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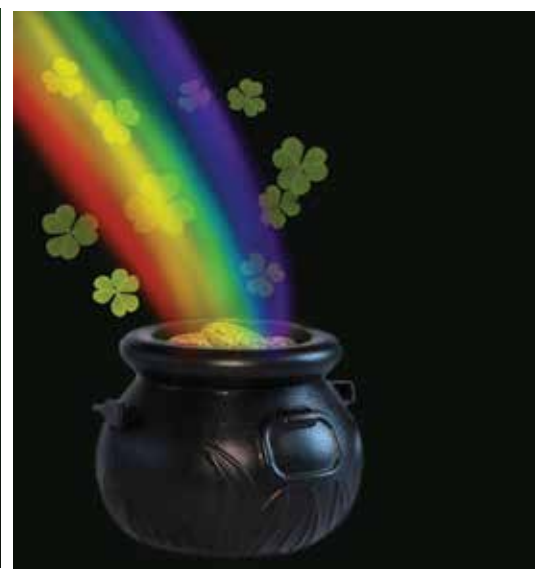
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Springwater NEWS

Edition 621 - March 17, 2022 Serving Springwater & Tiny Townships and surrounding areas

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Canadian Novice National Championships



Local Champion resides in Springwater Township. Dana Sabatini-Speciale (16 years old), is a competitive Ice Dancer who trains at the Mariposa School of Skating in Barrie, with her ice dance partner Nicholas Buelow (15 years old), who resides in Barrie Ontario.

Dana and Nicholas were recently crowned Silver medalists for Ice Dance at the Canadian Novice National Championships was hosted by Tsuut'ina Nation at Seven Chiefs Sports Complex in Calgary on February 27, 2022 in Calgary. Shown are photos from this event of Dana and Nicholas with their coach, Mitch Islam, former Olympic Ice Dancer. Of note, Dana and Nicholas's Freedance program, was choreographed by Mitch Islam and Alexandra Paul, who is also a former Olympic Ice Dancer (ice dance partner of Mitch Islam) and Springwater Sports Heritage Hall of Fame inductee.



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Springwater News

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www.springwaternews.ca



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

Hello/Bonjour
My name is Jerry (Yarko) Kulyk and my wife and I are first generation Ukrainian Canadians who are permanent residents of Tiny Township. Over the past several days we have been horrified by the unprovoked invasion of the democratic nation of Ukraine by Mr Putin. I am fully aware, as is the rest of the world, that Ukraine needs any and all assistance from the free world. In order to help, we have decided to raise much-needed funds for the Canada-Ukraine Foundation, which have already raised almost seventeen million dollars in support of Ukraine.
My assistance will be in the form of an ART SHOW fundraiser to take place in my studio and gallery on Saturday March 26 and Sunday March 27 between 10:00 and 6:00 I have displayed and sold my award-winning art, which can be seen in four countries, for several years. Currently I have been showing and selling my paintings for the past three years in conjunction with the Bay Studio Tour.
All proceeds of this fundraiser will go to the Canada-Ukraine Foundation and the purchasers will get a personal tax receipt. Furthermore, as an added incentive, I will match the amount raised up to \$10,000.
In this time of world crisis this is a feel-good news story which is timely and extremely relevant, would be appreciated by everyone, especially the hundreds of Ukrainian, Polish, and other European permanent and seasonal residents who have been part of Tiny Township for over half a century.
Jerry (Yarko) Kulyk

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

I would like to thank Susan, that contributed the front page story about the old iron bridge. She is a lovely lady with the kindest most caring spirit. She made my day when she called me and I apologized for the errors in the text in the last edition on the front page story. She said she thought it was great, as the whole community can learn that no one is perfect and we all make mistakes. Thanks Susan for looking on the bright side of life. We could all do a lot more of that to others.
Please keep your feedback coming positive or negative. I strive to improve and to have content you want to read about. Linda Belcourt, Editor/Owner

Dear Editor
Municipal budgets can expect to take a hit in coming years from an unexpected direction. The cost of controlling the rapidly expanding and fast-growing tall invasive species called Phragmites can be expected to add red ink at the lower-tier level across the province.
As Invasive Phragmites (Phrag) spreads rapidly along rural roadsides, it has become a significant safety hazard at intersections by obstructing driver sightlines. The dense roots impact municipal infrastructure by clogging drains, ditches and culverts causing road flooding and related damage. Already Phrag is growing along over 1,000 kilometres of roadside in Ontario. The current cost to treat a single kilometre of Phrag-infested roadside is estimated at \$6,000. When municipalities work closely with local partners and budget proactively for Phrag control, they can limit the spread, protect biodiversity and manage their liability.
Phrag also impacts recreational opportunities such as swimming, boating, fishing, birdwatching and hunting, costing local economies an estimated \$42.7 million a year, according to a cost/benefit analysis carried out for the Green Shovels Collaborative. Waterfront landowners take a double hit, seeing their property values reduced by \$357 million due to Phrag encroachment, the study indicates. (To access the study, search online for Green Shovels Phragmites summary report.)
The Marl-Tiny-Matchedash (M-T-M) Conservation Association has undertaken a three-year project to control Invasive Phragmites at Tiny Marsh. We wish to express our appreciation for funding support to our local municipality, the Township of Tiny, that allowed us to secure funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada and other organizations.
Municipalities alone will not be able to eliminate this economic and environmental burden and become Phrag-free. We join with the Ontario Phragmites Working Group and the Ontario Invasive Plant Council in calling for a substantial investment by governments to support municipalities and their partners' efforts in Invasive Phragmites control.
Respectfully,
Kate Harries
Chair, invasive species committee
M-T-M Conservation Association
Tel.: 705-322-220



Articles can be dropped off, mailed and/or e-mailed to the above addresses 24 hours a day.

THE NEXT PAPER will be on March 31, 2022.
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 including Letters to the Editor.
Copyrights are claimed on all original articles.
Springwater News prints 20,000 papers per edition.
18,650 are delivered by Canada Post to:
760 in the Utopia/Grenfel area L0L 1B0 and L0L 1B2
3050 in the Barrie City/Rural area
4250 in South Springwater Township
130 to the new boxes in Minesing / Anten Mills
640 in Phelpston L0L 2K0
650 in Hillsdale including the Rural Routes L0L 1V0
2550 in Elmvalle 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 Wyevalle 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)

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Dinner with a Purpose

Support for the Ukraine

Elmvale Presbyterian Church is having a **\$20** Ham and Scalloped Potato Supper Friday, March 25 **Take out only.** Orders to be phoned in to 705-322-1411 on Mon. March 21 from 9-3.
Pick up from 5:45 to 6:15 on Fri. March 25



Ukraine Crisis Appeal
The current conflict in Ukraine has caused massive displacement resulting in an urgent need for food and non-food support.
PWS&D will be responding through networks in the region.
To learn more or support the response, visit [WeRespond.ca/Ukraine-Crisis](https://www.werespond.ca/Ukraine-Crisis)

Photo: HIA

Presbyterian World Service & Development

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Maple Syrup Season is here!

Parents send a picture of your kids having fun this March Break. First names only will be accepted unless you want to print full names.



GROCERY SHOP ON A BUDGET



Did you know that March is Nutrition Month in Canada? All month long, registered dietitians are sharing key “ingredients” for a healthier tomorrow including eating well on a budget. It may feel like you have to spend a lot of money to eat healthy, but this isn’t necessarily true. If you’re open to making some grocery shopping trade-offs you can eat healthy and save money too.

Top Tips to Eating Healthy on a Budget:

- Buy only what you need.
- When possible, plan your meals in advance, make a shopping list and stick to it. Try to avoid impulsive buys and don’t shop hungry.
- Buy in season and buy frozen fruits and vegetable when fresh is too expensive.
- Clip coupons, use coupon apps and buy on sale.
- Be more accepting of imperfect produce.
- Often bruised or misshapen fruits and vegetables are tossed when they could be used in smoothies, baked goods and casseroles. Most groceries stores will sell these items at a discount, saving you money.
- Choose healthy and inexpensive protein sources more often. Examples: eggs, edamame (soy beans), canned tuna and salmon, plain Greek yogurt, cottage cheese, tofu, seeds, nuts, peanut butter, beans, chick peas, lentils, ground turkey, and cheaper cuts of meat.
- Buy generic store brands more often.
- Be a Food Hero - Shop Local and Donate to the Food Bank.

It’s a good thing to donate what you don’t need or use to your local food bank. Food insecurity is a hidden problem that has a big impact on communities.



Supporting our local food producers and small businesses is also good for our community and a great way to know where your food comes from. It also helps fight pollution and reduces your carbon footprint.



Bottom Line

Even the little changes you make can boost your health and save you money.

Stay tuned for more cost-saving tips and budget-friendly recipes from your local dietitian.

Submitted by: Joanne Nijhuis MSc, RD, a consulting and culinary dietitian in Simcoe Grey Bruce.

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Love Nature

Swans and Sweetwater at Wye Marsh

by Heather Keery, Wye Marsh Special Events & Volunteer Coordinator

The sounds of spring are in the wind at Wye Marsh. Trumpeter Swans are bobbing heads and honking, solidifying pair bonds. Pine Siskins are back at the feeder. And, as long-time Sugar Shack Volunteer Dave Robertson says, “You can hear the snow melt!”

Crunching through the snow with gear in hand, a small group is tapping maples. They are getting ready to hang buckets, collect maple sap, and turn it into liquid gold as part of the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre’s annual Sweetwater Harvest.

“I love it,” says Robertson. “It reminds me of my childhood.”

While many of us have fond memories of school trips to the sugar bush, Robertson’s experience was a bit more involved.

Growing up in the country, he spent a lot of time working on the farm. Each spring, from age of 9 to 13, he would meet up with a couple of boys and head out to the bush. “I took the week off from school, and worked in the Sugar Shack,” he recalls. “We lived, ate and slept in the bush. It was absolutely amazing!”

Now he enjoys the comradery among his fellow “Sapsuckers” at the Wye Marsh. The dedicated troupe of volunteers has been running maples syrup demonstrations for educational programs and weekend visitors for decades.

“I love talking to people - especially school kids - about how to make maple syrup” says Robertson. It can be a lot of fun surprising people with interesting facts about a sweet Canadian tradition. It’s really rewarding when someone says, “I didn’t know that!”

Unable to operate the Wye Marsh Sugar Shack for the past two years due to the pandemic, the Sapsuckers are eager to get back to work. They are tapping 31 trees, installing 100 spiles, and planning to collect enough sap to produce about 45 litres of maple syrup this season. And, if all goes well, they will get the chance to share their love of the season with you!

In response to rapidly changing public health regulations, the Wye Marsh is offering a modified Sweetwater Harvest Weekend program this year. While they are skipping the all-day pancake feast, horse drawn wagon rides and live entertainment, people will still have the chance to talk to the Sapsuckers and enjoy the beauty of the Marsh - as it stirs to life - after a very long cold winter.

From 10:00 am - 2:00 pm on March 19 & 20, March 26 & 27, and April 2 & 3, visitors can:

- Walk the Trails
- Visit the Sugar Shack
- Pop by the Birds of Prey Field
- Enjoy Family Fun in the Kids Zone
- Join a Guided Hike and
- Chat with a few Local Artisans in the Display Hall

Also, please note that:

- Advanced tickets must be purchased online at <https://wyemarsh.com/sweetwater>
- There will be no ticket sales at the gate
- Entry to the site will be limited to 100 people per hour

Wye Marsh has over 25 km of trails to explore, from winding through the cedar groves, into hardwood forest, to the floating boardwalk which immerses visitors in the cattails. It is a magical place for all ages to be inspired and fall in love with nature. Trails are accessible for all ages and abilities, with some loops being stroller friendly. Admission is \$12 for adults, \$9 for children aged 4-18, \$9 for seniors aged 65+, and children under 4 are free.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY



DUFFERIN CONSTRUCTION IS CURRENTLY SEEKING A QUALIFIED CONSTRUCTION SUPERINTENDENT FOR GENERAL ROAD BUILDING AND ASPHALT PAVING.

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DCC will support any Non-Union successful candidates in the Union application process for Local 183 and Local 793.

Application by resume only, please forward resumes to

gerald.sullivan@ca.crh.com

Only successful candidates will be contacted.



The seed heads of the sumac trees are a very important food for the first Robins of spring. Photo by John Beaulieu



Township of Springwater Link

2231 Nursery Road
Minesing, Ontario
L9X 1A8

March 17, 2022

Connect With Us

The Township Administration Centre, the Elmvale Arena, Fire Halls, and the Elmvale and Midhurst branches of the Springwater Public Library have reopened to the public. Learn more at springwater.ca/COVID19

Please be advised that the Township is currently receiving a significant volume of calls and emails, and therefore, our typical response time of 24 to 48 hours may be exceeded. Staff will do their best to respond to enquiries as soon as possible.

Job Opportunities

The Township is currently recruiting for the job opportunities:

Supervisor, Facilities
Asset Management Coordinator
Parks and Facilities Operator II
Various student positions

For details, consult the job descriptions at springwater.ca/Careers

2022 ONTARIO MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS

OCTOBER 24, 2022

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Upcoming Meetings

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

Committee of Adjustment
Wednesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Cultural Advisory Committee
Tuesday, April 5 at 6:30 p.m.

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

Summer Camps

Registration opens March 28



Camps will be available for viewing as of March 21
springwater.ca/Camps

Bid Opportunity

The Township is currently accepting bids for:

Comprehensive Fees & Charges Review
(2022-10-FIN)
Closes: March 25, 2022

Two New Mid-Size Hybrid SUV's
(2022-14-PW)
Closes: March 25, 2022

Three New Four-Wheel
Drive Pick Up Trucks
(2022-15-PW)
Closes: April 5, 2022

For details and to submit a bid, visit:
springwater.bidsandtenders.ca

2022 Spring Watermain Flushing Notice

The Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA) will be flushing watermain for the Township on an operated water system in your area. It is very important to **REDUCE** water use from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on the dates listed below so that OCWA can effectively complete the maintenance.

April 11 – April 14	Elmvale & Hillsdale
April 19 – April 22	Midhurst & Minesing
April 25 – April 29	Anten Mills, Phelpston & Del Trend (includes Carson Road, Glen Huron Drive, Paddy Dunn's Circle, Anthony Court, Deluca Court, Kanata Court, Channen Court and Wendat Trail)
May 2 – May 6	Snow Valley (includes Highlands, Lowlands and Centre Vespra)
May 5	SWABBING - Vespra Downs*

*For areas being swabbed, we ask that residents **STOP** using water during these hours.

During or after this flushing period, you may experience discoloured water and/or low water pressure. For more information, visit springwater.ca/Water

County Compost Sales

Compost sales are anticipated to run from May 9 to 28 at the County of Simcoe's Solid Waste Management sites. Rates are \$20 per truck or trailer load and \$5 for smaller loads. Mulch (brush chips) will continue to be available free of charge. Both the mulch and compost sales are to be self-loaded by residents. After May 28, the County will continue to sell compost as supplies last. Restocking will not occur until all previous stock has been sold.

Springwater Swing

Monday, June 13 | Barrie Country Club

Save the date! Registration information coming soon at springwater.ca/SpringwaterSwing





Township of Springwater Municipal & School Board Election

Notice of Nomination for Office

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Renée Ainsworth, Clerk
Dated: March 11, 2022

Elmvale Blood Drive

Sign up to save a life! Canadian Blood Services will be hosting a Blood Donor Clinic at the Elmvale Community Hall (33 Queen Street West) on Saturday, April 16 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Every donation counts.

Book an appointment online at blood.ca or by phoning 1-888-2DONATE.

Report A Concern

Did you know, you can report concerns regarding municipal roads or sidewalks through the Township's website? Simply fill out the online form with the details of your concern and upload a photo if available.

Visit: springwater.ca/ReportAConcern

Information on restrictions and issues affecting Springwater roads can be found online at municipal511.ca



Mayor Don's Update



Springwater Swing

Save the date for the 14th annual Springwater Swing charity golf tournament taking place on June 13 at the Barrie County Club. After two years of cancellations, I am thrilled to be able to welcome back our business community and partners for this day of golf, fun and prizes. All proceeds from the tournament will go towards supporting our community assistance program, physician recruitment and other local initiatives. For registration information and sponsorship options, visit springwater.ca/SpringwaterSwing.

LDD (Spongy) Moth Management Options

In a September 14, 2021 staff report, the County of Simcoe outlined five options available to its member municipalities for managing the ongoing LDD (Spongy) Moth outbreak. An action report containing these options was on the agenda of the March 16th meeting of Springwater Council. The options include:

- Option 1 - No active management
- Option 2 - Enhanced communication and support with LDD Moth kits
- Option 3 - The good neighbour approach
- Option 4 - Active management through a LDD moth monitoring program
- Option 5 - Active management with an aerial spray program

The County of Simcoe, the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry, Severn Sound Environmental Association and others have predicted that the current LDD moth infestation is on the decline and project low to moderate defoliation in 2022. As such, the County is not planning for an aerial spray program in 2022 for any of the County Forests.

Township staff are recommending that Springwater Council move forward with Options 2 and 3. Staff do not support the do-nothing approach and have advised that the spray approaches come with risks and are either limited in efficacy or unavailable. The recommendation is to support residents through enhanced communications and the provision of LDD moth kits with instructions of actions to take between now and July to minimize the impact of the moths.

The March 16th Council meeting discussing this can be viewed on the Township's YouTube Channel.

Community Hub Development

The Township has acquired the community engagement support of 8 80 Cities to begin a public engagement process that will capture a vision for the future Community Hub at 1132 Snow Valley Road, commonly known as the Hasty Tract. Through focus groups, interviews, surveys and pop-up events, they are looking to speak to a broad spectrum of individuals and groups in our community to determine what the Community Hub should include, look like, and invoke. Keep an eye out for opportunities to share your thoughts and feedback. Community engagement opportunities will be posted to springwater.ca/HastyTract and circulated on the Township's social media platforms.

County Residential Compost Sales

Compost sales are anticipated to run from May 9 to May 28th this year at the County of Simcoe's Solid Waste Management sites. Rates are \$20 per truck

or trailer load and \$5 for smaller loads e.g., cars. Mulch (brush chips) will continue to be available free of charge as quantities allow. Both the mulch and compost sales are to be self-loaded by residents. After May 28th, the County will continue to sell compost as stock allows but will no longer resupply non-composting sites until all the stock has been sold.

County of Simcoe Bursary Program

Pending Council's final approval, the Township will contribute \$1,000 to the 2022 County of Simcoe Bursary Program. Lower tier municipalities as well as the Cities of Barrie and Orillia have the opportunity to participate in this program every year by making a contribution of this amount. For each participating municipality, the County of Simcoe will then supplement the contribution by \$2,000, which guarantees an applicant from the participating municipality to receive one of the available \$3,000 bursaries. The Township has participated in the County of Simcoe Bursary Program for the last several years. In 2021, Springwater resident Carter Mack was selected to receive the \$3000 award and Paige Todd to receive one of five county-wide bursary awards.

The County has made several updates to the program for 2022. In May 2021, County Council approved the expansion of eligibility requirements to include Simcoe County students who have successfully completed their OSSD through an accredited home-schooling program, such as the Independent Learning Centre or the Virtual Learning Centre. In addition, they broadened the scope of accepted Post-Secondary Institutions to include educational programs provided by institutions such as Trade Schools.

The 2022 application period has not yet opened. Information, as it becomes available, will be posted online at simcoe.ca/HumanResources/Pages/bursary-program.

April Blood Drive

Sign up to save a life! Canadian Blood Services will be hosting a Blood Donor Clinic at the Elmvale Community Hall on Saturday, April 16 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Every donation counts. Book your appointment online at blood.ca or by phoning 1-888-2DONATE.

Workforce Connect Virtual Conference

Springwater business leaders, entrepreneurs and human resource professionals are invited to attend the Workforce Connect Conference taking place virtually on April 5 and 6, 2022. Participants will gain fresh ideas, proven resources and new connections to build and retain their workforce. Key topics include strategies for inclusive workplaces, best practices for talent attraction, pathways needed to prepare for this new world of work, future proofing and more. Register online at workinsimcoecounty.ca/workforce-connect-conference.

These are my thoughts and not necessarily those of Council. Keep safe and consider your distance and masking. A friend of mine contracted COVID-19 after socializing around an outside firepit gathering recently.

Happy Spring Break.

Craig Road Extension Project Update

Township staff are proceeding to implement the Craig Road Extension Project according to the 2009 Class Environmental Assessment Study and 2020 Environmental Study Report. Before construction can begin, there are several steps to complete, including the Craig Road conceptual design, land acquisition, detailed design, and regulatory approvals. Below are the project steps from this point to the completion of construction:

Step	Description	Start	End
1	Secure a Conceptual Design Consultant	March 2022	June 2022
2	Complete the Conceptual Design	July 2022	November 2022
3	Land Acquisition	October 2022	October 2023
4	Secure a Roadway Design Consultant	September 2022	November 2022
5	Roadway Design	December 2022	June 2023
6	Approvals	March 2023	June 2023
7	Construction	September 2023	Fall 2025
8	Opening	Fall 2025	

The new two-lane roadway will be approximately 2,750 metres long, providing an east-west link between Russell Road and County Road 27. The project is planned to move forward in tandem with Phase 1 development of Neighbourhood 2 (Midhurst Settlement Area) and alongside the completion of the ultimate wastewater treatment plant in Neighbourhood 1. The present estimated cost to complete the Craig Road Extension is \$19,000,000; however, as the conceptual design process is outstanding, this estimate has a +/- 30% margin of error. The project will be entirely funded through development charges.

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Council Meeting Highlights:
March 2, 2022
Next Council Meeting: March 16, 2022

Noise Exemption Request – Carson Road Developments Inc.
Council approved a Noise By-law exemption that Carson Road Developments Inc. requested in order to install a sanitary effluent main and conduct minor tree clearing along Hwy 26 and Wilson Drive. The exemption will allow some of the works along Hwy 26 to be completed overnight, in compliance with construction time limitations imposed on the developer by the Ministry of Transportation. Construction is scheduled to conclude in June 2022.

Partners for Climate Protection Program
Council provided authorization for the Township of Springwater to join the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Partners for Climate Protection (PCP) Program. The PCP program provides a five-milestone framework for Canadian municipalities to engage in climate change action planning, which include:

1. Developing a community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory
2. Setting a GHG reduction target
3. Developing a local climate action plan
4. Implementing said action plan
5. Monitoring and reporting on progress

Through services approved in the 2022 Budget, the Severn Sound Environmental Association will assist the Township in obtaining membership and achieving Milestones 1 and 2. PCP membership commits a municipality to moving through all five milestones within 10 years of joining the program.

Naloxone Access for Springwater Fire & Emergency Services
Council approved an agreement with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit that will register Springwater Fire & Emergency Services for the Ontario Naloxone Program (ONP). Under this agreement, the department will receive the required amount of Naloxone kits to be placed on fire apparatus and replenished as required. All Springwater Fire & Emergency Services firefighters have been trained to administer Naloxone through the Simcoe County Paramedic Services Quality Care Program.

Mandatory Firefighter Certification
The Provincial Government has announced a new regulation that would establish mandatory minimum certification standards for firefighters within the Province of Ontario. The proposed approach provides flexibility to meet local training needs based on the level of fire protection service set by municipal council. Through a new time-limited “legacy” option, certain firefighters would be exempt from certification standards based on their prior knowledge, skills and training. The regulation would not change or add any new regulatory requirements on fire departments that are currently training and certifying to full NFPA standards. It is proposed to come into effect on July 1, 2022.

This summary is not a full representation of the meeting. For the official record, please refer to the minutes in the next Council Agenda. Past Council Meetings are available for viewing on the Township's YouTube channel.



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Let's Talk About...
Pharmacy Awareness Month
With Pharmacist Owners Jenna Lougheed and Carolyn Glover

March is Pharmacy Awareness Month! Pharmacy professionals have taken on a lot to help through the pandemic over the past two years. We have remained highly accessible and an important resource to help manage your health and medications. Pharmacists have the authority to adapt or renew certain prescriptions if your doctor is unavailable. We can prescribe medication to help you quit smoking. We can perform comprehensive medication reviews and help manage chronic diseases like diabetes or hypertension. We can administer over 15 vaccines for preventable diseases, improving access for patients. We can also inject other medications under medical directives from prescribers (such as Prolia®). As always, we continue to ensure your medication is safe, ensure dosage is correct, assess for potential drug interactions and offer advice on over-the-counter and natural health products and counsel you on your prescription. We are truly grateful to have an amazing pharmacy team at Midhurst Pharmasave. Call or come in today for all of your health and wellness needs.

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THROWBACK THURSDAY

Photos and Editorial courtesy of Admin: Ric Archer, Facebook Group, You might be from Elmvale...If you...

Our Village

Belcourt is a Sports Enthusiast

Elmvale resident Louis Belcourt describes himself as a sports enthusiast.



“I just love sports.” He says, “I was a good softball player, so I played. I wasn’t such a good hockey player, so I got involved in the management end.” Besides playing senior fastball for a number of years, Belcourt coached minor hockey and several years of intermediate hockey and is an avid golfer and curler. He’s been on the executive of the Elmvale Curling Club for several years and was principal of St. Patrick’s School in Phelpston, and when it closed, he looked for a central location to settle in.

“I was raised around here, went to high school here and know the town,” he says, “It was a logical place for me to settle.” Belcourt has been teaching for 29 years and has been a principal for 26 of those years. For the past 15 years he has been principal of St. Mary’s Elementary school in Collingwood, one of the largest separate schools in Simcoe County. Belcourt has watched it grow from 180 to 500 students and undergo a million-dollar expansion last year. “I enjoy my job because I enjoy working with people,” he says. In addition to his duties at St. Mary’s, Belcourt has served as a Chairman of the County’s Separate School’s Principals Association, on the Curriculum Advisory Committee and is currently Chairman of the Barrie Western Cluster of Principals. Belcourt and his wife, Annette, have four children, three sons who live in Elmvale and one daughter living in Toronto. While the town has seen many changes in the years Belcourt lived here, especially on the main street, he says its basic character remains the same. Belcourt says the things he likes best about the village are the people, location, size and character. “It doesn’t matter how diverse your need is, people in Elmvale respond,” he says, “I’ve made lasting friendships here and this is where I will remain.” *Source: Elmvale Lance (Wed. Dec. 17, 1986)*

Spring into excitement with Grace UC’s online auction!

Grace United Church in Barrie is launching its first-ever online auction. Grace’s members are ramping up in-person services and events as Covid-19 protocols ease, hoping to return to pre-pandemic levels of serving a community that includes Barrie, Springwater, and Oro-Medonte. Beyond its members’ spiritual needs, the church community supports seniors’ exercise and educational programs, Guide and Scout troops, outreach breakfast programs, refugee sponsorship, 12-step addiction programs, children’s music programs, and more. “The auction is offered auctioneer Krista Richard’s website <http://www.atouchofclassauctions.com>. Bids open March 4th, with a “soft close” March 15, meaning item bidding closes in groups starting at 8:00 p.m. As long as someone continues to bid in the final moments, the item stays open for more bids, sparking some exciting final moments! Bidders can view the items in person at Grace UC, 350 Grove St. E. in Barrie, on March 13th from 1 to 5 pm and March 14th from 3 to 7 pm. That’s also where the winners will pick up their items on March 16th, from 2 to 6 pm. **Bidders register a credit card on the auction site for verification purposes, but can pay by credit card, cash, or etransfer when picking up their winnings March 16.** To find out more, call Grace at 705-734-0760 or visit www.graceucc.ca.

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Should My Next Vehicle be a Plug-in Hybrid or Fully Electric?

by Ron Fischer - Host of the Northern Electric Vehicle Podcast (<https://anchor.fm/ron-fischer>)

BEV Battery Electric Vehicle

PHEV Plug-in Hybrid Vehicle

ICE Internal Combustion Engine

With fuel prices seemingly on a never-ending upwards trajectory, many people are asking themselves if their next vehicle should be a plug-in hybrid (PHEV) or a Battery Electric Vehicle (BEV). As with many things in life, the answer is "It depends". Many factors should go into your decision, and one of the first among them should be what exactly do you do with your vehicle. If your daily commute is greater than a 300 kilometer round trip, than a Hybrid might be right for you. Most new BEV's have ranges that go from about 400 to 500 kilometers, some even more, so if your daily drive exceeds 75 per cent of the range of an electric vehicle, you should consider a PHEV instead, for the moment anyway. If you do not have a daily commute that exceeds a 300 kilometer round trip, then I think your best choice would be a full Battery Electric Vehicle. This technology has come a very long way and is moving well into the mainstream for most people. If you can charge at home, your electricity cost will run you about 20 per cent of a similar Gas or Diesel vehicle, I know it sounds far-fetched, but I have been getting this in the real world for about five years. If you have to fast charge, you will still likely be at about half the fuel cost of a combustion vehicle and depending on the type of car you buy and the charger you use, you can charge 10 to 80 per cent or about 300 kilometers in as little as 18 minutes (based on the Hyundai Ionic 5).

With a BEV you will have almost no service on your vehicle whatsoever, certainly no oil and filter changes, etc. In short, many of the things that need service or can go wrong on your vehicle (engine, exhaust, emissions control, transmission, etc.) don't exist in a BEV. By some estimations your average Internal Combustion vehicle has about 2000 moving parts. On a BEV, you are looking at about 20, and all those parts are subject to eventual failure. BEV's are not perfect; i.e., you do have some maintenance, of course, on things like, tires, windshield wipers and washer fluid, but that's about it ... even your brakes were slower due to regenerative braking. Both a BEV and a PHEV will usually be more fun to drive than a comparable combustion engine (ICE) vehicle, but even here the performance of a BEV is just so much better than just about anything else on the road. It's a blast to drive, with lower stress, less noise and you just feel more in control than you do in an ICE car.

For good reason, many people were nervous about taking the plunge into this new technology. They were worried about battery life, reliability, and range, not to mention charging on a road trip, so these vehicles were mostly purchased by the wealthy and early adopters. Well, mainstream electric cars have been in production for more than a decade now, and many of the kinks have been worked out. The batteries will last the life of the vehicle. Reliability of electric cars is generally higher than their combustion counterparts and it truly is easy to find a fast charger when you need it.

In the end, I would not choose the PHEV because it has few of the advantages of the BEV, and all of the disadvantages of an ICE vehicle, and you still have to buy gas!



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Council Highlights are intended to provide a summary of Council proceedings only. The information contained within the Highlights is based on approved material from within the associated agenda packages, linked at the bottom. These reports were part of the agendas from the Council Meeting on March 8, 2022 and Committee of the Whole on February 22, 2022. For more information on any item covered in the Highlights, each article is hyperlinked to the appropriate report, which can be accessed by clicking on the title. Images are also linked to relevant resources.

A recording of these sessions is also available for public viewing on the County's YouTube channel.

- Service Simcoe

SWIFT Update

On February 22, 2022, the Warden and CAO briefed Council on the Southwestern Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) board's activities. SWIFT is a non-profit municipally led broadband expansion project created to improve internet connectivity in underserved communities and rural areas across Southwestern Ontario.

Warden Cornell indicated that all 97 SWIFT contracts totaling an investment of \$268 million in broadband infrastructure have now been awarded. Councillors were interested in having a GIS map from the County which shows where high speed internet is/isn't available - CAO Aitken indicated that staff are working on this and will keep Councillors updated as it progresses.

Human Trafficking

The crime of human trafficking in Ontario is threatening our most vulnerable population, and Ontario resources have reportedly served 427 young girls that have been victimized/exploited since 2013.

On March 8, 2022, Council approved the County of Simcoe to raise further awareness to the issue of human trafficking by utilizing communications platforms, and to initiate training and a strategy for all staff and council, working with Simcoe County, community partners, and school boards to eradicate human trafficking. Council also approved forwarding a copy of the resolution regarding human trafficking and sexual exploitation to all Simcoe County MPPs/MPs and municipalities to support in further awareness and action.

For more information on all the benefits of our new automated cart collection program, click on the image above to visit carts.simcoe.ca. Our site also includes information on the size swap program, which allows residents to select smaller cart sizes that may better suit their lifestyle.

Carts Accessibility Accommodation Process

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA) and the Ontario Human Rights Code require that the County, as a provider of services, accommodate persons with disabilities.

On February 22, 2022, Council received a report on the curbside waste collection carts accessibility accommodation process, which is intended to remove barriers for persons with disabilities and is consistent with many other Ontario municipal jurisdictions that provide automated cart collection.

The report highlighted research that confirms that carts represent major physical improvements and have several ergonomic advantages over manual systems, including reduced reaching and bending, reduced back and shoulder stress, and reduced lifting and carrying.

On March 8, 2022, Council approved the proposed accommodations and application process. Staff will also investigate and incorporate additional accommodation options that keep within and enhance the curbside waste cart collection service accommodation process.



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SMILE CAMPAIGN
SPRINGWATER LIBRARY

March Smile Campaign!

For the month of March, we are collecting items to make gift bags for Moms in partnership with the Elmvalle Food Bank. Companies, families, friends can join together and put together a bag (pick up your bag and card from the library) or make a donation and we will shop for you! If you can donate just a few of the following items that helps too! We are looking for: hand cream, nail polish, emery boards, chocolate, mints/gum and notepads. The value of the bag is approximately \$50.

March Break Programs

Springwater Library and Wye Marsh: Children up to age 14 can show their Springwater Library card for FREE entry to Wye Marsh Saturday March 12 to Sunday March 20. Check out some snowshoes from the library to use on the trails!

March Break Bingo: Ages 5+ (adults too!) Pick up your bingo sheet from the library, due April 4th for prizes!

Lego Building Challenge: Thursday March 17. Find us at Facebook or our website and get building! Take a picture of your creation, email it to us and win a FREE Lego figurine!

Scent Training and Urban Rattling: Taking place outdoors Friday March 18, 10:30am. Families ages 6+ bring a lawn chair and learn about scent trained animals. Nika (dog), Snoopy (rat) and Woodstock (rat) will give a free demonstration.

Volunteer Income Tax Program

Phone the Elmvalle branch and receive a call back from this free tax preparation program or drop off your paperwork in a sealed envelope for processing. See the library's website for more details or email the Canadian Volunteer Income Tax Program at: cvitp.elvmale@gmail.com

Take and Make Pine Cone Owl

This craft is easy to put together and will definitely raise the cute factor in any room! Kits available starting Friday March 25.



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Anten Mills by Dennis Gannon

Spring officially arrives on Sunday morning at 11:33 EDT. For many of us we will remember from school that it is called Spring Equinox when we were told there would be almost equal daylight and nighttime. In fact we will have 12 hours, 9 minutes and 23 seconds here in our community of daylight that day. That is approximately 3 hours and 20 minutes more since the Winter Equinox back in December and it will be just shy of 3 hours more daylight we will see on June 21 when we see the Summer Solstice. The Spring like this past winter will have its fluctuations of weather and with the return of daylight saving time it will be nice to have light longer in the evenings and the return of warmer temperatures.

With Spring comes the end to our community ice rink. There is no question that the community volunteers spearheaded by Chad Muir did an outstanding job preparing and maintaining ice for as long as they did. There was a lot of shoveling and cold nights flooding and many in the community enjoyed some time on the ice. The community extends a huge thank you to all who volunteered their time and your efforts are greatly appreciated. As the community is responsible for the rink there is one item that would be beneficial for the rink upkeep. That would be a snowblower to assist with the snow removal. If you are thinking about upgrading yours why not consider making a donation to the rink. The rink crew would certainly appreciate it.

As most mandates surrounding world health issues are being lifted, the Anten Mills Community Centre will again become available for rentals and community use. This week the Anten Mills CRA was happy to sponsor two events focused on our community youth. Working with Seconds Save Lives the CRA held a babysitters course so now there are a number of youth trained for babysitting and will be available and able to help look after youngsters. There was also a home alone course with a first aid component which will help parents feel somewhat more comfortable when their child needs to be home without immediate supervision. The children of our community are the future and the CRA will always try to do what is best for them.

The hall becoming more available also means that the Township of Springwater is looking to run recreational programs again. On the township website you can see that they are seeking individuals or companies interested in providing programs into the Spring and beyond. Information circulating is that there will be Yoga offered in the community centre starting in April. Check the township website in the coming days if interested and when more information is available on days and times it will be posted here. The CRA is still actively looking into installing some low impact outdoor workout stations in the park and if there are any fitness instructors in the community who can work with the committee and provide guidance it would be greatly appreciated. Contact any member of the CRA to offer your time. If you are interested in renting the community centre or pavilion this year, contact the Springwater Parks and Recreation Department at 705 728 4784 to get all the required information.

Interest has been expressed by a few community members in having the Easter Eggstravaganza return this year. On the Saturday morning before Easter

families gathered at the community centre for a variety of events for the children of all ages. Several years ago the first Bunny Run was held and it was great fun. Of course the morning ended with treats for all. In order to hold the event this year there will need a group of people willing to work together to plan and make it happen. Our community holds some incredible events and they are only possible when residents get together to make them happen. You are encouraged to discuss the event with your friends and when the call goes out step up and assist as you can. Let's put the past 2 years behind us and have some fun.

It has been noticed that some homes in the community have blue and yellow lights on in support of the Ukraine community and the conflict that has been imposed on their home land. This is an amazing show of support and it is hoped that more homes may do so. Many don't have yellow lights so if you have blue, display them. It's these small acts that make the world a better place.



Finally we will see more bicycles on the road starting now. A friendly reminder to those driving to watch for cyclists. To parents it's very important to remind the kids that they must follow the rules and they are to wear a helmet. During the evening this past week several youths were seen along Horseshoe Valley Road riding all over the road, without helmets, lights or reflective material on their bicycles or clothing. They were unfortunately a danger to themselves and those driving. We don't need any tragedies in the community.

Until next time, Be Well and Stay Safe.



As I look back on the month since I sent my last e-newsletter, I know that many important events have happened both at home and abroad.

At home, we saw the return of Parliament regularly sitting for the first time in 2022, during which Parliament voted on various crucial matters and motions.

Abroad, we witnessed our international neighbours experiencing a great challenge. I stand with Ukraine, the people of Ukraine, and the over one million Canadians with ties to Ukraine. I am also extremely proud of how our community has come together to provide support for Ukraine.

Over the past month, my office has received many calls, letters and emails regarding these current events. If you would like to discuss any of these matters or have any questions, please contact my office any time.

On a lighter note, I would like to say thank you to everyone who participated in the February Snow Sculpture Contest which I co-hosted with John Brassard, MP for Barrie-Innisfil. I am pleased to confirm that the three contest winners in Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte have been contacted. Stay tuned for the next issue of the BSOM Bulletin, which will include pictures of the winning sculptures.

Please also keep an eye on your mailbox! In the next few weeks, I will be sending out a tax guide that covers a variety of benefits and credits to help you, your family, and your business.

As always, my office is available to provide assistance with any federal matters. Please don't hesitate to reach out!

Sincerely,

Doug Shipley, MP
Barrie – Springwater – Oro-Medonte



Picture above: Doug Shipley, MP shown supporting the Ukrainian Community in Barrie with MP John Brassard.

“Abroad, we witnessed our international neighbours experiencing a great challenge. I stand with Ukraine, the people of Ukraine, and the over one million Canadians with ties to Ukraine. I am also extremely proud of how our community has come together to provide support for Ukraine.”, says Doug Shipley, MP

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**PENETANGUISHENE RESIDENT
WINS \$100,000 WITH INSTANT
CROSSWORD TRIPLER**

Kenneth Pilon of Penetanguishene is celebrating after winning a \$100,000 top prize with INSTANT CROSSWORD TRIPLER (Game #2233).

Kenneth, a 67-year-old retiree, said his ticket was a birthday gift from his wife. “After playing my ticket, I didn’t think I won. My wife and I both scanned the ticket using the OLG App on our phones to be sure,” he shared while at the OLG Prize Centre in Toronto to pick up his winnings.



Kenneth and his wife called their children right away to share the good news. “Our daughter couldn’t believe it and came to see us right away!” He plans to pay some bills and already bought a plane ticket for his son. “I can’t wait to see our grandchild,” he smiled.

OLG is booking in-person prize claim appointments at the OLG Prize Centre in Toronto. As there are limited appointments, we strongly encourage those with claims between \$1,000 and \$49,999.90 to submit their claims online or mail them. Submitting claims online is fast, secure and enables OLG to process the claim in a timely manner. Customers with prizes over \$50,000 are asked to call 1-800-387-0098 to discuss available prize claim options.

INSTANT CROSSWORD TRIPLER is available for \$5 a play and the top prize is \$100,000. Odds of winning any prize are 1 in 3.61.

The winning ticket was purchased at Little Lake Convenience on Yonge Street in Midland.



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Smith Brothers Baseball is FULLY Open

Smith Brothers Baseball is fully open in our new Phelpston location with Batting tunnels and gym space! We are now located at 1335 Flos Rd 4 West, just off Highway 27 in Phelpston.

Smith Brother Baseball made the move from our 10-year home in New Lowell, to our new property in Phelpston in September of 2021. Looking to expand and grow the business, we needed the space to make our wildest dreams come true, and that is exactly what this property offers!

Moving from a 12,000 SQFT space in the middle of a pandemic came with its challenges, but the end goal will be so worth it, and Smith Brothers was ready for a challenge and a change.

Smith Brothers Baseball worked diligently upon closing on the property to get our customers into usable space! The property has 3 outbuildings, with 2 of them being converted to usable baseball and gym space. The first of the buildings, which is now our batting tunnels, needed very few changes, adding a furnace, turf, netting and some paint got our building



up and open by November.

After that came the larger challenge of creating our gym building. This building required adding extra walls, a bathroom, and all new siding, but the result ended up fantastic, and today it is fully open and operational.

This gives our private lessons, clinics, team rentals, and Central Ontario Reds team, enough space to train for the winter months improving their batting and fitness skills.

We want all of our customers to feel comfortable and at home, while practicing and improving their skills with us, and we want to take them on this journey with us.

Our new location offers space to grow and to experience the great outdoors, the way baseball should be experienced, in warmer months that is. We have plans and hopes of adding a beautiful, full-functioning baseball diamond, and an 120x45 foot additional for more training space and a parent lounge.



Simcoe Uplands Petition Calls on Ottawa to Protect Purest Water



The Government of Canada is being asked to take action to protect the purest water known to science.

A petition published on the House of Commons website urges that the federal government use the Canada Water Act and any other relevant legislation to protect the pristine waters of the Simcoe Uplands – also known as French’s Hill - so that research may proceed into how this purity is created and maintained.

Protection needs to be put in place before the resource is lost, says Dr. Michael Powell of the University of Alberta, one of the scientists involved in the five-year research project.

Paraphrasing from an article he recently wrote with Dr. William Shotyk, Bocock Chair for Agriculture and the Environment at the University of Alberta, Powell points out that the waters of Tiny Township are a natural treasure, one unique to Canada.

“If they are lost our chance to study and understand natural processes responsible for their quality and our capacity to implement new levels of resource protection will be gone – a natural analog for water purification will be lost, forever.”

Beth Brass Elson, one of the Nishnaabekweg who led the battle to prevent Dump Site 41 from being built atop the water, deplors the continuing struggle.

“A lot of prayers and hard work have gone out to help protect this precious aquifer,” she said. “We should not have to save the same water source twice.”

She called on all to sign the petition and pass along the message. “Some of the World’s Purest Water is calling for your help. Nibi (Water), we all need it to survive!”

Thepetition,whichcanbeaccessedat<https://petitions.ourcommons.ca/en/Petition/Details?Petition=e-3867> is sponsored by Simcoe North MP Adam Chambers. “This is a matter of great importance to residents of Simcoe North and citizens across Canada and we thank our MP for bringing the matter forward,” said AWARE Simcoe Chair Don Morgan.

The Federation of Tiny Township Shoreline Associations (FoTTSA), AWARE Simcoe, Friends of the Waverley Uplands and the local farm community are among the many groups that have worked over many years to preserve the exceptional groundwater. For 15 years, the Elmvale Foundation has been raising awareness of the unique quality of these waters, and using this as a tool for public education about our environment.

Powell noted that there’s an urgent need for action. “I have visited the slopes and terraces of French’s Hill and I have seen the wetlands that occur at every level.

“I have also seen how parts of French’s Hill have been stripped of trees and soil, and I understand how this will impact filtration and water quality – with time, almost 50 per cent of the northern section of French’s Hill will be impacted in this way.”



He added: “Aggregate occurs throughout Ontario, pristine water only occurs here. We must better understand this resource before it is destroyed. Do we want aggregate in the short term, or pristine water forever?”

THREE GREAT VOLUNTEERS RETIRE

Submitted by Scott McLean

One of the casualties caused from COVID has been to deny organizations the ability to gather to celebrate the commitment that our volunteers do for our Community.

Springwater Fire Station 5 (Elmvale) would like to acknowledge the retirement of three volunteer firefighters with a combined term of approximately 85 years.



Russ Stroud retires from Springwater Fire & Emergency Services after 39 years of service.

Russ Stroud joined the fire department when it was Flos-Elmvale Fire in 1983. After Dick Columbus retired in 1991, Russ stepped in and served as Chief until amalgamation in 1994. Once that happened Russ became the District Chief of Station #5 in Elmvale which is part of the new Springwater Fire & Emergency Services. After a few years Russ chose to step down from District Chief to a Captain's position and then to a regular firefighter's position where he remained until retirement. Russ's dedication to the fire service was exceptional. He was always the first firefighter to the hall - right up to the day he retired. Personally, I will always remember getting to the fire hall and Russ waiting in the truck for others to get in. Russ was one of the best pumper operators I have worked with. We would barely get the hose lines laid out and set before Russ would have the water on its way.

Russ also took on the task, and will continue to be, our resident historian within Station #5. Russ has put together a very impressive collection of articles and photos from the history of the fire services in Elmvale and area along with a collection of fire fighting artifacts. If you ever get the chance to visit Station #5, ask for a tour to take in the display Russ has put together.

One of Russ's proudest moments was when his daughter, Leslie, joined the Department and became a valuable member of Station #5. Over his 39 years

with the department Russ has helped to mentor and train many new firefighters, especially with driving and pump operation.



Paul Kenney (on left) retires from Springwater Fire & Emergency Services shown here with his son Paul Kenney (on right) also a fire fighter.

The second firefighter we would like to acknowledge is Paul Kenney. Paul joined the Department in 1992 and quickly acquired the skills needed to become a first class firefighter. Paul's devotion to the fire services was obvious and showed in his attendance and attitude at Station #5. Paul was a very smart firefighter, always thinking ahead and ready and willing to take on whatever was asked of him. Like Russ, Paul was very proud when his son, Steve, joined the Department and he shows the same talents as his dad.

Paul was also one of our go-to guys for designing and building our floats for various parades. I cannot begin to count the number of floats that have been entered over the years to the Fall Fair and Santa Claus parades.

Paul became our resident tanker operator. He knew where all the water supply areas were in the Township including hydrants, rivers, ponds, etc. He was quick to get there and have things set up to acquire the water needed at fire scenes. Paul also was great at training and mentoring new firefighters. Every firefighter at Station #5 had a great respect and admiration for Paul's talents. Paul retired from the Springwater Fire Service on February 28 2022.

Last, but not least, we would like to acknowledge the service of Scott Tuck. Scott joined the Department in 2002 and it quickly became obvious that he was a great addition to the team at Station #5. Scott was always ready and willing for any challenge. Scott was always the first to be packed up and ready to enter a burning building. Scott always had the tool or gadget needed. We actually named our rescue truck "Gadget" after him. Scott had many talents in fire fighting but his main interest was with auto extrication. He became our training instructor for auto extrication and because of him our firefighters are highly skilled in this area.



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Scott was also a member of the Georgian Bay Search & Rescue Team and helped our department to acquire skills in that area also.



Scott Tuck, retires from Springwater Fire & Emergency Services shown here with all gadgets at the ready.

Scott also stepped up on the volunteer side. He helped to organize and assist at dances, fund raisers, etc. to raise funds to assist individuals and families in need after an accident or fire. Scott ran our annual pancake breakfast at Station #5. Scott retired effective Dec 31 2021.

In closing all the volunteer firefighters from Station #5 would like to thank these three men for all the years they have given to this Community. We would also like to thank their wives, Karen Stroud, Jane Kenney and Sarah Tuck for understanding and supporting the commitment of their husbands and for putting up with that annoying and ear piercing beeper going off in the middle of the night. May you all get a well deserved good night sleep.

Station #5 would also like to acknowledge and thank other firefighters that due to relocation, change in careers or job commitment have left the Department. We thank Ryan Archer, Ryan Easby, Tom Innes, Preston Jamison and Owen Monaque.

All will be missed.

photo below: source <https://www.springwater.ca/en/living-here/fire-and-emergency-services.aspx#>



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in your...**

**HEELS
ANKLES
ARCHES
KNEES
BACK**



**Do you have NAIL
problems like...**

**INGROWN NAILS
FUNGAL NAILS
THICK NAILS
HAMMER TOES**



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problems like...**

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CORNS
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Water! Need a drink?
Turn on the tap? Maybe...

Have you ever relied on a private well for your water? Have you ever been short of water in a power outage? Do you purchase bottled water because you don't like the taste or additives in your drinking water? There is an emerging drinking water emergency in our area and here is an opportunity to get informed about it before the emergency happens!

You are invited to participate in an information session on Sunday, March 20th at 7:00 p.m. by ZOOM to discuss the Alliston Aquifer and gravel pits and the impact on us in North Simcoe. We will view a short documentary and have guest speakers Anne Ritchie Nahuis and Vicki M.R. Monague from Friends of the Waverley Uplands. This session is sponsored by United Churches of Canada in the North Simcoe Rural Cluster.

Save our Water!
The Most Pristine Water in the World is the Alliston Aquifer which is in North Simcoe region.
It is being threatened.
We invite you to join us for an information session on this important topic.



- Sunday, March 20, 2022 - 7:00 p.m. by Zoom
- Sponsored by the United Churches of Canada in the North Simcoe Rural Cluster
- Click here to join us on the 20th
- Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87833315097>

HEY DADS!

HEY DADS! Do you remember the sound of silence? In case you forgot, silence is the sound you hear when you're no longer hearing any sounds. Kind of a foreign concept for you? I totally get it. We've probably all experienced one or more of these sounds...babies crying, toddlers fighting, boys wrestling, girls arguing, wives shouting (probably not at your house) and phones dinging.

Our family recently had a one-week stay in the guest house at a Benedictine Monastery. The monastery is located on 1,000 acres of rolling hills, meadows and forests with a crystal clear creek running right through the valley. Our cabin was up on a hill overlooking the winding gravel-bottomed stream and an arch-stoned bridge. Pretty much the perfect place for peace, quiet and peacefully quiet contemplation. Now this was a whole new experience for us as we're neither Catholic nor are we monks nor are we quiet.

What we experienced a lot of out there was... silence. We attended some of the monks' prayers in the stone chapel. They have seven every day so there's lots of opportunities to join. As you walk in through the church doors there is a sign reminding you to respect the atmosphere of silence as you participate in the service. It was a very quiet chapel. It was very refreshing.

As an added bonus there is little to no cell phone coverage on the property. I honestly didn't think places like that still existed. I had to hike up the dirt road nearer to the top of the hill to get a signal and if I moved to the left or the right...she gone.

We met another family on our trip who also had nine kids. They invited us over for dinner and introduced

us to an amazing new concept also called...silence. When they sit down for a meal at the kitchen table all the children sit quietly until everyone has been served their food. Yep. You read that right. We've attempted to steal that awesome idea with varying degrees of success and failure. This new practice is



still a work in progress.

Visiting the Monastery was a new experience for us. Silence was a forgotten experience for us. Coming back from that little trip made me want more silence in my life. Earlier today I read an old saying about silence, something like: "You should sit in silence for twenty minutes every day - unless you're too busy; then you should sit for an hour." Maybe it's my old

EFFECTIVE STORYTELLING

A Workshop for Seniors with Something to Say!
Theatre Collingwood is pleased to announce their newest drama education program, which this time is for seniors!

If you have a story to tell, or simply wish to lift someone else's story off the page, this six-week workshop may be just the opportunity you need to "regain your authentic voice" and "find an audience". Each week, with an experienced instructor, you'll explore the skills necessary to become an effective storyteller, in an environment that is relaxed, encouraging and non-judgmental. Students may bring material to class that means something to them, or they may use any of the weekly materials provided, AND MEMORIZATION IS NOT REQUIRED as it's up to each individual to set their own goals. This workshop is open to participants of all abilities. The workshop will be held over 6 weeks, April 5th to May 10th, on Tuesday afternoons from 1pm-3pm. Location to be announced.

"When I was growing up my grandfather lived with us. He had gone blind, however he was the best bedtime story teller. As children we were gripped by his wildly imaginative stories, and it wasn't until I was an adult that I realized his stories were about him and his life. I believe we forget that seniors have great stories to tell. They just need someone to listen", said Erica Angus, executive director for Theatre Collingwood.

Scott Hurst will be instructing the workshops. He is an actor, acting coach and storyteller with over 40 years of professional experience. Collingwood audiences may remember him from last season's Porchside Festival where he portrayed actor/storyteller Charles Laughton in LAUGHTON COMMON. One of his favourite quotes from the show is, "To become a good storyteller, you simply read something you love to someone you love".

For more information about upcoming events, please call the Box Office at 705-445-2200 or visit www.theatrecollingwood.ca

MINESING MOMENTS

by Lorrie Norwood

Sincerest condolences to the Chalmers Families who recently lost their wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother. Sunday February 20, 2022 Margaret Chalmers at the age of 83, peacefully passed. Margaret was the loving wife of the late John Chalmers. Proud mother of Gary (Donna Parks), Carol (Chuck) McNair and Steve (Kristine) Chalmers. Proud grandmother of Graham Chalmers, Erica Chalmers, Stephen McNair (Charlie Vanderpol), Mitchell (Mackenzie) McNair, Dannah (Robert Greavette) Chalmers and Gillian Chalmers. Great grandmother to Axel Thomas McNair. The Chalmers family have been long time residents of Minesing and Mrs. Chalmers was involved with the Minesing Church choir, and contributed many volunteer hours within our community. She was also part of the founding committee of our winter Mini-Fest that began 50 years ago. Margaret will be sadly missed by many and we hope wonderful memories will help the family through this most difficult time.

As the spring weather begins to approach beware of the thinning ice surfaces out on lakes, rivers, and streams. Be sure to check trails and surfaces prior to entering onto them with snowmobiles and on foot as well.

Our local ice rink has been in operation because of some very dedicate volunteers and they should be acknowledged and thanked very much as I know many people enjoy the fruits of their labour. Hopefully we will still get a few more weeks of use at the rink. Thanks everyone!

As we see the province and world begin to open up from Covid restrictions, I think it is still important to continue on with many of the new habits we have been doing over the last few years. Continue with your handwashing, distancing and keep the masks on. For those who haven't been vaccinated, the option to do so is still there. It's been tough but we have shown ourselves and each other that we are pretty tough too. Well done everyone. Again it is important to recognize our front line workers who did and continue to do everything they do through the height of the pandemic. All hospital employees – whether you are

working in the laundry, housekeeping, food services, nursing, doctors, lab, pharmacy or volunteering. All healthcare workers, truck drivers to keep everything moving, grocery store employees, you kept us going and we THANK YOU!

House sales in our area continue to be extremely high and great for sellers, but extremely difficult for buyers. To think of young people who are trying to get into the housing market can pay upwards of a million dollars, is just unfathomable. How will they ever be a home owner? Those wanting to downsize are in the same situation. Yes, you may make good money on your larger home, the cost of purchasing a smaller home is so significant, it's not worth the move. There are no places to rent, at least no affordable places that's for sure. It's sad that we are going through this time because at the end of the day, those who sell have to purchase and that's tough unless you move to completely different areas. Here is hoping that the market will right itself and we can start making some headway on affordable housing. I know a few homes in our community have recently sold and we wish those moving away all the best as they move to wherever they are going. We also wish to welcome any new residents to our great little community. If you are looking for our local news try checking out our Facebook page, it is called "Minesing Community Page". Anten Mills also has one called "Anten Mills Community Bulletin".

For anyone wanting to insert notices, updates, births, death or anniversaries, please feel free to contact me at lorachalli@sympatico.ca or leave a message for me at 705-794-0210 and I will be happy to add your message in the next issue of Minesing Moments.

Until next time, enjoy your weekend and put a little skip in your walk...
Spring is coming!



GBGH officially opens new dialysis site in Midland

Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) officially opened its new Dialysis unit today during a small ceremony held at the Midland site (611 Prospect Boulevard). Formerly provided at the hospital's Penetanguishene site, Dialysis services were permanently relocated to Midland in February 2022 after a four-year approval and construction process. The new site is bright and modern with state-of-the-art technology to serve Dialysis patients for decades to follow.

"The ideal location for Dialysis services is in a community setting which is easily accessible and has other amenities, such as other health services, in close proximity," says Gail Hunt, president and CEO, GBGH. "Dialysis units also have very specific requirements for water and HVAC systems, making the search for a location challenging. This newly constructed building meets that criteria and then some, with a bright and modern layout to enhance the patient experience, as well as the equipment and technology to continue providing the highest quality of Dialysis care for many years to come."

The new space includes private treatment spaces for each patient, something not available in the previous site, as well as additional room to increase from the current nine Dialysis stations up to 12 if needed in the future. There is also a nutrition room where patients are able to eat before starting their treatment. Also included in the new space are examination rooms, a waiting room, technical and mechanical

rooms, medication room, and dedicated staff areas. To view a virtual video tour of the site, please click here (<https://youtu.be/HFHDQxjI8f4>).

Patients began receiving their Dialysis treatment at the Midland unit on February 14, 2022 following Indigenous smudging and water ceremonies intended to purify, bless and invite positive energy to the new building and thank the land on which it rests.

Sylvia Norton of Christian Island has been a patient receiving dialysis through GBGH for the past two years.

"I was a little bit nervous for this change, but after being in the new space I can say it is a true blessing," says Norton. "It is much more spacious, bright and private. I am very grateful to the team who made this move so seamless for us as patients."

During today's event, the unit was officially opened with remarks from the hospital, as well as the Honourable Jill Dunlop, Minister of Colleges & Universities and MPP for Simcoe North and Midland Mayor Stewart Strathearn, who also toured the space. Representatives from the Regional Kidney Care Program of Simcoe Muskoka, based out of Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, were also in attendance to celebrate at this satellite site of the regional program.

The Dialysis unit at GBGH, completes nearly 6,300 visits each year, serving patients from Midland, Penetanguishene, Tiny Township, Tay Township and Christian Island.



Cutline: Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) officially opened its new Dialysis unit on March 4, 2022 during a small ceremony held at the Midland site on Prospect Boulevard. The new Dialysis site is bright and modern with state-of-the-art technology to serve Dialysis patients for decades to follow. The Dialysis unit at GBGH, a satellite of the Regional Kidney Care Program of Simcoe Muskoka, completes nearly 6,300 visits each year. Guests in attendance included (from left) Julia Sek, director of Patient Care, GBGH; Aly Wang, project coordinator, GBGH; Bob Savage, project manager,

GBGH; Minister of Colleges & Universities and MPP Simcoe North Jill Dunlop; Bernie Uhlich, vice chair, Board of Directors, GBGH; Marni Van Kessel, program director for the Regional Kidney Care Program of Simcoe Muskoka; Midland Mayor Stewart Strathearn; Tom Roberts, co-chair, Regional Renal Leadership Council, Orillia Soldiers' Memorial Hospital; Gail Hunt, president and CEO, GBGH; and Angie Saini, vice president of Clinical Services and Chief Nursing Executive, GBGH.



(Barrie, ON) – The City is inviting eligible local organizations to apply for the Recreation and Sport Community Grant, which will provide funding to enhance access to recreation and sport opportunities in Barrie.

"We're looking for interested community-based organizations that need funding to innovate, or continue to deliver, encourage or support recreation and sport in our city," says Dan Bell, Manager of Business Services. "The grant isn't limited to organizations or activities focused exclusively on sports – it could provide funding for a diverse range of recreational opportunities in our city and encourage participation among our residents."

Organizations can apply for funding in two

categories: programming to support new or innovative recreation and sport opportunities, or capital improvement projects. For either funding category, applicants must be an incorporated not-for-profit organization, a community association operating as a not-for-profit, or a registered charitable organization. For-profit enterprises may apply in collaboration with an eligible not-for-profit provided they receive no direct financial benefit.

There is no prescribed dollar amount limit on application requests. Applications will be accepted until April 7, 2022, and grants will be awarded no later than May 11, 2022.

Interested organizations can learn more about the grant and apply via barrie.ca/CommunityGrant.

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HIDDEN GEMS

Located at 1898 Gill Rd. in Midhurst, Smith Tract is part of the Ganaraska Trail and is accessed from the same parking lot that provides entry to the Tiffin Tract. Although right next to one another, these tracts provide quite a different experience. For those wanting a longer and more challenging hike, while still enjoying the solitude of less traveled wooded areas, Smith Tract may fit the bill.

Apart from the thundering sound of the train (this path skirts the railway line in a couple of sections) at the very beginning of my journey, this section of forest provided a very pleasantly peaceful experience. I did not encounter anyone else during my two hour hike but was fortunate enough to be visited by a couple of friendly chickadees. No motorized vehicles are allowed in this tract.

The main section of the trail can accommodate three to four people across and involves a gradual change in elevation. There are multiple single file paths that break off from the main trail that offer additional challenges. These narrower trails are quite circuitous and change elevation frequently. These trails mostly go through red and white pine forested areas although you may encounter some deciduous trees as well.



The highlight of this hike was walking along the shores of Bear Creek. The sound of tiny rapids and waterfalls added to the charm of this babbling little brook. Animal footprints were abundant along its banks and in a couple of spots fallen trees made for very convenient bridges. The combination of the rocky creek bed and icy crust made for spectacular photo ops.

Another section of this trail that I quite enjoyed was the swampy section. The flora changes slightly in this area and there is quite a bit of underbrush and shrubbery to manoeuvre around. Dead trees also played a part in the landscape and they stood out in stark contrast to the blindingly white snow on the surrounding ground.

With a few days left to enjoy the March Break, why not check out Smith Tract. You won't be disappointed.



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Sports Scene with Patrick Townes



I am sitting down to write this edition of the article as I watch the Brier final between Alberta and Team Wild Card. For those who have watched the Brier but are new to the game, in some respect, this edition of Team Wildcard is Brad Gushue from Newfoundland and the Alberta rink is skipped by Kevin Koe. I can only imagine what is running through some people's minds when they see Team Canada vs. Team Wildcard on their television guides.

There have been many arguments put out regarding whether or not it is an advantage or disadvantage to curl with three players instead of the standard four. In events like this, and with the importance of sweeping in the game today, it is absolutely a disadvantage to play with three players. One plus though is that two players get to shoot three stones and they may become more aware of the ice conditions, extra practice, etc. -- but that also takes a lot out of you when you have to sweep every single rock. There should be a rule in these events that a team needs to carry an extra player.

When Canada is going through their process to find a team to represent our Country at the World Championships, many countries have already hand selected their teams and funded their seasons with the anticipation of representing their country. This makes it difficult for Canadian teams to prepare for world events. Sometimes it may seem harder to get out of Canada than win the big World events.

There is no time during the season when curling

organizations are not thinking how to change the game to make it more difficult. Why is this the case? The players have just gotten so good and the ice conditions are excellent. There are many rules in play such as the no tick zone. One rule that has to be changed is the hammer after a blank end. My recommendation is that the other team gets 1/2 point if the opposing team blanks and keeps the hammer, or the hammer switches hands. The game has gotten to a scary place where you can barely put three rocks in the ring without an 80% chance of a triple take-out being made.

Gamesmanship is one thing, but I do not like how Ben Herbert reacts to some of his teammates' shots when there is a miss, or the way he shakes hands. He never looks the person in the eye from what I can see and kind of shrugs away.

My pick remains Brad Gushue for the Brier. You just cannot bet against this team...It will be very interesting after this season as there will be a number of players changing teams. Players continue to battle on the residency rules and stipulations of who can play where. It has gotten to a point where each player should be born and live in that province to play for a team; or the rule needs to be abolished altogether and you have a free agency type season -- not the best solution when the point of the Brier is to represent your province, but there is so much manipulating of the rules regardless that it makes it a joke in a sense.

Apparently, also, Tom Brady is back for another season. Is he in line to be the greatest athlete of all time? Time will tell!

Rosie's Devotions



by Rosemary Hagedorn
What If....

One of my favourite programs on television was Touched by an Angel. I enjoyed watching every episode, but it was the last episode, which came in two parts, "I Will Walk With You", that really struck home with me. A short synopsis of the story is as follows:

Monica's last assignment before she replaces Tess stems from meeting Zack, a travelling handyman, on the bus to Ascension, Colorado. When they arrive there, they find out that there are no kids in town. Apparently two years prior, all of the children were killed when the school's boiler exploded. Monica finds out that there are people there whom she recognizes as former assignments, and that this assignment is no coincidence. Things soon become clear when the town developer claims to have seen Zack before. He finally figures out where: it was by the school on the day of the explosion. This claim leads everyone to look at Zack as the killer. Zack is whisked off to jail to protect him from the grieving crowd, and Monica sets out to get the best representation that she can. The prosecuting attorney, according to Monica, is the devil, who succeeds in bringing the case to trial, along with witnesses against Zack. The townspeople testify that it was only after Zack arrived in town that little things belonging to their children began to go missing, which according to an expert, is a trait of a serial killer. Zack admits taking the items; he is found guilty, and given the maximum sentence for his crimes, and he is to be transferred to prison the next day. In the meantime, a developmentally challenged young man, Joey, confesses that it was he who set the

boiler on its deadly course, because the devil tricked him into turning the heat up so that he could keep some orphaned kittens warm. When Monica arrives at the cell the next morning to tell Zack, she finds the cell empty. Perplexed, she goes to meet Tess, and it is there that she sees Zack once again. Zack reveals himself for who he truly is, her Lord, Jesus Christ. Monica apologizes for not recognizing Him. He answers her by saying, "If you knew that it was Me, you would have done anything for Me, but you did it to a stranger. Well done, good and faithful servant."

Matthew 25:35-40 – "For I was hungry, and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me." Then the righteous will answer Him, "Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You something to drink? And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?" The King will answer and say to them, "Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, even the least of them, you did it to Me." (NASB)

What if Jesus has returned, but we are still too blind to see Him in the faces of our fellow human beings?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, forgive us for not loving our neighbour as ourselves. Help us to see Your face in every person that we meet. Help us to treat others as we would like to be treated. Help each and every one of us to be a change agent in someone's life whenever the situation arises. Amen.

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47	O	M	E	N			48	Y	E	N			49	O	D	E					


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Annie's Journal

Written by Annie Warner Donnelly

There are many events in the world around us, even in our own homes, that can make us feel afraid, but God promises that He will never leave us nor forsake us. Why? Because God loves each and every one of us with an abiding love.

Some believe that we must work for God's love. That's not true. God's love is freely given to all of us.

Some wonder: "Is God's love really that easy to get?" Ephesians 1:13-14 says: And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession – to the praise of His glory.

What happens after we are sealed with the promised Holy Spirit? 2 Corinthians 5:17, part 18, tells us: Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he or she is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all things are of God ...

So, our Christian life begins for us when we hear the message of truth, the gospel of our salvation, and believe it. It continues when we're sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. As a believer in Christ, the old things, (our old beliefs, our old way of thinking, our old behaviours) pass away, and all things become new so that now all things are of God.

This inheritance, our inheritance, yours and mine, continues throughout eternity because Jesus comes again: For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall


always be with the Lord. (1 Thessalonians 4:16-17)

There's more evidence that we belong to God in 2 Timothy 2:19: Nevertheless, God's solid foundation stands firm, sealed with this inscription: "The Lord knows those who are His ..."

In Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus reminds us: Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls, for My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

More evidence is found in John 3:16, one of God's enduring promises: For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

It's not unusual for us to have questions,



but let's remember that God loves to answer them. Here's a simple prayer that we can pray: "God, please help me to understand your words, and what they mean for my life. I ask this in Jesus' precious name. Amen."

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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.

Concession 1, W ½ Lot 23, Flos Township
1087 Culham Road, Springwater Township

Owners		Built: 1895
2004-present	Mike and Yvonne Doyle	Dimensions: 64 x 88'
2003-2004	Walter and Janice (Mawhiney) Priest	
1939-2003	Jack and Illa (Culham) McNabb	
1900-1939	Wesley and Elizabeth (Knupp) Culham	
	W ½ 100 acres	
1870	David and Francis (Price) Culham	
	E ½ and W ½ 200 acres, settled in 1880 on the E ½.	


David's son Wesley homesteaded on the E ½ 100 acres when he married. Some of the land had been cleared, a barn built in 1895 and house built in 1897. The house was built by Jack Pilkey and part of his payment was a steer. It is not known if Jack Pilkey built the barn, but it is of similar construction as a nearby barn built by him. There are three pegs per beam, unusual for most barns where one peg is used.

Jack McNabb was conscripted into W.W. I in the winter of 1917. He was at the White Cliffs of Dover when the war ended. Because he was the last to go over, he was the last to come back and didn't return home until 1921.


Wesley, and his son-in-law Jack both were involved in farming, growing grain, corn, barley, mangels and turnips. Wesley had shorthorn cattle and Jack had registered jerseys and Herefords. Jack loved his horses.

Allan McNabb, Priest history, A History of Vespra Township p. 68-70.


Concession 1, W ½ Lot 23, Flos Township
1087 Culham Road, Springwater Township




Cupolas let light and air in, and reduced condensation and animal odour. One of the cupolas was repaired a number of years ago.



Wooden pegs were used for several reasons. Nails were not available, and with wood to wood connection, the pegs swelled and contracted at the same rate.



The barn was painted red.



Mows were accessed through two barn doors.


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THE OPP REPORT

OPP Make Arrests in Midland Robbery Investigation

A suspicious persons report at 6:38 a.m. March 13, 2022 by staff at a Simcoe County Road 93, Midland restaurant lead responding members of the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) into a number of investigations involving two individuals.

Investigators learned of an altercation with restaurant staff involving a edged weapon and also an attempt theft of a cash donation bin from within the restaurant. Officers were able to locate and arrest two suspects on Yonge Street, Midland who had fled the scene prior to the arrival of the officers.

Charged in connection to this investigation is Jonathan SYLVESTER 33 years of Christian Island with the following offences contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada.

- Robbery with Weapon
- Possession of Weapon for Dangerous Purpose
- Possession of Firearm or Ammunition contrary to Prohibition Order
- Fail to Comply with Probation Order

Also charged in connection to this investigation is Kayla LECAMP 34 years of Cedar Point, Christian Island First Nation with the following offences contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada.

Mischief Under \$ 5,000

Fail to Comply with Probation Order

The accused was released on a recognizance and will later appear before the Ontario Court of Justice at a future date.

OPP Concerned for Safety of Missing Waubauskene Male

(Tay Township, ON) A 44 year-old male is missing and there are concerns for his well-being. On the afternoon of March 12, 2022, members of the Southern Georgian Bay detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) were alerted of the absence of the Daniel KENNEDY by staff at the home where he resides in Waubauskene. Kennedy has medical needs therefore Police are eager to locate him to ensure that he receives care.

The missing male was last seen at his residence on the morning of March 12, he received a ride to downtown Barrie in the area of the bus terminal around the noon hour. Police have learned that his possible destination is the City of Toronto.

Kennedy is described as 6 feet tall with a thin build, he has brown and grey hair with a scruffy beard. He is likely wearing a blue puffy jacket with black strips, black track pants and carrying a suitcase and a bag.



Anyone with information on his whereabouts is asked to call the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or if you wish to remain anonymous please call Crime Stoppers at

1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Anonymous tips can also be provided online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca

Stolen Vehicle Recovered after Vehicle Fails to Stop for OPP Officer

A member of the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police was monitoring west bound traffic on Heritage Drive, Midland at 5:07 p.m. March 4, 2022 when the officer noted a west bound vehicle exceeding the 60 KPH limit and proceeded to try and stop it. The vehicle failed to stop by continuing westbound on Heritage Drive and crossed the centre line entering the eastbound ditch, east of Beamish Drive. The lone occupant of the vehicle fled the scene and was located nearby shortly afterwards and arrested. During the investigation officers located a quantity of Methamphetamine and edged weapons. Charged is Stuart Harlow 33 years of no fixed address with the following offences.

- Dangerous Operation
- Flight from Peace Officer
- Possession of Property obtained by Crime Over \$5,000
- Operation While Impaired- Alcohol and Drugs
- Possession of Break in Instruments
- Fail to Comply with Release Order - Other Than Attending Court (four counts)
- Operation While Prohibited (two counts)
- Use of Credit Card
- Theft of Credit Card
- Theft of Motor Vehicle
- Theft Under \$5,000 from a Motor Vehicle (two counts)
- Contrary to the Criminal Code of Canada



CHECKING IN@PPL
News & Events at the
Penetanguishene Public Library
24 Simcoe Street 705-549-7164
www.penetanguishene.library.on.ca

PD Programs are here! The Den

March 19th – “How to Energetically Protect your Home & Children Workshop”

This workshop will take place at the library from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Admission \$5.00 with printout. Admission \$10.00 printout and a bag of protective crystals. Proof of vaccination will be required for this workshop. Registration required. Please contact the library to pre-register.

All Occasion Attire Event!

Making Graduation and Proms affordable for youth in the area.

March 30-31st

Do you have bridesmaid, prom or formal wear and accessories that you no longer need? The library will be hosting an event at the end of March to make graduation more affordable to teens in the community. Donate your gently used formal attire and accessories and give someone a Graduation Memory they won’t forget! Donations accepted at the library during open hours. Bring your Graduates to the event so they can make a prom selection of their own!

March Break Programs: March 14 – March 18, 2022

Suitable for ages 4+

Thursday, March 17th at 3:00 p.m.

Macramé Plant Hanger \$2.00 (participate in person or via zoom)
\$2.00 to register (limit of 10 people in-person, 5 people via Zoom)

Friday, March 18th at 10:00 a.m.

Pool Noodle Monster \$2.00 to register (limit of 10 people in-person, 5 people via Zoom)

Spanish Classes

Spanish classes begin again! Intermediate and advanced classes in person or via Zoom. March 24-April 28, 2022. Time 1:00-2:00 p.m. Register with your library card.

New @PPL

Wear a mask, stay longer, use the computer, and enjoy a book or magazine and sign up for on-site programming! We are happy to welcome you to the library!

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Penetanguishene Public Library

Follow us on Twitter: @PPLlibrarystaff

Follow us on Instagram: penpublib

And Further

- Speeding
- Class G1 Licence Holder- Unaccompanied by Qualified Driver
- Contrary to the Highway Traffic Act

The involved vehicle was towed and impounded for 7 days and the accused’s drivers licence has been suspended for 90 days as per the Ministry of Transportation (ADLS) guidelines. The accused is being held to appear before Bail Court and will appear at a future date before the Ontario Court of Justice .

Educating the public about safe driving practices with our community safety partners is a priority, if you see a possible impaired driver or operator please “Make the Call” and dial 911 and help prevent a crash. If you are heading out on the town or on the trails, please make a plan to get home safely.



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Across 1 Backflow 4 Go down a bit 7 Revue unit 11 Worker in a cell 12 Relative of an ostrich 13 French novelist Pierre 14 Shearing protest 15 Reproaches 17 “Poison” shrub 19 Schlep 20 Shoelace do-over 22 A witty saying 25 Scholar’s pursuit, briefly 28 Tie 29 Writer Murdoch 30 Likes 32 Good buddies’ gear 33 Craziness 34 Amigo 35 Believe in 39 Antedate 43 House vote 44 ___ Gauche, Paris 45 Hole starter 46 Push over 47 Sign from above 48 Tokyo token 49 Written praise	Down 1 Periods of decline 2 Bridges of Hollywood 3 Radiant look 4 Really, in slang 5 Troublemaker 6 British tavern keeper 7 Cinder 8 Real big goldfish 9 Contraction 10 It’s for poets 16 Goes with morgue 18 Carney and Garfunkel 21 Aggregate 22 Title box choice 23 Quaker cereal 24 Deuce in poker 25 Photo 26 Christmas tree decor 27 Kinswomen 28 Tootsie 31 Term of affection 33 “Mad ___” (Mel Gibson movie) 34 Hammer’s end 36 Biblical connector 37 Quoted 38 Classify 39 Accomplished one 40 Outer edge 41 The night before Christmas, say 42 “Just as I predicted!”
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UPCOMING AUCTIONS

Estate of Doris Stafford, Alliston - Mar. 20-24 - limited edition prints, original art, heavy duty racking, kitchen essentials, jewellery
March Multi Consignor Auction, Guelph - Mar. 20-24 - LP's, 1981 Pontiac Firebird, former gallery prints, rubber mats, jewellery
Moving Sale for Harold & Marg Lauber, Kitchener - Mar. 27-31 - sewing machine, garden décor, outdoor bench, tools, home decor
Estate of Barbara Strodthoff, Wasaga Beach - Mar. 27-31 (TBC) 2007 Chev Cobalt, art glass, vintage typewriters, doll house
Prominent St. Thomas Home - Apr. 3-7 - Brunswick pool table, unique lamps (including a Galle), jewellery, Baroque style furniture
Kipp Moving Sale, Brantford - Apr. 3-7 - aviation memorabilia, wooden bookshelves, rollout desk, Royal Doulton, Fenton milkglass

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Please call Peter at 705-322-3484

SOCCER REGISTRATION

Cheezers Co-ed Soccer Registration
Registration for soccer for ages 2 - 15 yrs old is at the Springwater Library:
10 am - 1 pm
**March 26
April 9
April 23**
Call Doug Tinney 705-322-3239 for more information. The soccer play time is at 6:30 pm

BASEBALL REGISTRATION

Elmvalle Minor Ball
Registration is now open!
Please visit elmvalleminorball.ca to register.

HIRING

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Come and check us out and get the details by calling Claus and leaving a message at the office 705-322-0877

MESSAGE

**THERE IS HOPE!
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Susan**

(to all especially the three high schools students I met outside of Giant Tiger in Barrie)

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Obituaries



BÖKER, Harald Wolfgang Karl

Passed away peacefully at The Villa retirement lodge in Midland, formerly of TINY on Sunday, March 6, 2022, in his 94th year. The beloved husband of Anne Böker. Dear father of Karen (Sterling) Hebert of

Louisiana, Wilhelm (Silke) Böker of Vasey, David (Jayne) Böker of Seattle, Tom (Mary) Böker of Chilliwack, Elizabeth (Barry) Potter of Earlton and Vern (Tammy) Böker of Barrie. Grandfather of 17. Great grandfather of 4. Brother of Marlis (Roman) Mihelji of Alberta.

Born in Hanover, Germany on December 31, 1928, he grew up through hard times and the war years. He began his apprenticeship as an agricultural manager in his home country. Immigrating to Canada in 1952, he worked in the lumber camps of Quebec. He was inspired to see the west through a contact made during the war so he travelled to Alberta. He worked on the railroads with Canadian National. He managed the produce department at Woodward's Department Store in Edmonton, and further developed his farm expertise at the Vermilion school of agriculture. He met his wife Anne in Edmonton and soon they began homesteading an hour's drive north of the city on a quarter section (160 acres). Eventually the opportunity came to purchase his wife's family farm at Elmvale, Ontario. Harald was a passionate man. His life was consumed with his love of faith, farming, family, flying and forging new friendships. When he found something he was interested in, it seized all of his attention and he wanted to share it.

On Farming: This was a lifelong pursuit that he started in his youth in Germany and led eventually to the Elmvale farm where he expanded the operation. With dairy farming, swine farrow to finish, grain corn to organic farming, his goal was to be self-sufficient. He grew oil seed crops and extracted the oil to power his converted diesel truck. He had a large-scale grain cleaning; flour milling facility and marketed his products direct to processors and international markets.

On Flying: To fly in the bright blue skies above the clouds was always a dream, a dream he realized in 1976 when obtained his pilot's license and his beloved Cessna 172 airplane. He shared his bird's eye view from above with family and friends many times. In later years he flew with HOPE AIR, flying patients to and from remote locations to specialized medical facilities. In his last weeks of life, he often dreamed he was flying above the clouds.

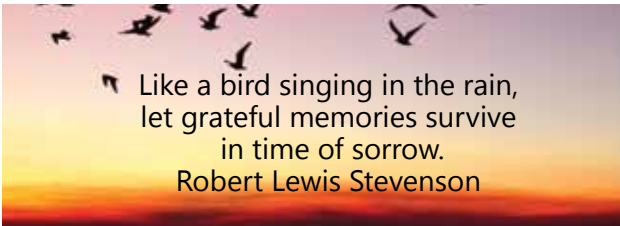
On Forging Friendships: Harald loved his newfound home in Canada, loved to share it with new immigrants, welcoming them and helping them get established.

The family would like to thank the staff of the Villa Retirement Lodge and the Georgian Bay General Hospital for their love and care over these many months.

Cremation has taken place. A private family service will be held at a later date.

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

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



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Devecseri, Steve Istvan

Steve Istvan Devecseri, of Springwater Twp, passed away peacefully in the comfort of his own home on March 9, 2022 in his 86th year with his family by his side.

He will forever be missed by his loving wife Helen, daughter Sylvia (Stephane), sons Spencer (Erin) and Quentin, and grandchildren Jesse, Chloe, Chantalle, Noelle, Dylan and Ben who he was very proud of.

The family has chosen to have a private gathering on their property where they will be planting a tree in his memory as his forests were very dear to him and they encourage others to plant a tree or go on a nature walk.

Words of condolence may be left for the family at www.peacefultransition.ca

**Those we love don't go away.
They walk beside us every day,
Unseen, unheard, but always near;
Still loved, still missed and always dear.**



MAGEE, Wilfred

Passed away peacefully on Tuesday March 8, 2022 in a room filled with love. Wilf Magee of Wyevale, in his 85th year, cherished husband of Karen Trew-Magee (nee Caston). Lovingly remembered by all of his children, Mike, Bonnie

(Brian), Cory (Jennifer), Trever, Kyle (Jeanine) and Cody (Janessa) and his grandchildren, Michelle, Jessica, Samantha, Phillip, Sara, Harley, Cole, Broedy, Austin, Mykala, Jennilyn and David. Dear brother of Dan, Bill (Cathy) and Tom (Mardi). Predeceased by his parents Charles and Margaret Magee. He will be missed by many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Wilf was avid at model railroading and would be lost for hours enjoying this hobby. He was a carpenter by trade and could build almost anything. A gathering in his honour will be held on Tuesday, March 15th from 1 - 4 pm at the Royal Canadian Legion, 7 John St., Elmvale. A service will begin at 2 pm. Masks must be worn.

In lieu of flowers please consider a memorial donation to Wyevale United Church. Information to donate can be found at

<https://www.wyevaleuc.ca>

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to the family at lynnstonefuneralhome.com

*Death leaves a heartache
no one can heal,
love leaves a memory
no one can steal.
-From a headstone in Ireland*

Wyevale News
RuthAnn Caston

Happy Birthday wishes go out to Pat Smith, Cheryl Hall, Michael Blow, Don Matheson, Helen Large, Amanda Withall, Sharon Caston, Scott Marshall, Ross Withall, Wayne McNamara, Morley Marshall, Glenn Hall, Cole and Kaitlyn Large and Lucas Marcellus.

Sympathy goes out to the family of Wilf Magee and his wife Karen, as he passed away this week. Funeral will be next Tuesday, and burial will be in Wyevale this spring.

Anyone that is interested in Macmillan items, can put in an order by contacting a church member or Sandy Rawn at 705-322-6955.

U.C.W. ladies are meeting after church next Sunday March 20th.

Spaghetti dinners are now being served at the Midland Legion on April 29th. Tickets will be ready for purchasing in a couple of weeks.

Wyevale United Church will be having a sit-down spaghetti dinner in May. Details will be available for that one.



RITCHIE, Russell R.

Passed away peacefully at Georgian Bay General Hospital, Midland on Sunday, February 27, 2022 in his 81st year. Russ Ritchie of Elmvale, beloved husband of the late Lynda Ritchie (nee Lees), cherished father of Tim (Beverly) and

Jen. Lovingly remembered by his sister Dollie Moulden and the extended Ritchie and Lees families. Predeceased by his parents Herb and Nellie Ritchie and his siblings Barb Newton, Stan (survived by Jackie), Grant (survived by Dianne), Jack, Harry, Allan, Ross and Isabelle Archer. Russ will be fondly remembered by many relatives, friends and neighbours.

As Russ would tell you, he "was born in a snow bank on a hill". He proudly drove gas truck for much of his life. When not on the road, he also worked hard in tree removal, as a handyman, and with the volunteer fire department. Many remember him as feisty hockey player who often got mistaken as his brother -off the ice. Russ carried little treats in his pockets for any canine friends he might happen upon, and was teased that because of that he might just be the town 'pack leader'. He enjoyed many hours at the coffee shop sharing stories with his dear friends there. Russ was a community minded man, always lending a hand when he could, and he and Lynda were always happy to share their fresh garden produce with friends and neighbours. Russ was a gentleman with a great sense of humour, always a kind word, a joke, and a smile.

Cremation has taken place.

Visitation will be held on Friday, March 4th at Lynn-Stone Funeral Home, Elmvale, from 3 to 6 pm.

A graveside memorial service will be held at a later date.

If you wish to make a memorial donation in his name please consider donating directly to Hospice Simcoe.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to family at lynnstonefuneralhome.com

THROWBACK THURSDAY
Photos and Editorial courtesy of Admin: Ric Archer, Facebook Group, You might be from Elmvale...If you...

Darryl Skinner Hard at Work

TD Bank in now Wheelchair accessible

As a helpful service to a particular segment of the population, the Elmvale branch of the Toronto Dominion Bank is now accessible to the physically challenged.

A new wheelchair ramp was constructed from concrete last week at the front door of the branch. Since the ramp encroaches on public property, the bank had to sign a special agreement with the Township of Springwater before going ahead with the project.

The branch also had that step removed the sidewalk that runs along the east side of the building. It was replaced with a gradual slop that will be appreciated by those in wheelchairs.

"It is time our branch became accessible to all of the Elmvale community," said David Laidlaw, TD Bank. "We've had a doorway that is wheelchair accessible for quite some time and now we finally have a ramp to go with it." *Source: Elmvale Lance 1995*

Obituaries

**WILSON, Gordon Edward**

Gord Wilson of Wyebriidge passed away peacefully at the Georgian Bay General Hospital in Midland on Friday, March 4, 2022, in his 74th year. Beloved husband of the late Brenda Wilson. Dear father of Phillip (Tammy) Wilson and Kelly (Cameron) Stiles. Proud grandfather of Finley, Ronan, Ciaran, Fraser and Charlotte. Son to EJ and Irene Wilson, and brother of Doug (Jane) Wilson and Cathy (Bob) Wallace.

He was a proud and skilled transport truck driver that spent most of his career working for Molson's Brewery. He was also a member of the Barrie Windriders, The Legion, The Blue Knights and The Wasaga Beach Cruisers.

In keeping with Gord's wishes, cremation has taken place and there will not be a funeral service.

Memorial donations may be made to La Maison Rosewood Shelter in Midland.

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

**RICHARDSON, James**

James Ernest Richardson of Hillsdale, ON passed away peacefully on March 7th 2022. He is survived and remembered by his wife, Darlene, and children, Shannon (John), Bradley, Holly and Terri (Eric), as well as his grandchildren Alex, Joseph, Owen, Isaac, Hudson, Adelyn and Esme.

Jim was born at home on January 18th to Ernest and Annie Richardson on the 4th of Flos on the Richardson homestead. He is predeceased by his siblings William and Annie. Jim was a lifelong farmer. As a true salt of the earth person, he was passionate about farming and dedicated to his cattle and crops. Jim had a calm, quiet demeanor that animals and people alike were drawn to. He will be remembered for his strong work ethic and his generous nature. Jim and Darlene were life partners for 50 years. They enjoyed travelling together, and visited most of Canada and the USA, Alaska, Hawaii, Cuba, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Ireland. He loved to visit and fish at Shannon and John's fly-in fishing camp in Northern Ontario. Jim was a long-time member of the Sno Voyageurs Snowmobile Club. He spent many hours snowmobiling, 4-wheeling and attending farm shows with Bradley. He enjoyed a laugh and a chat with Holly, his Christmas baby. Jim cultivated a love of animals in his children and although he had many farming commitments, he made time to go horseback riding with Terri and spent many weekends at horse shows. Jim will be remembered by his family and all who knew him and his kind spirit.

There will be a small memorial service for immediate family only.

Donations can be made to the Ontario SPCA in his memory. www.ontariospca.ca

"... once in your life you need a doctor, a lawyer, a policeman and a preacher, but everyday, three times a day, you need a farmer."

– Brenda Schoepp

May he rest in peace.

Messages may be sent to the family at lynnstonefuneralhome.com

**Cinder (Cynthia Louise) Warren (née Frost)**

June 18th, 1955 – March 2nd, 2022

After successfully fighting Type 1 Diabetes for over fifty years, Cinder passed away peacefully among loved ones in

Barrie, Ontario. Predeceased by her brother Rob Frost and father Mac Frost, she is survived by her loving son Jason Hammond and mother Beth Frost (née Pratt). Cinder is remembered by a cherished extended family, and so many dear friends. Born Cynthia Louise Frost, in Toronto, Cinder made her home in Guelph during her university years, later settling in homes of her own design in Bracebridge and Springwater. She also found joy in exploring the world, with many happy memories in Hawaii, Japan, Egypt, Jamaica, Ireland, and across Canada and the United States.

Growing up surrounded by Mac and Beth's passion for the golf business, Cinder's most recent contribution to the family's entrepreneurial legacy was to lead the opening and growth of Vespra Hills Golf Club, at the site of Beth's childhood home. She expanded upon Mac's original design for the course, and a personal approach to engaging the members in a spirit of welcome and hospitality. Cinder thrived when playing the game with her Dad and a great number of close friends over the years, including success as a Junior Pro golfer and participation in many Pro-Am tournaments. She also continued Mac's passion for barbershop chorus performance as a Sweet Adeline, and shared Beth's excellence in floral design. Cinder delivered tremendous creativity in all parts of her life, through joyful wordplay and song, thoughtful design of her homes and businesses, and a unique role in the many lives she touched along the way.

As a teenager, a diagnosis changed Cinder's life and the lives of all who loved her. Never letting the disease limit her, she joined her parents and other founding families in the development of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation (now JDRF). This began a lifelong commitment to the fundraising and awareness that supports the path to a cure for T1D. Her friend Edith generously gave her many additional years with a transplant, allowing her more time to enjoy the company of loved ones and to serve the community through pursuits of business and charity.

To honour and continue her efforts in this moment of Cinder's passing, please give generously to JDRF, and consider the gift of organ donation or other efforts that support those in need of transplants.

A celebration of life will be held on June 18th, 2022 from 1:00-4:00pm at Vespra Hills Golf Club.

Messages of condolence may be made through adamsfuneralhome.ca

**STEPHENSON, Marvin**

Passed away suddenly at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie on Monday, March 14, 2022. Marvin Stephenson in his 82nd year. Beloved husband of Debbie Stephenson. Dear father of Janice Ferranti, Julie Stephenson, Carolin O'Brien and Rick Stephenson. Grandfather of Jake, Robin, Christina, Sahrina, Justin, Ryan, Ethan, Teghan, Anne, Sarah and Sydney. Great grandfather of 5. Step-father of Sean, Sarah, and Matthew.

Cremation with a private family service at a later date.

Donations in Marvin's memory may be made to the Kidney Foundation.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to family at lynnstonefuneralhome.com

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Dreams Come True - 40 years of Paradise

The year was 1959, Irena , a beautiful young polish woman,
19 years young skipped along the cobbled streets of Warsaw on her way to a drafting class she had signed up for in hopes of increasing her chances of finding work in post war Poland.
Little did she know she would not only become gainfully employed, but that she would also meet her future husband here. Richard was a tall charismatic young man, blessed with many talents and a knack for fixing things. It was love at first sight. After exchanging a few clumsy words, they both intuitively felt they had found their other half. He loved her wry sense of humour and matter of factness, while she loved his ability to think clearly and solve problems. He was also easy on the eyes.
After graduating with a degree in mechanical engineering he and Irena worked together and took their vacations in the lake and mountain regions of Poland. After some time, Richard was offered a job as a naval engineer, but there was a glass ceiling that came with this job, and when his brother invited them to come to Canada they saw an opportunity to start a new life together.

After their arrival in Toronto, Richard’s brother took them up north to show them his little cabin on the lake. They fell in love with it and were soon planning to buy their own place.
The moment arrived, they had found their dream home. A cozy cottage on the lake. It was right on the water flanked by cedar and birch with a westerly exposure. On sunny days the trees provided just enough sun dappled shade fit Irena not to need a hat. The green roof and wood siding, stained a dark brown, blended into the landscape nicely. Year after year they would sit together on a bench in front of their cottage, watching the sun set as they, shared stories, or entertained family and friends. Richard built himself a cedar strip canoe and loved to paddle around the lake serenading Irene. He also loved to fish. Irene planted flowers and a garden, which grew them all sorts of vegetables she cooked for them along with the fish Richard would bring home.
Richard and Irena have lived in their little paradise like this for over 40 glorious years.



These two watercolours were painted by Martin Russocki, an artist who stayed with Irena and Richard on the lake one summer



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Views from the Cottage



by Melanie Martyn
PHANTOM RANCH - GRAND CANYON ADVENTURE AND THE KAIBAB SHUFFLE

It was a frosty 38 degree (Fahrenheit) mid march afternoon about fourteen years ago when my teen son and I first gazed into the depths of the Grand Canyon at Mather Point (south rim), Grand Canyon Village, Arizona, USA. The Colorado River runs through the canyon which is over a mile deep on average. Our planned hike down the south Kaibab Trail would take us to Phantom Ranch for a two-night stay in the park’s dormitories. The fourteen miles of primarily steep, switchback trails averaged four feet wide but, in some areas, I would say three feet across (felt like two feet around some corners!). Picking up the last few items we thought necessary for the trip, I decided we could do without hiking poles for the way down... I mean, how bad could it be as we are going down, not up.... big mistake lol!
Loaded up with our forty-five-pound backpacks and

enough hydration, lunch, and snacks for the trip, we headed off with a couple of Canadian friends and a healthy sense of humour. My wind-proof Eddy Bauer jacket (circa 1988) and new lightweight hiking boots would prove to be the perfect ensemble. With snow and ice ladening the trails for the first two hours, I was smiling like a Cheshire cat as I had layered my clothing and was warm as toast.
By hour three, the coat and hat were off, and the thick wool sweater was stuffed into the back strap of the pack. You see, as you wrest your way down the never-ending steps, back and forth, down and across the paths (switchbacks as mentioned), further to the bottom of the



canyon, a funny thing happens. The temperature as you move into these depths will rise gradually and by the time we arrived at the lowest level of the trail, we were wearing shorts and tank tops. It was now almost 82 degrees (F) in the Canyon’s microcosm climate. What a thrill!
The views all along the way were breathtaking and other than having to back against some of the shale, limestone, and sandstone walls to allow the mule

trains to go by (OMG the dust, mule scat lol), the trek was a wonderful experience that I would recommend to anyone. What I would also highly recommend is buying and using hiking poles. By the time we hit the bottom flats, I could not bend my knees to step down the last few switchbacks and make it the rest of the way to the Ranch. Hence, I learned first hand, what they meant by the Kaibab Shuffle!
It was a wonderful three-day adventure and an education on so many levels. A five a.m. hike the next morning was highlighted with a head-on meet and greet with three mule deer. My son had a bit of excitement when a small scorpion decided to take up residence in one of his hiking boots overnight. The park rangers gave an informative evening seminar on the history of the Canyon and its residents both animal, and indigenous tribes. Like-minded travellers made the mealtimes a steady source of tales of similar hiking venues throughout the world.
The Grand Canyon truly is a natural wonder that is worth seeing with the whole family. I’d like to think my next excursion there will be with the grand-kids! Stay tuned!



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