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# Springwater NEWS



Edition 618 - February 3, 2022 Serving Springwater & Tiny Townships and surrounding areas

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## Want to Save Lives?

Lealand Rowat and David Strath want to save lives! These retired local gentlemen have fun designing and creating. They have the time, intelligence, and the means to accomplish whatever they set their minds to. The design ideas are sketched out on the floor using soap stone. David says, "If the design doesn't look good then I wipe it away with my foot". The idea of a temporary winterized shelter did not get wiped away. It went from a soap stone drawing on the floor to a final prototype. A wise gentleman once said that you think better on your feet.

David and Lealand found out about a North Bay engineer that has developed a temporary winterized shelter for homeless. "We can do this", said David Strath and Lealand Rowatt. They have the skill and desire to keep the homeless warm in the winter and they could save some's life. To learn more, search the internet for "Igloo North Bay Homes"

They built the first prototype last fall 2021 but it was not structurally sound enough for our weather. They went back to the drawing board, or rather the "floor and soap stone". They built a second one that Roland's children use for fun. David Strath's granddaughter and friend slept in it one night. The third attempt was successful as shown in the pictures.

Their prototype is made from a 4'x'8 1/4" plywood base, GPS R5 insulation board made of a graphite enhanced polystyrene and the outside is made of an ice shield that is a self-adhering rubberized asphalt roofing underlayment that protects against ice packed roofs and wind driven rain. There is ventilation at both ends and has a removable door.

The materials and design make this a very good temporary shelter. It is warm enough for our harsh winter temperatures. "The idea of converting human



body heat into a form of usable energy has been targeted by scientists for years. A resting human male gives off roughly 100-120 Watts of energy" source: Matthew Stevens "Human Body Heat as a Source of Thermoelectric Energy" <http://large.stanford.edu/> Nov. 27, 2016. The shelter has good ventilation, filters light and noise, fits one person comfortably.

The concept is reasonable. This will not be the case. The 2020 Simcoe County Homeless Enumeration counted 563 individuals experiencing homelessness in Simcoe County. The Springwater News is behind them. Springwater News has made some contacts for these witty, fun but very capable gentlemen. The hurdles are big but if the will and determination is strong then great things can happen. There will be research done into possible partnerships like Shelter Now and Guesthouse in Midland that serves our community and money will need to be raised for materials. These local 'engineers' are willing to make them for free and will take on any volunteers to help. There are lots of questions like possible locations, permissions, the fight of "Not in my back yard" and many others challenges that will come into play as this journey continues.

The 2020 Simcoe County Homeless Enumeration counted 563 individuals experiencing homelessness in Simcoe County. Please contact Springwater News if you can help this cause. Contact information on page two. **We need the help of the community to put these into use and saves some lives.**

**Photo: on left;** insulated 4" x 8" shelter with ice shield on roof. Door is easy to remove and close up tight.

**Photo: on right;** Inside shelter. It is very comfortable and warm and high enough to sit and long enough to lay down.



Photo: David Strath, on left, and Lealand Rowland, on right, shown standing in front of their prototype shelter. Cost was \$400 but could be brought down to \$200 if for buying in bulk and asking for discounts.



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**Springwater News**

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Copyrights are claimed on all original articles.  
**Springwater News prints 20,000 papers per edition.**  
**18,650 are delivered by Canada Post to:**  
**760** in the Utopia/Grenfel area L0L 1B0 and L0L 1B2  
**3050** in the Barrie City/Rural area  
**4250** in South Springwater Township  
**130** to the new boxes in Minesing / Anten Mills  
**640** in Phelpston L0L 2K0  
**650** in Hillsdale including the Rural Routes L0L 1V0  
**2550** in Elmvale including the former R.R.# 1, 2 & 3 L0L 1P0 which includes Orr Lake, Waverley and some Tiny Beaches Road areas  
**265** in the Wyebridge area L0K 2E0  
**975** in Wyevale L0L 2T0 including Conc. 8 and some TBRS areas,  
**1325** in Perkinsfield including Balm Beach to Whippoorwill  
**1100** in R.R.# 1, L4R 4K3 (775) & 2, L4R 4K4 (300) areas of Midland which includes Vasey, Ebenezzer and the area North-West of Wyebridge  
**2900** in Northern Tiny including SS 3, 5, 6, 7 & 8 of Rural Penetanguishene (Postal Codes L9M -1R2, -1R3 & -2H7)

110 through mail outs and subscriptions in Canada  
**Subscriptions are available across Canada for \$60/year and \$100/year in U.S.A.**

CORRECTION NOTICE

Joe's Repair had wrong phone number published. The correct phone number is 905-751-6000

**Small Engine Repair**  
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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Lovebirds Valentine's Day Update

The Lovebirds Giveaway has had a tremendous response. There are around 150 entries in the Valentine's draw. The draw will take place on Valentine's day. This is the deadline to enter. The first correct guesses have won some of the nesting boxes but most of them are left for a draw. The correct guesses will go into one draw and the guesses will go into a separate draw.

The front page was tricky as the three baby chickadees were too blurry and too tiny. I have kept vision challenges in mind for this edition.

Thank you everyone for the wonderful comments on the new format of the Springwater News. I love getting any feedback from readers. I have some great suggestions and even some people willing to help me out.

My next mission to have community engagement. There is a new KIDDEE'S KORNER. Parents, I hope you will encourage your children to do some or all of the activities and send pictures in with your child and his/her work. I will publish some and as many as possible will go into the on-line version of the paper. This edition is Pen to Paper and I am hoping children can get off their computers and explore the gifts they may not know they had. I have a couple of teachers helping me with this.

I NEED YOUR HELP!

Please send me your ideas for future issues and let's make this newspaper truly yours.

Lovebirds Valentine's Day Giveaway for 42 Black-capped Chickadee Nesting Boxes



Count the number of Black-capped chickadees in this Edition

LOVE NATURE

Springwater News received a lot of positive feedback regarding the Owls article in "Love Nature". Many readers want to see more about birds in future issues. In the last edition, Hidden Gems featured Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre. In response to reader's feedback, I reached out to the Wye Marsh Wild Centre to ask for their help in fulfilling the readers requests. The staff are combining their efforts and will be sending in regular articles about nature. I am reaching out to Tiny Marsh volunteers next. I would like to see more in the paper regarding this significant wetland right in our back yard. If you are a nature enthusiast please help me out with this endeavour. Please contact me with your suggestions. World Wetland Day is featured in this edition. I hope you enjoy this edition of the Springwater News.



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- concerned about freshwater wastage?
- depressed regarding saltwater microplastics?
- stewing over disappearing hedgerows?
- fearful of woodlot mismanagement?
- bothered by the Cormorant population explosion?

**We can help you ...**

- offset your large environmental footprint for a greener and more diverse future
- educate your children and grandchildren about the life cycles of our native birds
- improve the wildlife habitat for birds around your house, cottage, and farm
- empower yourself, your family, and your friends with positive outdoor changes
- think globally and act locally (the best approach for making a difference)

**Come on birdwatchers - put your hands together and give it up**

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## Hey Minesing!

We hope you are looking forward to our upcoming 50th Minesing Mini Fest as much as we are. Many of our current residents may not know how Mini Fest began so here is a little bit of history about our annual



winter fest.

Back in 1971-72 the Grade 8 teacher at Minesing Central School, Mr. Wendall White, put forward an idea to the Recreation Committee of the day who agreed that they also wanted to do something fun in the community during the winter. Harry Adams jumped on board and collectively they came up with the naming of the festivities based on Kitchener's



Octoberfest. They came up with the Minesing Mini-Fest and it has stuck. Planning began and the Recreation Committee of the day was made up of an eager group of volunteers. Harry Adams, Wendall White, Art and Yvonne Maw, Larry and Helen Durnford, Elaine Marshall and John and Margaret Chalmers were some of the volunteers and I am sure there were many more who lent a hand throughout the weekend. They had so many great ideas that it turned into four days of winter activities and fun! They could not have crammed more activities into those four days than they did in those early Mini-Fest years.

Harry Adams became involved and was referred to as "Mr. Mini-Fest". Each year Harry was the MC for the talent night and had the outfit to make him stand out to all. He played the part well and all enjoyed the festivities.

As part of growing up I was involved in Mini-Fest because as a little girl I used to participate in the talent night with my acrobat routine...hard to believe I know, but I did. In school we used to have poster making contests that we would have time to work on in class and it was a big deal to all of us. Winners

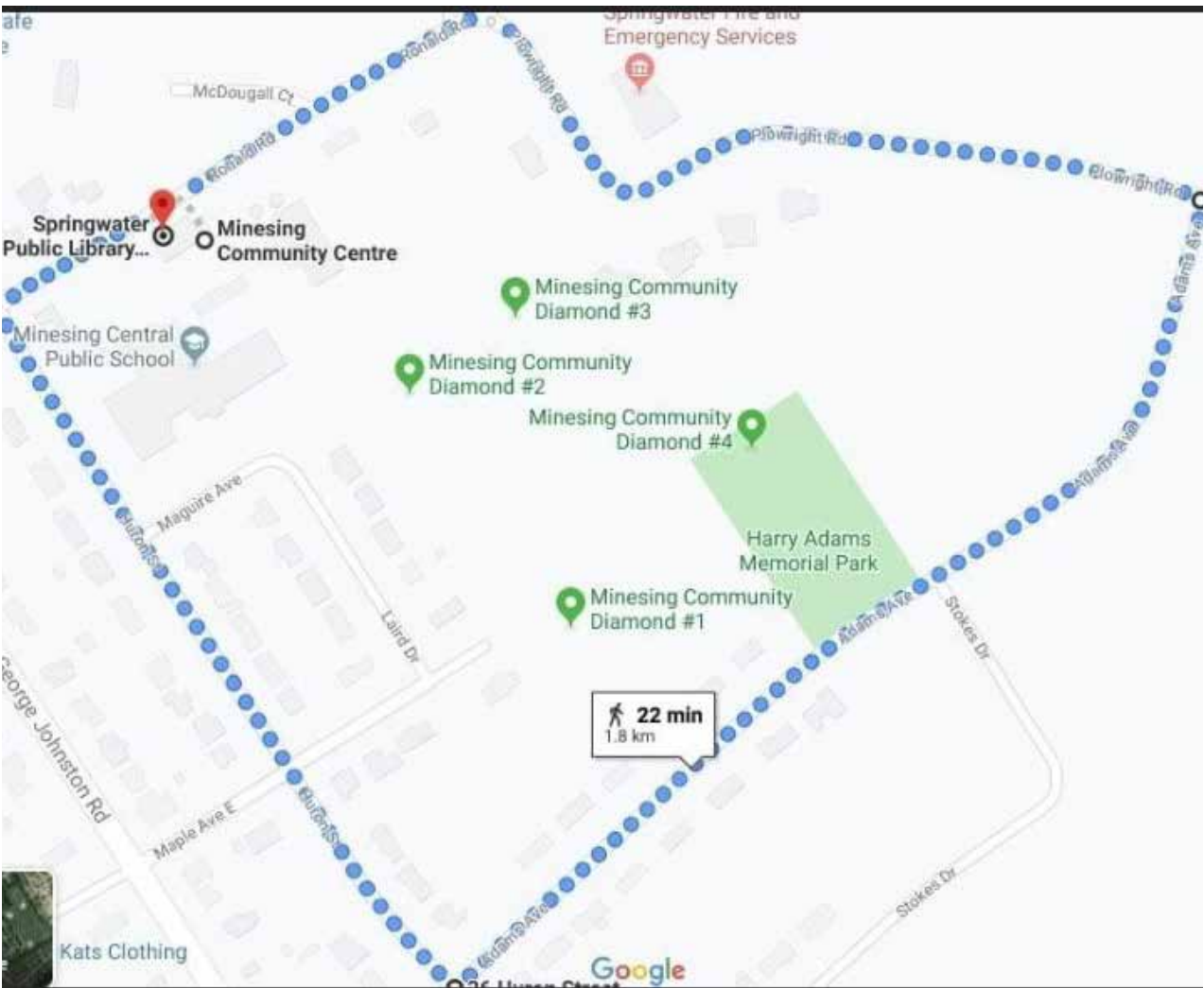
would be announced on Thursday night at the Talent show and I have recently seen on Facebook that some people still have their trophies from their successful win! Everyone would sit anxiously awaiting our name to be announced as the winner because we all took it very seriously and worked very hard on our posters. Talent night included crazy skits by local residents who got together to have fun and perform for everyone. Adults



and children who had a variety of talents would sign up to perform and I believe it is where our own Jason McCoy made his debut as a country singer! There were events on Friday night that usually involved euchre, bowling, ice skating and of course a beer garden. Saturday involved events such as log sawing, poker runs on snowmobiles, nail drive contest, fire making contests, skating, snow sculptures and outside games that everyone could participate in. The evening would host a dance with music from either local bands or a disc jockey and a great time was had by all. Sunday always ended with a lot of heavy heads but were cured with pancakes and sausages and these are still enjoyed in present years. It was an exciting time for everyone in the area.

Having lived in the area for all of my 50 years, I am so happy and grateful to those who have donated their time and energy to keep Mini-Fest a small-town tradition alive. The residents that have grown up in the community and have joined our community continue to partake in the festivities and look forward to many more years of making winter something to look forward to. The memories that are created during these events are life long and we hope that you will make it a tradition with your family too.

Thank you to Wanda Maw-Chapman who has dug out some historical photographs, and I know many others have posted their pictures on our Minesing Facebook page. Go and take a peek, there are some great ones that I am sure will bring up some good memories. Also included is the map for this year's parade.



Here are some of this year's details:

**Saturday February 12th we have the following events:**

- Drive-thru Pancake Breakfast from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. The pickup area will be at the Community Centre at the back of the building by the deck area. Please note that pre-ordering is required and you can access the order form on the Minesing Facebook page under a post from Wanda Maw-Chapman dated January 25th.
- Citizen & Youth of the Year presentation - 12:30 pm - outside the hall
- Parade - 1:00 pm - if you would like to enter, please contact Mike at (705) 309-5309
- Colouring & Bookmark Contest is also on the Facebook page, Katie Vander Wielen has posted the photo. Please email your submission to Katie at [katie.vanderwielen@gmail.com](mailto:katie.vanderwielen@gmail.com)
- Mini Fest buttons have arrived - purchase yours at Four Cedars for \$5 each.

We appreciate the efforts that the Recreation Committee are making to try and keep Mini Fest alive during these ongoing difficult times. Please remember that social distancing is still in place and we ask that masks are worn to protect us all.

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The recent snowfall has created a level of excitement for everyone who loves the outdoors. Those who enjoy skiing, snowshoeing, snowmobiling, tobogganing, and skating are in their glory. The nice cold weather has hopefully created a good base on the waterways in our area but please, please, please be very cautious when going on any lakes or rivers and be sure to follow marked trails. Our farmers and landowners are very generous to allow trails to go through their property and can take the ability to do away if people do not keep on the trails.

**Until next time...drive safe, clear your car off before driving and keep smiling!**

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## Connect With Us

Springwater municipal facilities including the Township Administration Centre, the Elmvale Community Arena and Fire Halls have reopened to the public.

Booking an appointment ahead of time is strongly encouraged as an additional measure to help protect the health and safety of our residents and staff. Staff can also provide assistance by phone or email. Please view our staff directory at [springwater.ca/Contact](https://springwater.ca/Contact)

The Elmvale, Midhurst and Minesing branches of the Springwater Public Library will remain open for curbside service only.

For more information on what's open and closed, visit: [springwater.ca/COVID19](https://springwater.ca/COVID19)



## Summer Jobs for Students

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

- Roads
- Recreation, Parks & Facilities
- Building Services
- By-law Enforcement
- People and Talent
- Day Camp

Applications will be accepted until Monday, February 7, 2022. For details, visit: [springwater.ca/Careers](https://springwater.ca/Careers)

## Book Your COVID-19 Booster Dose Appointment

Booster dose appointments can be booked via [ontario.ca/BookVaccine](https://ontario.ca/BookVaccine), by calling the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900, or through Indigenous-led vaccination clinics, select pharmacies and primary care settings. For local schedules and information, visit: [smdhu.org/covid19](https://smdhu.org/covid19)

## Interim Tax Billing

The 2022 Interim Tax bills have been mailed. Installment due dates are February 23, 2022 and April 20, 2022.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not relieve the taxpayer from payment of taxes or from liability of penalty charges for late payment. If your mortgage company pays your property taxes, you will not receive a tax bill.

## Upcoming Meetings

**Heritage Advisory Committee**  
Tuesday, February 15 at 6:30 p.m.

**Council Meeting**  
Wednesday, February 16 at 6:30 p.m.

**Recreation Advisory Committee**  
Tuesday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Council meetings are live streamed online at [springwater.ca/Live](https://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.



## Outdoor Rinks

Outdoor community ice rinks are open daily until 10:00 p.m. for recreational use. Help keep these volunteer-run spaces fun and safe for everyone by:

1. Following all public health recommendations and maintaining a distance of 6 feet from other users;
2. Not playing shinny/hockey during the posted public skating times; and
3. Respecting the maintenance and closure schedules of our volunteers.

Details at [springwater.ca/OutdoorRinks](https://springwater.ca/OutdoorRinks)

## Career Opportunities

The Township is currently recruiting for the following positions:

**Building Official**  
(2022-05)

Closes: February 4, 2022

**Junior Plans Examiner / Intern Inspector**  
(2022-06)

Closes: February 11, 2022

**Student – Co-op, Infrastructure & Operational Services**  
(2022-17)

Closes: February 11, 2022

For details, consult the job descriptions at [springwater.ca/Careers](https://springwater.ca/Careers)

## Water & Wastewater Billing

Residential water meters have been read by the Township's third-party contractor, Wamco Waterworks. Bills are being mailed with a due date at the end of February.

## Bid Opportunity

The Township is currently accepting bids for:

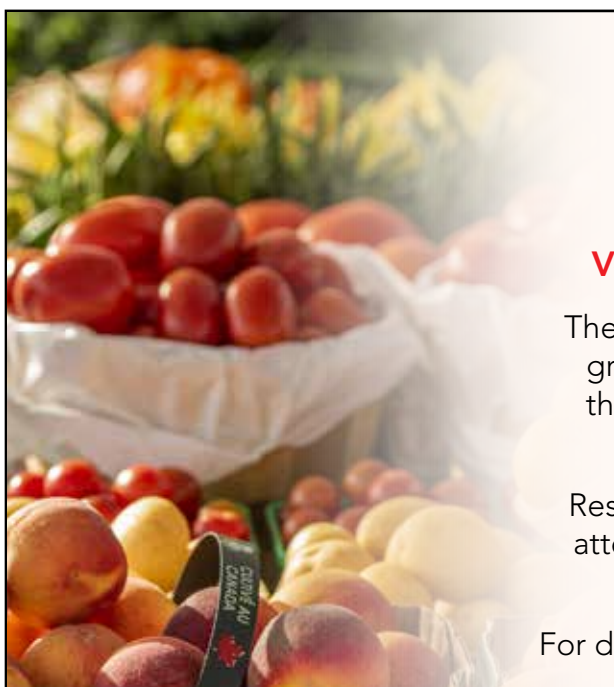
**Internet and Telephone Voting System**  
(2022-04-CLK)

Closes: February 23, 2022

**HRIS-Human Resource Information System** (2022-03-ADM)

Closes: February 28, 2022

For details and to submit a bid, visit: [springwater.bidsandtenders.ca](https://springwater.bidsandtenders.ca)



## Volunteer Market Manager Needed!

The municipality is seeking a local community group or individual interested in operating the Springwater Farmers' Market - Elmvale in partnership with the Township.

Responsibilities include vendor coordination, attendance at the weekly market, set up and take down, and administrative duties.

For details, visit: [springwater.ca/FarmersMarket](https://springwater.ca/FarmersMarket)



## Township of Springwater Municipal & School Board Election

### Notice of Nomination for Office

Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (s.32)  
Form EL17(A)

**Notice** is hereby given to the Municipal Electors of the **Township of Springwater**

Nominations in the Township of Springwater for the following Offices will be accepted as described below:

- **Mayor** One (1) to be elected at large (Also appointed to County Council)
- **Deputy Mayor** One (1) to be elected at large (Also appointed to County Council)
- **Ward Councillor** One (1) to be elected in each of the five (5) Wards
- **Simcoe County District School Board Trustee\***  
(English Language Public School District #17) One (1) to be elected by ward
- **Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board Trustee\***  
(English Language Separate School District #44) One (1) to be elected by ward
- **Conseil scolaire Viamonde Trustee\***  
(French Language Public School District #58) One (1) to be elected by ward
- **Conseil scolaire de district catholique Centre-Sud Trustee\***  
(French Language Separate School District #64) One (1) to be elected by ward

\*Nominations for school board trustee are to be filed with the designated Clerk

Nominations may be made by completing and filing in the Office of the Clerk, on the prescribed form and accompanied by the prescribed nomination filing fee of \$200.00 for the Head of Council and \$100 for all other Offices. The filing fee is payable by cash, certified cheque, money order or interact debit. Credit cards and personal cheques will not be accepted. Candidate information packages including all required forms will be made available at the Township Administration Centre or electronically on the Township website no later than Friday, April 22, 2022 at [www.springwater.ca/Election](http://www.springwater.ca/Election)

A nomination must be signed by the candidate and may be filed in-person or by an agent during regular business hours, by appointment only (Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) between May 2, 2022 and August 18, 2022, and also between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Friday, August 19, 2022 (Nomination Day).

In the event there are an insufficient number of certified candidates to fill all positions available, nominations will be reopened for the vacant positions only on Wednesday, August 24, 2022, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and such additional nominations if required, may be filed in the Office of the Clerk.

Electors are hereby given notice that if a greater number of candidates are certified than are required to fill the said offices, voting will be opened on the dates stated below for the purpose of voting.

**Telephone and Internet Voting** – Friday October 14, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. to Monday, October 24, 2022 at 8:00 p.m.

**In-Person Electronic Voting - Voter Help Centers** – Times and Dates TBD

Renée Ainsworth, Clerk  
Dated: January 26, 2022

### Fire Safety Tip

Space heaters give a room a toasty glow but remember:

**Always give your heater a metre!**

Keep a distance of one metre to any combustible object.



### Show Your Love for Local

- Buy local and visit online shops
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## Mayor Don's Update



### Springwater Municipal Facilities Reopen

On January 31, the Province began its three-step plan to gradually ease public health measures implemented to blunt the spread of the Omicron variant. Each step of reopening will be separated by 21 days to allow public health trends to be effectively monitored. A full list of restrictions for each step can be found online at [covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures](https://covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures).

As a result of the revised Provincial framework, the following Springwater municipal services, facilities and amenities are affected:

- The Township Administration Centre and Minesing Fire Station 3 are open to the public, Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Appointments are strongly encouraged as an additional measure to help protect the health and safety of residents and staff.
- The Elmvale Community Arena is open with limited capacities, enhanced Proof of Vaccination using QR codes, and other requirements in place. Learn more at [springwater.ca/Arena](https://springwater.ca/Arena).
- Outdoor rinks are open with physical distancing measures in effect.
- The Elmvale, Midhurst and Minesing branches of the Springwater Public Library will remain open for curbside service only. Visit [springwater.library.on.ca](https://springwater.library.on.ca) for details.
- Community halls remain unavailable for venue rental at this time.

For additional information on how the Township is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, visit [springwater.ca/COVID19](https://springwater.ca/COVID19).

### County Cart Exchanges

Cart exchanges are now open with the County of Simcoe. Residents and businesses can submit a request to exchange their garbage or recycling cart for a smaller size, free of charge, until July 30, 2022. Cart sizes available for selection include:

- Recycling – 360 L (present default size), 240 L, 120 L
- Garbage – 240 L (present default size), 120 L
- Organics – 120 L only (present default size)

To submit a request, visit [carts.simcoe.ca](https://carts.simcoe.ca) and go to the 'Cart Exchange' section. This page provides all the relevant information about swapping carts as well as a link to an online portal where you can make your request. For those without internet access, requests can be made through the County's Contact Centre at 1-800-263-3199. Exchange deliveries will commence in early March and may take several weeks to complete. Any initial exchanges are at no cost.

Please consider your waste capacity needs carefully before making a request. Any subsequent requests or requests made after July 30 will cost \$50 per cart unless you are a new homeowner. If smaller carts are selected and the location has consistent overflow of materials or overstuffed carts, the location will be required to revert to a larger size cart and the \$50 per cart administration fee will be applied. Overflow garbage must have a \$3 tag affixed.

I congratulate the County staff for the initial roll out of the new carts. I find them a positive change. For my family, they are easier to get to and from the curb compared to the multiple previous containers. They stand up better and prevent items from being blown

around. They don't require plastic bags in them (except the compostable green bins) if you properly rinse food containers before putting them into recycle or garbage, as appropriate. I have experienced no interruptions in service. Well done.

Springwater non-union/management compensation

Council in 2021 agreed to hire a consultant to do a comprehensive compensation and pay equity review and make recommendations. Springwater has not done a full review of this since 2002 and 2007. It did some external pay market comparisons in 2011, 2013 and 2017.

The expert consultant hired assessed the competitive pay market and current pay policy, reviewed all job descriptions, addressed pay equity compliance and the job evaluation system, and developed proposed job rates. The consultant used 11 municipal comparators of comparable size, employment markets, scope of services and geographic proximity to develop this.

Springwater has historically targeted paying in the 50th percentile, to ensure competitiveness with like municipalities and the local labour market. The consultant found that Springwater's current compensation ranged from 1.3% to 27% below market value at certain levels. This has contributed to recent staff turnover of approximately 15% and thousands of dollars spent in recruiting costs. The consultant proposed a new compensation framework and grid to address internal equity for all positions based on the new job evaluation system, pay equity compliance and pay policy, with job rates that reflect the 50th percentile target of the defined pay market. This will help rectify the identified major weaknesses in our present system.

As part of the 2022 budget approval in December 2021, Council approved the cost of implementing the 2022 portion of this new compensation grid. In January, some councillors wanted to revisit the non-union management compensation grid to explore coming up with another system. Council this week met for two and a half hours to discuss this and voted to adopt the proposed grid for the 2022 calendar year and directed staff to research and report back to Council regarding alternative compensation incentive systems. I voted against this amendment because I believe the consultant did a thorough job of what they were asked to do – to develop a compensation grid that works to bring our salaries back to market rates and ensures that pay equity exists. I don't feel we need a further incentive system in place. We have exceptional staff and the approved updated grid will go a long way to remunerate them fairly for the hard work they perform.

### ERRC – Ontario Land Tribunal Decision

The Ontario Land Tribunal (Tribunal) rendered a decision on January 25, 2022 regarding the County Environmental Resource Recovery Centre (ERRC) planned for 2976 Horseshoe Valley Road West in Springwater.

The ERRC is planned to include an Organics Processing Facility (OPF), a Materials Management Facility (MMF), areas for truck servicing and public education, and a space to potentially sort blue box recycling in the future. The project is estimated to cost \$15 million for the MMF and an additional \$16 million to \$30 million for the OPF.

The Tribunal did not accept the arguments of the appellants and has approved County Official Plan Amendment (OPA 2) and has approved the local Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law in part, subject to the submission of final updated documents.

The updated documents prescribed by the Tribunal are intended to establish setbacks to property lines to solidify the location of the footprint for the facility.

The effect of revisions require the County to apply for a local Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendment if expansion beyond the initial 4.5 ha parcel of forest area needed for the facility is contemplated in the future. This will represent 5% of the Freele Tract property. The County will be required to apply for site plan approval prior to the commencement of any site development/construction. The Site Plan Application and supporting information will include the required plans listed within OPA 2 (provided below) and the Springwater Official Plan (stormwater management plan, site plan, functional servicing) and will be subject to Council's consideration.

- Evaluation of Stone Foundations
- Fire Prevention/Emergency Response Plan
- Compensation Planting Plan
- Environmental Management Plan
- Wildlife Management Plan

I have been supportive of the need for this project but I have never been in agreement with the site selected. Given this current decision and the support for this, it is important for residents and Council to continue to be aware and involved with respect to the plans referred to above and provide input as this process moves forward to ensure the best of this situation.

Please Support our Local Springwater Businesses!

Small and local businesses are part of the heart and soul of our community. The people who work in and own them are our friends and neighbours, and they are a critical part of what makes our neighborhoods special. As residents, we all have a role to play in ensuring their resiliency. Business owners and their employees have been some of the hardest hit, with many facing devastating financial consequences due to the Provincial closures and restrictions. Now more than ever, it is important for us to support local and buy local whenever we can. As you know, since January 31st, restaurants and bars have been allowed to reopen at 50% capacity so please consider returning to them for a meal or ordering takeout and making purchases from local businesses - in person or online. Another form of support is to leave positive reviews online and spreading the word to friends and family members. Please remember that every dollar you spend locally, not only stays in our community, but also creates more jobs and generates more economic activity than when you shop at the big chain stores. A directory of our local Springwater businesses can be found online at [directory.springwater.ca](https://directory.springwater.ca).

### Simcoe County Skate Trail Open

The Skate Trail at the Simcoe County Museum is now open with a 100-person capacity limit and other restrictions in place. This one-kilometer tract takes you through beautiful forest pathways alongside the Museum's heritage buildings and historic equipment displays. Weather permitting, the opening hours are Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. Ticket sales are same day only, no earlier than 8:30 a.m. on weekends and 9:30 a.m. on weekdays. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [museum.simcoe.ca/Pages/Skate-Trail](https://museum.simcoe.ca/Pages/Skate-Trail).

### Black History Month

February is Black History Month in Canada. During Black History Month, everyone is invited to celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians and their communities who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada the culturally diverse, compassionate, and prosperous nation it is today. The theme for 2022 is February and Forever: Celebrating Black History today and every day. To learn more about Black History Month or to find educational resources, visit [canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month](https://canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month). Additionally, the Simcoe County Museum maintains information on the history of Black settlement in Simcoe County, which you can explore online at [simcoe.ca/Archives/Pages/Black-History-Resources](https://simcoe.ca/Archives/Pages/Black-History-Resources).

**These are my thoughts and not necessarily those of Council. Get out and get active and stay safe.**





Rosie's Devotions



Down in the Dumps

Sometimes, when situations arise over which I have no control, and I feel particularly overwhelmed, retreating to the comfort of my bed is wonderful. It is especially nice if I am having a good dream because in our dreams, we escape from pain and suffering and reality.

Depressed people do not want to get out of bed, because they do not want to face the problems that they have internalized for whatever reason, or they are enduring an illness either in themselves or in a loved one. We long for something to heal us from the deep hole into which we have sunk and from which we sometimes find it impossible to escape.

We need a sense of purpose. We need our inner being, our life, and our hearts filled with something, in order to replace the emptiness that has infected us and affected us negatively.

Jesus knows what we are going through. He has been there. Jesus suffered so much that His sweat

was mixed with blood dripping down His face as He anticipated being nailed to the cross.

Luke 22:43-44 – Then an angel from heaven appeared and strengthened him, for he was in such agony of spirit that he broke into a sweat of blood, with great drops falling to the ground as he prayed more and more earnestly. (TLB)

Romans 8:28 – And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. (NASB)

Is any of us feeling down in the dumps? Do we feel that life is too hard to bear? There is help. Jesus can fill this void in our lives.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, You baptized Your Son with a purpose: to share Your love for all of mankind and to reconcile sinners to You. Fill our emptiness with Your love. We thank You for equipping doctors and psychologists with wisdom and discernment in order to help the oppressed and mentally challenged. Grant them empathy and love as they minister Your healing and serve Your children today. Amen.

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10
11				12					13		
14				15					16		
17				18		19			20		
			21	22				23		24	25
26	27	28					29				
30						31					
32					33						
		34		35				36	37	38	39
40	41			42			43		44		
45				46					47		
48				49					50		

Across

- 1 Duffel, e.g.  
4 Third of a yard  
8 Part of a pointillist's painting  
11 Place into service  
12 Vault feature  
13 Saskatchewan harvest unit  
14 Humanities course, for short  
15 Risotto ingredient  
16 The limit, in a saying  
17 Column part  
19 "Wild" estimate  
21 Tend to the batter  
23 Potpie bits  
26 Tee-shirt material  
29 Ship's shipment  
30 Panoply  
31 Egg box  
32 A drummer keeps it  
33 Sports area  
34 Super buys  
36 A smattering of  
40 Had a bellyful  
42 Refuse visitors?  
44 Noon to noon  
45 "\_\_\_ any drop to drink"  
46 Denver, the \_\_\_ High City  
47 Long-distance dialing requirement  
48 "No doubt!"  
49 Dwell on anger  
50 Vermilion, e.g.area

Down

- 1 Eventual tulip  
2 Place of many  
3 Gains  
4 Considerably  
5 Root  
6 Become part of history  
7 Quaker's "you"  
8 Menu course  
9 Deciduous tree  
10 Go (for)  
18 Kind of tax  
20 Electrical flashes  
22 Small car, perhaps  
24 "A long time \_\_\_, in a galaxy ..."  
25 Boy child  
26 Uber, these days  
27 Valuable deposit  
28 Stock exchange denizens  
29 It can follow dining or sleeping  
31 It may be made of sand  
33 Hair braid  
35 Chair supports  
37 It may come out of a dumpster  
38 Bareback rider's "reins"  
39 Visually assessed  
40 Some amount of  
41 Small digit  
43 Clinch, with "up"

KIDDEE'S KORNER

Museum offers sweet programming for kids of all ages

Once again, the Simcoe County Museum will be offering sweet programming for kids of all ages in the lead-up to Valentine's Day. This virtual program will explore how local chocolate and candy makers create their candy and will allow participants to sample candy popular through the ages.

EVENT:Tasty Tours: Sweet Tooth

Date: Sunday, February 13, 2022

Time: 1:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Location:Virtual

Cost: \$20 per person

Details: Tasty Tours: Sweet Tooth is a Virtual program for kids of all ages.

Meet local chocolate and candy makers.

Discover how local candy is made. Sample a variety of candy popular throughout the ages. Some candy may be sweet, others may be sour or even hot!

This makes a great Valentine's Day gift for kids and the young-at-heart. It is sure to be a sweet time for all!

Registration

Tasty Tours: Sweet Tooth is suitable for children of all ages, and costs \$20 per child. Register online, pick up your supplies box the week before the event starts, and join us from 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. Registration is required and is available at museum.simcoe.ca. Space is limited so register early to avoid disappointment.

About the Simcoe County Museum

Take the Infinite Journey with the Simcoe County Museum, a cultural exploration of our historical past and exciting future. The Simcoe County Museum is owned and operated by the County of Simcoe and offers year round exhibits, events and educational programs for visitors of every age. Visit our website at museum.simcoe.ca for further details. As of February 1, 2022, the Museum is reopen to the public at a reduced capacity. Book your visit online at museum.simcoe.ca.

Fudge Frozen Pops

Ingredients:

- 1 package (3.4 ounces) cook-and-serve chocolate pudding mix  
3 cups whole milk  
1/4 cup sugar

Directions

In a large saucepan over medium heat, combine pudding, milk and sugar; bring to a boil. Cook, stirring, for 2 minutes. Cool 30 minutes, stirring often. Fold in cream. Pour into pop molds or 3-oz. paper cups; attach lids to molds, or if using cups, top with foil and insert pop sticks through foil. Freeze until firm, 3-4 hours.



PEN TO PAPER

Youth of the Community

Do not type it on a computer. Leave the computer away for this one. Please hand print or write your story. Ask an adult to take a picture and email it in or drop it off at the Springwater News location.

Please submit a picture, story or picture of you and your special interest to Springwater News. Use the suggested theme or do your own one.

e-mail: info@springwaternews.ca

Theme: Nature

1. Draw a picture of a chickadee or anything in nature.
2. Write a short story about anything in nature. It could be about a camping experience, skating trail you went on, skiing adventure or just hiking. Write a story about your pet.
3. Send a picture of you in nature or with your pet in nature.

Winners entries will be published in the next edition.

KIDS MAKE IT

Now let's celebrate the New Year. Then we'll come to the end of January which means.... Super Bowl!

**Party Hats**

step one: Draw a triangle with the bottom line slightly curved down. If it's easier, draw the triangle, then add the curved line.

step two: Now add a line curved upwards, above the triangle's base line.

step three: Add streamers, or a pom at the top of the hat.

step four: Add the string to the bottom of the hat.

The space between the 2 curved lines should be shaded darker. See below how to do that. Now add design to your hats. Do polkadot, stripes, plaid or checkers.

Shading technique one: Just color it a darker shade than the rest of the hat.

Shading technique two: Color the whole hat the same color. Then take a fine point black pen and draw lines close together.

step five: Outline the whole hat when you are done.





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[www.springwaterlibrary.on.ca](http://www.springwaterlibrary.on.ca)  
information, branch updates and our virtual programs. Programs and Videos on Facebook and YouTube (search Springwater Library)

## Ontario Launching School-based Vaccine Clinics and Deploying Rapid Tests as Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte Students Return to In-Person Learning

In-person learning is critical for the mental health, development, and academic achievement of Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte children. Parents, educators and children have all demonstrated incredible resilience and adaptability since the start of the pandemic, but our kids deserve to be in school, where they can learn alongside their friends and teachers. That's why elementary and secondary students across Ontario returned to in-person learning on January 17th.

The return to in-person learning is supported by Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Children's Health Coalition. It is supported by more than \$1.6 billion in resources to protect against COVID-19, including money for mental health, improved ventilation in classrooms, technology and the hiring of over 2,350 additional staff.

Ontario's Minister of Education, Stephen Lecce, recently announced additional enhanced measures, such as the provision of millions of rapid antigen tests for symptomatic students and staff in public elementary and secondary schools, along with children and staff in child care settings, as well as the launch of a province-wide vaccine campaign within schools to increase uptake.

Vaccines remain our best defense, and vaccination rates among children 12 to 17 are encouraging, with more than 82 per cent having received two doses, while nearly 50 per cent of children aged 5-11 have received their first dose. To better support access to vaccines for students and staff, we are launching school-based clinics that can help more Ontarians get vaccinated.

Our plan for improving access to vaccines and providing more rapid antigen tests builds on the other layers of protection we have put in place for schools, including:

- Providing access to more than 10 million non-fit-tested N95 masks to all education and child care staff, along with more than four million three-ply cloth masks for students;
- Improving ventilation by deploying an additional 3,000 standalone HEPA filter units to learning environments, building on the more than 70,000 HEPA filter units and other ventilation devices that have already been provided, and the \$600 million we have invested in ventilation improvement measures and mechanical ventilation upgrades;
- Updating and tightening screening requirements for students and staff;
- Introducing new time-limited co-horting protocols to limit direct and indirect contacts in schools, and enhancing cleaning requirements; and
- Delivering resources to hire additional staff, including educators, custodians and mental health

workers, in addition to access to retired educators.

Ontario is the only province that is delivering N95 masks to its educators. We are going above and beyond the health and safety expectations of other provinces so that we can keep kids learning in-person and help limit the spread of COVID-19.

These investments are delivering real results here in Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte.

For local families, our government is providing a projected amount of \$24.29 million to the Simcoe County District School Board, in COVID-19 resources, for the 2021-22 school year.

- \$14,633,343 in ventilation improvements since the onset of COVID
- \$7.5 million to hire additional staff
- 426 HEPA units in schools
- 249,600 non-fit-tested N95s for educators
- 118,790 cloth masks for students
- 88,763 rapid antigen tests for symptomatic students and staff.

Additionally, it is projected that the Simcoe Muskoka Catholic District School Board will receive \$10.99 million in COVID-19 resources, from the Ontario government, for the 2021-22 school year.

- \$9,487,267 for ventilation improvements since the onset of COVID
- \$3.47 million to hire additional staff this school year
- 178 HEPA units in schools
- 40,400 non-fit-tested N95s for educators
- 35,630 rapid antigen tests for symptomatic students and staff

• This board attested they have sufficient supply on hand to provide 2 masks to each student

Thanks to our government's investments, every kindergarten class has a HEPA unit within it. We have also ensured that for schools that do not have a mechanical ventilation system that all classrooms and learning spaces have a stand-alone HEPA unit. All mechanical ventilation systems within publicly funded schools have been assessed and ventilation improvement measures taken — deploying the highest quality filters (often MERV-13), along with increasing fresh air intake, running HVAC systems two hours before and after school, and changing filters more frequently. All school boards have publicly posted standardized ventilation measure reports with this information.

Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte children and youth deserve the opportunity to finish out their school year with their peers and educators, and our government is taking action to ensure they receive that opportunity. Kids belong in school.

Doug Downey




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**All kits/supplies and programs offered below are FREE for you to enjoy!**

### Friends of the Library

We are hosting an open virtual meeting on Monday, February 7 at 1:30 pm or Wednesday, February 9 at 7 pm to learn more about the Friends of Springwater Public Library. Register at your library branch or email [Jodie.delgado@springwater.ca](mailto:Jodie.delgado@springwater.ca) for the Zoom link.

### BIG NEWS! We are fine free!

Springwater Public Library is now officially fine free! Full details can be found on our website but as staff member Kathy put it so well, "We as a library endeavor to remove any barriers that would prohibit us from serving all people. I have seen even the smallest fine cause people to cease using our resources. What a wonderful way to serve our community in these times, to erase stress, bring joy, and to show belief in the good intentions of our patrons."

### Take and Make Card

Hey adults – looking for something creative? This month's theme is Valentine's day so pick up your free card (while supplies last) at your local branch and spread the love this month!

### Creative Seniors: Chocolate Making

Join award-winning chef Dimu Perera of Andro Cakes and learn the fine art of chocolate making. Yum! Monday February 7, 1 pm.

### Take and Make Craft with Kaitlyn

This month you'll feel the love with a cute heart key chain to assemble. Kits are available now (while supplies last).

### Lego Building Challenge

On Thursday February 17 be sure to tune into our Facebook page or our website to build a Lego character with Miss Amanda. Don't forget to snap a quick picture and send it in for a FREE Lego figurine!

### Aging and the Eye

Join optometrist Dr Naghmeh Thompson of Midhurst Family Eye Care on Monday February 21, 1:30 pm for a 30 min discussion on eye conditions as we age, treatment and a question and answer time. Registration required. Hope to "see" you there!

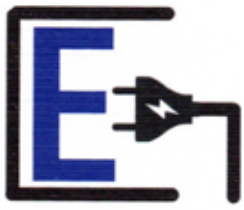
### No Sew Snowman Kit

This adorable no sew sock snowman is simple and fun for a cold February day. The take home and make kits are available now while supplies last.

### New to us!

We have a BRAND NEW AMAZING opportunity for you! Springwater Library now offers a membership at Prenda, a special coding platform that can teach you how to create your own computer game, how to design a website, apps, learn animation drawing and more! Login today and get started.



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**Celebrate Black History Month in Barrie**

February is Black History Month and the City of Barrie is proud to support a lineup of events that bring awareness to the significant contributions Black Canadians make to the cultural, economic and social landscape of Canada and Barrie.

**Highlights of the month's programming include:**

**Black History 365** – hosted by the Barrie Public Library in partnership with Uplift Black. Learn about Black history online 365 days of the year. Celebrate the many achievements and contributions of Black Canadians who, throughout history, have done so much to make Canada a more culturally diverse, compassionate and prosperous nation. Visit BPL Online to find videos, educational activities and reading lists celebrating Black history.

**Uplift Black Programming** – Black and Canadian: Stories of Service is an exhibition putting a spotlight on Black military contributions, acknowledging those who worked in service to this country. Sharing these photographs and portraits is part of the greater struggle to challenge dominant Euro-Canadian historical national narratives.

- Thursday, February 3 – the exhibition launches online

- Saturday, February 12 (2 – 4:30 p.m.) – Virtual Talk: Archives & Documentation with guest speakers Dr. Cheryl Thompson and Jane Cooper Wilson.

**More programming details to come. Learn more and register here.**

Diverse Voices Unite, Black History Month Video Release – organized by St. Peter's Catholic Secondary School. Listen to and watch performing artists, students, community partners and special guests talk about Canadian Black history, with a vision towards diversity and unity. The event will feature presentations from Natasha Henry, President of the Ontario Black History Society and Shak Edwards, Founder of Shak's World.

- Monday, February 21, 12 p.m. – the video will be free to access on St. Peter's School YouTube channel.

- Visit [barrie.ca/BlackHistoryMonth](http://barrie.ca/BlackHistoryMonth) to learn more.

**Doug Shipley MP**  
BARRIE - SPRINGWATER - ORO-MEDONTE  
705-728-2596 • [DOUG.SHIPLEY@PARL.GC.CA](mailto:DOUG.SHIPLEY@PARL.GC.CA) • [DOUGSHIPLEYMP.CA](http://DOUGSHIPLEYMP.CA)**February Family Snow Sculpture Contest**

I am happy to announce that this month I am hosting a fun contest for everyone in Barrie—Springwater—Oro-Medonte, the February Family Snow Sculpture Contest!

To participate, I encourage you to get outside and create a fun, creative and beautiful snow sculpture. Then, take a picture of your snow sculpture and tag me on Facebook / Twitter / Instagram with the hashtag #FebruaryFamilySculpture. You can find me on social media @DougShipleyBSOM.

The three sculptures that receive the most likes and shares on social media will receive prizes from local businesses, and I will personally deliver those prizes to the winners.

The contest will run from February 1st to 26th. The winners will be announced and prizes will be delivered on February 27th.

This will be a great opportunity to get outside with family and friends, have some fun, and make some beautiful snow sculptures.

I can't wait to see what our community creates. As always, my constituency office is available to assist you with any matters related to the federal government. Please contact my office at [Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca) or 705-728-2596 for assistance.

Sincerely,

Doug Shipley  
Member of Parliament,  
Barrie – Springwater – Oro-Medonte**Conrad & Donna Huber Match Kickstart Your Heart donations\* to GBGH Foundation**

For the first two weeks of February, the Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation is raising funds for defibrillators and crash carts, inspired by a \$50,000 match gift from Conrad and Donna Huber. This year's 'Kickstart Your Heart' campaign will aim to raise \$175,000 to purchase six crash carts, equipped with life-saving defibrillators.

In 2021, the inaugural Kickstart Your Heart campaign raised nearly \$75,000 thanks to a \$20,000 gift from the Hubers, \$25,000 pledge from Balm Beach House of Glass, 60 individual donors and six local businesses who committed a portion of Valentine's Day sales or items to the campaign.

In total, Georgian Bay General Hospital requires 11 new crash carts and defibrillators, to replace aging and outdated equipment and technology.

"Searching for an IV, suction catheter, defibrillator pads, airway equipment, or even gauze, really makes an already stressful environment even more stressful," says Tyler Pilon, critical care nurse, GBGH. "These precious minutes truly make a difference. Through the years, I have seen many life-saving stories and knowing that you can trust the equipment to function the way it was intended, and have everything readily available, truly makes the job easier." To ensure GBGH is equipped with the appropriate life-saving tools, Bell Media's Pure Country 106 and Bounce 104.1 are putting their voices to the airwaves in the coming weeks.

"Bell Media is supporting the Kickstart Your Heart campaign because we understand how important it is for communities to work at their best potential," shares Meg Whitton, morning show host on Bounce 104.1. "We want hospital staff to have the very best equipment and we want to show our hospital staff that we are willing to provide that for them."

The generous match gift of \$50,000 is a testament to the Huber's love for each other and their community. They share a great love story, so a campaign to celebrate love, hearts and community was the ideal way to encourage others to join them in supporting GBGH.

"We enjoy being together and doing things together," share the Hubers. "We have been so fortunate in life and it makes us both happy to be able to give back to our community. It is our gift to each other."

Those interested in having their gift doubled, can make a donation at [www.gbghf.ca/kickstartyourheart](http://www.gbghf.ca/kickstartyourheart). Individuals can also get involved by joining the conversation on Facebook and Instagram and sharing posts on social media.

\*Donations will be matched up to a total of \$50,000.

Cutline 1: Conrad & Donna Huber have offered to match all donations (up to a total of \$50,000) to the GBGH Foundation through the Kickstart Your Heart campaign from January 31st to February 14th, 2022. In partnership with Bell Media's Pure Country 106 and Bounce 104.1, the GBGH Foundation has a goal to raise \$175,000 to complete the fundraising for 11 new crash carts equipped with defibrillators (\$25,000 each) for Georgian Bay General Hospital.

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**ONTARIO JUNIOR CITIZEN AWARDS**  
40TH ANNIVERSARY

**NOMINATIONS WANTED**

Do you know someone between the ages of 6 - 17 who is making a difference within their community? Nominate them for an

**ONTARIO JUNIOR CITIZEN AWARD**  
DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 11, 2022

Nomination forms are available from this newspaper, and at [www.ocna.org/juniorcitizen](http://www.ocna.org/juniorcitizen). Email [jr.citizen@ocna.org](mailto:jr.citizen@ocna.org) for more information.

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### Springwater Municipal Facilities Reopening to the Public

The Government of Ontario has announced a three-step plan to gradually ease public health measures in an effort to blunt the spread of the Omicron variant. Each step of reopening will be separated by 21 days to allow public health trends to be monitored. Effective January 31, 2022 at 12:01 a.m., the remaining public health measures will include but are not limited to:

- Limiting social gatherings to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors.
- Limiting the following indoor public settings to 50% capacity:
  - o Restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments;
  - o Retailers, including grocery stores and pharmacies;
  - o Shopping malls;
  - o Non-spectator areas of sports and recreational fitness facilities, including gyms;
  - o Cinemas;
  - o Meeting and event spaces;
  - o Recreational amenities and amusement parks;
  - o Museums, galleries, aquariums, zoos and similar attractions;
  - o Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments; and
  - o Religious services, rites, or ceremonies.

As a result of the revised Provincial framework, the following Springwater municipal services, facilities and amenities are affected:

- The Township Administration Centre and Minesing Fire Station 3 will reopen to the public, Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Appointments are strongly encouraged as an additional measure to help protect the health and safety of residents and staff.
- The Elmvale Community Arena will reopen with limited capacities, enhanced Proof of Vaccination using QR codes, and other requirements in place. Learn more at [springwater.ca/Arena](http://springwater.ca/Arena).
- Outdoor rinks are open with physical distancing measures in effect.
- The Elmvale, Midhurst and Minesing branches of the Springwater Public Library will remain open for curbside service only. Visit [springwater.library.on.ca](http://springwater.library.on.ca) for details.
- Community halls remain unavailable for venue rental at this time.

In the absence of concerning trends in public health and health care indicators, Ontario will move to the next steps of reopening on February 21, 2022 and March 14, 2022. For more information, visit: [covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures](http://covid-19.ontario.ca/public-health-measures). For additional information on the status of COVID-19 in our area, visit the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit website at [smdhu.org/COVID19](http://smdhu.org/COVID19). For additional information on how the Township of Springwater is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, visit [springwater.ca/COVID19](http://springwater.ca/COVID19).

### HEY DADS!

Did you have pets growing up? Do your kids have any pets?

When I was a boy we had a cat. One of the creative geniuses at our house decided an appropriate name for our cat would be, “Kitty”. When I was nine we moved, and I guess Kitty didn’t like the new digs so she took off never to be seen again.

I know some dog lovers but I’m not one of them. I have heard that in recent years the dog-breeding business seems to have taken off. I guess if people can’t travel anywhere they need man’s best friend to keep them company.

We’ve experimented with a few different animals at our place over the last few years. Maybe “experiment” isn’t exactly the right word. We’ve had a few different animals here. Cats, ducks, rabbits, bees, chickens. Goats were the latest additions.

We started with chickens about four or five years ago. A half-dozen hens from the local feed store. Hens are female chickens. I brought some old skids home from work and built an addition on my shed for the fine fowl. We made a little outdoor run for them so they could partake of the local creepy-crawlies. Sometimes I would just sit outside and watch them peck and scratch around. Believe it or not, you could learn a thing or two from those chicks. Here’s three lessons I learned from our hens:



#### 1. The early bird catches the worm.

This is literally true. I was watching the hens when I let them out of the coop one morning. They flutter and flap and scramble out, zipping around the run looking for bugs. There were a lot of night crawlers (worms) out around that day and some were slow to get back in the ground when the sun

rose. Sure enough I see one of the hens grab one and hide in a corner slurping it down as fast as she can while her feathered friends are still stumbling around in the coop brushing their teeth and drinking coffee. No worms for them.

#### 2. A man provides for his family first.

We have one rooster for a few dozen hens. A rooster is a male chicken. The kids named him Marcus. We throw all our table scraps out there for them. When some fresh lettuce, pasta, or birthday cake lands Marcus is one of the first ones there. He makes a short clucking sound repeatedly as he lifts up the food and drops it down again. When the hens hear this distinctive cluck they come a-runnin’! From what I can tell, he won’t eat any food until the hens have all had some.

That reminds me of being a dad. Who gets the burnt pancakes? Dad. Who gets the burnt toast? Dad. Who gets the burnt pizza? Dad. You can tell there’s half a dozen kids here learning how to make food. Experimenting is maybe a better word. The point is that we make sure our family has what they need before we get what we need. That’s part of providing for our families.

#### 3. Fences matter.

They keep things in and they keep things out.

My eyes grew wide as I looked over the kitchen sink out the back window of our farmhouse. We had just planted our garden and the hens had got out and were tearing into the soil! It was probably those late-rising, teeth-brushing, coffee-drinkers who had missed the worms earlier. I shouted, “Everyone outside to catch the chickens!” Like the clown car at the circus, children came flying out of the house zig-zagging all over the yard gathering up the harried hens.

Fences matter. Boundaries matter. Part of our role as dads is to teach and protect our children. We live in a culture that says anything goes. Do what you want. Do what makes you feel good. S. Truett Cathy wrote a book called, “It’s Better to Build Boys Than Mend Men.” Part of building boys and girls is teaching them what is right and what is wrong. Throwing eggs at the neighbours’ house? Wrong. Bringing eggs to the neighbour? Right.

I’ve got lots more lessons to learn from the hens but that’s a good start. Time flies dads! Live, learn and make every moment count! A shout out of appreciation to the Canadian Freedom Convoy 2022 truckers and the millions of freedom lovers across this great country of ours! God keep our land glorious and free!


Jason Weening has lost count of the number of hens and children around here but is pretty sure there’s still just one beautiful and patient wife around. For



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### Annie's Journal



*Written by Annie Warner Donnelly*

Author Kate Underwood loves reading, talking, and writing about personal finances. Here are some of her recommendations that can help our families create a spiritually-minded, sustainable and life-enhancing financial strategy.

Kate wrote: “The best place for family members to learn about financial topics is to speak about them openly in our homes. We can start conversations about money:

- as we shop together for personal and household items.
- while paying bills, planning a family vacation or a family purchase.
- when someone wants to join a sports team or go to college or university.”

The goal is to help family members build a healthy attitude towards money, and to learn the basics of Christian money management. Kate believes that we can teach others how to save by first teaching them how to earn.

“It’s one thing to save a portion of their birthday money gifts,” wrote Kate, “but it’s even better for them to learn how to save from their earnings.” Of course, that’s another key lesson: learning how to earn our own money.

Here’s where we help family members understand how God has gifted them. Maybe someone can build something others can use; or write something people will want to read; or make something that can be worn, or played with, or admired on a shelf. Maybe someone can

take care for others (babysitting for instance); mow a lawn; rake leaves; shovel snow; or run errands for those who are house bound. Perhaps someone’s ready to find that first job. Understanding who they are in Christ will enable them to make the most suitable choices.

The goal to earn money leads to the goals of tithing, giving to support our church and its work, budgeting to live within our means, saving money, planning for expenses, and investing wisely regularly. These are some of the cornerstones of a successful financial strategy. Meeting these goals builds confidence and trust in God as He daily provides for our needs.

When choosing a place to save money, Kate wrote: “For young children, experts recommend they put their savings in a clear jar because it’s important for them to watch their savings grow. Usually by age seven or so, children are ready for a bank account. To teach children to save, model that behaviour in front of them. You might talk about how you save each month. Be sure to help them monitor their savings regularly.”

The earlier family members learn how to save money, the easier it will become for them, and hopefully, the longer it will last.

Here’s another tip from Kate: “In your daily decisions about spending and saving, family members should see that you don’t buy everything you want, that you save for big purchases. Make impact comments like, I’d love to get a coffee, but I’d rather save that \$4 for our spring break.”

Let’s remember, the earlier we learn to follow God’s word, the better it is for us. He has lots to say about money and it’s all good guidance.

Amen.







## Shelter Now Brings Much-Needed Affordable Housing To Midland

Shelter Now is excited to announce the creation of 32 supportive housing units in Midland.

With a targeted move-in date of May 2023, this supportive housing development will offer much-needed affordable homes and supports to those experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness in North Simcoe. There is a mix of 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom and bachelor units, along with common space for on-site programming and community building.

“The Town of Midland is proud to support this new development which will provide affordable housing units to those in need in our region,” said Mayor Strathearn. “Our Council is committed to finding solutions for the housing crisis in our community and Council’s Task Force on Affordable Housing has been working on strategies to service this growing need in step with the County of Simcoe. Shelter Now is a welcome arrival to Midland benefiting some of the most vulnerable people in our community with this housing support and I’m pleased that our neighbours in North Simcoe are fully supporting this initiative as well.”

Mayor Leroux of Penetanguishene agrees. “This announcement is exceptional news for our North Simcoe community members who are experiencing the affordable housing crisis firsthand. The Town of Penetanguishene will continue to work with Shelter Now and our North Simcoe partners to assist in delivering on our shared Strategic Plan goal of creating and retaining more affordable housing for our community members.”

This build is Phase II of Shelter Now’s planned construction. In 2009, the Weber Foundation, along with Robert Hartog, donated the full construction costs of Shelter Now’s Transitional Housing Program, also known as Hartog House. There, participants find the stability they need to set goals for their own well-being. “The bricks and mortar alone are not what has made the Hartog House such a success,” shares Reinhart Weber on behalf of the Weber Foundation. “It is the support and programming that the tenants receive that attracted The Weber Foundation to this project in 2009 and now again in 2021.” The Weber Foundation has made a generous donation to kick start this capital campaign.

The design and build of Shelter Now has stood the test of time. Quantum Engineering and Innovative Home Design built Hartog House and are now designing and building Shelter Now’s Phase II using a similar design that duplicates the major features of Hartog House.

Through a number of community partnerships, the new supportive housing units will feature on-site case management and group programming to assist with home management and life skills. This model assists those living in transitional housing and emergency

shelters to move into permanent housing, with the supports needed to thrive.

“We are fortunate to have a leader like Shelter Now in our community. We stand with them in their mission and believe everyone has the right to safe affordable housing and individualized support. We are pleased to partner with our neighbouring municipalities in this important initiative and look forward to seeing Shelter Now continue to grow, providing housing, connections and opportunities to all North Simcoe residents,” remarked Tay Township Mayor Walker.

“As we work together to ensure that Tiny and our neighbouring municipalities support our most vulnerable, this is the type of housing initiative we need to move forward with. This project will make a positive impact throughout North Simcoe by setting



vulnerable residents up for success through housing and access to the services and supports they need. Tiny is pleased to partner with its neighbouring municipalities and understands that the stability of a home and the availability of support services when needed is the foundation for better health,” adds Mayor Cornell.

This project is now in the public phase of the capital campaign. “We are pleased to have the support of the Town of Midland, Township of Tay, Township of Tiny, and Town of Penetanguishene for this important project. Now we are also looking to our generous community to help us complete this project states Ladouceur. Donations can be made directly to Shelter Now.

### About Homelessness in North Simcoe

Homelessness in North Simcoe is on the rise. The 2020 Simcoe County Homeless Enumeration counted 563 individuals experiencing homelessness in Simcoe County. Twenty-three per cent of these individuals reside in North Simcoe.

### About Shelter Now

Shelter Now is a Midland-based charity, supporting individuals and families to improve their well-being by providing housing, supports, connections, and opportunities in North Simcoe since 2009. Learn more at [www.shelternow.ca](http://www.shelternow.ca)

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## KIDS COLOURING CONTEST CREATIVELY SUPPORTS RVH

Calling all creative kids! Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre Foundation (RVH Foundation) has launched a children’s colouring contest to find a winning design for its Valentine’s Day e-card fundraising campaign.

Any child aged 16 years and under can use paint, crayons or other writing utensils to create Valentine’s Day-themed artwork that may be used as a featured design in an e-card fundraising campaign launching in February. The winning artwork will be selected by community members through online votes that can be made at [RVHecardcontest.ca](http://RVHecardcontest.ca). All votes can be cast by making a five dollar donation per vote, in support of RVH.

### Content Details:

- Images can be submitted at [RVHecardcontest.ca](http://RVHecardcontest.ca) until February 2 at 4:30 p.m. There is no cost to enter.
- Voting will remain open until February 6 at 11:59 p.m.
- The winner will be notified by February 8.
- All contest rules and regulations as well as image requirements can be found at [RVHecardcontest.ca](http://RVHecardcontest.ca).
- The e-card campaign in which the winning design will be featured, launches on February 7 at [RVHCareCards.ca](http://RVHCareCards.ca)

All funds raised through voting and the e-card campaign will support patient care at RVH.

## Elmvale Lions \$20,000 Pledge - Feb Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

The Lions of Canada have designed February as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Lions and Leos support families and children affected by childhood cancer through impactful service. And Lions hope to build awareness for childhood cancer as a global priority.

Elmvale District Lions is proud to announce we have recently pledged \$20,000 in support of POGO -Pediatric Oncology Group of Ontario, financial assistance program over the next 2 years. The first \$10,000 instalment was forwarded to the Orillia Clinic on Jan 31, 2022.

Regionally there are currently 33 families accessing

care out of POGO’s satellite Clinic at Orillia’s Soldiers Memorial Hospital clinic and another 111 out of their Newmarket’s South Lake Clinic.

When a child is in cancer treatment, the family faces tremendous out-of-pocket costs, such as food while at the hospital with their child, accommodation when away from home and child care for siblings under 12 years old. In addition, one parent is often required to give up work to look after the ill child, so one source of family income might be lost.

This \$20,000 pledge will help provide reimbursement to families for some of the costs they incur.

Commitments such as this would not be possible

without the ongoing support received for our annual Truck Draw fundraising campaign. By buying a ticket you help us, help others and make a difference in the lives of a child living with a cancer diagnosis and their family.



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## NATURE

### On World Wetlands Day, Ducks Unlimited Canada celebrates conservation wins that are making life better for wildlife, people and communities

Over the past year, headlines about the environment have been bleak. Floods, droughts and fires have hit our fellow Canadians hard. But the impacts of climate change should not make us feel powerless. Wetlands are a formidable force of nature that has our back. In 2022, they can be Canada's good news story.

When you look at the ways in which people and communities are working together to conserve wetlands across the country, the good news flows like...well, water. As nations around the globe prepare to mark World Wetlands Day on February 2, Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC) is celebrating some important wins here at home that are making life better for wildlife, people and communities.

"Canada is home to 25 per cent of the world's remaining wetlands, which is a tremendous gift and also a tremendous responsibility," says Larry Kaumeyer, chief executive officer for DUC. "These incredible ecosystems provide the environmental solutions Canadians need. Wetlands are important natural tools that combat floods, droughts and other extreme weather events—and we're proud to be the preminent conservation organization that's delivering these solutions in communities across the country."

To date, DUC has conserved 6.6 million acres that are estimated to provide \$5.66 billion in economic benefits to Canadians every year. This includes

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billions associated with climate regulation services, water purification and storage, pollination as well as recreation and tourism. Given the growing concerns Canadians have about the rising costs of insurance as a result of climate change, the value of wetlands cannot be underestimated.

Visit [ducks.ca/wwd-2022](http://ducks.ca/wwd-2022) to learn more about the ways that wetlands have our back. You can also check out stories about projects and partnerships like those below that are bolstering our environmental, economic and social well-being.

- British Columbia: After experiencing both floods and fires this past year, wetlands like those at DUC's 148 Mile Marshes project are helping mitigate the effects of climate change.

- Alberta: Thanks to new government funding, DUC is collaborating with municipalities across the province on a Wetland Replacement Program that will restore wetlands and enhance landscape resiliency.

- Saskatchewan: DUC is partnering with a local First Nation to improve water quality in the Lake Winnipeg watershed while passing on sustainability for the next seven generations.

- Manitoba: The Bars Lake Project in the province's southwest is just one example of how DUC and local ranchers are working together to advance sustainable agriculture through wetland conservation.

- Ontario: DUC recently surpassed an incredible milestone of conserving one million acres of wetlands and other associated habitats, which are saving space for nature in Canada's most populous province.

- Quebec: Leading-edge wetland mapping technology, created by DUC conservation experts, is enabling land-use planners, real estate developers, farmers, foresters and the public to make smart, sustainable choices that balance economic growth

with environmental protection.

- Atlantic Canada: DUC is embarking on a 10-year, multi-million-dollar conservation project to renew and restore vital freshwater habitat on the Wolastoq (Saint John River) floodplain, which includes some of the most important and threatened wetlands in New Brunswick.

- Boreal region: DUC's knowledge and experience conserving boreal peatlands is helping inform climate strategies emerging from the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26).

Despite these successes, there is still much work to do. Canada is far from receiving top marks when it comes to making good on its commitments to wetlands. For all the acres that have been conserved, even more are being lost. It's estimated that up to 70 per cent of wetlands have been lost in southern areas of Canada—and up to 95 per cent in Canada's most densely populated areas. In addition, Canada is one of the few developed nations that doesn't have a comprehensive national wetland inventory and monitoring system. This is a critical aspect of conservation planning that's needed to inform conservation action.

"To change the environmental headlines from negative to positive, Canada must ramp up investments in wetlands," says Kaumeyer. "When we work together, the results speak for themselves. They come to life all around us, evidenced in clean water, abundant wildlife and healthy landscapes. What we're doing is working, but we must work to do more."

Together, we can continue making progress on conserving important wetlands across the country. In recognition of World Wetlands Day, join DUC to ensure the good news story about wetlands gets the attention, commitment and investment it deserves in 2022—and beyond.

**About World Wetlands Day: February 2nd marks the adoption of the Convention of Wetlands, which took place in 1971 in the Iranian city of Ramsar. It's a treaty negotiated by countries and non-governmental organizations that provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of wetlands. Canada is one of the treaty's contracting parties and currently has 37 sites designated as Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites). Ducks Unlimited Canada is a proud conservation partner for 24 of them.**

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## Anten Mills News by Dennis Gannon

Our column is going to digress a bit this week as there is an important issue that should be of concern not only to the residents of our community but to everyone in Ontario. As of last Friday, January 27, 17 people in Ontario lost their lives due to a fire. That's an astounding number so much so that the Fire Marshal made an impassioned plea on social media. His message simply was that everyone needs to have working smoke alarms in their home. That seems reasonable enough but most people would be astounded to know that isn't the case. Many homes have out of date smoke alarms, smoke alarms taken down because of cooking or smoke alarms without batteries. Smoke alarms have a life expectancy. That life is 10 years. After that, they likely will work but their certainty isn't guaranteed. There are only a few homes in our community that have been built in the last 10 years. But how many homeowners have gone the step to get up on a ladder and change them out? Smoke alarms have changed drastically over the years. They can talk to you. They have flashing lights to assist the hearing impaired or younger children. They can have carbon monoxide alarms built in with them. In Springwater there have fortunately been few fire fatalities. Those few that have occurred were devastating to the families involved. There is nothing worse for a firefighter than to do all they can but not be able to save a life. The firefighters in our municipality are considered volunteers. It is a bit of a misnomer as they do receive compensation for their time. The Fire Protection and Prevention Act is the legislation that uses the term volunteer which makes that the only difference between them and a career firefighter. But unlike other jobs that are scheduled, these individuals leave their work, family, friends and hobbies when summoned to an emergency at any time of the day or night. They do it not for the compensation, but

because they believe in their community and want to help those in need. They at this time need your help. They need you to check your smoke alarms and make certain they are working. They need you to replace any smoke alarms that are over 10 years in age. They need you to have and practice a family fire escape plan with an outdoor meeting place. They need you to be fire safe today and every day. One of the best feelings for a firefighter is to get called to help and not need to do anything because the occupants did the right thing. Let's all help our firefighters, our neighbours and ourselves and not have any serious fires. Let's practice fire safety today and everyday. And if you have a fire hydrant near your home, clear



the snow away from it in case it is ever needed. The few minutes it may take to clear it away may be the few minutes the firefighters need to save a home

or a life. If you require assistance with information about smoke or carbon monoxide alarms contact the Springwater Fire Department directly at 705 728 4784.

There are a few families in our community that are associated with a registered charity known as Communities Connecting for Children. Last year they held their first Kids Got Talent event that was successful and several youths from the community were recipients of awards for their efforts. Many years ago members from this charity were part of a group that created a camp on Gill Road that was used by the Girl Guides. After many years of turmoil and court challenges, this charity has successfully purchased the property and has started the process to return it to a camp that can be used for many youth purposes. They have a curling "Fun" spiel scheduled for March 19 with the proceeds to support their work. Check out their website or Facebook page for more details and get together safely with some family and friends and have an enjoyable time.

As you have driven down Wilson Drive you can't miss our community sign board and all the congratulatory messages that have been posted over the years. We are very fortunate to have a volunteer family that looks after it for us. For many years there was a sign at the community centre as well. The Anten Mills Community Recreation Association hopes to resurrect the board at the community centre this spring so watch for details. In the meanwhile please send an email to [antenmillssign@gmail.com](mailto:antenmillssign@gmail.com) if you would like to post an announcement for everyone to see.

Valentine's Day is just around the corner so remember the chocolate for your sweetie. That's all for this week so Stay Healthy, Stay Safe, Stay Strong. [antenmills1@gmail.com](mailto:antenmills1@gmail.com).

## Hidden Gems

### Beyond Our Borders Gems 2: Woodview Mountain Top Skating

There's something magical about open air skating. Whether it's a backyard or community rink, feeling that fresh, crisp breeze on your face as you glide across the ice gives you a sensation of sheer freedom and exhilaration. Surrounded by the sights and sounds of the Canadian north is something all winter outdoor enthusiasts love and embrace.

In Springwater Township, we have the added benefit of making our way to the Simcoe County Museum Skating Trail. This short but sweet trail winds its way in a circular route through stands of trees located on the museum's property. This trail is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and then again from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. The cost is \$10.00 for adults and \$ 8.00 for children and youth (4-24). Please visit the museum website (<http://museum.simcoe.ca>) to purchase tickets online (same day only). This route is perfect for those wanting a nice and easy skate.

For those willing to venture further afield for a longer and slightly more challenging skate, you may wish to visit Woodview Mountain Top Skating. Located on the top of the Blue Mountains at 201 Scenic Caves Road, Unit AW2, this 1.1 km ice skating loop is a very welcome addition to this four season resort area. Open daily from 12 p.m. until 8 p.m. tickets are purchased, on site, at walk-up kiosks, referred to as activity centres. Skates can also be rented at these centres. For the beginner, skate "helpers" are available, free of charge.



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From the moment you park your car, at the lot located across the road from the trail, and begin making your way along the woodland path to purchase your ticket, you are immersed in the splendour that is the Niagara Escarpment. Snow covered evergreens surround you as you are greeted by the friendly chirps of the chickadees. In the distance, you can hear the swish of skis slaloming down the nearest slopes. Skiers in their brightly coloured gear chatter happily as they meet up with family and friends. Tickets in hand, you head off to the huge white domed tent to don your skates in preparation for your adventure.

Have your camera ready as this trail truly offers



spectacular views of the surrounding landscape, Georgian Bay and the Village at Blue Mountain. Protected from the wind, you also have the chance to enjoy the stark wintery beauty and tranquility of the forest. As the icy path twists and turns through a mixture of deciduous and conifer trees, you may notice it occasionally slopes either up or down, and it is advised to adjust your speed and effort accordingly. The rink is generally well maintained by a Zamboni, however, there are still the odd lumpy and bumpy spots (similar to a Rideau Canal experience). So please, be cautious. Should you need a short break, benches, resembling old ski lifts, are dotted along the trail. For longer rests, head over to the campfire



and take a load off on one of the bright red Muskoka chairs.

For those enjoying a bit of nightlife, this experience does not disappoint. Nocturnal visitors can enjoy not only a bit of music (also available in the day) but the dazzling light installations repurposed from Blue Mountain's signature summer attraction, AGORA: Path of Light. Although the views of the bay may be harder to come by, the stars and twinkling lights of the village and Collingwood, further in the distance, offer their own kind of enchantment.

If you want to extend your experience, upon exiting, you will notice an alfresco bistro that offers an impressive mini menu that includes some killer chili and a number of hot/cold and adult beverages. The atmosphere is fun-loving and relaxed and the view is absolutely magnificent. People watchers will enjoy observing the shenanigans of the ski set as they happily munch away from the comfort of their picnic tables.

Woodview Mountaintop Skating provides an excellent opportunity for singles, couples, friends and family to build more fabulous memories of a wintery afternoon or evening well spent. Be sure to



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- Look at the marketplace to ensure that your plan is placed with a group insurer that will best suit your needs and will provide the service that you expect;
- Conduct an employee meeting to explain the many benefits provided;
- Enroll the group and set-up administrative procedures;
- Service your group plan and all your business needs.

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## Sports with Patrick Townes



With a new year, comes a new name to the article – the Springwater Sports Scene. This name was borrowed from some of the recent posts on Ric Archer's Facebook page. Thank you to Kirby for posting all the historic photos and newspaper articles for the group. The Sports Scene was the name of an article that was published in the Elmvale Lance. John Brown and Peter Vollett were the authors of this article before Mike Townes took it over. We will also be on twitter @SSportsScene.

An interview between Leon Draisaitl of the Edmonton Oilers and Jim Matheson turned ugly after a couple of directed questions to Leon, asking him to single out one single reason for why the Oilers have not been playing well. Everyone in the hockey world knows the answer to this question, and the one single reason the team is not playing well and not winning is goaltending. Why do we all know this? The coach already made this statement over the past few weeks. Matheson was looking for a directed answer to bump his twitter followers and for the ability to hit the newspaper with a big headline in the morning. Draisaitl was not having it and then Matheson in other words asked him why he was so upset. Matheson has been covering the NHL for 40 years and for some reason seemed to feel entitled to an answer to this question. If I was a player I would never talk to him again no matter the punishment. Others have said that Matheson likely regrets his questions and comments.

I have never been a fan of pre-game, in-game and post-game interviews. All is good and well when you are asking questions to the winning team, but unfortunately the losing team does not always treat these situations with glee. Not to mention, the questions that are being asked are the same questions over and over. Successful media is moving into conversations with players, and not questions and answers. Mike Wilner is not necessarily on my list of top media members but he does form relationships with players and structures his interviews as conversations. You can tell that he actually cares for the player during the interviews and is not looking for the headline to alienate the player or to put them in the hot seat. When Wilner was let go from the Blue Jays, he was called directly by Josh Donaldson who wanted to touch base with him and thank him for his rapport and demeanor over his tenure with the Jays. Similar to Wilner, Donaldson did not want to

leave the Blue Jays.

When I was growing up and watching fastball games at the Elmvale diamond, I was told to not bother the players and to stay away from the benches. Even when chasing foul balls, I would try to wait for a break in the play or wait for a player to ask for the ball back from the bench. Now, professional athletes are expected to do interviews during periods when they would be better served resting and thinking about the next period or inning. Coaches are asked to do in-game interviews from the bench when the games are on. Guaranteed there have been media articles in the past questioning the concentration or decision making of a coach -- even more difficult to make decisions when you are being asked for interviews or asked how you think your team is playing and what do you need to do better. Who has heard that question asked before? There is a role for media in sports. There should be respect given to all the players. If you are respectful, there is no reason why it should not be returned.

The Scotties have started in Thunder Bay. Already Tracy Fleury has contracted Covid and has to sit out five days. After a good start, I would expect Kerri Einarson's team to win the event for the third year in a row. My wildcard pick is team Homan who is being skipped by Emma Miskew. With their skip missing, they may be more relaxed and may not have as many expectations. That can often times be dangerous for other teams. One suggestion to the Scotties and other Canadian events is still to change the camera angle. At the grand slam events during the season they show the view from the end of the sheet so you can see the rock curl. The Canadian events still use the overhead view of the sweepers which is like watching a baseball in the air. The rock is going somewhere but you do not see it until the end. Lastly, if a game is out of reach or at a score difference of four or more, they should switch the games. Efforts are being made all over the sport to improve the viewing experience of fans and to try and get fans to watch the whole game. Showing close games over the three hour block will help this, no question.

For all the young baseball and fastball pitchers out there, remember throwing harder is not always better. Greg Maddux was very successful and did not throw overly hard. When he was in a pinch or in a tough spot, he would actually throw softer and concentrate on hitting his location. This was more successful for him rather than trying to ramp up the velocity.

## Reopening of NSSRC and Midland Public Library



February 1, 2022 – With the province moving into the Ontario Government's first step of a cautious and gradual easing of public health measures, as of January 31, 2022 the North Simcoe Sport and Recreation Centre (NSSRC) has reopened and is now operating under the 50% capacity limits, with some restrictions in place. The Midland Public Library is also now open for walk-in customers.

North Simcoe Sports & Recreation Centre:

- Open for sports and event bookings.
- Visitors must use the enhanced vaccine certificate with official QR code as valid proof of vaccination. Vaccine receipts without the QR code will no longer be accepted.
- Proof of medical exemption is required in the form of a written document along with valid ID.
- 50 % capacity in the facility and spectator areas. Midland Flyers capacity is currently capped at 200 spectators.
- All public health measures (masking, physical distancing) still apply.
- Open for Competitive Edge Sports shop daily (11 a.m.- 8 p.m. on Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Saturday & Sunday).
- Open for walk-in Transit purchases Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Open for SMDHU Covid vaccination clinics on

select dates, please see SMDHU website for clinic dates.

NSSRC Outdoor Rink

- The outdoor rink remains open and available for use daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. as weather permits;
- A maximum of 50 skaters on the ice surface at one time;
- A recommendation that all skaters wear CSA approved helmets;
- All participants must wear skates while on the ice surface. Those without skates are not permitted on the ice surface;
- Chairs, sleds, strollers, and other obstructions are not permitted on the ice surface; and
- The use of hockey sticks is not permitted.

Midland Public Library

- The Midland Public Library is now open for walk-in customers.
- Patrons over 2 years of age must wear masks when visiting. If you refuse or cannot wear a mask, you will be offered curbside service instead.
- Capacity limits are in place and visits are limited to 30 minutes.
- For full details and hours of operation, please visit [MidlandLibrary.com](http://MidlandLibrary.com).

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HEALTH and WELLNESS

Part of Growing Up is Realizing We Cannot Change Others

Love heals all things. This is one of those guiding principles that works.... most of the time. If it were just that simple! If the world was that simple, then we certainly would not need philosophers and there would be a lot less poetry. No doubt we have been given all the pieces of the puzzle of life, it's just that there are an infinite number of ways to put them together.

Take, for example, the woman who meets her prince. Well, he's not exactly a prince, but through the eyes of love he comes pretty close. She sees not only who he is, but all that he could be. Now, under her guiding influence, let the transformation begin. She does it gently at first, but as time goes on, she digs in a little harder. She may see things in her prince that she does not like. When she tries to discuss them, she might find that he responds defensively or with anger, or he might agree with her and vow to change. Be-cause she loves him so much, she wants to stay with him. But if there are things she can-not live with, the only option she sees is to continue to 'work' on him.

If the situation involves two people who are open, honest, fair, and dedicated to growing together, then the process can have its rewards. It would not, we should think, be a one-sided process. The problem begins when she wants him to change, and despite what he might verbalize, deep down he really does not want to. Or perhaps he cannot. If she really wants this man in her life, then she feels that the more that she loves him, the more he will want to change. She invests a lot of herself, and when change does not come, she feels that she cannot quit her

efforts because she has already put so much of herself into the relationship. Things do not flow easily anymore, and life has become a struggle.

When a relationship reaches this point, it is time for the couple to wake up. If they do not, they continue this painful dance, drifting farther and farther apart. Waking up involves looking honestly at what they are doing. It means bringing the issues out into the open. Each person has to be honest with self about what he or she needs, and about the bot-tom lines. If the bottom line is no addictions, no dishonesty, or no put-downs, and if the partner has a problem complying, then his or her dysfunctions are stronger than the love. If one wants deeper communication, more intimacy, less conflict, and the other is not willing to look at these issues, then a relationship in the truest sense does not even exist.

Part of growing up is realizing that we cannot change others. It is also knowing that we are responsible for our own happiness and wellbeing. Sometimes it is not so much the other who needs to understand and respect our needs and boundaries, as it is our own selves. The more we know of these before getting into a relationship, the better. Then we will not need to create princes (or princesses), only to turn them into frogs.

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



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Cathy Johnston Walton

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

**Vanishing Barns** - Cathy Walton has been researching barns in Flos and Vespra Townships (now Springwater) for the last six years and has published the results in the book "Vanishing Barns".

If you are interested in a copy, please contact Cathy at 705 728-1388 or [snow-flake53@mail.com](mailto:snow-flake53@mail.com).

The Giffen Farm - Built 1800s

Concession 9, W ½ Lot 19, Vespra Township  
3329 George Johnston Road, Springwater Township

Concession 9, W ½ Lot 19, Vespra Township  
3329 George Johnston Road, Springwater Township

Owners

Present  
1985

Ralph and Kelli (Tuckey) Giffen  
Donald, Bernice (Thompson) and  
Ralph Giffen  
Tom and Joanne (Smith) Howard  
Victor and Grace (Bowman) Howard  
W. Ed and Elizabeth (Lizzie) Howard  
W. Howard  
W. Howard rented

~1924-1949<sup>1</sup>  
~1910-1918<sup>3</sup>  
~1887<sup>1</sup>

Built: 1800

Water Source: drilled well for barn and  
old farm house and well at bungalow which  
could also supply barn and farm house with  
water.

The barns were built at two different times. The older barn had a stone foundation and hand hewn beams. The second barn was built by Ross Bertram. It had a cement foundation and machine-made 4 x 6" posts at the roof. Many of the beams for the second barn came from the Stayner Creamery.

Tom Howard grew corn for his pigs and was a life-long sheep farmer. Tom sheared many sheep for area neighbours and was a National Champion sheep shearer.

The floor had been raised to accommodate pigs. There were metal, prefabricated and bolted posts. Giffens had difficulty getting their tractor and loader into the stables. A ramp and new door made cleaning stables easier. Ralph grows barley, wheat, hay and soy beans. He has grown 2-2½ acres of pumpkins and in 1991 began growing giant pumpkins for competitions.

Gord Ford, Ralph and Kelli Giffen.



The barn to the left was built first.



Beams with some rectangular  
grooves not attached to anything  
came from the Stayner Creamery.



(Photo courtesy of Ralph Giffen)





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THE OPP REPORT

IMPAIRED DRIVER CAUSE OF FIERY HEAD ON CRASH ON HIGHWAY 26

Members of the Huronia West Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and emergency crews were called to a serious collision Friday night just before 6:00 p.m., which occurred on Highway 26 near Strongville Road 10 in the Township of Springwater.

Two vehicles travelling on Highway 26 were involved in a head on collision, which resulted in a fire and one driver becoming trapped. Emergency crews were able to free that driver and both drivers were transported to hospital. One sustained minor injuries, and the other with serious injuries. There were no other occupants in the vehicles.

Highway 26 was closed for several hours for a police investigation.

As a result, Dennis STILES, 30, of Barrie was charged with the following offences contrary to the Criminal Code:

- Operation While Impaired - Alcohol & Drugs
- Dangerous Operation Causing Bodily Harm

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) remains committed to ensuring Ontario roads are safe from drug-impaired and alcohol-impaired drivers. Impaired drivers continue to threaten the safety and lives of all road users. If you cannot drive sober, don't drive. If you suspect an impaired driver, call 9-1-1.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is asked to contact the Huronia West OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). When you contact Crime Stoppers you remain anonymous, you will never have to testify and you may be eligible to receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000.

Delivery Truck Strikes Building at Main Intersection of Penetanguishene



A business and two apartments have been evacuated after a truck rolled into an historic building at the main intersection in Penetanguishene. On January 27, 2022 at about 9:45am, members of the Southern Georgian Bay detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) and the Penetanguishene Fire Department responded to a collision at Main Street and Robert Street in Penetanguishene. The business on the main floor and the two apartments above were evacuated for the safety of the occupants. The truck rolled from a convenience store parking lot across the street, it struck a vehicle at the intersection and then the building, causing major damage however no injuries have been reported.

OPP Central Region Technical Traffic Investigation (TTCI) Unit are on scene to determine the cause of the collision. No charges have been laid at this time. The intersection remains closed during the investigation, the structural safety of the building has not yet been determined.



Members of the Huronia West Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are currently investigating a break and enter at a popular beachfront business.

On Sunday January 23, 2022, Huronia West OPP attended a business on Mosley Street in the Town of Wasaga Beach for the report of a break and enter. The complainant told police that sometime between 5:00pm January 22, 2022, and the morning of January 23, 2022, someone smashed a window to the business to gain entry. While inside, the thief stole approximately 55 pairs of 'Crocs' footwear.

There is no suspect description at this time.

Huronia West OPP is asking business owners in area of Mosley Street and First Street North in the Town of Wasaga Beach to check their security cameras for any suspicious activity. If you have any information or video surveillance footage in relation to this theft, please call the Huronia West OPP Detachment at (705) 429-3575 or 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit your information online at <https://ontariocrimestoppers.ca/>.

CRASH ON MOSLEY STREET - IMPAIRED DRIVER ARRESTED

On January 19, 2022, at approximately 8:12 p.m., the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Huronia West Detachment responded to a two car collision that had occurred on Mosley Street near 65th Street North in



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the Town of Wasaga Beach.

On arrival, police spoke to both drivers, one of which caused police to enter into an impaired driving investigation. This driver was arrested at the scene, and transported to hospital with minor injuries. The other driver involved in the collision was not injured.

As a result of this collision, Jill VANZELLA, 60 years old, of Wasaga Beach, has been charged with:

- Operation While Impaired - Blood Alcohol Concentration 80 Plus

VANZELLA's driver's licence was suspended for 90 days and the vehicle was impounded for seven days. She is scheduled to appear in the Ontario Court of Justice in Collingwood in February 2022.

Ontario citizens are reminded to do their part by never driving after consuming alcohol or drugs and never letting anyone else drive if you know or suspect that they have consumed either.

If you suspect someone is driving, or going to drive, while impaired by drugs or alcohol, contact the police immediately by calling 9-1-1.



CHECKING IN@PPL

News & Events at the  
Penetanguishene Public Library  
24 Simcoe Street 705-549-7164  
[www.penetanguishene.library.on.ca](http://www.penetanguishene.library.on.ca)

PD Programs are here!

Winterama Virtual Scavenger Hunt

Feb. 18-21, 2022

Join our Winterama Scavenger Hunt. Get outside and get creative, using our list of prompts. List can be picked up at the library. Must pre-register team and sign waiver to participate. Prizes will be awarded.

Blackout Poetry for Teens

Must be a member to participate. Take-away bag with instructions, pages from old books, chocolate and literacy book mark. Free.

Bee Mine Valentine's Take-away Craft

Make a bee with paper, googley eyes, chenille stems, hearts, and six chocolate hearts. This craft is suitable for children ages 5-10 years. Younger children may need parental assistance. No limit however, must have library card. Cost \$4.00.

Valentine's Bouquet Take-away Craft

Make a heart bouquet and card. You supply glue, tape and markers and we supply the rest. Pick up your bag today. Limit of 2 per household. Free.

New @PPL

Library is Open

The library is open to 50% capacity. Computer use ½ hour per day. Visit up to 1 hour with your QR code passport, required as well for computer use and in-house programs.

National Penguin Day

In honor of National Penguin Day the library has adopted an African penguin at the Toronto Zoo! Check out our Facebook page to read all about the African Penguin and its habitats.

Friday Draw

Like and share draw every Friday on our Facebook page. Just like and share the post on our Facebook page for your chance to enter the draw and win!

Let's Stay Connected!  
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Follow us on Instagram: penpublib

BRIDGE BITES

from The American Contract Bridge League

THE NINE OF HEARTS

By: Brian Gunnell

♠ J94  
♥ AKQT8  
♦ J64  
♣ J3

North

♠ AQ82  
♥ J93  
♦ T2  
♣ K954

West

♠ K6  
♥ 54  
♦ AQ85  
♣ AQ876

East

♠ K954

When this deal was played in a duplicate club game, all but one of the 12 N-S pairs played in 3NT, scoring 9 or 10 tricks. But at one table Declarer managed to go down. How was such a thing possible? As you might have guessed from our title, the Heart Nine played a surprisingly important role in the proceedings.

Against 3NT, West found a Diamond opening lead, not the best for the defense as it happened. Declarer won that trick with the Queen, and now had to decide how to tackle the Heart suit. The odds favor playing for the drop of the ♥J, rather than finessing Dummy's Ten, and the plan was (hopefully) to cash the Hearts and to play on Clubs for an overtrick or two. But the plan changed when East casually dropped the Jack under Dummy's Ace on the first round of Hearts. Quite a play, don't you think?

This seemed like good news for Declarer, as surely there were five Heart tricks available by taking the "marked" finesse of the Heart Eight. So, Declarer led the ♠J, covered by the King and Ace, and confidently finessed the Heart Eight. Oops! That lost to East's Nine, after which Declarer could not avoid going down one! Congratulations to Dan Jacobs of Jacksonville, FL, who sat East and found that lovely Heart play.

**Post Script:** After Dan had won the Heart Nine he shifted to the ♠A. Could Declarer have salvaged her contract by dumping the King under the ♠A in an attempt to force an entry to Dummy? A clever play, for sure, but not quite good enough. Dan would shift to a Club and, one way or another, the defense would get their five tricks.

1	B	A	G		4	F	O	O	T		8	D	O	T									
11	U	S	E		12	A	R	C	H		13	E	A	R									
14	L	I	T		15	R	I	C	E		16	S	K	Y									
17	B	A	S		18	E		19	G	U	E	S	S										
				21	S	T	I	R		23	P	E	A	S									
26	C	O	T		27	T	O	N		29	C	A	R	G	O								
30	A	R	R		31	A	Y			32	C	A	R	T	O	N							
32	B	E	A		33	P	A	R	K														
				34	D	E	A	L	S		36	S	O	M	E								
40	A			41	T	E				42	R	A	T			43	S			44	D	A	Y
45	N	O	R							46	M	I	L	E						47	O	N	E
48	Y	E	S							49	S	T	E	W						50	R	E	D

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## A TINY SENIOR MOMENT

By Marilyn Hughes, Volunteer Writer  
 Senior Advisory Committee – Township of Tiny  
 Aging and Healthy Living.

Good news, Spring is only 46 days away. What does that have to do with Aging and Healthy Living? Although we will be in the throes of winter for a few more weeks, the experts recommend it's time to start planning our gardens now. Gardening presents a source of exercise and nutritional options as well it can sustain insects such as bees which helps us all.

This year, I am investing the time and looking into the best approach to have a successful garden. Several gardening experts recommend starting with a design of the layout and the placement of plants. Keep a list of blooming and harvesting dates which can be exciting to anticipate as we await their readiness. If you decide to start seedlings, order those seeds now as many popular ones sell out early. Consider purchasing a garden thermometer for the soil which can tell you optimal planting times for each plant. Many more helpful tips can be found online or ask at local nurseries and garden centres. If you are unable to keep a garden, follow our column and the Tiny Township webpage for information on upcoming plans for the local Community Garden.

A balanced diet is critical for a healthy lifestyle but sometimes we take shortcuts to meal planning and select something easy like frozen fish and chips. When developing your garden, include a few vegetables for daily use or freeze for another time. You might also consider elevating or fencing it in to keep wild animals away from the harvest.

Healthy living also includes staying hydrated and an adequate daily intake of water is critical to both our

physical and mental health. Keep a water bottle or thermos on your counter and refill when empty.

We will still encounter many colder days, and it is important to be aware that older adults may not feel the cold as much as we once did. Before heading outside take a moment to keep track of the time and make sure your footwear is sufficient to ward off any cold or dampness as our feet may not tell us when it's time to come in out of the cold!

For more information on nutrition and healthy lifestyles for older adults there is considerable information online or check the local library. A few websites include:

- [healthline.com/health/healthy-eating-for-seniors](https://healthline.com/health/healthy-eating-for-seniors)
- [medicalnewstoday.com/articles/anti-inflammatory-diets](https://medicalnewstoday.com/articles/anti-inflammatory-diets)
- <https://food-guide.canada.ca/en/tips-for-healthy-eating/seniors/>

### Activities and Recreation

Exercise is critical too for our mental and physical health. One low impact sport is Pickleball, and the Session 3 Pickleball Lottery registration deadline is February 7th. It is a six-week program and starts February 14th through to March 30th. Please note that depending on status of Covid directives this timeline may need to be modified. Please go to the Tiny Township recreation page at Township of Tiny/Parks, Recreation and Culture, select Sports Programs. You can register as a team or as a single to be matched with other singles. For more information contact the Recreation Dept. via email at [recreation@tiny.ca](mailto:recreation@tiny.ca), or call 705-526-4204 x3 for more details.

The Coffee and Connect Program initiative was a

success in 2021. More information will be announced on the Tiny Township website at [tiny.ca/seniors](http://tiny.ca/seniors) in March 2022.

Senior of the Year Volunteer Award will be announced at the Township of Tiny's February 2nd Council Meeting. These presentations can be viewed virtually through the Council LiveStream channel on YouTube. To view, go to Tiny's website, select Township Hall, then lick on Council, and select LiveStream. If you have any questions about the streaming or recording of council meetings, or if you require an accessible format or communication support, please contact the Clerk's Department at 705-526-4204.

### Support always available:

Telehealth provides access to a Registered Nurse 24/7 and is a free and confidential service offered in over 300 languages. Contact via phone at 1 866 797 0000, also TTY at 1 866 797 0007 both are toll free options. They do not offer advice via email.

Dial 211 - A free helpline that connects you to community and social services in your area, 24/7, 365 days a year, in over 150 languages.

### Transportation:

CT Link is a partnership of non-profit organizations in Simcoe County providing door-to-door accessible transportation for medical and other appointments for seniors and people with disabilities. For more information and to register, contact them at [ctlink.ca](http://ctlink.ca), or Dial 211 for assistance in requesting transportation.

"Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better." Albert Einstein

Happy Valentine's Day!

## Museum offers sweet programming for kids of all ages

Midhurst/January 31, 2022 – Once again, the Simcoe County Museum will be offering sweet programming for kids of all ages in the lead-up to Valentine's Day. This virtual program will explore how local chocolate and candy makers create their candy and will allow participants to sample candy popular through the ages.

EVENT: Tasty Tours: Sweet Tooth

Date: Sunday, February 13, 2022

Time: 1:30 – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual

Cost: \$20 per person



**Details: Tasty Tours: Sweet Tooth is a Virtual program for kids of all ages.**

**Meet local chocolate and candy makers.**

Discover how local candy is made. Sample a variety of candy popular throughout the ages. Some candy may be sweet, others may be sour or even hot! This makes a great Valentine's Day gift for kids and the young-at-heart. It is sure to be a sweet time for all!

### Registration

Tasty Tours: Sweet Tooth is suitable for children of all ages, and costs \$20 per child. Register online, pick up your supplies box the week before the event starts, and join us from 1:30 - 2:00 p.m. Registration is required and is available at [museum.simcoe.ca](http://museum.simcoe.ca). Space is limited so register early to avoid disappointment.

### About the Simcoe County Museum

Take the Infinite Journey with the Simcoe County Museum, a cultural exploration of our historical past and exciting future. The Simcoe County Museum is owned and operated by the County of Simcoe and offers year round exhibits, events and educational programs for visitors of every age. Visit our website at [museum.simcoe.ca](http://museum.simcoe.ca) for further details. As of February 1, 2022, the Museum is reopen to the public at a reduced capacity. Book your visit online at [museum.simcoe.ca](http://museum.simcoe.ca).

## Hello Winter Brings Fun and Safe Activities to Celebrate Barrie's Winter Season

(Barrie, ON) For the second year in a row, the City presents Hello Winter— six weeks of fun, engaging and safe activities to help residents and visitors enjoy Barrie's winter, February 5 to March 20. Hello Winter takes place in lieu of Winterfest – a Barrie tradition and one of Ontario's premiere winter festivals. Hello Winter 2022 includes some popular programming from Winterfest, re-imagined.

"This year, Hello Winter's theme focuses on light, to brighten the cold season and inspire a sense of hope," says Steve Lee-Young, Manager of Recreation Programs. "By spreading the event out over February and March and re-creating classic Winterfest favourites, we are able to safely offer experiences that celebrate what winter has to offer in our city."

Along the theme of light, Hello Winter will feature temporary light-based art installations, including digital art projected in downtown public spaces, (displayed February 18 to March 20) and an interactive installation called Chimes (displayed February 20 to March 20), which will fill Meridian Place with a symphony of sound and light.

### Additional Hello Winter activity highlights include:

- Ice sculptures celebrating winter's natural beauty, displayed at Meridian Place and Heritage Park February 5 and 6;
- A skating party with a live DJ and light show at Circle at the Centre on the evening of February 11;
- An enchanted winter trail through Sunnidale Park

from February 5 to 13;

- An online 'Community Sculpture Challenge', where residents are invited to build creative creations and submit pictures to an online map, opening February 18;

- A Family Day adventure featuring a variety of outdoor activities at the Barrie Community Sports Complex on February 20.

Throughout Hello Winter, the City will also activate several community parks throughout Barrie with engaging nature-based, pop-up programming, called 'Nature in Winter'. For additional recreational opportunities throughout the winter, the City's trails and outdoor rinks are also open.

**Specific activity details** – including times and registration requirements – will be posted to [barrie.ca/HelloWinter](http://barrie.ca/HelloWinter) as they are announced. Hello Winter is funded in part by the Government of Ontario through the 2021 Reconnect Festival & Event Program.

When taking part in activities or using any amenities, the City reminds participants to follow all posted health and safety guidelines, and the regulations from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and the Province of Ontario

### About Chimes interactive art installation

Chimes was created and executed by Collectif Blackbox, a coproduction of Quartier des Spectacles Partnership and MONTRÉAL EN LUMIÈRE, creation Fete des Lumieres of Lyon (2017).





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**February Multi Consignor Auction, Guelph** - Feb. 13-17 - 2015 Nissan Micra, vintage clocks, 10K jewellery, Swarovski, figurines  
**Party Supply Rental Company Auction, Guelph** - Mar. 6-10 - linens, folding chairs, arbour, crystal trees, throne chairs, disco ball  
**Norma Scott Moving Sale, Milton** - Mar. 6-10 - china, glassware, high quality furniture, prints, sterling silver pieces, kitchen items

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THANK YOU

THANK YOU

**Adrianus [Art] VanLaarhoven Family**  
We extend our sincere thank you to family and friends who offered their condolences, after the recent loss of Art, through phone calls or by sending cards, texts, flowers and food to our homes. We truly appreciated those who made a donation, in Art's memory, to the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Centre at RVH or to the charity of your choice.. Special thanks to Kim and the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home staff for their professionalism and guidance during this difficult time. Art will be dearly missed.

**Cheryl, Julie, Joe, Joyanne and families**

Obituaries



**HENDERSON, Gail**  
**(nee Siddall)**

It is with heavy hearts that we share the news that Lois Gail Henderson (nee Siddall) lost her battle with cancer and passed away peacefully on January 20th, 2022, at the Tomkins House Hospice in Penetanguishene Ontario. We want to thank her doctors Kent Russell, Dr. Fredrick Yoon, and Dr. Jackie Lai for the outstanding care they provided to Gail as she bravely battled small cell cancer over the past four years.

Gail spent her final days at Tomkins House Hospice where Gail received kind and loving care beyond words of thanks.

Those that knew Gail will remember her as a loving, kind, and generous person. Gail left a positive impression on everyone she met - consistent with the positive, optimistic way she conducted her life. Gail was an inspiration, role model, advisor, and friend for many and she will be remembered for her warmth and welcoming nature.

Gail is predeceased by parents Oliver Siddall and Hazel Hartt, and sister Linda Blaney. She is survived by her partner Charles Robert (Bob) Simmons, son Trevor Henderson and partner Claudette Martin, step-son David Simmons and wife Vanessa, step-daughter Peggy-Jane Shields and husband Jeff. Gail was also the proud grandmother of 6 grandchildren Neil and Elinor Henderson, Dax and Alessa Simmons, and Carson and Rylan Shields.

We are extremely grateful to have had Gail in our lives as long as we did. Gail was born on June 27, 1946, she was in her 75th year. Planning for a Celebration of Life is currently underway, and we will pass along more details shortly.

In memory of Gail, donations can be made to Hospice Huronia Tomkins House.

*Friends may visit Gail's online Book of Memories at [www.fawcettfuneralhomes.com](http://www.fawcettfuneralhomes.com)*

THANK YOU

**Thank You To all our Friends & Customers**

There are not enough words to express how thankful we are for your sympathy & kindness in our time of sorrow.

The support & comfort you provide will always be remembered by

**The Family of Jim Ford**

Quote:

Say not in grief that he has gone, but give thanks that he was yours.

(Author Unknown)

Sincere thank you to family, condo family, and friends for your many acts of kindness at this difficult time after the passing of my husband George.

Thank you also to Kim and staff at Lynn Stone Funeral Home for their care and compassion. Also, to Rev. Frank Beasley for the beautiful service. I am truly grateful!

**Eleanor Jones**

The family of the late Theresa Ball would like to express their deepest gratitude to all those who offered kindness, support, and messages of sympathy and comfort during our difficult time of loss. We would especially like to thank Hillcrest Village for the amazing care and compassion they continued to provide, and to Lynn Stone Funeral Home, Reverend Lois Brown, and to all those who made thoughtful donations to the Vasey Church in memory of Theresa Reta Ball.

Thank you

The family of the late Lois Swan would like to thank our friends, neighbours and relatives for their kindness and amazing support during this difficult time. Thank you for your visits, phone calls, flowers, food, cards and donations to the Elmvale Food Bank and Hospice Simcoe. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. A special thank-you to the Simcoe County Paramedics and the staff at the Lynn Stone Funeral Home for your sympathetic professionalism during this painful process.

**Brian Swan and Family.**



**FORLER, Helen**  
**(nee Saunderson)**

February 28, 1927 –  
January 21, 2022

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to a loving mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother who passed away peacefully, surrounded by loved ones on January 21, 2022. Pre-deceased by first husband Bill Saunderson, second husband Ken Forler; 10 year companion George Hazel and 8 year companion Russ Mowforth.

She will be missed by her children Terry (Lee) Saunderson; Margot (John) Nicholls; Susan Walker and Mark (Catherine) Saunderson. Also, grandchildren Jennifer Pershick, Ashley Blanchard, Lindsay Walker (deceased), Matthew Saunderson-Ree, Jessie Saunderson, Samantha Walker, Mitchell Holtz and 6 great grand-children.

Helen hails from Saint John, NB where she was the first employee of the Boy Scouts of Canada. She and her husband Bill went on to be the local Boy Scout leaders while raising their 4 children. Moving to Toronto so Bill could further his teaching career, Helen began a successful career with Coppercraft Canada (Home Party) winning cars, furs, and trips with her over-the-top sales.

Bill passed away at the age of 56 and Ken Forler came into her life. It is then they built their house in Elmvale, Ontario. They were active members of the community. Following Ken's passing she met George Hazel through the local Bayshore Senior Club where they were avid card players. After George's passing she met her final companion Russ Mowforth who she was with until his passing. Helen recently moved to Russell, Ontario (Ottawa), to share her final years with her daughter and her family at the Russell Meadows Retirement Villa.

An obituary cannot fully capture everything that made Helen, Helen. She had the greatest sense of humour and was always ready with a joke or story to lighten your day. How fortunate anyone who met her was to share in her laughter.

She will be sorely missed.

A celebration of Helen's life will take place at a future date.

**Condolences can be sent to the family through [www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com](http://www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com).**



**This guy thinks he's Sexy Sixty.**

Love from Sandy, Sarah, Ryan and the extended McAuley family, Cayden family and all his buds!



Obituaries



**MARTIN, Alan Gray**

Passed away peacefully at Hillcrest Village in Midland on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

Alan, dedicated father of five, grandfather of 11 and great grandfather of 13 and counting. Together with his wife Barbara, raised their family through positive influence and example; unquestionable support; grace and empowering understanding.

A man committed to life, family, faith, country, and community.

Born on Dec 12, 1930, in Quebec City, Alan was the youngest of three boys. He attended Quebec City High School. He studied at Toronto and Carleton universities graduating with an accounting degree. He articulated for his Chartered Accountant designation with Price Waterhouse. He served as an officer with the Royal Canadian Artillery Militia, 7th Regiment, reaching the rank of Major. Alan and Barbara were married in Quebec City at St. Matthews Anglican Church in 1954. Alan began a career and family in Toronto. He worked with TransCanada Pipelines and the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE). In 1974 Alan made a successful bid to become a Member of Parliament in the riding of Scarborough West with the 30th Parliament under the Trudeau Liberals. He achieved Cabinet positions as Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministers of Consumer & Corporate Affairs, and Finance portfolios. He remained very active in politics throughout his life.

Alan and family moved to Medonte Township in 1974 while maintaining his professional and political careers. In 1979 he established a Chartered Accounting firm in Elmvale Ontario. He expanded into the communities of Penetanguishene and Barrie. Alan served the communities with distinction until the eventual sale of his practice in 2010. He was dedicated to service throughout his life with professional and community involvements including:

- Anglican Church, warden and organist
- St. Johns Ambulance
- Ontario March of Dimes
- Boy Scouts of Canada
- The Carter Commission
- National Capital Commission
- Penetanguishene General Hospital
- NAV Canada
- Alzheimer's Society

Alan Martin lived into his 92nd year. Beloved husband of Barbara Martin (nee Learmonth). Dear father of John David (Pinky Marron) of Vancouver Island, Catherine (Gary) French of Elmvale, Jennifer (Vern) Jolie of Vasey, Robert Martin of Penetanguishene, and Peter (Sheera) Martin of New Jersey. Loving grandfather of Reta, Ron, Anne Louise, Kevin, Christopher, Matthew, Derek, Danielle, Jacob, Drew, and Parker. Proud great-grandfather of William, Jacqueline, Elsbeth, Pippa, Delphine, Gavin, Willow, Juliana, Thomas, Daniel, Arianne, Charlie, and Owen. Brother of Peter (Vivian) Martin, and the late Derek (survived by Molly) Martin. Brother-in-law of the late Jean (John) Antonescul. Alan will be dearly missed by his many nieces, nephews, and friends.

A memorial celebration will be held at a later date at St. John's Anglican Church, Waverley.

If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Society.

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



**HANCOCK, Eleanor Margaret (née SMITH)**

Passed away peacefully on January 10, 2022, in her 101st year, surrounded by the love of her family.

From her birth on April 14, 1921 in Cobalt, ON to Inez and Arnold Smith, Eleanor's

life was defined by her signature wit and resilience. Both were on display when she celebrated her 8th birthday by secretly learning to walk after a long battle with polio, surprising her parents at the dinner table. Both were again called into service when her father died in 1932, thrusting 11-year-old Eleanor and her brothers, Alan and Donald, into a new way of life while their mother returned to teaching. Eleanor went on to study occupational therapy at the University of Toronto; after graduating in 1942, she worked first in Woodstock ON and then overseas as part of the WWII effort. A happy occasion preceded more devastation during this period: she married her beloved Jim in 1945, and then faced the sudden death of their first son, Jamie, in 1949.

Eleanor and Jim persevered, eventually raising eight children and establishing a successful farm near Elmvale ON. In the 1980s, they retired to a custom-built house in the farm's old orchard. That house became a social hub for family and a sanctuary for Eleanor, especially after Jim passed away in 2000. Thanks to the loving care and vigilance of her son Tom and his siblings, as well as the carers and nurses from Home Instead and Bayshore Home Care, Eleanor was able to stay in that sanctuary until she died—her final act of resilience.

Eleanor's love for her family, her remarkable intelligence, and her famously dry sense of humour will be forever missed by her children, Margaret; Susan (Archdeacon Jim Sandilands); David (Padma); Mary; Helen (Brad Thompson); Tom (Colleen); Ted (Jane); and Catharine. Fourteen grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren also treasure her memory, as well as her countless neighbours and friends. A celebration of Eleanor's life will take place in Elmvale later this year, followed by interment of ashes in Bowmanville Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation to Amnesty International or St. John's United Church in Elmvale. Please notify [lynnstone@sympatico.ca](mailto:lynnstone@sympatico.ca) of your donation so that the family can be notified.

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



**GRENIER, Peter John**

Passed away suddenly at home on Tuesday, January 25, 2022. Peter Grenier of Midland in his 53rd year. Pre-deceased by his parents Francis and Bernadette Grenier, and brother Kenny. Brother of Paul (Carol) Grenier, Richard (Karen) Grenier,

Annette (Mike) Leduc, Joan Robitaille, Yvette Stacey (Bill), Herbie (Annette) Grenier, Bonnie Grenier, Dave (Sandra) Grenier, Michael (Jennifer) Grenier, Michelle (Bill) Johnston, Nicole Grenier (Kelly). He will be fondly remembered by his many nieces, and nephews. Peter will be missed by his long time friend Teena Simpson and her children Maci (Candice) Copeland and Cody Simpon. Cremation has taken place, spring interment to follow.

If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Diabetes Association in Peter's memory.

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

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# Views from the Cottage, Orr Lake

## BUY THEN SELL! NO! SELL THEN BUY!!

Since I've been in real estate for too long to say...I won't say! LOL It's in the blood as my mother-in-law, mother and now son had chosen this vocation and there are so many facets to it. It is not just about buying and selling properties, it's about your life's path. A house is a home, a family, an investment, a business perhaps but all in all, it's a hope for the future. You rely on the knowledge and experience provided by a professional in the business and a wrong or untimely move can impact every one in your family or planned family.

I had asked for queries you might have with respect to real estate and as the title denotes, should you sell first and then buy or buy first and then sell. I'll attempt to give you my thoughts on this and by no means will they be the shared opinion. We have to look at the current market we are in at any given time and assess what would provide the best outcome for all. In our present market, a 'coming soon' sign is practically sold before the MLS listing can go up! Drove of buyers are coming up from the GTA and are pushing our prices up. We have less 'product' to offer and with the obvious supply and demand, homes are sold at a premium and are going for well over asking. This is not a normal market but rather a reflection of the state of the world with respect to you know what...

I feel for the first-time buyers as they are finally approved for a particular price point and then the bar seems to be continually raised. I'm not here to predict where this market will go and at what point there will be a correction but ultimately, there will be one...of sorts. We'll deal with the current landscape here.

At this time, it is my humble opinion that you should secure where you are going first. You know you can sell in a heart-beat but where will you be living? With multiple offers on absolutely everything (almost), you may want to secure that property and set a reasonable 'move date', giving you time to list and sell in that period. You can consider renting until

you find the perfect property but that is a roll the dice as to whether prices settle or continue to inflate. One thing that is of utmost importance, however, is to really, really know what your home will sell for and I mean 'worst case scenario'.

Since I love to chat about my first-hand experiences (enough about me...what do you think of me...?), I'll give you the short version of my move from Toronto. A long time ago (in a galaxy...), I found the perfect home by chance or fate and bought it firm on a dreary, damp, November day. I was able to secure an 8-month closing (now that was unusual) as I hadn't even listed my home and I knew it needed some help before I could market it. The spring came, I listed (a down market btw) and it sat and sat. Having a cottage property that I knew I wanted to sell, I decided to run up to Orr Lake to see a small, well priced cottage that would suit my small family far better than Lake Simcoe's cold (zebra mussel invaded) and rocky shore. I bought a cottage firm and then it appeared I better get hopping to sell something before I was the unhappy owner of four properties by misadventure! Surely, my cottage on Lake Simcoe would sell fast (so cute...so small...hmm) but alas, MLS was failing me! Being a solution person, I decided to have a private auction through a local company. I came that day with comparable sales, survey and all the info any buyer could want and sold it that day for 5% more than offered on MLS. I soon dropped the price just a tad on the Toronto Property and sold within a week. Happy ending for all and now I'm here with my 'Views From The Cottage'! Let's hope Wiarton Willy gives us only six more weeks of this funny white stuff!

So bring your queries or call, email anytime as occasionally we'll cover it here! Happy February!

Catch me on 740 am radio Saturday mornings on the Marilyn Wetston show 8:30ish or email The Mel at homes@melaniemartyn.com Dir: 705 725-6439

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## Legion Issues Statement of Condemnation Protestors Disrespect Site of National War Memorial

OTTAWA, Jan. 29, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The Royal Canadian Legion strongly condemns the shocking actions of protestors who encroached upon the National War Memorial in Ottawa on Saturday. They jumped on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and parked vehicles on the surrounding grounds. This sacred memorial site commemorates those who fought and fell for the very freedoms that allow people in Canada the right to protest peacefully. We are dismayed and saddened by this overt lack of respect.

About The Royal Canadian Legion  
Founded in 1925, the Legion is Canada's largest Veteran support and community service organization. We are a non-profit organization with a national reach across Canada as well as branches in the U.S. and Europe. With 250,000 members, many of whom volunteer an extraordinary amount of time to their branches, our strength is in our numbers.

# Our Local Elmvale Hero, Graham Scott Fleming, the "Better Man" - The "One To Watch"

submitted by Jamie Crawford

I hope you are having a great week! I recently started working with emerging Canadian Singer-Songwriter Graham Scott Fleming, who recently released his incredible new single "Better Man" via all streaming platforms. "Better Man" was written solely by Graham and is a song born of personal heartbreak and resilience.

The new single is currently taking off in Canada with Stingray Radio featuring the song as a "Trending Track" and Rogers Radio selecting "Better Man" as "One to Watch." The single debuted at #48 on the Mediabase Canadian Country chart and has been featured on Apple Music playlists from U.S. radio personalities Ty Bentli and Hunter Kelly.

"This song truly started out as a journal entry. I was going through a tough time. Was being a little self-destructive and just sinking into, as a line in the song says "self-pity". It took me some time to realize I was basing my happiness on other people and specifically the other person in this scenario," said Graham.

"I wasn't giving myself the love I needed to pull myself out of the situation, but also in general. I am genuinely a lover by trade but sometimes you give your love away so much that you don't leave enough for yourself and so this song is just a reminder that I am enough, to love myself and to take these lessons and grow from them."

You can listen to "Better Man" on spotify:  
<https://open.spotify.com/track/1WYA58rWzfDGcVtgLIY938?autoplay=true>

I have Graham available for advanced virtual, phone, and email interviews and acoustic performances in support of the new single in the coming weeks. Please let me know if you are interested in setting something up with him.

Hailing from the small town of Elmvale, ON, Graham has been honing his performance skills for the past nine years working as a theatre and film actor in Toronto and on Broadway in New York City.

After winning first place in a competition called North of Nashville star in 2011, Graham's career as

an independent artist was launched and from there he began writing his own music leading him to open for acts like Derrick Ruttan, High Valley, and Jason Blaine. He has also had the opportunity to collaborate and co-write with such names as Jason McCoy, Jane Bach, Phil Barton, J.T. Harding and many others.

In 2016, Graham released his first EP Young Wild & Free, and starred as Charlie Price in Mirvish's production of Kinky Boots in Toronto for over two years. He was nominated for a Dora Award for Best Male Actor in a musical for his memorable performance in Kinky Boots, and later moved to NYC where he made his Broadway debut in Miss Saigon. Missing his small-town roots, he moved back to Ontario and released his new single for the first time in four years entitled "Déjà Vu" in 2021.



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