



**DISPOSAL BIN RENTALS • 705-733-BINS (2467) • [www.clarksonbins.com](http://www.clarksonbins.com)**



**STEELERS**  
RESTAURANT & PUB

Open 7 Days a Week!  
Take out and delivery  
**NOW AVAILABLE!**

23 Queen St. W. Elmvale  
705 322 2652 Shop Elmvale

---

CHEVROLET Cadillac  
**paulsadlon.com**

---

**PS**

550 bayfield street, barrie

---

BUICK GMC

Location of my desk: 44.5864°N - 79.8659°W • Altitude: 224 meters!  
4944 kms to Equator • 14,894 kms to South Pole • 5110 kms to North Pole

705 321 2653 • 705 322 2249 • [SpringwaterNews@Rogers.com](mailto:SpringwaterNews@Rogers.com)  
**SPRINGWATER NEWS**  
[www.SpringwaterNews.ca](http://www.SpringwaterNews.ca)



Customer # 0003684814 / Publication/Admail # 0040027838

**Your Locally Owned Community Newspaper**

**Edition 592 - February 4, 2021** Next Issue Feb. 18 • Deadline is Mon. Feb. 1

**Nicholyn Farms**  
AWARD WINNING PRODUCERS

your year-round choice for local organic and traditionally raised foods with a special emphasis on special / alternative diets

local food you can trust

2882 Horseshoe Valley Road, Phileston, ON L0L 2H0  
709.727.4488 [www.nicholyn.com](http://www.nicholyn.com)

**GREEN MEADOWS**  
Still HOMES

Detached homes in the heart of Elmvale.

REGISTER ONLINE NOW

[greenmeadowselmvale.com](http://greenmeadowselmvale.com)

**GENEROUS DONATION**



For those of you who follow the Facebook page "You might be from Elmvale if..." you will recall that there was recently a picture of the McGuire home located at the corner of Amelia and Queen Streets. As the comments reflect, Marg McGuire was a wonderful and generous lady who loved the community of Elmvale. Thanks to the McGuire Trust her generosity continues.

When the Trustees of the McGuire Trust saw a recent article regarding the opening of the new Elmvale & District Food Bank they contracted Mike Stone, President of Food Bank advising that the McGuire Trust would like to make a donation.

We are pleased to share that, using funds received from the McGuire Trust, the food bank was able to purchase another

commercial freezer and use the balance of funds to pay for items needed for the 69 Christmas Hampers provided to clients.

Marg McGuire would be so pleased to know that her legacy continues in support of projects in the community of Elmvale.

**Local Resident Singer/Songwriter releases 'Déjà Vu'**



Graham Scott Fleming is a singer/songwriter from Elmvale with a voice that is unlikely to be forgotten. After winning first place in a competition called North of Nashville star in 2011, Graham's career as an independent artist was launched. From there he hit the ground running and didn't look back. He began writing his own original music which eventually led 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, JT Harding and many others.

Graham released his first EP 'Young Wild & Free' in 2016, at a time which could easily be described as a slightly 'chaotic' period in Graham's life! Not only was Graham writing original music and planning an EP release, he was starring as Charlie Price in Mirvish's production of Kinky Boots. Kinky Boots was a

smash hit in Toronto running for 2+ years, and was extended three times due to the success of the show. Graham was nominated for a Dora Award for Best Male Actor in a musical for his memorable performance. After Kinky Boots closed in Toronto, Graham made a big move to NYC where he made his Broadway debut in Miss Saigon. Between NYC and Ontario, Graham also starred in such shows as the Canadian Premier of Ghost: The Musical, the World premier of Jukebox Hero, and the World Premier of My Very Own British Invasion plus snagged a supporting lead role in a Hallmark movie called Love You Like Christmas, where he wrote original music for the film score. Needless to say, Graham has had a pretty incredible run in many sectors of the music industry, which he is forever grateful for.

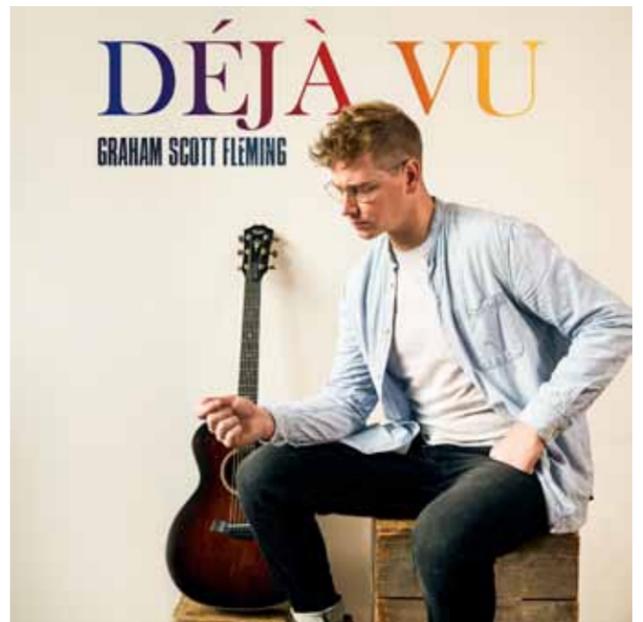
Missing his small-town roots and the music he grew up listening to, Graham is emerging himself back into the country music scene with a 2021 release of his new single 'Déjà Vu.' More details on the full EP, produced by the boys of The Agenda, will be released in the near future, but for now Graham is gearing up for an exciting new single release for the first time in four years. Influenced by duo Dan & Shay, these tunes are sure to have you belting out loud and catching all the feels.

It's been a long and difficult year for many due to the pandemic, and Graham is hopeful that things will start to look up in 2021. One thing is for sure - music will always be there to provide that much needed positivity and light, and Graham hopes sharing his stories through music will do just that. Be sure to check out his new single 'Déjà Vu' on all streaming platforms - out everywhere!! Don't forget to follow along the journey on Instagram @grahamsfleming!

**About 'Déjà Vu':**

The song is all about that feeling after the break up, when you are working on you. You finally feel like you can pick yourself up and move on. Then BAM!!! Those memories from your past relationship appear. You see the person at a party, you remember going to a certain restaurant, you are flooded with those thoughts and memories that hold you back. It's a catchy hook that will help you belt out those feelings.

Released to all streaming platforms and radio! Call your local radio station and request "Déjà Vu"!



**WILL MARSHALL INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.**

**Treating You Like Family Since 1983**

Call for Professional Advice  
**Barrie: 705-726-2551 Orillia: 705-326-5664**

Colin Marshall [info@wmib.ca](mailto:info@wmib.ca)

Automobile Residential Business Farm Recreational

[www.wmib.ca](http://www.wmib.ca)

**Returning / Coming Soon to Elmvale • ATM**

**February 11th, 2021 • Available 7 days a week**

**Whitfield's Guardian Pharmacy is happy to announce to ALL our valued customers and residents that once again, we are able to offer a full-service banking ATM!**

**16 Queen St. West, Elmvale • 705-322-1011**

**Editor's Musings**

The past three weeks have been sort of a mecca for snowmobilers. It is cold, the trails have a buildup of snow on them and the groomers are doing a great job.

If you head out, you will see trucks and trailers parked at various places along the trails. These vehicles have transported machines from where ever to the trails?

According to some, the trails are crowded.

Or are there more people owning snowmobiles?

**Land owners are complaining about people NOT STAYING ON THE TRAILS. If landowners rescind their permission, there will be no trails - or whatever trails remain - will really be crowded.**

This past year has been a bloom for recreational sales whether it be seadoos or boats in the summer and snowmobiles in the winter.

A trail pass costs \$277.50 online if purchased after December 1st, \$227.50 before that date.

If you have a classic machine, the fee is \$187.50. You save \$30 if purchased before December 1st. You can also purchase a day pass for \$35.00, two day minimal.

*Are there more machines and not enough trails?*

*Are the people on the local trails from out of our area?*

*Is this the new normal?*

Julie Payette was born on October 20th, 1963. The 57 year-old was appointed as the 29th Governor General of Canada on October 2nd, 2017 and resigned in disgrace on January 21, 2021 after less than 40 months.

After only a year in her position, she faced criticism for some controversial remarks, her work ethic with some suggesting she had not dedicated enough time to her job as she had not visited some of the provinces as had her two predecessors and the media raised issues of questionable spending projects at Rideau Hall due to her unreasonable demands of privacy, and her refusal to move in after the renovations were complete.

A \$393,000 report included 43 participants who described the general work environment in the Governor General's office as hostile and negative.

Ex Governor General Julie Payette, after resigning in disgrace, will get a pension of \$149,484 a year. She also gets to claim expenses of up to \$206,000 every year, and to continue for six months after her death, and you, as a taxpayer, do not get to see those receipts.

You are on the hook for potentially millions of dollars in pensions and expenses.

Do you think the government is tracking each and every citizen that they can?

If you own a vehicle, car, truck, motorcycle, boat, snowmobile, airplane, there is an ownership. The government knows.

The government mandates that you have a license to drive, and different ones at that. Whether it be a bus, a transport truck, a car, a boat or a motorcycle, by charging you for that, they are recording what you drive.

You need a license to own a gun and to buy ammunition. They know what you have and how much shooting you do.

If you own a house, or land, it is recorded. In the case of farms, you can trace the ownership back to the first registered owner.

With the ownership of property, to protect ourselves, we need insurance. The companies record each car accident, speeding ticket, flood in your home or whatever claim you may make. The information is digitized and stored.

The medical system is evolving/improving in their ability to share information. It is getting that all your medical records are in one spot so Dr. Kidney knows what drugs Dr. Cholesterol or Dr. Diabetes or Doctor High Blood Pressure are recommending. In one spot, they can access the x-rays of your knee, the MIR or the CT scan of your heart, your lungs or your brain. All your blood tests will be recorded there. Dr. Dentist will probably be included in this extensive medical information. All in one spot.

I went to school. Someplace, they have recorded all my marks through public school, high school and into University. Probably my detentions...but I was a good!

Banking? Some people hardly carry cash any more. Your CC expenses can be traced.

When you do a search on the computer, or whatever internet devise you use, it is all recorded. Someone knows where or for what you shop. You are a targeted customer.

Modern technology allows for facial recognition. My phone unlocks when it sees my face.

Apparently there are 5-10 other people out there that look exactly like me, There is a 90% chance that I could run into him. People are fighting governments to not use or limit facial recognition. What if the system sees my double?

Covid hits. You are asked to download a tracing program. Instead of a basic app that could work through the GPS and work on most any cell phone, they program an app that is only compatible with the latest iOS update. Why?

I have six CC cameras around my house. There are three programs on my iphone that I use to access the CCC. To access them, anywhere in the world, you need a name and a password. My phone remembers them. If someone accesses my phone, they can see what's going on in and around my house.

We have a "Find Friends" app on our phones. The reason? If we are out on the motorcycles and we get separated, by clicking on the person's name, it gives a map and location of that person. If paired with anyone, 24 hours a day, you can locate them if they have their phone with them.

If I have a subscription to a magazine, or a newspaper, it is all recorded.

I spit in a test tube and sent it to Ancestry DNA. I have received the names of cousins whom I never knew existed. People have found parents, siblings and off spring they did not know existed. One fellow has donated his sperm 172 times. Isn't that an interesting reunion?

When we get a swab for Covid, is the information deleted shortly there after. I doubt it.

When I go give a test-tube of blood for a test of some sort, do they dump the excess down the drain and destroy the test-tube that it came in - or is it set aside for future scientific purposes.

When someone hacked my Facebook account, I talked to the IT (information technology) man about changing my password. If these hackers, I was told, can access the computers of many businesses, towns, cities and countries, changing my password wouldn't slow them down much.

On Sunday, on the TV show 60 minutes, one of the guests was asked if any of this information was being hacked and how sure was he. The reply 110% sure..

Is there an organization out there that has accessed all this information about you and now have it in their possession



**Springwater News**  
 9 Glenview Avenue  
 Elmvale ON L0L 1P0  
 Publisher/Editor/Owner: Michael and Margaret Ann Jacobs  
 Tel: 705 322-2249 • Cell: 705 321-BOLD (2653)  
 e-mail: springwaternews@rogers.com  
 www.springwaternews.ca

**Articles can be dropped off, mailed and/or e-mailed** to the above addresses 24 hours a day.  
 THE NEXT PAPER will be on Jan 7, 2021.  
 Publications Mail Contract No. 1443739.  
 Unaddressed Admail No. 3684814.

Springwater News is published every two weeks and delivered by Canada Post and available at newsstands throughout the areas mentioned below. The opinions expressed in articles contributed by interested parties and through the 'Letters to the Editor' do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this newspaper and/or the editor. The editor reserves the right to edit all submitted articles or letters for clarity and space or to avoid obscenity, libel or invasion of privacy. All contributions must have the writer's full name, address and telephone number for verification.  
 Copyrights are claimed on all original articles.  
**Springwater News pays for 20,000 papers per edition. 18,850 are delivered by Canada Post to;**  
 755 in the Utopia/Grenfel area L0L 1B0 and L0L 1B2  
 3012 in the Barrie City/Rural area  
 4280 in South Springwater Township  
 146 to the new boxes in Minesing.

**If you know of someone not getting the paper, who got it before the restructuring, please let me know.**  
 625 in Phelpston L0L 2K0  
 640 in Hillsdale including the Rural Routes L0L 1V0  
 2550 in Elmvale including the former R R# 1, 2 & 3 L0L 1P0 which includes Orr Lake, Waverley and some Tiny Beaches Road areas  
 265 in the Wyebridge area L0K 2E0  
 975 in Wyevale L0L 2T0 including Conc. 8 and some TBRS areas,  
 1325 in Perkinsfield including Balm Beach to Whippoorwill  
 1100 in R.R.# 1, L4R 4K3 (775) & 2, L4R 4K4 (300) areas of Midland which includes Vasey, Ebenezer and the area North-West of Wyebridge  
 2900 in Northern Tiny including SS 3, 5, 6, 7 & 8 of Rural Penetanguishene (Postal Codes L9M -1R2, -1R3 & -2H7)  
 150 through mail outs and subscriptions in Canada

**Subscriptions are available across Canada for \$60/year and \$100/year in U.S. of A.**



for whatever use?

On the plus side, maybe when they get millions of DNAs and as they continue to track these people, they find that a simple thread in some people's DNA leads to Alzheimer's, maybe they will call me and say go to the pharmacy and start taking this drug.

On the negative side - there is always someone conniving to gain something.

If you are following the daily Covid counting for Ontario, the best place to get your information is at toronto.ctvnews.ca. They give exact numbers.

I also get the www.thestar.com figures which are accurate but not as complete.

Another source could be 680 News but they give rounded figures i.e. "fewer than 2000 new cases" or "more than" or "almost" or "fell below" or "just under".

**Covid Chart in Ontario**

Day	Total Cases	Death	Resolved	W/virus	Tests
Apr 6	309 = 4,347	13 = 132	1624	2591	
Apr 24	640 (11,184)	50 = 763	7087	5669	
May 6	412 (18,722)	68 = 1429	13,222	4071	
May 19	427 (23,384)	15 = 1919	17,889	3576	
June 18	173 (32,917)	3 = 2553	28,012	2352	
July 21	203 (37,942)	1 = 2753	33,617	1572	
Aug 11	33 (40,194)	0 = 2786	36,456	952	
Sept 12	232 (44,300)	1 = 2814	39,717	1769	
Oct 13	746 (60,692)	9 = 3016		5947	36,473
Nov 16	1487 (95,496)	10 = 3371	79,295	12,830	33,351
Dec 31	3328 = 182,195	56 = 4530	156,259	21,617	63,858
Jan 19	1913 = 242,277	46 = 5479	209,183	27,615	34,531
Jan 22	2662 = 250,226	87 = 5701	219,262	25,263	71,750
Jan 23	2359 = 252,585	52 = 5753	222,287	24,545	63,453
Jan 24	2417 = 255,002	50 = 5803	225,046	24,153	48,497
Jan 25	1958 = 256,960	43 = 5846	227,494	23,620	36,000
Jan 26	1740 = 258,700	63 = 5909	229,755	23,036	30,717
Jan 27	1670 = 260,370	49 = 5958	232,480	21,932	55,191
Jan 28	2093 = 262,463	56 = 6014	234,971	21,498	64,664
Jan 29	1837 = 264,300	58 = 6072	237,871	20,357	69,040
Jan 30	2063 = 266,363	73 = 6145	240,494	19,724	59,594
Jan 31	1848 = 268,211	43 = 6188	242,807	19,216	49,352
Feb 1	1969 = 270,180	36 = 6224	244,939	19,017	30,359
Feb 2	745 = 247,246	14 = 6238	247,246	17,451	28,552

It is frustrating if you are recording the results.

Tuesday, January 26, there were a few people commenting on the knuckle whitening drive from Toronto to the east side of Barrie. One person suggested that another force, God, had taken the wheel of her vehicle a couple of times.

Someday, we are supposed to have self driving cars using their own AI (artificial intelligence) to take us where ever. Stories include a train of vehicles heading down a freeway, centimetres apart and meeting other vehicles and passing just centimetres apart.

So the question is, how bad will the roads be before they use their AI to shut down all the vehicles - halfway between point a and point b?

*Charles - Do you think they'll ever have self driving boats to fish from?*



**HERDABOUT K-9 ACADEMY**

**OBEDIENCE CLASSES**  
 Puppy Kindergarten through Open Level Competition Rally Obedience Canine Good Neighbour Program

**AGILITY CLASSES**  
 Puppy Foundations through all levels of Competition Indoor and Outdoor classes

**PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTORS**  
 Kellie & Jeff Whiteside

(705) 429-0833  
 www.herdaboutk9academy.com



**MIDHURST PHARMACY**

Let's Talk About...  
**Our Hours and Services**

With Pharmacist Owners Jenna Lougheed and Carolyn Glover  
 We are here for you. Our doors remain open to serve you safely with protective shields, physical distancing and mandatory mask protocols in place. We offer curbside service and delivery upon request. We have reduced our closing ours to 8pm Monday to Friday.

We continue to offer immunizations, compression stockings, compliance packaging, medication synchronization, pharmacist medication reviews with COVID screening procedures in place. If you have any questions or concerns or are feeling unwell please CALL us at 705-503-7333 before visiting us in store. Let's all do our part to keep our community safe. Stay well!

94 Finlay Mill Rd, Midhurst ON  
 705.503.7333 | Mon-Fri 9-8 Sat 9-5 Sun 10-5

LIVE WELL WITH  
**PHARMASAVE**

**RKM MOONEY INSURANCE BROKERS LTD.**

- HOME
- AUTO
- FARM
- BUSINESS
- LIFE

"Pride in Service"

**705-726-9941**

randy@mooneyinsurance.ca  
www.mooneyinsurance.ca

**GORE MUTUAL**  
GO FORWARD

**SHAKELL'S WRECKING YARD AND SALES LTD**  
SERVING CENTRAL ONTARIO FOR OVER 40 YEARS

GOOD USED PARTS  
MECHANICAL REPAIR & BODY SHOP

HILLSDALE, HWY 93: 705-835-1552  
www.shakellswreckingyard.com

**Tiny Plant Boutique**  
LEAFY, LEAFY & MORE LEAFY!  
Local House Plant & Decor Shop

Find us on Facebook or Instagram  
@tinyplantboutique

Or on our website  
www.tinyplantboutique.com

**Friends of Simcoe Forest**



The Friends of Simcoe Forests Inc. (FSF) continues to press and question the use of the Freele County Forest to house a waste management facility.

FSF had retained three ecological experts who determined that the proposed site was a "significant woodland" and "significant wildlife habitat". This means that the site is subject to the protection under the natural heritage provisions in the Growth Plan, a provincial plan. All land use decisions, including those made by a Minister, council or an administrative body such as the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal must conform to the 2019 Growth Plan. However, after FSF filed the ecologists' report with the Tribunal, the Minister passed a law exempting the proposed site from the natural heritage protections afforded by the Growth Plan.

On February 15, 2021, we will be filing our legal arguments in Court challenging the law passed by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. The case will be argued on April 26 and 27, 2021.

Please visit our website

[www.friendsofsimcoeforests.com](http://www.friendsofsimcoeforests.com)

for more information or contact Mary Wagner, President FSF 705 716-6564 for more information.

Find us on Facebook Friends of Simcoe Forests.

**NATIONAL BANK**  
Powering your ideas™

**Silvia Berk**  
Mortgage Development Manager

National Bank of Canada  
487 Bayfield Street  
Barrie, ON L4M 4Z9

705 790-3351 • [silvia.berk@nbc.ca](mailto:silvia.berk@nbc.ca)

**A Tiny Senior Moment...**

Hi There! Wait, come closer. This is a brand-new column for the Springwater Newspaper. It is an initiative started by the Township of Tiny's Senior Advisory Committee (SAC).

Yes, you guessed it...this column is dedicated to Seniors. To stay connected, especially, during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Discover events, educational seminars, provide a few tips when needed, and act as a resource for Seniors when they have questions.

The Senior Advisory Committee has been around for a number of years and have introduced multiple Senior Speaker Series Workshops, as well as hosted three Symposiums, all for local Seniors. Still do not know who SAC is?

The SAC is an Advisory Committee to the Township of Tiny, advising Council on matters related to the well-being and quality of life of seniors. The SAC continues to consult and collaborate with seniors, gather information and when needed, provide advice regarding senior needs and services.

SAC is guided by the Local Aging Plan, which was completed in 2017, and identifies the needs and opportunities of seniors and older adults.

We want to stay connected with you. Our Seniors. Come back here every time this paper comes out. We will be offering new virtual workshops coming up in February and March, looking at the easiest ways to navigate the internet. At the same time, if you need assistance now, you can always call 211 (Ontario's Service Helpline) or go to the Tiny website, [www.tiny.ca/seniors](http://www.tiny.ca/seniors). There is a wealth of information there, including the Directory of Senior Services. Register with 'Tiny Connect', to stay up to date on happenings within the Township...

Until next time! I will leave you with a few things to ponder.

If Fed Ex and UPS merged, would they call it Fed Up?

or

You know you are getting old when the candles cost more than the cake!

And finally,

I believe the only time the world beats a path to my door is when I'm in the bathroom.

Written by Chris Greer, Chair, Township of Tiny, Senior Advisory Committee

**Student-Led Climate Action Comes to Simcoe County** By: Kaitlyn Phillips

The Simcoe County Environmental Youth Alliance (SCEYA), is a student-led environmental advocacy group. The aim is to bring awareness to issues that our environment is facing, and more importantly, what can be done. In October 2020, a group of about 15 students from our area gathered with masks and shovels to help plant over 60 trees and shrubs at Highland Park in Barrie! We were given the opportunity by Living Green Barrie, for which we were very grateful. We also volunteered our time to assist with Living Green's holiday tree sale. This recent initiative was called "Green Your Holidays". We demonstrated ways that holiday decorations and gifts could be made more eco-friendly. Members of the community participated via Instagram to show us how they "greened their holiday". We are currently working on a project to raise awareness about water issues all around the world as well as right here in Simcoe County. We are passionate about the future of our planet and environment!

Being a member of SCEYA means attending weekly virtual meetings and helping to plan and participate in our projects and initiatives. SCEYA is open to all high school students.

Anyone who is interested in learning more can contact [scenvironmentalyouthalliance@gmail.com](mailto:scenvironmentalyouthalliance@gmail.com). Feel free to check out our Instagram page @sceyalliance.

**EDGE**

More ideas to get you ready for your gardening season:

If you are starting seeds indoors, check the last frost date in your area. Then count back the number of days on your seed packet.

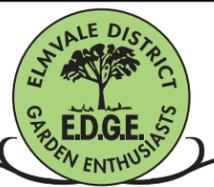
Plan some window boxes. Good choices for plants: zinnias, nasturtiums, petunias, geraniums, begonia. Edible choices: cherry tomatoes, lettuce, kale, and herbs.

Grow some herbs in containers, such as fresh parsley. Spread wood ashes around lilacs to benefit growth and bloom in the spring.

Re-energize your houseplants by removing the top 1/4 inch of soil and top-dressing with fresh potting soil.

Houseplants will be sensitive to overfeeding at this time of year. Provide lots of sunlight, fresh air, and frequent bathing for plants that seem a little worse for the winter

Check out EDGE's Facebook page for more ideas.



**It's Bigfoot season** - An Oklahoma state representative introduced a bill that would establish a hunting season for one of the state's most infamous species of alleged native wildlife: Bigfoot. Rep. Justin Humphrey, R-District 19, introduced a bill to the state legislature that would call on the Oklahoma Wildlife Commission to designate a Bigfoot hunting season. The mythical ape has been the subject of numerous sightings in southern Oklahoma for years, and the region hosts an annual Bigfoot festival for fans of the cryptid. "The Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission shall promulgate rules establishing a Bigfoot hunting season. The Commission shall set annual season dates and create any necessary specific hunting licenses and fees," the bill states. The bill, if passed by the legislature and signed by the governor, would take effect Nov. 1.

The test of a democracy is not the magnificence of buildings or the speed of automobiles or the efficiency of air transportation, but rather the care given to the welfare of all the people. -Helen Adams Keller, lecturer and author (27 Jun 1880-1968)



**Annie's Journal** by Annie Donnelly



In my early thirties, I went to visit my grandmother one day after work. During elementary school, she was the grandmother who tried to wash away the faint birthmark behind one of my knees before I could eat the lunch she'd prepared. She was always checking behind my ears. Usually, she left the price tags on gifts so we'd know how much she paid for them; she grew African violets; she loved the colour yellow. She always stopped what she was doing to listen to my stories.

That particular day, I'd had 5 bad experiences before I arrived. Funny thing is, I don't remember any of them, but I remember her advice. When I'd finished relaying every detail, I looked at her and said, "Why do these things always happen to me?"

My grandmother sat motionless for a few moments. I can still see her sitting there. Then, into the silence, she spoke these words: "It's so you'll have a good story to tell, dear."

Ten life-changing words, only one of them has two syllables. My grandmother knew and understood a simpler time. Her message is ageless: what happens to us always has within it an element of good.

Sometimes that element is clearly good: a child takes her first steps; a young boy hits his first home run; a young woman is accepted into the medical school of her choice; a young man starts his own business; someone is chosen to be an astronaut; someone receives the Order of Canada or the Nobel Peace Prize.

It's harder to find the good in situations that, on the surface, clearly seem bad: a decline in health; an unpleasant event; an argumentative relationship; a lost job; a broken dream. In our humanity, we may believe that these events have no redeeming value.

Fortunately for us, we have a Creator who keeps His promises. Romans 8:28 says: *And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.* This is comforting to know: because we're created by God, we are the called according to His purpose.

So there is a way for us to ensure that all the events in our lives become a good story to tell: we can believe that God is working all things together for our good even though, in the moment, we can't see how.

Last year, my sister lost her job due to the restrictions caused by COVID-19. A few months later she was hired by a better company at a higher rate of pay. During her time off, she believed God would work things together for her good; she looked for the good in what happened; and she found it.

It's like that age-old question: Is the glass half empty or half full? Our beliefs shape our response to life's events. Our belief in God's word defines the glass as half-full. Talk to God about whatever is troubling you. He's listening.



What expenses do bridesmaids have to cover when they agree to be in a wedding?

**Answer:** According to common terms of etiquette, bridesmaids are expected to pay for their own dress and accessories, their own transportation to and from the wedding, and a gift to the couple. Sometimes the bridesmaids as a group pitch in and give a collective gift to the bride as well, but this is not mandatory by any means.

**MBP**  
MURRAY BROTHERS PERFORMANCE

Small Motor Sales & Service  
**705-725-0975**

Sales & Service for all Brands  
Lawn & Garden, Snow, Forestry

COVID HOURS - OPEN:  
WED TO FRI 8-5 SAT 9-3

4436 Horseshoe Valley Rd. West, Minessing  
CALL FOR COVID RELATED INQUIRIES/SERVICES

PICK UP & DELIVERY AVAILABLE

HOME OF THE:  
**Husqvarna SHOWROOM!**

SNOW THROWER BELTS  
ELECTRICAL/FUEL PARTS  
TUBES & INSTALL  
DRIVE WHEELS & RINGS  
D.I.Y MAINTENANCE KITS  
FUEL & OIL  
FORESTRY & APPAREL  
SUPPLIES  
CHAIN SHARPENING  
CUSTOM MADE CHAIN

**NEW SNOWBLOWERS IN STOCK!**

**RETRO EXPRESSO**

**‘The Little Coffee House Restaurant!’**  
**Open 7 to 6 • 7 days/wk**

**FEATURING**

- Organic Teas & Coffee Cappuccino
- Espresso • Latte • Ice Cream Parlour
- Hot Bowls ‘Soup of the Day!’
- Wraps • Breakfast Sandwiches
- Baked Goodies • Our specialty is **DONUTS**
- **MILK SHAKES** best this side of the Mississippi
- Walk in / call in • Take out **orders!**
- Delivery within 2 blocks

**5 Queen St. E. Elmvale • 705 515 1400**  
**See us on Facebook - Retro Expresso**

**ANTEN MILLS NEWS** by Dennis Gannon

This past Tuesday was Groundhog Day. The day when the groundhog comes out of his burrow and if he sees his shadow, returns back to his home and there are six more weeks of winter. No shadow and Spring is on its way. Apparently this winter tradition began back in the 1840’s in North America from traditions brought by those of German descent. It would be nice if Spring were to come early but we can handle another 6 weeks if needed.

Unfortunately there have been two devastating fires in Ontario this year that have resulted in eight people losing their lives. Both fires occurred in homes and in each, four people perished. Fire is one thing we both need and one requiring respect. We require fire to heat and cook but we must respect that when not controlled it can have unexpected consequences.



We are served by a dedicated group of volunteer firefighters who look after our emergencies with professionalism and empathy. As a rural and semi rural community, often the firefighters must truck water to the emergency scene. In the southern part of the village there are fire

hydrants that can be used in the event of a fire. If the hydrant is buried in snow it takes valuable time for the hoses to be hooked up and water moving. If there is a fire hydrant near you, take a few minutes and clear the snow 3 meters all around it so that if it is needed, there won’t be a delay. Also with many people working at home and with kids learning online, it’s a perfect opportunity to review your family fire safety plan and practice having two ways out. And don’t forget to check your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. These valuable devices provide the early warning needed in the event of an emergency and require testing regularly.

February, along with being the shortest month of the year also is the month of some significant events. This Sunday is Valentine’s Day and we share our sentiments with those we love. Heart and Stroke month is celebrated in February and if you don’t know how to do CPR there are many online courses that you can take. Doing CPR and using an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) are key in saving someone who has suffered a Sudden Cardiac Arrest. Remember, there is an AED outside the community centre and it is available at all times for anyone to use.

This year Family Day is on the 15th, next Monday. February 15 is also National Flag of Canada Day. This marks the anniversary of our national flag that came into service on February 15, 1965. If you have our national flag, please hoist it high this weekend and help celebrate this great country we call home.

The week of February 15 to 21 is Ontario Heritage Week. Heritage Week is an opportunity for individuals and communities to reflect on their contributions to Ontario, how heritage is conserved, promoted and commemorated, and how they might shape the future. Springwater Township will be celebrating Heritage Week with some interesting virtual events and trivia. Check their social media pages and participate.

From the history of the Anten Mills Community Association we learn this week that there was a Winter Carnival during the weekend of January 26, 1974. The Barrie Examiner had the following description posted in the newspaper. “With all the interest over the Wyevale Winterfrolic and the Waverley winter carnival, let us not forget to mention the Anten Mills winter carnival which was held on Saturday January 26. In its own way this carnival was most successful because, while not on the scale of the Wyevale or Waverley carnivals, the Anten Mills event did serve to bring the community’s residents together for some fun and friendly competition. Anten Mills is growing but it is good to see that despite getting bigger, the community is still retaining its spirit of neighbourliness and friendliness as evidenced by this recent winter carnival event.” It’s been several years since a winter event has been held at the rink and community centre and obviously it can’t occur this year. For those who remember these events they no doubt bring back happy memories. It would be of immense benefit to the community to have them again and it can only be achieved by residents stepping up and taking a leadership role. Think about it and when the Community

**Orillia resident benefits from advanced cardiac care partnership between OSMH and RVH**

Patients who present at Orillia Soliders’ Memorial Hospital (OSMH) with heart attack symptoms will now be transported directly to Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre’s (RVH) Cardiac Intervention Unit for their lifesaving treatment.

This change is the result of an important new heart attack process called the Simcoe Muskoka Code STEMI Protocol, first introduced to the county in November, 2020. This phased, gradual approach to bringing the ‘gold standard’ of cardiac care to the people of Simcoe Muskoka is a partnership between RVH, the County of Simcoe Paramedic Services, Rama Paramedic Services and area hospitals. The ‘gold standard’ of care is achieved when a patient coming from a community hospital receives advanced cardiac care in less than 120 minutes from onset of symptoms.

Orillia resident David Dwinell, 68, was the first person to receive this ‘gold standard’ of cardiac care having had his cardiac procedure within 96 minutes from presenting to OSMH’s Emergency department.

On the morning of January 21, Dwinell was driving when he experienced chest pressure and dizziness. He pulled over to the side of the road and called his brother who took him to OSMH’s Emergency department.

The highly skilled team of nurses activated the Code STEMI protocol in conjunction with the Emergency physician, Dr. John Sauvé. Collectively, they provided the necessary care for Dwinell while facilitating the transfer to RVH. Simcoe County paramedics were dispatched and Dwinell was safely transported to RVH where the cardiac team was waiting for him. Within minutes he was in the Cardiac Intervention Unit undergoing an angioplasty procedure under the care of RVH interventional cardiologist, Dr Mark Kotowycz.



David Dwinell, 68 was the first Orillia resident to benefit from the new Simcoe Muskoka Code STEMI Protocol. Now people with heart attack symptoms who go to Orillia Soliders’ Memorial Hospital’s (OSMH) Emergency department will be transported directly to RVH for advanced cardiac care.

“It was truly a team effort all around,” says Dr. Sauve. “Our ER team in Orillia is well prepared for this type of circumstance and the quality and transfer of care at both hospitals was flawless.”

Dwinell was equally pleased with his care adding, “From the time I arrived at OSMH the team was great. I was immediately surrounded by several nurses and a physician and before I knew it I was on my way to RVH in Barrie. When I arrived at RVH the team was waiting for me. Everything went very well and the care was great.”

Since December, residents of Simcoe County, including Rama First Nation, who call 9-1-1 with heart attack symptoms have been transported directly to RVH for care, bypassing local Emergency departments. People with symptoms who went to their local hospital’s Emergency department on their own were stabilized and transported to Southlake Regional Health Centre in Newmarket. Now, that the second phase of the new protocol is in effect, heart attack patients who

go to OSMH’s Emergency department will be transported directly to RVH. In February this will also apply to patients who present to the Emergency departments at Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) and Collingwood General and Marine Hospital (CGMH).

“Having these advanced cardiac services, and a highly-skilled team at RVH means that now most patients in Simcoe County will be able to get lifesaving intervention within 120 minutes of a heart attack,” says Dr. Tony Lee, medical director of RVH’s Cardiac Intervention Unit. “That is great news because the faster a patient can be treated, the better the outcome. When it comes to the heart, ‘time is muscle.’ This is a very important step in our safe, gradual phased approach to eventually bring timely

access to 24/7 advanced cardiac care to all of North Simcoe Muskoka. This new cardiac protocol would not be possible without the full collaboration of all our health partners in this region. Special thanks to the team at OSMH, and especially Dr. Aaron Barnett, Chief of Emergency, for the team’s dedication and commitment to bringing this ‘gold standard’ of cardiac care to the people who call OSMH their home hospital.” RVH is well positioned to deliver advanced cardiac care. The regional heart program, a partnership with Southlake, opened in January 2018 and since then the cardiac team has completed just over 6,000 heart procedures including angiograms, angioplasty and pacemaker implants.

It is expected the protocol will extend to Muskoka residents in spring of 2021 which will include Muskoka Paramedic services and Muskoka Algonquin Health Services.

What word in modern English has been around the longest?

**Answer:** The answer is a tie. According to the *Oxford English Dictionary*, which includes the dates of the earliest known usage of each English word, the words *town* and *priest* were noted around the years 601 to 604, taken from 7th-century Anglo-Saxon documents and stone inscriptions.

Now that the metric system is in wide use all over the world, we can see why American have not adopted it:

A miss is as good as 1.6 kilometers.

Put your best .3 of a meter forward.

Spare the 5.03 meters and spoil the child.

Twenty-eight grams of prevention is worth 453 grams of cure.

Give a man 2.5 centimeters and he'll take 1.6 kilometers. Peter Piper picked 8.8 liters of pickled peppers.

If you explore beneath shyness or party chit-chat, you can sometimes turn a dull exchange into an intriguing one. I've found this to be particularly true in the case of professors or intellectuals, who are full of fascinating information, but need encouragement before they'll divulge it. --Joyce Carol Oates



Recreation Association holds its next meeting, attend and participate, everyone is welcome.

A longtime resident and overall great person celebrated a milestone birthday recently. From all of the community we hope that you had a great birthday John and may you have many more!

That’s all for now, Stay Healthy, Stay Strong, Stay Safe. [Antenmills1@gmail.com](mailto:Antenmills1@gmail.com).

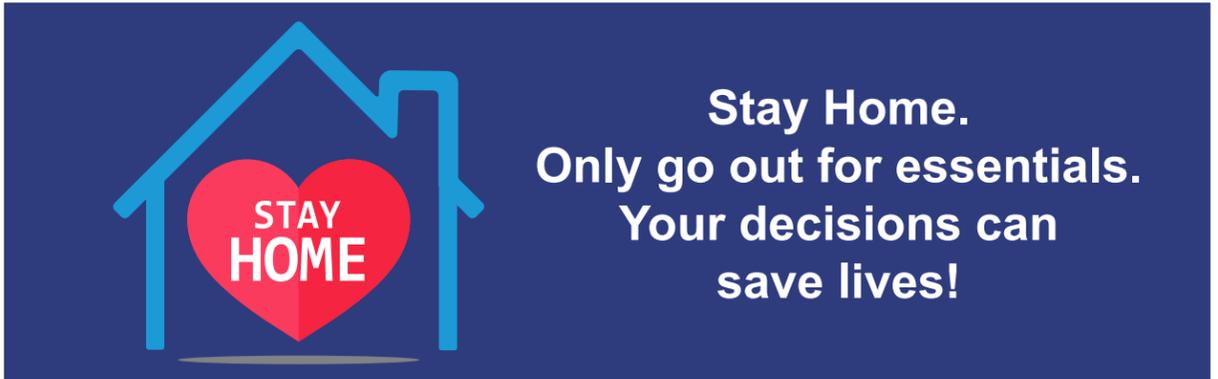
**9 foods that get rid of an upset stomach: Bananas, Ginger, Plain yogurt, Papaya, Apple Sauce, Oatmeal, White Rice, Chamomile Tea, Chicken Broth**



### We're Here for You!

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

Looking for information on how the municipality is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic? Get all of the latest updates at [springwater.ca/COVID19](http://springwater.ca/COVID19)



**Stay Home.**  
**Only go out for essentials.**  
**Your decisions can save lives!**

### Join our Team!

The Township of Springwater is currently recruiting summer students for the following positions:

- Day Camp Counsellor
- Day Camp Supervisor
- Inclusion Facilitator
- Day Camp Coordinator
- Camp on Wheels

These opportunities close on Friday, February 12, 2021. Get all of the details and apply online: [springwater.ca/careers](http://springwater.ca/careers)

### Small Business Supports

Has your business been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic? There are a variety of support, grant and loan opportunities available for business owners.

The Provincial Government is now accepting applications for the Ontario Small Business Support Grant.

Learn about this and other grant and support opportunities at [springwater.ca/business](http://springwater.ca/business)

### Upcoming Meetings

Springwater Sports Heritage AGM  
Wednesday, February 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Council Meeting  
Wednesday, February 17 at 6:30 p.m.

Special Council Meeting  
Public Meetings for Planning Purposes  
Monday, February 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Recreation Advisory Committee  
Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Heritage Advisory Committee  
Tuesday, February 23 at 6:30 p.m.

Council meetings are live streamed online at [springwater.ca/live](http://springwater.ca/live). A call in option (audio only) is also available.

Board and committee meetings can be accessed via Zoom Conferencing. View the agendas for details.

### Interim Tax Billing

The 2021 Interim Tax Bills have been mailed. Installment due dates are Wednesday, February 17, 2021 and Wednesday, April 21, 2021.

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.

### Water & Wastewater Billing

Residential water meters have been read. Water & wastewater bills will be released in early February and due at the end of February.

### Pet Licensing is Changing!



The Township has launched a new partnership with DocuPet to provide pet licensing and lost pet services to ensure pets get home safely.

Along with this change, your dog's licence will now be valid for 365 days from the date of purchase!

Learn more and get your licence online at [springwater.ca/canine](http://springwater.ca/canine)

### Now Hiring

The Township of Springwater is currently recruiting a:

**Parks Maintenance**  
**Competition Number:** 2021-13  
**Closes:** Monday, February 15, 2021

Get a job description and details online at [www.springwater.ca/careers](http://www.springwater.ca/careers)

### Official Plan Amendment

Council passed By-law 2021-001 on January 20, 2021 to adopt Official Plan Amendment 61 (Additional Residential Units). The amendment will permit the use of additional residential units on properties that are zoned to permit single detached, semi-detached and townhouse dwellings and is consistent with subsection 16(3) of the Planning Act. The Official Plan Amendment is subject to final approval by the County of Simcoe. The formal complete notice of adoption may be viewed on the Township's website.

### Bid Opportunity

The Township is currently accepting bids for:

Part A - Hwy 93 IPS Traffic Signals and  
Part B - Yonge Street PXO Traffic Signals  
(2020-45-PW)

Closes: February 18, 2021

Street Sweeping, Hauling and Disposal of  
Winter Sand & Debris  
(2021-02-PW)

Closes: February 25, 2021

Front End Articulated Wheeled Loader  
(2021-06-PW)

Closes: February 25, 2021

Tandem Truck with Winter Attachments  
(2021-07-PW)

Closes: February 25, 2021

25-30 Ton Tag Along Trailer  
(2021-08-PW)

Closes: February 25, 2021

For details and to register for upcoming opportunities, please visit: [springwater.bidsandtenders.ca](http://springwater.bidsandtenders.ca)



## My View – Bill French

### Broadband – Rural Midhurst

I must congratulate Jeff Kerk from the North Midhurst rural area for his excellent presentation on the development of a local high speed solution for his immediate area by forming a Ontario Incorporated Numbered company to offer a fibre based service. It is a Cadillac solution and I question the need for such a high capacity service that far exceeds the Federal standard. I am always suspect when the delegation comes with a prepared resolution and requests Council to endorse it on the spot without much thought. But again, thanks to the cooler heads of mainly Councillors Hanna and Cabral, a number of Councillors posed excellent questions and a different direction was forthcoming.

Don't get me wrong, we definitely have spotty Internet services in the rural areas of Springwater and most of Ontario, and if an affluent neighbourhood can support the estimated \$3,000 to \$6,000 for each home that connects, I wish them the best of luck. It is certainly outside the parameters of my pocketbook.

Mr Kerk has a great idea that will serve a small area and a few residential properties north of Midhurst but it is so narrow cast and is out of the Township's jurisdiction (Broadband is a Federal Communication responsibility), that Council must be cautious on how they approach such a request. We all know there are many areas of Springwater with deep pockets that could show up with the same request. In the end the Council decided to be advocates of any party that wanted to improve Broadband in the Township, which to me is the right and most effective approach and removes any suggestion of bias to a provider.

The Deputy Mayor who seemed to want to push Mr. Kerk's resolution along with the Mayor, even suggested that some funding could come from the Community Improvement Fund (CIP). The CAO rightfully suggested that did not fit the guidelines. The CIP was intended for any business in the Township that wanted to improve their operation to better serve ALL the residents of Springwater. It was never intended to be incubator funding which this new company would be. This Broadband solution by Mr. Kerk and his Numbered Corporation will only serve a small area in North Midhurst and is not available to anyone else in the township and therefore does not qualify. Again the motivations of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are suspect. The Mayor even trumpeted the project in his editorial column prior to it coming to Council. I find that rather presumptuous. I do think the Township must be cautious on how much time they spend with one proponent as that could be construed as playing favourites with possible political motives at the forefront of their support.

It was agreed that Councillor Cabral, DM Coughlin and CAO Smyth will form a small working group and come back with ideas. That is the way it should be done and keeps Council out of areas that they should not be venturing into, especially if it entails spending taxpayer money.

### Springwater Long Range Financial Plan (LTFP)– Maybe a different approach

Two weeks ago, the LTFP by Watson and Associates and the future impacts on the Springwater Taxpayer was presented. It painted a less than rosy picture. Effectively, the Midhurst Secondary Plan (MSP) and its mega developments are not sustainable unless the pacing of development is changed, taxes and user fees are increased or the developers provide truck loads of voluntary contributions up front to stabilize expenditures and financial burden.

Even though, I am not supportive of the MSP, one solution I had thought of to reduce the short term impact was a change on the phasing of development. Remember, under the Midhurst Secondary Plan they are building two new communities of roughly 15,000 people each, one close to Russel Road and Doran Road and the other at Carson and Wilson.

The Carson and Wilson developments are advancing as Council approved the first subdivision of about 400 homes. This development is close to the location of both the new fresh water supply and treatment facilities as well as the wastewater sewage facility that will service both developments in the long term. If I were on Council, I would attempt to renegotiate with the two developers and strive to agree that only the Carson and Wilson developments will proceed, rather than trying to simultaneously develop two areas that are 5 kilometres apart. In other words, until the all phases of the western portion of the developments at Carson and Wilson are complete, no construction or servicing should be commenced on the eastern Russell and Doran Road developments. I will guarantee that the infrastructure costs would be reduced significantly and place a lower burden on both today's and tomorrow's Springwater ratepayer. Since all the numbers are available, as Council, I would request that Watson and Associates provide an analysis and impact of such an approach.

And let me remind you to wear a mask, sanitize and wash your hands regularly after touching anything outside of your home and stay six feet from anyone outside your immediate circle. God bless us all as we struggle through the event of our lifetime.

Again, please remember these are my thoughts and I am not asking you to agree. I respect your freedom of expression and encourage you to SPEAK UP, before that freedom is taken from us!!

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

## Dog Licensing Made Easy as Springwater Launches Partnership with DocuPet

Township of Springwater / February 1, 2021 – Licensing just got faster, easier and more convenient for dog owners in Springwater. The Township of Springwater has officially launched their partnership with DocuPet, a world-leading pet profile, lost pet and licensing platforms.

DocuPet's simplified, online experience is especially welcomed as the municipality looks for digital solutions during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition to a contactless license application and delivery platform, DocuPet also offers dog owners a secure online profile linked to their pet, the 24/7 HomeSafe™ lost pet service to safely reunite lost pets with their owners and over 170 colourful designer tags to choose from. Each tag comes with a pet identification number that is linked to that pet's online profile, making happy reunions easier.

Additionally, the Township has worked with DocuPet to update the licensing window from a calendar year approach, to the new 365 days model. Previously, all dog owners were required to obtain their licence by January 1 of each year. Moving forward, all licences will be valid for a full 365 days, beginning on the date of purchase.

"Dog licences are important because they help us get lost dogs home much faster, reducing the time they may spend in a shelter," says Brittany Kellington, Senior By-law Enforcement Officer, Township of Springwater. "By partnering with DocuPet, we have simplified the process for our residents to ensure they can obtain their licence in a convenient, easy and time efficient manner."

"Running an effective pet identification program is incredibly important for the welfare of pets. Keeping lost pets out of shelters and returning them to their parents is our priority at DocuPet. Over the past six years, we have helped thousands of lost pets get home, but there is still the same joy in the office every time we get the news that we have another success story. We are really looking forward to helping pets in Springwater get home safely," says Grant Goodwin, CEO of DocuPet.

Licensing your dog in Springwater is mandatory. The following fees apply to dog licensing:

- Altered (spayed or neutered): \$20.00
- Unaltered: \$25.00
- Dangerous dog (under section 5): \$200.00
- Replacement tags: \$7.00

Pet owners can license or renew their dog's licence online at [springwater.docupet.com](http://springwater.docupet.com) or over the phone at 1-855-249-1370. In person licensing is not currently available due to the closure of the Township Administration Centre as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Health Coalitions call for Federal Leadership to Defend Public Health Care

(Ottawa) Seven health coalitions, representing concerned Canadians from PEI to British Columbia, are calling for stronger federal action on health care ahead of Monday's opening of Parliament.

Canada's universal, public health care system requires federal vision and leadership. Health coalitions across Canada recognize the federal government's extraordinary contribution of resources and support during the COVID-19 pandemic. However, this time-limited and targeted support does not address the structural inadequacies of federal transfers left by the failure to negotiate a new Health Accord in 2016-17.

Long before the pandemic, health coalitions and others warned that the federal government was underfunding the system and leaving Canadians vulnerable to cuts at the provincial level. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed both the necessity of having a strong public health system, and the devastating consequences of privatization and under-investing in public health care.

Horrific conditions in for-profit long-term care homes have been exposed, meanwhile some provinces have accelerated for-profit privatization under cover of the pandemic. Premiers have advocated for more funding without making commitments, and provinces are expanding privatization by building new private facilities.

In response, millions of Canadians have supported the call to improve care levels, to enforce stronger national standards, and to put an end to for-profit care. That is why any federal-provincial agreement on long term care funding without strings attached to ensure that money goes to improving care, and not to profits, would be unacceptable.

When public health care was first established in Canada, the federal government contributed 50% of the costs to the provinces. Over time, this percentage has

## About Black History Month

During Black History Month, people in Canada 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.

### Black history in Canada

Black people and their communities have been a part of shaping Canada's heritage and identity since the arrival of Mathieu Da Costa, a navigator and interpreter, whose presence in Canada dates back to the early 1600s.

Black history in Canada has not always been celebrated or highlighted. There is little mention that some of the Loyalists who came here after the American Revolution and settled in the Maritimes were people of African descent, or of the many sacrifices made in wartime by soldiers of African descent as far back as the War of 1812.

Canadians are not always aware of the fact that Black people were once enslaved in the territory that is now Canada or how those who fought enslavement helped to lay the foundation of the diverse and inclusive society in Canada.

Black History Month is about honouring the enormous contributions that Black people have made, and continue to make, in all sectors of society. It is about celebrating resilience, innovation, and determination to work towards a more inclusive and diverse Canada—a Canada in which everyone has every opportunity to flourish.

### Recognizing Black History Month in Canada

In 1978, the Ontario Black History Society (OBHS) was established. Its founders, including Dr. Daniel G. Hill and Wilson O. Brooks, presented a petition to the City of Toronto to have February formally proclaimed as Black History Month. In 1979, the first-ever Canadian proclamation was issued by Toronto.

The first Black History Month in Nova Scotia was observed in 1988 and later renamed African Heritage Month in 1996.

In 1993, the OBHS successfully filed a petition in Ontario to proclaim February as Black History Month. Following that success, Rosemary Sadlier, president of the OBHS, introduced the idea of having Black History Month recognized across Canada to the Honourable Jean Augustine, the first Black Canadian woman elected to Parliament.

In December 1995, the House of Commons officially recognized February as Black History Month in Canada following a motion introduced by Dr. Augustine. The House of Commons carried the motion unanimously.

In February 2008, Senator Donald Oliver, the first Black man appointed to the Senate, introduced the Motion to Recognize Contributions of Black Canadians and February as Black History Month. It received unanimous approval and was adopted on March 4, 2008. The adoption of this motion completed Canada's parliamentary position on Black History Month.

## Health Coalitions call for Federal Leadership to Defend Public Health Care

decreased, with federal funding currently covering only 22% of the costs of health care. The additional financial responsibility has been left to the provinces, which have failed to varying degrees to provide resources and plan for population needs. The federal government does not face the same financial constraints as the provinces and territories, so it falls on the federal government to use its advantage to strengthen healthcare delivery in Canada.

At this pivotal moment in our nation's history, the federal government must reaffirm its commitment to public health care by taking the following steps:

- Making long-term, substantial increases to the Canadian Health Transfer and negotiating a new Health Accord with the provinces and territories.

- This new funding must come with strings attached. The Health Accord must ensure transparency, and guarantee that federal funding is invested in public health care and is not used for other purposes such as paying down provincial deficits.

- There must be accountability mechanisms to ensure public funds are not transformed into profits through privatization of our health care services.

- A new Health Accord would ensure that people in Canada would continue to access high-quality public health care including universal Pharmacare on equitable terms, based on their needs and not their income, no matter where they live. It would unite the country around our shared vision for public health care, which is based on the principles of equity and compassion.

The coalitions acknowledge the Prime Minister's Supplemental Mandate Letter to Health Minister Patty Hajdu on January 15, 2021, particularly its request to set new, national standards for long-term care, to address health inequities and barriers to care across the country, and to accelerate steps to achieve a national, universal pharmacare program.

**THE THIRD COUNTRY IN SPACE, AFTER THE U.S. AND THE USSR, WAS CANADA, WHICH WAS CONSIDERED TO HAVE THE MOST ADVANCED SPACE PROGRAM IN 1962.**

**CANADA HAS THE LARGEST COASTLINE IN THE WORLD.**

## Renew a G driver's licence: 80 years and over

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/renew-g-drivers-licence-80-years-and-over>

Once you turn 80, you need to renew your driver's licence every 2 years. Here are the four main steps you will take to renew.

How to renew

### Step 1: get a notice

Starting with your 80th birthday, you will get two things in the mail:

- a renewal form
- a letter that will let you know what to do to renew

This letter and form will arrive about 90 days before your licence expires.

### Step 2: book an appointment

Once you get your form and letter in the mail, you will need to attend a renewal session. To book the appointment, you will need to:

- call 1-800-396-4233 (toll free) or 416-235-3579 (in Toronto)
- give your driver's licence number
- tell us about any language barriers
- tell us whether you require accommodations such as a sign-language interpreter

You will get the date, time and location of your renewal session. Sessions are held at 125 locations across the province.

If you can't attend that day, you can re-schedule your appointment once. If the next appointment is only available after your driver's licence expires, you can get a temporary permit.

### If you will be out of Ontario when your licence expires:

You can renew your licence up to six months before it expires.

If you plan to be away in the 90 days before your licence expires, you can call to book your session early.

If you cannot attend a renewal session before your licence expires, you could get a one-time temporary driver's licence permit. You will only get this permit once you have booked a renewal session.

**Step 3: attend a renewal session** Total time commitment required: about 90 minutes - What to bring to a renewal session:

- your driver's licence (or temporary driver's licence)
- the licence renewal form you got in the mail
- the eyeglasses you use for driving
- hearing aids, if you need them
- a bottle of water (some locations will not have water available)
- snacks, if you need them (e.g., are diabetic or know you will need a snack)

At a renewal session, you will:

- take a vision test
- join others in a 45-minute interactive group education session about new traffic laws, how aging affects driving, tips for older drivers and road signs
- complete an in-class screening exercise
- undergo a driving record review

After the session, you may need to:

- pass a road test before you can renew your licence
- follow up with your physician and submit medical information

This will depend on how well you performed on the in-class screening components and a review of your driving record.

If you need to see a doctor, you will receive a letter in the mail with further instructions. A driver improvement counsellor at the group education session will discuss these requirements with you if necessary.

### Step 4: get a new licence card

After you finish the session and take the required tests, you will need to visit a ServiceOntario centre to get a new driver's licence card.

You will need to bring:

- your written test results
- original identification that shows your legal name, date of birth and signature

ServiceOntario will process your test results and renew your licence.

### More information: renewal sessions

Due to COVID-19, we have temporarily paused renewal sessions and waived vision testing and photo requirements until further notice. If you are a senior driver, you can now renew your driver's licences online.

### About the vision test

- a screen reader is used to test your vision
- please wear the eyeglasses you use for driving
- bring your most current glasses, if your prescription has been recently updated

If you have a certificate from an eye doctor: no vision test is needed at the session. You will need to bring a signed and dated certificate. The document must be signed/dated within 6 months of the session.

### About the in-class screening

- there are two parts to the exercise
- you will have 5 minutes to finish each part for a total of 10 minutes
- the exercise is not dependent on language and can't be taken orally
- information will be available at [Ontario.ca/seniordriver](https://www.ontario.ca/seniordriver), including samples of the screening exercise you will complete
- you don't need to prepare, but you can take the practice screening exercise to help you understand the instructions and feel comfortable with the exercises
- the screening exercise consists of two assessments of a person's cognitive capabilities relevant to driving. Each of the assessments taps into a different type of ability:
  - clock drawing: measures a driver's capacity to recognize and organize information (visuospatial ability)
  - letter cancellation: measures a driver's capacity to coordinate thinking with doing (psychomotor speed)

Drivers are always encouraged to refresh their knowledge of driving in general by reading the Driver's Handbook

Preview the Drivers' Handbook (You can do this online at <https://www.ontario.ca/document/official-mto-drivers-handbook>)

Buy a copy online

### About the group education session

- instructor: a trained driving counsellor leads the session
- topics covered: driving tips for seniors, updates to traffic laws and rules
- format: a quiet classroom setting, available in English or French
- materials: senior driver education booklet covering tips and rules – available in advance online in 18 languages



## Who Murdered Michael Kent?

*Another year has almost passed since I first wrote this article many years ago on the murder of Michael Kent and his death has still not been solved almost 55 years after his body was discovered in the arena parking lot in 1966.*

*I will continue to republish this article every February until hopefully someone will finally come forward to police with information to*

*finally punish the person(s) involved in this crime. Mike Townes*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Was the murderer local or from the Midland area?

*I feel that whoever committed this crime had to return to inside of the arena and that is why the knife was thrown on top of the Curling Club. They did not want to be caught with the murder weapon. This makes me lean more towards an out-of-towner, as a local would just leave the area with the weapon. This seems like a planned crime as the murderer brought the knife, and if a local, they would not have planned to return to inside the arena.*

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

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

### Why pick Michael Kent?

*Any given night at the arena, kids were everywhere. If the murder was planned by bringing the knife,*

*I think the chances the murderer had picked Michael in advance would not be reasonable. The murderer likely waited until the right opportunity and Michael was in the wrong place at the wrong time. A local that would have stood out at the arena would be less likely to commit this crime, but a visitor would be less visible to the crowd.*

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

💧 **LOCAL PLUMBER** 💧

**A.P.S.**  
T.A. PLUMBING SERVICES

**Taylor Archer**  
**705-627-3302**

**Letters to the Editor** Please include phone number with any L to E  
You might not appreciate seeing your name on something you did not write.

**Thinking Out Loud.**

Hello Tiny Neighbours! I wanted to draw attention to the following italicized statement I read in a recent issue of our beloved Springwater News. *"In the 60's the KGB did some fascinating psychological experiments. They learned that if you bombard human subjects with fear messages nonstop, in two months or less most of the subjects are completely brainwashed to believe the false message. To the point that no amount of clear information they are shown, to the contrary, can change their mind."* Disturbing statement! I have read about this sort of thing in other historic literature, but it really troubled me this time around. I began to wonder if a similar experiment was happening right now, conducted by those in charge on the whole of humanity during this Covid-19 pandemic?

Lately, I have been fascinated by the writings of David R. Hawkins, M.D., Ph.D. Shortly after reading the above statement I read in Dr. Hawkin's book Power Vs Force, The Hidden Determinants of Human Behaviour where he states, *"The intellect grossly lacks the ability to recognize falsehood, but also grossly lacks the necessary power to defend itself. Man's boasted capacity of reason lacks the critical faculty of discernment."* After reading this I got to thinking...are we, (including our leaders) behaving like puppets or sheepal?

And so, using my limited intellect, I dared myself to *think* some more! I began to question if some of us have truly have been dumbed down? Have we somehow been conditioned to believe something that isn't entirely true? Or, do we just allow limited reasoning and lazy intellect, (conditioned intelligence... yes sir, no sir, three bags full!) to solely guide us through this world crisis? Because of the bombardment of diverse messages coming at us from the varied sources at our disposal, (some of which are being pulled out from under us for fear some truth might leak out), have we intentionally been rendered incapable to consciously discern truth for ourselves? Is it possible that human consciousness is being slowly hacked and that our intellect is severely being programmed? If this could be happening, then how do we gain the power to consciously hear and know truth for ourselves? These questions, and many, many more assaulted my brain, perhaps a clue to my own intellectual malfunction, or maybe my personal awakening.

And then Hawkins so brilliantly clarified "truth" for me when he further explained *"the human intellect, when it cannot define the experience of consciousness (our thoughts, feelings and discernment) will label such experience as spiritual."* So what does spirituality have to do with truth you might ask? Well, I took this to mean that the human intellect on its own needs something tangible to believe in (whether true or not) as this assists the ego. Consciousness (or spirituality), which is not tangible does not have this same need because being the *divine beings* that we are, truth is already in each of us, (but as you know truth can be manipulated). Conscious (awakened) human beings find truth in their gut feelings. "Intellectual humanity" trusts facts over feelings. But be careful what your intellect thinks because Hawkins elaborates further saying that divine consciousness (intuition/discernment/faith in our inner wisdom) actually trumps intellect when it comes to knowing truth. Consciousness, and those who are awakened to it already know what is true. This is why many people on the planet have been and continue to stand up and defend truth for all of humanity. Wheh! So now that I feel awakened to the fact that I currently could either be "dumbed down" to truth, or "intellectually brainwashed by my ego" to truth, what will I do? I don't know? Pass the aspirin please! I only hope that I will become a part of the solution in this coming year and not the problem. In closing, I take solace in Dr. Hawkins statement pertaining to our current times, *"Humanity is no longer resigned to passively paying the price of ignorance."* Hmm...is he saying that the human race will suddenly wake up? Our spiritual folk tell us that the truth shall set us free. If so, maybe we should all consciously listen to them. And that's the truth!

Beverley Dujay-Macdonald, (Not a scholar, just a thinker!)

**Trudeau can learn from President Biden about climate leadership**

Dear editor,  
Watching the Canadian media, particularly the CBC, cover Joe Biden's decision to cancel the Keystone XL pipeline has been deeply disappointing

First, few reporters clearly state that Biden made this decision because the experts in his administration determined the project was out of step with the Paris Climate Agreement's goal of limiting global temperature rise to a safe level. Instead, the decision has been framed as political. However, by following up the Keystone rejection by suspending oil and gas leasing on federal lands and promising sweeping climate action Biden has demonstrated that this is more than just a political gesture.

Second, the media in Canada continue to frame Keystone XL as a pipeline with broad public support. There is no current evidence for that. Nor is there evidence that Keystone is in Canada's national interest. In fact, a recent report from the Canada Energy Regulator showed that the Keystone XL and Trans Mountain pipelines don't fit within Canada's climate promises and don't make economic sense.

Last, almost no attention has been paid to Trudeau or Jason Kenney's failure to deliver real support for workers. In 2019 Trudeau promised a Just Transition Act to support workers, but now, nearly two years later, the bill hasn't gone anywhere. Kenney and Trudeau are spending billions of public dollars on pipelines and next to nothing on a transition. The Canadian media should hold them to account.

Sincerely, Carrie James

**Climate Change Promises**

Dear Springwater News,  
The federal government has started to make good on the promise it made to Canadians during the last election to legislate for net-zero emissions by 2050. Bill C-12, introduced late last year, is now making its way through the House of Commons.

And though this legislation is an important step forward in the battle against climate change, Bill C-12 needs to be strengthened.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has warned that we have less than a decade to prevent climate disaster. This means the federal government must pass the strongest possible version of this law to enable urgent, bold climate action now.

Canadians expect a climate law that will deliver immediate action and secure a safer, healthier future for all Canadians. Let's do OUR part to let the community and our MP's that this is critical.

Sincerely Ann Kealey

What did the surgeon say to the patient who insisted on closing up their own incision? Suture self.

25. I've started telling everyone about the benefits of eating dried grapes. It's all about raisin awareness.

**Thought of the Day – The Criminal Code of Canada the Confused Mess of Parliament**

As Blackstone states in his commentaries: "The mischiefs that have arisen to the public from inconsiderate alterations in our laws, are too obvious to be called in question;... rash and inexperienced workmen have ventured to new-dress and refine, with all the rage of modern improvement... but to innovations that have been made in it by act of parliament, "over-laden ... with provisos and additions, and many times on a sudden penned or corrected by men of none or very little judgment in law." This great and well experience judge declares, ... he never knew two questions made upon rights merely depending upon the common law; and warmly laments that confusion introduced by ill-judging and unlearned legislators."

This is supported by the many amendments which have been made by Parliament since the 1990's. One merely has to look at the firearms regulations, and in particular the Order in Council pertaining to the gun grab. There are a multitude of sections in the CCC that are confusing and poorly written – this is merely one example...

Order In Council - SOR/2020-96 May 1, 2020, a.k.a. the "gun grab" amendment, brings forward some serious questions pertaining to the writing/penning of legislation. It also brings forward the confusion created when legislation is, to say the least, poorly written and doesn't follow with the principle of ease of comprehension so that every Canadian can/may understand the law.

For instance, in the gun grab O.I.C. the Criminal Code of Canada (CCC) states:

"117.15

**Restriction**

(2) In making regulations, the Governor in Council may not prescribe any thing to be a prohibited firearm, a restricted firearm, a prohibited weapon, a restricted

weapon, a prohibited device or prohibited ammunition if, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, the thing to be prescribed is reasonable for use in Canada for hunting or sporting purposes."

It clearly states the "Governor in Council may not prescribe any thing... if ... the thing to be prescribed is reasonable for use in Canada for hunting or sporting purposes." Yes, it is included "in the opinion of the G.i.C.," but is this a grammatically correct way to express that the G.i.C. may make regulations?

Throughout the CCC it states: "the Governor in Council may make regulations," and even in section 117.15 (1) it states the G.i.C. may make regulation, so, why make a statement, pertaining to firearms, that is confusing, to say the least. It seems, with the way section 117.15 (2) is written the G.i.C. "may not prescribe anything to be prohibited firearm," if it can be used for "hunting or sporting purposes," doesn't it?

Question – if the G.i.C. under section 117.15 (1) may make regulations, and as the G.i.C. is making "regulations" why is there a statement that the G.i.C. "may not prescribe" the banning/regulating of certain firearms if the "thing to be prescribed is reasonable for use in Canada for hunting or sporting purposes"?

Based on above question, the next question could be: If in the opinion of the G.i.C., on the advice of the Minister of Justice, these listed firearms are considered "not used for hunting or sporting purposes," shouldn't the Minister of Justice/Crown have to prove they are NOT used for "hunting or sporting purposes," considering they always used to be used for "hunting and sporting purposes"?

That is for you, the Courts and/or your elected official to decide...

The Criminal Code of Canada the

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		
51					52			53		

**Across**

- 1 Above the "i"
- 4 ATM access requirement
- 7 Like a lot, in the 60s
- 10 "It's the end of an \_\_\_!"
- 11 Basketball court item
- 13 Winter hazard
- 14 Car wash option
- 15 Aware of
- 16 High seas okay
- 17 Tick off
- 19 Sawmill input
- 21 Word with "little" or "late"
- 23 Orderly display
- 26 Yearn
- 29 Hot spot
- 31 Badge wearer
- 33 Final word
- 34 Police warning
- 35 Unavailable
- 37 "Junior" in the family
- 38 Lord or baron
- 41 Tarzan's foster mother
- 43 They're too often inflated
- 46 Goal
- 48 Hoedown date
- 49 Exceptional
- 50 Place for a body wrap
- 51 Prankster with pointy shoes
- 52 Up to now
- 53 "You betcha"

**Down**

- 1 Morning moisture
- 2 Some tests
- 3 Kind of service
- 4 ID necessity, often
- 5 It's attractive and has a charge
- 6 Negative
- 7 Chart
- 8 Frozen
- 9 Golly \_\_\_!
- 12 Certain bear
- 18 Mono's successor
- 20 Highly decorative
- 22 Not quite on-point
- 24 Virtuoso
- 25 Passion
- 26 Big-eared animal
- 27 Midwest city, on scoreboards
- 28 Feminine pronoun
- 30 What an ET pilots
- 32 \_\_\_ Sanctum
- 36 Favourite's defeat
- 39 Child's play
- 40 Ready
- 41 Reason to retire
- 42 Bud
- 44 In a happy mood
- 45 Discovery in a seam
- 47 Navigator's need

Confused Mess of Parliament... There are a multitude of sections in the CCC that are confusing and poorly written – this was merely one example.

**Elizabeth F. Marshall,**  
President All Rights Research Ltd.,  
Director of Research Ontario Landowners Association Author – "Property Rights 101: An Introduction" Director – Canadian Justice Review Board



Legal Research – Queen's Counsel, Lawyers, Law Offices, etc.,  
Legislative Researcher – MPs, MPPs, Municipal Councillors,

I am not a lawyer and do not give legal advice. Any information relayed is for informational purposes only. Please contact a lawyer. "The rule is the public interest is always paramount but NEVER when it is at the expense of a private individual." Ontario Legislative Assembly, February 11, 1965 – Vol. 1, p. 478.

**POSITIVE THOUGHTS PLEASE**

Yes our government has done things wrong, and so do we. Sometimes we don't think of the right decision and problems occur. I am not perfect - I know - sorry

Hear me out please, The main problem with Covid is getting enough vaccines - the problem is money - e.g Scientist -supplies etc to make them. So what if we stood up and said this is our problem too. What if we donated money for the vaccine. I will show you that your money goes directly to I believe the treasurer but I will find out. No in God's Love no scam.

I want our lives back. Please, past this on. Let's fight this virus "enough is enough" KBD

### Waverly Uplands - Teeden Pit

Messrs. Ford, and also Yakabushi, Yurek, Downey and Mrs. Dunlop, I read in the Springwater News of January 21 that the Conservative Government has granted CRH Canada a 10 year permit to take water from the Waverley Uplands/Teeden Pit and I have scanned the article for for attention. I understand there is an appeal period of 15 days beyond the date the decision was posted of January 15, so January 30.

I am objecting within the 15 days by this email. Also I am disillusioned by your Governments mixed messages on this topic.

The other notes I sent on this topic, last September and January, have evidently been ignored along with the other 5,245 submissions your Government received from citizens, the vast majority objecting to **any** threat to the purest aquifer on earth, and the vast majority of authors from rural surrounding areas....**our** area.

Mr. Premier, you were quoted on July 27 in Milton, also regarding an aggregate issue "when the people don't want something you don't do it". It is clear the people don't want any asphalt company to mess with this water. This is a rural area, primarily on wells. There has been clear indications that local wells have been negatively impacted by activity going on with existing permits. Your decision to put a hold on the Milton aggregate request, and grant the go-ahead here is an inconsistent practice.

In addition a group of scientists have a 4 year financial grant to study the movement of the ground water affected by this 10 year grant. These are not your average people, they are water experts.

This is special water they want to study. They don't want to study the Milton water aquifer, or any other...**this one** is the one they want to study, because the water is unique. They want to know why.

This issue, and others that are environmentally sensitive, such as your protecting expensive, and potentially dangerous, ancient nuclear plants, the general degrading of environmental protections shouts out to me and many other rural people, that you don't care. You say you do, but actions speak louder. Rural people gave you your majority, not the cities. Your 'voting base' is getting disillusioned if I am typical.

I urge you in Government to collectively reconsider the decision. Pulling this off in January in a serious Pandemic where people cannot gather to object is unconscionable and is **not** in the peoples best interests. You are proud to exclaim, and rightfully so, 'we follow the science' on pandemic issues...perhaps you should do the same in environmental matters as well.

Yours truly, Ray Nason, Tiny

### Tiny Township appeals province's Teedon Pit approval

By Kate Harries AWARE News Network

Tiny Township Council last week voted unanimously to appeal the provincial government decision to renew a permit to take water at the Teedon Pit on the Waverley Uplands.

"In my opinion we need to appeal every single step in the process," Councillor Tony Mintoff said, noting "the overwhelming resistance from our residents." "I have no confidence that the provincial ministries have the ability or even desire to monitor operations such as these," he added. "I'm tired of hearing that these ministries are understaffed, or under-resourced and that they don't have the wherewithal to operate effectively. They cannot be in my opinion trusted to protect our most valuable resources."

The resource in question is groundwater that has been found to be the cleanest on record. First Nations, cottagers, local residents and supporters from across the province fought to protect it, resulting in the 2009 cancellation of Dump Site 41. Earlier this month, the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks gave CRH Canada a 10-year permit to take water, despite 5,346 emails and comments - overwhelmingly in opposition - that were sent in to the Environmental Registry of Ontario. Council discussed various options at two special meetings last week - including purchasing or expropriating the land or setting up a township well-monitoring system. Initially Deputy Mayor Steffen Walma opposed an appeal. He said that CRH Canada has worked hard to address the concerns raised by the township's consultants and he wants to maintain a good working relationship with the company. But in the end, after an in-camera discussion, the vote to appeal was unanimous.

Councillors were not impressed that they had not been notified of the January 14 2021 decision, posted on the ERO on January 15, and had to learn about it from a residents' organization. This was particularly galling because the government set a tight 15-day deadline for an appeal and the filing requirements were stringent. Clearly, the government is doing everything it can to discourage an appeal, Mintoff said. Along with other members of council, he expressed disappointment that the decision gave no regard to the two principles expressed by the township in its comments to the province more than a year ago - that Tiny does not want aggregate washing in an environmentally sensitive area, and that no further licenses to be granted until a study of the groundwater is completed by a team led by eminent hydrogeologist Dr. John Cherry.

The township reiterated its stance in a resolution passed January 27 2021. Its application for leave to appeal was filed January 29 despite the tight deadline.

The Federation of Tiny Township Shoreline Associations (FoTTSA), represented by the Canadian Environmental Law Association (CELA), has also sought leave to appeal the PTTW. FoTTSA had already retained CELA to oppose CRH's application for an expansion of its operation. That is working its way through the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal process. Taking on a legal challenge of this nature is not for an organization that's faint of heart. FoTTSA estimates it will need \$100,000. To date, it has raised over \$33,000. To donate, go to [saveourwatertiny.wordpress.com](http://saveourwatertiny.wordpress.com).

Several organizations - AWARE Simcoe, Council of Canadians, Wellington Water Watchers, Green Party of Ontario, Simcoe County Greenbelt Coalition and FoTTSA - appeared before council (virtually) or provided submissions urging an appeal. Local residents Bonnie Pauze, Jake Pigeon, Peter Anderson, Dave Barkey, John Nahuis and Anne Ritchie Nahuis also expressed their views that the PTTW should be revoked.

In an earlier statement, Ritchie Nahuis noted that wells in the area have been tested for 30 years by Dr William Shoyk of the University of Alberta and found to produce the cleanest water on record, cleaner than 4,000-year-old Arctic ice.

"The world needs to know what it is about the trees, the soil, the sediment - the geology that contributes to this amazing natural filtration system," Ritchie Nahuis said. That is what the Cherry study aims to do. "We can learn from what nature has built here," she added. "But the province is prepared to allow its destruction."

Wellington Water Watchers has devised an expression of support for Tiny Township that has gone across the province. See the "Stand Up With Tiny Township" post on the AWARE Simcoe website - it allows you to send a message to the provincial government via the ERO, and also to your MPP.

Tiny council's consideration of the matter took place over two special meetings, on January 26 and 27 2021. Go to the township's YouTube channel to watch the discussion. For further reports, go to [www.aware-simcoe.ca](http://www.aware-simcoe.ca).

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

48 ALLIANCE BOULEVARD,  
UNIT 104  
BARRIE, ON L4M 5K3  
WWW.DOUGSHIPLEYMP.CA  
DOUG.SHIPLEY@PARL.GC.CA  
705-728-2596

#### A word from Doug Shipley;

In 1989 the late newspaper columnist Ann Landers asked her readers to send a special valentine's card to Veterans living in care facilities throughout Canada and the United States. Every year her special Valentines for Vets column asked her readers to remember the many sacrifices our Veterans made for our great country.

In 1996 Veterans Affairs Canada became involved with the program and since then they have been collecting and distributing valentine's cards to Veterans in care facilities across the country.

This is a great opportunity for teachers and students to do an interactive project at home this valentine's day to show their gratitude for the service and sacrifice of our Veterans.

It is recommended that students do not send chocolates or use sprinkles and teachers please remind your students to never include their phone number or address when sending cards.

The Valentine's for Vets program is a tremendous way for Canadians to thank our Veterans outside of Remembrance Day and throughout the year. It is also an opportunity to pay respect for the many accomplishments and sacrifices of our Veterans.

Some message ideas can include telling the Veteran why they are important to you and how you plan to remember our countries proud military history. You could also thank them for their service, sacrifice, and commitment to our country and our freedoms we enjoy today.

I would encourage you to share your unique valentines' card on social media with a video or a photo using the hashtag #valentinesforvets!

Hand-crafted valentines will be sent to Veterans in long-term care facilities across the country and can be sent to:

Valentines for Vets  
Veterans Affairs Canada  
Commemoration, Distribution Unit  
125 Maple Hills Ave  
Charlottetown, PE C1C 0B6

Submissions received after Valentines day will be kept and distributed next year.

Happy Valentine's Day

Doug Shipley, MP  
Barrie - Springwater - Oro Medonte

A rumor without a leg to stand on will get around some other way. John Tucker

Take everything you like seriously, except yourselves. --Rudyard Kipling

**DRIVEWAYS CLEARED**  
**BETCHER**  
Landscaping  
705-527-3883  
Commercial-Residential

**SNOW! LET US DO IT!**

BEE SWARM & WASP REMOVAL **THE HONEY PLACE** LOCAL HONEY AVAILABLE  
Beekeeping Farm

Honey, Bee Pollen, Propolis  
The Bee Therapy House  
Bee Swarm & Wasp Removal  
<http://youtu.be/MMWf4nuayWs>

The Honey Place has **FIREWOOD FOR SALE!!**

### Climate change

The article on The Climate Change Belief System is a cause for concern in several ways.

Firstly, it would have been helpful to understand the credentials of the writer as well as his background. This writer has no credentials to speak of so you may take my comments as simply my comments.

I found that the section on bloodletting was irrelevant as it has nothing to do with climate change but rather with human change. Rather than dismissing outright the theory of climate change, Mr Graves might have defined it as human induced phenomena.

With this in mind, we might examine his first example - CO2.

While it might not be a pollutant per se, it sure can cause havoc to the ice fields which are currently melting at excessive rates owing to non-natural use of CO2 in planes, rockets and ships.

As the author notes, in order for vegetables to grow efficiently, the amount of CO2 use must be trebled. The motivation is profit, not too different from the money motivation of the other examples provided by Mr Graves. Simply put, weather changes are often 'natural' although even these have been exacerbated by man, mainly for financial purposes. That is where the real bloodletting takes place.

According to the National Research Council in 2010, there is a strong, credible body of evidence, based on multiple lines of research, documenting that the climate is changing and that these changes are in large part caused by human activities.

There are countless climatic events such as heat waves which have caused, among other things, an increase in cattle deaths in California (Los Angeles Times July 8, 2017); tropical cyclones (May 2018 - Mekunu) which caused heavy rainfall that created desert lakes which subsequently led to the perfect environment for desert locusts to hatch from eggs, develop and breed, leading to a wide spread invasion of crop destruction. Natural? Nature, according to a long and distinguished tradition, is a system of mechanical processes governed by natural laws. How then does it change? Mainly by man interfering with the process for his own purposes. It is easy to see where and how the environment is being changed for personal, political and profit purposes.

A distinguished philosopher, Abraham Ibn Ezra (Spain; 1089/1167) stated that 'It is shortsighted to destroy the environment in that it will ultimately be to the detriment of people who are reliant on that environment for their lives'.

Clearly, there is cause for concern in dismissing the idea of the fact that climate change does not exist.

Joel Rubinovitch, Tiny ON

Glory is fleeting, but obscurity is forever. --Napoleon

**STEELERS**  
RESTAURANT & PUB

**DAILY FEATURES**

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

**TAKEOUT/DELIVERY HOT LINE**  
**705-322-2652**  
23 Queen St. W. Elmvale

Specials updated daily on FB, Instagram, Google

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



**DOUG DOWNEY**  
Member of Provincial Parliament  
Barrie - Springwater - Orp. Medicine

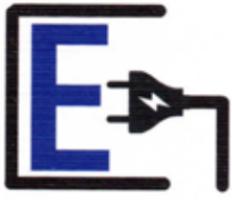
705.726.5538  
[doug.downey@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.downey@pc.ola.org)  
14-20 Bell Farm Rd  
Barrie, ON L4M 5L3

**CARSON ELECTRIC & CONTRACTING**

**Jordan Carson**  
Master Electrician

1087 Rainbow Valley Road  
Phelpston, ON L0L 2K0  
[jordan@carsonelectric.net](mailto:jordan@carsonelectric.net)  
705.717.8767

ECRA/ESA # 7011405



## Ontario Extends Off-Peak Electricity Rates to Provide Relief for Families, Small Businesses and Farms

*Lower rates will help offset the costs of staying home during COVID-19*

TORONTO - The Ontario government is extending electricity rate relief for families, small businesses and farms to support those spending more time at home in response to the provincial Stay-at-Home Order. The government will continue to hold electricity prices to the off-peak rate of 8.5 cents per kilowatt-hour until February 9, 2021. This lower rate is available 24 hours per day, seven days a week for Time-Of-Use and tiered customers.

“We know staying at home means using more electricity during the day when electricity prices are higher, that’s why we are extending the off-peak electricity rate to provide households, small businesses and farms with stable and predictable electricity bills when they need it most,” said Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines, Minister of Indigenous Affairs. “We thank Ontarians for following the provincial Stay-at-Home Order to help stop the spread of COVID-19.”

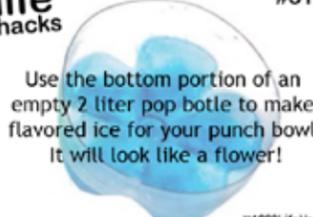
The off-peak rate came into effect January 1, 2021 for a 28-day period, providing families, farms and small businesses with immediate electricity rate relief. The government is now extending this rate relief for an additional 12 days, for a total of 40 days. The off-peak price will continue to be automatically applied to bills of all residential, small business, and farm customers who pay regulated rates set by the Ontario Energy Board and get a bill from a utility.

“We thank the Ontario Energy Board and local distribution companies across the province for implementing this extended emergency rate relief and supporting Ontarians as they work and learn from home,” said Bill Walker, Associate Minister of Energy.

### Quick Facts

- Families, small businesses and charitable organizations with overdue electricity and natural gas bills can apply for support through the COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program (CEAP). A residential customer can receive up to \$750 to help cover their overdue electricity bill and natural gas bills, while small businesses and charities can receive up to \$1500 for each bill. Customers can contact their utility to apply.
- Businesses can apply for Energy and Property Tax Rebates through the COVID-19 Business Support Grants, if required to shut down or significantly restrict services due to provincial health measures.
- Applications are open for the new Ontario Small Business Support Grant, which helps small businesses that are required to close or significantly restrict services under the Provincewide Shutdown effective December 26, 2020.

**life hacks** #814



Use the bottom portion of an empty 2 liter pop bottle to make flavored ice for your punch bowl. It will look like a flower!

@1000LifeHacks  
1000LifeHacks.com

### What was the first network to broadcast color television programming?

It was CBS, on June 25, 1951. The show, called *Premiere*, starred Ed Sullivan. Fear kills more dreams than failure ever will.

I often quote myself. It adds spice to my conversation. --George Bernard Shaw

## OCIF Funding for the Township of Springwater

Throughout the pandemic, all levels of government have been working together to help support our constituents. Recently, the Government of Ontario announced the 2021 allocations for the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF). This funding will help to support communities under 100,000 residents, as well as rural and northern communities, as they address current and future infrastructure projects.

The OCIF is a transparent, formula based funding stream that recognizes that municipalities have different infrastructure needs and economic conditions. Using this funding model, the government of Ontario will distribute approximately \$200 million to 424 communities across Ontario, including \$741,961 to the Township of Springwater. Locally, the County of Simcoe and the Township of OroMedonte also received funding.

This funding helps municipalities, like Springwater, build and repair infrastructure projects in our community such as roads, bridges, water and wastewater infrastructure. Additionally, this funding helps strengthen our community by providing municipalities with the stable, ongoing and flexible funding they need to address issues and meet community needs.

Municipalities will receive funding through a transfer pay agreement that specifies the municipality’s payment schedule, based on its allocation. The notices of allocation were received by each municipality on December 2, 2020, with the first payment arriving shortly afterward. Payment frequencies vary depending on the allocation.

Under the OCIF Formula Component transfer payment agreements, municipalities are required to submit high level plans for their OCIF investments in the spring, and report on actual investments in the fall. This allows the Province to track how the OCIF funding is spent, and ensure that each municipality receives the correct allocation for their needs.

This agreement between the provincial and municipal levels of government is just another example of how all levels of government are working together to help support constituents throughout this difficult time. This funding also helps municipalities focus on the future and maintaining important infrastructure assets to help build better communities for our future.

For more information about how the provincial government is supporting municipalities during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond, please visit my website, [www.DougDowney.ca](http://www.DougDowney.ca).

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



Cathy Johnston Walton

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

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

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

## Adam and Faith (Carlson) Thompson (Previously VanLaarhoven and Moreau)

<b>Owners</b>	Adam and Faith (Carlson) Thompson	<b>Built:</b> 1870s or 1880s, 2nd barn 1948
2018-present	Martin and Katherine Vanlaarhoven	<b>Dimensions:</b> 40 x 70’, 2nd barn 40 x 70’
1927	Leo Moreau	<b>Features:</b> ‘rubble’ foundation 2’ thick and 18-20” below ground
~1918 <sup>2</sup>	Mrs. J. O’Neill	<b>Materials:</b> pine, spruce, hemlock with maple sleepers
~1887 <sup>1</sup>	James O’Neill	

Leo repaired the original barn. It ran east and west and was used for horses and cattle. The new barn which ran north and south was used for hogs. When the second barn was put up, the children from the Vigo school went to the barn raising. Jack Pickering, who was a small man, put the thought together, and George Wicklum, who was a big man, implemented everything. George was a man of all trades; he could do it and do it expertly.

The foundation was put up first. The concrete was poured 4’ high, and down into the ground about 4’ to frost level. Cedar blocks were placed between the top of the foundation and the barn floor. A jig was rigged up on the saw to cut each cedar rail the same length. Lime and concrete was slathered on. A form, acting as a straight edge, was put up on the outside of the foundation with cedar rails shoved up to the form from the inside.

Gilbert described how bents were put up. The bents were built on the floor, with the end bent put up first. After all the bents were upright and braced, they were tied together with a beam called the plate. Often plates were lengthened by mortising two beams together and using hardwood pins to hold them. There were two ways to stand the bent up. If it was very heavy, a rope, pulley and horse or tractor were used. A tractor was more reliable because it could stop faster. A gin pole was used to get the pulley higher. The rope would tie on the beam and the pulley hung from the gin pole, with the tractor on the other end of the rope. Four or five guys held the ropes so the bent wouldn’t go too far. There would also be a man at each end with a rope slung around a beam. The bent would slowly be given slack and when it was plumb, a board was nailed to all the bents. A second way to raise bents was to have men use pike poles.

Gilbert Moreau.



Concession 3, N ½ Lot 18 and 19, Flos Township  
2586 Flos Road 3, Springwater Township



One of the plates was made from a single beam 70’ long. A plate is a timber that goes the length of the barn and ties all the tops of the bents together.

## Record Cold of 2021 Reminds Us: Be Wary of Climate Predictions and Energy Priorities

Japan reported 13 deaths and hundreds of hospitalizations in the past week due to the intense snowfall in the country. Residents in Spain were in awe over the record snowfall in their streets. Here in India, Delhi experienced one of its harshest winters in recent memory, with intense cold waves.

Does this disprove global warming? Certainly not! However, the extreme cold events bring about questions over the media narrative that climate change is causing milder winters and temperatures increasing to dangerous levels.

The most worrying aspect is that these extreme cold events are a reminder that we could be in great danger if our governments continue to adopt climate policies based on faulty forecasts and unreliable renewables. Here is why.

### The Cold Winter of 2020–2021

My visit to Delhi this December was quite memorable. The city was going through an intense cold spell. Minimum temperatures during the months of October, November, and December broke many records.

At just 2 degree Celsius, India's capital city experienced one of its coldest winter mornings on January 14. Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir recorded a low of minus 8.4 degree Celsius, the coldest in 30 years.

It was no surprise to the residents, though. The previous winter (December 2019) broke 100-year records. Intense cold has become a norm in the past couple of years.

In the U.S., record cold and snow events were registered across the country this year. In Spain, historic cold temperatures sent the mercury to 20-year lows. Over in Siberia, Russia, and Japan, the story was no different. Beijing recorded its coldest January 7 since the 1960s.

These cold events must be analyzed with due consideration to the multiple climatic factors that may be influencing them. The sun's activity, earth's rotation, changes in the magnetic poles, Arctic cold blasts, and many other factors all help determine regional and global weather patterns.

### Hyped Climate Doomsday Theories Do Not Come to Pass

So, while these record cold and snowfall events don't disprove global warming, they do inform us that real-world cold snaps and snowfalls differ considerably in both intensity and frequency from the classic global warming/climate change narrative.

Al Gore, for example, claimed that the summers in

the Arctic would become ice-free by 2015, but that hasn't happened. Likewise, scientists predicted that snow would be a "thing of the past" and that our children will not know what snow is. But since 2017, there have been historic snowfall events across the globe, including those in New York and the recent ones in Spain and Japan.

Hot and cold weather events may occur anytime. Though there has been a gradual increase in global average temperatures since the 18th century, that doesn't mean the future will be intensely hotter than before, or that our winters will be milder. None of the computer climate models have been able to predict the temperature variations with accuracy or the onset of cold or warming events.

### Don't Bet Your Future on Renewables or the Climate Models

The unfolding of cold weather events and the failure of climate prophecies should help us frame the future course of the energy sector. Wind and solar generate little or no electricity in cold conditions. That means economies will still need reliable energy from coal and oil, no matter how many wind and solar factories we built.

This was evident during the recent extreme cold events in China and Europe, where the wind and solar networks could not generate electricity. To make things worse, the extreme cold caused significant energy demand (for heating), making utility providers scamper to generate more electricity from weather-proof coal plants.

Beijing's only coal-powered plant resumed operations in December to meet the increase in energy demand. Beijing stated that "The (latest) historic peak load came as extreme cold weather increased demand for electricity-powered heating facilities, which account for 48.2% of total load."

In simple words, countries should not bet their future on renewables. Even in summers, both wind and solar are unreliable and expensive. Besides causing an unnecessary rise in electricity prices to the consumers (as proven in Germany and California), they also act as a burden to grid functionality. Despite this, wind and solar have been receiving subsidies on taxpayers' expense and hailed as the future of the world.

*Vijay Jayaraj (M.Sc., Environmental Science, University of East Anglia, England), is a Research Contributor for the Cornwall Alliance for the Stewardship of Creation.*

It's all right letting yourself go as long as you can let yourself back. - Mick Jagger



## Ontario SPCA and Humane Society shares 5 tips to keep pets safe in cold weather

Stouffville, ON (January 22, 2021) – As the thermometer continues to dip, the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society reminds pet guardians to take extra precautions to keep animals safe during cold weather.

When the temperature drops below freezing, pets should not be left outside for extended periods. Cats, short-coated dogs and puppies are particularly vulnerable in cold temperatures. Keep cats indoors and protect your dogs from frostbite or hypothermia by taking them outside for short periods during cold weather. Some dogs, especially short-coated breeds, puppies and elderly dogs, may benefit from a dog sweater or coat as an extra layer of warmth.

### The Ontario SPCA shares these 5 tips to help keep your pet safe:

1. Supervise outdoor time – If your dog gets free run of the backyard, stand at the door until he comes back inside to ensure you don't lose track of time or get sidetracked and forget to let him back in. Keeping an eye on him also allows you to watch for early signs that your dog is cold, such as holding up his paws or shivering.

2. Keep your walks shorter during extreme weather – In addition to limiting time outside, choose a walking route that loops past your house in case you or your furry friend get cold and need to come in early. Choose a route that offers some protection from the wind.

3. Leave them at home – Animals should never be left alone in a vehicle during cold weather. Cars cool down quickly and don't hold in body heat, which can lead to animals suffering from cold stress, hypothermia or frostbite. Leave your pet at home where they are warm and safe when you're running errands.

4. Watch for cats seeking warmth under vehicle hoods – When the engine is started, the cat can be injured or killed by the fan belt. Make a point of knocking on the hood or sounding the horn before starting the engine.

5. Keep those paws clean – After taking your dog for a walk, use a damp towel to wipe your pet's paws and underside. Salt and other chemicals used to melt snow and ice on roads and sidewalks can irritate and burn your pet's sensitive paws and can cause illness if ingested.

"Don't forget about your furry friends when it's cold out," says Jennifer Bluhm, Acting Chief, Animal Protection, Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. "In cold winter conditions, it's important to consider every part of your pet's daily routine to ensure they are comfortable and safe at all times."

To report an animal in distress, call the provincial government's animal cruelty hotline at 1-833-9ANIMAL (1-833-926-4625).

For more winter pet safety tips, visit [ontariospca.ca](http://ontariospca.ca)

**VACATION SAFELY IN CANADA**

*Your Travel Solution for 2021*

Experience the beauty and history of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers on a classic Canadian riverboat. Request our free travel brochure.

**1-800-267-7868** [www.StLawrenceCruiseLines.com](http://www.StLawrenceCruiseLines.com)

253 Ontario St., Suite 200, Kingston, ON K7L2Z4 TICO #2168740

## Ontario Working with Multi-Sector Leaders to Improve Diversity in the Workplace

### Tools and resources advancing racial equity key to COVID-19 recovery

The Ontario government in partnership with CivicAction is bringing public, private and non-profit sector organizations together to identify concrete actions employers can take to enhance workplace opportunities for Indigenous, Black and racialized employees. During the Economic Inclusion virtual roundtable, the province's Anti-Racism Directorate and CivicAction will draw on the expertise and insights of participants to create digital tools and resources for employers, embedding equity in Ontario's COVID-19 recovery efforts.

"COVID-19 has exacerbated challenges faced by Indigenous, Black and racialized employees in the workplace, ranging from career progression obstacles to health and safety risks," said Solicitor General and Minister Responsible for Anti-Racism Sylvia Jones. "To better tackle these challenges, we are bringing together leaders across sectors to develop and share tools to help foster healthier and more equitable workplaces in Ontario."

The virtual roundtable discussion will focus on:

- Helping employers better understand the distinct experiences and challenges faced by Indigenous, Black and racialized talent in entering the workforce and advancing their careers.
- Identify promising practices and tools to help employers tap into Ontario's diverse workforce.

"Racism is systemic and shows up in many ways and in many places including in the workplace. Practices in workplaces need to be redesigned and rebuilt for a more inclusive future economy," said Leslie Woo, CEO, CivicAction. "This roundtable will advance a collective journey to convert good intentions into tangible actions for a more equitable economic recovery."

### Quick Facts

- By 2036, racialized people are projected to account for approximately 48 per cent of Ontario's population.
- According to Statistics Canada, in October 2020, Canadians who belong to groups designated as racialized or Indigenous continued to have a higher unemployment rate (11.7 per cent) compared to Canadians who are not racialized or Indigenous (6.7 per cent).
- As an employer, the Ontario Public Service (OPS) is continuing to take action to diversify senior leadership in the organization and deliver mandatory anti-racism training. The OPS also launched a third-party review of its inclusive workplace policies and programs to better address systemic employment barriers.
- CivicAction is a non-profit organization in Canada with nearly two decades of experience working to boost civic engagement and build better cities by creating and implementing effective solutions to the most pressing challenges in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area and beyond.

God is a comedian playing to an audience too afraid to laugh. --Voltaire

## Calling small business owners

COVID-19 support could be available to you.

- Grants of up to \$20,000 through the *Ontario Small Business Support Grant*
- Up to \$1,000 in support for purchasing PPE through *Ontario's Main Street Relief Grant*
- Rebates for property tax and energy costs



We're working to ensure small businesses can keep employing people and serving their communities now and when COVID-19 is behind us.

Visit [ontario.ca/COVIDsupport](http://ontario.ca/COVIDsupport) to apply

Paid for by the Government of Ontario



## Huronia Community Foundation finished 2020 with a BANG!



Ian and Barbara Jones with children Charlotte and Joshua.

HCF were downright excited to close 2020 with a bang as we launched two new endowment funds.

The Jones Family Endowment Fund is one of those additions. **Ian Jones** is a lifelong resident of Tay Township, having grown up on the family farm that he now shares with his wife **Barbara**. The family has been farming in North Simcoe since the late 1800s and Ian continues to be passionate about agriculture and the environment.

Both Ian and Barbara feel strongly about giving back to the community and trying to make a difference in the place they call home. By establishing The Jones Family Endowment Fund together with their children, **Charlotte** and **Joshua**, they plan to support programs, impact change and provide a positive impact to organizations across the North Simcoe area forever.

Also new to the HCF family of funds in December was the Harold and Audrey Curry Endowment Fund. **Harold and Audrey Curry** were both born and raised in the Penetanguishene area. Although they spent much of their work lives in Toronto, they always maintained a connection to the area and returned to live here upon retirement. They both lived well into their 90's, were active in the community and were supporters of the Royal Canadian Legion as well as other organizations in Penetang. This donation was very important to them as it was their way to make a difference and to express gratitude for all they were given in life.

HCF now stewards over 80 funds which give back \$250,000 to \$300,000 every year to North Simcoe charities supporting services in the areas of youth & scholarships, seniors, the environment, health care and mental health, community services, sports and recreation and arts and culture.

The LabX Media Group, through the LabX Charity Fund at the Huronia Community Foundation, has made donations totaling \$13,000 to 13 local organizations: Friends of the Wye Marsh, the Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre, Hospice Huronia, Mikey's Place for Autism, Waypoint Centre for Mental Health, Junior Achievement, Scientists in School, We Are the Villagers, Sistema Huronia Music Academy, Ontario Early Years Centre, Rosewood Shelter (Operation Grow), The Guesthouse Shelter, and the OSPCA.

The first gun manufacturer in the United States was the Springfield Armory in 1794, which was established by the U.S. government.

The U.S. has the highest gun ownership rate in the world. There are 89 guns for every 100 Americans. In England and Wales, there are 6 guns for every 100.

As of 1995, there were 220 million firearms owned by private citizens in the United States. In 2009, the Congressional Research Service estimated there were 310 million firearms in the U.S. (not including the military). Almost 2/3 of all murders in the United States involve guns.

Firearms claim more lives in the United States than any other injury except motor vehicle accidents.

Researchers note that that guns in general are used in self-defense about 2.2 million to 2.5 million times per year. Between 1.5 million and 1.9 million of those self-defense cases involve handguns.

People are nearly three times more likely to be killed in homes with guns than in those without guns.

"I have a very strict gun control policy: if there's a gun around, I want to be in control of it." Clint Eastwood



## Midhurst Community Internet Project Receives Motion of Support from Springwater Council

**Midhurst, Ontario-** The Hillview Broadband Project passed another milestone today by receiving a motion of support from the Township of Springwater. The project is proposed by a numbered company that emerged from a small community in the northern part of Midhurst, in the Township of Springwater. The company is proposing a plan that will bring broadband to the residents of this community by running their own fibre optic cable from downtown Midhurst, up County Road 27, across Horseshoe Valley Road and down Gill St to the northern part of Midhurst. It will pass approximately 160 residents and run fibre directly into these homes- known as Fibre-to-the-Home or FTTH. Jeff Kerk, a local healthcare administrator, represents the community and company and provided a delegation to Springwater Council this evening. He outlined the project and the grant funding that the company is seeking from the Universal Broadband Fund. At one-point Kerk showed members of Council a plain white t-shirt that his company was selling for \$10,000.00 as a means to raise funds.

"The shirt was a joke and a way to lighten the mood." Said Kerk. "Our community isn't a bunch of Network Engineers or Internet Providers- but we have grit, real perseverance to see this project through and improve our own situation. I am realistic, that the funding may not materialize because there are many worthy projects, but know we will just keep trying. Getting to know my neighbors and community has made this experience worthwhile and has proven to be a beacon of light during these dark times. An ounce of hope and a whole lot of hard work."

The corporation was formed in the summer of 2020 and has worked diligently at acquiring the proper approvals, insurance and CRTC designations. It has successfully negotiated an agreement to utilize existing hydro line infrastructure, secured a wholesale broadband connection, partnered with an established ISP to assist with the operation of the business, submitted a grant application for funding and now obtained a motion of support from the Township of Springwater.

If all goes to plan the Hillview Broadband Project will be providing service to customer this fall.

### What is root beer, and who created it?

Root beer was popularized in Philadelphia by a druggist named Charles Hires, who adapted an herbal tea recipe to make it. The drink was promoted heavily at the U.S. Centennial Exposition in 1876.

"Gratitude looks to the Past and love to the Present; fear, avarice, lust, and ambition look ahead."

## GOVERNMENT MUST ADDRESS "ELEPHANT IN THE ROOM" REGARDING VETERAN COMPENSATION

**OTTAWA, January 27, 2021** -- The National Council of Veteran Associations (NCVA) has recently released its 2021 Legislative Report, which makes a number of major recommendations to the Minister of Veterans Affairs Lawrence MacAulay and Senior VAC Officials.

The report addresses what NCVA calls "the elephant in the room" -- the discrimination and injustice that exists with respect to the financial compensation available to disabled veterans and their families when comparing the traditional Pension Act and the New Veterans Charter/Veterans Well-being Act (NVC/VWA).

It is NCVA's fundamental position that:

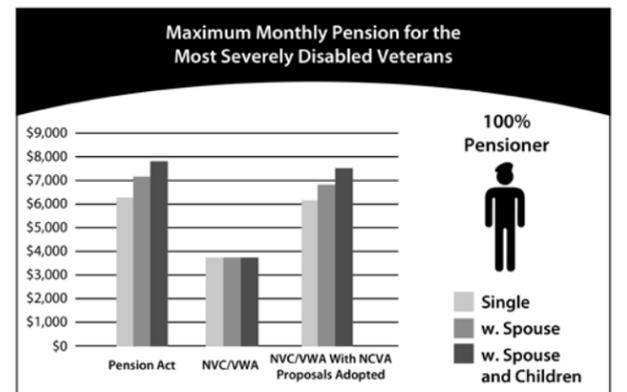
- VAC should establish a comprehensive program model that would essentially treat all veterans with parallel disabilities in the same manner as to the application of benefits and wellness policy – thereby resulting in the elimination of artificial cut-off dates that arbitrarily distinguish veterans based on whether they were injured before or after 2006.

- The Department should utilize a combination of the best provisions from the Pension Act and the best provisions from the NVC/VWA to produce a "one veteran – one standard" solution.

"In these challenging times, and with a pending election on the horizon, Canadian veterans and their families will be closely monitoring all federal leaders to determine which party is prepared to make a substantial commitment to rectifying the shortfalls and inequities which continue to be found in veterans' legislation. The basic question remains: Which federal party will stand up for veterans and their families and finally address this 'elephant in the room'?" says Brian Forbes, NCVA Chair and Chair of the Executive Committee of The War Amps.

The report includes graphs highlighting the vast difference in the maximum monthly pension for the most seriously disabled veteran under the Pension Act vs. the New Veterans Charter/Veterans Well-being Act, and illustrates how NCVA's recommendations can close this significant disparity.

The NCVA, of which The War Amps is the driving force, consists of 68 member-groups from across Canada. It has posted the full report at [ncva-cnaac.ca/en/legislative-program/](http://ncva-cnaac.ca/en/legislative-program/).



A graph from the report shows the difference in compensation for the most seriously disabled veterans.

**Next time you hear anyone making a snide remark about truckers, just remember that right now the truckers of this nation are basically the cavalry bringing meds and supplies to those who need it. This world runs on more than college degrees.**



Gillian Hook, BSc Kin, RMT

## OLD STONE MASSAGE THERAPY

### Servicing Simcoe County for over 20 Years

We are currently open and observing all COVID-19 safety precautions including pre-screening patients and staff members, office sanitization and social distancing.

Book your appointment today!



705.503.4443

94 Finlay Mill Rd, Midhurst

oldstonemassagetherapy@gmail.com

oldstonemassagetherapy.com



Michelle Nagy, RMT

**CSM ELECTRIC** **DON MEHARRIE**  
Master Electrician  
Owner / Operator

**(705) 818-3854**  
1636 Glengarry Landing Rd. N.  
Phelpston, ON L0L 2K0  
donmeharrie@gmail.com  
**www.dsm-electric.ca**

7011900  
SERVING SIMCOE & MUSKOKA

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • CONSTRUCTION • MAINTENANCE

**Ritchie's**  
Feeds 'N Needs  
**Garden Centre**

1548 County Road 92  
just west of Elmvale  
**(705) 322-2363**

**Taking Poultry orders now!!**

**Open - Monday to Friday • 8:30 - 5:00**  
**Saturday • 8:30 - 4:30 - Sundays • Closed**

**We are taking orders for feed, etc...by phone**

**Tirebuster**  
CARS, light & medium TRUCKS  
FARM TIRES • CALCIUM • **IN SHOP SERVICE**

**HANKOOK** **MICHELIN** **Firestone**

**Sales & Repair of all Brands**  
Serving North of Barrie to Midland

**705-322-0609** [Tirebuster@hotmail.ca](mailto:Tirebuster@hotmail.ca)  
7002 HWY 93 & STAMP SIDE RD • SOUTH OF MIDLAND

**We're growing. We need help!**  
**Are you looking for a job? Call!**

## Sports with Patrick Townes



During the month of January, the community of Elmvale and beyond has lost key members of its sports heritage history. **Elmer McFadden passed away in his 92nd year on January 17, 2021.** Elmer and his wife who shared their first date at the Elmvale Fall Fair moved to Shelburne in 1954 and then Woodbridge

in 1959. In 1984, they returned to where it all began.

Elmer was heavily involved in the Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) throughout this life, including roles as a coach, regional representative, and then President of the OMHA. After returning to the Township, it was during this time that Elmer served as the President of the OMHA. He was a dedicated volunteer and was a cornerstone of local hockey in Ontario. One can only guess the total number of hours he put in over his career. Elmer was elected as a Life Member of the OMHA in 1999.

Elmer also was a member at the Elmvale Curling Club. He curled up until the end of the 2019/2020 season when the pandemic resulted in a shortened schedule. It is rare that a Curling Club can say that they have a member in their 90's, and still was performing some big weight shots with the stick!

Elmer was inducted into the Springwater Sports Heritage Hall of Fame as a Builder in 2016. A quote from the Springwater Sports Heritage website includes the following: "Elmer muses about the size of the OMHA now as compared to when he was an executive. His recollection is paraphrased as...Times have changed during those years as president, secretary and treasurer when the work was done part-time and often in the basement of one's home. Now the OMHA has an executive director and 15 employees with him in a big office." During his speech at the banquet in 2016, Elmer remarked, "First of all, I want to thank the Committee for this privilege of coming into this Hall of Fame, and I'm so tickled pink, that you did it when I'm alive!"

Elmer's wife Ev McFadden, who passed away in September of 2020, is also a member of the Hall of Fame, as a member of the team that won the Ontario Masters Curling Championship in 1996. They were the first and only team representing the Elmvale Curling Club to win a provincial championship. Ev was the lead alongside Dorrie Fiegehen (skip), Marlene Tinney (vice), and Lorna Quesnelle (second).

**The name Ritchie is known in this area to all locals,** and is also a name recognized in other communities well outside of Elmvale. Stan Ritchie passed away in his 86th year on January 24. Stan accomplished a lot throughout his life, and in terms of sports, culminated with an induction in the Springwater Sports Heritage Hall of Fame for both an Athlete and a Builder.

Stan played defense for numerous years on many hockey teams in Elmvale and surrounding towns. He was a force to be reckoned with on the blue line for decades. He was a leader with teams in Stayner, Midland, Collingwood, Barrie and Elmvale over five decades. In 1953-54 season at 18, he was a member of the Midland Red Wings coached by NHL great Roy Conacher that won the OHA Junior "C" Championship. During his career, Stan was not only a great hockey player but also was an example of unwavering strength of character. I am glad I never had to go in the corner with him but he was always a gentleman on and off the ice. His strength on the ice parallels Tim Horton who was known as one of the strongest hockey players ever. For his accomplishments on the ice, Stan was elected to the Springwater Sports Hall of Fame as an Athlete in 2016.

Stan also played fastball during the summer in Barrie and Elmvale but was always known as a hockey player first. He also embarked on numerous local and regional coaching and executive positions in hockey and baseball. As a business owner, he sponsored local teams and events. Over the past several decades he was the recipient of many awards for his dedication to sports and community including Elmvale's Citizen of the Year award in 1996. Stan spent 14 years teaching Mini-Tykes the skills needed to play the game. He was inducted into the Springwater Sports Hall of Fame as a Builder in 2016.

Our community has lost three Hall of Famers in a very short time. For more information, please visit the Springwater Sports Hall of Fame website.

**How often has the groundhog really predicted the coming of spring? Answer:** According to researchers, the groundhog has accurately predicted the coming of spring only 39 percent of the time.

## Conrad & Donna Huber match Kickstart Your Heart donations\* to GBGH Foundation

### Local businesses dig in to help GBGH raise funds this Valentine's Day for defibrillators & crash carts

February 1, 2021 – 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 \$20,000 match gift from Conrad and Donna Huber. The 'Kickstart Your Heart' campaign has a goal to raise a total of \$50,000 to purchase two crash carts equipped with defibrillators for GBGH.

Crash carts allow the care teams to deliver critical medication and transport life-saving equipment to the site of a medical emergency quickly and efficiently within the hospital. After many years of use and replacements, the crash carts across the organization are no longer standardized, which is important when care team members from across the organization could be called to an emergency. By having the same carts throughout the hospital, it ensures all team members are trained on the same equipment which improves quality and safety. The defibrillators, which accompany the carts, are also at the end of life and must be replaced.

The goal of Kickstart Your Heart is to purchase two new carts with defibrillators, but 11 new carts and defibrillators are needed, at a cost of \$25,000 each.

"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, manager, ICU and Surgical Services, 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."



The campaign was inspired by a generous match gift of \$20,000 from Port Severn couple, Conrad and Donna Huber. 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."

Nine local businesses are also digging in to help raise funds for the campaign. Arbour's Flower Shoppe, Splash Floral & Events, Pier 21 Restaurant, World Famous Dock Lunch, Phil's Casual Dining, Phil's Pub & Eatery, Georgian Bakery, Saturday Afternoons and Café Kittyhawk have committed a portion of Valentine's Day sales, or a portion of sales from a particular Valentine's item, to support GBGH.

"This campaign is all about keeping hearts beating - in the hospital, with the purchase of critically important defibrillators, but also throughout the community," shares Christine Baguley, philanthropy officer, GBGH Foundation. "We are proud to recognize and elevate the businesses who continue to give back in the midst of their toughest times, and are excited to see the community come together to support them with love for Valentine's Day."

Those interested can get involved by joining the conversation on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, supporting our local business partners, sharing posts on social media, making a donation at [www.trellis.org/gbgh-kickstart-your-heart](http://www.trellis.org/gbgh-kickstart-your-heart), or call 705-526-GIVE (4483).

\*Donations will be matched up to a total of \$20,000.

## GLEN NEWBY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN TO SIMCOE COUNTY YOUTH

**Simcoe County** – The Glen Newby Scholarship Fund, a collaboration between New Path Foundation and New Path Youth & Family Services, is accepting applications from Simcoe County youth who are entering into or continuing in post-secondary studies and/or apprenticeship programs this year. This scholarship was created to support the legacy and commitment of Glen Newby's work in child and youth mental health.



"This scholarship fund provides additional opportunities for youth in our communities to succeed in their post-secondary or apprenticeship studies," says James Thomson, President and CEO of New Path Foundation. "This is our commitment to continue to build on the legacy and work of Glen Newby's work in supporting child and youth mental health."

Scholarship applications open on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and are available to any young person up to the age of 24 years residing in Simcoe County, entering into or continuing in post-secondary studies and/or apprenticeship programs. There are 3 scholarships available, one award of \$2,500 and two awards of \$1,250 each. More information and the application form are available at: [www.newpathfoundation.org/scholarship](http://www.newpathfoundation.org/scholarship)

"This is a wonderful opportunity for youth in our community to get some financial support for their studies," says, Elizabeth McKeeman, CEO of New Path Youth & Family Services. "Providing support to young people in our community is vital to helping them succeed. It is our hope that this scholarship fund will help them as they transition into post-secondary."

### About New Path Foundation

New Path Foundation is a public foundation with a volunteer board of directors which serves as a link between donors, charitable interests and the vital needs of community members. New Path Foundation develops and manages philanthropic investment and mobilizes community support directed to New Path Youth and Family Services, meeting the needs of children, youth and families.

To learn more about New Path Foundation, to donate, or get involved please visit [www.newpathfoundation.org](http://www.newpathfoundation.org), follow us on social media Twitter: @Help4TheIn5 and Facebook: [New Path Foundation](https://www.facebook.com/NewPathFoundation) or sign up for the [TrailSigns Newsletter](https://www.facebook.com/TrailSignsNewsletter).

### About New Path Youth & Family Services of Simcoe County

New Path Youth & Family Services of Simcoe County is a registered not for profit charitable organization. We are an accredited children's mental health agency providing a range of innovative and timely services for children, youth and their families. We are the Lead Agency in Simcoe County working to plan for and integrate child and youth mental health services across Simcoe County.

New Path offers a range of fully-funded child and youth mental health services across Simcoe County in Alliston, Barrie, Bradford, Cookstown, Collingwood, Midland and Orillia. In order to access services, families can call 705-725-7656 to arrange an appointment. To learn more about New Path Youth and Family Services, to donate, or get involved please visit [www.newpath.ca](http://www.newpath.ca), follow us on social media Facebook: [New Path Youth & Family Services](https://www.facebook.com/NewPathYouthFamilyServices) Twitter: @NewPathYFS or sign up for our quarterly [TrailSigns Newsletter](https://www.facebook.com/TrailSignsNewsletter)

Dad, are we pyromaniacs? Yes, we arson.

What do you call a pig with laryngitis? Disgruntled.  
Why do bees stay in their hives during winter? Swarm.  
If you're bad at haggling, you'll end up paying the price.

**TURNVIEW FARM STORE**  
now open - come and see our farmhouse pantry



open 7 days a week 9am - 6pm  
6424 Hwy 93, Elmvale

705.627.3378  
[turnviewfarm@gmail.com](mailto:turnviewfarm@gmail.com)  
[turnviewfarmhoney.com](http://turnviewfarmhoney.com)

Our honey is now available at Elmvale Foodland!

**FOODLAND**  
Fresh food. Friendly neighbours.

**We still deliver!**  
**"Discount for Seniors!"**  
**Ask for details!**

14 Yonge St. North, Elmvale • 705-322-2261

**Canada's Role in Honduras: Why are we supporting corruption in Latin America?**

**Will the Biden Presidency Make Change in Honduras?**

**Three Year Anniversary of Simcoe County Honduras Rights Monitor and Arrest of Edwin Espinal: Food Program Continues**

Honduras is a country rich with natural resources such as gold, copper, iron ore, vast amounts of water, mountainous regions with flowing rivers, streams and lakes, beautiful birds, wildlife, an abundance of fish, both salt and freshwater seafood. The northern coastal area borders on the Caribbean Sea with beautiful beaches inhabited mostly by Garifuna communities that have lived there since the early 1800s. The eastern coastal areas are bordered by the Atlantic Ocean.



To understand why the US and Canada, also a group of European countries are supporting the corrupt government of Honduras, it is important to investigate the wealth of opportunities above that Canadian and US companies are allowed to explore, expropriate and richly profit from. In our last article we outlined some of these companies that are operating there, making huge profits for shareholders. The Honduran people are at the mercy of companies that take advantage of their country. They are on their own to attempt to protect their lands and natural resources. Furthermore, they do not reap the benefits of resource extraction and manufacturing. In many cases the resource development is not environmentally sustainable.



Yet Honduras is ruled by an illegal corrupt narco-rem; President Juan Orlando Hernandez has been in power since 2014 and is known as being heavily involved in drug cartels. He and other 'Presidents' before him have been implicated in corruption, drug dealing, embezzlement, and most alarming, supported by the United States, Canada, and Europe.

Why are these governments, particularly Canada continuing to support and uphold this corruption? The answer is: "Honduras is open for business", quoting President Hernandez in a statement made in 2018. He also remarked, "Our sustained economic growth and improvements in national security have opened up great opportunities for investors."

This 'open for business policy', which has been going on much longer than 2018, back decades, marginalizes the Honduran population. According to Human Rights Watch, Honduras has the highest poverty level in Latin America. Over 66% live in extreme poverty, living on \$1.91 or less per day, and worse in rural areas. Honduras also has the highest murder rate in the world; drug violence, extortion, poverty, and insecurity, and lately a health crisis and natural disasters, are forcing Hondurans to leave in desperation, joining migrant caravans to seek asylum in the US.

**Canada's Role in Honduras: Will our government feel pressure to make change?** Ever since former Prime Minister Stephen Harper signed a free trade deal with then President Porfirio Lobo in 2011, Canadian mining, tourism, and textile companies have taken advantage of the loose laws in Honduras that allow them to abide only by Honduran law, instead of stricter Canadian laws at home. And in many cases, they act with impunity.

Perhaps bad press and accusations of human rights abuses by Canadian companies at home and abroad, prompted Prime Minister Trudeau to set up an ombudsperson to investigate unfair Canadian business practices. He promised to create the new ombudsperson's office during the 2015 election campaign. After repeated delays and shenanigans, in January 2018, the Trudeau government publicly announced that a Canadian Ombudsperson for Responsible Enterprise (CORE) would be created to "conduct credible independent investigations, including the power to compel documents and summon witnesses" of Canadian companies that are accused of human rights abuses and unfair practices abroad.

Eighteen months ago, the Canadian Network on Corporate Accountability (CNCA) reported the Canadian government backtracked on their promise to provide an Ombudsperson with "necessary tools to conduct credible independent investigations, including the power to compel documents and summon witnesses." Since government responsibility to follow through with the directives of CORE, to investigate violations perpetrated by Canadian corporations at home and abroad, was not implemented, "all fourteen civil society and labour union representatives of the government's Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Body on

Responsible Business Conduct (Advisory Board) tendered their resignations. For more information on CORE and this fiasco, refer to: <https://www.kairosCanada.org/what-we-do/ecological-justice/open4justice>.

In other words, the government of Canada has not followed through with their own directive to make Canadian companies accountable for their actions and violations of human rights, despite the list of rules outlined in the Free Trade Agreement of 2011 with Honduras and the CORE program. The Canadian government has no

teeth to make Canadian companies accountable at home, in Honduras, and other countries around the world. Canadians must therefore pressure leaders to act for human rights, particularly now when political policies are changing, hopefully for the better, south of the Canadian border.

**Is there hope for Honduras? What will the Biden Presidency Change for Honduras?**

With the change in administration from Trump/Pence to Biden/Harris all eyes are on President Biden to address the US backed corruption issues that are occurring in Honduras. Although the issues are many in number, and exacerbated by Trump's strict, inhumane border policies and practices, ICE raids, detention in extremely horrific ICE for profit jails, President Biden made campaign promises to address the root causes of Honduran migration. Now in office since January 20, 2021, the following outlines his plans for Honduras including El Salvador, and Guatemala.

**U.S. Citizenship Act of 2021:** President Biden has declared that over a four-year period, \$4 billion will be spent to attempt to decrease poverty, violence, and corruption in Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. He plans to create centres in these countries for those wishing to migrate to the US. Ian Kysel, Cornell Law Professor and Co-Director of the Asylum and Convention Against Torture Appellate Clinic tells Time Magazine that "Going back decades, the U.S. Government has failed to adequately invest in making rights and human dignity the cornerstone of U.S. policy in the region—on migration or otherwise." Kysel stresses that Biden's plan is a step forward but investing in human rights issues is paramount to making positive change in Honduras so that people want to stay in their home country. In other words, put human rights first instead of economic wealth and exploitation.

**Trump Border Wall:** The erection of the border wall is a physical reminder to migrants that they are unwelcome and will be deterred by a barrier and military force if they attempt to enter the US. Trump's \$15 billion border wall construction has been put on 'pause' for two months by Joe Biden. Yet due to the devastation, local communities and environmentalists are advising that steps should be taken promptly to assess and rectify the environmental damage that has occurred, also address the issues of cultural sites that have been bulldozed and destroyed. The Guardian reports that 84 federal laws were suspended to allow for its construction. These must be reinstated by Biden.

**Political Asylum:** According to authorities, Biden plans to issue executive orders to halt those adopted by his predecessor that allowed for migrant caravans to be blocked along the route to the US border through Mexico. However just last week, 7000 Hondurans were blocked by Guatemalan forces as they attempted to travel northbound. They were teargassed, beaten, and harassed. Many were loaded back onto buses and sent back to their starting point in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. Very few families were able to break through the military police barriers.

Biden plans to stop Trump's MPP (Migrant Protection Protocol) that forces migrants to wait in Mexico in squalid, dangerous camps as their asylum claims are being processed. Yet no directives have been issued yet to assist those still waiting at the border. Biden's new directive will hopefully allow for a higher number of immigrants to enter the US.

**Children Separated from Parents at the Border:**

Biden proposes to create a commission to investigate the thousands of people who were separated from family members at the US border. Over 600 children are still in custody after being taken from their parents. With a lack of identification and information gathered upon separation, and since many parents were deported to countries other than their homelands, the reuniting of these families is almost an impossible task.

**DACA Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals:**

Over 1.8 million people in the US are part of the DACA (Dreamers) program that allows children who came into the US illegally with their parents to remain in the US and work toward a path to citizenship. Under the Trump administration this program was to be abolished. One of Biden's first executive orders was to reinstate all statutes of this program.

**Immigration and Customs Enforcement – ICE:**

ICE was formed after 9/11 as a domestic force under the Department of Homeland Security to protect American citizens from terrorist groups. According to Judy Ancel of Cross-Border Networks, "ICE ... these domestic federal police have turned into a kind of Gestapo terrorizing our immigrant population; they knock on people's doors and take them away and separate families ... engaging in tremendous human rights violations." Many human rights groups have demanded ICE be abolished. To date, Biden has been silent on the future of ICE.

**Three-Year Anniversary of the Simcoe County Honduras Rights Monitor Committee:**

When Edwin Espinal and Raul Alvarez and others were arrested in January 2018 for speaking against the human rights violations occurring during the post-electoral crisis of 2017, our SCHRM committee was formed. On April 8, 2018, over 175 Springwater residents attended our first community meeting to be apprised of the conditions that led to Edwin's and others' arrests. The large group demanded that the Canadian government strongly advocate for their release and to investigate who the corporations are that violate human rights abroad (and at home) and what we could do to push the Canadian government to take action on both issues.

Since that meeting, many residents have voiced their viewpoints to federal, provincial, and municipal officials regardless of party affiliation. These concerns call for Canada to take a strong stand through foreign affairs, through the Ombudsperson office in defense of human rights and to cease appeasing narco-trafficking, corrupt governments like Honduras. Concerned citizens have called for our government to also reign in the power and control of global monopolies.

What type of foreign policy must Canada embrace? Can Canada trade with other countries based on mutual benefit and development and friendship amongst peoples to serve their well-being and security? Will the root causes of migration continue to be the topic in the news media until ours and neighbouring governments listen? SCHRM will continue to provide updated information to Canadians and make our political representatives accountable for the role Canada plays in the world.

SCHRM continues with great success to raise funds for food and provisions during this very difficult time. We thank the very generous donors who support the programs in Tegucigalpa and El Progreso. Karen, Edwin and Raul send their greetings from Tegucigalpa and thank you too for this support. They witness the gratification of the community members in person who receive the food packages and meals. See their latest photos attached.

Thank you again and stay safe.

Christine Nugent and Janet Spring for the Simcoe County Honduras Rights Monitor Committee

**BRIDGE BITES** from The American Contract Bridge League

**FIRST THINGS FIRST** By: Brian Gunnell

<p>♠ 7 ♥ T743 ♦ AKT9632 ♣ 6</p>	<p>North</p> <p>West East</p> <p>Declarer</p>	<p>♠ A965 ♥ J986 ♦ 875 ♣ 95</p>
---	---	---

**E-W Vulnerable**  
South West North East  
3♠ Pass Pass Pass  
3NT Pass Pass Pass

Some players don't approve of preemptive bids when holding a 4-card major, pointing out that it risks missing (in this case) a 4-4 Heart fit. Others will say that North's so-called Heart suit is pitifully weak, and surely that long, strong minor needs to be bid.

On the actual deal, North's 3♠ preempt got N-S to a dubious 3NT when 4♥ was indeed a superior contract. Against 3NT, the opening lead was a Spade to East's Ace, then a Spade to Declarer's Jack and West's Queen, followed by a third Spade. On the second and third Spades, Dummy pitched a Club and a Diamond (a Heart could not be spared as the 4<sup>th</sup> Heart is a potential entry).

After winning the third Spade trick, how would you play the Diamond suit? Would you finesse against the Queen, or would you play for the drop? When the hand was played, our Declarer knew that with an 8-card fit, the Diamond finesse was the percentage play, so he successfully ran the Jack. That held, but the bad news was that Hearts were 4-1, so Dummy had no entry and the good Diamonds were stranded.

Declarer goofed. He should have cashed two high Hearts first ... if that suit split 3-2 then he could take the Diamond finesse, the most likely way to bring in the suit ... but when Hearts were 4-1, the lack of Dummy entries meant that he must rely on the singleton or doubleton ♦Q to make his contract. That would have been 10 tricks, just like those who declared the superior 4♥ contract. Does this deal settle the debate about preempting with a 4-card major? Not at all, it merely tells us that rotten contracts sometimes make, especially when played correctly.

Visit [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org) for more about the fascinating game of bridge or email [marketing@acbl.org](mailto:marketing@acbl.org)  
For games in Barrie see [www.barriebridge.com](http://www.barriebridge.com)  
For games in Midland see [www.midlanddbc.com](http://www.midlanddbc.com)

## Georgian Bay General Hospital receives single largest gift in North Simcoe from Marco Mancini to transform the care experience



Cutline: A historic \$5-million gift from the Marco Mancini Family Foundation will provide critical funding to transform the care experience for thousands of patients at Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) in Midland, ON. The transformational gift will address some of the highest priority projects for the hospital in the coming year. From left: Chad Weatherell, business development manager, Urbacon; Gail Hunt, president & CEO, GBGH; Marco Mancini; Christine Baguley, philanthropy officer, GBGH Foundation; Glenn Howard; Wayne Middaugh; Nicole Kraftscik, executive director, GBGH Foundation; David Turner, chair, GBGH Foundation Board of Directors.

A \$5-million gift will provide critical funding to transform the care experience for thousands of patients at Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) in Midland, ON. The Marco Mancini Family Foundation is making this historic gift to address some of the highest priority projects for the hospital in the coming year.

"I would like to thank Marco Mancini for this incredible investment in our vision of exceptional care, for every person, every time", says Gail Hunt, president and CEO, GBGH. "The Marco Mancini Family Foundation is lifting up our whole community with this extraordinary donation, providing our residents, patients and staff with hope and excitement for the future at GBGH."

A seasonal resident in Tiny for more than 20 years, Marco Mancini, has supported GBGH as the principal benefactor for local golf tournaments, contributing close to \$1 million for critical equipment and enhancements to the surgical services at the hospital. His generosity over the years has inspired many local businesses and individuals to join him in investing in local healthcare, and his latest gift is no exception.

"Our hospital is the heart of this community, and we all have a role to play in its future," shares Mancini. "GBGH has cared for my family many times over the years, and I want to make sure they will be there for years to come. It was deeply important to me that amidst a global pandemic the ongoing needs outside of a COVID-19 response were

still a top priority".

The investment will be made over the next few years, starting with the renovation of inpatient rooms; building a new café in the hospital's main lobby; and helping with the electronic medical record project. GBGH and The Marco Mancini Family Foundation will continue to work together to identify other priority projects that will positively impact patient care.

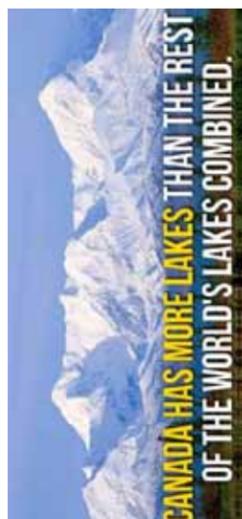
"Transformational change happens when visionary community members step up to make it possible", says David Turner, chair, GBGH Foundation Board of Directors. "We are deeply grateful to the Marco Mancini Family Foundation for their incredible leadership. Marco's generosity continues to improve health care for all the residents of North Simcoe, and for every patient who will benefit from exceptional care at Georgian Bay General Hospital."

"As we look to the future of GBGH we know that this remarkable gift will have a profound impact on the hospital, the healthcare teams and the patients," says Nicole Kraftscik, executive director, GBGH Foundation. "We are so grateful to have Marco Mancini and the Marco Mancini Family Foundation invest in these significant projects, and his hope, our hope, is that it will further inspire our community and seasonal community to stand with us and help accelerate our impact."

Who were the Know-Nothings?

**Answer:** The Know-Nothings were members of a secret political group that sprouted in the 1800s amid anti-immigrant sentiment in the United States. They organized to keep foreign-born citizens from holding political office and to promote other anti-immigrant and anti-Roman Catholic activities. This was in response to the approximately 5 million immigrants, many of them Roman Catholics, who arrived in the United States between 1825 and 1855. Know-Nothings went by names such as the Order of the Sons of America in Pennsylvania and the Order of the Star-Spangled Banner in New York. They came to be called Know-Nothings because they operated clandestinely and always answered "I don't know" when questioned about their activities. Under the banner of the American Party in the mid-1850s, Know-Nothing candidates were elected governor in states as geographically diverse as Massachusetts, California, and Kentucky.

A man goes into the home improvement store and says, "I'd like to order 5,000 finishing bricks."  
"Certainly," says the salesman, "Are they for a garage?"  
"No," says the man; "They're for a BBQ."  
"Why do you need so many bricks for a bar-b-q?" asks the salesman.  
"Well," says the man, "we live in a 3rd floor flat."



Do we know when the first tornado hit the United States?  
**Answer:** No. Tornado records have been kept only since 1916.

## Ask a Therapist: On Common Cognitive Distortions by Sarah Joy Covey



Photo by Andrea Piacquadio on Pexels.com

*Q: How do I know if I have a healthy thought life? I feel like I get stuck in my thinking patterns and don't always know how to get out of my own head – can you help?*

**A:** Psychotherapeutic work often begins with creating awareness around challenging patterns in a client's thinking and finding new ways to process thoughts and feelings. Thankfully, recent scientific research identifies the hope that is embedded in the neuroplasticity of our brains: the physical pathways and connections in our brains can *and will* change as we train ourselves to think in healthier ways.

Our way of thinking actually has the power to heal and transform our brains. This amazing mind-brain connection lets us know that we don't have to be stuck in "stinking thinking"! There are so many ways that we can move to a better state of mind by consciously evaluating and directing our thought patterns.

Cognitive distortions are irrational and often intrusive thoughts that can impact your emotional and physical wellbeing. They also play a role in motivating your day-to-day behaviours and interaction in relationships. They regularly come in the form of negative automatic thoughts that are not necessarily consciously constructed or sought out but, without analysis, they tend to lead us down paths that don't serve us well.

Everyone experiences mental distress from time-to-time but certain distortion patterns may be more prevalent based on personality type and lived experiences in one's family of origin. You may find that you tend to see evidence of one or two types of problematic thinking more than others and that is an indication of where you might feel most stuck. Therapists can be tremendously helpful in supporting clients to identify and uproot core beliefs that are not producing healthy thinking.

The truth is, we don't have to believe everything we think! With some psycho-education to help identify the distortions, and some help to find productive and supportive alternative pathways, you can think yourself into a new and healthier state of mind. And your whole self will thank you for it!

Stay tuned for a series of posts in which we will explore one type of cognitive distortion at a time and provide concrete strategies for moving away from this unhelpful thinking pattern towards better mental health.

*A New Leaf: Resources for Growth – our psychotherapy practice and wellness shop – located at 21 B Queen Street West in Elmvale is open at this time for virtual psychotherapy and virtual retail therapy with curb side pick up only. Email Tanya at [info@sarahjoycovey.com](mailto:info@sarahjoycovey.com) to book an appointment or to inquire about our products and services. Follow us on Instagram @sarahjoycovey for the latest updates!*

Take care of you.  
Kindly,  
Sarah Joy Covey  
Clinical Director, Registered Psychotherapist

Although life expectancy in Canada is on the rise, it is rare to reach 100. In 2019, we had a record 10,000 centenarians in Canada — with over 80 percent of those being women.

I don't always go the extra mile, but when I do it's because I missed my exit.





Elmvale 322-1482  
Midhurst 737-5650  
Minesing 722-6440

As always, please refer to our website [www.springwater.library.on.ca](http://www.springwater.library.on.ca) for information, branch updates and our virtual programs.



**COVID-19**

On January 12, the Provincial Government announced a state of emergency and stay-at-home order that will be effective until Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup>.

Our library services remain unchanged with this announcement.

We are providing contactless curbside service during our regular open hours. Please call your local branch for personalized requests, or place holds using our website or app. [Elmvale.library@springwater.ca](mailto:Elmvale.library@springwater.ca), 705-322-1482 [Midhurst.library@springwater.ca](mailto:Midhurst.library@springwater.ca), 705-737-5650 [Minesing.library@springwater.ca](mailto:Minesing.library@springwater.ca), 705-722-6440.

For more information: [www.springwater.library.on.ca](http://www.springwater.library.on.ca)



**AMAZING NEW KITS FOR CHECKOUT!!!**

You can now checkout some of our cool new kits.

**Outdoor Explorers** (includes compass, walkie talkies, binoculars

and books).

**Science Explorers** (includes microscope, accessories and books).

**Night Sky** (includes telescope, attachments and books).

**Bird Watching** (includes binoculars, walkie talkies and books).

**Fidget Toys** (lots of great boredom buster toys).

**Getting Ready to Read, Beginning to Read & Reading Independently** kits.

Be sure to place a hold on a kit today!

For more information: [www.springwater.library.on.ca](http://www.springwater.library.on.ca)



**FREE TAKE AND MAKE**

Brighten a friend's day by sending a heart of gold card. Ask for us to include this simple craft in your curbside pickup bag. While supplies last.

For more information: [www.springwater.library.on.ca](http://www.springwater.library.on.ca)



**FEBRUARY FAMILY**

Win one of 3 Smores Gift Baskets. Request a February Family Challenge sheet from one of our 3 branches. Complete all the challenges. Tick off each item turn in your completed sheet by March 1. Draw will be held

at 5 pm on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

For more information: [www.springwater.library.on.ca](http://www.springwater.library.on.ca)



**LEGO ANYONE? MONTHLY SERIES**

Get the kiddos making lego! It's easy, it's in your house and they can compete to win a lego prize when they watch staff member Amanda's video and then put together a fun creation. Find out what the theme is this month. Be sure

to follow us at Facebook to catch our monthly series.

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

For more information: [www.springwater.library.on.ca](http://www.springwater.library.on.ca)



**COOL STEM KITS AVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT**

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) play is now available to be checked out from the library. Miss Amanda shows you how

fun and interesting STEM is and how to use our STEM kits at home.

Check our YOUTUBE channel:

This month's STEM video play is on **MAGNIFYING BLOCKS** and will come out on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. More YouTube STEM videos that are available to view include: Introduction to STEM, Magna Tiles and Straws and Connectors.

Place a hold on your STEM kit today.

For more information: [www.springwater.library.on.ca](http://www.springwater.library.on.ca)



**MISS AMANDA'S STORYTIME**

On our Virtual Programming page and on our YouTube channel you'll find Miss Amanda doing a fun interactive

Storytime Program with rhymes, songs and stories.

The next couple of themes for Storytime will be: Valentines and Birthday.

Ask for your free Storytime Kit.

For more information: [www.springwater.library.on.ca](http://www.springwater.library.on.ca)



**KRAFTING WITH KATHY**

Kathy will share a Valentines craft for the whole family to enjoy. This will be on our Springwater Public Library

**FREE income Tax Clinic 2020**

The Elmvale Public Library will once again be hosting the Community Volunteer Income Tax Clinic (CVITP), a collaborative partnership between the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), and community organizations, and their volunteers.

If you need assistance filing your income taxes for 2020 and you meet the criteria below please reach out to us. Unfortunately we will not be scheduling any in person clinics this year due to the pandemic. We will be offering this free service via phone or if you prefer pick up and drop off via the library.

To reach us:

Email your name and contact (phone) information to [cvitp.elmvale@gmail.com](mailto:cvitp.elmvale@gmail.com). A volunteer will be in touch to arrange tax preparation by phone.

Drop off your income tax papers at the Elmvale Library. One of our volunteers will collect, complete, and return to library for pick up. **When dropping off please make sure that you have provided your name, sin, date of birth and contact information. Place in a sealed envelope addressed: INCOME TAXES. Your envelope can be deposited in the Book Return slot.**

Phone the Elmvale Public Library at 705-322-1482 and leave your name and contact (phone) information with a staff member. A volunteer will follow up to arrange tax preparation.

**Criteria**

In order to be eligible for the CVITP, individuals must have a modest income and a simple tax situation.

Family Size	Eligible Income
1	\$30,000
2	\$40,000

**Elmvale BIA Business Highlights**

**Experience Elmvale!**

**Elmvale - in the Heart of The Township of Springwater**

#SupportLocal #SupportElmvale

- by shopping in shop (with COVID precautions in place, some businesses require pre-booking times) - Always wearing a mask
- by utilizing curbside pick-up or take out options
- by utilizing online shops for local businesses
- by leaving a great review on social media or online platforms
- by purchasing gift certificates for future use
- by spreading the word about the AMAZING products and services that can be found in Elmvale!

Check out the complete listing of our businesses

[www.elmvalebia.ca](http://www.elmvalebia.ca)

#ElmvaleOntario #StrongerTogether  
#WorkingTogether #Community #Shop #Springwater  
#SimcoeCounty #ExperienceSimcoeCounty  
#ExperienceElmvale



Facebook page, on our Virtual Programming page and on our YouTube channel on Thursday February 4<sup>th</sup> for all to enjoy. Check out Kathy's other great Krafting videos on our YouTube Channel. Limited craft packages are available on a first come, first serve basis from your local branch. Call or email to reserve your package. For more information: [www.springwater.library.on.ca](http://www.springwater.library.on.ca)

**WE CAN HELP!**

We know that with curbside pickup it is hard not to be able to browse the shelves for awesome items in the library. Never fear! Your friendly Springwater Librarian is here...online! Just take a moment and let us know a few of your preferences and we'll hop right to it and help you find your next favourite author or book! click on the "How Do I Tab" at [www.springwater.library.on.ca](http://www.springwater.library.on.ca)



**LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION**

Springwater Public Library Local History Collection is a database with photos and documents that showcase the diverse heritage of Springwater Township. **ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS!** Take a look.

**Wasaga Beach Denture Clinic**

Carlos Melgarejo DD Denturist  
682 River Road West, Wasaga Beach  
**(705) 429-8474 / 1-800-531-6290**



**Bell, Choice Words, ISED**

Bell Canada took a beating from members of parliament this week on several fronts, from its decision to cut rural network investment to the inordinate number of customer complaints it receives.

But the biggest item in MPs' crosshairs was Bell's confirmation that it has taken \$122 million in pandemic-related labour subsidies despite posting strong financial results and boosting dividend payouts to shareholders.

Along with several other big telecom companies in 2020, Bell availed itself of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, a federal program that covers a portion of employees' salaries in order to keep those workers from being laid off. The company also raised quarterly dividends throughout the year and is expected to again increase its fourth-quarter payout.

Nate Erskine-Smith, Liberal MP for Beaches-East York in Toronto and a member of the standing Committee on Industry, Science and Technology, was pointed in his questions for Robert Malcolmson, Bell's chief legal and regulatory officer. Here's the exchange, with embedded video below:

*Erskine-Smith: BCE has a strong financial position, with \$5.2 billion in available liquidity at the end of Q3, 10-per-cent internet revenue growth, 4-per-cent growth in year-to-date cash flow from operating activities, 13.7-per-cent free cash flow, which obviously translates from my reading of the news release to a 5-per-cent increase in the Q4 dividend. So instead of accessing that available liquidity or perhaps not increasing that dividend, you thought it best to access public funds?*

*Malcolmson: What we did was we were a participant in a government program that was very well designed to keep Canadians working at a critical time and we participated in that program commensurate with the impact that the pandemic was having upon our workforce. I have to say that when you quote our financial results, and I have to admit I don't do math as quickly as you do, you do have to remember that in order to build Canada's networks, in order to invest in 5G, in order to have fibre rolled out to 5.6 million households and wireless home internet targeted to reach a million households, you need investment capital. The only way you get investment capital is from shareholders that are willing to invest their money with your company in order to fund your network expansion. If we don't have investment capital and if we're not delivering shareholder returns, Canada will not have the level of investment needed to build the networks that we need.*

*Erskine-Smith: Okay, that's a long way of saying that while Main Street businesses are getting crushed in the pandemic and you see increased dividends, you could have gone from \$5.2 billion in available cash flow down to \$5.05 billion in available cash flow and you would have blinked, whereas we have Main Street businesses getting crushed, unable to access the necessary supports. And here you are increasing dividends. I take it you would not have reformed the CEWS so that a profitable company like yours with \$5 billion in available cash wouldn't continue to receive millions of dollars in taxpayer funds? You like it just the way it is.*

A National Post investigation in December revealed that at least 68 publicly traded companies had received CEWS while also paying out shareholder dividends, but the amounts received by big telcos on the list were not disclosed. Independent news site downUP uncovered those numbers, including the \$122 million Bell received, as well as at least \$82 million by Rogers and \$38.5 million for Telus. Bell's \$122 million is more than any company on the Post's list, topping Imperial Oil's \$120 million.

Several large telcos have justified getting CEWS by pointing to revenue declines in their media divisions. Companies can qualify for the subsidy by showing at least a 30-per-cent year-over-year revenue drop. A clause in the application, however, states that the "employer is under no obligation to prove that the decline in revenue is related to the Covid-19 crisis."

Observers have pointed out that CEWS has loopholes that need to be closed. Writing in the National Post earlier this week, Canadian Taxpayers Federation director Aaron Wudrick suggested that companies that receive CEWS should be prevented from doling out executive pay increases or shareholder dividends.

"Canadians are understandably upset at the idea of large corporations taking advantage of a program intended to save jobs by instead replenishing their coffers and enriching their shareholders," he wrote. "It's time for the government to retool CEWS to make sure any support goes to the people who need it most and doesn't end up in the pockets of those who don't."

## Mayor Don's Update

– Springwater News –  
February 4, 2021



### COVID-19

If you have been following the news, you know that the UK Variant (B.1.1.7) of the COVID-19 virus has been confirmed in Barrie. Our thoughts are with all of those impacted by the outbreak at Roberta Place, and all of those who have succumbed to the COVID-19 virus since its arrival in Canada almost a year ago.

The UK variant of the virus appears to spread more quickly and easily than other variants. The health unit is currently investigating to determine how widespread it is in the community. Due to our close proximity to the City of Barrie, the risk of transmission in our community is a very real and dangerous threat. Now it is more important than ever to remain vigilant. Only go out for essentials, this includes groceries, pharmacies, medical appointments, exercise and any work that is not able to be done remotely.

The virus is not able to spread on its own, people need to move it. Therefore, if we limit our movements, we limit the spread of the virus. Although remaining in lockdown for extended periods of time is challenging, doing so is saving lives. Think of your neighbours, families and friends who may be more susceptible to the serious consequences of this virus and just stay home!

### Broadband Update

Council during its last meeting received a delegation from Mr. Jeff Kerk about the Hillview Internet Broadband Project ("Project") whereby Jeff and neighbours of Hillview Crescent and surrounding area in Springwater have created an internet service providing company ("ISP") and are developing a fibre-to-the-home ("FTTH") strategy to bring the best possible unlimited internet access at reasonable prices to their area. Council agreed to support improved access to broadband in Springwater and support, in principle, the Hillview Broadband Project and communicate as such to the Federal and Provincial governments.

I wrote last issue about Springwater's issuance of a Request of Expression of Interest (REOI) to look for solutions from Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to enhance broadband internet services in underserved areas of the Township as part of a Community Broadband Plan. These expressions were received and summarized in a staff report, with the options presented including the option of proceeding to issue a Request for Proposal ("RFP") to the five proponents seeking more detailed submissions and from that, we would be able to consider next steps. This would probably require a sizeable financial investment, along with the finalized ISP partner, and therefore it would require seeking other possible funding sources as the Township could not afford this on its own. Other options discussed by Council included performing an Advocacy or Support Role, advocating for more government funding for rural broadband assistance and support for ISPs to persuade ISPs over a period of time to increase their service offering to areas of Springwater. Another alternative is to do nothing currently and wait to see what happens with the SWIFT development. I support moving forward with an RFP process to determine more details of what a Community Broadband Plan would involve and how much it would cost and possible funding sources. The majority of Council want to refer this back to staff to work with members of Council to provide further options regarding an active advocacy role.

I hear from many of you about the hardships you are experiencing with poor, inconsistent, inadequate, expensive internet and I sympathize with you – especially during these present challenging times. I have had to come up with a customized solution to increase our broadband service given my increased working from home presently. If you are experiencing problems and frustration in this area, please email me details to [don.allen@springwater.ca](mailto:don.allen@springwater.ca) and I will input this into the group working on this.

### Springwater December 31, 2019 Year End Financial Statements

Council this week will be reviewing the audited December 31, 2019 financial statements for approval – seems like awhile ago, but as with everything else, the finalization of the audit was delayed somewhat. The results ended in an excess of operating revenues over expenditures for the 2019 year of \$1,069,752. Some of the main contributors toward this were supplementary taxes and fire call revenue plus salary and benefit and road maintenance and other operating expenses coming in under budget. Staff recommend this surplus be allocated \$890,102 to eliminate the increase in debt requirement for the purchase



## Bernie Pilon Construction

Gravel Supplies

Crushed Road & Cement Gravel  
Sand & Gravel Fill • Skid Steer Services  
Excavating • Bulldozing • Backhoe & Snow Removal  
7 Simcoe Street Rick's Cell: (705) 623-4209  
Elmvalle, Ontario Phone: 322-2785  
L0L 1P0 Fax: 322-4458

of the 1132 Snow Valley Road Hasty Tract for the coming Midhurst hub – firehall and other municipal infrastructure and the remaining \$179,650 to the Tax Rate Stabilization Reserve for future.

The 2019 Capital Budget included gross expenditures and sources of funding in the amount of \$16.6 million. The actual expenditures incurred amounted to \$7.7 million. Many of the unspent funds are attributable to projects being deferred to 2020 or 2021.

Staff and the external auditor met with the Finance and Audit Committee, comprised of Councillor Cabral and me, to review the year-end results. We also reviewed the Township debt and reserve fund positions and compared these to other municipalities, cities and towns and Springwater continues to compare favourably. The committee's recommendation to Council is to approve this proposed allocation of the surplus.

### Long-Range Financial Plan

Consultants Watson & Associates ("Watson") recently presented to Council a high-level overview of the updated Long Range Financial Plan ("LRFP"). Highlights of it include:

- Significant population growth planned for Springwater 23,000 to 48,800 population by 2041 (112% increase);
- Majority of development (71%) will occur in the Midhurst Secondary Plan ("MSP") area;
- MSP developers will cash flow the assets for roads, water, wastewater and basic parkland development capital expenditures within the secondary plan area;
- An option for Council to consider is the negotiations with developers for additional pre-payment (accelerated payment) and front-ending agreements to be utilized for growth-related projects for the MSP and other developments in Springwater;
- Further funding agreements will need to be negotiated with the developers to manage debt increases to a manageable level;
- Financial policies will have to be considered and tailored to afford what we can afford and when we can afford it. This may include slowing (deferring) certain aspects of growth, as required.

Using this preliminary report, staff will continue to work with Watson to prepare a final report to Council in February for discussion and targeted approval of the LRFP in March.

The development process and timeline occurring with the MSP to date is in line with what occurs with such developments and is in no way considered fast tracking the process. What has occurred to date has been subject to checks and balances and approvals by staff and Council. Further unnecessary delay would be regarded as delaying the process and subject to potential challenge and litigation. The process Council is following and the further agreements that will result will continue to be manageable and prudent, with the right adjustments being made. I will be reporting on this more in future.

### what3words – OPP Location App

The Ontario Provincial Police have started using a new mobile application called 'what3words' to help locate people in need when a caller cannot describe or does not know where they are located.

The app uses a global mapping system and labels every three metres<sup>2</sup> with a unique three-word location string, which can be converted into latitude and longitude coordinates. This allows dispatchers to locate the lost caller with increased accuracy.

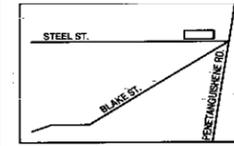
what3words is a free application available on android and Apple devices. It works off the cellphone's GPS when connected to a data signal or offline without mobile data if the caller had it downloaded prior to losing signal.

You are encouraged to download the what3words app to save precious time and allow the OPP communications centre to provide a rapid response in an emergency situation.

Please practice what I referred to above regarding COVID practices and stay well.

These are my thoughts and not necessarily shared by all of Council.

## ROBINSONS



Serving Barrie and Area for over 80 Years

A Hardware Store with  
ALL Your Needs!

Mon-Sat & Sun 10-5  
(705) 728-2431

Corner of Blake & Steele

### Tuning Into Ourselves

The process of tuning into ourselves and getting to know who we really are can sometimes create crises in our external world. We may discover that we do not like our job or our career, or that we no longer have much in common with our friends. We might even question our primary relationship, wondering if this is still the person with whom we want to spend the rest of our lives.

This may seem very unsettling, if not frightening. Sometimes we are tempted to retreat from our path of growth, thinking it safer just to go back to the way we were. Perhaps we are scared of change or feel that we do not want to upset others. It is common to feel like the 'bad guy', who is creating trouble or making things difficult. However, what is really happening is that we are being agents of change.

No living system is ever static, and change is essential to survival and growth. When we become restless or dissatisfied, it means that there is something not working in the system or relationship, not that there is something wrong with us. Our unhappiness is a symptom of the problem, not the problem itself. If we try to suppress the symptom (unhappiness or frustration) it does not solve the problem, and very likely a new symptom will emerge (physical illness, accidents).

The first step to healthy resolution of the situation is to be clear and honest with yourself about how you really feel. This is often the goal of the first phase of the therapy process, because often it is hard to differentiate our own feelings from the feelings and expectations of others.

The second step is to consider your options. Quitting the job or ending the relationship need only be a final resort, as there are often many other options that can be tried first. Other options may either improve the situation or make it even more evident that the situation is not going to work.

Sometimes we resist change because we do not want to hurt anyone. But staying in a job or relationship that does not allow for growth and happiness for the sake of someone else is dishonoring self. We cannot assume that if we do ultimately decide to move on, that we are creating permanent damage in the lives of others.

The little bird no doubt at first resents being pushed out of the nest, and is likely terrified, but ultimately it learns to fly. There is a purpose to all things, and knowing that may make it easier to begin to acknowledge the truth of how we feel.

*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 daily inspiration.*

**Baking soda.** This kitchen staple dissolves oil and product buildup on the scalp that can weigh locks down, giving hair immediate lift as it dries. To do: add 2 tsp. of baking soda to a dollop of shampoo, massage onto wet scalp and hair for 1 minute, then rinse.

**Beer.** The brew's yeast plumps the hair shaft for a fuller-looking mane, while its protein and vitamin B-2 fortify tresses at the roots to reduce excess shedding. To do: pour a can or bottle of room-temperature beer on damp strands. Let sit for 5 minutes, then rinse.

**This pantry mix.** Sea salt adds grit to bulk up individual hairs, and peppermint's menthol props hair up and off the scalp for extra body. To do: in a spray bottle, add 1/2 cup of water, 1 Tbs of sea salt and 6 drops of peppermint oil, shake well. Mist onto damp scalp.



## PROPANE

- Residential
- Commercial
- Farm

Cylinder Refills

# Collingwood Fuels Ltd

15 Stewart Road, P.O. Box 321  
Collingwood, Ontario L9Y 3Z7

(705) 445-4430

1-800-553-5571



## FUEL DELIVERY

- Furnace oil
- Diesel fuels
- Gasoline

Oil furnace sales and service



## Old Uncle and The Red Road • Uncle Robertjohn Knapp Seneca

Story and Photos by Danny Beaton Turtle Clan Mohawk  
[www.dannybeaton.ca](http://www.dannybeaton.ca) • In Memory of Alicja Rozanska

Old Uncle said the highest form of prayer is song and that the prayer must be sincere if it is to be accepted by Great Creator and the Spirit World. When we were kids, my brother Steve and I never thought we would grow up to be men. Billy Wright lost his mind from sniffing glue and Rolly Lux was shotgunned stealing drugs. He was only twenty years old. We carried his coffin for his family. So many things cross our minds as we get older, all the gifts that our Great Creator gave us and the sacred learning experiences. These gifts of life and learning are overwhelming: seeing the ocean for the first time, seeing the Rockies in Alberta for the first time as you head west through Cree Country through the prairies of Saskatchewan, all this life flashbacks as we prepare to be old men and ladies. The memories keep piling up but the thinking never stops and it's all so sacred, thinking of all the love our old elders gave us in our sacred ceremonies to think back, because many of us were born again Indians, urban until we were found and brought back into the world of respect, thanksgiving, harmony, love and so much more on The Red Road.

By the time we reach fifty years old, many of our teachers, elders, chiefs, clan mothers, uncles and aunties have planted seeds in us, memories and teachings how to walk on this Sacred Mother Earth. It's no mystery what our elders do. It's our way of life to pass on our culture to our younger generations to come: our thinking, our being, our life skills to build whatever we are gifted with. Some of us are singers like Guujaaw, or Fire Keepers like Mac McCloud or Allean VanEvery, or protectors of the universe like Wilmer Nadjiwon would say. We buried Wilmer about three years ago in Cape Croker by The Niagara Escarpment. I was one of his best friends and so was my partner Alicja. These memories can never be erased in the eyes of our Great Creator. By the time we reach sixty years old, many of our elders have crossed over to the Spirit World: Leon, Thomas, Austin, Audrey, Ann, so many are gone. All our elders who were with us thirty years ago are gone now. The ones who were fifty years old are old elders now. A generation is almost gone and now in our sixties, we are living our wisdom, we are teaching what was taught to us. The memories and teachings from adolescence to manhood are now who we are, from pain and trauma to healing and protectors of the Universe. Many of us are survivors of residential school, alcohol abuse, violence, racism and many of us have not got on the Red Road to Healing yet. Old Uncle worked with The Native Brotherhood for thirty years: no pay, but his reward was his wife and children and his community love him because he would always make himself available to run ceremonies.

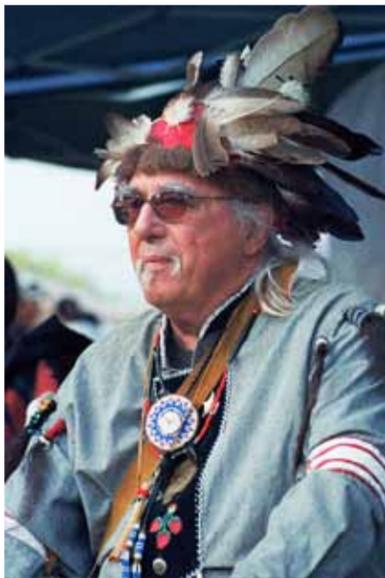
Most great creativity or great art or great work comes from our connection with the universe and Mother Earth. If you really think about it, even our corn, bean and squash comes from Creative Mother Earth, but where does Mother Earth come from? She comes from the Universal Forces, Our Great Creator, The Great Mystery. Where does our sacred thinking come from? It comes from our oneness with the Universe, our Great Creator; all colours, sound, stone and bone skulls come from the universal forces, Great Mystery, Great Creator. We start to realize these things as we get older and watch the forests, winds, sun and the powerful deep dark ocean in the north, the Atlantic, the power and the mystery the life beyond beyond. Old



Uncle said the first water came from the cosmos, the galaxy, the dark hole, and it was so so sacred. Uncle said that water was The Great Creator and was life and was in all Human Beings. Uncle said that The Milky Way was the Spirit World and was the life force shining up above us every night, when Brother Sun went away and Grandmother Moon would come out and take charge of all the great waters on Sacred Mother Earth. Uncle was a Sun Dancer his whole adult life and it made him the happiest Human Being to dance for days and days and through the nights till the Universal Forces knew he was making his offering for all people on this Sacred Mother Earth. Old Uncle was a healer and medicine man of the Great Seneca Nation, The Haudenosaunee Confederacy, but was adopted into California Tribes because they needed him more than his birthplace in Canada. Old Uncle cared for his own children, but he cared for all children of the Four Directions. He was a Sacred Protector of The Universe and Mother Earth, where he was known throughout the plant life, mountains, deserts and Sacred Waters, throughout Turtle Island. Uncle said our sacred ceremonies were for giving thanksgiving to all the life forces and Mother Earth and Great Creator. Many of our old elders loved Uncle because he would always be smiling and ready to laugh at Tom Porter's joking around. Our camps were a place of healing, resting and energizing. Bob Staffanson and Oren Lyons were our main leaders and founders of our Sacred Circle. That's why we believe we are building and working for the Universal Forces, The Great Energy, Our Great Creator, and our art is all for the universe and that the universe is guiding us, our Creator is guiding us and we are the voice for Great Creator. How else can we explain why we are here on Sacred Mother Earth, why we are moving about in a Good Way? The Universe wants us to be happy, the Universe wants us to be in harmony, in unity, in peace. Old Uncle Robertjohn is putting down his sacred tobacco on a Sacred Tree every day since we have known him. If we really look at our own life, we could say Life is Guiding us along. How else can we explain the sadness in front of us? How else could we explain any joy that we have felt from friends, or loved ones, or even strangers who come into our life? If we look at everything our old elders teach us, it really is life. The Universe, or Great Creator, is guiding us to somewhere. Even if it's in our minds for us to see meaning or understanding

of life or truth or peace, something sacred is guiding us.

Old Uncle said "As we become elders we realize our mortality, and all the teachings don't just come forward but what they do is they come alive. What happens with age is we are really really conscious of those younger people around us. When I was young, I loved being around elders. I never wanted to be anything except a gofer for our elders, a runner, I can truly say that. Technically, we are the tentacles of our elders' circles and our elders were tentacles of their elders. We are trying to impact people from all over the world for future generations to come and their children's children, so that all life continues in a good way and all for the Sacred love of our Mother Earth and Great Creator. There has to be a song, there has to be a dance, there has to be a trust of the Spirit World. Trusting the Spirit World; we have to trust that the positions will be filled in our Circles. When we stand in the Circles we become those ones. I mean that in a loving way, I became one. I can tell you my relation to Leon - it was one of the most beautiful relationships I've ever had. I could communicate with him and I never held anything back. I could tell him everything, but I did it with love of our relationship. I would never do anything to hurt him. Leon would always smile when he looked at me sideways because he knew he had me. Leon used to come to support me while I Sundanced at Big Mountain, Arizona. Thomas Banyacya would come too. We all shared a vision that we work hard, hurt no one and trust the Spirit World whatever that means to whoever. The Spirit World is the Creator all the way down from our parents, children, the trees, sun, moon, stars and everything that crawls, the Spirit of Mother Earth's Blood. We have to trust the Spirit World, but what the people don't do is trust the Spirit World - that is a powerful, powerful statement. Our old people trusted the Spirit World, but in today's culture we have to control it. We are controlling everything. All these people, Muslims, Buddhists, Christians, they don't trust the Spirit World - they have to control it. Everybody's got to control it, even our own people have to control what they're doing - they don't trust the Spirit World at all. To me that's worthy of tears and our tears hit the ground."



### Promote Your Business!

This ad would cost you

- \$45 in b&w or \$55 in colour

The ad will be in **20,000 papers, mailed to 18,800 homes and can be read online at**

[www.springwaternews.ca](http://www.springwaternews.ca)

Send your business card or information to [springwaternews@rogers.com](mailto:springwaternews@rogers.com)

*We will prepare a sample for your approval.*

Just so everyone's clear, I'm going to put my glasses on.  
 A commander walks into a bar and orders everyone around.

## S&J Barn Demolition

We pay cash for barns  
 WSIB insured  
 For a free estimate  
 Call 1 800-291-2276



### Rosie's Devotions

#### Dark Skies



One of the hardest things that I have ever done in my life was to visit a friend in the hospital who was dying of cancer. She had been in a lot of pain for a long time.

God, in His mercy, decided to call her home, and she did not have to suffer any longer.

When someone close to us dies, a close friend, a father or mother, sister or brother, wife or husband, or a child, the ones who are left behind suffer. We grieve the loss of never seeing them again. We suffer with the memories of what used to be, and we miss their company. We miss everything about them and we hope that they are in a better place.

It is at such a time that our hope lies in the words of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, who said, "In my Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to myself; that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:2-3 NASB)

**Revelation 7:16-17** – They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; neither shall the sun beat down on them, nor any heat; for the Lamb in the centre of the throne shall be their shepherd, and shall guide them to springs of the water of life; and God shall wipe every tear from their eyes. (NASB)

**Prayer:** Father, it is so hard for us when we lose someone that we love so dearly. Be with us at our time of sorrow and grant us Your peace. Help us to overcome the fear of death, and when our final hour comes, raise us up to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Saviour, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Rosemary Hagedorn

Midland, Ontario.

[rosyhagedorn@gmail.com](mailto:rosyhagedorn@gmail.com)

### COVID 19 SPECIAL



**Phil's Catering • 705-528-9679**

**SCHEDULE APPOINTMENT FOR PICKUP**

#### From the freezer

Loaf of Sunflower Bread	\$5.00
9" meat pie	\$11.00
4.5" meat pie	\$4.00
5" chicken pot pie	\$5.00
10" x 12" chicken pot pie	\$50.00
4" x 6" turkey pate	\$15.00
10" x 12" turkey pate	\$40.00
4" x 6" meat lasagna	\$25.00
10" x 12" meat lasagna	\$75.00
Roast Turkey Dinner	\$10.00
Roast Chicken Quarter Leg Dinner	\$10.00
Roast Chicken Quarter Breast Dinner	\$12.00
Roast Beef Dinner	\$12.00
Stuffed Chicken Breast orange ginger sauce	\$14.00
Salisbury Steak Dinner	\$10.00
750ml Chili	\$10.00
2.2 Litre Chili	\$20.00
SM Bag of ice	\$2.50
LG Bag of Ice	\$9.00

*Let us know what you like to see in the near future*

**\*-- The Benefits of Wine --\***First things first, a proper glass of wine is a 5-ounce pour. So when I say "moderate drinking", that means what is clinically considered to be healthy. For women, it's one glass a day and for men it's two. Wine contains antioxidants that attack free radicals. White wine is going to be your go-to if you're looking for one that is high in antioxidants. As we get older, our bones get more brittle. You can always increase your calcium intake by drinking milk... but that's not nearly as enjoyable as sipping on a glass of red wine. The silicon in red wine is great for your bone density and it also reduces your risk of osteoporosis. Moderate consumption of wine - and alcohol in general - can prevent blood clotting. Wine acts as a natural blood thinner, breaking up any blood clots that could lead to a stroke. This lower risk of blood clotting is more beneficial to females than males. HOWEVER, light to moderate consumption may be good in preventing a stroke, heavy drinkers are more likely to have the opposite effect, resulting in a higher risk of heart attacks, not a lower risk

## Van Vlack SS#12 Flos - located on Hwy 92 just west of Vigo Road (Circa 1955)

If you play on Facebook, there is a supersite named "You might be from Elmvale!" With their more than 1900 participants, and the extensive contributions from Ric Archer and others, there are a lot of memories and history to be seen and read. The people in this picture are all in the 70 plus year old age group.



We apologize for not remembering you, or only guessing as to who you are and the spelling.

**Back row** - Marion Bell, Sandra Langman, ??, Helen Palmer, Archie Livingston, Clifford Langman, Tom Kidd, Rod Graham, Don Livingston and teacher Mrs Kroeper(sp)

**Middle row:** Joan Kidd, Sandra Bell, Howard Langman, Mike Bell, Ron Bell, Jim Conn, Mike Conn, Marie Kidd, Donna Jenkins, Marg Hancock

**Front row:** ??, Nancy Rolling ??, Susan Hancock, Linda Langman, ??, ??, George Conn, Billy Langman, Terry Rollings ??, Gordie Kidd



**Heaslip & Son Renovation  
& Handyman Services**  
705-361-9945  
www.heaslipandson.com

## NVCA 2021 Annual General Meeting Highlights January 22, 2020

**Next Meeting: February 26, 2020, held virtually**

For the full meeting agenda including documents and reports, visit [nvca.on.ca/about/boardofdirectors](http://nvca.on.ca/about/boardofdirectors)

On January 22, 2021, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) held its 61st Annual General Meeting.

### NVCA Board of Directors Election

NVCA Board of Directors elected the following officers for 2021:

□ Chair: Mariane McLeod, Councillor for the Town of Collingwood

□ Vice-Chair: Gail Little, Councillor for the Township of Amaranth

### Keynote Speaker

Dr. Dianne Saxe, former Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, delivered a keynote speech titled 'Why Wetlands Matter'.

She stressed that wetlands are precious, especially in a climate crisis. Climate change is a much more pressing issue than we think. As Ontario expands development, our wetlands are under significant threat. This is especially true for the Nottawasaga Valley Watershed, as we are designated as a high growth area.

Furthermore, wetlands provide habitat and breeding grounds for species at risk, and offer flood and drought protection.

Dr. Saxe emphasized that conservation authorities can protect our wetlands, but are limited by the lack of provincial direction, missing definitions of "interference" and "wetland" and insufficient resources.

She recommends that:

□ All unevaluated wetlands are designated significant until proven otherwise

□ Real protections

□ Empower conservation authorities

□ Wetland stewardship on private land

□ Creating new wetlands to compensate negative impacts from development is truly a last resort.

Dr. Saxe has generously permitted this presentation to be shared with the public.

### 2020 Accomplishments

Staff created a Year in Review video celebrating the work that staff did in 2020.

□ In 2020, the stewardship team rehabilitated and protected almost 31 kilometres of streams and shorelines through 29 projects, big and small. This includes removing the Petun dam and rebuilding the river it was on, restoring river and stream banks, and planting new grasslands. All the while hand washing, wearing masks and socially distanced.

□ NVCA's Manager of Forestry planted his 2.5 millionth tree. Some of the trees he planted are already small forests!

□ Although the pandemic reduced our abilities to monitor the health of the watershed, our staff partnered with Georgian College to develop a database to house the data that was collected. With this information, it will be more efficient for our scientists to measure the success of NVCA's programs going forward.

□ Our conservation areas across the watershed welcomed 60% more visitors in 2020 compared to 2019. Our Conservation Lands Staff worked tirelessly to ensure these green space areas were well maintained. Watershed science continues to monitor the health of our ground and surface water

□ This year, we received a record breaking 3,307 permit applications, again, making our watershed one of the fastest growing in Ontario. Staff continue to improve upon service delivery, most recently reaching 98% compliance to provincial standards and 92% to new Conservation Ontario standards.

□ The Flood Management team continued to monitor weather forecasts and watershed conditions while maintaining and improving the system. Our flood team issued 5 flood messages in 2020.

□ Through our environmental education program, we introduced the importance of our natural world to the youth in our watershed. In 2020, over 12,000 students attended our education programs. Staff also developed, due to COVID-19, online programming for students learning from home so they don't miss out on any previous opportunities they had.

## BACKYARD ASTRONOMY • Orion The Hunter

By Gary Boyle - The Backyard Astronomer

For obvious reasons, winter in Canada does not entice people to venture outdoor and stargaze. The nights can be long and cold but can also be a thing of beauty. Your reward for braving the frosty still of the night is seeing the most iconic constellation of the entire sky. The seven bright stars that form Orion the Hunter is part of the larger picture of a dozen bright winter stars belonging to other nearby constellations.

Of course, we can look through the window from the warmth of our comfy homes, however, to experience the true wintry celestial landscape, bundle up and if you can, travel to a dark site away from stray light sources on a moonless night. Here, the ghostly silence of the night allows one to hear their own heartbeat. Along with seeing imaginary Taurus the Bull (to the upper right) while battling Orion, look at the beautiful Pleiades star cluster, the heart of the angry bull. Also referred to as the Seven Sister, the Pleiades resides about 450 light-years (ly) from us.

To the upper left of Orion are the Gemini Twins consisting of the bright stars called Pollux (yellowish) and Castor (blue) located 33 and 51 light-years respectively from us. Use binoculars to locate a beautiful open star cluster catalogued as M35 near the right foot. Appearing about the size of the full moon, the cluster containing a couple of hundred stars is some 2,800 ly away. Above the Twins is the constellation Auriga the Charioteer. The bright star is named Capella and resided 42 ly away. There are three open star clusters located in the southern part of the constellation. Appearing in a somewhat curved line from left to right bares the catalogue numbers M37, M36 and M38. They are all in the 4,200 to 4,500 ly range from us meaning the starlight from these clusters left around the time the Great Pyramids in Egypt were built.

The winter sky is also where we find the fainter and less dense edge of the Milky Way Galaxy on the left side of Orion. Opposed to the heavy concentration of hundreds of millions of distant stars signifying the centre of the galaxy in the constellation Sagittarius seen in the night sky



from in the south from June to October, dark skies are required to see the winter portion of our galaxy.

Focusing now on the main pattern of stars, the hunter is outlined by two stars for his shoulders, two for his feet and three in a row for his belt. From the belt, look for the imaginary sword hanging down with a fuzzy-looking object in it. Welcome to an emission nebula called for obvious reasons,

The Great Orion Nebula or simply M42. This stellar nursery is slowly collapsing and condensing pockets of gas and dust in the nebula to eventually form a couple thousand stars. The belt stars from left to right are named Alnitak 817 ly, Anilam 1976 ly and Mintaka 916 ly while the nebula itself is around 1,500 ly away.

Embrace the night sky for all it has to offer, no matter what time of year.

Till next time, clear skies.

*Known as "The Backyard Astronomer", Gary Boyle is an astronomy educator, guest speaker and monthly columnist for the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada. He has been interviewed on more than 50 Canadian radio stations and local Ottawa TV. In recognition of his public outreach in astronomy, the International Astronomical Union has honoured him with the naming of Asteroid (22406) Garyboyle. Follow him on Twitter:*

**959 Marshall Rd  
Wyebridge ON**

**Ph - 705-526-0563**  
[www.doublejbfedds.ca](http://www.doublejbfedds.ca)

Just north of Mertz Side Road on Marshall Rd.

Mon- Fri 8:30 - 5:00  
Saturday 9:00 - 5:00  
Sunday & Holidays Closed



**Dairy, Beef, Poultry, Swine, Sheep,  
Rabbit, Equine rations and Bird seed**  
**ORGANIC FEED AVAILABLE!**

### RVH outbreak update

Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH), in consultation with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, has declared the COVID-19 outbreak on its Integrated Stroke and Rehabilitation Unit (ISU) over. The unit is once again open to transfers and new admissions.

RVH remains in outbreak on two units within the facility, Transitional Care Unit (TCU) and Specialized Seniors Care with each of those units closed to new admissions.

All patients on those units have been swab tested, are safely isolating in their rooms and are being monitored closely for symptoms. All patients on the unit are on droplet/contact precautions and will be re-tested within the next week, or earlier if they develop symptoms. Patients who have been previously discharged from the unit will be contacted by public health and advised to self-isolate in their homes.

RVH has implemented its Outbreak Management Protocol which includes enhanced cleaning, surveillance, education and frequent communication to patients.

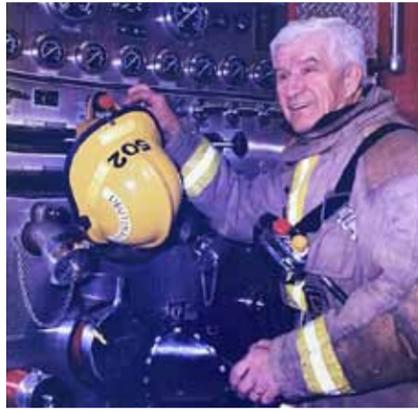
By the numbers:  
\*as of February 2

**TCU**  
8 patients  
9 staff  
2 outbreak-related patient deaths  
**Seniors Care**  
3 patients  
1 outbreak-related patient death

Prison is just one word to you, but for some people, it's a whole sentence. Scientists got together to study the effects of alcohol on a person's walk, and the result was staggering. I'm trying to organize a hide and seek tournament, but good players are really hard to find. I got over my addiction to chocolate, marshmallows, and nuts. I won't lie, it was a rocky road

**Obituary**

**RITCHIE, Stanley (Tobe) Thomas Alexander**



Passed away peacefully in his sleep in his 86<sup>th</sup> year at Hillcrest Village Care Centre in Midland on January 24, 2021. Stan was married to the love of his life, Jacqueline Metheral, for 61 years. He was the loving Dad of David, Eunice Pandolfi (Robert) Vaillancourt, Bruce (Carolyn), and Denise (Robert) McLean. Devoted Grandpa to Jason, Nicole, Zachary, Emily, Nathaniel, Kaden, and Meghan. Stan is survived by his sister Dollie (late Terry Moulden), the late Grant (survived by Dianne), and Russell (late Lynda). Stan will be sadly missed by his sister-in-laws Marilyn (Allan) Buie and Ada (Wayne) Weatheral. He was predeceased by his parents Herbert and Helen "Nellie", brothers Jack (Mary), Harry (Detta), Allan (Gladys), Ross (Madeline), Isabelle (Lorne Archer) and Barbara. He will be greatly missed by his many nieces and nephews and especially his coffee buddies.

Stan was always invested in his community of Elmvale and family in so many ways. He was a superb hockey player, a faithful Presbyterian Church member and elder, a dedicated firefighter, respected fire captain, a loving husband and loyal brother, and a very successful business person. All of these things were important to him but his investment and pride in his children and grandchildren also provided him great joy over the years. There were many people in our community who had a special relationship with Stan, whether it be someone he helped with a flat tire or someone he stopped to chat with on one of his daily walks.

A private service will be held on Saturday, January 30, 2021. You may view the service via YouTube: Search: Lynn-Stone Funeral Home starting at 12:50. Cremation with interment at the Elmvale Cemetery at a later date.

Stan's family would like to thank all the nurses at Hillcrest Village Care Centre for their exceptional care, support, and love for Stan.

Donations in his memory can be made through the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home for the Elmvale Presbyterian Church and Elmvale Minor Hockey Association. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to [www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com](http://www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com).

**What else could Covid possibly ruin?**

The organizers of the No Pants Subway Ride, an annual January event held on public transport in more than a dozen cities worldwide, announced the 2021 event has been canceled. Improv Everywhere, the performance art group that has organized the No Pants Subway Ride since the first event was held in 2002 in New York City, said this year's sans-pants public transit trek has been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we are canceling the annual No Pants Subway Ride this year," Improv Everywhere said on the event's official website. "We look forward to hosting more large-scale events once it is safe to do so again." Previous years have seen organized groups of subway riders taking per-determined commuter train routes in their underwear in cities including New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, London, Boston, Berlin, Calgary, Dallas, Mexico City, Tokyo, London, Lisbon, St. Peterburg, Melbourne and San Francisco.

**Tompkins & Heels Monuments Ltd.**  
For Quality & Craftsmanship Since 1932

Locally owned and operated  
Manufacturer of unsurpassed quality granite.

161 Essa Road Barrie ON L4N 3L2  
www.tompkinsandheels.com  
Tel: 705-728-7749  
1-800-465-9900  
Fax: 705-728-6149  
Mon - Fri 9 - 5 • Sat 9 - 1 pm  
Evenings available by appointment

**Obituary**

**In Loving Memory of Carl James Lantz  
November 19, 1978 - January 8, 2021**

Carl passed away peacefully in his home on January 8<sup>th</sup>, surrounded by his family. Loving son of Margaret and John Swales. Caring brother of Bonnie Lantz and Chad Archibald. Loving uncle to Maggie DeCourcy. Predeceased by Pete LePage, Jon Bourgeois and grandparents, James and Muriel Rowe. He will be lovingly remembered by his Aunt Patty, Cousin Vicky (Niels) and little Eric and many friends, especially the Burke Street Boys.



The family would like to thank Dr. Greg Gaffney for all he has done. We would also like to express a special big thank you to Jessie Grenier, Greg and Richard LeFaive & Tim Barker for all the "Fantastic Fishing Times". Always with us. Godspeed Carl. Love Always. Due to COVID-19, a celebration of life will be held at a later date.

**Lynn-Stone Funeral Homes Inc.**

15 Yonge St. S., Elmvale

705-322-2732

[www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com](http://www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com)



**We Offer Basic Cremation Services as well as Traditional Funerals.**

**Agent for Sanderson Monument Co.**

**Obituaries**

**Chalmers, John** - Passed away unexpectedly at Mill Creek Nursing Home on Monday, January 18, 2021. John Chalmers at the age of 83, loving husband of Margaret Chalmers. Proud father of Gary (Donna Parks), Carol (Chuck) McNair and Steve (Kristine) Chalmers. Proud grandfather of Graham Chalmers, Erica Chalmers, Stephen McNair (Charlie Vanderpol), Mitchell (Mackenzie) McNair, Dannah Chalmers and Gillian Chalmers. John is also survived by his twin brother Tom (Ruby) Chalmers and sister-in-law Eileen Chalmers along with others in England. He will be fondly remembered by his many nieces, nephews and friends. John and Margaret immigrated to Canada and made the village of Minesing their home. John founded the family business (Chalmer's Autobody) and enjoyed the restoration of old English cars. He was on the founding committee of the Minesing Mini Fest and also enjoyed taking part in many community events. He loved his Pub Lunches and fine dining with his wife. In retirement John and Margaret enjoyed many cruises throughout the world. A Celebration of John's life will be announced at a later date. Memorial donations to Hospice Simcoe, Diabetes Canada or the charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. Messages of condolence may be forwarded to the family through [adamsfuneralhome.ca](http://adamsfuneralhome.ca)



**Harold William "Bill" Hillock**

Bill was a man that lived his life to the fullest. The outdoors was his playground and teaching arena for his children and grandchildren. His cedar canoe was his pride and joy. Planning and exploring for the next adventure with his loyal navigator Rowena, to camp and fish and discover new places within the coasts of Canada, was his lifelong path. Bill passionately shared stories of his adventures with historical truths intertwined in the tales. No tree went unidentified. Bill's commitment to his faith, his love and devotion to his family, his long career with Canadian General Electric, his singing groups, his swimming friends, filled his world with great joy. On January 19, 2021, we lost a beloved husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother, and uncle. Harold William (Bill) died peacefully in Barrie, Ontario. He was born on January 26, 1936, the oldest child of Harold Rutledge Hillock and Elmerreen Hillock (nee Hewitt). Bill is survived by the love of his life, his wife Rowena, his 2 daughters Susan Anderson and Janine McGill, brother Bob Hillock (Kathe), sister Donna Steele (Bruce), brothers-in-law Jim Hayward (Nita), Bill Griffiths, along with many cousins, nieces, and nephews. Bill is predeceased by his son Donald (Sheryl), sister-in-law Rae Griffiths. He will be fondly remembered by his 8 grandchildren Ryan (Josue), Justin (Michelle), Brock (Sara), Joshua (Sarah), Craig (Gina), Sean, Todd (Delaney), Noah and his cherished great-grandchild Keith William (and one almost here!). Online condolences may be made at [www.peacefultransition.ca](http://www.peacefultransition.ca)



"Because special lives deserve to be remembered in special ways"

- Finest Handcrafted Monuments
- Premiere Granite Selection
- 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Family Owned
- Showrooms Throughout Ontario

Elmvale 705-322-2732

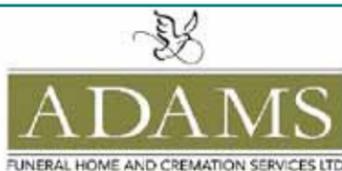
Midland 705-526-2924

Head Office 1-800-461-0282

[www.SandersonMonument.ca](http://www.SandersonMonument.ca)

[sanderson.midland@gmail.com](mailto:sanderson.midland@gmail.com)

**SANDERSON MONUMENT**



445 St. Vincent Street  
(just North of Cundles Road)  
Barrie, Ontario  
(705) 728-4344

*Independently Family Owned and Operated*

Caring Professional Advisors of At Need and Pre Need Services  
Traditional Burial and Cremation Services  
Fifth Generation Calling Springwater Area Home

Available 24 Hours  
[www.adamsfuneralhome.ca](http://www.adamsfuneralhome.ca)

**Louise Mildred Wanless, Nov. 3, 1921 – Jan. 29, 2021**

In her 100<sup>th</sup> year, Louise Wanless passed away peacefully in Barrie. Devoted wife of the late Archie Wanless for 60 years. Loved Mother to Warren (Jean), Sharon Corbett (Bruce), Janet Sutherland (Dave) and Peter (Pam). Proud grandmother to Lindsay, Graham, Alissa, Drew, Mitchell, Michael, Tyler, Megan, Erica, Kristin and, to her delight, GG to 13 great-grandchildren and counting ... Pre-deceased by sisters Helen and Myra. Fondly remembered by her many nieces and nephews.



She accepted life challenges and changes with a quiet strength and positive attitude. Louise often commented, "I've had a good life!" Her life has touched us all in many different ways; a life that will continue to be treasured and celebrated. More of Louise's story is available on the funeral home website. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Condolences and memories may be forwarded to the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home, Elmvale

Donations in Louise's memory can be made through Lynn-Stone Funeral Home to Knox Flos Presbyterian Church or the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre in Barrie.

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



**Rapid-Sell.ca**

your community online auction centre

**ESTATE OF ELFRIEDE FREESE - BARRIE - FEB. 7-11**

Highlights of this estate auction features furniture, including two power lift chairs, small power tools and other shop needs, household items and many lots of books and DVD's to keep you busy these winter nights. There's also electronics, HO trains, telescopes, Wiking collectibles, a WWII gas mask, and even a cello! Lots of unique items in this catalogue. Don't miss out on this one!



**UPCOMING AUCTIONS**

Mrs. O's Toronto Jewellery Estate Sale, Guelph - Feb. 7-11  
 Prominent Brantford Auction - Feb. 14-18  
 Norma Nelson Downsizing Auction, Caledon - Feb. 21-25  
 Prominent Estate Jewellery Auction #2, Guelph - Feb. 21-25  
 February Multi Consignor Auction, Guelph - Feb. 21-25  
 Waind Collectible & Moving Sale, Elora - Feb. 28-Mar. 4  
 Sim Estate Auction, Guelph/Eramosa - Mar. 14-18  
 Waterdown Family Moving Sale - TBD

**Full auction listings & information at [rapid-sell.ca](http://rapid-sell.ca)**

David Moore & Associates Inc. AUCTIONS & APPRAISALS

**Celebrating 37 years in the auction industry!**  
 10 years experience with online auctions -  
 850+ auctions, 210,000+ items sold online!

A Division of David Moore & Associates Inc. Auctions & Appraisals 705-722-6217

## Ontario Expands COVID-19 Inspections to Farming Operations

*Inspections will help protect temporary foreign workers ahead of the growing and harvesting season*

The Ontario government is taking additional measures to protect farmworkers during the pandemic by expanding provincewide inspections to farms, greenhouses and other agricultural operations to ensure health and safety measures are being followed.

The inspections will focus on locations that employ temporary foreign workers to ensure they are properly protected from COVID-19 through measures such as:

- Raising awareness of COVID-19 health and safety requirements through the distribution of information and instruction to farm workers, supervisors and employers;
- Increasing compliance with workplace health and safety laws, including putting protocols in place to ensure hand hygiene, masking, enhanced cleaning and disinfecting, and proper physical distancing between workers;
- Enhancing protection for temporary foreign agricultural workers living and working on farming and agricultural operations by ensuring employers are actively screening workers for COVID-19, including completion of a daily COVID-19 questionnaire;
- Providing compliance information and enforcement of public health measures required under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Approach to COVID-19) Act, 2020 to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace and in the community.

Inspectors will also check on engineering controls, movement of workers, whether a workplace safety plan exists as required under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Approach to COVID-19) Act, 2020, and whether occupational illnesses are being reported as required under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA).

Inspectors may take enforcement action, as appropriate, in response to any violations of the OHSA. Enforcement may range from the issuing of orders to the laying of charges. The maximum penalty upon conviction under the OHSA is \$1.5 million for a corporation and \$100,000 for an individual. Individuals may also be imprisoned for up to 12 months on conviction.

These efforts build on the provincewide "Stay Safe All Day" campaign announced earlier this month that focuses workplace inspections in areas of high transmission, including break rooms. It also provides resource materials to employers and workers to promote safe behaviour before, during and after work.

### Quick Facts

- The Ontario and federal governments are working together with local public health units to deliver education, support and compliance assistance to agricultural businesses and address workplace risks. This includes providing agricultural employers with resources, best practices and information to help keep workers safe and healthy, and businesses in operation during COVID-19.
- Annually, Ontario welcomes thousands of foreign agricultural workers, mostly from Mexico and the Caribbean, under the federally administered Temporary Foreign Worker Program. These workers are an essential part of the agriculture industry in Ontario, ensuring grocery store shelves remain stocked
- There were 20,500 temporary foreign workers

## Tomkins House Executive Director honoured with the "Brenda Smith Leadership Award" for opening during a Global Pandemic!

It was this time last year that Hospice Huronia brought on Debbie Kesheshian as the Executive Director who would open Tomkins House. Her business sense and knowledge of Hospice would provide the leadership needed to make sure community donations and tax dollars were used in the best possible manner. More importantly it was her compassion and understanding of what families go through when their loved one is dying that made her the ideal fit. Then, COVID hit!

"I remember one board meeting in particular where we actually discussed holding off our opening until the pandemic was over and I am so glad we decided to forge ahead." Said Marthe Scott, Chair of the Board. "Knowing that Debbie was at the helm made our decision easier. In fact, it's thanks to Debbie's leadership that we are open and serving our community in these challenging times. The staff team that Debbie pulled together has made our vision of a Hospice Home in our community a reality and when they told us they were nominating Debbie for an award, our board of directors agreed fully!"

The Brenda Smith Leadership Award is given to an exemplary palliative care provider in the North Simcoe Muskoka area. Brenda Smith was instrumental in bringing exceptional hospice palliative care to our region but her life was cut short due to cancer. This award goes to an individual who shares Brenda's special characteristics such as:

- a mentor, teacher, listener, leader
- a passion for palliative care
- Intuition and vision
- Personal warmth, strength of character
- Courageous, determined, tenacious
- Ability to unite people to a common goal or outcome
- Ability to recruit the right people
- Sees potential in people and nourishes that
- Displays and understanding of all modalities associated with illness and bereavement
- Displays patient-centered care <http://nsmhpcn.ca/brenda-smith-award/>

Kate Cook, Tomkins House Social Worker & Christine Preston. RN nominated Debbie for this award. "Debbie has gone above and beyond to make this happen for our community. She has spent countless hours making our house a home, works diligently to ensure our staff feel protected and supported and still somehow finds time to sit down and connect with each family that walks through our front door. She has created a safe, inclusive and welcoming home and families can feel it the moment they meet the team she has built at Tomkins House" said Kate.

Tomkins House has cared for 70 patients and their families since opening in April of 2020. Many families have told us they had no idea what a Hospice offered. They were surprised to know that we have 5 private rooms with Murphy Beds for loved ones to spend the night or go home knowing we provide exceptional end of life medical care. There is no cost for any Hospice service as the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care funds 50% of the operating budget and 50% comes from generous supporters in our community. Grief & bereavement programs are ongoing for groups and one-to-one sessions are also available. Visit [www.hospicehuronia.ca](http://www.hospicehuronia.ca) for further details.

I lost my job as a stage designer. I left without making a scene.

Never buy flowers from a monk. Only you can prevent florist friars.

How much did the pirate pay to get his ears pierced? A buccaneer.

I once worked at a cheap pizza shop to get by. I kneaded the dough.

My friends and I have named our band 'Duvet'. It's a cover band.

I lost my girlfriend's audio book, and now I'll never hear the end of it.

Why is 'dark' spelled with a k and not c? Because you can't see in the dark.

Why is it unwise to share your secrets with a clock? Well, time will tell.

in Ontario in 2020, most of whom resided in communal living quarters on farms.

- More than 1,780 temporary foreign workers tested positive for COVID-19 in Ontario in 2020 from Ontario acquired infections.
- Ministry health and safety inspectors visited 718 farms during COVID-19-related inspections in the agricultural sector in 2020 and issued 383 orders.
- The inspectors have biosecurity training and are required to follow protocols to ensure the health and safety of farm animals during their inspections. Inspectors also follow biosecurity signage and may call farmers ahead of time to discuss their biosecurity protocols before inspecting the farm.

## Drury Well Drilling Ltd.

Licence #1851

No water? No pressure? Call us!

- Wells
- Pumps & Pressure Systems
- Well Inspections
- Repairs & Upgrades

Servicing  
Simcoe County  
since 1988

**2 DRILLING RIGS**

**3 SERVICE TRUCKS**  
- no waiting



**Year round service and construction!**

**All Work Guaranteed! • 705.721.1053**

### Events

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

As we are abiding by the lock down restrictions currently in place due to the pandemic and in the interest of public safety, Elmvale Presbyterian Church is unable to hold Let's Do Lunch Thur. Jan. 14. We hope that by February 11th things will open up again and we can safely offer you your take-out soup and sandwiches. Check the Feb. 4th edition of the paper for an announcement one way or the other. Until then, stay safe.

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

### What are the benefits of using crude oil?

When burning oil, it gives of a lot of energy that we harvest for daily life (ex: Transportation)

### How many liters of petrol is produced from one barrel of crude oil?

crude oil is unrefined oil, and it has to be broken down & burned to separate it into what we know as petrol {gasoline/diesel}. one barrel is 55gallons of crude, a proximate guess of 150 to 200gallons of petrol.

### What are the uses of crude oil?

In an of itself, right out of the ground, it has few uses. But it is the raw material that can be refined into dozens of different compounds that literally "make the world go round" in industry, transportation, plastics, etc.

### What are the crude oil components and the percentage of each item?

The term, "crude oil" is a non-scientific one that eludes folks to believe that one crude is like other crudes. Not so. Each crude is unique, and therefore it can't be stated that "crude contains" so and so a percentage of this or that compound.

### What will happen if you keep using crude oil?

We will run out. There is only so much. Burning crude oil (and any fossil fuel (coal, oil and natural gas)) releases long-hidden carbon dioxide. This Greenhouse gas is building up in the atmosphere increasing global warming.

### What method will separate petrol from crude oil?

In simple terms. Fractional distillation. The crude is heated, and the vapours collected. The vapours are then condensed – producing petrol.



**FENCERIGHT**

**705-428-5158**

Brad & Jenn Price







**Local Fencing Company Serving Simcoe County**

**Specializing in Wood, Ornamental Iron and Chain Link Fencing**

**Over 25 Years Experience Residential, Commercial and Agriculture Fencing**

Contact us today to book your free no obligation quote  
 Email - [Fenceright20@gmail.com](mailto:Fenceright20@gmail.com)

**LARRY'S APPLIANCES**

• Fridges • Freezers • Stoves • Washers • Dryers • Dishwashers

198 Main Street  
Wasaga Beach, ON L9Z 2L2www.larrysappliances.com  
larrysappliances@rogers.com  
(705) 429-2560**For rent (WANTED) - apt., houses, and halls**

**Available for rent:** Senior accommodation in a comfortable home and a clean environment, providing you with peace of mind and friendly atmosphere. Located west of Barrie. Please call 705-728-0094.

**Elmvale Legion Banquet Hall. 100% Accessible.**

Specializing in weddings, all types of parties, business functions and community service groups. We can accommodate up to 125 dinner guests. Catering is available through the branch. Excellent parking. **Call 705-322-1042 for a quotation.**

**Announcements****'Let's Do LUNCH'**

**Once again,** as we are still abiding by the lockdown restrictions currently in place due to the pandemic and in the interest of public safety, Elmvale Presbyterian Church is unable to hold Let's Do Lunch Thursday Feb. 11th. We hope that by March 11th things will have opened up again and we can offer you your take-out soup and sandwiches. Check the March 4th edition of the paper for an announcement.

Again, until then, stay safe

**OK Tire Closes**

In September of 1908, George Kean purchased what we all knew as Langman's Garage at the corner of Kerr and Yonge Street North in Elmvale.

He rebranded and named it Elmvale OK Tire. George already owned two OK Tire stores in Barrie.

A new name on the garage and a relative stranger to Elmvale, he was prepared for some tough times. But the long list of clients Len Langman had and the people from Elmvale did not leave him. George loves the people from Elmvale and the people were like 'Down Home Folk!'

George says the time has come to move on. He has already sold one of his two in Barrie and he expects his children will run the other one.

For those who stored their tires at the Elmvale OK Tire, the names and records have already been passed on to the new owner.

George hopes you patronize the new management as well as you valued his service.

*Thank-you! Thank-you! Thank-you!**George Kean - Elmvale OK Tire.***GBGH birthing program survey to improve care**

January 26, 2021 - To better understand how Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) can best serve women in our community, the hospital is launching two surveys (English and French) related to the Birthing program. The aim of the survey is to better understand the experience of recent patients, as well as hear from future patients about their concerns related to COVID-19.

"At GBGH, we are continually looking at ways we can improve our patient care across the spectrum - whether it be new mothers or senior patients - all feedback is important," says Angie Saini, vice president, Clinical Services and chief nursing executive, GBGH. "By asking moms who've recently delivered about their experience, as well as mothers-to-be who plan to give birth at GBGH about their concerns, we can improve the care we provide. By consistently engaging our community, it helps us to continually improve our services to meet their needs and expectations."

*The English survey can be found on GBGH's website under the Obstetrical Unit -*

*http://gbgh.on.ca/programs-and-services/obstetrical-unit/*

*The French survey can be found on GBGH's French website under Obstétriques -*

*http://gbgh.on.ca/fr/programmes-et-services/obstetrique/*

Both surveys will be available on the websites until March 31, 2021.

In 2017, GBGH entered into a joint birthing program with Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital (OSMH). Through this partnership, patients have access to high quality birthing services close to home across a corridor of care stretching between OSMH's and GBGH's catchment areas. For birthing services, GBGH is a Level 1 centre providing service for low-risk births, while Orillia is a Level 2 centre for higher risk births.

King Saud, Saudi Arabia's second king, fathered 53 sons and 57 daughters with numerous wives and concubines

**Obituaries****Louise Mildred Wanless, Nov. 3, 1921 - Jan. 29, 2021**

In her 100th year, Louise Wanless passed away peacefully in Barrie. Devoted wife of the late Archie Wanless for 60 years. Loved Mother to Warren (Jean), Sharon Corbett (Bruce), Janet Sutherland (Dave) and Peter (Pam). Proud grandmother to Lindsay, Graham, Alissa, Drew, Mitchell, Michael, Tyler, Megan, Erica, Kristin and, to her delight, GG to 13 great-grandchildren and counting ... Pre-deceased by sisters Helen and Myra. Fondly remembered by her many nieces and nephews.

She accepted life challenges and changes with a quiet strength and positive attitude. Louise often commented, "I've had a good life!" Her life has touched us all in many different ways; a life that will continue to be treasured and celebrated. More of Louise's story is available on the funeral home website. A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Condolences and memories may be forwarded to the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home, Elmvale

Donations in Louise's memory can be made through Lynn-Stone Funeral Home to Knox Flos Presbyterian Church or the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre in Barrie.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to

[www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com](http://www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com)

**Marshall, Linda Anne (nee Downer)**

- Peacefully departed after a brief cancer battle, on Sunday January 31, 2021, surrounded by the love of her family. Linda Marshall, of Midland, treasured wife of Everett Marshall. Much loved mother to Kathy (Terry) Archer, Karen (Louie) Galedakis, predeceased by Kris (survived by Dave) Weatherill, Robert (Helen), Ronda (Bill) Ellery and Robin (Mike) McKeown. Proud grandmother of Shelby, Marc, Dawn, Taidgh (Kayllie), Sydney, Kayla (Cody), Justin (Georgia) and Aaron (Morgen) and great grandmother of Dylan, Jacob and Lincoln. Linda is survived by her two loving brothers, Jim and Shane and her beloved sister Shanna.

A private family service was held at Lynn-Stone Funeral Home on Wednesday, February 3rd at 1 pm. The service was viewed via YouTube: Search: Lynn-Stone Funeral Home, starting at 12:50.

Spring interment will be held at Wyevale Cemetery.

Memorial donations to Terry Fox Foundation-Midland Chapter would be gratefully appreciated.

The family wishes to extend a special thank you to Dr. Mackenzie Blake, Bayshore Nursing and Lisa Lesperance.

Messages of sympathy may be sent to

[www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com](http://www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com)

**Preliminary test results identify more variant cases in Simcoe Muskoka**

**SIMCOE MUSKOKA** - In addition to the seven confirmed cases of the UK COVID-19 variant B.1.1.7 previously reported by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU), an additional 99 individuals who have had a positive first screening test for a variant of concern have been identified. The second part of the test, whole genome sequencing, will confirm if it is a COVID-19 variant of concern and the exact type of variant. It's expected that those results will likely be the UK variant.

Most of these preliminary individuals have a link to the Roberta Place Long Term Care home outbreak; however, two are individuals with no links.

"Our investigation into these preliminary results is early, but it appears that two persons have no known link to those individuals we recently identified as positive for the United Kingdom (UK) variant," said Dr. Charles Gardner, medical officer of health for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU). "This certainly makes us concerned that the variant may be more widespread, and that in turn means that we need to really take public health measures that prevent spread of the virus much more to heart."

These first results follow reporting on the weekend by SMDHU of genome testing on seven COVID-19 samples identifying the United Kingdom (UK) variant, which is more contagious and transmissible. Six of those individuals are associated with the outbreak at Robert Place Long Term Care Home, and one is an individual who had close contact with a person who is also part of the COVID-19 outbreak at Bradford Valley Care Community, a long-term care home (LTCH) in Bradford West Gwillimbury. The health unit continues to investigate if that outbreak is also due to the UK variant of COVID-19.

An individual working at Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care (Bayfield Building), which is currently in outbreak, is one of the two individuals who have tested positive on the first screening test where no links to the Roberta Place outbreak are identified.

"I'm sharing this information because this variant is on the

**Gabriel Marchand de Lafontaine**

Ontario est décédé le 21 janvier 2021 à l'âge de 88 ans. Époux bien-aimé depuis 64 ans de **Louise (Laurin) Marchand**.

Père de: Carmen (Daniel Beausoleil), Gisèle (Roger Maurice), Jean-Guy (Iris Kelly), Paul (Monique Lefave), Pierre (Sherrie Whiteway), Nicole (Robert Maurice) et Claude (Suzanne Froment).

Pépère de vingt petits-enfants: Camille, Luc, Emma, Louise, Guy, Chantal, Carine, Zacharie, Chris, Jean-Marc, Eric, Evain, Martin, Dominique, Kristina, David, Olivia, Véronique, Jérémie et Vincent.

Arrière-pépère de treize petits-enfants: Adrien, Thomas, Tasha, Alex, Caleb, Violet, Liliane, Benoit, Reese, Norah, Nicholas, Summer et Jack.

Frère de: feu Joseph, Clair (feue Esther), Jean-Baptiste (Réjeanne), feu Paul, Jacques (Lucille), Cyrille (Anne), Roméo (Micheline), Madeleine (feu Don) et Basile (Irène).

Beau-frère de: Lucille Beauchamp (Marc), feu Gabriel Laurin et feu Pauline Fountain (feu Jerry).

Prédécedé par ses parents Roméo et Belthilde (Laurin) Marchand.

Gabi était un mari dévoué et un père très fier de ses descendants et de leurs accomplissements. Il était un homme de conviction et d'une grande curiosité. Il avait à cœur sa communauté et a été un ardent défenseur de la culture francophone, particulièrement l'éducation catholique. Peu importe ses projets de vie (entrepreneur, agriculteur, politicien, vendeur), il a su maintenir une grande intégrité.

Sa grande présence laissera un vide et sa mémoire restera tendrement gravée dans nos cœurs.

Étant donné les circonstances, la famille se recueillera à une date ultérieure.

**Gabriel Marchand** de Lafontaine Ontario passed away on Jan 21st of 2021 at the age of 88. Beloved husband of 64 years of **Louise (Laurin) Marchand**.

Father of: Carmen (Daniel Beausoleil), Gisèle (Roger Maurice), Jean-Guy (Iris Kelly), Paul (Monique Lefave), Pierre (Sherrie Whiteway), Nicole (Robert Maurice) and Claude (Suzanne Froment).

Pépère of 20 grandchildren: Camille, Luc, Emma, Louise, Guy, Chantal, Carine, Zacharie, Chris, Jean-Marc, Eric, Evain, Martin, Dominique, Kristina, David, Olivia, Véronique, Jérémie and Vincent.

Great pepère of 13 great grandchildren: Adrien, Thomas, Tasha, Alex, Caleb, Violet, Liliane, Benoit, Reese, Norah, Nicholas, Summer et Jack.

Brother of: late Joseph, Clair (late Esther), Jean-Baptiste (Réjeanne), late Paul, Jacques (Lucille), Cyrille (Anne), Roméo (Micheline), Madeleine (late Don) and Basile (Irène).

Brother-in-law of: Lucille Beauchamp (Marc), late Gabriel Laurin and late Pauline Fountain (late Jerry)

Predeceased by his parents Roméo and Belthilde (Laurin) Marchand

'Gabe' 'Gabe' was a man of strong beliefs and convictions. He was especially proud of his family and loved all their visits, their stories and sharing in their accomplishments. He was a community-minded individual who enjoyed lively and insightful discussions. He was a fierce defender of his francophone language and culture. He was an independent, just, sociable and inquisitive man with integrity who was genuinely interested in the people and the events surrounding him. He had an amazing memory of facts and events and was a bit of a 'raconteur'.

He will be greatly missed. May he rest in peace.

Due to Covid, a funeral service and a celebration to honour his life will be held at a later date.

Arrangements entrusted to the Penetanguishene Funeral Home.

**KEN ARCHER PAINTING**

Over 25 years experience painting &amp; wallpapering

Call Ken 705-727-8313

move in our community and the only way it can move is through people," said Dr. Gardner. "We need to absolutely follow the stay at home order so that we can protect ourselves, those who are more vulnerable and our health care system. We need to assume that a variant of this virus is everywhere and do everything we can to drive it out."

For more information, visit the health unit's [COVID-19 web page](https://www.healthunit.ca/covid-19) or call Health Connection to speak with a public health professional weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 705-721-7520 (1-877-721-7520). More information about the vaccine and immunization can also be found at [ontario.ca](https://ontario.ca).

The top germ collector in your kitchen is the sponge. Try pouring 2 Tbs of bleach into 1 cup of water and soaking your sponges for 5 minutes, then rinse. In one study this destroyed nearly 100 percent of germs, more than any other method.



RESTORATION &  
CUSTOM WORK  
**CHIMNEY  
FIREPLACE  
BRICK  
NATURAL STONE**

ANYTHING & EVERYTHING MASONRY  
**705-791-0096**  
**Siersmasonry.com**

### A Comment on the Keystone XL

The Alberta oil sands are one of the world's largest untapped deposits of oil which if brought to market would secure Canada's economy into the next century. But because the oil is not a liquid but a semi solid suspended in a mixture of sand and clay it cannot be pumped. In order to access surface deposits, 276 sq. miles of trees and vegetation have been cleared. (28 sq. miles have been replanted) The bitumen dug up contains 5 - 6% oil of which 10% is recoverable using 2020 techniques. Three barrels of water are needed to extract one barrel of transportable bitumen. The residual water is toxic and currently is stored in 30 sq. miles of tailing ponds which no one knows what to do with, and the sand which has been separated is being dumped into abandoned salt mines for it still contains enough oil that it cannot be used on winter roads. Open pit extraction is not eco friendly.

But 97% of the oil reserves are underground and must be extracted by drilling into the earth and forcing superheated steam at 300 degrees C. into the cavity where it heats the surrounding area for a week. The semi liquid bitumen can then be pumped to the surface. The super heated steam, now water, is toxic. Hopefully new, yet to be discovered, operational methods will reduce the environmental damage.

The oil to this point costs about \$35 per barrel to extract but it has yet to be shipped. At the well head it is too viscous to be transported - in consistency somewhat between cold molasses and peanut butter. To bring it from a semi solid to a heavy liquid, 30% by volume of natural gas condensate (plus other chemicals) must be added. The lighter oil liquids can be refined in Alberta, but the heavier sludge requires a refinery specially adapted to extract heavy oils, and these are located in Oklahoma and on the Gulf Coast.

The natural gas condensate, the solvent, must first be transported by pipeline from Chicago to Edmonton, then on to Hardisty where it is mixed with the bitumen. The cost per barrel has risen to over \$45.

Pumping the heavy bitumen through hundreds of miles of pipe requires energy for the pumping stations, and then the refinery costs must be added.

The break even price for oil sands heavy crude is \$83 per barrel. (Int Energy Agency) In order to be competitive with Saudi and Russian crude, the Canadian government(s) must heavily subsidize the operation.

The Biden administration has indicated that it will not grant permits for the construction of the Keystone portion of the proposed pipeline claiming with some accuracy that the pipeline poses an environmental hazard and citing that Canadian crude contains 31% more carbon emissions than West Texas crude. Also, the US will shortly be joining the community of nations limiting emissions by signing the Paris Accord. Hence, blocking the Keystone pipeline is a very public first step.

But the American decision has been encouraged by other factors - they don't need Canadian heavy crude. Fracking across US operations has boosted reserves to the point that the US is no longer dependent on foreign oil, and more important to the Keystone decision is that shale oil deposits in North Dakota, the Bakken field, can supply all the crude that the Cushing Oklahoma refineries can handle. In fact, because of reduced demand in 2020, the Bakken output has been reduced to 2/3 capacity. Oil suppliers in the midwest are hostile to Canadian competition and welcome the demise of the Keystone line. Canadian crude can still reach the American refineries through existing lines (to Winnipeg, then south) which are already running at maximum capacity and cannot accept increased volume.

- if Canadians are serious about expanding oil sands production, we will have to build a refinery in northern Alberta capable of processing bitumen thus eliminating the expense of adding, then separating, solvents. Also we would not be dependent on the US to refine our product
- the technical processes of separating the crude from the sand needs research, the current methods are expensive and damaging to the environment

- Canadian crude must meet world standards for emissions
- government subsidies must cease, either the cost of production must drop, or we will have to wait until world prices rise above the break even point

- restrict future development until we have the technology and infrastructure to be competitive

The oil is not going anywhere, and at some future date Canadians will be oil rich. The American decision to cancel the Keystone pipeline through the US will not stop Canadians from building pipelines in Canada to service world markets; and the US has set a precedent that they can act unilaterally to protect resources within their territory - this lesson will benefit Canada in the future as we will not be bound by continent wide resource decisions.

Joffre McCleary, Barrie Ontario



**1100 Flos Road 4 West, Phelpston**

Complete Repair & Maintenance service

Cars, Trucks & Trailers

Motor Vehicle Inspection Station

Clean & Modern Facility

Quality Workmanship in Every Job

**Marc Schutt • Tel: 705-322-4301**

**Fax: 705-322-3027**

**Email: twoguysautomotive@hotmail.com**

### Ontario Supports Modernization of Small and Rural Communities

*Funding helps municipalities improve delivery of critical programs and services*

TORONTO — The Ontario government is investing over \$40 million during COVID-19 to help small and rural municipalities improve the delivery of critical programs and services. The funding, under the Municipal Modernization Program, is part of the government's \$125 million investment through 2022-23 to help small and rural municipalities become more efficient and save taxpayers' dollars.

The Municipal Modernization Program helps Ontario's 405 small and rural municipalities find better, more efficient ways to operate and serve their residents. Municipalities can use the funding to conduct reviews of service delivery and administrative expenditures to find efficiencies or implement a range of projects, including developing an online system to improve the local process for approving residential and industrial developments or setting up new shared services with neighbouring municipalities.

Last year, Ontario funded 184 modernization projects led by small and rural municipalities, including service delivery reviews which found \$3 million in potential annual savings for Elgin County and up to \$5 million in savings over 10 years in the Township of Douro-Dummer.

Today's announcement was made during the 2021 Rural Municipalities of Ontario Association (ROMA) conference, where Premier Doug Ford, ministers, associate ministers and parliamentary assistants joined hundreds of municipal officials for the first-ever virtual ROMA conference. They held meetings with almost 300 municipal delegations and reaffirmed the government's commitment to protect the health and safety of Ontarians, and work in partnership with municipalities to stop the spread of COVID-19.

The government will continue working with ROMA and its members to protect the health and safety of rural communities, and help individuals, families and businesses recover even stronger from the impacts of the pandemic.

#### QUICK FACTS

- Ontario is investing an additional [\\$200 million from the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund](#) to support critical local infrastructure projects, such as building and repairing roads and bridges as well as water and wastewater infrastructure.
- The government is investing [\\$5 million to support eligible agricultural and horticultural societies](#) during COVID-19.
- The government is investing [\\$5.3 million, provided through the federal Forest Sector Safety Measures Fund](#), to help small and medium sized forest sector businesses offset the cost of COVID-19 safety measures.
- Ontario has renewed the [Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund](#), providing \$5 million in targeted support for rural and northern municipalities

"During the great depression flour companies learnt that poor families made clothes from empty flour bags, so they started making patterns on them. (1930)"



**New or Renovating? Check us out!**

# Red Brick Kitchens!

& Bath

• Cabinets • Countertops • Hardware  
• Vanities • Tiles • Faucets

**54 Queen St W, Elmvale**  
**705-515-0133**

### Ontario Remains among the Best in the Country for Reducing Red Tape

*Provincial initiatives remove barriers to small business, supporting growth and job creation*

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business (CFIB) has awarded Ontario an A- grade, in its annual Red Tape Report Card — for efforts throughout 2020 to remove red tape and other barriers to small business. The CFIB's report card evaluates provinces and territories across the country on leadership and accountability in their efforts to remove regulatory burdens on business.

"Modernizing regulations and cutting red tape have always been key priorities for our government as they are key to creating an open for business climate that attracts investment and creates jobs," said Prabmeet Sarkaria, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction. "Through these initiatives we are laying the foundation for a strong economic recovery that will benefit all individuals, families and businesses, especially the small businesses that have been suffering through this pandemic."

Ontario has received an A- grade for three consecutive years, representing the highest grade the province has ever received. The CFIB also improved the province's grade for regulatory accountability, moving from a C to an A due to the increased transparency in burden reduction reporting. Ontario's 2020 Burden Reduction Report included for the first time a breakdown by ministry of progress made to reduce regulatory burdens on businesses as well as the passage of the province's red tape reduction legislation in July, the Modernizing Ontario for People and Businesses Act, 2020.

In March 2020, the government launched the Tackling the Barriers portal, an online tool to accept ideas on how government could provide flexibility or modernize to help businesses overcome the unique challenges created by COVID-19. The portal resulted in over 50 changes, including giving the green light to restaurants and bars to extend outdoor patios, making the sale of beer and wine with food takeout and delivery orders permanent, and capping delivery fees charged to restaurants. The government also permanently allowed 24/7 deliveries to retail stores, restaurants, hotels and distribution facilities to help ensure shelves stay stocked and businesses can operate efficiently, while shifting truck traffic to off peak hours.

In the past year, Ontario has also passed three high-impact burden reduction bills: the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, the Main Street Recovery Act, 2020 and the Better for People, Smarter for Business Act, 2020. These measures are designed to remove regulatory roadblocks, support businesses on the ground, and help government deliver clear and effective rules that promote public health and safeguard the environment without sacrificing innovation, growth and opportunity.

#### Quick Facts

- Ontario's actions to cut red tape from June 29, 2018 to June 30, 2020 have led to annual compliance cost savings of \$331 million.
- Ontario launched the COVID-19: Tackling the Barriers portal in April 2020 for businesses to suggest ideas to overcome the unique regulatory challenges created by the global pandemic. The government is investigating nearly 400 submissions that identified roadblocks.
- CFIB represents over 110,000 businesses across Canada, including 42,000 in Ontario.



**CANADA'S OFFICIAL PHONE NUMBER**  
**IS 1-800-0-CANADA.**

Family connexions were always worth preserving, good company always worth seeking. --Jane Austen