural Heritage System, that is afforded protection under the Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2019 ("2019 Growth Plan"). We have retained ecological experts and a planner in support of our case which is scheduled for a hearing before the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal commencing in September 2021. The implications of OPA 5 on this case are unclear and have not been addressed by the County of Simcoe.

Beyond our legal case, we are concerned that OPA 5 would permit the inappropriate establishment of waste sites in significant wildlife habitat and significant woodland areas in direct contravention of the policies in the 2019 Growth Plan and the Provincial Policy Statement. We note that this is the third attempt by the County of Simcoe to circumvent the planning rules from applying to waste sites. The County had sought a transitional regulation to exempt the proposal to establish a waste site in the Freele County Forest from the natural heritage policies in the 2019 Growth Plan. The transitional regulation was enacted and is now the subject of a legal challenge in Divisional Court. The County then sought a ministerial zoning order for the same proposal which was appropriately denied by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Waste sites are well-known to cause adverse impacts to public health and the environment. They are associated with odour, dust, noise, litter, increased truck traffic and increased fire hazards.

Under these circumstances, it would be a very serious mistake to remove public transparency and accountability mechanisms over the establishment of waste sites in Simcoe County.

Accordingly, we strongly urge the Minister not to approve OPA 5.

Yours truly, Mary Wagner

President Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc.

Golf Shutdown

Dear Editor,

Golf Shutdown is nonsense from a science centered approach:

Maintenance- of equipment is mostly a solitary practice in a well ventilated area and masks and distance can be maintained.

Tasks- Grass cutting (greens and tees, fairways, sandtraps and rough) none of these need be 2 person jobs.

Outdoor respiration with separation is the least likely to spread the viruses.

Walking and playing is stunningly independent of others as a 4 or 5 hour activity.

Cart golf with a plastic divider while wearing masks is as safe as can be and better than indoor grocery shopping. Even the snack seller in a cart is in the very best situation for providing supplies to customers.

Sales at clubhouse and introduction to the course is a time oriented activity safely managed with minimal crowding at cash registers.

Sincerely, John Lyon, Minesing

Growing Poverty, Enormous Wealth

Letter to the Editor

Since 2016, shares on the Toronto Stock Market have gained 40%. We have experienced the longest running rally in the history of the TSX. I read in the papers and hear reports from the government that prosperity is at an all time high. The Royal Bank reported a net profit last year of \$35 billion (yes, that's billion) in the midst of a pandemic, and Magna, the auto parts producer, showed a profit of \$4.5 billion. Shouldn't everyone be doing better? Yes, if you own stocks - but stock ownership has become concentrated in the hands of the wealthy.

According to the latest estimates by Goldman Sachs, the wealthiest 1% of American households own half of all equities sold on the Dow Jones, while the top 10% own more than 80% of all publicly listed shares. The ownership of profits is highly concentrated in the hands of the top income stratum whose wage gains in the past ten years have been three times that of the shrinking middle class. After paying mortgages, clearing car loans, and buying increasingly expensive groceries, the working poor have barely enough for a six-pack of beer. Stock purchases are akin to purchasing the moon for wage earners.

Real-wage growth in the manufacturing sector has stagnated. In Canada barely two in every ten workers are still employed making things today. Since 2001 Canada's manufacturing sector has shed some 600,000 jobs, about 1/4 of its workforce. Under the continent-wide free trade agreement a company like Magna can close its unionized plants in Ontario and move them to Mexico where an assembly line worker might earn \$4 hr. Today Magna hires 4,000 workers in 32 auto-parts plants in Mexico and has no intention of investing in Canada in the near future. We have seen a massive movement of production and jobs to cheap-labour supply chains around the world. Once trade barriers fell and companies felt free to move, Canadian workers found it difficult to negotiate for increased wages. Virtually all new hirings are 'contract' positions or part time allotments. The work force has expanded, but most of the jobs created are minimum wage positions in the retail and service sectors. Retirement security, health benefits, and vacation pay have been minimized or eliminated from negotiations in the manufacturing sector. Globalization changed the rules. The massive outsourcing of jobs to low-wage countries has increased corporate profits, but has had a profound negative impact on both factory employment and wages in the G7 economies.

Workers have experienced wage stagnation for the past 20 years while the elite through stock options, dividend earnings, capital gains, and obscene bonuses increased their wealth exponentially. Canada's GDP may have increased in that time but the profits were not shared. The C.D. Howe Institute, a government think tank, has advised Christia Freeland to raise sales taxes to help pay the \$1.5 debt her government has created.

The Sales Tax is a flat tax imposed on everyone equally - sounds fair, but it is not. The elite can easily afford the extra one or two percent while those living close to the poverty line will suffer. (there goes the six-pack and the trip to Wasaga Beach) The working poor, the wage earners, are being ground into poverty. The Sales Tax should be lowered, not raised and a wealth tax imposed on those who have benefited from globalization.

Interestingly, corporate taxes cannot be increased if Candian businesses are to compete on the world stage, but the uber-rich should be taxed increasingly proportionate to their income. But that is the step the Trudeau-Freeland Liberals will not take; no Trudeau-created budget will increase taxes on the elite.

Joffre McCleary, Barrie, Ontario

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1 Loses strength	1 Canada's ___ Island National Park
5 Mollifier	2 Cherry variety
8 Rabble	3 Main squeeze
11 In ___ of flowers	4 Old Toyota
12 Firefighting tool	5 Took in
13 "The ___ Daba Honeymoon"	6 Wood sorrels
14 Word attached to "sack"	7 Senor's coin
15 "Papa ___ a Rollin' Stone"	8 Primary colour of colour printing
16 Club stint	9 Wardrobe item from "The Mikado"
17 Expert, slangily	10 Do a supermarket job
19 Individual	18 Change back
21 Nonsupportive	20 Cipher
23 Bit of data	22 Lab sight
26 Balaam's carrier	24 Limited number, with "the"
29 Desalinated	25 "To Autumn" or "To Spring"
31 Assumed to be true	26 Grill residue
33 Leave wide-mouthed	27 Appropriate first name for an attorney
34 Next in line?	28 Web surfers?
35 Ruler of yore	30 U2 bassist
37 Balance sheet item	32 Post- opposite
39 Swampy area	36 Fastener for a girder
42 Last name in horror	38 Born's partner
44 Obstacle	40 Sound at the circus
46 Battery unit	41 "Do this or ___"
48 Sharer's word	42 Pasty Hawaiian staple
49 Diminish	43 No longer in vogue
50 Relaxation	45 England's government controlled TV
51 "___ a date!"	47 Golfer's device
52 Calendar abbr.	
53 Peach or beech	

What Were They Thinking?

I was relieved to learn that majority of our Springwater Council voted in favour of keeping notices entailing Springwater Township in our Springwater News Paper.

The Advance is a conglomerate newspaper and mot certainly does not need the revenue of a township ad to stay afloat.

This is a time to support local. We can not get more local than Springwater News. It arrives directly to our enclosed mailboxes clean and without the use of a weekly plastic bag. So much better for our environment.

Allen, Coughlin, Moore - shame on you. What were you thinking???

That is not the opinion of most Springwater taxpayers. We must remember this when election time comes calling for your vote!!!

With Heart and My Opinion
Donna Hawthorne, Anten Mills

Green recovery from COVID

In April 2020 I sent Prime Minister Trudeau a "Go Green Canada Go Green" letter and a card "It's Time to RED FLAG Climate Change". The msg was to install Solar Mounts in spaces of Hydro Towers. I hope that he did read the letter about how Mother Earth is now strongly punishing it's human children for harming planet earth via climate change. It is now time to RED FLAG the world! By harming and destroying hundreds of natures inhabitants, this COVID pandemic is a "natural result" of human disregard! Consequently by harming nature, we are "naturally" harming all residents ... including humans. It's time to take action now ... PLEASE

The sun shines every single day, even though sometimes the clouds can hide the sun from vision. So even though it's not completely visible solar energy is consistently available for every day use. So why isn't every single new build, including homes, factories, commercial buildings, installed with solar panels at the cost of the builder?

Jim Masin

P.S. This year we are installing a 20 Solar Power Mount at our cottage and we will be 100% sustainable, totally Off-Grid! "Lettuce BEE Green!"

Editor - I have 38 solar panels. It is rated as a 10 kW system.

In February (2021), they produced 74 MWh of power. Last year, they produced 152 MWh. In Feb 2019, they produced 271 KWh.

From June to August, over the past five years, we have produced a high of 1789 MWh (July 2016) per month to a low of 1271 MWh (July 2019). Since their installation (May 2016), the best year has been 2020 when they produced 11,332 MWh (when the sun shone).

Each month, I use between 1200 and 1400 KWh. If I could save/store all the power 38 panels produce in a year, it is not enough.

Ontarians' Forgotten Assets Can Help Meet Unprecedented Needs for Individuals and Communities

In light of COVID-19, Ontario communities and families are struggling more than ever. Here in North Simcoe, lots of our neighbours have lost their jobs. Many part-time and temporary workers are facing the impossible question of whether to pay for food or rent. Some are visiting a food bank or even a shelter for the first time ever. Others are facing unprecedented personal challenges.

As Ontario looks for innovative ways to support individuals and communities, a potential solution is to unlock money that already exists. More specifically, Ontario can explore the creation of an *Unclaimed Properties Act* that can make approximately \$14.4 million of unclaimed assets deliver much-needed relief to both individuals and the community.

Unclaimed Property is a term that covers a broad range of financial assets that are forgotten or go unclaimed by their rightful owners. Think employment wages that get sent to an old address, estate gifts where the next of kin can't be tracked down, and insurance payments or old credit union bank accounts that are forgotten about. These are largely \$200 and \$300 amounts that people haven't cashed or simply haven't remembered they have.

But it's money that many could put to good use right now.

Inspired by the BC Unclaimed Property Society and a partnership with the Vancouver Foundation, an *Unclaimed Properties Act* here could help Ontario to achieve two important goals: First, it would reunite everyday Ontarians with these monies that are rightfully theirs. And second, recognizing that not all unclaimed property would be claimed, it would create community benefits by sharing a percentage of unclaimed assets with communities each year.

Ontario does not currently have the legal structure in place to do this. But that's not to say that Ontario doesn't have any unclaimed property. The most populous province has accumulated a significant amount, and currently, consumers have less than a 1% chance of ever finding it; compare that to BC where, every year, consumers track down 20% of the unclaimed money they hadn't known they had!

A key feature in BC is that the Unclaimed Property Society works to locate owners and holders of unclaimed property. There is also a searchable database that allows the public to identify whether unclaimed funds are held in their name. However, despite these efforts, some funds still remain unclaimed. Since 2003 the Vancouver Foundation has responded by granting these unclaimed funds to the tune of \$42 million to hundreds of worthy charities working across British Columbia. Together, this has earmarked support to tackle pressing issues like food security, youth unemployment, housing and homelessness, and more.

Based on BC's performance, we expect this initiative could unlock approximately \$4.4 million annually for individuals and another \$10 million annually for communities in Ontario.

Who knew that our forgotten assets could have so much positive impact, at this challenging time? This is real money that could help individuals and meet urgent community needs right here in North Simcoe.

The best news for Ontario is that at a time when need is so great, this money is available at no cost to the taxpayer or the treasury. It only requires legislation to support it and an intermediary to help make it accessible. That is where the Community Foundations of Canada: Ontario coalition of foundations comes in. Modelled after the BC Unclaimed Property Society, the 49 community foundations across Ontario have a unique and proven model that would allow for the establishment of a mechanism to find the holders of dormant accounts and distribute the funds of accounts for which no owner is found.

This is a great opportunity for Ontarians to have greater access to their own financial assets, while also raising the sails of our struggling charitable sector at a time when communities need it most.

Scott Warnock
Executive Director
Huron Community Foundation
P.O. Box 324
Midland, Ontario L4R 4L1



Jim Pratt, Broker,
SRES, BA, BEd
(Seniors Real Estate Specialist®)



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998 Mosley, Wasaga Beach

Here we grow again! Ontario SPCA goes virtual with annual Gardeners' Gathering fundraiser

Midland, ON (April 14, 2021) – The Ontario SPCA Midland & District Animal Centre's 14th annual Gardeners' Gathering fundraiser is back on Sunday, May 2 in a new virtual form to inspire gardeners getting ready for spring while also helping animals in need in the community.



This year's event will be hosted virtually through ZOOM, and will feature a workshop by Midland's own Leanne George, owner of Fresh Flowers By Leanne. Participants will learn how to make a beautiful Mother's Day floral arrangement and will be able to pick up everything they need to create their floral masterpiece at Fresh Flowers by Leanne, located at 212 King St. in Midland. **The event runs from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.** and will also include a virtual behind-the-scenes tour of the Ontario SPCA Midland & District Animal Centre, with visits from some furry friends, as well as animal care staff.

The Midland & District Animal Centre will also be launching a virtual silent auction on May 2, which will remain open for bidding until 5 p.m. on May 7. There are some incredible items available to bid on, including a variety of gardening themed items, as well as some fun in-person experiences to enjoy when you're ready.

"After a long winter, this is the perfect opportunity for the community to come together virtually, enjoy creating beautiful arrangements and help animals in need," says Caytlynn Croisier, Manager, Ontario SPCA Midland & District Animal Centre. "Let's have some much-needed fun and continue to grow the Gardeners' Gathering."

For more information, or to purchase tickets, visit ontariospca.ca/midland

CFB Borden members to train in ammunition disposal

April 15, 2021 – Borden, Ont. – National Defence / Canadian Armed Forces

Soldiers from the Canadian Forces Logistics Training Centre Ammunition Technical Officer course will be conducting controlled detonations at CFB Borden, from April 19 to June 1, 2021.

At no time will this training pose a risk to the local population or infrastructure. Rigorous safety standards that govern the use of controlled detonations are in place and will be strictly observed. Up to 20 controlled detonations will take place daily, excluding weekends, between the hours of approximately 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Canadian Armed Forces employs a wide range of ammunition on ranges across Canada. Ammunition Technical Officers assist in the safe and expedient disposal of any misfired, dud or obsolete ammunition in Canada or on deployed operations overseas.

What is the origin of the trap door in long underwear?

Answer: In 1910, the Cooper Underwear Company addressed one of the greatest clothing conundrums of the day – the union suit, which was the standard for men's underwear.

This single undergarment covered the wearer from wrist to ankle, keeping him warm in the days before central heating.

Unfortunately, a trip to the bathroom or out-house meant totally disrobing, a somewhat vexing undertaking. To solve this problem, the Cooper Underwear Company introduced a revolutionary garment: the Kenosha Klosed Krotch, a union suit with two pieces of the body fabric lapped over each other like an "X." When the wearer needed to use the opening, this lap could be drawn apart, eliminating the need to totally undress.

Incidentally, this company is very much in existence today as Jockey International, Inc.

DOUG SHIPLEY
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
BARRIE—SPRINGWATER—ORO-MEDONTE

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A Message from Doug Shipley, MP

In 2017 Environment and Climate Change Canada began the process of drafting and implementing a new Clean Fuels Standard targeted at industries and consumers, to meet a global commitment to net-zero emissions.

The Liberal government claims they have consulted with provincial, territorial, and industry stakeholders on the development of the Clean Fuels Standard.

However, recently I received a letter from the Township of Springwater and the Mayor's office expressing their concern with the implementation and the negative impact new regulations will have on local farmers, including their ability to use their land as well as potential market share loss.

Farmers and agriculture industry associations highlighted the Land Use Biodiversity criteria. When drafted it was suspected that upwards of 90 percent of farms in Ontario could potentially be non-compliant.

This would put local farmers at a severe disadvantage to non-domestic farmers and would result in a drop in market position and significant revenue losses.

Recently, Environment and Climate Change Canada pivoted and is now proposing a "net national land use expansion model". This implies that if there is no net land use expansion "all Canadian farmers would be deemed eligible and under compliance with the regulations." Source: Ontario Grain Farmers

While there seems to be movement in the right direction there is still cause for concern with respect to the full development and implementation of the regulations. Environment and Climate Change Canada has indicated they will continue to meet with interested parties to gather additional stakeholder input.

The government is aiming to have regulations drafted by late 2021 with implemented by December 2022.

I encourage farmers, townships and municipal organizations with a vested interest to reach out to Environment and Climate Change Canada and provide feedback and comments on the pending regulations and the impact it will have on farms. You can reach them by calling: 1-800-668-6767 or emailing: ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

If you require further assistance please do not hesitate to contact my office, my staff and I will be more than happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Doug Shipley
Member of Parliament
Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte

Use Newspaper Under Mulch

Mulching is a pain, so if you're going to put all that work into making your beds look nice, why not make it LAST longer?

Putting several layers of newspaper down BEFORE laying a layer of mulch helps to keep the weeds out for at least one whole season!

The newspaper is porous, so water and nutrients can still pass through and reach the plants, but it blocks the light so that weeds can't germinate. As an added bonus, earthworms LOVE to eat newspaper, and will slowly compost it to enrich your soil.

Why do clocks run clockwise?

Answer: Before the advent of clocks, we used sundials. In the northern hemisphere, the shadows rotated in the direction we now call "clockwise." The clock hands were built to mimic the natural movement of the sun. If clocks had been invented in the southern hemisphere, "clockwise" would mean just the opposite.

It is dangerous to be right when the government is wrong. --Voltaire

STEELERS
RESTAURANT & PUB

DAILY FEATURES

- MON **STIR FRY NIGHT** (weekly)
- TUES **BURGER NIGHT** (The best burgers!)
- WED **WING NIGHT** (Voted best!)
- THURS **PASTA NIGHT** (weekly)
- FRI **FISH NIGHT** (Best seller)
- SAT **STEAK NIGHT** (weekly)
- SUN **HOME TOWN COOKING** (Fresh turkey, beef)

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Specials updated daily on FB, Instagram, Google

NEW HOURS: MONDAY/TUESDAY 11 AM - 7 PM
WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY 11 AM - 8 PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY 11 AM - 9 PM • SUNDAY 11 AM - 8 PM

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Reducing Red Tape during Recovery

Reducing Red Tape and bureaucratic burdens whenever we can identify them has been, and remains, a priority for the provincial government. To that end, we established the first ever Associate Ministry of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction, under Minister Prabmeet Sarkaria. Recently, Minister Sarkaria introduced legislation that would minimize existing barriers on businesses and help support a long-term recovery plan, known as the Supporting Recovery and Competitiveness Act.

Within this new legislation are a series of proposed actions that will help businesses and government deliver clear, modern and effective rules that promote public health, safeguard the environment, and create jobs. If passed, this act will help more individuals, families and small businesses recover from the economic effects of COVID-19 and prepare them for future opportunities.

- Included in the proposed legislative changes are:
- Helping consumers save money on electricity by making it easier for them to track their energy usage
 - Helping to ensure Ontario remains a global leader in the connected and automated vehicle industry by supporting innovative pilot programs – like consulting on adding new vehicle types such as automated farm vehicles, and removing certain restrictions around modified automated vehicles
 - Modernizing Ontario by bringing more processes and services online, including developing new applications that will allow online sticker renewal for heavy commercial vehicle licence plates in mid-2022
 - Enhancing protections for workers by strengthening policies to keep them safe – like renewing the working at heights training program to improve standards for training content and delivery
 - Supporting the not-for-profit sector and other corporations by allowing them to continue to hold virtual meetings during the pandemic.

Included in this new bill are also changes to the Planning Act to create more common sense legislation for home and property owners. I was pleased to introduce these proposed changes in 2019 through my Private Members Bill, Bill 88 – Planning Amendment Act. These changes to the Planning Amendment Act were widely advocated for by multiple groups, including the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, the Ontario Home Builders Association, and the Federation of Ontario Law Associations. The proposed changes will provide more clarity and consistency around consents and severances, as well as preventing inadvertent contraventions of the Act that result in void ownership of land, thus saving Ontario businesses, homeowners and hundreds of individual's time and money.

Our government continues to work towards creating more common sense legislation that updates and simplifies outdated and complicated legislation. We will continue to find new ways to reduce red tape and support businesses as they recover from the impacts of COVID-19

Hospice Huronia Celebrates 1st Anniversary of Tomkins House

Penetanguishene. One year ago, April 16, 2020, Hospice Huronia welcomed Murray, their first resident, to Tomkins House, a new residential hospice located at 948 Fuller Avenue in Penetanguishene and serving North Simcoe residents. Murray was the first of 87 residents who have since called Tomkins House home for their last days.

Opening Tomkins House at the beginning of the Covid pandemic was a bold move but the need in the community for a residential hospice was so great it could not be delayed.

“It was not easy” Debbie Kesheshian, Executive Director of Hospice Huronia states. “The lack of PPE at the beginning, reduced fundraising at a time when funds were most needed and working with the Covid-related restrictions meant opening without all the volunteers to help and with reduced staff ... but we did it!”

Celebrating with a Zoom call, all 87 residents’ names were read out as attendees raised a glass in their honour. Further celebrating the first year anniversary, one of Tomkins House’s talented nurses painted a barn quilt of a dragonfly, listing all the residents’ names along the wings. Names will be added each year to honour those who have called Tomkins House “home”.

“We couldn’t have done this without the support of the Community, our Donors and our Volunteers. This coming week we celebrate our wonderful Volunteers during National Volunteer Week and are proud to announce that Marthe Scott, our Board Chair who has led us through our first year at Tomkins House, is the recipient of the provincial June Callwood Award for Outstanding Volunteers. She is very deserving of this prestigious award.”

Hospice Huronia’s Tomkins House continues to welcome residents who are at the end of their life journey and support them and their families in a home-like setting. These services and bereavement support services are free to all thanks to partial funding from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and donations and fundraisers like the upcoming “Hike for Hospice” next month.

For more information of Hospice Huronia’s services, programs and Hike for Hospice, visit HospiceHuronia.ca or call 705-549-1034. We are thankful for those who make hospice their charity of choice.

Vanishing Barns: Remembering the 18th 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
 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.

Present Owners Paul and Rita (Harris) Dobson - formerly Fred and Audrey (Smith) Maw

Owners		
-present	Paul and Rita (Harris) Dobson	Built: early 1900s
	Owner from Toronto	Dimensions: both barns 36 x 54'
~1968-1973	Fred and Audrey (Smith) Maw	Water Source: artesian well
~1924~1968	Joe and Leafy (Bell) Maw, Joe's mother Alice	
	Tom Maguire	
1912-	Joseph Langman	
1868-1912	Samuel and Sarah Wray	
1862-1868	Allen Gunn bought from the Crown	

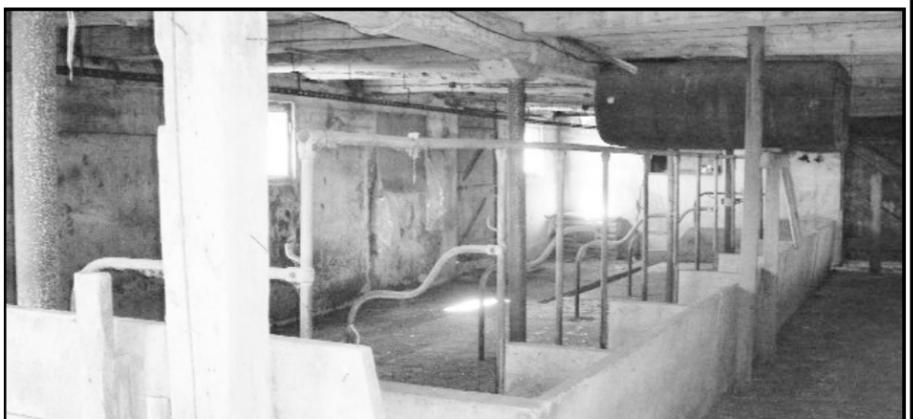


This room is under the barn bridge.

The boarding house for the men who worked at Carter’s Mill was east of the Edenvale Bridge. It was moved to this farm in the 1930s. The plaster was removed to lighten the load, the house cut in two and put on sleighs. The back of the sleigh was jacked up until it started to move. Where the banks were low, the Marl Creek had been filled in with brush and snow. The house was moved and cemented on the outside.

Both Joe and Fred Maw were both involved in mixed farming. At a later date a neighbour raised pigs. The barns were renovated around 2017. The farm is now cash cropped.

Alan G. Johnston, A History of Vespra Township p. 446, 492.



Billy Rowell raised the barn for Joe Maw.



Your turn is coming soon.



Ontario's COVID-19 vaccine plan is helping to stop the spread and save lives. Thousands of people across the province are getting vaccinated every day.

As vaccinations continue, we need to stay the course to protect those we love. Wear a mask. Wash your hands. Keep your distance.

Find out when, where and how to get vaccinated at ontario.ca/covidvaccineplan or call 1-888-999-6488 for assistance in more than 300 languages.

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Ontario 

Minesing Moments lorachalli@sympatico.ca Lorrie Norwood

Good day! I'm not sure what type of weather today will bring as you read this...you may be bundled up keeping warm or sitting in shorts in front of your fan. Either way this is spring in Central Ontario. It's funny to experience this type of weather because you truly have no idea what the week will bring you and do you store away your winter wear or keep them handy just in case. Basically you have to keep every type of clothing ready to go each morning.



I wanted to share one of the pictures that was posted on our Minesing Facebook page of one of our local dog walkers over the weekend. I love this! From the comments that were under the pictures, whoever you are T-Rex, you sure put a smile on the faces of people in our community. We thank you and people are very impressed that your dog doesn't seem phased by your costume. Perhaps you were on the search of our local swamp monster Swampy? I think he can be found south west of here deeper in the swamp 😊

I don't think we have taken enough time to acknowledge all of those who tirelessly continue to work in our hospitals. From the front line doctors and nurses, to the specialty units, housekeeping, food services, pharmacy and administration staff that are having to enter our hospitals every single day praying that today they aren't exposed to someone else's virus. Praying and hoping that the numbers will decrease. You must be truly exhausted. Aside from the frustrating and unbelievably selfish people still not paying attention to the rules and laws put in place, we thank you for putting your life on the line every single day and helping people get through this unbelievable time. Try to keep your chin up and look after yourself as much as you can. I don't know where we would be without you. You are all people in our neighbourhoods and we are grateful for you.

There are so many people to thank on the front lines, you know who you are and we know who you are. Please know we appreciate you and thank you.

To the parents that are home schooling, I wish you so much luck as you are back with home schooling. To the teachers and EA's that are now a week back in teaching on line...hang in there, it's amazing how everyone has adjusted and are making this work. Kudos to all who are going through this new way of learning. Remember that kids still need to be kids and at the end of the day, you are a parent first and if you or your child are struggling, take a break go outside and get some fresh air. Kids can learn so much outside, try something different, go on a walk around your neighbourhood and have your children count items, the number of trucks or cars in driveways, the colours of front doors, shapes that they see, teach them how numbers are different on opposite sides of the street. Try hopscotch in the driveway or on the sidewalk. Create a little treasure hunt for them with items from nature or from your household. For the older children, teach them things like sewing buttons on, learning to sew something together, show them how to iron clothes, do laundry, try baking and identifying measurements. Boys and girls will both need to tackle these life lessons at some point in their lives. Show them how to change a tire, chains the oil or general maintenance around the house. There are so many ideas out there, think outside of the box a little and you will be surprised how many day to day tasks that children these days just don't know how to do. Help out a neighbour who may need some yard work done. Your children won't be sorry of how good it feels to finish up and see how happy the neighbour is that someone thought of them. Have your child do a diary of something kind they have done every day and report back at the end of the week and how it made them feel. Challenge their friends to do the same thing and a friendly competition amongst them with a small prize at the end will be so worth it!

To those that are following the rules and are staying home, doing your part, you also aren't forgotten. Thank you! It's not easy. I know, I've worked from home since March 13, 2020. I have adjusted to it now but I'm a people person and I miss the interaction with my co-workers. Video meetings and phone calls are happening but we joke and say people could literally have had a child in the time since we've been off! We all wonder what it will be like when we return, whenever that is. What will change, what will remain the same? I guess we will continue to wait and see.

Until next time, keep your eyes out for more T-Rex dog walkers and have a super day.

COOLER ADVICE

Use store-bought ice packs, or make your own: Freeze juice boxes, or fill milk cartons or plastic bottles with water (leave 1-inch headroom at top to prevent bursting; fold carton over to close, or place cap on bottle before freezing).

Pack perishables right next to ice packs. Keep fruits and delicate veggies like lettuce away from ice to prevent bruising and "freezer burn."

Fill cooler to the top (if necessary, add ice cubes or other cold non-perishables to fill space) -- a full cooler keeps food cold longer than a partially filled one.

Even use two smaller coolers -- one for fruit and beverages, which will be opened frequently, and one for such perishables as meats, poultry, salads, sandwiches, and cheese.

Parents to Begin Receiving Direct Support Under Ontario COVID-19 Child Benefit on April 26

April 25, 2021 - TORONTO – Today, Stephen Lecce, Ontario's Minister of Education, made a statement about the Ontario COVID-19 Child Benefit:

"As we have done before, our government is again providing direct relief to families to help offset additional costs incurred as a result of the pandemic. I am pleased to confirm that payments to parents through the Ontario COVID-19 Child Benefit will begin tomorrow, April 26, 2021, to help working parents of students aged 0 through Grade 12, and up to age 21 for children and youth with special needs, with direct financial support during this pandemic. COVID-19 has imposed many costs on moms, dads and caregivers across the province, and we are committed to helping them through this incredible challenge. To make this easier on families, individuals who previously received the Support for Learners payments will not be required to reapply — you will automatically receive your payment.

We also know affordable child care is critical to working parents, which is why our government supported the creation of 16,000 new spaces in 2019-20. We are also proposing to enhance the Childcare Access and Relief from Expenses (CARE) tax credit by 20 per cent for 2021, which would increase support from \$1,250 to \$1,500, on average, providing about \$75 million in additional support for the child care expenses of over 300,000 families.

Ontario is committed to building an affordable child care system that is flexible and responsive to the unique needs of all families."

Background:

The government is providing a new round of payments through Ontario's COVID-19 Child Benefit. In total, Ontario will have provided families \$1.8 billion since last March. The payment will be doubled to \$400 per child and \$500 for any child and youth up to age 21 with special needs.

The government is automatically providing this round of payments to parents who received Support for Learners payments, and money will begin to flow April 26th. Parents who received a confirmation email but have not received their payment by May 10 should contact the call centre for further information — toll-free at 1-888-444-3770, and toll-free TTY at 1-800-268-7095.

Parents who did not apply for or receive the Support for Learners program can apply for the new funding starting May 3 with a deadline of May 17. Applications will be open on Monday, May 3, 2021. More information about how to apply will be available at [Ontario.ca/covidchildbenefit](https://ontario.ca/covidchildbenefit) shortly.

IBL continues to plan for 2021 Season

CAMBRIDGE - Intercountry Baseball League (IBL) Commissioner John Kastner issued the following statement on Thursday updating stakeholders and fans with the league's Return-to-Play plans for the 2021 season:

"As more and more vaccines are being administered, hope springs eternal that the IBL will be back in some form this summer."

The league hoped to start in June but that does not seem likely. But, with over 100,000 vaccines going into arms every day in Ontario we are confident that Intercountry baseball will be played this summer and we will be able to help communities rebound from over a year of restrictions.

The league has appointed Dr. Tim Rindlisbacher as the league's Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Rindlisbacher is a Sports Medicine Physician who is currently the Chief Medical Officer of the Ontario Hockey Federation and Consultant to the NHLPA. His new position within the IBL will be to coordinate with the provincial government and member clubs to develop a return-to-play plan for the 2021 season.

As the IBL is a gate driven league, some member clubs require a modest percentage of capacity before they can start the regular season and it is our hope that with vaccinations and the following of health measures, that some clubs will be able to see at least a small percentage of fans at home games.

"Our league has crafted a number of contingencies and scenarios for the 2021 season," said Kastner. "We currently have plans in place for July 1 and July 15 start dates and in each of those cases, we have modified season lengths and playoff scenarios."

Everyone who is involved with and enjoys the IBL can help us and their communities. Please, when it is your turn, get vaccinated. And please follow your local public health guidelines on measures including wearing a mask and social distancing.

"To our stakeholders and fans, thank you for sticking with us through these tough times. Thank you to all the health care and frontline workers for all they are doing for us," added Kastner. "Like everything right now there is a lot that is still up in the air but we have a plan, in fact, several plans, and all of those plans culminate with IBL baseball in 2021!"

The Intercountry Baseball League (IBL) is the top-level baseball league in Ontario, boasting ex-major league professional and elite NCAA college baseball players. The 2021 season will mark the IBL's 102nd in operation. The IBL is one of the longest continually operated baseball leagues in the world and serves as a valuable training ground for coaches, umpires and front office staff. More than 40 IBL players have advanced to Major League Baseball or returned to the IBL following their MLB careers. The league is comprised of teams from Barrie, Brantford, Kitchener, London, Toronto, Guelph, Welland and Hamilton. For more information, visit www.theibl.ca.



Sports with Patrick Townes

A game is a game. Madison Bumgarner of the Arizona Diamondbacks threw a complete game shutout and allowed no hits. Does that not sound weird to you? To limit the workload on players, baseball recently adopted a 7-inning game for double headers. The Inter County

League has implemented this rule for years and it is a way to keep fans at the park all day. Of course, Major League Baseball empties the stadium in-between games. With rule changes such as this, there are certain rules and records that need to be established in the books. In this case, Major League Baseball does not count what Bumgarner did as an official no-hitter. Should it be? Absolutely.

The performance stands for a complete game and a win for his team. The rules were changed to shorten the games in a professional league, so simply put, the records should be accounted for. The game has changed so much over the years and in any sport, it is ever so difficult to compare performances from different eras. We keep hearing how important a win is in baseball. If a 7-inning game counts as a win that has the potential for a team to make or miss the playoffs, all the other performances and statistics should count as well. At the very least, a new record should be established for a 7-inning no-hitter. That is a middle ground that all should agree with. Of note, the Diamondbacks only gave up one hit during the double header against the Braves.

The Blue Jays are staying afloat in the American League East. The bullpen has proven to be a strong weapon so far out of the gate and Guerrero is hitting to his potential. Unfortunately for the team, defence is a different story. The errors will come back to haunt this club over an entire year if the sloppy play continues. It is very interesting how infield baseball players use very small gloves. Everyone likes to show their hands and to show how quick they can transfer from glove to hand. Unfortunately this means very little when you cannot catch the ball. If I was ever really struggling playing shortstop for example, I would switch to a larger glove until my confidence returned. The shift is a perfect example however that shows how stubborn major league players are and their unwillingness to change and adjust.

The Barrie Baycats and the InterCounty Baseball League are planning to play this season but it will depend on how many people have been vaccinated and the numbers of positive tests in the coming month or two.

On March 16th the Baycats announced that the season would start at the beginning of June and the capacity for home games would be 250 with season ticket holders having first chance to enter the stadium 15 minutes before game time. If the 250 limit was not met with season ticket holders at that time, single game tickets would be sold. The season with playoffs would run into late September. If the season was to be cancelled, season ticket holders would get a complete refund.

But on April 26, the league announced that they will not likely start in early June. They are committed to some kind of schedule in 2021 especially after losing the whole 2020 season. Again, this will depend on the vaccinated numbers, the government restrictions and the number of cases in the province. The teams are gate-driven to pay expenses so if there are no fans in the stands, the 2021 season will not happen.

We can only hope that we beat this terrible virus so we can get back to a "normal" life before we all go crazy!

Ontario Takes Action Against Stunt Driving and Street Racing

Proposed legislation would also strengthen provincial oversight of the towing sector

TORONTO – The Ontario government is taking strong action to protect road users against unsafe and aggressive driving with the introduction of the *Moving Ontarians More Safely Act, 2021*, also known as the MOMS Act. The proposed legislation will introduce new measures to combat high-risk driving and improve road safety, including longer driver's licence suspensions and longer vehicle impoundment periods for drivers who engage in stunt driving, street racing and aggressive driving.

The Ontario government introduced the MOMS Act in the legislature earlier today.

If passed by the legislature, the MOMS Act would also introduce measures to protect vulnerable road users, such as pedestrians and highway workers, improve truck safety and strengthen the province's oversight of the towing sector by creating the *Towing and Storage Safety and Enforcement Act, 2021*. This Act would require tow operators, tow truck drivers and vehicle storage operators to be certified, and set new standards for customer protection and roadside behaviours, including penalties for non-compliance.

"The MOMS Act targets the worst actors on

our roads by creating escalating suspensions for repeat offenders and setting a lower speed threshold for stunt driving charges on municipal roads," said Kinga Surma, Associate Minister of Transportation (GTA). "With this Act, we are taking concrete action to protect people and families on our roads."

Quick Facts

- The number of driver's licence suspensions issued at roadside for street racing/stunt driving increased 130 per cent between 2013 and 2019.

- Roadside driver's licence suspensions for street racing/stunt driving increased an additional 52 per cent between March and August 2020 compared to the same period in 2019. Nearly five per cent of drivers suspended during this period had one or more previous suspensions in the previous five years.

- Young drivers aged 16-25 represented only 19 per cent of drivers involved in collisions between March and June 2020 but 42 per cent of drivers involved in collisions with a police-recorded speed of 50 kilometres per hour (km/h) or more above the posted limit.

When the moon formed 4.6 billion years ago, it was 14,000 miles (22,530 km) from Earth. Now it's more than 280,000 miles (450,000 km) away. The moon looked three times larger when it was closer to Earth.

The moon's gravity has slowed the speed of Earth's rotation. Long ago, it was much faster and days were much shorter.

The same side of the moon always faces Earth because the moon takes the same length of time to rotate once as it does to travel all way around Earth.

Only 12 people have been on the moon: the astronauts on the Apollo missions from 1969 to 1972. The six Apollo crews came back to Earth with a total of 850 pounds (385 kg) of the moon.

Moon dust is said to smell like spent gunpowder.



Bloomzin Elmvalle

E.D.G.E. Elmvalle District Garden Enthusiasts (Elmvalle and District Horticultural Society) are seeking sponsors towards the hanging flower baskets that adorn Elmvalle's main street.

A basket can be purchased for \$75.00.

Sponsorship can be in the name of a business, organization, individual, family, memorial or a special occasion. Any monetary donation will be gratefully accepted.

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During these unprecedented times on earth, there is an awakening taking place within the heart and mind of every person evolving on this planet. This is causing people across our planet to raise their consciousness from the 3rd dimension of fear to the 5th dimension of Love, enabling us to perceive the events taking place on earth from our Spiritual eyes. As more souls awaken, we begin to remember that we are not the fragmented, fear-based aspect of our personality known as the human ego. This information is prompting us to open our hearts and minds, thus allowing the Light of Mother-Father God to flow into the physical plane.

As the Light of our Creator increases on Earth, everything that conflicts with that Light is being pushed to the surface to be healed and transmuted back into the original perfection. The Beings of Light are reassuring Humanity that everything is unfolding in perfect alignment with the Divine Plan. Therefore, even though Covid-19 has created much pain and suffering worldwide and many souls will be transitioning~~this too is part of our Creator's Plan for the New Earth. The accelerated purging is indeed intense, but it is a necessary factor in paving the way for the tangible manifestation of Mother-Father God infinite abundance and eternal peace.

Our True Essence, I AM Presence has agreed to assist us in whatever facet of the purging process we are experiencing. This is the moment Lightworkers across our planet have been working toward but were afraid we could not see in our lifetime. This is the Second Coming, our individualized Christ Consciousness as Lightworkers across the globe have been magnetizing the 5th-Dimensional patterns of the New Earth into the physical, etheric, mental and emotional strata of this planet. During this momentous time, we will burst the paralyzing grip that our fragmented human egos have had on us. We have reached a critical mass of energy, vibration and consciousness that is lifting us into the patterns of perfection for the New Earth.

As humanity embraces equality, the abuse of power will end. It is time for abundance and Eternal Peace to become a way of life for every human being. Furthermore, as mankind shifts from fear to love, the walls of resistance will come tumbling down, and the bridge of emotional freedom will flourish, uniting the four races as One. For the Christian Cross symbolized just that; unification of the four races. The Christian Dispensation is over. Saint Germaine is the New Cosmic Christ for this Age of Aquarius, which signifies the Higher Intelligence of the Heart; thinking with our heart, reflecting the Divine Feminine Energy in all of us which has been nullified over the eons of time. St. Germaine embodied St. Joseph as well as William Shakespeare! Join other students the first Thursday of every month from 1-3pm for the Awakening Study Group!

Rita Be-Still, Psycho-Spiritual Counsellor, Author

I'm in a really bad place right now. Not mentally..... just Ontario.

What's common among a spa, mocha coffee, and capri pants?

All three are toponyms, words derived from place names. The word spa is coined after **Spa**, a resort town in Belgium. The mocha coffee is named after **Mocha**, a port city in Yemen, a trading center for coffee. And capris got their name from **Capri**, an Italian island, where they were popularized

People are being indoctrinated and they don't even realize it



Lakehead University in Top 100 of Times Higher Education Impact Rankings for second time

April 23, 2021 – Thunder Bay and Orillia, Ont.

For the second year in a row, Lakehead University has placed in the top 100 of the *Times Higher Education Impact Rankings*.

The *Times Higher Education Impact Rankings* measure the societal impact of universities by evaluating an institutions' success in delivering the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals. The rankings measure the impact universities make to the world in the areas of poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice.

Lakehead finished 99th out of 1,115 universities from around the world, based on its performance in meeting the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Dr. Moira McPherson, Lakehead's President and Vice-Chancellor, said she was proud that Lakehead ranked so highly for the second year in a row.

"We're excited that Lakehead remained in the top 100 even with nearly 350 more universities being included in this year's ranking as compared to last year," Dr. McPherson said.

Lakehead is the only primarily undergraduate university in Canada that participated in the *2021 Impact Rankings* and one of only 26 universities from North America to be included in the top 100. The University was among just 260 universities from around the world that qualified to participate in all 17 SDGs.

Ranking ahead of several top comprehensive and research-intensive Canadian universities, Lakehead scored highly across many SDGs, including a top 10 ranking in SDG 15: Life on Land.

The Life on Land SDG evaluates how universities support land ecosystems through education and action, how they contribute to sustainably managing forests, combating desertification, halting and reversing land degradation, and how they halt biodiversity loss by measuring their research on land ecosystems.

This year's top 10 spot in SDG 15 recognizes the work of Lakehead researchers on life on land, as well as education about, and support for, land ecosystems. Lakehead's policies and procedures relating to land-sensitive waste disposal, such as its commitment to reducing plastic waste on campus, contributed to its top 10 ranking.

Lakehead also scored highly on other metrics, including a top 20 ranking in Life Below Water, a top 30 ranking in No Poverty and Zero Hunger, and a top 40 ranking for Reduced Inequalities and Clean Water and Sanitation.

"To be in the top 100 globally – and top 40 on a number of goals – demonstrates the significant work accomplished by Lakehead students, faculty, and staff to contribute to solving the grand challenges facing the world today through education, research and partnerships," added Dr. McPherson. "It also shows what we already know – that Lakehead offers one of the best educational experiences in the world."

Dr. David Barnett, Lakehead's Provost and Vice-President (Academic), agreed.

"This ranking is also due to Lakehead University's longstanding commitment to Indigenous learners and communities, which helps us succeed and lead with regards to sustainability and social justice," Dr. Barnett said.

"As our University community continues to make these SDGs a priority, we once again see how Lakehead is world-class. Students, faculty, staff and alumni should be proud of this exceptional accomplishment."

The *Times Higher Education Impact Rankings* capture qualifying universities' impact on society and align with commitments in Lakehead's Strategic and Academic Plans.

Visit Lakehead University's *Times Higher Education* profile at timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/lakehead-university.



In the Bible there is a reference to shields and bucklers. What are bucklers?

Answer: A buckler is a small, round shield that is either carried or worn on the arm. Some versions of the Bible translate the phrase you mentioned as simply "small and large shields."

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PD Programs are here!

Register for Simcoe Author talk on April 29th at 7pm. We will send you the virtual link with registration. Featured Author: Cathy Marie Buchanan "Daughter of Black Lake."

At home in lockdown? Why not try our Crossword of the Day accessible on our Facebook page.

COVID 19 registration assistance

Need help registering for a vaccine? We will be happy assist you in booking an appointment. Keep us in mind if you need help and don't forget your Health Card.

New Releases—Stay Informed

Are you an avid reader? Why not sign up for our newsletter featuring new books? You can place a hold with your library card and be the first to read the authors new release!

Book Sale Items

Books and DVD's for sale at minimal prices. We sell used items removed from our collection. Give us a call!

Mother's Day

Purchase your door wreath for Mom, sponsored by Friends of the Library. Beautiful lively spring floral wreaths to brighten your door and to say "I love you Mom". Tea cups, saucers and chocolate also available. Spoil Mom, Grandma, Aunt or another special someone. Stop in or ask for a curbside pick up.

New @PPL

Many new releases in all formats check out our online catalogue or email us at penlibbk@gmail.com to receive our new release newsletter.

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Additional immunization appointments available to high and highest risk individuals including pregnant women

The COVID-19 Immunization Clinic, operated by Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH), is offering additional vaccination appointments starting today for those individuals with high and highest risk health conditions.

Due to the increase number of critically ill pregnant individuals being observed in Wave 3, pregnant women are now eligible to register and book a vaccination appointment under the highest risk health conditions.

How to book an appointment

For individuals who are 60+, please book through the provincial booking site at covid-19.ontario.ca/. This applies for those with future appointments wishing to reschedule for one of these newly available appointments.

For highest risk and high-risk health conditions, pregnant women and special education staff, please call the provincial booking line at 1-833-943-3900 or the Sperling Drive COVID-19 Immunization Clinic at 705-797-3159 to book an appointment for one of the newly available appointments.

People eligible include:

- o Organ transplant recipients
- o Hematopoietic stem cell transplant recipients
- o People with neurological diseases that may compromise respiratory function
- o Haematological malignancy diagnosed in the last year (2020)
- o Kidney disease eGFR <30
- o Treatments causing immunosuppression (e.g. chemotherapy)

People with Body Mass Index >40

People with intellectual or developmental disabilities

Pregnant individuals

The eligibility categories, as defined by the provincial strategy, can be found at Ontario.ca.

For the most up-to-date information visit the RVH website www.rvh.on.ca

Ontario Taking Action Against Invasive Species, Including Wild Pigs

Province seeks public input into draft wild pig strategy and updates to Invasive Species Act

TORONTO —The Ontario government is protecting the economy and environment by expanding protections to prevent invasive species from establishing or spreading in the province.

"Our government recognizes that invasive species pose a real threat to Ontario's environment and economy," said John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. "The proposed rules under the Invasive Species Act would establish several new safeguards against the plants, fish, and animals threatening Ontario's biodiversity and socio-economic well-being."

The Ontario government is seeking feedback from stakeholders, Indigenous communities and the public on two proposals on the Environmental Registry of Ontario. The first proposal outlines the new rules under the Invasive Species Act, 2015 that would regulate an additional 13 invasive species, including wild pigs. It builds on existing recommendations and practices to prevent the introduction and further spread of aquatic invasive species into Ontario's lakes and rivers.

The ministry is also seeking input through a second posting on a draft strategy entitled Ontario's Strategy to Address the Threat of Invasive Wild Pigs. In jurisdictions where wild pigs have become established, they have had significant impacts on the environment and agricultural industry.

Together, the actions outlined in the draft strategy and the proposed new rules for wild pigs under the Invasive Species Act aim to prevent wild pigs from becoming established in Ontario.

Quick Facts

- The Invasive Species Act, 2015 currently lists 20 species; it provides legislative tools to prohibit and restrict certain invasive species and carriers that facilitate the movement of invasive species.
- Ontario invested more than \$2 million in 2020-2021 to support ongoing research, monitoring, and management of invasive species through programs and education across the province.
- Invasive wild pigs have been called an 'ecological train wreck' due to trampling, wallowing, and rooting in sensitive habitats and the significant damage they can cause to farmlands and stored crops.

Don't Fear Change

We all know of individuals who are in situations that seem quite dreadful, and yet they seem immobilized, unable to do anything to change things. What is it that makes people appear to be stuck, like the helpless insect who finds his way into the spider web? These people seem to struggle and struggle, but the struggle does not result in any progress. Whether it is a job, relationship or family situation, the pattern is the same.

It is obvious that the situation is creating stress and unhappiness, and the person seems to feel helpless. They focus on the problem, going over it again and again, believing that the solution (or the problem) lies with someone else. Sometimes the boss, spouse, parents or children are a big problem, but they rarely perceive themselves that way, so often are unlikely to change. Assuming that the one who is suffering has tried many different approaches to solving the problems and it's clearly not going to get better, why don't they help themselves?

Most often the reason can be traced back to guilt or fear. There may be a feeling of failure if one sees that they cannot make the job or the marriage work. There may be guilt knowing that if one leaves the job or marriage, someone will be hurt. There may be the fear that to tell the boss, spouse, or parents how we really feel may make them very angry, and so it seems safer to stay quiet. There may also be a deep fear of change. Fear of changing jobs, fear of being alone, fear of financial problems, and the fear of being judged are all powerful forces that block change.

Generally, the change that is really needed is within the individual, and the external problems are there as a stimulus to get that growth happening. When one feels abused or undervalued, they can either collapse within themselves, going into depression, despair and hopelessness, or they can become aware that they deserve better. Ultimately, the only one who will ensure that they get what they deserve, is the self.

The real struggle then, is within the self, and it is to decide whether it is more painful to remain stuck, or to do whatever needs to be done to upgrade our situation. Often this is a difficult decision, and many remain on the brink for a long time. Sometimes it's helpful to remember that you have but one lifetime as the person you are, and to ask yourself if you really want to spend the rest of it the way you are doing now. If not, it might be scarier to do nothing, than it would be to take the steps required for change.

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. Follow Gwen on Facebook for daily inspiration.

If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them. --Henry David Thoreau

RVH MY CARE Strategic Plan

Good Afternoon Friends and Partners,
We are pleased to share with you Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre's newly-refreshed **MY CARE** Strategic Plan, recently approved by our Board of Directors. Guided by an unwavering commitment to safety and quality, with an eye to advancing innovation, learning and research, this updated plan will elevate RVH to the next level of excellence.

The **MY CARE** plan has provided a bold, clear blueprint for RVH to follow since 2013. Like every good plan, periodic pulse checks are needed to make sure the plan is still relevant, so we updated our goals in 2016, 2018 and, now, 2021, to ensure we remain on-track. The plan is rooted in broad consultation, in fact, it has been shaped by the voices of over 5,000 people – patients, family members, staff, physicians, health and academic partners, policy makers and community members.

Guided by four strategic directions of Focus on **MY CARE**, Drive Clinical Excellence, Value People and Accelerate Teaching and Research, our plan not only outlines our goals and the actions we'll take to achieve them, but also how we'll measure success.

But RVH is just one healthcare provider in a system of care so, as we continue along this exciting path of growth and innovation, we look forward to working with you to embrace the rapid changes and challenges in healthcare, while taking full advantage of the opportunities ahead. Through new and longstanding partnerships, we will break down barriers and silos, ensuring that transitions will be seamless as our patients move through the system. Together, we build a dynamic, responsive health system centred on the needs of Simcoe Muskoka residents

We've attached our easy reference "strategy map" and invite you to take a few moments to view the full plan [on RVH's website](http://onRVH's website).

This plan will continue to guide RVH on its journey of transformation. Since 2012, we have doubled the size of our facility, added state-of-the-art technology and regional specialty services such as regional cancer, advanced cardiac care, child & youth mental health and renal care. Meanwhile, we have embarked on an ambitious capital plan that will, once again, transform our current campus as we also develop a South Campus to meet the healthcare needs of South Simcoe County.

RVH's **MY CARE** plan is our North Star, a compass that has steered us through the turbulent waters of the pandemic and will continue to guide us in the future. It's a plan that puts a stake in the ground saying: "Every patient has a right to expect the best possible experience in our health centre. Always. Every day. And without exception."

Respectfully, Charlotte Wallis and Janet Skot
Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre



DID YOU KNOW?

IF THE HUMAN EYE WAS A DIGITAL CAMERA, IT WOULD HAVE 576 MEGAPIXELS.



DID YOU KNOW?

THE WORLD'S QUIETEST ROOM IS -9 DECIBELS, QUIET ENOUGH TO HEAR YOUR BLOOD FLOWING.

Aboriginal Influence on Modern Sports

It shouldn't be a surprise that a number of modern sports originated within the Aboriginal communities. Canadians call the sports their own, but should remember where they first saw them.

The snowshoe, toboggan, lacrosse stick and canoe were all adopted by early European settlers as the Coureurs Des Bois and Voyageurs brought them back from trading encounters.

The Aboriginal communities used the games as training for their youth. The skills learned translated into real life and survival. It also developed an understanding of their limitations of their skills, like how far they could throw or run.

Archery, spear throwing, racing on foot or canoe and wrestling were all activities that developed ability. Some playing fields were over a kilometer long and warriors played the games building their hunting and war stamina.

Aboriginals were playing many different ball games for centuries before the first non-aboriginal involvement. The National Lacrosse Association of Canada was formed in 1867, it was the Dominion of Canada's first governing body of sport.

When the game made its first appearance in England in 1867, the sixteen-player team from Canada that played an exhibition game was made up mostly of Iroquois players and a few other natives.

Canada would go on to promote lacrosse as its official summer sport in 1994. Debate exists as to when we learned the game. In 1637 a Jesuit priest reported that he watched whole villages playing a game against each other called "crosse."

Another theory was at the Jesuit mission close to Montreal the Mohawk played so much ball, it interfered with church attendance. When William George Beers wrote up the first rules in 1860 and changed the deerskin ball to one made of rubber, he became the father of modern-day lacrosse.

Forgetting about the elite level sports, how many Canadians use snowshoes, toboggans, canoes and kayaks as part of their daily lives? How many times have we seen stumbling snowshoes, flying toboggans, or flipped over canoes at local events.

I find it hard to imagine the Canadian landscape without these items, or these sports. Over time we would have probably developed them through need, at least snowshoes and canoes.

Still we can be thankful the First Nations had already been there, learned that, and showed us the way. Thank you.

Rejean Giguere is a Northern Ontario author of six novels whose passion spills over into the sports world. Check out his website at www.rejeanguere.com.

What is the origin of the saying "That's a real doozy"?

Answer: Webster's on-line dictionary suggests that *doozy* is a derivative of *daisy* and began to be used in about 1916. A doozy is something extraordinary or one of a kind.

The Duesenberg automobile gave the word a boost. These vehicles were known as *duesies* in the 1920s and 1930s.

BRIDGE BITES from The American Contract Bridge League

SENDING A MESSAGE

By: Brian Gunnell

♠ A			
♥ T94			
♦ QJT63			
♣ KJT4			
North			
♠ 9872		♠ 53	
♥ J62		♥ KQ875	
♦ A		♦ 754	
♣ Q9865		♣ A32	
West		East	
Declarer			
	♠ KQJT64		
	♥ A3		
	♦ K982		
	♣ 7		

Both Vulnerable
South West North East
1♠ 2♥ 1♦ Pass 1♥
4♣ Pass Pass Pass

Sometimes the winning defense is obvious to one defender but not to the other, and in such cases it behooves the defender who is in the know to help out Partner as much as possible. Today's West missed such an opportunity.

Against 4♣, West led the ♠A. He shifted to the Heart Two and East's Queen was taken by Declarer's Ace. At this point Declarer was home free if only she could draw trumps, but there were transportation problems. After playing a Spade to Dummy's Ace, she had no fast way back to hand to draw the remaining trumps, so she exited with a Heart, won by East's King.

To West it was obvious that East should give him a Diamond ruff. But it wasn't obvious to East. No doubt he should have figured it out, but he had this fixed idea in his head that West had led a Diamond from AKx or AKxx. So, seeing no rush for the defense to cash its winners, East exited with a Heart. Declarer gratefully ruffed that, drew trumps, pitched the Club loser on the Diamonds, and claimed 11 tricks.

That was not an impressive performance by East but West could have made things crystal clear. That's right, when the second round of Hearts was played, West should have dumped his Heart Jack under East's King! This clever play means that Dummy's Heart Ten is now good, and therefore a Heart return is most definitely not required. The fog lifts, East now knows what to do and the defense continues: Diamond ruff, Club to the Ace, Diamond ruff. Down two!

Visit www.acbl.org for more about the fascinating game of bridge or email marketing@acbl.org
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Georgian offering virtual events for people who want to get to know us



Curious about Georgian College and want to find out more about your postsecondary options? Only interested in learning more about student life? From general information sessions to topic-focused sessions we've got you covered with a series of virtual events during April.

Data has shown that high school students have been particularly reluctant to apply or register for college during the pandemic. They've also had a stronger-than-normal tendency to stay close to home. That's why the Get to Know Georgian virtual events are helpful whether you're thinking about attending Georgian yourself or are a parent or supporter of a future student. These events are your opportunity to connect with our friendly recruitment team about all things Georgian – located right here in your community.

Get to Know Georgian is a great opportunity to learn about your flexible study options, including 130+ programs and options for full-time, part-time and online study. You can also:

- get information on the many supports available to students
- find out about the Georgian Learning Guarantee
- discover financial aid options
- learn all about campus life
- and more

By narrowing the focus of each event, Georgian is encouraging prospective students, applicants, and their supporters to get answers to the questions that matter most to them. Each event includes a Q&A session with a Georgian employee expert from the subject area Plus, those ready to apply can learn how Georgian will cover the \$95 OCAS application fee so they can apply for FREE!

The next Get to Know Georgian event takes place on Tuesday, April 20 from 5 to 6 p.m. Register online and get full details about all the upcoming sessions at GeorgianCollege.ca/GetToKnowGeorgian.

Which is smaller, an atom or an ion?
Answer: An ion is formed when a neutral atom or group of atoms gains or loses one or more electrons. An atom that loses an electron is a positively charged ion, called a *cation*; an atom that gains an electron is a negatively charged ion, called an *anion*. Since both are atoms, only with different charges, they are of equal size.

I plan on buying a bathroom scale and eyeglasses tomorrow. My plans after that? Weight and see.

GBGH applauds the ongoing support of volunteers throughout the pandemic



In 2020, the volunteers beautified the GBGH grounds by re-planting the flower beds outside the Midland site and also offered to maintain them throughout the summer. GBGH is grateful for the ongoing support of its volunteers and commends them for finding creative ways to help even when they aren't in the building.

April 14, 2021 – Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) is pleased to honour and celebrate its dedicated volunteers during National Volunteer Week April 18 to 24, 2021. This year's theme for National Volunteer Week (Volunteer Canada) is “The Value of One, The Power of Many”.

“It takes just one volunteer to make a difference in an organization, but it is the power of many volunteers which has helped shaped GBGH and our community,” says Gail Hunt, president and CEO, GBGH. “The hospital's 160 dedicated volunteers haven't been with us inside the building much over the past year, which I think has demonstrated more than ever just how much we miss the invaluable support they provide our team and their kind, compassionate way with patients.”

Since the beginning of the pandemic in March 2020, GBGH – like hospitals across the province - had to suspend volunteer services for the safety of the volunteers. Although they haven't been able to perform their regular duties in the hospital, they have still shown their support in many other ways.

“The entire GBGH team would like to extend our most sincere thank you for the efforts of GBGH's volunteers throughout the past year,” says Karen Roberts, manager, Volunteer Services. “GBGH has simply not been the same – both due to the pandemic and the unfortunate consequence of not having our beloved volunteers here, helping us provide exceptional care. There are still many examples of how the volunteers have continued their service to GBGH and its patients over the past year.”

The GBGH's volunteers planted and maintained the gardens in front of the hospital last summer. They also painted much of the hospital's lower level to brighten the space last spring/summer. The volunteers also donated drinks and snacks in the cafeteria for staff and credentialed staff to enjoy a complimentary treat while on their breaks.

The volunteers have delivered community-donated means to GBGH's Penetanguishene site and the Assessment Centre, helped with administrative work, and at Christmas, opened the Gift Shop to raise funds and made personalized cards for patients in hospital over the holidays.

Additionally, the volunteers have sustained the clothing drive which raises significant funds to donate to the hospital. The clothing drive donation bin remains just inside the hospital's main entrance for donations of fabric items including clothing, shoes, luggage and house linens. Recently, 20 GBGH volunteers

What Is the History of Mother's Day?

Many Canadians celebrate Mother's Day by showing their appreciation for mothers or mother figures. The Mother's Day date in Canada is on the second Sunday of May each year.

Is Mother's Day a Public Holiday?

Mother's Day is not a public holiday. It falls on Sunday, May 9, 2021 and most businesses follow regular Sunday



opening hours in Canada.

What Do People Do?

Many people in Canada express their gratitude towards mothers and mother figures on Mother's Day. Mother figures may include step-mothers, mothers-in-law, guardians (eg. foster parents), and family friends. It is the time for people to thank mothers and mother figures who took the time care for them and help them through life's challenges. Father's Day is also celebrated in Canada on the third Sunday of June, when people thank fathers and father figures for the positive contributions they made.

Some people give cards, flowers, or chocolates, and/or make handmade items or special meals on Mother's Day. Others take their mothers or mother figures to the movies, a restaurant, café, or a day in a park. Some mothers and mother figures also receive special gifts such as jewelry, clothing, accessories, and gift vouchers for services or products.

Public Life

Mother's Day is not a federal holiday but it is on a Sunday, when many organizations, schools, and government offices are closed. Public transit systems run to their normal Sunday schedules and restaurants may be busier than usual as some people take their mothers out for a treat.

Background and symbols

Early celebrations of Mother's Day originated from Canada's neighboring country, the United States. Carnations are a popular Mother's Day symbol in both Canada and the United States. Some people may choose to wear a carnation as a brooch on Mother's Day. However, other flowers are also given to mothers or mother figures to symbolize one's love and appreciation for them.

have been assisting at the local immunization clinics (Midland/Penetanguishene) where they help direct and transport people in need of assistance.

GBGH has other volunteers selflessly giving their time and knowledge to the hospital in both guidance and governance roles. The hospital's Patient and Family Advisory Council (PFAC) and the Board of Directors have continued to meet virtually throughout the pandemic to continue providing their unique perspectives and valuable insights.

Earlier in the pandemic, GBGH worked with Georgian College to develop a unique learning opportunity for students who would usually be in the hospital for their clinical placements. More than 20 volunteers participated in special clinical project designed for nursing students to provide education to and monitor seniors who are socially isolated due to the pandemic through virtual care (telehealth).

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www.springwater.library.on.ca

for information, branch updates and our virtual programs. Programs and Videos on Facebook and YouTube (search Springwater Library)



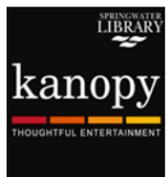
CURBSIDE PICKUP CONTINUES - WE CAN HELP!

Please call your local branch for personalized requests or place holds through the Springwater Library website or

the through Simcoe Libraries app. We love to help with your selections.

Materials are quarantined for 5-7 days upon return.

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca



NEW MOVIES ONLINE - FREE

Kanopy is an online streaming movie service NEW to Springwater patrons. All you need is your library card and your PIN number to get started. You will receive 4 credits = 4 movies a month. You also have one 'Great Course' a month, and unlimited children's programming, such as "Little Pim Learning Languages", "Science Max", "Sesame Street", "I'm an Animal" and "Artzooka"! Don't delay and check out the library's Kanopy account today!

See our website under "Online Resources".

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca



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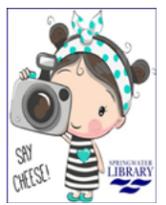
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KRAFTING WITH KATHY

Kathy will share "A recipe for a loving mom" craft to make for the mom's out there. This will be on our Springwater Public Library Facebook

page, on our Virtual Programming page and on our YouTube channel on Thursday May 6. Check out Kathy's other great Krafting videos on our YouTube Channel. Limited craft packages are available on a first come, first serve basis from your local branch. Call or email to reserve your package.

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca



LEGO MONTHLY SERIES

THURSDAY, APRIL 20th, ONLINE

Did you say "parrot"? Yes this month Amanda makes a parrot out of lego. Get your kids to follow along they could win a lego prize when they watch staff member Amanda's video and send us a picture of their creation

. Be sure to follow us at Facebook to catch our monthly series.

Snap a quick picture of your lego creation and send it via email to midhurst.library@springwater.ca or below our Facebook post of Amanda's video for your chance to win!

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca

Simcoe Author Talk Series

Cathy Marie Buchanan discusses her book, **Daughter of Black Lake** over Zoom on April 29th 7 p.m.

Springwater Public Library has joined literary forces with the following other libraries: Collingwood, Wasaga Beach, Barrie, Essa, Innisfil, Ramara, Penetanguishene and Clearview, to offer a 2021 virtual author talk series.

To register: Call 705 737-5650

For more information: www.springwater.library.on.ca

David Hasselhoff walked into a bar and ordered a drink....."It's a pleasure to serve you Mr Hasselhoff" said the bartender...."Just call me Hoff" the actor replied....."Sure," the bartender said, "No hassle".....

Volunteers' virtual visits brighten the days for RVH patients

Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) might not be permitting visitors right now, but that didn't stop Charlie from paying a recent visit to five patients on the Specialized Seniors Care unit.

He didn't slip by security and sneak into the health centre, he came in the same way many visitors do these days – virtually. And he did so with a ball in his mouth and his tail wagging.



Charlie, a bouncy golden retriever, is a member of the St. John Ambulance Pet Therapy Program and he virtually visits patients at RVH. His owner, Darlene Caven, an RVH volunteer, proudly runs him through his routine in the safety of her backyard, sharing the canine's antics and loving nature with the seniors via Zoom. The seniors watch Charlie on a big screen in the activity room on the unit, safely distanced from one another, yet closely connected by their common enjoyment of watching the dog.

National Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 18 – 24 and during this time RVH officially salutes its more than 600 volunteers, affectionately known as the 'Blue Brigade.' Despite the fact volunteers have not been in the health centre for over a year they have been supporting RVH by creating 4,000 masks for staff to use out in the community and making afghans for patients in the cancer centre. The RVH Auxiliary continues its fundraising efforts through its Community 50/50 draw, the proceeds of which support the Auxiliary's \$5 million pledge to the Moments Matter campaign.

"This past year has been a little different as our volunteers are not in the building and I think I speak for everyone at RVH when I say we miss them. Although not onsite, our volunteers continue to support and inspire us from the safety of their homes," says Janice Skot, RVH president and CEO. "We know how difficult the visitor restrictions have been for our patients so our virtual volunteer and virtual pet therapy pilot projects on our Specialized Seniors Care unit, are certainly bringing a little bit of comfort to our patients who are able to participate in the programs."

Susan Goode is one of those patients. The senior had to give up her beloved cat, Sassy, and is currently in hospital, but she's passing the time sharing cat stories with RVH volunteer Kate Cullen. The two meet virtually once a week

10 Tips for Preserving Eye Health

The following tips can help you take care of your eyes and preserve clear vision:

1. **Get regular eye exams.** Starting at age 40, get annual eye exams and have your eye doctor look for signs of glaucoma and retinal damage, even if you're a healthy adult with no vision problems. People who have certain medical conditions that increase the risk of eye disorders, such as diabetes, or those who have vision problems should see an eye care professional earlier than 40. Depending on your risk factors and the initial findings of your exam, ask your eye doctor to recommend the appropriate screening intervals that will help maintain clear vision.

2. **Wear shades.** The sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays can damage aging eyes just as they can damage skin. UV rays can cause cataracts and possibly accelerate macular degeneration. The best way to protect eyes from the sun is with sunglasses that have UV filters. Lenses of any color will do as long as they have UV filters.

3. **Don a hat.** Wear a wide-brimmed hat when you're outdoors for any length of time. Sunglasses help, but a hat will give you extra protection. The eyelid is a common spot for a melanoma to develop.

4. **Enjoy the fruits of the garden.** Choose a diet rich in fruits and vegetables. While definitive evidence is lacking, some studies suggest that sufficient intake of the antioxidants lutein and zeaxanthin may help lower the risk of eye conditions that can accompany aging, such as cataracts and macular degeneration. Lutein and zeaxanthin are found in fruits and vegetables with yellow and orange pigments, such as corn, squash, carrots, and citrus fruits. They are also found in dark green leafy vegetables, like kale and spinach.

5. **Take a multivitamin.** Vitamins A (beta-carotene), C, and E and the mineral zinc have been shown to promote eye health. When choosing a multivitamin, be sure to get one that meets all the requirements for your age and stage of life.

6. **Stop smoking.** Smoking can promote eye diseases because it reduces blood flow to the eyes and can increase the amount of toxic substances (like tar and nicotine) your eyes absorb. If you're at risk for diabetic retinopathy or macular degeneration, exposure to toxic substances in cigarettes can elevate that risk.

7. **Shed some light.** While you won't permanently hurt your eyes by reading or working in a dimly lit area,

and have found they are kindred spirits when it comes to felines.

"I think this is a great idea," says Goode, of her weekly virtual visits with Cullen. "When I came into hospital I was really upset about giving up my cat and just to have someone to talk to who likes cats and understands what I'm going through, is very comforting."

The volunteers in either the pet therapy or visiting pilot projects, are current members of the Blue Brigade who have adapted their volunteerism to the virtual format, and the RVH's patients involved in the programs have taken to the new technology really well.



"These types of virtual visits really help reduce the loneliness many of our patients are facing. It gives them a different focus and someone new to talk to," says Kristy Boyes, Behavioural Support Worker/Recreation Therapist on the unit. "Given this technology is new to some of our patients, they have shown appreciation and are willing to adapt and participate in the programs with great interest."

But volunteering is a two-way street, and Cullen, a York University student who has been a member of the Blue Brigade for three years, is happy to be able to continue her volunteer work.

I really love to still be able to spend time with people in the hospital. It is so nice for me to have the opportunity to chat

and share stories. It has been a long time of isolation for many of these patients during COVID, so I feel this is a very special opportunity for me," says Cullen. "It does not replace in-person visits which I miss so much and can't wait to get back to volunteer in-person at RVH."

RVH's volunteers are not just donning blue vests, as the members of the Board of Directors and Foundation Board also invest countless hours as governors, as well as the members of RVH's many Patient Family Advisory Councils.

"Our volunteers' expertise, vision and passion for RVH is both inspiring and invaluable. We can't wait to see our beloved volunteers back in the health centre when it is safe. They are an integral part of TEAM RVH and we appreciate the amazing work they do and salute and thank them during National Volunteer Appreciation week," says Skot.



DID YOU KNOW?

HUGS THAT LAST OVER 20 SECONDS RELEASES CHEMICALS IN YOUR BODY CALLED "OXYTOCIN" THAT MAKES YOU TRUST SOMEONE MORE.

you can cause temporary eyestrain, which can lead to headaches and fatigue. Protect your eyes by making sure your workspace is brightly lit.

8. **Take a break.** Another way to prevent eyestrain is to take frequent breaks from the computer screen or reading materials. About every 10 minutes, look up or away for 10 seconds, so your eyes get a rest. If you're watching television, give your eyes a break and look away every half hour or so.

9. **Get sufficient sleep.** Being overtired can increase eyestrain. If you get enough sleep, your eyes will be refreshed along with the rest of your body.

10. **Don't ignore warning signs.** Eye doctors can treat many potentially serious vision problems if they are caught early enough. See your doctor if you experience blurred or double vision, if your vision appears cloudy, or if you have eye pain or are bothered by the glare of lights. All are signs that you could be developing vision problems that can be treated by your eye doctor.

You can't stop time, but you can take care of your eyes so that they remain healthy as you age. Having clear vision is possible at any age.

Freedom and Our Choice

This past thirteen months have been full of loneliness, anxiety, separation and sadness for most of us. We have and are living in a world of no seen smiles, no interaction with or fellow man.

Humans are social beings. We can no longer see others' emotions on their faces – Are they smiling? Are they grimacing? School children can not see what their teachers look like when a mask is covering their facial features. People walk along like zombies, standing in line on your assigned spot on the floor. Every other aisle is walkable – you must now walk each aisle up or down. Quite strategic on the part of the stores. Prices are all up and yet less staff is seen at the cash registers and on the floor. Walmart has put more staff onto shopping for people. We are either terrified or COVID or just plain lazy. I can not see the true value in this service. It is only adding to peoples' phobias or inactivity. It's not healthy either way.

The atmosphere is total sadness. Why can the stores not put on some music? I'd even settle for rap, but I prefer rock 'n' roll. Something to make us a little happier inside.

Our choices have been removed from us. We take orders, abide by them and at what cost are we willing to abide? Do we risk - all small businesses to fail? Where will people get employment if none reopen? These small businesses followed the protocol – invested in shields of plexiglass, sanitize everything. How can we just do nothing? Our small towns are in grave jeopardy of becoming ghost towns in the not so far future.

We need them to open – they were only letting a few in at a time. So why? The virus entered not one of them.

Personally, my humble and sometimes sporadic thinking tells me this: if you buy, rent a store, open that store, it is your right to keep it open. Let the customer make the choice whether he wants to enter your store.

We have lost our freedom. We are all wearing masks., washing hands etc. So why are we in a lockdown? It's prejudicial to small businesses.

So now everyone is growing hair and seriously in need of a makeover! This government says no to your makeover and no to fitness. Oops! There goes our health and well being. Might as well go to the drive thru, eat grease laden food and become unfit and obese and now I will become a drain on the health system, which ironically this government how has caused. How many hospital beds in the future will fill up with people diagnosed with heart disease related illnesses?

So in the meantime, I'll get my exercise walking my walkways, pulling weeds and hoping that it will keep me from becoming a statistic of lethargicness

My Opinion with Heart,
Donna Hawthorne, Anten Mills.

NUN - SISTER MARY ANN'S GASOLINE



Sister Mary Ann, who worked for a home health agency, was out making her rounds visiting homebound patients when she ran out of gas. As luck would have it, a Texaco Gasoline station was just a block away.

She walked to the station to borrow a gas can and buy some gas. The attendant told her that the only gas can he owned had been loaned out, but she could wait until it was returned. Since Sister Mary Ann was on the way to see a patient, she decided not to wait and walked back to her car.

She looked for something in her car that she could fill with gas and spotted the bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, Sister Mary Ann carried the bedpan to the station, filled it with gasoline, and carried the full bedpan back to her car.

As she was pouring the gas into her tank, two Baptists watched from across the street.. One of them turned to the other and said,

'If it starts, . . . I'm turning Catholic.

Do something every day that you don't want to do; this is the golden rule for acquiring the habit of doing your duty without pain. Mark Twain

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Mayor Don's Update:
April 29, 2021
COVID-19 Restrictions

As you are likely aware, the Province imposed stricter Stay-at-Home Restrictions on April 16. As a result, the following municipal services and facilities are affected:

All Township facilities remain closed to the public. Staff are available to provide assistance by phone and email. Contact information is available at www.springwater.ca/contact

All Township of Springwater sports fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, pickleball courts, outdoor fitness equipment and outdoor pavilions are currently closed to the public.

Playgrounds will remain open for public use, as per the updated Provincial announcement on Saturday, April 17, 2021. Be advised that playground equipment is not sanitized. Please maintain 2 metres of physical distancing when using playground equipment.

Building inspections that do not meet provincial criteria will be suspended.

The Springwater Public Library will continue to offer curbside service to residents.

For additional information on the provincial Stay-at-Home Order measures and restrictions visit the provincial website at Ontario.ca/covid19.

COVID Vaccines

The vaccine eligibility information continues to change quickly. I encourage you to check the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit website(www.smdhu.org/covid19) often to determine if you are eligible for a vaccine at this time.

Shine Green for Children's Mental Health Week

The week of May 3-9 marks Children's Mental Health Week in Ontario. In partnership with New Path Youth & Family Services, the Township of Springwater will be 'shining green' in support of children's mental health. The Township Administration Centre will be lit up in green throughout the week as the colour green represents hope, growth and transformation .By raising awareness we can decrease the stigma around mental health and encourage children to access the supports they require.

This year has been especially challenging for many youths, as their routines have been disrupted time and time again. Many do not know where to go for assistance or support when struggling with their mental health.

New Path is currently offering call-in, in-person and virtual mental health services for children, youth and their families in Simcoe County. A range of free mental health services are offered by professional counsellors. Families can access a range of free counselling and therapy services by calling or emailing New Path at 705-725-7656.

Community Garden

Council has approved a pilot project for an allotment community garden at Bishop Park in Elmvalle. Allotment gardens are a type of community gardening where individuals or groups rent a garden plot on a seasonal basis to grow produce.

Interested in participating? The Township oversees the administration and registration of the garden plots. The Community Garden will be open from May 1 to October 31 each year. The plot preparation, extra soil or manure materials, tools, operation and maintenance of the community garden will be the responsibility of the applicant. A single plot is \$10 +HST / annually and residents are encouraged to apply for a plot online at www.springwater.ca/CommunityGarden

The Township is also seeking individuals interested in operating and maintaining the community garden. For more

I've learned.... That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person. • That when you're in love, it shows. • That just one person saying to me, 'You've made my day!' makes my day. • That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world. • That being kind is more important than being right. • That you should never say no to a gift from a child. • That I can always pray for someone when I don't have the strength to help him in any other way. • That sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand.

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information visit www.springwater.ca/CommunityGarden

Cannabis Production Facility Study Update

Staff presented a working session on April 21 to provide information on the draft Cannabis Production Facility policy and obtain comments from Council prior to a public meeting scheduled for May 31 at 6:30 p.m. The proposed amendments would update the Official Plan and Zoning By-law with policies regarding permissions and regulations for Cannabis Production Facilities.

The proposed Official Plan Amendment (OPA) would permit federally licensed cannabis cultivation and processing on lands designated 'Agricultural'; require licensed Cannabis Production Facilities to be subject to Site Plan Approval; and identify the criteria to be met for the approval of Cannabis Production Facilities

The proposed Zoning By-law Amendment (ZBA) would permit federally licensed cannabis cultivation and processing as-of-right within the Agricultural (A) Zone. In addition, to permit federally licensed indoor cannabis cultivation and processing by way of site-specific rezoning in the General Industrial/ Inside Storage (MI), and General Industrial/ Outside Storage (MO) Zones, subject to meeting the applicable zoning provisions.

Comments on the proposed OPA and ZBA are welcome. Written submissions are recommended and can be made by e-mailing planning@springwater.ca; by regular mail to Township of Springwater, Planning Department, 2231 Nursery Road, Minesing, ON L9X 1A8 or by the drop box located at the Administration Centre.

Federal Gas Tax and Top-Up Funding

To assist municipalities in preparing for the economic recovery from the pandemic, the Federal government has announced additional one-time top-up of Federal Gas Tax Funding. The Township of Springwater received an additional top-up allocation of \$581,084.

The top-up will be allocated towards the following road reconstruction projects:

- Golf Course Road \$187,000;
- Old Orchard Road \$75,000;
- Portage Trail \$75,000;
- Pineview Avenue \$15,000;
- Peacher Street \$15,000;
- Lawrence Road \$75,000;
- Dobson Road South \$45,000

Staff will review the Road Needs Study and provide options to Council at a later date for the remaining \$94,084.

Federal Grant for Student Positions

The Township received the good news from MP Doug Shipley, that we have been federally funded for 32 student positions this summer. The total grant the Township has received this year is \$95,782.20, which is one of the largest amounts granted. The funding will cover positions in Roads and Fleet, Parks and Facilities, Day Camps, By-law Enforcement, and Building Services.

Additional Residential Units

Council approved a Zoning By-law Amendment regarding additional residential units within the Township of Springwater. The new policies are consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement, the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and complies with the Official Plans for the County of Simcoe and Township of Springwater. Allowing for additional residential (second suites) will increase the supply of affordable living accommodations within the Township.

Please contact the Planning Department at planning@springwater.ca for information regarding zone provisions and permissions for additional residential units.

These comments reflect my thoughts and not necessarily those of council.

Stay safe.

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The OPP Report - Scams

If You Suspect an Overdose, Please Stay and Make That 911 Call for Emergency Assistance

(MIDLAND, ON)- Members of the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have been recently tasked to investigate a number of drug related deaths in our communities. Although responding officers are trained in the use of Naloxone and have the on scene support of area Paramedic and Fire Services, not all lives have been saved in these incidents. Since early 2017, an opioid overdose crisis has been sweeping across Canada, and our region has not been immune to this crisis. Addiction to opioids, and especially the increasing use of fentanyl, is an urgent public health situation in our communities.

Detachment members would like to raise opioid public awareness with a focus on the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act (GSDOA). Observers of an overdose may hesitate to call 9-1-1 in fear of police involvement. To encourage people to seek life-saving assistance, the OPP is reminding citizens of the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act (GSDOA). The GSDOA provides some legal protection for individuals who seek emergency help during an overdose, including the person experiencing an overdose.

The Act protects the person who seeks help, whether they stay or leave from the overdose scene before help arrives, as well as anyone else who is at the scene when help arrives. In 2019, the OPP created posters, information cards and community safety videos to help educate the public and community agencies. These resources, as well as other additional information about the GSDOA, can be found by visiting: www.opp.ca/overdose and OPP social media accounts.

The OPP is upholding its commitment to the Ontario Mobilization and Engagement Model of Community Policing and is using a collaborative approach to help disseminate this public awareness campaign. Numerous OPP detachments are partnering with other organizations in their community to help the OPP better connect with those directly impacted by this Act.

The GSDOA does provide protection against charges for:

- Possessing drugs for your own use; and
- Violating conditions of your parole, bail, probation or conditional sentence for a simple drug possession charge.

The GSDOA does not provide protection against charges for:

- Trafficking illegal drugs;
- Offences other than drug possession;
- Any outstanding arrest warrants; and
- Violating conditions of your parole, bail, probation or conditional sentence for an offence that is not simple possession.

Opioid overdoses continue to claim the lives of thousands of people across Ontario and Canada. The statistics and numbers below do not capture the profound distress being felt by those impacted.

- Facts:
- In 2019, 3,823 lives were lost in Canada due to opioid related overdoses.
 - In 2019, more than 21,000 suspected opioid-related overdoses occurred in Canada.

An overdose is preventable. Knowing the real facts about drugs and what to do when you see someone experiencing an overdose DOES save lives. "The opioid crisis does not discriminate and affects people from all walks of life in our communities. If you witness an overdose - do not hesitate to call 9-1-1 in fear of legal repercussions, please stay and make that 911 call for emergency assistance" - Inspector Joseph Evans, Interim Detachment Commander, Southern Georgian Bay OPP

For more information and please view the following links from our community partners, Simcoe Muskoka Health Unit, www.canada.ca/opioids, Administering Naloxone Nasal Spray

OPP Execute Search Warrant in Tiny Township Investigation Leads to Discovery of Sophisticated Cannabis Grow Operation

(TINY TOWNSHIP, ON) - Uniform members of the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) attended a farm on Concession Road 6 East, Tiny Township at 11:16 a.m. April 19, 2021 to investigate a number of complaints from area residents of a possible cannabis grow operation. Officers located several buildings on the property with signs of a cannabis grow operation in progress and requested assistance from the detachment Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU). Further investigation resulted in the Provincial Joint Forces Cannabis Enforcement Team (PJFCET) being contacted to lead the investigation that resulted in a Cannabis Act search warrant being executed on April 20, 2021 at the property.

Investigators discovered a professional, high-quality installation that was in the process of growing a large

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number of cannabis plants in various stages of development along with further mass production facilities were in the process of being constructed.

- Seized Property
- 9207 Cannabis plants
- 2448 clones
- 80 lbs of Cannabis bud
- a loaded and insecure .22 calibre rifle

At this time no charges have been issued and the investigation continues.

Investigators also wish to warn of the mold related health risk issues often found in buildings used as grow operations.

FIREARMS, EXPLOSIVES AND QUANTITIES OF COCAINE AND ILLEGAL CANNABIS SEIZED AFTER EIGHT-MONTH INVESTIGATION

Additional arrest made as a result of Project WEAVER (ORILLIA, ON) - One additional individual has been charged under the Criminal Code after a review of evidence gathered from the Project WEAVER search warrants executed in March, 2021.

On March 18, 2021 the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and its partner agencies announced the results of an eight-month investigation into firearms and drug trafficking in southwestern Ontario. Project WEAVER saw 11 search warrants executed on March 9, 2021 resulting in the arrest of 10 individuals for 268 charges. Significant seizures of firearms, explosives, cocaine and cannabis were made.

Police executed another search warrant in London on March 12, 2021 resulting in the arrest of one individual for four offences, and the seizure of more than \$1.8 million in illegal cannabis and cannabis products.

After careful review of evidence from the warrants executed in March, 2021 the investigative team have grounds to lay additional charges against one individual. Matthew STRACHAN, age 34 of Barrie has been charged with the following offences:

- Making or possession of explosives - S. 82(1) of the Criminal Code
- Weapons Trafficking - S. 99 of the Criminal Code
- Weapons Trafficking (Manufacture) - S. 99 of the Criminal Code
- Possession of firearm knowing its possession is unauthorized - S. 92(1) of the Criminal Code
- Possession of prohibited device knowing it is unauthorized - S. 92(2) of the Criminal Code
- Possession of prohibited firearm with ammunition - S. 95 (b) of the Criminal Code
- Failure to comply with Undertaking - S. 145(4)(a) of the Criminal Code

The accused was held in custody and had a first appearance on April 22, 2021 at an Ontario Court of Justice in London.

OPP Traffic Officers Busy Stopping Motorists on Area Roadways for Speed and Cell Phone Related Offences

(MIDLAND, ON)- Members of the Southern Georgian Bay detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have been paying attention to complaints from the public called into the OPP Communications Centre about speeding vehicles on area roadways. Officers participating in traffic related enforcement during the month of March 2021 provided 259 hours of dedicated traffic patrol resulting in 127 speeding offences with one charge of "Stunt Driving" (driving over 50 kilometres over the posted limit) along with nine cell phone related offences and 45 drivers were warned to pay closer attention to posted speed limits.

To date in the month of April officers have provided 93 hours of dedicated



traffic patrol resulting in 53 speeding offences with 18 charges of "Stunt Driving" along with 40 cell phone related offences and 56 drivers were spoken to about following the correct speed limit.

Speeding along with other offences under the Highway Traffic Act carry licence suspensions some of which are issued on the spot along with automatic vehicle impoundment. For more information please click on the following Ministry of Transportation link- (ADLS) .

Alarm Sounds On Danger of QR Codes

Remember when, a few years ago, we reported: "QR code scams are in their early days, but as more and more organizations see the benefit of using these codes, expect the crooks to exploit the same opportunity too." (See <https://scambusters.org/qrcode.html>)

Maybe you don't recall our warning. But that's exactly what's happened, with new alerts about how these scannable "Quick Response" black-and-white boxes of dots and squares are now being used to trick more victims than ever into giving away confidential information or downloading malware.

Furthermore, Internet security experts say the QR scam situation is steadily getting worse and is likely to continue to do so.

The trouble is that so many of us are used to scanning these graphical shapes with our smartphones precisely because they're such a darned convenient way of connecting to websites or downloading information.

And one of the main reasons for the current surge is the change in our social behavior because of the current health crisis.

More businesses are using them in place of printed matter, like brochures, because that means consumers don't have to touch them.

According to one of the latest reports, from security software firm MobileIron, 72 percent of consumers polled said they'd scanned a QR code during one single month, with the vast proportion saying they did so because it "made life easier."

And almost half of consumers admitted they still use QRs despite knowing the concerns about their security.

"The study also revealed that many people lack security on their mobile devices and are largely unaware of the security risks posed by QR codes," the firm said.

"A whopping 47% of respondents stated they do not have or do not know if they have security software installed on their mobile devices."

Worse, more than a third of users actually say they're not worried about security when they scan one of these code boxes.

The rest of this article and many more can be read in the police report at www.springwaternews.ca

This is from a small Michigan Newspaper which had the guts to say what most of the rest of us are thinking.

What has America become?

Editor,
 Has America become the land of the special interest and home of the double standard?
 Lets see: if we lie to the Congress, it's a felony and if the congress lies to us its just politics; if we dislike a black person, we're racist and if a black dislikes whites, it's their 1st Amendment right; the government spends millions to rehabilitate criminals and they do almost nothing for the victims; in public schools you can teach that homosexuality is OK, but you better not use the word God in the process; you can kill an unborn child, but its wrong to execute a mass murderer; we don't burn books in America, we now rewrite them; we got rid of the communist and socialist threat by renaming them progressives; we are unable

to close our border with Mexico, but have no problem protecting the 38th parallel in Korea; if you protest against President Obama's policies you're a terrorist, but if you burned an American flag or George Bush in effigy it was your 1st Amendment right.
 You can have pornography on TV or the internet, but you better not put a nativity scene in a public park during Christmas; we have eliminated all criminals in America, they are now called sick people; we can use a human fetus for medical research, but it's wrong to use an animal.
 We take money from those who work hard for it and give it to those who don't want to work; we all support the Constitution, but only when it supports our political ideology; we still have freedom of

speech, but only if we are being politically correct; parenting has been replaced with Ritalin and video games; the land of opportunity is now the land of hand outs; the similarity between Hurricane Katrina and the gulf oil spill is that neither president did anything to help.
 And how do we handle a major crisis today? The government appoints a committee to determine who's at fault, then threatens them, passes a law, raises our taxes; tells us the problem is solved so they can get back to their reelection campaign.
 What has happened to the land of the free and home of the brave?
 - Ken Huber
 Tawas City



My View – Bill French

Springwater Secondary Residential units – Approved!

I congratulate Council on the approval of secondary residential units on most properties. With the high cost of housing today, this is an opportunity for new or retiring families to remain on properties that have been owned by families for many years. Each lot, assuming it can meet the conditions, such as servicing and setbacks, can have two additional residential units. One has to be part of the main residential unit and the other in an accessory building. In either case the secondary units cannot be more than 40% of floor space of the primary residential unit. If you have a larger home on a large lot, you can effectively have two units if I stayed under the 1200 square foot limit in each.

However, before getting too excited, if you live in one of the new subdivisions, there is a 90% chance this new bylaw won't apply as many new residential units, being larger in size in new developments, are at the lot coverage limit. For those that can accommodate these units, remember, down the road you cannot sever the extra unit at some time and cash in. I have fully supported this concept and it will provide some much needed housing.

Extreme Off-Road Vehicles on Roads?

Just over a year ago Council approved a pilot program to allow Side by Side UTV's and ATV's on Township Roads. When I was on Council there was a request to do that and we had a number of open houses on the subject as it is both a blessing for the riders and a curse for those that live close by well travelled roads near trail heads.

I had suggested a "toe in the water" approach which was to allow riders to travel from their homes to the closest trail head, travel to restaurants and gas stations close to trails, but this Council decided to open it up. I am not sure how it has worked out but I know there are a lot more ATV's and dirt bikes on my road than ever before and most have no plates, travel well over the speed limit and are definitely not sporting stock muffler systems. What complicated the matter more is there are very few police patrols in the Township as Policing, except for some speed monitoring from time to time, is non-existent. I know the bylaw amendment is meant to grant dirt bikes and 6 and 8 wheel Argo type vehicles with the same privileges as ATV's, UTV's and Side by Sides. I think the definition opens a can of worms.

"Extreme terrain vehicle" means an off-road vehicle, that,

- (a) Has six or eight wheels, the tires of which are all in contact with the ground,
- (b) Has no tracks that are in contact with the ground,
- (c) Has seats that are not designed to be straddled, and
- (d) Has a minimum cargo capacity of 159 kilograms).

Is not a dually pickup or an old army vehicle with 6 or more wheels an extreme vehicle by the bylaw's definition? This bylaw needs a maximum weight, width and length definition or it will be a nightmare. The local clubs do a great job at monitoring and policing their members, but the influx of GTA riders is becoming their own pandemic when it comes to riding these vehicles on our roads and trails. I guess we will see what happens.

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Federal Budget-Where is the Budget Fairy?

As I predicted a year ago, by the end of this year we will have in fact almost doubled the National Debt in a short time period to just shy of \$1.5 Trillion dollars. We have also went from a "Debt to GDP" ratio of around 45% in a slow growing economy to over 100% in a recessed economy. Canada now rivals the USA in debt ratios.

Discussing concern about debts seems to fall on deaf ears regardless of political stripes. In two years we will have accumulated what took us 154 years to create in the past. In modern terms we are taking on roughly 100 years of a typical annual operating deficit in two fiscal years. I have found no one to explain how this will all work out in the end and how we can recover. I am shocked at the short sightedness of all of us in these times of COVID-19. It appears that we are all waiting for the budget fairy to solve our monetary crisis, because our Federal and Provincial Leaders seem to have no idea how to do it.

I have an idea that stems from the good old days, before the budget fairy, when you ran out of money. Tighten your belt, cut your spending, don't commit to any new spending you can't afford (paid sick days, paid babysitting and environmental programs such as a carbon tax), and then see what happens. I guess that is too complicated!

I have a lot more to say with the changing status of COVID-19, but will save it for another article. However, I have a question. Why has New Zealand and Australia been able to control COVID-19 so well? Do some reading and you will be shocked at the simple approach they took from the beginning.

In the meantime, lets do what we can by Wearing a Mask, Keeping Physical Distance and Sanitizing and consider seriously taking the vaccine if you are able.

I have followed the Barrie Meridian Place lockdown protests. I fully support their right to protest and the peaceful nature in which they have conducted themselves so far. However, if you want to be credible, at least follow the three aforementioned COVID health safety practices and more people will support you. By not doing so you become part of a problem rather than part of a solution.

Again, please remember these are my thoughts and I am not asking you to agree. I respect your freedom of expression and encourage you to SPEAK UP, before that freedom is taken from us!! This is already happening in Social Media and is worsening each day!

Bill French is a seasoned business leader with over 40 years experience and served in senior positions of International Enterprises. Bill served as Mayor of Springwater and a County of Simcoe Councillor from 2014 to 2018 and has taught business at the college level for over 15 years. You can also read these articles on line at <http://springwatercitizens.blogspot.com/>



**Rosie's Devotions
The Generous Gift**

"Dear Rosemary, when I read your devotional in the Springwater News I felt the Lord tell me to bless you with this gift"

The above words were printed in an email to me with a link to have the monetary amount deposited to my account via E-transfer.

I read and re-read this most generous offer. At first glance, I thought it to be a scam and never gave it another thought. But then a few days later, I received another email reminding me again of this very generous gift. I contacted my daughter, who is very computer savvy, and told her about the email. She said that it was legitimate. I couldn't believe it. Why would someone, a stranger, bestow such a generous gift to me, a stranger?

Not too long ago, I received yet another email, also from a stranger, that said the following: "Your column in the Springwater News has encouraged me over the years. You have been so forthcoming in your ups/downs, in other words, real. Thank you for your transparency and sharing your vulnerability with us, your readers." She ended her email by letting me know that she would be praying for me.

1 Peter 4:10-Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (NIV)

My intent in writing and sharing devotionals has been and will continue to be an outlet for me to share my thoughts and feelings. I am humbled by readers who respond and tell me that they have been encouraged and inspired by my writings; readers who felt led by God, to share their appreciation with me.

And as I am writing this, I am reminded of the phrase—that it is easier to give than to receive. It has never been my intent to receive recognition through monetary means or otherwise. I find it hard to receive and easier to give! With this in mind, I thank you, I do greatly appreciate comments from you, the reader, and will pay forward the monetary gift towards good causes.

Prayer: Lord God, thank you for people sharing their gifts with others. Help us to be servants to others in need. Help us to be emphatic caregivers to the unhealthy. Grant us courage and strength to share our resources with one another. Most of all, thank you for your precious gift of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

John 3:16-For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (NIV)

Rosemary Hagedorn, Midland, Ontario.
rosyhagedorn@gmail.com

Wyevale's News Ruth Ann Caston 527-5274

Happy birthday wishes go out to Fenten Archer, Katie Mustard, Kim Maheu, Paulette Stott, Collins Smith, Meridan Archer, Chris Stephenson, Kim Caston, Sue Brock, Jack Hamelin, Arianna Caston, Melissa Rawn, Sandy Dunsford, Todd Archer, Bill & Shane Large.

Happy 50th wedding anniversary to Murray and Teresa Archer who celebrated the big event at home on April 16th. Bigger celebration to come when it is available to do so.

Happy Mother's Day to all the moms here with us and to all the moms who have passed away and still are in our hearts.

I hope that everyone is staying safe, following the rules and getting the vaccine when your turn comes.

Anyone with news items for the paper, please call me at 705.527.5274 and leave a message.

The Ontario SPCA seeks foster volunteers willing to care for vulnerable animals



Stouffville, ON (April 19, 2021) – Do you have room in your heart and in your home to help animals in need of foster care? If you're interested in becoming a foster parent to animals who need extra TLC, celebrate National Volunteer Week by becoming a foster volunteer with the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society!

The Ontario SPCA is seeking veterinarians, veterinary technicians or volunteers with animal shelter or previous foster experience for those medical cases.

The Foster Program benefits animals who are not ready for adoption and who are either too young, sick, injured, under socialized or emotionally stressed to thrive in the animal centre environment. Instead, animals are cared for and rehabilitated in a nurturing foster home.



"Fostering animals in need is a rewarding experience for the volunteer and a critical source of support for our animal centres," says Carol May-McQuillan, Director of Volunteer Development, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. "To give vulnerable animals the best opportunity at the second chance they deserve, we're asking anyone who can help to join our team."



is currently recruiting foster volunteers to assist its animal centres in Brockville, Napanee, Cornwall, Pembroke, Midland, Barrie and Muskoka. Volunteers with the Ontario SPCA Provincial Foster Care Program temporarily provide a safe and nurturing environment in their home for animals in need.

The Ontario SPCA is currently looking for volunteers who are able to care for pregnant dogs and cats and their litters, once born. There is also a need for foster volunteers who can care for animals requiring specialized medical

volunteer, visit ontariospca.ca/foster



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THERE IS A STRESS HORMONE CALLED CORTISOL THAT IS CONCENTRATED IN TEARS. YOU LITERALLY CRY OUT YOUR STRESS.

How long does it take blood to circulate through the body?

Answer: On average, it takes about 45 seconds for blood to circulate from the heart, all around the body, and back to the heart again. An average adult's heart beats more than 100,000 times a day.

Lawyer: "I'm not saying another word without my lawyer present."

Police: "But you are the lawyer"

Lawyer: "Exactly, where's my present?"

Calcium doesn't just strengthen our bones, it also fortifies the 'bones' of young plants, especially yummy veggies, which need the mineral to build the cell walls that form their roots, stems, and leaves. Eggshells are primarily made of calcium carbonate, so just crush them up and sprinkle around young seedlings to give them a healthy head start!

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MLS® home sales in Southern Georgian Bay overtake previous March record

Residential sales recorded through the MLS® System for the Southern Georgian Bay region totaled 645 units in March 2021. This was more than double the levels from a year earlier, surging 106.1% from March 2020. This was also a new sales record for the month of March.

On a year-to-date basis, home sales totaled a record 1,248 units over the first three months of the year. This was up sharply by 46.3% from the same period in 2020.

The Southern Georgian Bay region comprises two distinctive markets. Home sales in the Western Region, which includes Wasaga Beach, Clearview Township, Collingwood, The Blue Mountains, the Municipality of Meaford, and Grey Highlands, numbered 326 units in March 2021. This was more than double the levels from a year earlier, surging 114.5% from March 2020. This was also a new sales record for the month of March.

On a year-to-date basis, home sales in the Western Region numbered a record 650 units over the first three months of the year. This was up sharply by 55.9% from the same period in 2020.

Meanwhile, home sales in the Eastern Region, encompassing the Towns of Midland and Penetanguishene, the Townships of Tay and Tiny, Severn, and Georgian Bay Townships, numbered 319 units in March 2021. This was an advance of 98.1% from March 2020. This was also a new sales record for the month of March.

On a year-to-date basis, home sales in the Eastern Region numbered a record 598 units over the first three months of the year. This was a large increase of 37.2% from the same period in 2020.

"March was another incredibly strong month for MLS® market activity in our region," said Matthew Lidbetter, President of the Southern Georgian Bay Association of REALTORS®. "Resale home sales set a new March record surpassing the previous mark of 477 set back in 2017. There was also a considerable increase in the number of new listings during this past month, which helped to backstop overall inventory. Although active listings continue to be at the lowest level in more than 30 years the number of available listings appears to be forming a bottom. However, with the spring market upon us we expect market conditions to remain extremely tight."

The MLS® Home Price Index (HPI) tracks price trends far more accurately than is possible using average or median price measures. The overall MLS® HPI composite benchmark price was \$592,500 in March 2021, a significant gain of 40.8% compared to March 2020.

The benchmark price for single-family homes was \$617,900, an advance of 43.6% on a year-over-year basis in March. By comparison, the benchmark price for townhouse/row units was \$486,800, up by 27.6% compared to a year earlier, while the benchmark apartment price was \$386,300, a minor increase of 2.5% from year-ago levels.

The number of new listings saw a gain of 13% from March 2020. There were 780 new residential listings in March 2021. This was the largest number of new listings added in the month of March in more than five years.

Active residential listings numbered 407 units on the market at the end of March, down sharply by 68.2% from the end of March 2020. Active listings haven't been this low in the month of March in more than three decades.

Months of inventory numbered 0.6 at the end of March 2021, down from the 4.1 months recorded at the end of March 2020 and below the long-run average of 5.3 months for this time of year. The number of months of inventory is the number of months it would take to sell current inventories at the current rate of sales activity.

The dollar value of all home sales in March 2021 was \$546 million, more than double the levels from a year earlier, rocketing up 214.5% from the same month in 2020. This was a new record for the month of March and was also the largest dollar value of homes sold for any month in history.

Consult your *Local* REALTOR® for market conditions and home value information specific to your neighbourhood. Our REALTORS® live, work and play in Southern Georgian Bay and have the local knowledge you simply need to know! Encompassing several communities along the shores of southern Georgian Bay, approximately 1½ to 2 hours from Greater Toronto, the area is one of Canada's premier four season recreational playgrounds.

The Southern Georgian Bay Association of REALTORS® represents more than 600 REALTORS® registered with its member offices. The geographical area served by the Association includes the Towns of Midland and Penetanguishene, the Townships of Tay and Tiny and parts of Severn and Georgian Bay Townships; Wasaga Beach, Clearview Township, Collingwood, The Blue Mountains and portions of the Municipality of Meaford and Grey Highlands.

Provided by:
Matthew Lidbetter, 2021
President
Southern Georgian Bay
Association of REALTORS®
matthew@bluemountainproperty.com



It's Me (The Virus)

You didn't listen
I've been yelling at you.
You left the door open
I walked right through.

You will pay the toll
I'm now in control.
Nothing you can do
I am the COVID flu.

This is an intervention
Did I get your attention?
As you all ran around
Not respecting the ground.

With no cars anywhere
You now have cleaner air.
Learn to live cleaner
I can get much meaner.

I'm here to scare
To yell "Beware".
All the things you did
Now deal with COVID.

I'm just getting started
Look at all the departed.
Now I'm the Boss
For you, your loss.

Too bad you're upset
I'm not done yet.
You have much to dread
Just count the dead.

Dianne Ouellette Botyanski, Tiny

How to properly store FRUIT

- Apples** Apples are ethylene gas producers so store away from other produce. They can be stored on the counter for up to a week or in the fridge for more than a week.
- Avocados** Ripen on the counter then store in the refrigerator.
- Bananas** Keep green bananas out of the refrigerator and let them ripen on the counter or a banana hanger.
- Berries** Blueberries, blackberries, strawberries and raspberries are delicate and should not be washed until ready to eat. Keep in refrigerator in dry, covered containers.
- Cherries & Grapes** Store in refrigerator, unwashed, in their packaged plastic containers or plastic bags until ready to wash and eat.
- Citrus fruit** Extend the shelf life of clementines, grapefruit, lemons, limes and oranges by storing them in the crisper drawer or in a mesh bag in the refrigerator.
- Melons** Store cantaloupe and honeydew loose in the refrigerator, even before they're cut. Watermelon can be kept in a dark, dry place away from other produce. Keep cut melon in the fridge.
- Stone fruit** Keep nectarines, peaches and plums in a paper bag on the counter until they are ripe then move to the refrigerator where they'll last a few more days.
- Tomatoes** Always store at room temperature as the refrigerator will make them rot quickly. Keep loose in a bowl away from sun or heat (like the stove.)



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Local Boards to Receive Funding for School Infrastructure

Joint investments by Canada and Ontario will upgrade infrastructure to support response to the COVID-19 pandemic and keep students and staff safe

NEWS April 14, 2021 BARRIE —\$27 million is being allocated to Simcoe District School Board and the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board, to upgrade infrastructure at local schools, and protect against COVID-19. The funding is being provided through the COVID-19 Reliance Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program.

Local funding information comes from MPP Doug Downey today, after the Minister of Education's announcement this morning. "This infrastructure investment makes more upgrades possible, to support and protect both staff and students in our school communities," said MPP Downey. "This funding means our children and teachers will be able to return to safer and healthier schools. It has long-term positive impacts, not only for the students of today, but the next generations of students in the years to come."

The funding for these school boards will support building retrofits, updates and upgrades to their schools and co-located child care facilities. Projects can include HVAC renovations to improve air quality, installing water bottle refilling stations to improve access to safe drinking water, and space reconfigurations such as new walls and doors to enhance physical distancing.

The investments build on the more than \$1 billion the Ontario government has invested since 2019 in new schools and child care spaces and additions to provide working families with access to quality, safe, and state-of-the-art learning spaces. Supported by provincial funding, 95% of Ontario schools have reported upgrades or enhancements to their air filtration systems, with over 40,000 HEPA filters and other ventilation devices in classrooms.

The Government of Canada is investing up to \$25.2 million towards these projects through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. The Government of Ontario is contributing \$131.3 million to the projects.

Annually, the Ontario government invests \$1.4 billion in continuous maintenance and improvements to school facilities.

QUICK FACTS

- The COVID-19 Resilience stream will deliver \$656.5 million to support individual school board submissions for education related projects.
- The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) is a 10-year, \$30-billion federal, provincial and municipal program that provides funding to improve public transit; community, culture and recreation; green; and rural and northern community infrastructure. Ontario is investing \$10.2 billion in this program.
- The federal COVID-19 Resilience stream has been adapted from ICIP to respond to the impacts of COVID-19. This ICIP stream, delivered through bilateral agreements with provinces and territories, has been designed to help add flexibilities, expand project eligibility and accelerate approvals.
- Ontario schools have been provided with more than \$1.6 billion to better protect students, staff and families from COVID-19 including support for online learning, promoting student mental health, hiring additional staff and investing \$100 million ear-marked for immediate improvements to air quality and ventilation.
- Ontario is conducting voluntary targeted testing for asymptomatic students and school staff as an added layer of protection against the transmission of COVID-19.
- The Ontario government invests \$550 million annually to build new schools.

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Obituaries

June Hutton

June 23 1937- April 13 2021

Passed away peacefully at Hospice Simcoe, Barrie, on Tuesday April 13th, 2021, in her 83rd year. Loving wife to her best friend and true love, Alex (predeceased 2016). Much loved mother to Ian (Louise) of Barrie and Judith (Robert) of Elmvale.



Cherished Mama of Megan (Mark), Brooke (Adam), Joshua (Jon), Justin (Makenzie), Taylor (Leah), Phillip (Carolyn). A very proud Luvey (Great Mama) to Alexandra, Piper, Summer, William, Grace and Noah.

June was one of nine children born and raised in Sheffield, England, the last living member of her siblings. After Alex visited Canada in 1974, they decided to emigrate to pursue a better life for their children. June recounted this as one of the best decisions they made and happily established their lives together in Elmvale. June, known by many as Luvey in the community, had a loving nature and a passion for life. She worked until her 81st year, finally retiring from Whitfield's Pharmacy, but never losing her sharp wit and humour. Her friendly smile and slight cheekiness were traits that made her a great friend to many over the years.

She fought hard for so long, not wanting to leave her greatest joys in life, her children and their families. In her words she'd say "I'll see you when I see you."

June's family would like to thank Doctor Jennifer Johnson for her compassionate care over the many years, and the Bayshore nurses, particularly Megan for her kind attention.

Cremation has taken place and a private family celebration of life will be held.

Memorial donations to the Royal Canadian Legion, Br. 262 Elmvale or Hospice Simcoe would be greatly appreciated by the family.

Messages may be sent to the family through lynnstonefuneralhome.com

**BRUCE ALLEN JOHNSTON
OCTOBER 16, 1955 – APRIL 10, 2021
"LIFE IS GOOD"**

It is with profound sadness we announce the very sudden passing of Bruce. He died at home in Phelpston with his family in the early morning of April 10, 2021. On October 22, 1977 Bruce married the love of his life



Laura Donnelly of Barrie and together they raised their family. He was the best and most loyal friend to Laura (Donnelly) for 44 years. Bruce was the doting father and mentor to Lindsay Murphy (Darryl) and Jordan (Candace). He was the cherished and adoring grandpa to Kayla, Wyatt, Hunter and Rylie. Bruce had so many plans to teach his grandchildren wood working, mechanics, gardening and life skills. His desire was to instill a passion for learning in each of them. His family meant everything to him.

Bruce was the youngest son of George and Ruth (Archer) Johnston. His entire life was spent living on the same lot and concession although in two different homes in Phelpston.

Bruce was the youngest brother of seven children. He is survived by his brother Lawrence (Ruby), Glenna Reynolds (late George) and Judy Green (Harold) of Barrie. He was predeceased by sisters Pauline Jones and Laurine Spring and brother William (Bill). He will be greatly missed by many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews and cousins on both sides of the families. He will be forever remembered by family in England.

Bruce was a loving and caring person who always saw the best in everyone he met. He would talk for hours to family, friends and strangers. He took great joy in sharing stories, telling jokes or playing a practical joke or two. He will be remembered by his friends that were very dear to him whether he saw them daily or occasionally.

A very special thank you to the 911 dispatcher, the team of "J" and "J" of the Simcoe County Paramedics, the crew from Springwater Fire and Emergency Services and the Officers of the Huronia West O.P.P. for their assistance.

Respecting Bruce's wishes cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Details to follow.

Memorial donations may be made to The War Amps of Canada. <https://donate.waramps.ca/eforms.aspx?edonate> Bruce was a longtime supporter in recognition of his father serving in WW1.

Online condolences may be made at www.peacefultransition.ca

I've seen loads of ppl wearing basecaps with the flap on the back...where can I get one like that?



**GILLESPIE,
Wayne -**

Wayne Gillespie of Orr Lake in his 69th year passed away suddenly in hospital on April 15, 2021. Beloved husband of Linda

Gillespie (nee Woodcock). Dear father of Darrell (Andrea) Gillespie of Midland and Sheri Gillespie of Richmond Hill. Proud grandfather of Stephanie (Jason), Jacob, Gabriele and Great-grandfather of Logan, Oliver, and Annabelle. Brother of Gord, Marg(Raymond), Dave(Debbie), Sharon(Harry), Brian(Connie), and the late Murray. Son of the late Gordon and Rose Gillespie. Will be greatly missed by many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

A celebration of Wayne's life will be held at a later date.

If desired, memorial donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com.



RUSSELL, Margaret Rose -

Passed away peacefully with her family by her side at home on Thursday, April 15, 2021. Marg Russell (nee MacDonald) in her 79th year. Dear mother of Amy Russell-Forbes, Darryl Russell (Sheila), Jodi Russell (Scott MacDonald), and JoyAnne Russell (Tim Hart). Loving grandmother of Dakota, Jordan (Laurel), Jarret, Ryan, and Colin. Great grandmother of Sky. Sister of Fran Moran, Shirlee Priest, Ursula Davidson, and the late, Mary O'Neill, Irene MacDonald, Joe MacDonald, Basil MacDonald, Chris MacDonald, and Sadie Bannerman. Marg will be missed by her many nieces, nephews, pickleball friends, the McDonald's coffee group boys, and her lifelong group of girlfriends.

A private graveside service will be held at the St. Patrick's Cemetery in Phelpston. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

If desired, memorial donations to the Children's Aid Society may be made in Marg's memory.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com

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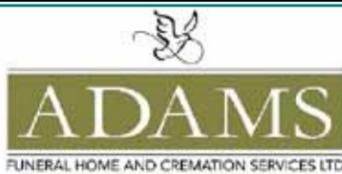
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BARBE, Sheila Mae -

Passed away peacefully after a valiant fight and with her daughters at her side, at Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre, Barrie on Tuesday, April 13, 2021, one day before her 78th birthday. Sheila Barbe of Hillsdale now

reunited with her beloved husband Moe, her daughter Lori Stewart and her granddaughter Emily Stewart. Lovingly remembered by daughters Donna Parker (Max) and Karen Johnston (Ken). Proud Nana and Grandma of Curtis Parker, Tyler Stewart, Kelsey Parker (Julian) and Kendra Johnston and great grandmother of three. Sheila will be missed by her siblings Lloyd Stoakley and Pat Stoakley. Dear sister in law of Diane Baker (Bill) and the late Ron Barbe (Rita). She will be fondly remembered by Kevin Liscumb, nieces, nephews and friends.

The family wishes to extend a sincere thank you to the staff at I.O.O.F and the Palliative Care Dept. at RVH for their dedication and support while Sheila was in their care.

Cremation has taken place and the family will hold a celebration of life at a later date.

If you wish to make a memorial donation in Sheila's honour please consider RVH Foundation.

Messages may be sent to the family through lynnstonefuneralhome.com

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Do you love vintage items? How about anything retro? You need to take a look at this unique auction today! We have some great furniture pieces including a fantastic couch, and bedroom set, lots of brass, glassware and silverplate and some vintage chandeliers. Also includes some original art, a fun bistro set, vintage toys including Betty Boop dolls and Barbies, a great cast metal garden set and so much more. Lots of interesting conversation starters in this auction. Enjoy browsing this catalogue!

UPCOMING AUCTIONS

- Cadman Relocating Sale, Burford** - May 2-6 - wagon wheels, grandfather clock, Honda ride-on lawnmower, church pews
 - Vintage Pocket Watch Collector's Auction, Guelph** - May 2-6 beautiful antique and vintage pocket watches
 - Estate of Violet Cook, Kitchener** - May 9-13 - antique furniture, quilts, WWI memorabilia, vintage clothing, Royal Doulton
 - Century Farm Auction for Springmead Farm, Alma** - May 16-20 antique/vintage barn finds, vintage farm equipment, antique sleigh
- Full auction listings & information at rapid-sell.ca**

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GRAIN FARMERS APPLAUDS FEDERAL REBATE CARBON PAYMENTS FOR GRAIN DRYING

GUELPH, ON (April 20, 2021) — Grain Farmers of Ontario, the province's largest commodity organization, representing Ontario's 28,000 barley, corn, oat, soybean, and wheat farmers, applauds the federal government's commitment to return a portion of the proceeds from the price on pollution directly to farmers. This decision was announced in Budget 2021, tabled Monday by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland. Budget 2021 recognizes that many farmers rely on natural gas and propane in their operations and that there are no ready substitutes," said Brendan Byrne, Chair, Grain Farmers of Ontario. "We have been calling on the Government of Canada to exempt fuels used for grain drying from the pollution pricing system and are pleased to see that Prime Minister Trudeau, Finance Minister Freeland, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Bibeau have done the right thing." "There is more work ahead. We continue to call on the government to similarly rebate funds collected to date, and to ensure that rebates are delivered in a way that is equitable and administratively simple. We will also work with the government to develop practical alternatives to current grain-drying practices." The newly released budget states that beginning in 2021-22, farmers in backstop jurisdictions (currently Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario), will receive rebates equal to about \$100 million. Returns in future years will be based on proceeds from the price on pollution collected in the prior fiscal year and are expected to increase as the price on pollution rises. Budget 2021 also proposes \$50 million for the purchase of more efficient grain dryers for farmers across Canada. Modern agriculture plays a key role in helping Canada achieve its climate commitments and needs to be at the table to address this vital issue to Canadians. Ontario grain farmers are consistently looking for ways to better their environmental impacts including, reduced tillage, cover cropping, and crop rotation. Over the last 30 years, grain farmers in Ontario have taken important steps to substantially reduce their climate impact, increase land use efficiency, and reduce energy use.

Where have tornadoes caused a great deal of damage?
Answer: A series of eight tornadoes on March 18, 1925 in Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and Tennessee killed 740 persons, injured 1,890 and caused more than \$16 million in damage. Another series killed 268 people and did \$5 million in damage in Alabama on March 21, 1932.

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Township services impacted by additional Stay-at-Home Orders

Township of Springwater / April 20, 2021 – On Friday, April 16, 2021, the Province of Ontario announced that the province-wide emergency declaration and Stay-at-Home Order would be extended by an additional two weeks. New enforcement measures and restrictions have been implemented to restrict the rapid transmission of the COVID-19 virus throughout the Province. Measures include, but are not limited to:

- Outdoor gatherings are strictly limited to members of the same household only, or with one other household if that individual lives alone.
 - In-person shopping at stores that primarily sell food, pharmacy or grocery are restricted to 25% capacity.
 - Only essential construction is permitted to continue. This includes critical infrastructure such as new hospitals, roads and bridges. Residential construction is also permitted to continue.
 - Outdoor recreational amenities including sports fields, outdoor fitness equipment and basketball courts are closed.
 - Restricting indoor participation at places of worship, funerals and weddings to 10 people.
 - Checkpoints have been created to restrict mobility at interprovincial borders with exceptions for work, transportation of goods and medical appointments.
- As a result of the new enforcement measures, the following municipal services and facilities are affected:
- All Township facilities remain closed to the public. Staff are available to provide assistance by phone and email. Contact information is available at www.springwater.ca/contact
 - All Township of Springwater sports fields, basketball courts, tennis courts, pickleball courts, outdoor fitness equipment and outdoor pavilions are currently closed to the public.
 - Playgrounds will remain open for public use, as per the updated Provincial announcement on Saturday, April 17, 2021. Be advised that playground equipment is not sanitized. Please maintain 2 metres of physical distancing when using playground equipment.
 - Building inspections that do not meet provincial criteria will be suspended.
 - The Springwater Public Library will continue to offer curbside service to residents.

For additional information on the provincial Stay-at-Home Order measures and restrictions visit the provincial website at Ontario.ca/covid19.

For additional information on the status of COVID-19 in our area, visit the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit website at smdhu.org/COVID19.

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Events
 Let's rebuild the events column. COVID had shut down many of the events we had before but we are adapting. Check here for daily/weekly happenings.

TiFT Talk is Free Theatre • TiFT is thrilled to announce new episodes of *In Good Company* featuring distinguished panelists offering exclusive insight on a variety of topics.

With the continuation of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Simcoe County Branch Executive will offer online webinars utilizing the Zoom platform. Both members & non-members are welcome.

WED. MAY 26, 2021 3:00 to 4:00
 Speaker: Christine Woodcock
 Topic: Navigating the Scotlands People Website

You will need to Register by going to the Events tab on the Simcoe County Branch Meetings web page (<https://simcoe.ogs.on.ca/branch-meetings/>), or our Facebook site (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/827393414004460/>) for information about other online events until we can meet in person again. We hope you will be able to join us virtually.

Learn more about careers in the skilled trades at virtual event on May 4

On Tuesday, May 4 at 7 p.m., parents/guardians and students can learn more about career options in the skilled trades at an interactive virtual session, presented in partnership by the Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) and Job Talks. Is your kid cut out for the skilled trades? will provide an opportunity to learn more about the opportunities available as well as ask questions about how your child can explore a career in the trades.

The Facebook Live presentation will feature Dr. Jon Callegher, a marketing professor from the Centre for Business at George Brown College. Staff members from the SCDSB will also be available to answer questions.

The virtual presentation will include information about the skilled trades as well as a question and answer segment. [Learn more about Dr. Callegher](#) and the session, then [submit your questions about the skilled trades](#).

To virtually attend the presentation, [visit the SCDSB Facebook page](#) at 7 p.m. on May 4.

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AN OCTOPUS ACTUALLY HAS 6 ARMS AND 2 LEGS, NOT 8 LEGS.
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RVH Auxiliary announces latest winner of community 50/50 draw



Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre's (RVH) Auxiliary is excited to announce the recent winner of its monthly community 50/50 draws. Lorraine from Barrie won \$42,215, the biggest jackpot to date!

"I purchased tickets to merely support the cause, but I am a big believer in paying it forward. I am still in shock and very grateful for this win! Thank you!" shares Lorraine.

The RVH Auxiliary continues to raise funds to support its latest \$5 million pledge to RVH's Moments Matter fundraising campaign through this exciting monthly draw.

"The Auxiliary continues to grow this fundraiser and is excited to see how big it can get each month. We are so thrilled to have such great community leaders partnering with us, such as sponsors like Barriston Law in April and Team Keogh in May. These monthly draws continue to be very exciting and more and more members of the community are getting onboard," says Lise McCourt, Auxiliary president.

Tickets for the next draw are on sale now. You can buy your tickets online at <https://www.rvhauxiliary5050.com/> (best opened in Google Chrome).

The grand prize draw is on May 20th and the deadline to enter is 11:59 p.m. on May 19th.

On May 6th, there will be three early bird draws, each draw with a prize of \$1000. "We hope people will buy early so they can be included in these draws as well," says McCourt. These early bird draws are sponsored by Team Keogh.

Notice of Construction- Rehabilitation of Brown's Bridge (County Road 27)

The County of Simcoe hereby advises and notifies all affected parties of the rehabilitation of the Brown's Bridge on County Road 27 (Yonge Street South), located 850 m south of County Road 92 in Elmvale, Ontario. The bridge location can be found on the [Key Map](#). Construction of the Brown's Bridge will be completed in two stages, and traffic on County Road 27 will be limited to a single lane of traffic over the bridge using temporary signals.

Work includes the removal and replacement of the bridge deck and girders, repair to the bridge abutments and reconstruction of 210 m of roadway.

Construction was started in 2020, with both lanes open to traffic over the winter. Construction will be re-commencing on April 19, 2021 and is expected to continue until September 24th, 2021 at which time it will be reopened to two lanes of traffic. Commencing April 20, 2021, County Road 27 will be limited to a single lane of traffic over the bridge.

The Brown's Bridge has been rehabilitated previously by the County in 2004 for a cost of approximately \$250,000.

The Brown bridge along with the County Road 27 were owned by the Ministry of Transportation Ontario and there were rehabilitation work completed by the MTO in 1991. We currently do not have the 1991 rehabilitation costs.

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Gas of life discovered in 1754 then in 2009 declared a toxic pollutant, question is did all the scientists miss that definition of CO2 for 255 years?

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Announcements

For those who are looking for yellow plants to participate in the Hope Gardens Project here are a few suggestions. You can find the rest of the article on our Facebook page.

Sunflowers: can grow over 15 feet tall. And as you can imagine, they love a good, hot summer. [Attractive to bees and birds](#), sunflowers shine if you're looking for an easy way to lure wildlife to your backyard.

Yellow Blanket Flower: This short-lived perennial blooms best in full sun and well-draining soil. The 3-inch blooms attract butterflies and the plant will grow to be about 18 inches tall.

Goldenrod: Goldrush goldenrod is a [butterfly favorite](#), with masses of yellow flowers that nearly conceal the pretty green foliage.

Yellow Coneflower: Echinacea has burst onto the scene in yellow, pink, white and even green. It's an easy-care, sun-loving favorite, varying in height from 2 to 5 feet.

BizLink helps business buyers and sellers

April 27, 2021 Midland - A group of local Community Futures organizations have joined forces to assist business buyers and sellers to connect and confidently move forward in the business transition process.

The program, now known as BizLink, has proven to provide business buyers and sellers with tools that offer confidentiality and anonymity in buying or selling a local business. Thanks to a three-year, \$606,500 Grow grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) in 2020, BizLink has been able to expand from a pilot program.

"This three year Grow Grant will arm business buyers and sellers with tools necessary to effectively move these types of business transactions forward with discretion and assurance while meeting needs in our community. I applaud the partnerships formed between these organizations in delivering this much needed program in such an innovative way through BizLink," said Jill Dunlop, MPP for Simcoe North.

BizLink began as a pilot project in 2018 as a partnership between the Orillia Area Community Development Corp. (CDC) and Nottawasaga Community Futures, with support from the County of Simcoe, the City of Orillia and other local partners. Funds from the grant will be used to help run the program, and include assisting with staffing, creating information materials, translation, equipment purchases, hosting workshops, and some administrative costs as well. With the OTF grant and continued support from the County of Simcoe, BizLink evolved into a regional program that is also offered now in the Midland and Collingwood areas through the Centre For Business and North Simcoe Community Futures. "We saw a need: buyers and sellers were not connecting due to privacy issues,"

explained Carol Benedetti, BizLink Coordinator. "Buyers and sellers often have concerns over whether they should publicly announce their intention to buy or sell a business. BizLink helps to address this."

The program partners offering BizLink all have extensive local knowledge and connections making them a great choice to guide entrepreneurs through the full transition process and provide wrap around support for the entire life cycle of a business. They have the expertise to set business buyers and sellers up for success.

The program has built a regional database of buyers and sellers and provides participants with subsidized access to the independent online portal, Succession Matching.com. The portal provides an opportunity to create an individual buyer or seller profile, access to a national database of buyers and sellers and a variety of online learning tools and connections with international investors through the Ontario Immigrant Nominee Program.

Key services that the BizLink offers to buyers and sellers include: Confidentiality and anonymity; connection suggestions based on each individual buyer and seller; referrals to local professional resources, such as business valuers, tax planners, accountants, lawyers, and real estate agents; contact with Immigration Specialists to promote businesses to international buyers; customized sales sheets to promote businesses through local networks; access to financing and business coaching; and workshops on related topics such as Bookkeeping and Business Valuation.

The BizLink team is ready and waiting to serve local business owners and entrepreneurs and looks forward to helping business buyers and sellers realize their dreams! To learn more about how BizLink works, or to register as a buyer or seller, contact Lois Irvine. The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada's leading granting foundations. OTF awarded \$115 million to 644 projects last year to build healthy and vibrant communities in Ontario.

Immemorial

Harry Russell Hunt • December 22, 1934 – May 9, 2019
*A life made beautiful
 by kindly deeds.
 A helping hand
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 Generous his heart
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 by all he knew.*

We will always love and cherish you every day.
 Barb Hunt and Family

Cecil Tinney
 July 16, 1928 – April 26, 2020
*One year has passed since that sad day
 When one we loved was called away.
 God took him home, it was His will,
 But in our hearts, he liveth still.*

You now have a great grandson named after you.
 Missing You,
 Marlene, Doug, Linda, Dan and their Families.

Thanks

Eleanor Hancock and her family send a huge thank you to everyone who helped make Eleanor's 100th birthday so special. We were all touched that so many reached out through cards, flowers, balloons, and visits (distanced). Eleanor's birthday even inspired a quartet. Thank you so much to Ross Langman, Don Greidanus, David and John Spring for your thoughtful rendition of "Happy Birthday" sung to Eleanor from the front lawn. It was a perfect moment and a perfect day

The family of June Hutton extend their most heartfelt 'thank you' to the Elmvale community. At such a difficult time, we greatly appreciate the cards, phone calls, food, donations, and kind messages. It truly touches us to hear of the love that surrounded mom; this love is a testament to who she was. Although no day will be the same without her, the wonderful memories - old and new - will forever be with us all.
 Sincerely, Judith & Rob, Ian & Louise, and family

PARNELL-- THANK YOU!!

Our family would like to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to everyone who has helped us along the way over these past few months since Josh's accident. During this time we have been so blessed by the kind spirit and generosity of this wonderful community.

Our enormous thanks to everyone that day at the scene of the accident, the First Responders, the ER staff at Georgian Bay General and Sunnybrook Hospitals, Critical Care Flight Paramedic Wayde, blood donors, the many surgeons and trauma teams who worked on Josh, the therapy teams and nurses at Sunnybrook Hospital and at Holland Bloorview Rehab Hospital, the Elmvale Lions Club, EMHA, the Elmvale Flos Firefighters Association, St. Theresa's School Community, Huronia Centennial Elementary School, the North Simcoe Junior Farmers, the local businesses and organizations who donated to the 50/50 draw, the many people who bought tickets for the draw and to Garnet Gratrix who so kindly donated his prize winnings back to Josh and to countless others who supported us during this journey. We would also like to thank all of our family, friends, neighbours, community members and complete strangers who so generously donated to our family during this time.

We don't know how we can ever repay everyone for all of their prayers, calls, texts, check-ins, meals, money for food, gas, parking etc., drop-ins, barn/chore help, love and support, offers of help, flowers and the meal chain organized by Julie Ritchie that provided us with a donated meal every other day when we returned home from the hospital.

Everything has been appreciated beyond measure. As much as this experience has affected us all it has also demonstrated to our family the amazing support system near and far that we are so blessed to be a part of and for that we will be FOREVER GRATEFUL! Josh is home now and is doing well as he continues to improve. We have been overwhelmed with all of the contributions towards his recovery and we are looking forward to brighter days up ahead during these challenging times. It truly does take a village....

Joshua, John, Sarah, Noah, Hannah and Samantha Parnell

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Virtual Hike for Hospice 2021

April 26, 2021 – Walk a little ... Jog a lot, bike, dance or skip rope for this year's Virtual Hike for Hospice.

Beginning Sunday, May 2, and throughout the month of May, join hundreds of others in our community to remember loved ones and help raise funds for Hospice Simcoe.

Despite the challenges of Covid-19, our 2020 virtual event raised over \$80,000. "We are so grateful to this community and our 'hikers' who continue to support us through this meaningful event. We could not provide the programs and services we do without your generosity." Kelly Hubbard, Executive Director, Hospice Simcoe



Hospice Simcoe facility dog Daisy plants Hummingbird seeds in honour of the residents at Hospice Simcoe.

The Hike for Hospice has become an annual tradition for many families and friends to honour the memories of their loved ones. We invite you to create a team, gather pledges, and walk to raise funds to support Hospice Simcoe's services in your community.

This year, to honour your loved one, you can plant a hummingbird seed pack which will bloom into beautiful wildflowers. Plant this to kick off your own Hike day or take it to a special place that is meaningful to you. Seed packs and pledge forms are available in the vestibule at the Hospice Simcoe Residence (336 Penetanguishene Road, Barrie).

"Supporting Hospice Simcoe has always been important to us as a business and as a family. In 2015, my mom, who was also my business partner and Tara's mother-in-law, entered hospice care at Hospice Simcoe. Our experience was the absolute best of a bad situation. The staff provided my mom and family with the utmost care and comfort. We all felt like family from the moment we stepped in, and although we weren't there for long, we could see what a tremendous impact this place makes every single day. Hospice Simcoe lifts the burden of care taking and allows patients to die with dignity and peace. Their staff also greatly assist family members and friends to relax and focus on what is important; spending time with a loved one in their final days. It is truly tough to describe what a special place this is, but we feel forever grateful to their staff for what they have done for us and our family. This is why we will continue to Hike for Hospice and encourage our friends and family to donate whenever they can to support this incredible and valuable resource in our community!" Kenzie

Thanks to our generous sponsors, all expenses for this event have been covered. Therefore, 100% of the funds raised by participants will go directly to Hospice Simcoe's programs and services.

Hospice Simcoe continues to provide all our programs and services at no cost. Our operating expenses have not decreased. If you are able to give, we need your support.

Our thanks to our 2021 Hike Sponsors: Purehealth Pharmacy, Kiwanis Club of Barrie, Barrie Press, Abram's Service Centre, Allandale Veterinary Hospital, Auto Trim Design, Dalston General Store, Deluxe Taxi, Jeff White Group, Jeff's Junk, MediGas, Parker Coulter Realty Brokerage, Plumbtech, Mason Miller, Mortgage Sense, The Chilton Team, The Peggy Hill Team, snapd Barrie, Rock95 and KOOLFM.

For further information on the Hike, go to: <https://hospicesimcoe.ca/fundraising-events/hike-for-hospice/> or contact Josie Mc Donnell at 705-722-5995 or josie@hospicesimcoe.ca

Scientists sound the alarm: contaminants found in "cleanest" groundwater

By Kate Harries AWARE News Network

Two of Canada's leading hydrogeologists appeared before Tiny Township Council last week to sound the alarm about the threat to the uniquely pristine groundwaters of North Simcoe - waters so clean and rare that to lose them would be a crime against future generations, council was told.

The scientists, members of a team preparing to study the phenomenon, are now in a race against time as contamination has been found in the water thought to be recharged in the Waverley Uplands area, the location of intensifying aggregate extraction.

"The current operation on French's Hill should be viewed as inexcusable," John Cherry, Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Waterloo and an internationally recognized groundwater expert, said, appearing virtually at the April 20, 2021.

Cherry explained that a general guideline in environmental science is that quarry operations should be avoided in recharge areas. But if the area is on a significant aquifer, quarry operations should not be allowed - that's a rule.

"But there is an even more important category of recharge area - this is for recharge areas for aquifers that contain pristine groundwater, because clean groundwater is so rare that it should be preserved above all for the use of current and future generations," Cherry said. "To expand such operations would be a crime against future generations, against our grandchildren and beyond. There are no shades of grey on this. This is a matter of right versus wrong."

Joining Cherry was Ian Clark, professor of environmental sciences at the University of Ottawa, who has been studying the "remarkable" waters of the Waverley area for several years.

He noted that there are two categories of groundwater in the area - the distal or ancient (2,000-4,000 years old) water that is under artesian pressure, and the proximal or younger water (10 to 20 years old).

"The proximal and young groundwaters show signs of contamination by recent activity in the recharge area," Clark said. "My interest and concern here is that we do not have a good understanding of how these groundwaters are recharged and what effect increased activity in the recharge area will have on the quality," he added.

"Nonetheless these activities will have both an immediate effect on the young groundwater and an effect on the pristine groundwaters for thousands of years to come."

The exceptional cleanliness of the groundwater has been studied for 30 years by William Shotyk, Bocoek Chair for Agriculture and the Environment at the University of Alberta, who owns a farm in the area.

It sparked a groundswell of opposition to a landfill site atop the aquifer. Construction of Dump Site 41 was halted at the 11th hour by Simcoe County Council in 2009. Now, there's almost always a lineup of cars at the artesian

well north of Elmvale, with many driving considerable distances to get the "world's cleanest water," or at least the cleanest water known to science.

Tiny Township Council, which heard from Shotyk and his University of Alberta colleague Michael Powell earlier this month, has agreed to be a partner in the teams' application to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

And, along with the Federation of Tiny Township Shoreline Associations, Tiny Township is appealing CRH Canada Group Inc.'s recent renewal of a permit to take water from Teedon Pit for aggregate washing.

After hearing from the scientists, councillors heard from consultant hydrogeologist Dave Hopkins of R.J. Burnside and Associates regarding an application by the Sarjeant Company Ltd. for a renewal of its permit to take water. Hopkins identified deficiencies in the information provided by the company.

The history of the water shows there has been little political interest in understanding this unique resource - let alone taking a leadership role in advocating for its protection.

A stakeholders meeting held in Elmvale in June, 2019, when the groundwork for the NSERC application was being laid out, attracted just two elected politicians - Springwater Deputy Mayor Jennifer Coughlin and Wasaga Beach Councillor George Watson.

Shotyk made a presentation to Simcoe County Council in June, 2010, but has been rebuffed in any attempt to update county councillors on the research since then. Repeated appeals for a moratorium on activity at the recharge area to allow the study to proceed on undisturbed waters have fallen on deaf years.

Conservative MPP Jill Dunlop, who went on a water walk in 2017 and talked of protecting the water before being elected in 2018, has since lost interest in the topic.

As for the Ontario Ministry of the Environment Conservation and Parks, which is responsible for water issues, its officials insist that ongoing aggregate activities by CRH Canada, through its division Dufferin Aggregates, and Sarjeant, have no impact on local water systems.

But Shotyk told council that, as he has collected samples from local wells as part of his ongoing research, at least two landowners in the vicinity of French's Hill have told him their artesian flow is no longer flowing, and others have had sediment appear in their water. He has also seen changes in elements in one well that's important in his study, but said he does not have enough data at this stage to determine its significance.

Asked by Councillor Tony Mintoff whether the area qualifies as environmentally sensitive, both Clark and Cherry said that it does. Why then, asked Mintoff, does the environment ministry not consider it to be so and deserving of protection?

The reason, Cherry said, is the way the ministry operates, based on Toronto-centric and big-city views that do not prioritize protection of the countryside groundwater environment.

"The unfortunate professional engineers and hydrogeologists in the ministry don't author these decisions themselves, the decisions that come out of the ministry purporting to be based on groundwater knowledge aren't signed off by professionals," he said.

"So it's a failure of the Ontario system. Not all parts of the world operate like this" And, he advised, "you need to protect yourself and the environment from the ministry of the environment."

Once the drama of the Site 41 battle - led by Anishinaabe women and local farmers, and attracting support from across Ontario - was over, national news media interest in the exceptional water faded.

But on Sunday, Shotyk was interviewed on CBC Radio's Fresh Air program, and was able to explain to a provincial audience the mystery the scientists hope to resolve - how young water, rainwater from within the last few decades, is filtered through the recharge area to an exceptional level of cleanliness.

"The water is a national treasure," Shotyk said. "To have water of this purity 90 minutes north of Canada's largest city is really amazing - and the experts really do not understand this artesian flow system and we want to have a chance to understand this system before we damage the system."

To view the council meeting go to Tiny Township's YouTube channel, the April 20 2021 special meeting of council.

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