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Springwater

NEWS

Edition 666 - December 7, 2023 Serving Springwater & Tiny Townships & Midland Areas

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Midland Civitan Parade Kicks Off Holiday Celebrations



Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival Tree Lighting

It was a celebration of people, gathered under the softly falling snow to a start off the Holiday Season. The Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival Tree Lighting was at the main intersection in Elmvale. Thank you to Councillor Matt Garwood and Mayor Jennifer Coughlin, for pitching in and serving drinks to the very large crowd. Jennifer announced, “It was very special to drive in for this event and see such a special crowd. Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas.” Council. Matt Garwood added, “Thank you to everyone who came out to help us kick off the festive season. It was a fantastic evening, made even more so by the dusting of snow that gave a wintry at-

mosphere to the event”. He added, “It takes a village...”, referring to the people behind the scenes. **There are so many people to thank:** Len and Bonnie Hoogenboom from Hillsdale, for the tree. George Begley from BMR Pro, for use of his boom truck to transport the tree and install it in its location and Devon Scott for operating the truck. Pete Minnings of Minnings Electric, for supplying the bucket truck and Brian McKee for his help to install all the lights. Ross Langman, for supplying the tower light to light up the venue. Tim Lalonde of Lalonde’s Maple Syrup, for providing his de-

licious maple cotton candy. EMSF Committee ladies, Irene Burgler, Jan Drinkill, Denise McLean and Marg Lambie, for handing out the hot drinks and popcorn from our sugar shack booth. More thanks go to the Elmvale branch of the Springwater Library for use of their popcorn machine and donation of the children’s craft supplies. the Minty family, for the beautiful star in memory of Doug Minty. Last, but by no means least, our Christmas Tree Boys; Doug Kirton, Tim, Tom and Rusty McGinnis, Paul Archer, Doug Tinney, Dan Tinney, Dan Clement, and BMR Pro for transporting the tree. We’re confident that a great time was had by all.

The Maple Syrup Festival Committee wishes you all a safe and happy holiday season and a very Merry Christmas!!



Photo below: EDHS music programs plays (below) and the Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival Committee gives to the EDHS Music Program with limited funds they have to donate.



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EDITORIAL
by Linda Belcourt, Editor

Season's Greetings and Merry Christmas to All!

The big day is just around the corner and with lots of shopping to be done yet. Please shop local! Please support the advertisers of this paper and let them know you saw their ad in the paper. North Simcoe Springwater News team has been busy covering the many events like tree lighting, parades and trying to keep up with Santa's local visits. The season is in full gear with many family gatherings and parties planned for the season. Remember to take it easy and enjoy the festival gatherings. Things don't need to be perfect and people are more important than tradition so go with the flow and keep the stress to a minimum. Eat well and in moderation and you will be happier in the end. I personally will be glad to see 2023 behind me as at was the toughest in my life. Thank you supporters, you make me realize what is important.


**Season's Greetings**  
**Order a North Simcoe Springwater News subscription for a loved one for Christmas for as low as \$60 + tax**

Elmvale Lions 2023 Truck Winner, the Start of our NEW 2024 DRAW and Lions Club Updates...



Nov. 29, 2024 - Once again a HUGE thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and to Bourgeois Ford in Midland for all their help!

Congratulations again to Janet Grant from Kitchener for winning the 2023 Truck.

Our New Truck Draw is now starting and we have a 2024 FORD Maverick XLT AWD Supercrew valued at \$46,250.

A great Christmas Present for your loved ones who already have everything!

Last year we were again completely Sold Out so don't miss out!

To purchase your tickets for 2024 PLEASE CLICK HERE: <https://www.elmvalelions.ca/truck-draw-2024/>

ELMVALE LIONS CLUB UPDATES

As usual it's been extremely busy for our Lions Club. We have been fortunate to add some great new members as well the following:

- Organizing the upcoming Elmvale Lions Club Christmas Parade
  - Sponsoring the Christmas Lights being put up at the local Seniors Facility Sara Vista
  - Lions Club Members are operating a Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Bell for a day
  - Financially supporting our local high school girls basketball team who have made it to OF-SAA Finals
  - Donating to the new capital campaign for the Lions Club Dog Guides Facility
- There's lots more but I'll save it for the next email. Thank you again for all your help, to help us, help our community.


**MÉTIS Fish Market**  
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 rs@gasconfishmarket.com  
 www.metisfishmarket.com  
 Rick Gascon Steven Gascon


**Elmvale BIA**  
 Sweet by nature  
 Our BIA member businesses & the community are always welcome to attend our monthly Board meetings.  
 3rd Thursday of each month @ 5:30pm  
 INFO@ElmvaleBIA.ca  
 The BIA is currently looking for volunteers to join our awesome group.


**ELMVALE DISTRICT LIONS CLUB**  
**The 2023 Elmvale Santa Claus Parade**  
 Sunday, December 3, 2023 @ 1:00pm  
 Theme: Night Before Christmas  
 Line starts at 12:30pm  
 The parade will leave H.C.E.S School @ 1:00pm  
 Have your letters ready for Santa... he will be picking them up during the parade!  
 Free Public Skating: 2pm to 4pm - Elmvale Arena  
 Visit With Santa  
 Station 5 Elmvale Firefighters will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Elmvale Foodbank.  
 Floats Needed!!  
 Forms can be picked up at:  
 G & S Computer Services  
 9A Queen St., W Elmvale  
 or  
 Contact: Jenn Rebidoux  
 705-322-5233  
 lion.jennr@gmail.com



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**SLEIGH RIDE IN THE VILLAGE**  
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 6 PM—9 PM  
 ELMVALE COMMUNITY HALL  
 DONATIONS TO FOOD BANK APPRECIATED  
 Elmvale Lioness Lions  
 Give Back to the Community

**HIRING**  
 Springwater News is currently hiring for a part time experienced reporter and an office administrative staff member. Office staff position has flexible hours and pays \$20-\$25 depending on experience. Minimal experience required, full training will be offered.  
 Please apply by email: info@springwaternews.ca

**North Simcoe Springwater News**  
 info@springwaternews.ca 705.790.1993 www.springwaternews.ca  
 1058 Flos Road 10 East. Elmvale, ON L0L 1P0  
 THE NEXT PAPER will be on Dec. 21, 2023  
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 Springwater News prints 21,000 papers per edition. 19,650 are delivered by Canada Post to:  

Number of Papers	Area of Distribution	Postal Code
950	Barrie, South Springwater	L4M
3000	Barrie, Minesing area	L9X
640	Phelpston	L0L 2K0
2550	Elmvale, Orr Lake, Waverley and some Tiny Beaches Road	L0L 1P0
650	Hillsdale	L0L 1V0

Number of Papers	Area of Distribution	Postal Code
295	Wyebridge	L0K 2E0
975	Wyevale, Tiny Beaches	L0L 2T0
2500	Penetanguishene	L9M
1325	Perkinsfield	L0L 2J0
6800	Midland, Vasey, Ebenezer and area North-West of Wyebridge	L4R


**Publisher/Editor/Owner: Linda Belcourt**  
 North Simcoe 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.  
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Elmvale Foodbank Update



Photo: Linda Temolder, Foodbank volunteer, on left, Graham Scott Fleming that held a farewell concert mid-November and kindly donated a portion of ticket sales. On right is Debbie McLean, food bank leader.

DID YOU KNOW.... If a single person (items are provided based on the number of people per household) took every item offered to them on our food list, the value of the items would total approximately \$211.51?! Despite rising food costs our local citizens and organizations have been very generous once again this year. Local schools have begun their annual Christmas food drives and we have been delighted with what they are providing to our food bank. Many thanks to Hillsdale Elementary School and Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmvalle for collecting food items. Elmvalle District High School's E. D. H. S. GIVES provided us with approximately 1200 much needed various personal hygiene items. The Huronia West OPP Detachment held their successful annual Stuff The Cruiser event which certainly helped begin to fill some empty spaces on our food bank shelves. We are grateful to 93 North Band for donating some of their annual proceeds and to Springwater Vespra Lions Club for their generous donation following their Pumpkinpalooza! 2023 event. A group of Stonemanor Neighbours gave a wonderful donation following a fun activity day at the home of Tai Sigh. We were honoured to be the beneficiary of some generous monetary donations in November. Busch Systems employee, Steph MacMillian, elected our food bank to be the recipient of a generous donation given yearly by the company, to a charity of their employees choice. The family of Dr. Tim Henshaw celebrated his legacy by raising funds and donating generously to us. Graham Scott Fleming held a farewell concert mid-November and kindly donated

a portion of ticket sales. And the CPKC Holiday Train, along with the giving people who attended that event, brought cash and food items that were received by our volunteers with much gratitude. With much appreciation we continue to accept food items and cash so that we might help those facing food insecurity enjoy a happy Christmas. The food bank will be closed from December 22 until reopening on January 10, 2024. All of the volunteers of the Elmvalle and District Food Bank wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.



Photo above: Doug Shipley, MP Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte, Council. Matt Garwood, Mayor Jennifer Coughlin and Doug Downey, MPP out getting residents feedback at the Elmvalle Lions Santa Claus Parade on Dec. 3, 2023.  
Photo below: Mayor Coughlin and Council. Garwood with volunteers at the Sugar Shack at the Elmvalle Tree Lighting



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## New Township of Tiny Administrative Centre Public Engagement Sessions

Dec. 4, 2023 - TAKE NOTICE that the Township of Tiny will be hosting three public engagement sessions for the new Township of Tiny Administrative Centre on December 11, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for residents to provide their input into the features they would like to see in a new Township Administrative Centre. Residents can choose to attend a session at one of the three community centres:

- Lafontaine Community Centre (342 Rue Lafontaine Road West)
- Tiny Township Community Centre (91 Concession 8 East)
- Wyebridge Community Centre (8340 Highway 93)

Each of the sessions will occur simultaneously so that residents can choose the most convenient location to attend.

For more information, please visit the township's website at: <https://www.tiny.ca/township-hall/new-building>.

For more information:

Tim Leitch, Director of Public Works

E: [tleitch@tiny.ca](mailto:tleitch@tiny.ca) T: 705-526-4204 ext. 243

## \$45K Grant from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada Ensures Midland Fire Department is Better Prepared

Grant is part of more than \$3.2 million given by Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada to public safety organizations across Ontario.

Nov. 30 2023 - Midland - Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada announced the award of a \$45K grant to Midland Fire Department to ensure first responders have the necessary equipment to keep community members and themselves safe. The grant will be used to purchase a Hurst eDRAULIC® cutter, spreader, and accessories, fulfilling a critical need within the department.

"On behalf of the department and its members, I want to thank the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada and our local Firehouse Subs in Midland for recognizing our needs and awarding funding to provide this equipment," said Richard Renaud, Director of Emergency Services and Fire Chief "Providing first responders with the right tools is crucial for us to successfully do our jobs."

The new Hurst eDRAULIC® cutters and spreaders will allow for significantly faster on-scene setup, extrication, and easier mobility when seconds matter while extricating patients during severe car accidents. Having the appropriate tools on hand makes all the difference in allowing first responders to effectively serve their communities and save lives.

The Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada has awarded 331 grants to public safety organizations since 2015. This grant is one of 12 Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation of Canada awarded to public safety organizations during the most recent grant cycle. The 12 grants will provide critical lifesaving equipment valued at more than \$370,000 across Ontario.

To donate and learn more, visit any Firehouse Subs restaurant or donate online at [Canadahelps.org](http://Canadahelps.org).



## A TINY SENIOR MOMENT

Dec. 7, 2023 - Our final columns for 2023 focus on programs that help seniors keep healthy, and the dedicated and talented volunteers and professionals who make them possible. Today we're highlighting Dino Pangrazzi and Cheryl Moore who lead the Township of Tiny's yoga programs. How does a man from the corporate world and a social worker with a big-city practice wind up teaching yoga and meditation in Lafontaine? A decision to change their lifestyles made more than 20 years ago brought Dino Pangrazzi and life partner Cheryl Moore to our community.

Pangrazzi had a life-long interest in sports and wellness so he decided to take a fitness training program at Humber College after leaving his long-term position in the chemical industry. Eventually he started taking certification courses for mat and chair yoga.

At about the same time, Moore was becoming disenchanted with her practice. She felt her work should have more connection to clients' emotional and spiritual well-being and went to Seneca College to increase her knowledge of holistic health, which recognizes the interconnectedness of body, mind and spirit.

The couple then moved to this area, where they began to make a contribution to the community. They were as busy as ever. In addition to starting work in fitness and healing, they ran a bed & breakfast for 10 years. About a decade ago, Pangrazzi became a volunteer firefighter, which had been a childhood dream. It was another big change for them both. He's now on call 24/7, and is involved in a lot of public education work and she is a member of the Georgian Bay Healing Hub, and maintains her busy practice.

They still find time to teach yoga and meditation for the Township of Tiny. This winter, they will

offer the program Yoga and Meditation, starting Monday, January 15, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. at the Lafontaine Community Centre. It's appropriate for people of all ages in part because of their intuitive people skills and also because participants are encouraged to use accommodations, which may be suggested or self-guided, so that they can enjoy the program without undue stress. It offers a weekly evening of fun, meeting new people and getting the body moving in ways that you don't typically do to increase your flexibility and range of motion. Add to that the benefits of guided meditations enhanced by enchanting music and you'll end your day unplugged and recharged.

For those seeking a more physically challenging program, Yoga for Exercise will be led by Pangrazzi starting Wednesday, January 17, 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. at the same location. Hatha yoga postures and flow sequences from start to finish are used to provide a robust workout for health, increasing strength, stamina and flexibility. But again, accommodations are made to suit individual needs and fitness levels.

You can register for these programs online at [www.tiny.ca](http://www.tiny.ca), in person at the municipal office, or by calling the Recreation Department at 705-526-4204 ext. 290.

### Programs, Activities & Events

Township of Tiny Lions Club Polar Dip: Join in the fun and frolic or sponsor a participant, in support of Dog Guides, at this annual event, January 1, 2024 at Balm Beach. Registration starts at 11:00 am, and the dip is at 12:00 pm. For registration see the website at <https://tiny-township-lions-club.square.site/>.

By Carol-Lynn Lepard, Senior Column Writer



## Elmvale Lions Support Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre

Photo above: Elmvale Lions President Vern Beacock presents \$2,500 cheque to GBGH Executive Director Eric Walter at the Lions meeting on Tuesday Nov. 28, 2023.



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GO FORWARD





NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT  
Township of Springwater Water and Wastewater Master Plan



The Master Plan

The Township of Springwater is undertaking a Water and Wastewater Master Plan to evaluate current and future servicing needs. The intent is to capture servicing needs of all the communities across the Township, recognizing each community has its own, specific priorities, and to develop alternative solutions addressing these needs. The Master Plan will align with the Township’s Official Plan and its mission of supporting development in designated areas, maintaining community characteristics, and preserving natural heritage.

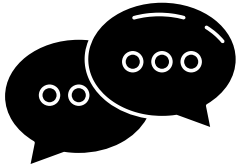
The Process

This Plan will be completed in accordance with the Master Plan modified Approach #2 process as identified in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) document (amended 2023). The Plan will evaluate alternative solutions and recommend preferred solutions in consultation with the public, Indigenous communities, and agencies. At the conclusion of the Plan, the process will be documented in a report, prepared for public review.

How to Get Involved

Public consultation is a key component of the Class EA process and the Township wants to ensure that anyone interested has the opportunity to get involved and provide input. Public Information Centres are planned for future stages of the Plan to inform the public about the steps involved in this work and to gather feedback on the alternative solutions being considered. Information about future Public Information Centres will be posted on the Township’s website / social media channels and in the local newspaper.

To submit a comment or question, or if you would like to be added to the Project Contact List to receive future project notices, please contact:



John Mabira, P.Eng., MSc., PMP  
Senior Project Engineer  
Township of Springwater  
2231 Nursery Road  
Minesing, ON L9X 1A8  
Tel: 705-728-4784 ext.2071  
Fax: 705-728-6957  
john.mabira@springwater.ca

Mike Ainley, P. Eng., PMP  
Project Manager  
Ainley Group  
280 Pretty River Parkway  
Collingwood, ON L9Y 4J5  
Tel: 705-445-3451  
Fax: 705-445-0968  
mike.ainley@ainleygroup.com

Personal information submitted is being collected pursuant to Section 8 and 11 of the Municipal Act and will be used to update the Township’s Water & Wastewater Master Plan. Personal information submitted (e.g., name, address, and phone number) will become part of the public record that is available to the general public unless it is requested that the personal information remain confidential. Questions regarding the collection of this information and how it is used may be directed to the Infrastructure and Operational Services Department, Township of Springwater, 2231 Nursery Road, Minesing, ON L9X 1A8, 705-428-4784. This document will be available in alternate format or with communication support upon request. This notice was first issued December 7, 2023.

Town of Penetanguishene is investing \$851,171

Nov. 28, 2023 - Penetanguishene - The Town of Penetanguishene is investing \$851,171 from the federal government’s Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) into infrastructure projects throughout the Town. This permanent source of funding allows municipalities to invest in priority projects with a real, local impact. The funding will be invested in local roads projects, including the resurfacing of Robert Street East and West, the reconstruction of Harriet Street between Edward Street and Jeffery Street, an extension of Thompsons Road West, and the improvement of Robert Street East and Fuller Avenue intersection. The funding amount allocated to each project has been outlined below:

- \$221, 525 for rehabilitation of Robert Street East
- \$156,589 for Harriet Street Reconstruction (between Edward Street and Jeffery Street)
- \$258,334 for intersection improvements on Robert Street East and Fuller Avenue
- \$214,723 for Thompsons Road West extension improvements

“The impact of the \$851,171 provided through the Canada Community-Building Fund cannot be overstated,” said Doug Rawson, Mayor of the Town of Penetanguishene. “The cost of maintaining and improving our community infrastructure is a significant challenge for a small town like ours. We are grateful for the support of the federal government and their commitment to helping communities like ours thrive and prosper.”

In Ontario, the CCBF is administered to all municipalities, excluding the City of Toronto, by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). It’s distributed twice a year, on a per-capita basis, to be invested across 18 project categories for local infrastructure initiatives.

Bryan Murray, P.Eng., Director of Public Works  
Town of Penetanguishene.



Township of Tiny Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Vacancy

The Council of The Corporation of the Township of Tiny extends an invitation to those residents interested in serving on the **Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee** (1 vacancy).

For complete details, including the required Application Form, please visit [www.tiny.ca/committee/opportunities](http://www.tiny.ca/committee/opportunities).

Interested residents are encouraged to submit their completed Application Form and resume by noon, on **Friday, January 5, 2024**, to:

Jenna Reid, Committee Administrative Coordinator  
Township of Tiny, 130 Balm Beach Road West, Tiny, ON, L0L 2J0  
Email: [jreid@tiny.ca](mailto:jreid@tiny.ca)

As part of the recruitment process, appointees will become volunteers as defined in the Township’s Volunteer Engagement Program. Personal information collected will only be used for candidate selection, in accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act R.S.O., 1990, c.M.56*.

Town of Midland News

Nov. 29, 2023

Burning Permits

Residents of Midland who are planning to have a bonfire, must purchase an annual Burning Permit.

Dog Tags

Starting in 2024, you can apply online to register and purchase a dog tag. All dog owners in Midland are required to register and purchase a dog tag. Reduced fee Jan. 1 - Feb. 28. See our Animal Services and Control page.

Free Midland Seniors (65+) Transit

Ride the Mid-Pen Transit Service for free! Register at the Municipal office, bring photo ID with proof of age and Midland residency. Visit our Transit page for more information on Mid-Pen Transit Service.

Water and Tax PAP

Set up easy and convenient pre-authorized payment plans for water and tax payments.

- Download the Utility PAP form here.
- Download the Property Tax PAP form here.

Need Service?

Connect with Town staff using our online request for service form. Report an issue or request service directly to departments by creating a case here.

Help Shape Our Town

Volunteer with us! Join a board or committee or volunteer at Town events.

- Complete an application join a board or committee.
- Keep a look out on our Festival and Events pages for when volunteer opportunities open.

Wyevale Community News

By Karen Moreau

Dec. 7, 2023 - Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Santa Clause Parade in Wyevale. Thanks to the Township of Tiny for the participation after the parade for serving hot chocolate at the church centre. This year parade I believe the biggest parade that we have every seen In Wyevale. Approximate number of floats were be 30. Once again to everyone a big thank you.

Looking for that little added touch for that hard to buy Grandma or Aunt, please shop local.

**FOOD BANK:** The first Sunday of the month @ the Wyevale Church we ask people to bring Food for the Food Bank. Please call the church if interested in donating food 705-322-1451. They ask for pop open cans. This makes it easier for people who do not have a place to go to. Thank you.

**PLAY GROUP:** Thursday mornings @ 9 till 11:00 Call Pat Smith for further information @ 705-543-9043.

**BOOK CLUB:** Duffle Bag Theatre Presents "A Christmas Carol" December 16th 2023 @ 1:30 pm. Sponsored Midland Rotary Family Scene. Held at the Midland Cultured Centre. Please speak to Vonna if interested.

**WHITE GIFT SUNDAY:** December 10th during the Sunday Service. Donations of Mitts. Hats etc and coloring books, crayons etc for children accepted.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Join us Wednesday afternoon 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. @ the church. All are welcome.

**YOUTH GROUP:** Dec. 10th Present Play during the morning worship.@ 10:00 a.m. Next submission date is Dec. 17th 2023.

Keeping Kids Active is Important as the Days Get Shorter

SIMCOE MUSKOKA – Do colder mornings and darker afternoons have you and your kids wishing you could hibernate until spring? The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) encourages families with kids and teens to stay physically active and to continue with their active school travel routines even when it is cold and snowy.

According to the 2022 ParticipACTION Report Card on Physical Activity for Children and Youth, only 28 percent of kids aged 5 to 17 years are getting the recommended minimum of 60 minutes a day of moderate to vigorous physical activity, such as brisk walking, wheeling and playing sports.

Making time to walk or wheel to and from school is one of the easiest ways for school-aged children to get regular daily physical activity. Being physically active is linked with better overall health for everyone and is important every day of the year. Children and youth who participate in higher levels of physical activity have improved physical and mental health as well as greater

mental, emotional and social well-being. Children and youth who are physically active benefit from greater self-esteem, lower levels of anxiety and depression, and are better able to learn when in school.

To keep the journey to school enjoyable during the colder months, prepare by checking the weather forecast and dressing accordingly. Dressing for the weather helps to preserve body heat and keeps you comfortable. A wind/waterproof jacket and snowpants will help kids stay warm and dry when playing outside. When temperatures are colder, add a fleece or wool sweater mid-layer for extra comfort and protection. Top it off with a hat, gloves or mittens (including an extra set for when the first set gets wet), and a tube-shaped neck warmer or a scarf to cover exposed skin. Finally, a pair of winter boots with good treads will keep feet warm and offer stability that can help prevent slips and falls on ice or in slushy and snowy conditions. Check out what boots have the best slip to get in some extra movement.

Minesing Moments

By Lorrie Norwood

It's just a few more days before the 4th Annual Tractor Parade, Friday December 8th. This year we are adding the tree lighting to the Friday night activities.

6:30 p.m. – Tree Lighting and hot chocolate at the Minesing Community Centre. Donation/Drop Off of food bank items at the tree.

7:00 p.m. – The Parade begins its route. Food and monetary donations will both be collected during the parade right after the fire truck. Please have your donations ready for the elves that will be walking the route and collecting items.

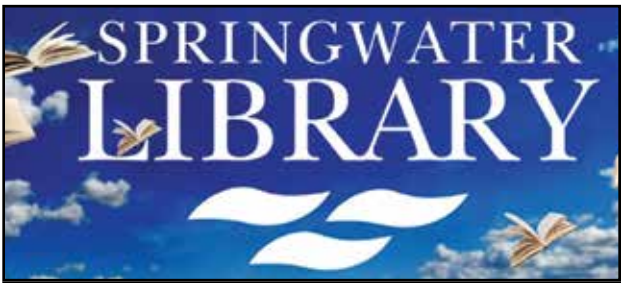
Please remember to not stand on the roadway along the parade route as some of the tractors are large and require the width of the roadway. There is also NO PARKING along the parade route. There is parking at the community centre and at the school as well as at the parks in the village.

The village is looking very festive with Christmas lights, well done neighbours! Not sure if anyone has had the chance to visit the Magic of Lights display at Springwater Park this year but I have heard it has been added to since last year and is definitely something to see. With the snow falling it will look even better I am sure.

For those travelling over the next month, be sure to take your time and leave plenty of space in front of you when slowing down. It's amazing how we forget how slippery it gets from one winter to the next. Be safe!

This year is going to be extra difficult for many folks due to the increasing costs of everything. If you are able to donate, please do so at your local food banks, salvation army kettles or any other charities that you see fit. Please be sure to do your research before donating as some charities allocate their donations differently and you may not be aware of where your money is going.

Until next time, turn up the Christmas carols and get wrapping, we are getting close to the big day!



Elmvale Branch: 705 322-1482  
Midhurst Branch: 705 737-5650  
Minesing Branch: 705 722-6440  
[www.springwaterlibrary.on.ca](http://www.springwaterlibrary.on.ca)  
information, branch updates and our virtual programs. Programs and Videos on Facebook and YouTube (search Springwater Library)



Cookie Jar

Ages 10-100 are invited to our chewy chocolate chip MnM cookie jar recipe event. It makes a great gift or you can enjoy it yourself! Tuesday December 12 at 6pm, Midhurst Branch. Cost \$10 per jar. Registration required.

Holiday Craft

Get in the festive mood with some fun activities, holiday craft stations and then take a break and enjoy a hot chocolate! This is a drop in program while supplies last. Thursday December 14, 4pm-6:30pm, Midhurst Branch and Friday December 15, 3pm-4:30pm, Elmvale Branch.

Pajama Storytime

Ages 6 and under and their families are invited to join Kaitlyn at the Minesing Branch for a bedtime story time. Wear your pajamas, bring a blanket or your favorite stuffed toy and enjoy a quiet story time in the library. Thursday December 14, 6pm at Minesing Branch. Registration Required.

Holiday Music

The musical group, The Young and The Restofus will be performing holiday music on Wednesday December 20, 2pm Midhurst Branch. Registration required.

Holiday Hours

Please note all branches of Springwater Public Library will be closed Monday December 25 and Tuesday December 26. We will reopen to regular hours on Wednesday December 27. We will also be closed Monday January 1, 2024 and return to regular branch hours on Tuesday January 2, 2024.

English Language Learners Club

Come and join us weekly for a conversation group that will be working on English language basics. All are welcome! Meet new people, increase your fluency and vocabulary. Mondays 1pm at Elmvale Branch. Registration required.



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The December Meteor Shower

The annual Geminid meteor shower will peak on the night of Dec 13 into the morning of the 14th. This shower will produce up to 120 meteors per hour with some bright fireballs. Annual meteor showers are produced when Earth crosses debris fields from comets as we orbit the sun, this is why various showers occur at the same time each year. In the case of the Geminids, Earth will encounter tiny sand-sized particles from the asteroid 3200 Phaethon with some gravel size pieces producing bright dramatic fireballs that will light up the sky as well as the ground. The meteors will harmlessly vaporize some 80 kilometres above the ground at a slow 35 km/sec compared to the Perseids in August at twice that speed. A few meteors can be seen start-

ing at about 7 pm locally when the constellation is low in the northeast. Greater numbers will be seen as the constellation rises higher throughout the night. The moon will not interfere this year. This is a must-see event. Known as “The Backyard Astronomer”, Gary Boyle is an astronomy educator, guest speaker, monthly columnist for the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada as well as a STEM educator. He has been interviewed on more than 55 Canadian radio stations as well as various television stations across Canada and the U.S. In recognition of his public outreach in astronomy, the International Astronomical Union has honoured him with the naming of Asteroid (22406) Garyboyle. Follow him on Facebook and his website: [www.wondersofastronomy.com](http://www.wondersofastronomy.com)

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Across

- 1 Wanted letters  
4 Tennis great, Steffi  
8 Kind of nut  
11 Fix, in a way  
12 Himalayan mystery  
13 In times past  
14 Ram’s ma’am  
15 Cracker topping  
16 Sorority letter  
17 Supports  
19 Certain inmate  
21 Soft, soapy mineral  
23 Groucho remark  
26 Having rugged physical strength  
29 Old Toyota  
30 Fixed the windows  
31 Promo  
32 Tune  
33 Dugout, for one  
34 Lodge resident  
36 A head  
40 Swelled head  
42 Butter substitute  
44 House buzzer  
45 Period of success on Broadway  
46 Spelling of “Beverly Hills 90210”  
47 Target  
48 Medical emergency teams, abbr.  
49 No-no military leave  
50 Harry Potter’s best friend

Down

- 1 Circle  
2 New Zealand bird  
3 Worn  
4 Swindle  
5 “I mean it!”  
6 Storage spot  
7 Feudal estate  
8 Spanks  
9 Disgust  
10 Moo \_\_\_\_ gai pan  
18 Fashionable hair colour splash  
20 Regard as same  
22 Tack on  
24 Tick off  
25 Course objective  
26 Resort  
27 Road cover  
28 Notes all sung together at the same time  
29 Air, land and \_\_\_\_  
31 Dangerous job  
33 Not on deck  
35 Jot  
37 Distant  
38 Award for TV commercials  
39 Mass number  
40 Afore, old way  
41 It comes in sticks  
43 Jed Clampett’s discovery





### Notice of Public Information Centre

## Township of Springwater Transportation Master Plan

#### The Study

The Township of Springwater has initiated a Transportation Master Plan (TMP) study to set the transportation vision and strategy for the Township’s mobility needs to the year 2041. The TMP will be completed in accordance with Phases 1 and 2 of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) process (Municipal Engineers Association, March 2023).

#### Public Information Centre #1

You are invited to attend the Public Information Centre to provide your input. The Township and its Consultant (R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited) will be present to discuss the study and answer your questions in a drop-in format. Additional information is available at: [www.Springwater.ca/TransportationMasterPlan](http://www.Springwater.ca/TransportationMasterPlan).

**Date:** Thursday, December 7, 2023  
**Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.  
**Location:** Council Chambers – Springwater Administration Centre, 2231 Nursery Road, Minesing, Ontario

To provide comment or to request additional information please contact either of the following Project Team members:

**John Mabira, P.Eng. MSc. PMP**  
Senior Project Engineer  
Infrastructure & Operations Services  
Township of Springwater  
Tel: 705-728-4784 ext. 2071  
E-mail: [tmp@springwater.ca](mailto:tmp@springwater.ca)

**Alvaro L. Almuina, P.Eng. M.Eng. PMP**  
Consultant Project Manager  
R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited  
Tel: 1-800-265-9662 ext. 4383  
E-mail: [alvaro.almuina@rjburnside.com](mailto:alvaro.almuina@rjburnside.com)

Personal information submitted is being collected pursuant to Section 8 and 11 of the Municipal Act and will be used to update the Township’s Transportation Master Plan. Personal information submitted will become part of the public record unless it is requested that the personal information remain confidential. Questions regarding the collection of this information and how it is used may be directed to Infrastructure and Operational Services Department, Township of Springwater, 2231 Nursery Road, Minesing, ON L9X 1A8, (705) 428 - 4784. This document will be available in alternate format or with communication support upon request. This notice was first issued November 23, 2023.



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With Pharmacist Owners Jenna Lougheed and Carolyn Glover

Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye) is an inflammation of the conjunctiva (membrane that lines the eyelid and eyeball). When the small vessels in the conjunctiva become swollen and irritated they become more visible. This is what causes the whites of the eyes to appear red or pink.

Conjunctivitis can be caused by viruses, bacteria, or allergies. Infectious pinkeye (the kind that can spread to others) can be caused by many of the bacteria and viruses responsible for colds and other infections — including ear infections, sinus infections, and sore throats.

As part of the minor ailments program, pharmacists can assess and potentially prescribe treatment for conjunctivitis. This is done by appointment. Same day appointments are available.

Call us today to inquire about this or your other health and wellness needs.



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LIVE WELL WITH







Photo above: On November 28, 2023, thanks to a \$10,000 match gift from Nick & Marina Boudouris (OPA Catering, World Famous Dock Lunch & Pier 21 Restaurant), and more than 50 other individuals and local businesses, \$41,655 was raised for new exam lights and a power procedure table at Georgian Bay General Hospital. GBGH surgeon, Dr. Eileen Sacks shares her thanks for the community’s generosity.



Notice of Application for Approval to Expropriate Land  
*Expropriations Act*

**In the matter of** an application by The Corporation of the County of Simcoe for approval to expropriate land being part of Lot 6, Concession 10 (Geographic Township of Flos), designated as Part 1 on Plan 51R-43505, in the Township of Springwater, County of Simcoe, for the purposes of the North Elmvale Trail Gap project and works ancillary thereto.

**Notice is hereby given** that application has been made for approval to expropriate the land described as follows:

Part of Lot 6, Concession 10 (Geographic Township of Flos), designated as Part 1 on Plan 51R-43505, Township of Springwater, County of Simcoe.

Any owner of land in respect of which notice is given who desires a hearing into whether the taking of such land is fair, sound and reasonably necessary in the achievement of the objectives of the expropriating authority shall so notify the approving authority in writing,

- (a) in the case of a registered owner, served personally or by registered mail within thirty days after the registered owner is served with the notice, or, when the registered owner is served by publication, within thirty days after the first publication of the notice;
- (b) in the case of an owner who is not a registered owner, within thirty days after the first publication of the notice.

**The approving authority is:**

The Council of The Corporation of the County of Simcoe  
 1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario, L9X 1N6

**The expropriating authority is:**

The Corporation of the County of Simcoe  
 1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario, L9X 1N6

THE CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF SIMCOE  
 Jonathan Magill, County Clerk

This notice first published on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023.

Light and Comfort Delivered  
 on Giving Tuesday

On November 28, 2023, people from across North Simcoe donated \$41,655 to bring comfort and light to patients at Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH). Thanks to Nick & Marina Boudouris (OPA Catering, World Famous Dock Lunch & Pier 21 Restaurant), and more than 50 other individuals and local businesses, the hospital will have new exam lights and a power procedure table in its busy Ambulatory Care clinic. "The new exam lights are game-changers in the minor procedures suite," says Dr. Paige Churchill, chief of surgery, GBGH. "They provide clear, precise illumination, making every operation more accurate and efficient." "A new procedure table is so important to help ensure our patients are comfortable during their procedures," shares Dr. Eileen Sacks, surgeon, GBGH. "It also allows us to accommodate positions that might be more difficult or awkward on a traditional stretcher. It makes things more comfortable for both our patients and our surgeons." Nick & Marina Boudouris supported the campaign on Giving Tuesday with a \$10,000 match gift, which inspired dozens of individuals and local businesses to make a gift. Seasonal resident Bill Schumacher also had a big impact with a \$14,000 gift in loving memory of his wife Arlene. "The incredible support from Nick & Marina, from Bill and from all those who invested on Giving Tuesday is fueling our mission to empower GBGH," says Jesse Dees, senior key relationships officer, GBGH Foundation. "Seeing what happens when a community comes together is inspiring, and together, we are shaping a brighter future for patients at GBGH. We are so thankful!" To learn more about other equipment priorities at Georgian Bay General Hospital, and how you can help, visit: <https://gbghf.ca/current-needs/equipment-needs/>





## Reminder: Waste Collection Schedule Changes Take Effect Week of December 4 for Households in Zone 2

Dec. 1, 2023 – Residents are reminded to check the Simcoe County Collects app, visit [simcoe.ca/collectionschange](https://simcoe.ca/collectionschange), or check other direct communications provided as the County's curbside waste collection schedule adjusts to new Zones starting the week of December 4, 2023.

Households in Zone 2 only skip a garbage collection week during the week of December 4, and receive two consecutive weeks of recycling collection. There are no impacts to households in Zone 1, and waste collection days of the week stay the same.

The best way to find out if your household is impacted is to download or check the Simcoe County Collects app. Alerts will be sent to all app subscribers throughout the week.

### Adjusted Zone 2 Schedule:

- Week of November 27 – Recycling and Organics Collection
- Week of December 4 – Recycling and Organics Collection
- Week of December 11 – Garbage and Organics Collection (one additional untagged garbage bag permitted)
- Week of December 18 – Recycling and Organics Collection
- Week of December 25 – Garbage and Organics Collection

New bi-weekly rotation of cart set out for Zone 2 continues on this schedule/pattern...

Reminder: No change to Zone 1 schedules/rotations, and all collection days of the week stay the same.

### How do you determine your Zone?

- The Simcoe County Collects app is updated with new zone information. The App is a helpful and convenient tool for all County of Simcoe Waste programs. App reminders and notifications will also be sent during your collection week. Simply download the app and enter your address and you will receive your upcoming schedule indicating what carts to put out on which dates
- All known addresses in Zone 2 received a direct mailer in early November notifying them of the collection week rotation (note that mailers may have been sent to your landlord if you rent/lease)
- The County's Waste Collection Calendar was mailed in November to all County households and includes the new Zone information
- Visit [simcoe.ca/collectionschange](https://simcoe.ca/collectionschange) to view our static map or view our interactive GIS mapping system
- Contact the County at [service@simcoe.ca](mailto:service@simcoe.ca) or 1-800-263-3199

### Helpful Tip:

Households may wish to place out all three carts (2 feet apart from each other) during the week of December 4. Our collection vehicles will collect only the correct carts for your Zone that week; this will assist residents in identifying their proper rotation going forward. Organics carts will continue to be collected weekly; however, residents in Zone 2 will notice that their recycling and garbage carts will switch weeks moving forward.

**Why is this change in schedule necessary for some households?**

With the Ontario Government's implementation



### Continues ... Reminder: Waste collection...

NEW Producer Responsibility legislation, Circular Materials Ontario (CMO), the organization acting on behalf of producers to set up the new blue cart collection system in Simcoe County, has contracted their own transfer facility to transfer blue cart recycling material only. This means that the County's cart collection trucks will be required to visit two different drop off/transfer locations, one for recycling (managed by CMO) and one for organics (managed by the County). To avoid larger impacts to collections cycles, the County has introduced new zones and altered the cart collection set out rotation for Zone 2 households (as noted above). Moving to standardized Zones will also provide greater consistency for residents and streamlined communications for all waste collection programs.

If you have questions about this change, email our Service Simcoe Contact Centre at [service@simcoe.ca](mailto:service@simcoe.ca) or call on 1-800-263-3199. We encourage residents to take advantage of our Simcoe County Collects app to have access to a personalized collection calendar and waste notifications.

## 35K to Waypoint Centre for Mental Health's Youth Wellness Hub



Photo above (LtoR): Jamie Burns, Holly Archer, Bob Kafato, Scott Warnock, Shelly

Once again this year Bob Kafato and his team at LabX Media Group have provided almost \$35,000 in financial support through the LabX Charity Fund at Huronia Community Foundation. The most recent recipient is Waypoint Centre for Mental Health's Youth Wellness Hub in Midland.



Dear Neighbours,

As the fall Parliamentary session comes to an end in just a few short weeks, I would like to express that it has been an honour to discuss your views with my colleagues and to act as the voice of our community on Parliament Hill. Over the past few months, I've received countless calls and emails from residents and the overwhelming sentiment has been that life is unaffordable during this current cost-of-living crisis.

Recently, on Tuesday, November 21st, the finance minister tabled the Liberal government's Fall Economic Statement, otherwise known as the 'mini budget.' Ahead of the government's mini budget, my Conservative colleagues and I had three simple demands to lend our support to the legislation: axe the carbon tax, balance the budget, and build more homes that Canadians can afford.

Unfortunately, the Prime Minister and his finance minister announced more than \$20 billion in new inflationary spending that will keep inflation and interest rates higher than Canadians can afford.

Instead of listening to common sense Conservative proposals to reverse this damage, Justin Trudeau has introduced more half-measures that will do nothing to help residents in our community who are struggling with the high cost of gas, heat, and groceries.

Due to the reckless spending that was introduced by the Liberal government in this year's mini budget, I will be voting no confidence when it comes time to vote on these new measures. I will continue to stand up for the residents of our community and demand that the Liberal government cancel all planned tax hikes.

With Christmas right around the corner, charities and food banks in our riding are expecting a significant uptick in visitors. I would encourage all who are able, to help those in need, by donating to a local charity, food bank, or shelter.

As always, my constituency office is available to assist you with any matters related to the federal government. Please contact my office at [Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca) or 705-728-2596 for assistance.

Sincerely,

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

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### Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre Celebrates Significant Funding

Photo above: (left to right) Josh Tinney (Digital Marketing Coordinator GBCSC), Kathy Wolfer (GBCSC Board Chair), Jill Dunlop (MPP, North Simcoe), Vanessa Quesnel (OTF Volunteer), Eric Walter (Executive Director, GBCSC), and Angela Lee Harrison (Volunteer Coordinator, GBCSC).

Nov. 24, 2023 - Penetanguishene, ON: On Friday, MPP Jill Dunlop was at the Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre (GBCSC) in Penetanguishene to hear how two grants from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), totalling \$166,200 are making a difference. Joining MPP Dunlop and Eric Walter, Executive Director of the GBCSC, and Vanessa Quesnel, an OTF volunteer. “I was thrilled to hear of the support provided through OTF for the Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre with these two grants,” said Jill Dunlop, MPP for Simcoe North. “The funding will benefit many families in our region who are facing the unknown that comes with a cancer diagnosis and who need support. It has enhanced the ability of GBCSC to continue to maintain vital

support, education, and motivation for people living with cancer, their families, and caregivers.” The first grant awarded was a year ago, a \$93,300 Capital grant to make improvements to the Centre’s deck and program areas so that both will be more accessible and useable for the diverse population served by the GBCSC. The second grant, a year-long, \$72,900 Resilient Communities Fund grant that was awarded this spring will help the GBCSC enhance the experience of those who rely on its services, by helping with staffing costs, purchasing software for online registrations and for volunteer management that will help expand the capacity of the Centre’s volunteer program. Funds will also help with some key administrative costs as well as some additional office equipment. The special event on November 24 coincided with the GBCSC’s popular, bi-weekly Soup for the Soup program. It welcomes those who are fighting cancer, survivors, and caregivers to come for a warm bowl of soup, friendly conversation, and an opportunity to connect with other who are on a similar journey. By *Paul Eichhorn, Manager, Fundraising & Stewardship, Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre*



**JILL DUNLOP**  
MPP – Simcoe North/Nord

705-326-3246  
Jill.Dunlopco@pc.ola.org  
JillDunlopMPP.ca



### Penetanguishene Lions Club Donates to Wendat Community Programs

Photo above: Penetanguishene Lions Club Member Nancy Hargrave and Andrea Abbott-Kokosin, Executive Director of Wendat Community Programs.

The Penetanguishene Lions Club generously donated \$1,000 to Wendat Community Programs to assist with annual operating costs of the Lorna Tomlinson Residence for Seniors, Seniors’ Support Services and Community Mental Health Services for adults. Since 2015, the Club has donated \$6,000 to Wendat.

### Join Us in the Cherished Tradition of Fiddling!

For generations, fiddling and traditional music has been the golden thread that has bonded local communities. Whether it is the harmonious fusion of Celtic tunes from our early settler ancestors or the rhythmic beats of Indigenous drumming and chanting, traditional music has been the catalyst that fostered community spirit as it creates a harmonious space in which diverse backgrounds unite in a shared passion. There is no greater example of such a tradition than in the Georgian Bay area. Northern Spirit Music is a new non-profit organization based in the Penetang area. It offers engaging classes in fiddling, incorporating the opportunities to learn other stringed instruments like cello and bass. These classes are proving to be very popular and are held every Thursday evening. Northern Spirit Community Fiddle program is now being extended to younger students with the hope of creating a youth fiddle group in our area. The program has received valuable support from other local organizations such as The Georgian Bay Metis Council, Huronia Community Foundation and Brookside Music Association. It has long been established that music lessons benefit youngsters and adults alike. Traditional music promotes a stronger community spirit and gives freedom to explore and repatriate local heritage. Registration begins January 18th – June 4th 2024. For further details please visit our website: [www.northernspiritmusic.com](http://www.northernspiritmusic.com) . You can also text or call: 705 209 5850 Please find us on Facebook to see our latest projects!





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### Elmvale Eagles Fly As Champions

Photo above: Front row left to right: Linda Belcourt, Editor, GBSSA Champ from 1877-78, Alyssa Uniac, Meghan Robson, Teaghan Bartlett, Sophie Jacobs, Hannah Schutt, Courtney Barnicutt, Back row left to right: Coach Amanda Kennedy, Ella Solly, Kate McKittrick, Talia Fleischmann, Ally Odette, Hope Graham, and Coach Cameron Vipond



Nov. 26, 2023 - This past weekend the Elmvale District High School senior girls basketball team travelled to Belleville to compete in their first OFSAA championship in 40 years.



The Eagles who were seeded 15th faced off against the 4th seeded Osgoode Township High School. Osgoode Township's experience was too much for the Eagles in the 62-30 loss. EDHS' second match up of the weekend was against Villanova College, a private school in King City. With their full court pressure defense Elmvale cruised to a 57-19 victory. The Eagles were led by Sophie Jacobs on defense with 9 steals. Offensive stand outs were Talia Fleischmann with 14 points and Ella Solly who's 17 points earned her the game MVP award. Their next game was against #2 ranked Hamilton Christian with a shot at the quarter finals on the line. The Eagles had a hot start leading by as much as 10 early in the game and taking a 2 point lead into half

time. Hamilton's zone press and impressive shooting from beyond the arc led to Elmvale's second loss and elimination from the tournament. Both teams that beat Elmvale went on to medal with Osgoode winning gold and Hamilton Christian winning Bronze. Coaches Vipond and Kennedy as well as manager Guiterrez would like to congratulate the girls on an amazing season. Moving on are graduating players Hope Graham, Teaghan Bartlett, Hannah Schutt, Ally Odette, Ella Solly, Talia Fleischmann, and Kate McKittrick. While Sophie Jacobs, Alyssa Uniac, Courtney Barnicutt, and Meghan Robson will return next year to defend their GBSSA title. The team would like to express its gratitude for the school and community for its support during this historic season. A special thank you goes out to The Elmvale & District Lions Club and The Elmvale Lioness Club who donated \$1000 and \$500 respectively to the teams trip to Bellville. Although the season is over team members Ella Solly, Talia Fleischmann, and Sophie Jacobs will represent Elmvale at the All Star game on Wednesday December 6 at Georgian College. Tip off at 7pm.

Submitted by Cameron Vipond



### Kings Down Flyers 4-1 in PJHL Action



Photo above: Penetang's Tanner Thayer facing-off against the Flyers Matthew Connolly.

Photo to left: NOLIN DERSTROFF, AIM Performance Player of the game for the Kings

Nov. 30, 2023 - The Penetang Kings got past the Midland Flyers by a 4-1 score on Friday November 24 at the Penetanguishene Memorial Community Centre. The Kings built a 3-0 lead early in the third period on a first period goal by Owen Collins, a second period marker by Cole Rumbolt and a goal 20 seconds into the third period by Carter Wilson. Midland finally got on the scoreboard with a goal from Tyler Sweat midway through the third period before Tanner Thayer scored to seal the game for Penetang with under four minutes remaining in the game. Assists for the Kings came from Carson Thayer with two and singles from Lars Derstroff, Rumbolt, Isaak McGinnis and Caiden Pattenden. Wade Monague turned aside 18 of the 19 shots he faced in the Kings net, while Owen Moreau stopped 30 of 34 shots in the Flyers cage. Defenseman Nolin Derstroff was the Penetang Kings Aim Performance player of the game.

You can follow the Kings on Instagram at Penetang Kings (@penetangkings) Submitted by James Elaine, secretary of the Kings

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### Midland BIA Tree Lighting

Photo above: Local elementary school's children's choir entertained with a lovely sing-along.  
Photo below: CHIGAMIK drum circle.

Dec. 3, 2023 - The Midland BIA Tree Lighting event on Fri. Nov. 24, 2023 was extra special as the local elementary school's children's choir entertained with a lovely sing-along. Other entertainers were the Royal Canadian Legion Pipes and Drums, the Sing It Women's Choir. Special thanks to CHIGAMIK Community Health Center, the Civitan Club, the Midland Firefighting Team, the Midland Public Library and Cultural Center, RoyalTea on King, We Are the Villagers, REMAX for hosting crafts and face painting along with Janet Thorpe, a local artist, the Pure Country Tailgate team, and local Tim Hortons for the free hot chocolate top-up, our street performers, and, of course, our

Midland community. Thank you to the Town of Midland for making all of this possible! Other activities that happened included making some crafts at the Midland Cultural Centre, and where you can also donate food for the Downtown Midland Holiday Food Drive. There was photo taking in Chuffy the Civitan Train on King Street and free hot chocolate was handed out by We are the Villagers. Photos with Santa were available, and along with street performances, choir, pipes and drums, and indigenous drum circle. Stores stayed open until 7 pm down King Street, with select stores open all the way down to Bayshore. They had their holiday deals out.

### Santa Comes to Our Towns



### Flag Raising - The Salvation Army Kettle Campaign

Nov. 24, 2023 - Midland - "Thank you all for coming today. We're here with representatives from the Midland Salvation Army to celebrate the Kettle Campaign, one of Canada's largest and most recognizable annual charitable events.

Every time you walk into a grocery store, a mall, or a community centre you see a familiar symbol of the holiday season, the Salvation Army Kettle. In fact, there are more than 2000 kettle locations across Canada that support a wide range of Salvation Army programs.

There are six kettles around the North Simcoe area, four being in Midland at the LCBO, Walmart, Real Canadian Superstore, and Canadian Tire. One kettle in Penetanguishene Village Square Mall and one at the Waubaushene LCBO.

Funds raised through Midland Salvation Army's Kettle Campaign directly help the people in our community. Funding their Christmas Hamper Program, where hundreds of youth will receive a hamper this holiday season. Additionally, funds gathered this holiday season directly sustain their food bank well into 2024, as well as their outreach program.

To the volunteers who selflessly give their time, the compassionate staff that are a support to our community, the people who stop to donate what they can, and to each person with us today – let us celebrate the kindness and warmth of North Simcoe.

Together we can make a difference in someone's life. Visit the Midland Salvation Army's web-site to see how you can get involved and volunteer or donate.

Thank you to the Salvation Army for being the heart of this incredible initiative." - Mayor Bill Gordon

### Update on Elmvale Road Construction Projects

The capital projects taking place on Houden Street, Simcoe Street, Bertram Drive, Archer Crescent, and Nash Avenue have now finished up for the winter. Some minor deficiencies will be addressed in the spring of 2024. Project improvements included road resurfacing, new concrete sidewalks, and curbs along Simcoe St and Houden, plus drainage improvements within the construction zone. The Township thanks residents for their patience throughout these capital projects.



Photo above: Elmvale Lions Santa Claus Parade on Dec. 3, 2023



Photo above: Wyevale Parade on Dec. 2, 2023

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Photo on left, above: Honorary Parade Marshall, Rene Hackstetter, on left, and Anne Wilkes, on right, in the Midland Civitan Club Santa Claus Parade on Nov. 25, 2023. Special thanks to the Midland Civitan Club for the honour! Other photos are entries in the parade.

48th Annual Midland Civitan Clubs Santa Claus Parade

Dec. 3, 2023 - Our honorary Parade Marshall Rene Hackstetter did a great job, according to the crowd size at the Santa Claus Parade in Midland. The streets of Midland came alive with Christmas spirit on King Street on Nov. 25, 2023 with

over 50 parade floats and walking groups. ‘The Stories of Christmas’ theme parade attracted a huge crowd that was full of smiling faces. The winners are President’s Choice - Shriners Club 1st Place - Revel Realty

2nd Place - St. Theresa’s High School 3rd Place - Georgian Bay Secondary School Best Music - Ecole St. Joseph Best Costumes - Rotary Club of Midland By Linda Belcourt, Editor

"Elmvale Coyotes U11B are Silver Stick Regional Finalists"



The Elmvale Coyotes U11B team sponsored by Don Stoddart at Bedrock Mortgage Investment Corporation, traveled to the Bob Merkley Memorial Regional Silver Stick tournament on Friday December 1st. The team led by head coach Adam Kuypers, assistant coaches Paul Craddock and Brandon Godin, and trainer Brett KleinGebbinck made a strong start to the tournament against the Midland Centennials. Elmvale was eager to flip the script and they did just that! The Coyotes came out with a 4-1 victory over the Centennials. A

great start to the tournament. Game 2 Friday evening, had the U11B Coyotes versus the Parry Sound Shamrocks. The Coyotes skated away with an impressive 10-0 victory. Saturday afternoon Elmvale faced the Newcastle Stars resulting in another strong 6-1 win. With 20 goals for, and only 2 against, the U11B Coyotes clinched the number 1 spot putting them against fourth seeded Oro Thunder in the semi-final match Sunday December 3rd. Thanks to 2 goals from Ryan Dziamia, and quality goaltending, the Coyotes narrowly made it to the finals

with a 2-1 win. The finals saw our Elmvale Coyotes faceoff against The East Elgin Attack, their toughest match of the tournament. The Attack took an early lead in the match-up. In spite of power play opportunities, lots of shots and a change of the line-up in the third period, Elmvale fell to East Elgin 5-1. Goaltender Eli Daniels was named player of the game. The Coyotes proudly displayed their Finalists banner and medals after a tremendous showing in the tournament. Written by Theresa Dermott

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Photo above: Elmvale HWOA White Pine Award (LtoR) Cam Douglas, Chris Ellsmere, David Hawke



Photo above: Elmvale\_HWOA White Pine Award(LtoR) Cam Douglas, Sandy Agnew, Doug Frost (Photos courtesy of David Hawke)



Country Meadows Community Helps Seniors

Pat Coe of Singhampton (left) was the lucky winner of a beautiful hand stitched quilt which was donated for a worthy cause. The local Food Bank identified a need for seniors who use the food bank for personal hygiene products. A group of ladies spearheaded by Janice Green (right) from the Country Meadows community took on the project of canvassing for products and selling tickets on this beautiful quilt and sewing reusable cloth bags and filled them with toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, soap, shampoo, razors and shaving cream.

A single generous person donated chocolate bars and Santa signed a Christmas card for every package. Such a happy story, especially for Pat. Thanks to all who bought a ticket!



Local Environmentalist Wins Award for Forest Stewardship

Nov. 27, 2023 - The Huronia Woodlot Owners Association recently held their 43rd White Pine Award meeting, and the 2023 recipient is Oro-Medonte resident Sandy Agnew.

Agnew is a Certified Engineering Technician, a graduate of Niagara College's Ecosystem Restoration program and a Managed Forest Plan Approver. He has been involved in ecological restoration for over 35 years with such groups as Black Creek Project of Toronto, Trout Unlimited Canada and the Severn Sound Environmental Association.

He is a former councilor in Oro-Medonte Township and former member of the Lake Simcoe and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authorities boards and the Couchiching Conservancy land trust board.

Sandy holds memberships and has held Board positions in numerous environmental groups including the Ontario Society for Ecological Restoration, the Ontario Woodlot Association (Huronia Chapter), Forests Ontario and Ontario Nature.

Upon accepting his award, Agnew responded that he has known many of the earlier recipients and has always held them up as "stewardship heroes" and is very proud to be acknowledged in this manner.

The White Pine Award is given to a deserving person to recognise and celebrate their dedication to good forestry practices. Sandy Agnew has written 124 Forest Management Plans for woodlot owners through the Ontario Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP), and has operated his own habitat restoration company called EcoMedic.

The guest speaker for this meeting was David Hawke, a well-known naturalist and writer, who spoke of the lumbering history of The Copeland Forest. From 1792 to 1978 this 4,400-acre tract of forested land was at the forefront of lumber production. A series of family dynasties were both made rich and devastated by the ebb and flow of lumber demands around both World Wars.

In 1978 the sole surviving member, John Copeland, sold the property to the Ontario Government to be used as a Resources Management Area.

Should anyone like to learn more about forest stewardship please contact the Huronia Woodland Owners Association ([www.huron Woodward Owners Association](http://www.huron Woodward Owners Association)) or the Ontario Woodlot Association ([www.ontariowoodlot.com](http://www.ontariowoodlot.com)).

*By David J. Hawke, Board Member of the Huronia Woodlot Owners Association.*

The Gift of Education

It's the holiday season and there is one type of gift that will carry a young person through their entire life. It is the gift of education. When high school ends, and young adults look forward to entering a post-secondary institution, the costs of tuition may be surprising. Tuition alone can range \$3000-\$4000 a semester, before one factors in housing, food, and transportation.

To get ahead of these looming expenses, it's best to start early to save for post-secondary education. A parent, grandparent, or guardian can make contributions to a Registered Education Savings Plan "RESP" for a child(ren). The contributions can be made monthly, annually or on an ad hoc basis. From birth to 12 months of age, a child has accumulated \$2500 worth of contribution room and has a lifetime contribution limit of \$50,000. Each year that \$2500 is contributed, an education grant of \$500 is automatically available and applied for. This grant is a 20% increase on the contributions made by their adult loved one before being invested. If the contributor can't financially make the entire \$2500 amount, any contribution that they do make will receive a 20% grant on their contribution. It's a win-win for the future student.

We recommend a monthly contribution for any savings plan. This is partially because it's often easier on the budget for working adults and pensioners. We also believe that the best opportunities come from dollar cost averaging. Dollar cost averaging is just buying an investment on a regular consistent basis, often monthly, allowing the saver to take advantage of the ups and downs of the markets. If someone saved monthly in 2022, they would have picked up great investments at a discount price and then as prices picked up in 2023, they got them at a great price which is advantageous for long term wealth accumulation.

Few are aware that when the student redeems money from their RESP, it is considered taxable income to them. This is generally not a concern because few students earn enough income to pay income tax at all even between part-time jobs and redemptions from the RESP.

Feel free to reach out and ask us a question about finances that you'd like answered. We're more than happy to answer you personally.

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Bearbells by Leslie Noonan



Nov 30/23 - We are so lucky to have an abundance of trails in Simcoe County in which to walk, bike and hike. Some of these trails are little more than squirrel trails, while others are well maintained, giving residents of all fitness levels the opportunity to get outside and enjoy the late fall weather. Today was unexpectedly mild and I decided to take the beagle with me for an enjoyable trek. We headed off to Penetanguishene and the northern terminus of the 23 km Tiny Rail Trail. There is a nice parking area off Robert Street and Overhead Bridge Road and the trail here is sometimes called Thirteen Bridges. The railway used to cross over the meandering Copeland Creek multiple times, hence the name. An interesting tidbit; before the train ran through here it was a stage coach route, with a tavern every two kilometers. Well, I'm sure if those taverns were still here there would be no problem getting people out on the trail, though we might need those stagecoaches to taxi the unsteady crowds home! As you leave the parking area you do need to clamber down an icy incline to the trail itself. To the left is a large culvert under the road and if you follow the trail east you will end up at the beautiful Penetang waterfront. To the west is the route out of town along the rail trail. For some reason this trail is rated moderate, but I would consider this easy. It is a mixture of pavement and crushed gravel, and while there is numerous small and steep hills, they are not difficult to climb. There is always the opportunity to stand on the numerous bridges over the shallow creek and watch the gentle water flow by, or follow the multiple side trails off through the leafless trees. The main trail is much less used once you leave the forest and bridges behind, and enter an area of marsh and scrub. I could hear the rat-a-tat-tat of a pileated woodpecker not far away, as well as the chitter of a red squirrel chastising me for bringing a nosy beagle into his neighborhood. Now Mr. B is typical for the hound and beagle breed, as his nose leads the way, though never in a straight line. Several times I almost lost my footing on the icy trail, as Mr. B attempted to cloths line me at the knees with his long leash, when he would abruptly change direction to follow another enticing odor. Beagles also enjoy to run at top speed only to come to a sudden stop at some random tuft of grass which has me skidding to a stop before tumbling over his back. There was a lot of twirling and side stepping on my behalf to prevent a hard landing on my ample bottom. The trail continues south towards Elmvale, crossing multiple side roads. It is an easy trek, with views out and across dry fields, thick woods and a golf course now silent under the snow. Except for the section of trail near the bridges, I had no contact with other people. That would be a different story in the summer, as this is a very popular route for cyclists. For now though, the Mr. and I get to enjoy our solitude while on an easy local trail, and the Mr. gets his share of chasing new scents. While not a remote trail, still an enjoyable trek.



Jo Knows Nutrition by Joanne Nijhuis

Homemade Hot Chocolate – Easy to Make and Ready in Minutes

Dec. 2, 2023 - There is nothing like a hot cup of steaming cocoa on a cold weather day and guess what? This recipe uses pantry staples and is almost as easy to prepare as those ready-made store-bought packets. Another bonus when you choose to make your own is that you can customize your cuppa to suit your specific dietary preferences and tolerances. Go ahead and use lower fat or dairy free milk as the base or if you like the rich flavour of dark chocolate, add more cocoa powder to your brew. Play around with this recipe until you've created your perfect rendition to share with family and friends. Here's to chocolate love!

So, continue to enjoy your occasional hot chocolate or one or two pieces of dark chocolate daily as it is unlikely to pose a health risk. If you treat dark chocolate as the candy it is and consume it only in modera-

**Did You Know?**

Dark chocolate has a well-established reputation for being good for your health, but a Consumer Reports study that came out in December 2022 tested 28 dark chocolate bars for traces of lead and cadmium and found that either or both of these heavy metals were present in all of the chocolate bars including some that are sold in Canada (<https://www.consumerreports.org/health/food-safety/lead-and-cadmium-in-dark-chocolate>). Heavy metals can cause a variety of health problems and is frequently found in food according to Health Canada. The higher the quantity of heavy metal exposure, the greater the risk to individuals. While it is important for the consumer to be aware of this research, there is no need to panic. The bottom line is that although dark chocolate has lost some of its halo effect, Health Canada reassures us that chocolate "contributes marginally" to the overall dietary exposure of lead and cadmium and that the consumption of chocolate by Canadians does not represent a health concern.



tion, it should not be of concern.

**INGREDIENTS**

- 1 cup (250 ml) milk of choice (cow's, almond, soy, or oat)
- 1 tablespoon (15 ml) unsweetened cocoa powder
- 2 teaspoons (10 ml) pure maple syrup or to taste
- 1 ½ tablespoons (23 ml) dark or milk chocolate chips
- 1/3 teaspoon (1.7 ml) pure vanilla extract
- Pinch of salt
- Shaved chocolate or whipped cream or whipping non-dairy topping for garnish

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. In a small pot, heat the milk of choice while stirring on medium heat until just simmering.
2. Add the cocoa powder, maple syrup, chocolate chips, vanilla extract and pinch of salt. Stir constantly until heated through.
3. Once heated through, pour into a mug and add the toppings choice.

Enjoy!

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

For more information, email Joanne at [jo.knows.nutrition@outlook.com](mailto:jo.knows.nutrition@outlook.com).

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ANTEN MILLS by Dennis Gannon



This is the weekend that the magic of Christmas comes to our little community. With the support of the Anten Mills Community Recreation Association, the volunteers and sponsors, it will be a weekend to remember. The fun begins on Saturday, December 9, starting at 5 PM, Through the generous support of Snow Valley Ski Resort, the SnoTube slide will be running. Kids, young and old will have the chance to slide down the run which mimics one of the hills found at Snow Valley. While it’s a bit shorter, the thrill is still the same and it’s lots of fun. For those who might be hungry, volunteers will be serving hot dogs and chips. Hot chocolate is also going to be available.

Then around 6:40, Santa Claus himself will be arriving on a fire truck with the assistance of the volunteer firefighters from Springwater Fire and Emergency Services. For those looking for a photo with Santa, he will be happy to do that.

Come 7PM, with Santa leading the charge, the countdown to the official start of Christmas in Anten Mills will begin with the lighting of the huge tree in front of the pavilion and the ground displays. Not that this isn’t enough, the skies over the ball diamond will be lit up by a great fireworks display. The lights on the trees and

Anten Mills

CRA presents

CHRISTMAS

IN THE VILLAGE

DEC

SAT

9

5:00 PM

CHRISTMAS

TREE LIGHTING

HOT DOGS - HOT DRINKS - SNOWVALLEY SNOWTUBE - FIREWORKS - SANTA - FIRETRUCKS AND MORE!

COST - FOODBANK DONATIONS

DEC

SUN

10

1:00 PM

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ground displays will be on every evening from 5PM until 11:30 PM until January 6 so that the Christmas season can be fully enjoyed.

Thanks to the sponsors of this event there is no admission charge for the fun filled evening. In keeping with the tradition of the Anten Mills CRA, donations for the Elmvale and District Food Bank will be accepted. Please give generously and let’s fill at least one pickup truck full of food to help them replenish their shelves.

Sunday, December 10 is the day the 26th annual Santa Claus parade comes to the village. The parade starts at 1PM, winding its way through the village coming to an end at the community centre. Last year’s parade was a big success and this one may even be bigger. Already confirmed is a ship, a group of dancers and some family and neighborhood entries. The Simcoe County Paramedics will be collecting toys for their annual toy drive and if you haven’t had an opportunity

Paramedic Services Food and Toy Drive

Midhurst/Dec. 1, 2023 – County of Simcoe Paramedic Services Food and Toy Drive is in full swing, so far collecting more than 700 toys, 380 lbs of food, and \$5,600 in cash and gift cards.

The Food and Toy Drive benefits local children and families during the holiday season. Donations, along with new, unwrapped toys and food will be accepted at various locations across Simcoe County. Visit [simcoe.ca/toydrive](http://simcoe.ca/toydrive) to learn more.

Paramedics remind residents that giving a little

to give the gift of a toy for a needy child, this is your chance. When the parade ends, there will be hot chocolate and treats back at the community centre. To top the event off, seasonal greetings will be offered and the fun awards will be handed out. It’s not too late to enter the parade just send an email to [antenmillschristmas@gmail.com](mailto:antenmillschristmas@gmail.com) and details will be provided. For the parade route and all details of the Christmas in the Village weekend check out the Anten Mills Community Bulletin Facebook page.

The official “Unofficial” outdoor Christmas display contest is underway starting this weekend as well. For the past several years the amazing outdoor displays from our community have been seen and judged and featured here and on Facebook. From what has been seen so far this year, there are some fantastic displays and the judging will be fun. If you see someone taking photos of your home in the evening, it’s likely the judges so watch here for the results.

The off-road vehicle and dirt bike trails in the county forest have now been officially closed for the season. Snow has fallen and the snowmobile season will begin soon. Regrettably some individuals seem to think that our community park is free rein for them to operate their machines. The Township of Springwater bylaw prohibits any type of motorized vehicles in the parks unless authorized. Last week after a snowfall,someone decided to do donuts on the ball diamond and in the park which resulted in damage to both. If you have a machine in your household take the time to discuss where the machines can be operated with all the operators and be respectful of our parks and keep them out.

Should the weather cooperate, the outdoor rink can soon be open. Chad has posted on Facebook the need for helpers to clean and flood the rink. If you can help, check the post and contact Chad to learn more and help.

That’s all for this week, hope to see you at this weekend’s events, so until the next time, BE WELL, STAY SAFE and THANKS for READING.

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## SPIRITUAL and MENTAL HEALTH

## Rosie's Devotions

by Rosemary Hagedorn



## Christmas Is...

Christmas is here; at least, a shopper's Christmas is here. Christmas trees, wreaths, ornaments, and toys are proudly displayed in store windows and shelves — beautiful, shiny objects to attract and entice the consumer. Well-thought-out advertisements in the local newspapers and magazines feature the latest in gadgets and toys.

But Christmas is not about running around at the last minute getting "just the right gift" or getting the latest version of a cell phone or buying the latest edition of a computer software product. Christmas is about a Baby.

You've heard the story many times. Over 2000 years ago, an angel tells Mary, a virgin, that she will give birth to a baby and to name this baby "Jesus". Joseph and Mary, as part of a census, travel to Bethlehem to look for a place to stay as Mary's time to give birth is imminent. But because of the census, rooms at the inns were all taken. A kindly innkeeper offers them a stable where Mary gives birth to Jesus. Angels proclaim Jesus as a Saviour for all people. Shepherds come to adore Him, and wise men bring Him gifts.

Now imagine: if the kind innkeeper had not offered his stable, Mary and Joseph would have been homeless. Jesus would have been born outside, underneath the stars. Perhaps the night would have been a little cold also.

This Christmas season, may we be so bold as to step out of our comfort zones and help out in our shelters by preparing hot meals and offering a person who is without a home, a place to lay their head and keep warm for the night. If that isn't possible, perhaps donating food items to the local food bank or hosting a turkey dinner with all the trimmings at your local church for people without homes are other ways of giving. If you are unable to do that, then consider sharing your gift of singing Christmas carols with the elderly in an old age home, a long term care home or in the local hospital.

John 13:34-35 – A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. (NASB)

As the season of Christmas approaches, let us share our time and gifts with each other.

Prayer: Father, we thank You for the wonderful gift of Your Son, Jesus, who willingly sacrificed Himself for our sake. He shared His life on earth to tell of Your wonderful love for us all.

### TOY DRIVE LOCATIONS COUNTY OF SIMCOE PARAMEDIC STATIONS:

- Angus – 1 Tree Top Street
- Barrie Simcoe Emergency Services Campus - 110 Fairview Drive
- Barrie North - 667 Bayfield Street
- Barrie Tiffin - 113 Tiffin Street
- Coldwater - 1 Firehall Lane
- Craighurst - 2298 Horseshoe Valley Road, Oro-Medonte
- Elmvale - 17 Allenwood Road
- Midland - 395 Cranston Crescent
- Orillia - 68 West Street
- Penetanguishene - 10 Robert Street West
- Wasaga Beach - 23 Oxbow Park Road
- Washago - 401 Anchor Drive, Severn

## What Dreams are Telling Us

Dec. 3, 2023 - Dreams are one way for our subconscious mind to communicate with our conscious mind. The subconscious does not communicate directly, however. It is more like a game of charades, in which the subconscious 'acts out' a message which the conscious mind may or may not pick up. If we are not ready to deal with the issue, then we attach no importance to the dream.

This is especially true when it comes to recurring dreams. If they are painful dreams relating to the past, this means there is healing that needs to be done. If they replay traumatic incidents, you may have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and professional help is advised.

The subconscious is where our deepest feelings, desires, fears, and vulnerabilities reside. The conscious mind is more like the part we 'dress up' to take out into the world, while the subconscious runs things 'behind the scenes'.

The subconscious can certainly sabotage our conscious desires and goals, so it is a good idea to pay some attention to it. If we can decode its messages, there is a greater likelihood that we get all parts of our consciousness working in the same direction.

If you dream of being afraid, of being unsafe, or being chased, the dream may be reflecting your deep feelings of vulnerability. You can look at your waking life and consider in which areas you may be feeling vulnerable. Then you can see what you might do to make yourself feel a little more grounded and secure in that situation, or to look at how you would still be okay even if your worst fears materialized. Is it that you are in a relationship or job that triggers insecurities? If the situation is draining your confidence and you have tried to communicate this without any change, it may be time to move on.

If you dream of being lost, or missing a flight, it may be that you are 'off track' in terms of what you really want to be doing in this lifetime. Dreams can also give hints about where our soul really wants us to go, literally or figuratively. I think of the soul as the core of our being, like a flower that wants to blossom. Are there parts of you that want to be expressed?

If you dream repeatedly of the countryside, or of mountains, it may be that your soul yearns to move there. If you dream of flying, it may be that it is time to give 'wings' to your waking dreams.

Some people say they do not remember their dreams. Sometimes just giving yourself the message, just before you fall asleep, to remember your dreams is helpful. Keeping a notepad by your bed and jotting down even the briefest fragments of dreams can be helpful in recalling them. Once you get up, they may be lost.

Pay attention to your dreams, for there may be important subliminal messages in those 'nighttime videos'.

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



## Annie's Journal by Annie Warner

Donnelly



Back in June, I wrote that once my paperwork was finalized, I'd be travelling to Mugeta - a rural village in Northern Tanzania - to teach in the Mugeta Children's School.

Every call of God comes with its own set of circumstances.

At first, I didn't understand why the timing of my departure was delayed, but that was just the point: it was my timing. The Lord had His timing all worked out. Finally, based on His timing, I have a departure date!

As it turned out, the day in June that I thought I would be flying across the Atlantic to Tanzania, was the day I received news that my nephew had died. How blessed I was to be able to be with my sister to grieve with her over his death. I am grateful to have been here for other events throughout the summer and during the fall.

Many events in life cause us to wonder why things are taking so long. Maybe we're slow to recover from an illness. Maybe we're hoping for a new job that that seems impossible to find. Maybe we're waiting for someone to apologize; or someone to recognize our loneliness and invite us in; or someone to understand our current need and be willing to meet it. Have events like these tested your faith?

When James sent his greetings to the twelve tribes scattered among the nations, they were facing problems that were testing their faith. We can be encouraged by the words he wrote to them. "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you."

God keeps His promise to never leave us nor forsake us. Here are the lyrics to a song I wrote as a reminder that He is with us, moment by moment; that we have nothing to fear. He will see us through.

We wonder how we can forgive when our hearts are filled with pain,

And we can't sleep; we toss and turn 'til morning comes again,

And then the moment comes,

And in that moment, You show us what to do.

In each moment, You always see us through.

There's no fear when You are near.

Faith is in the moment with You.

Where can we find comfort when we feel all alone?

Tears fill our eyes. It's hard to breathe. Who can we trust?

Jesus, we ask for faith, faith to believe.

Jesus, our hearts have room, room for You. Please come.

And in that moment, You show us what to do.

In each moment, You always see us through.

There's no fear when You are near.

Faith is in the moment with You.

Amen.

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Community Events

MONDAY

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

**Barrie District Stamp Club**  
**2nd Thursday of each month, 1:00pm – 3:00 pm**  
East Bayfield Community Centre, 80 Livingstone St. E., Barrie L4M 6X9  
For more information: m.widner@sympatico.ca, or 705-726-9624

**Elmvale Senior-Drop In**  
**Dec. 11. from 10am-noon**  
Basement of the Elmvale Library. NEW hours are from 10am to noon. This will be our final session before Christmas. Come out to enjoy conversation, Euchre, Scrabble and goodies!

TUESDAY

**Elmvale Legion**  
**Tuesdays at 1 pm**  
Table Shuffleboard, Cost \$1  
Every Saturday at 5 pm  
Meat Darts- \$ 10.00 for 3 games

**Palace Tavern Elmvale BINGO**  
**Every Tuesday night**  
Midland Rotary proceeds 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm  
Barrie Rotary proceeds 8 pm to 9:30 pm

WEDNESDAY

**Learn How To Play Bridge**  
Bay Shore Seniors Club is offering five (5) bridge lessons, Wednesday’s starting October 18th through to November 15th from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Cost is \$3.00 per session. It doesn’t matter if you are a beginner or want a refresher. If you are interested, please call Bay Shore at 705-361-1331. Located at 2000 Tiny Beaches Road South, Tiny

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

THURSDAY

**Probus Club of Simcoe North**  
**Meetings monthly 2nd Thurs. 10 a.m**  
For women & men in retirement or semi-retirement. Penetang Legion, 2 Poyntz St. For more information email klarkins@csolve.net or call Joyce (705)526-3424

SUNDAY

**Good Vibes**  
**First Sunday 2-5, 023 from 2 to 5 p.m.**  
**An open-mic music event** Our location is the little white schoolhouse at the corner of Mount St. Louis Road and the 4th Line of Oro Medonte. Admission is a donation of \$5.00.

THURSDAY

**Let’s Do Lunch \$5:**  
**Elmvale Presbyterian Church**  
**2nd Thursday of the month.** Eat in: 12-1pm. \$5  
For take-out & town delivery \$6 call 322-1411 between 9 & noon on the Monday previous.  
Pick-up Thursday 11:15 – 11:45 at East side of the church.

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

**Wasaga Beach Parkinson’s Support Group**  
**1st Thursday of each month, 12:30-2pm**  
Wasaga Beach Public Library meeting room, 120 Glenwood Dr. All Parkinson’s patients & caregivers welcome. For more information contact Phil Bender 905-703-6248 bender.philip@gmail.com

**BARRIE-KEMPENFELT PROBUS CLUB**  
**Meets at 10:00 am, third Thursday of month**  
Canadian Legion, 410 St. Vincent Street in Barrie  
Main Contact: Chief Information Officer, Robert Newby, barriekempenfelt72@gmail.com (705) 220-3501

MONDAY to FRIDAY

**Low Impact Gentle Fitness Program**  
VON SMART Program  
**Adults 55+ FREE**  
**Mon. 9am @ Springwater Room (arena)**  
**Wed. 9am @ Elmvale Community Hall**  
**Fri. 11am @ Elmvale Community hall**  
**Also available – pole walking at Heritage Park on Wednesdays 9:15am**  
**Times and locations all subject to change.**

Bring good support (running) shoes and water  
Call 705-355-2200 to register or walk ins

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

**GANARASKA HIKING CLUB.-Wasaga Beach**  
Weekly, **Wed hikes 09:15-09:30am** at various locations., year round. Also a casual hike, same time. Winter can be snowshoes. Weekly, hikes **Sunday 1:30pm** from a park near Foodland, WB.Weekly, Monday morning bike tours from various locations. Seasonal. Please contact Lorraine for info. 416-606-5081. Or lorvanvlymen@gmail.com

**Georgian Bay Coin & Stamp Club**  
**3rd Thursday of each month, 6:30pm - 8:30pm**  
Prime Time Club,1724 Mosley St., Wasaga Beach  
**1st Tuesday of each month, 6:30 pm - 8:30pm**  
(North Simcoe Chapter) Penetanguishene Memorial Arena, Brian Orser Lounge, 2nd floor. 61 Maria St. For more info.: www.geobaycoinstampclub.ca

**Open Gym Drop-In**  
**Mondays:** - 5:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - Drop-in basketball - All ages are welcome.  
**Tuesday:** 5:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. - Drop-in pickleball - All ages are welcome.  
Drop-in programs will be no charge for July and August.  
The Township is pleased to offer sessions at Elmvale District High School (25 Lawson Avenue)

ALL DAYS

**Bay Shore Seniors Club**  
**Indoor Pickleball** Sun. at 2pm, Wed, at 4:30 pm, and Friday at 4pm. Beginner Line Dancing - Thurs. 11:30-12:30pm

**Low Impact Gentle Fitness Program**  
**- VON Exercises Friday 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.**  
2000 Tiny Beaches Road South, Woodland Beach in Tiny, Ontario 705-361-1331  
www.bayshoreseniors.ca

One Time Events

**Sleigh Ride in the Village, Elmvale Lioness Lions**  
**Fri. Dec. 8, 2023 - 6-9pm**  
FREE Horse and Wagon Ride, FREE Hot Chocolate, FREE Hot dog, FREE Face Paint. FREE Craft. Adult Farmers Market. Bring cash only. Bring food bank item upon entrance.

**Phelpston Christmas Wagon Ride**  
**Dec. 8, 2023**

**Minesing Tree Lighting & Christmas Tractor Parade**  
**Dec. 8, 2023 at 6:30 pm**  
tree lighting at the Minesing Community Centre and continue with the annual tractor parade, following it’s typical route. Donations for the Elmvale & District Food Bank will be collected.

**Breakfast with Santa**  
**Sat. Dec. 9 at 9am-11am**  
Wyevale United Church  
Cost is donation to food bank. Hosted by Tiny Township Lions Club

**Anten Mills Christmas in the Village**  
**Dec. 9, 5pm Tree Lighting**  
Hot dogs, hot drinks, snowvalley tube, fireworks, Santa, firetrucks. Bring foodbank donation.  
**Dec. 10 at 1pm Santa Claus Parade**  
Starts at Laddie Lane and Pinery, through the community, ends at Community Hall for awawrds, refreshments goodies and fun! Hosted by CRA.  
AntenMillsChristmas@gmail.com

**A Visit with Santa at Midland Cultural Centre**  
**Dec. 9th, 2023 2 shows at 10:30am and 1:30 pm.**  
Free registration required at midlandculturalcentre.com/events

**Christmas Carol Sing**  
**Wed. Dec. 13 at 7pm**  
**Elmvale Presbyterian Church**  
2 Queen St. E., Elmvale. Cookies and apple cider will be served. A donation to the Food Bank would be appreciated.

**A Christmas Carol**  
**Dec. 16, 2023 at 1:30pm**  
Midland Cultural Centre

Here comes another fun family event at the MCC: DuffleBag Theatre

**Santa’s Firetruck Run**  
**Dec. 23 & 24**  
Springwater Provincial Park Firefighters and Santa Claus will drive through the neighbourhoods of Springwater.

**Deco Mesh Wreath**  
**Dec. 4, 2023, open 12:30pm, start 1 pm**  
Simcoe County Museum, make a nature inspired Deco Mesh Wreath with a painted night sky and embellishments. Members \$10. Guests \$15 (Cash only). register to attend Betsy at littlerockimages@simcoe.net or 705-727-7389

**Free Christmas Turkey Dinner**  
**Sat. Dec. 23, 2023 at 11am - 1 pm**  
All Saints Anglican Church, 1 Peel St., Penetanguishene 705-549-2223

**Santa’s Firetruck Run**  
**Dec. 23 & 24**  
Springwater Provincial Park Firefighters and Santa Claus will drive through the neighbourhoods of Springwater. Elmvale and Phelpston on Dec. 23 and visit Anten Mills, Midhurst, Minesing, Grenfel, Centre Vespra, Snow Valley and Hillsdale on Dec. 4. Listen for the sirens and watch for the lights as they head to your street!

**Free Christmas Dinner** (take- out only)  
**Dec. 25, 2023**  
Elmvale Presbyterian Church  
Dec.15 call 705-322-1411 to order from 9-3  
Pickup Dec.25 from 11:45-12:15

**Annual Polar Dip**  
**Jan. 1, 2023 at noon**  
At Balm Beach.  
**Township of Tiny Lions Club Polar Bear Dip:**  
Sponsor a participant, in support of Dog Guides, at Jan. 1, 2024 at Balm Beach. Registration starts at 11:00 am, and the dip is at 12:00 pm. For registration see the website at https://tiny-township-lions-club.square.site/



MCC  
Presents:  
A Very Very  
Cassie and  
Maggie  
Christmas

Nov. 22, 2023 - Midland - The Midland Cultural Centre (MCC) is thrilled to announce ‘A Very Very Cassie and Maggie Christmas’ is making a stop in Midland on their 2023 holiday tour on Monday, December 11th at 7pm. “A Christmas confection with perfect measures of sugar and spice, nestled amongst the best loved traditions of Atlantic Canada... the sound that emanates from these two is so enormous if could take up any room and is a true testament to their talent"- New York Theater guide Internationally acclaimed, award winning musical sister duo - Cassie and Maggie are no strangers to holiday magic. Part of a multi generational musical dynasty; Christmas was always a time to gather near and sing boisterously, as in days of old. The doors were always open to company and the New Year just around the corner. This season, the MacDonald sisters invite you to bring your kin, to ‘A Very Very Cassie and Maggie Christmas' celebrating not only yuletide fun but their new album of the same name. The trademarks of their stage show will be there as sure as reindeer fly. Fiddle, guitar, piano, sibling harmonies and percussive stepdance will mark the season, as well as classic Christmas hymns, ancient carols and a sassy ode to the most mysterious of Santa's reindeer, Vixen. A Very Very Cassie and Maggie Christmas is just what the elves ordered for a season of delightful memories. Tickets are available at midlandculturalcentre.com/mccholidays2023.



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Please call Peter at 705-322-3484

## Attention Woodlot Owners

- Looking to purchase hardwood and pine trees
- Minimum 50 trees

Please call Rej (Springwater Forestry) at 705-790-6506

## THANK YOU

The Sibbald Family would like to thank everyone for their generous donations given in Andy Sibbald's name. The Elmvale Food Bank, Mental Health Association and the Family truly appreciate it. We would also like to thank everyone for their support whether it's was a yummy treat, a visit or helping celebrate Andy's life. We are truly blessed to live in this small village like Elmvale!  
*The Sibbald Family*

### What an amazing 80th Birthday I had; I would just like to say THANK YOU!!

Thank you to everyone who helped bring this evening together, by organizing the party, those who spoke, and everyone that came out to celebrate 80 years with me and my family. It was such a surprise seeing my granddaughter Kourtney there, she flew in from Germany just for the weekend.

There was a "Kirton Log Sawing Competition" as well. 100 squares were sold for guessing what the fastest time would be using the 100th of a sec part of the time. \$1000 was raised to be split 50/50 with the Legion Branch 262 and the person with the winning time. 6 teams competed in the competition, team Scott Kirton and Pat Valender had the winning time 38.70 sec. Barry Marley and Ken (Shaky) Graham had the winning square with the .70 of a sec and donated their winnings back to the Legion. Before the log sawing competition we had siblings and council members trying out their log sawing skills, with Matt Garwood and Mark Coughlin having a time of 37.05 sec.

These first 80 years have been filled with wonderful memories with family and friends, and I look forward to making more.

**THANK YOU AGAIN TO EVERYONE FOR MAKING THIS MILESTONE AN EXTREMELY SPECIAL ONE FOR ME.**  
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## EVENTS

### FREE TAKE-OUT CHRISTMAS DINNER

Elmvale Presbyterian Church

22 Queen St. E

would like to offer you a  
**free Christmas Dinner,**  
Monday, December 25th.

With the Covid virus becoming more prevalent in our area, we reluctantly decided to forego an in-house meal and it will be take-out only. We will bring a full Christmas dinner complete with turkey and all the trimmings to your car, hopefully spreading good cheer and not germs.

**We ask that you call 705-322-1411**  
**between 9 and 3pm**  
**Friday, December 15th**

to book your meal. You can pick up your order between 11:45 and 12:15 at the East side of the church. Delivery is possible in town only. We thank Elmvale and the surrounding community for supporting our mission endeavours in 2023 and we wish all a blessed Christmas and a safe and healthy 2024.

### Grenfel Christmas


**Christmas Time is fast approaching.**

This year Grenfel United Church will be having their **Christmas Eve service** at 11am Sunday December 24 and **New Years Eve service** at 7 pm on Dec, 31, 2023.

*We wish all our friends and families a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year 2024.*

Always remember the reason for this season and spread love and peace to All.

## NOTICE

  
**ELMVALE: 35 Queen St**  
**Location will be CLOSED Tues, Dec 26th and reopening on Thurs. Dec 28**  
  
*Regular hours of operation are Tuesday & Thursdays 7-9am.*

## AUCTION NOTICES



### Upcoming Auctions

Significant Generational Collection Dispersal - Brampton (Dec 10 - 14)  
Estate of Jim Anticknap - Atwood (Dec 17 - 21)  
Hawkins Honey Farm Auction - Rockwood (Jan 21 - 25)  
Turf Care Plus Surplus Inventory Reduction Sale - Guelph (Jan)  
Sweet & Savoury Gourmet Shop Closing - Hamilton (Feb)

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**Please consider attending the Elmvale BIA Board Meeting... Thursday, Dec. 21 @ 5:30pm Elmvale Library**

## HALL RENTAL

### Elmvale Legion Hall Rental

Available for all functions.

135 person capacity.

Bar available upon request.

**Contact 322-1042 to book**

### ELMVALE LIONS HALL RENTAL

1979 Flos Rd 7 W, Elmvale

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**Call Lion Bob Coe to book 705-322-4484**

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\*We are also looking to add a full-time hygienist to our team at Solly Family Dentistry.

For more information, please contact Kari at [kari.sfd.elmvale@gmail.com](mailto:kari.sfd.elmvale@gmail.com).



OPP REPORT

OPP Arrest Scarborough Individual in Tay Township Sex Assault Investigation

(TAY TOWNSHIP, ON.) - A report of a sex assault made to the OPP Communications Centre on September 18, 2023, has resulted in a number of sex related offences being laid upon an individual from Scarborough by OPP investigators. Crime Unit officers from the Southern Georgian Bay OPP Detachment, conducted an in depth investigation resulting in an arrest at a Vaughan, Ontario address on November 29, 2023.

As a result of this investigation Jamie Wade MILLER 24 years of age has been charged criminally with the following offences.

- Luring a Person Under 16 years of age by means of Telecommunication
- Kidnapping
- Forcible Confinement
- Possession of Weapon for Dangerous Purpose
- Sexual Assault with a weapon on a Person under 16 years
- Sexual Interference

The accused person remains in custody awaiting a bail hearing and will appear before the Ontario Court of Justice at a future date.

NEW DETACHMENT COMMANDER CONFIRMED FOR THE SOUTHERN GEORGIAN BAY OPP

(MIDLAND, ON)- On Tuesday November 27, 2023, Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Commissioner Thomas Carrique formally announced and confirmed the appointment of Inspector Todd Pittman as the new Detachment Commander of the Southern Georgian Bay OPP. Inspector Pittman has served our community since May 2023, as the interim Detachment Commander.

Inspector Pittman began his career with the OPP at the South Bruce (Walkerton) Detachment in 2002. During his career, he served with the West Region Emergency Response Team (ERT), and as the Provincial ERT Training Coordinator, Canine Unit Coordinator and as Manager of the Emergency Management Unit. He supported the Province of Ontario as the Chief of Staff for Operation Remote Immunity strategically delivering COVID-19 Vaccine to 32-remote Northern Indigenous communities, established COVID-19 vaccination clinics in the GTA and led the youth 12-17-year-old vaccination initiative. He is an incident Commander, Chair of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police Emergency Alerting Community of Practice and Co-chair of the Ontario Amber Alert Steering Committee.

He holds a Police Foundations diploma from Confederation College (Thunder Bay). He is the recipient of the Ontario Amethyst Award for Team Achievement, a Commissioners Citation for Bravery, and a Commissioners Commendation for Outstanding Investigation.

Quotes

-”Todd is a forward-thinking leader. He is motivated to learn and apply innovative problem solving and is constantly looking to create efficiencies through a modern lens, often through technology.” Commissioner Thomas Carrique

-”Inspector Pittman is a passionate leader dedicated to public safety and the community he serves. Todd is a results-driven leader who collaborates with stakeholders for maximum impact. His diverse experience will prove to be an asset as he assumes the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment Commander role.” Superintendent

Veronica Eaton OPP Central Region Director of Operations.

-”I am both humbled and grateful to be appointed to be the Commander of the Southern Georgian Bay OPP Detachment. I look forward to leading a detachment with members that serve our communities with pride, professionalism, and honour. I am eager to work with community leadership and stakeholders in a joint vision of community safety and wellbeing.” Inspector Todd Pittman

Inspector Pittman and his family reside, work, and enjoy all that the Georgian Bay area has to offer in the communities serviced by the detachment. In a very short time, he has developed the support and respect of community leaders and partners.

HURONIA WEST FESTIVE R.I.D.E. LEADS TO DRUG INVESTIGATION

(TOWN OF WASAGA BEACH, ON) - The Huronia West Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have arrested and charged two individuals following a drug investigation as a result a Festive R.I.D.E.

On November 25, 2023, members of the Huronia West OPP conducted a festive R.I.D.E. in the Town of Wasaga Beach. At approximately 9:20p.m., the accused parties were observed entering the R.I.D.E. program on River Road East. As a result of the traffic stop, two males were arrested and charged with several drug related offences.

Shant APELIAN-ROBINSON, a 19-year-old from Springwater Township, has been charged with:

- Possession of illicit cannabis
- Possession of a Schedule I Substance - Cocaine
- Possession of a Schedule I Substance - Methylenedioxyamphetamine (Ecstasy)
- Possession of a Schedule I Substance - Other Drugs
- Possession of a Schedule III Substance
- Possession of a Schedule 1 Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking - Cocaine
- Possession of a Schedule 1 Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking - Other Drugs

The accused was released on an Undertaking and will appear on January 9th, 2024, at the Ontario Court of Justice in Collingwood, Ontario.

A 17-year-old from Springwater Township has been charged with:

- YPC Possession of illicit cannabis
- YPC Possession of a Schedule I Substance - Cocaine
- YPC Possession of a Schedule 1 Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking - Cocaine
- YPC Possession of a Schedule III Substance
- YPC Possession of a Schedule I Substance - Methylenedioxyamphetamine (Ecstasy)
- YPC Possession of a Schedule I Substance - Other Drugs
- YPC Possession of a Schedule 1 Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking - Other Drugs
- Adult Prov. Person under 19 years - Possess Cannabis
- Adult Prov. Person under 19 years - Possess Cannabis

The accused was released on an Undertaking and will appear in January 2024, at the Ontario Court of Justice in Collingwood, Ontario.

As a result of the investigation, the following property was seized:

N	O	R		L	O	W	A		S	M	E
M	I	A		I	R	O	T		N	U	R
Y	L	F		O	E	L	O		O	G	E
H	C	A	E		R	E	I	K	S		
			T	A	O	B		A	I	R	A
R	E	S	A	E	T		D	E	N	A	P
A	R	P	U	S		Y	D	R	U	T	S
P	I	U	Q		C	L	A	T			
		R	E		I	L		S	D	I	A
O	H	R		E	T	A	P		E	W	E
O	G	A		I	T	E	Y		G	I	R
G	U	L		F	A	R	G		A	K	A

- Quantity of cocaine
- Quantity of methylenedioxyamphetamine
- Quantity of mushrooms
- MDMA
- Quantity of hydromorphone
- Quantity of unknown pills
- Quantity of cannabis
- Digital scales
- Canadian Currency

The name of the involved young person will not be released due to provisions contained in the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

TRAFFIC STOP LEADS TO DRUG CHARGES



(COLLINGWOOD, ON) - Members from the Collingwood and The Blue Mountains detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) conducted a traffic stop in the Town of Collingwood this past Saturday morning. OPP officers observed cannabis readily available to both occupants in the motor vehicle. As a result a search was conducted under the authority of the Cannabis Control Act. During which point a Maxwell House coffee jar was located and found to contain 51.7 grams of cocaine.



A 64 year-old male and 43 year-old female, both from Collingwood, were each charged with possession of a schedule I substance - cocaine under the Controlled Drugs & Substances Act.



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HEY DADS!

HEY DADS! Have you taken out the snow-blower yet? The time for winter tools is here. I saw a farmer out discing his field the other day. I guess that's got to be done before the snow flies. I mentioned in a previous article how I bought a few baby implements to pull behind my riding mower. I didn't have a snow plow for the front but I had a plow, cultivator, and disc for the back. We had used horsepower and kidpower to plow up our little garden. I didn't really know what was next but I went with cultivator. Since the cultivator was so small it didn't really have the guts to dig very deep in the dirt. Fortunately, I had a pile of kids helping me who wanted a ride! Killing two birds with one stone happens to be my specialty so I said, "Hop on kids!" Since safety is important, I only let one at a time ride. The others would have to wait their turn. The added weight greatly improved the results. Soil was cultivated. The next toy to try was the disc. The previous owner obviously had the same problems I was having and obviously didn't have nine kids waiting in line for a ride. The light-

weight disc wasn't heavy enough to cut through the soil. He had cleverly mounted a small plywood box on top of the disc. It was too small for a child to sit in. Maybe I could have convinced my patient wife to let me put the baby in there but I wasn't going to push my luck. The gentle rocking of the disc, the soft hum of the mower's motor and the baby would probably drift off to sleep. Never mind. Don't worry, no babies or children were put in the disc's weight box. We had a pile of old cinder blocks behind the shed. The boys are always looking for opportunities to show off their strength. Cinder blocks were just the thing! We couldn't just pull the disc over there and load it up with blocks. My beautifully landscaped lawn would get all torn up. Think of all our precious dandelions! So we disconnected the disc. Easily done by removing a single pin from a hole in the mower's flimsy sheet metal. Drive to shed. Give kids rides. Load blocks on lawn mower. Give kids and blocks rides. Return to garden. Give kids rides. Don't wreck lawn.

Load blocks into box. Begin discing. Achieve poor to moderate results. I faced a challenge when actual farmers drove by in their actual tractors or trucks. Do I hide my head in shame at my poor excuse of a farm operation or do I raise my head high, smiling and waving as if to say, "Boy, us farmers really are doing some things, aren't we?". I went with the latter. The kind neighbours usually offered a polite smile and wave. Thank-you all. So dads, we do stuff and try things. We learn. We try not to injure ourselves. And if the good Lord blesses our efforts we even grow some vegetables. He gave us over 200 pounds of potatoes from that garden plus some fun memories. Go make some memories this weekend, dad. Time flies! Make every moment count! Jason Weening tries to grow thousands of vegetables but only nine kids with the help of one patient wife. Hear more of his mistakes on his podcast at heydads.ca.

Craighurst W I November Meeting



We began November's meeting with our program, a "Cook's tour of Egypt" - One of our members had visited that famous country in May and shared her slides and stories. She and her husband had a 2 week tour and saw it all, from the Great Pyramids to the 401-like highways around Cairo with no lanes! They marvelled at the grandeur and the scale of the temples and sphinx-lined avenues and the room that had 20 preserved crocodiles. The slides were excellent, and their commentary took us with them up the Nile and down into the Valley of the Kings. We then held our meeting, begun as usual with the Opening Ode and the Mary Stewart Collect. Our President being away in Florida installing zip lines - yes, zip lines, (it's true), the Vice President wielded the gavel. Minutes were approved, treasurer's report received. Correspondence from the Oro-Medonte Township was read, a reply to our concerns about the Park and the Parkette (site of our old town hall, now keep-



ing the Penetang Road Historical sign boards). The Township did not directly answer our concerns, citing "being short staffed" and admitting they "... did not cut back the sumacs". Members thought this answer lacking. Some even cried "oh oh". And now, dear reader, the news you've been waiting for, the C P Railway crossing on the Penetang Road is repaired - nay, rebuilt. It's like the Pharaoh said "Git 'er done" and they did. A new chunk of track, rubber inserts to hold smooth concrete sections, fitted in oh so carefully between and outside the rails, pavement seamlessly joined to the cement pieces. Now to drive over it is a pleasure. We must thank the Canadian Pacific Railway crossing rebuilding team, and inspired by the Egyptians maybe even put up a cairn or pyramid that will last 4000 years and say "Fixed November 2023 A.D." Next meeting December 19 2023 A.D.

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Obituaries



COLUMBUS, Jeffrey William

Passed away after a courageous battle with cancer at the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre on Friday, December 1, 2023. Jeff Columbus of Churchill in his 68th year. Beloved husband of Laurie Columbus (nee Alsemgeest). Dear father of Ryan, Joshua (Mina), and Casandra (Sam). Proud and loving grandpa to Adelaide. Pre-deceased by parents Charlie and Audrey Columbus. Brother of Tim (Dianne) Columbus and Ike (Cheryl) Columbus. Brother-in-law of Tonya (Ron) McConnell. Jeff will be fondly remembered by his nieces and nephews, Holly (Scott), Dan (Stephanie), Aaron, Adam, James, Holden and his great nieces and nephews. Son-in law to Martin Alsemgeest (Polly) and Margaret Alsemgeest (Richard). Jeff will be dearly missed by his many friends and extended family.

Thank you to the doctors and nurses at PMH and RVH for their compassionate care of Jeff.

A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale from 1 pm – 3 pm on Thursday, December 7, 2023. Funeral service in the funeral home chapel at 3 pm with a reception to follow at the Elmvale Legion.

If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Princess Margaret Hospital or the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre in Jeff’s memory.

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



ORR, William

Orr, William (Bill) passed away suddenly at home on Thursday, November 16th, 2023. Loving husband for 62 years of Virginia (nee Muir). Beloved father of Dawna Madore (Russ) and David Orr. Proud Grandfather of Will Madore (Kait), Ben Madore (Holly), Ayden Orr and Nathan Orr. Special Great Pop Pop (Grandfather) of Sadie & Jack Madore. Bill will be remembered for his love of community, an avid wood carver whose love of music inspired many to come to the shop and take up playing the fiddle.

As per his wishes, cremation has taken place, internment at Grenfell Cemetery.



SUTTON, Albert Thomas “Bert”

It is with heavy hearts we announce the sudden passing of Albert Thomas Sutton “Bert” surrounded by his family at the RVH in Barrie on Monday, November 27th, 2023 at the age of 70. Cherished husband and partner of 48 years to Malia. Loving and devoted father to Tarquin, Joseph, and Branwen (Phil). Bert was a lifelong friend to Ricky, Paul, Ted, Stan, Jimmie, Sue and Danny, to name just a few. He will be dearly missed by all extended family and his friends at Home Depot who made his time there as the “Appliance Guy” a memorable one. Bert's cottages were always a great place for a little work and a lot of fun. Family and friends were received for a visitation on Sunday, December 3rd, 2023 from 1 - 4 p.m. at Nicholls Funeral Home (330 Midland Ave., Midland). A funeral service took place on Monday, December 4th at 2 p.m. at Wyevale United Church (846 County Rd 6 S, Tiny). If desired, donations can be made in memory of Bert to Scouts Canada.



GOULD, Frances Lillian

Passed away peacefully at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie on Wednesday, November 22, 2023. Fran Gould of Tay in her 86th year. Beloved wife of the late Jim Gould. Dear mother of Rhonda Moreau (Silvio), Brenda Paquette, James Gould, and Randy Gould. Loving grandmother of 25 and great grandmother of 10. Sister of Johnny (Rosie), Joan (late Doug), Kay (Mike), and Billy (Sue). Fran will be fondly remembered by her many nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale from 1 pm - 4 pm on Sunday, November 26, 2023. Eulogies will be said at 3:30. Memorial donations in Fran's memory may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

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

IN MEMORY

In Loving Memory of the Late  
**Robert (Bob) Allan Ritchie**  
 July 21, 1942 - November 27, 2021

**Beloved husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather**

God called your name so softly  
 That only you could hear,  
 No one heard the footsteps  
 Of Angels drawing near.  
 The Golden Gate stood open  
 God saw you needed rest.  
 His garden must be beautiful,  
 He only takes the best.

*So loved, so missed, so very dear,  
 Joanne (Madill) Ritchie, Allan Jennifer,  
 Sherry, Tony, Anne, John Penny, Paula,  
 Darryl, Jennylynn.  
 Many grandchildren & great grandchil-  
 dren*  
 Pre deceased by his wife Clara Anne (Gra-  
 ham) Ritchie.  
*We thank extended Family, Friends and  
 Neighbors for their support over the  
 last 2 years. Bob loved you all dearly.*

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Obituaries



**NORTHEY, Mary Jill**

A valued member of our musical community has passed away suddenly at home on Sept 13 at the age of 67.

A native of Oshawa, Ontario, Jill Northey spent most of her life in the world of music. A graduate of McGill University, University of Toronto, the Royal Conservatory (voice and piano), with graduate work at the Royal Academy (London) and Westminster Choir College (Princeton), she studied with such world-renowned musicians as Alexander Brott, Vivian Langrish, Margaret Hillis, Eric Ericson, Wayne Ridell, Elizabeth Dawson and Jean MacPhail. Her performing and teaching careers took her from Montreal to London, England, to Abu Dhabi (U.A.E.) and back to Canada where she sang under Elmer Iseler in the Toronto Mendelssohn Choir and taught choral conducting at the University of Western Ontario.

An accomplished musician and educator, Jill taught music as a private teacher as well as in public and private schools around the world. She had extensive choral experience as a singer and a director of ensembles including directing several choirs all based in the Huronia area: the Huronia Choristers, the Huronia Children’s Chorus and Serenata. In 1992, as Director of Serenata, she was awarded the Canada 125 medal for outstanding contribution to the cultural life of the Huronia area. As a teacher, Jill dedicated much of her career to developing the skills of many young musicians, several of whom moved on to successful university training (in music and related fields) and interesting, vital careers.

In addition to her passion for music, Jill had a deep love of travel, adventure and the exotic which she fondly shared with her two nieces Madeleine and Simone. She regaled them with stories of her travels abroad including Europe, Australia and Turkey, making her own Turkish coffee or how in 1985, she obtained her pilot’s licence at the Oshawa Flying Club. Summer visits included trips to the Bowmanville zoo to see the “movie star” inhabitants and an elephant ride.

Her exuberant sense of mischief and joy would occasionally burst forth in a few quick toe taps or a jig. When visiting her sister in Ottawa Jill was always game to watch an old musical, a Hitchcock thriller or Mr. Bean.

With an active imagination and curious mind, Jill’s interests went well beyond music. They included gardening, homemade preserves, pickleball and her most recent passion, ping pong which gave rise to the Annual Summer Cottage Ping-Pong Tournament with her cousin Norah and the installation of a ping-pong table in Jill’s living room.

Most of all, Jill loved her students and her cats Henry, Alice, Genny and Bella, who were often an integral and wildly entertaining part of her music lessons. They even became the subject of stories, art and poetry.

Despite failing health, Jill made every effort to support her parents, Donald Alexander Northey of Fenelon Falls, ON and Winifred Florence (Sheppard) Northey of Lark Harbour, NL whom she loved deeply. She remained a dedicated and vigilant daughter throughout their final years.

Donations in Jill’s memory to the Alzheimer Society of Canada, the Canadian Red Cross Society or to Street Cats-Cat Rescue and Adoption Inc. would be most appreciated.

A memorial gathering is being considered for a later time.



Obituaries



**HALLYBURTON, Ronald “Ron”**

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Ron. Ron passed away peacefully at home with his family by his side on November 25th at the age of 65, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Lifelong friend and husband to Gaylene. Proud Dad to sons Thayne Hallyburton (Amberly Warren) Travis Hallyburton (Chelsea Ouellett) and Grampa to grand daughter Lennon Hallyburton “Little girl.” Loved son of Delores “Dolly” and the late Albert Hallyburton. Loved brother of Sue Buchanan (John), Debbie Melnyk (late John), Mike Hallyburton (Christine). Ron will be missed by his father-in-law Don Nigro (late Pam), Brothers-in-law Rick (Marilyn) Nigro, Adam (Tab) Nigro, and sister-in-law Andrea (Randy) Stavinga and his many special nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Ron grew up in Hillsdale and started working with his Dad at the family business, Hillsdale Service Centre, at the age of 14, eventually taking it over from his Dad and running it successfully for more than 30 years. His love of cars did not stop there.

Ron’s passion was cars, engines, anything that ran and went fast or he could make go fast. If he wasn’t working on a customer’s car, you would find him working on whatever his current project was at the time. In his younger years you could find him driving around in his 63 Ford Galaxie in the summer or ripping up the road on his Ski Doo (which, yes he had made faster) in the winter. Later it was his 70 Dodge Challenger racing at the quarter mile race track in Cayuga. When the boys were old enough you could find Ron at the race track tuning snowmobiles in the winter or stock cars in the summer. He was happiest doing complete engine and transmission rebuilds often in one night so the boys could race the next day and could he ever set up a carburetor (by ear). He would often say he “got to spend every Saturday night at the track with his family doing what he loved, what’s better than that?” to anyone that would ask why he did it.

For everyone who knew him as Ron, Ronny, Rockin’ Ronny, Ranger Ron or the Alley Cat he was always into supporting him family and going fast. Both things he accomplished at a high level. He will be missed greatly.

Thank you to Megan, the Bayshore staff and Dr. Cochrane for their kind and compassionate care.

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

If desired, donations in memory of Ron may be made to the Canadian Cancer Society.

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