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Springwater

NEWS

Edition 669 - January 18, 2024 Serving Springwater & Tiny Townships & Midland Areas

Customer # 0003684814 / Publication/Admail # 0040027838



CELEBRATE CURLING! Team Nicholls Team 2 Ontario Provincial Champions

Photo above: Team Nicholls, Skip— Owen Nicholls, Ottawa, Third—Drew Zettler, Unionville, Second/Vice—Tye McCutcheon, Elmvale, Lead—Kole O’Conner, Orillia and Coach—Sierra Sutherland, Ottawa

By Hank Nelson

Jan. 15, 2024 - In the fall of 2023, four boys with a passion for curling, connected through social media and registered as Team Nicholls for a U 18 Provincial Qualifier in Ottawa early December. There the team was undefeated and placed first in the qualify-

ing round, enabling them to provincial competition.

Returned to Ottawa at the RCMP Curling Club January 10-14 for Provincial competition. Eight men’s teams from throughout the province played a full seven game round robin, resulting in five wins two losses, placing second out of the eight teams. Semi

and final playoff games were played on Sunday,

Team Nicholls played three games and came out as Team 2 Ontario Provincial Champions. These boys are heading back to Ottawa for Nationals, February 4-10, 2024.



Photo above: Midland residents, Barb Howard (middle) with son Glenn Howard (world curling champ), on left, and Glenn’s wife Judy, on right. Barb turned 99 on Jan. 15, 2024 at the Georgian Village where forty people helped her celebrate.

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EDITORIAL by Linda Belcourt, Editor

I enjoyed covering the protest in Township of Tiny. The article is on the back page. The protest was about a new administrative building for the Township staff and residents but really it was about the hike in taxes. No one wants that. We want great services but no tax hike no matter what township we are in. I want to mention handsome Len and his lovely wife Shelley. They saved me a lot of money. Handsome Len filled my flat tire that many Tiny protesters pointed out to me. They could have towed me if money was their first goal in life. Shelley kindly pointed that is just what we do in a small community. Let's be kind to one another, we are in this together!

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CAA

It's Too Late to Stop Now:
A Van Morrison Tribute

Friday, March 1st, 2024 at 7:30pm

“It’s Too Late to Stop Now” is performed by a group of 7 highly experienced musicians led by Matt Weidinger (soulful singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist). Joined on stage by his Hammond B3, they create an extraordinary evening which features music from many of Van the Man’s extensive song catalogue including some of Van’s early work to those of his later years. Come out and watch this show as Matt and his band touch the souls of each of those in the audience allowing them the opportunity to share his passion and that of the band members.

Let yourself be transported to the poetic landscapes and soulful realms that define the essence of Van Morrison's artistry on Friday, March 1st at the Midland Cultural Centre. Reserve your seats now for a night filled with musical magic, nostalgia, and a heartfelt celebration of one of the greatest voices in the history of rock and soul. To Buy Ticket:
<https://www.tickettailor.com/events>

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Rick Gascon Steven Gascon



Class of 2024

Submit Your Hall of Fame

NOMINATION

Details: www.springwatersportsheritage.ca



2024 SPORTS HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

Become A Nominator

Don't miss your opportunity to nominate a 2024 Springwater Sports Heritage Hall of Fame Inductee! Springwater Sports Heritage (SSH) is pleased to advocate on behalf of the many outstanding and deserving Athletes, Builders and Teams that exemplify Springwater's attributes and would be worthy of your submission. With your support, they could join the outstanding 51 Inductees (20 Athletes, 18 Builders, 13 Teams) that have become part of the Hall of Fame Alumni over the past ten (10) years. The rich sports heritage these Inductees created has been documented and web archived on the newly designed SSH website (springwatersportsheritage.ca) for all to access, celebrate and aspire to. Put your candidate(s) on the path to being acknowledged and honoured.

Simple Straight Forward Process

Access the simple easy to use itemized form (with supportive material) on SSH's website. Locate the “Bulletin Board” on the website and click on “2024 INDUCTION NOMINATION MATERIAL”. From here you'll find an overview and the links to the forms and supportive information.

Enthusiastic Assistance

If you have a question or would like assistance preparing your Nominee's submission, consider the following:


- Email: “info@springwatersportsheritage.ca”
- Contact a SSH Board Member, Induction Chairperson (705-739-8154), Board Chairperson (705-322-1814)
- Springwater's Public Libraries (computer/internet, forms, personal assistance, printing, drop-off)
- Review current Hall of Fame Inductees for ideas
- Website for any updates

Submissions/Closing

- Email to: “info@springwatersportsheritage.ca”
- Drop off at any Springwater Public Library

Mail to/drop off:

Springwater Sports Heritage
2231 Nursery Road
Minesing ON
L9X 1A8



NOTE: 2024 Nominations close at midnight on March 31, 2024

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 Feb. 1, 2024

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

Springwater News prints 21,000 papers per edition. 19,650 are delivered by Canada Post to:




Publisher/Editor/Owner:
Linda Belcourt


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

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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Langman Designs, a New Business on Elmvale’s Main Street

Ultimately, Nicole Langman is not just a decorator; she is a visionary who possesses the ability to transform ordinary spaces into extraordinary ones. Her focus is to enhance the quality of life for seniors who want to stay at home but need some modifications. Her role is not merely about aesthetics but also about creating functional, comfortable, and inspiring environments that reflect the unique personality and lifestyle of her clients.

As you walk into the office of this new business you can feel emotions of warm comfort, that mixes vintage with modern. The colours are timeless. Nicole has a host of successful business mentors in the family eager to advise. One of the display areas show case a table from her late Oma that adds a part of her into the space. “I just wanted to have a piece of her here with me. “, said Nicole. She understands that

personal pieces give a space a sense of home. Creating a rich space that has meaning to a client is important to Nicole. The atmosphere in the office leaves a lasting impression.

Langman Designs does the work of residential design, but also acquiring grants to assist seniors to be able to stay in their homes longer. The design fees will be covered by the grant so it is win win for both Nicole and the client.

An interior designer’s role encompasses a broad spectrum of responsibilities. They meticulously plan layouts, select color palettes, choose materials, furniture, and lighting fixtures, and even design custom pieces to fit the client’s vision. All preliminary drawings are created in house at Langman Designs. Nicole has taken two years of interior decorating at Georgian and then furthered her education to Ad-

vanced Kitchen and Bath Designs. Attention to detail is paramount, as she ensures that every element within the space harmonizes with the overall design scheme.

Interior design is not just about having a great finished space. Technical proficiency is a key aspect of an interior designer’s skillset. They must have a solid understanding of building codes, safety regulations, and construction processes to seamlessly integrate their designs into the real world.

Nicole Langman is dedicated to staying up to date with the latest trends and innovations in design, constantly adapting and evolving her creative approach to meet changing client preferences and market demands. I urge you to drop in to 4 Queen St. W, Elmvale and view Langman’s designs firsthand.



Five New Members in Lions

Grateful for the opportunity to visit the Penetanguishene Lions Club tonight with Jerry Rebidoux. Jerry was honoured to induct 5 new members into their Club, amazing !!! Had the pleasure to chat with a few of the newer members over dinner, and their pride and excitement to officially be Lions members and the genuine interest to learn more (about our organization Lions International) was exceptionally up lighting.

Thank you Penetanguishene Lions Club for the warm hospitality, and your generous donation to the A12 Lions District Project, Lake Joe Mini Bus Campaign. Your commitment to serving your community is truly inspiring. Inducting 5 new Lions is a testament to your club's success and effective impact. Clearly, they're doing something right!

And - Shout out to the chefs /staff at Captain Ken’s on Main Street - dinner was amazing. If you’ve never been, highly recommend you give them a try. Looking forward to returning soon.



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- Stay Informed**
Participate
Be Prepared
- Learn about road closures, burn bans, water restrictions.**
Hear about community events, recreation programs and public meetings.
Receive alerts about pending and existing emergencies.

Seasonal Positions – Spring/Summer 2024

The Township of Tiny is accepting applications until 12:00 noon, Friday, February 2, 2024, from summer students interested in the following positions:

- Building Summer Student (1)
 - Environmental Steward (1)
 - Event Programmer (1)
 - March Break Day Camp Assistant Supervisor (1)
 - March Break Day Camp Counsellor (3)
 - Municipal Law Enforcement Admin Assistant (2)
 - Municipal Law Enforcement Officer (13)
 - Municipal Law Enforcement Shift Supervisor (2)
 - Parks Labourer (14)
 - Recreation Program Leader (13)
- Recreation Programmer (1)
 - Roads Admin Assistant (1)
 - Roads Engineering Assistant (1)
 - Summer Day Camp Assistant Supervisor (5)
 - Summer Day Camp Supervisor (2)
 - Water Dept Co-op 4 month (1)
 - Water Dept Co-op 8 month (1)
 - Waterfront Aquatics Instructor (1)
 - Waterfront Lifeguard (1)

These are seasonal positions and a valid class “G” or “G2” driver's licence and drivers abstract is required (except for the positions of Recreation Program Leader, Waterfront Lifeguard, and Aquatics Instructor).

For complete position details, including necessary qualifications and hourly wage rate, please visit: www.tiny.ca/employment.

Applicants should submit a detailed resume containing education background, past employment, references and work-related skills, experience or training. Preference will be given to students currently enrolled in either Secondary or Post-Secondary School and intending to return to school. Submitted applications should **clearly identify the position being applied for** and should be forwarded to:

Human Resources
The Township of Tiny
130 Balm Beach Road West, Tiny, ON L0L 2J0
Fax: 705-526-2372 | Email: humanresources@tiny.ca

Applications that do not clearly identify the position(s) being applied for will not be considered.

We thank all those who apply but only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Corporation of the Township of Tiny is committed to a barrier-free recruitment and selection process. Please inform us should an accommodation be required at any point in the recruitment process. Information received relating to accommodation needs of applicants will be addressed confidentially.

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.

Council Meeting Schedule and Time Change

January 31
5:30 PM

February 21
5:30 PM

March 13
5:30 PM

Township of Tiny
www.tiny.ca/events

Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings begin at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers and are open to the public. The 2024 Meeting of Council Schedule is subject to change. For complete details, visit the Community Calendar.

Don't wait for the **STORM** to get your **EMERGENCY KIT** ready!

Your kit must include:

- Water
- Food that won't spoil, such as canned food, energy bars and dried foods
- Manual can opener
- Wind-up or battery-powered flashlight
- Wind-up or battery-powered radio
- First aid kit

You must be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours.

Tiny

Be #WeatherWise

Winter Carnaval d’Hiver

Saturday, February 10, 2024
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Perkinsfield Park (43 County Road 6, South)

The Winter Carnaval d’Hiver has something for everyone!
Explore what's happening at www.tiny.ca/winter-carnaval.

2024 Dog Licences

Reminder to apply for your 2024 dog licence online at www.tiny.ca/doglicence or in person at the Municipal Office (130 Balm Beach Rd W).



Township of Tiny Council Approves the 2024 Budget

Submitted by Jacqueline Brown, Communications Officer

Jan. 11, 2024 - The Township of Tiny Council approved the 2024 Budget at the Regular Meeting of Council on January 10, 2024.

“The 2024 Budget responds to a number of challenges that municipalities across the province are facing such as contract increases, rising costs of insurance, growth pressures, and balancing the needs of our community,” said Mayor David Evans. “The township recognizes that our taxpayers are also faced with the rising cost of inflation, which is why Council directed staff to find efficiencies to reach a five per cent blended tax rate that supports township programs, services, and infrastructure. The team here in Tiny responded with a budget that continues to offer great services and programs for our residents and addresses the township’s infrastructure deficit”.

The 2024 Budget has a blended tax rate increase of 5.03 per cent* (*pending final education rate increase announcement) or a municipal tax rate increase of 8.19 per cent (7.15 per cent Operating + 1.04 per cent Capital levy increase) which equates to an increase of \$29.86 in the municipal portion of the tax bill for every \$100,000 in residential assessment.

2024 Budget Highlights:

Funding for these items was approved in the 2024 Budget.

- \$2.8 million invested in paving and road preservation improvements including:
 - o 5 kilometres of asphalt, 4 kilometres of tar and

- chip, 6 kilometres of micro surfaces, and
- o \$120,000 invested in climate change projects related to drainage resilience.
- \$1.9 million investment in water system infrastructure improvements including:
 - o \$900,000 for Lafaive System watermain replacement, and
 - o installation of residential water meters in Whip-Poor-Will and Cook’s Lake.
- \$1.6 million investment in beach and park amenities including:
 - o \$1 million for construction of the Toanche Pavilion funded in part by the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Grant, which will include a covered natural ice surface, washrooms, and a community room,
 - o \$130,000 for tennis court enhancement at Parkside Park in Balm Beach comprised of two dedicated pickleball courts, and replacing one of the tennis courts, and
 - o \$84,000 for the replacement of the playground at Tee-Pee Park.
- \$800,000 for major fleet equipment including:
 - o purchasing a new loader, tandem plow truck, and ¾ ton plow/service truck.
- Continued financial support for regional priorities including the Economic Development Corporation of North Simcoe, Severn Sound Environmental Association, Georgian Bay General Hospital Foundation, Family Physician Recruitment, Community

Reach, Wheels for Wheels, Cultural Alliance, and Virtual Care Physicians.

Figure 1 – Allocation of Municipal Tax Dollars

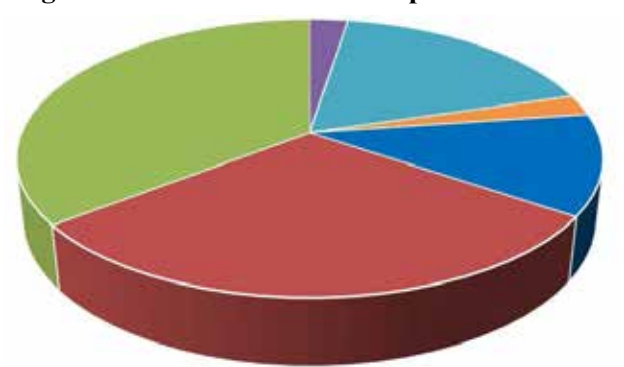


Figure 1: The Township of Tiny 2024 Budget allocation of municipal tax dollars to the township’s various programs and services.

The Township of Tiny 2024 Budget supports the municipality’s strategic priorities, which include:

- Sustainable Long Term Fiscal Management
 - Infrastructure Revitalization
 - Environment and Public Land Management
 - Organizational and Corporate Development
- Council of the Township of Tiny remains committed to long-term financial sustainability and fiscal responsibility that supports the services, programs, and infrastructure in Tiny. For more information on the 2024 Budget, please visit www.tiny.ca/budget.



A TINY SENIOR MOMENT

By Carol-Lynn Lepard, Township of Tiny, Senior Column Writer

In recent columns, we’ve talked about a few of the amazingly talented people who lead Township of Tiny’s recreational programs. Today, we’re offering information about three programs that are free of charge, to help you stay warm, keep active, and enjoy meeting other members of our community throughout the winter.

Would you like to learn a game of skill you can play all winter without hitting the ice while meeting new people and gliding into spring? If you’re looking for a change of pace and a place to make friends, it’s hard to beat Shuffleboard.

This game started in Britain in the 1500s, as a table game, similar to “push penny.” It developed into a sport that is now enjoyed by thousands of enthusiasts all across North America. For a lot of Canadians, curling may sound more familiar. Shuffleboard plays much the same, sliding a disc that is shot into to a target area where you keep making points, but have to protect them because your disk can be knocked off by competitors – and you play it without the ice, or the player having to slide at all.

It can be as strategic as chess, but at the Township of Tiny’s shuffleboard program, which takes place every Friday, at 12:30 p.m. at the Wyebriidge Community Centre, you’ll find that lots of people who will

help new players get started, so skill doesn’t matter, you just come for the fun. No fee is charged, but you do have to register. Visit the website, www.tiny.ca, or call the Recreation Department at 705-526-4204 ext. 290.

Another program that can help you keep fit and healthy is led by the Victorian Order of Nurses. VON fitness instructors and specially trained volunteers offer group exercise classes called SMART (Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together) to adults at all levels of ability. As well as meeting new people in our community this program offers low-impact exercise and emphasizes working at your own pace to improve strength, mobility, and balance. To register, call the Georgian Bay SMART office, at 705-355-2200 or arrive at your first session a few minutes early, Thursday afternoons 1:00-3:00 p.m., at the Township of Tiny Community Centre (91 Concession Rd. 8 E).

If you’re looking for a creative outlet, but don’t have the space for a home studio, the Women’s Cooperative Arts Circle may be your ticket to the enjoyment and learning of new techniques in painting and various forms of crafting, as well as practicing your skills. The program provides studio space for you to work individually, using your own supplies. It also includes monthly show and share lessons and mini-lessons given by other participants. This unique group includes women whose interest in art and en-

thusiasm for learning new approaches has brought them together to share their experiences and expand their commitment to the community. A recent addition is a changing art gallery, displayed in the Lafontaine Community Centre Hall (342 Lafontaine R. W.), where the 3.5-hour sessions are held Tuesdays starting at 10:00 a.m. For more information, visit the Township’s website, www.tiny.ca, or call the Recreation Department at 705-526-4204 ext. 290.

Programs, Activities & Events

Join in the fun at the Winter Carnaval d’Hiver, which will be held on Saturday, February 10th at Perkinsfield Park (43 County Road 6 South, Tiny). This is a day that offers something for just about everyone, from ice skating to live performances by talented artists, and much, much more. For more information, or to register for some events, visit the website, www.tiny.ca, or call the Recreation Department at 705-526-4204 ext. 290.



UFO’s, Aliens, Ghosts, Sasquatch, Yeti, etc. I have never seen one, at least not yet! AND ... I hope I never do see one. Scary!!

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But - I have seen HAIR REGROW, on a bald head!!

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No surprises, except for HAIR REGROWTH. If you are a bald alien, give me a call.

If there was anything I could say or do to convince you (It’s Tthe Truth), I would say or do it!

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COUNCIL MEETINGS

Township of Springwater: Jan. 17, 2024 at 6:30pm
Hybrid - In person and Virtual
Jan. 18, 2024 5:30 pm Elmvale BIA board meeting

Town of Penetanguishene: Jan. 10, 2024 at 7 pm
Jan.. 22, 2024 at 7:00 pm Committee of Adjustment
Jan. 29, 2024 at 8:45 am Penetanguishene Police Services Board



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Council Highlights

Council Highlights provide a brief overview of noteworthy decisions and presentations made at Town of Penetanguishene Council meetings. Upcoming meetings including agendas and minutes from the meetings are available on our website. This meeting is available for viewing on our YouTube Channel.

Council

- Mayor Rawson proclaimed January 2024 as “Crime Stoppers Month” and encouraged citizens of Penetanguishene to be a crime stopper.
- Council received a deputation from Matthew Lawson, President & CEO of Georgian Bay General Hospital.
- Council received a delegation regarding Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) from Michael A. Powell, PhD University of Alberta.
- Council adopted the minutes from Council and Special Council for December 13, 2023.
- Council received a memo from the Director of Planning and Community Development regarding the Proposed Tree Protection By-law (2024-02).
- Council received a memo from the Director of Planning and Community Development regarding the Ontario Land Tribunal Decision OLT-23-000727, 23 Don Street, Penetanguishene.
- Council approved the declaration of the second Saturday in June as “Transit Awareness Day”.
- Council approved the Committee of the Whole Report from December 13, 2023 with the exception of item 8 b. ii) being the County of Simcoe Call for Proposals Affordable Rental Development to be referred back to staff for additional information.
- Council passed 4 by-laws, including:
 - 2024-01 Being a by-law to Appoint an Integrity Commissioner For the Town of Penetanguishene
 - 2024-02 Being a By-law to prohibit or regulate the injuring or destruction of trees within the Town of Penetanguishene
 - 2024-03 Being a By-law to Authorize the Execution of an Agreement Between The Corporation of The Town of Penetanguishene and the Penetang Midland Minor Ball Hockey League for the use of the Penetanguishene Memorial Community Centre for the period April 1, 2024, to March 31, 2027
 - 2024-04 Being a By-law to Amend Zoning By-law 2022-17, as amended of The Corporation of the Town of Penetanguishene

Committee of the Whole

Committee of the Whole (Committee) facilitates the discussion and decision-making process of Council. The Committee is comprised of all members of Council who fully participate in debate and forward recommendations to Council for final decision. Items that are discussed in Committee of the Whole are to be ratified at Council’s next meeting.

Transportation and Environmental Services

- Committee approved the proposed 5 Year Sidewalk Maintenance and Reconstruction Plan.
- Committee approved the Midland Penetanguishene Transit Agreement.
- Committee approved the required additional funds for Enterprise Vehicle Upfitting.

Recreation and Community Services

No agenda items.

Planning and Community Development Services

- Committee received a memo from the Director of Planning and Community Development regarding the 4th Quarter Planning and Community Development Department Update.
- Committee received a memo from the Director of Planning and Community Development regarding the Planning and Community Development Department 2023 Year in Review.
- Committee received a memo from the Municipal Law Enforcement Officer regarding the Monthly Activity Report – December 2023.
- Committee approved staff proceeding with the development of an Alternative Notice Policy.
- Committee approved the direction to staff to create a Public Art Policy to be presented at future meeting.

Finance and Corporate Services

- Committee received a memo from the Deputy Clerk regarding the Southern Georgian Bay OPP Detachment Board for information.

Committee Upcoming Meetings and other community events are listed on our website.

The Town of Penetanguishene publishes Council Highlights after meetings. Council encourages its residents, businesses and stakeholders to stay abreast of Council news. Council Highlights briefly describe items of interest to the public. To view detailed information visit www.penetanguishene.ca or Connect Penetanguishene

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Across

- Long-lived Middle-earth denizen
- Kind of party
- Floral arrangement locale
- Nay’s opposite
- Met display
- What comes to mind
- Grab a bite
- Desk item
- Command to a dog
- Time of one’s life
- Stick
- The Mafia
- Carefree
- Used to be
- Till fill
- Popped in on
- _____ behind the ears
- Poop
- Clear
- Get through to
- Immeasurably large
- “Here’s the proof!”
- Prepare
- Be in the red
- Kan. neighbour
- Advantage
- Untrue
- Entirely

Down

- Ophthalmologist’s study
- Bound
- Luck
- Bring down
- Mesozoic, for one
- Kennebec River outlet, with “the”
- Climbing plant
- Recipe word
- Not an ocean
- Pitcher part
- Salad ingredient
- Puts on a show
- “War of the Worlds” event
- NY collection
- Mesabi output
- B&B part
- Bull’s lady
- Formula _____
- Like some prices
- Judicious
- Main is one
- Something entertaining
- The “_____” casino
- Where Bhutan is
- Verizon product
- Hot spot
- Rocks at the bar
- _____ off
- Confusion
- First prime

Town of Penetanguishene: Notice of Committee of Adjustment: January 22, 2024

This notice is to inform members of the public that the Committee of Adjustment of the Town of Penetanguishene will hold an electronic public hearing on Monday January 22, 2024 at 7:00 PM to hear the following applications:

- The land subject to this consent application (File No. B6/2023) relates to the property municipally known as 40 EDWARD STREET
- The land subject to this Minor Variance application (File No. A9/2023) relates to the property municipally known as 45 ROBILLARD DRIVE

The electronic public hearing will be hosted using the electronic “Zoom” platform. For instruction about how to participate, please contact Owen Taylor, Planner by email at otaylor@penetanguishene.ca or by telephone at 705-549-7453 ext. 251. Written comments are requested no later than January 14; however, all comments will be received and considered up until the evening of the meeting.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information regarding the application can be obtained by visiting the Town of Penetanguishene

Townhall at 10 Robert Street West, Penetanguishene or by contacting Owen Taylor, Planner by email at otaylor@penetanguishene.ca or by telephone at 705-549-7453 ext. 251. If you wish to be notified of the decision in respect of the proposed consent, you must make a written request to the Town of Penetanguishene Committee of Adjustment, 10 Robert Street West, P.O. Box 5009, Penetanguishene, ON L4R 2G2.

Owen Taylor, PLANNER,
otaylor@penetanguishene.ca

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705-322-1741

JAM NIGHT Thursday night

MIDHURST PHARMACY

Let’s Talk About... **Heartburn**

With Pharmacist Owners Jenna Loughheed and Carolyn Glover

Heartburn is a burning pain that occurs in the chest usually after eating or late at night. The pain may worsen with lying down or bending over. A bitter or acidic taste in the mouth may be experienced.

Heartburn is caused by stomach acid backing up into the esophagus (tube that carries food from your mouth to your stomach).

Certain foods may trigger heartburn: spicy foods, citrus products, tomato products, fatty meals, alcohol, chocolate.

Eating meals late at night and lying down within 30 minutes of a meal can increase the risk of heartburn.

As part of the minor ailments program, pharmacists can assess and potentially prescribe for heartburn. Certain red flags symptoms or history require referral for further investigation. Assessments are done by appointment. Same day appointments are available. Call us today!

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



Tiny Township Membership at Springwater Public Library

Springwater Library will be continuing library services for Tiny patrons as of January 2, 2024. The municipality of the Township of Tiny has contracted with area libraries in order to provide library service for its residents and will therefore pay for the membership of all in your household at ONE area library. For a membership at Springwater Public Library, Tiny residents must fill out a form (one per household) which will allow membership for one year from the date of the membership being activated. You can visit any branch of Springwater Library to fill out your form and become a member. Thank you for your continued support of our library and we hope to see you soon!

PA Day Craft

On the day off school, everyone is invited to come to the Elmvale and Midhurst Branches and pick up a take and make kit to make a penguin popper craft. Friday January 26. Available while supplies last.

Family Literacy Day

The Family Literacy Day theme in 2024 is "Let's Have a Party!" so we invite you to come to the library and make a fun snowman craft together! All ages are welcome. This craft will continue all day while supplies last.

Swap and Shop

Ladies ages 13+ are invited to bring five items in excellent condition (in-style clothing, purses, footwear, home décor, re-gifts, candles, sunglasses, jewelry etc) to trade. Tuesday January 30 at Midhurst Branch from 6:30pm-8pm. Cost \$10 a ticket. Hot drinks, dessert plus 10 chances to win a gift basket!

Cricut Class

In this two-part class, learn how to make a project with heat transfer vinyl. Bring your own t-shirt, bag or pillowcase and learn how to create a design in Cricut Design Space. Vinyl can be purchased from the library for \$2 per 12 x 10-inch square sheet. Monday February 5, 2pm-3pm at Midhurst Branch and Monday February 12, 2pm-3pm at Midhurst Branch. Registration required.

English Learners Club

All are welcome! Meet new people, increase your fluency and vocabulary. Mondays 1pm at Elmvale Branch. Registration required.



Photo above: (on left) Tom and Tim both worked for the Township. Photo: (on right LtoR, at back) Tom's children, Landon, Adrianna and Isaak, (at front): Tom's patient wife, Colleen and Tom who is six minutes older than his twin, Tim.

Written by Adrianna McGinnis

Feb. 13, 2024 - Tom McGinnis has retired!!! If you've ever been to any town within Springwater Township, it is likely you've had a conversation with the famous Tom of the Tim/ Tom duet.

Tom was a long-time employee of Dana Canada, an Axel Plant on Welham Rd in Barrie. In 2008 when Dana announced its shut down, it left Tom searching for a new job and, well, I think he found himself in the perfect job, working for the Springwater Township Parks and Recreation department. Tom started out by working in the arena which he loved, as he got to socialize with many familiar faces as they attended hockey practices, games as well as skating lessons. Tom then started working at yard 3, where his role was to perform maintenance, general repair and basic cleaning of various indoor and outdoor facility areas, such as pavilions, shelters, washrooms, parks, sports fields, the arena, library's, administration buildings, community halls and pretty much any building owned by the Township of Springwater. In the winter, Tom was in charge of plowing and shoveling all the municipal lots. Tom would be up at 3 or 4 in the morning to ensure the lots were clear before anyone arrived at them. Tom has come to the rescue on MANY occasions when people have been locked out or misplaced the keys to buildings in Elmvale.

Tom had the opportunity to work with many people both new to the community, and long-time community members. Tom always made them feel welcome and was there at any phone call to help them out. Tom



loved mentoring the co-op and summer students that worked at the Township, as this meant it was likely a new person that he could tell his usual jokes to.

But most of all, working a full-time Monday-Friday job allowed Tom to be present in his three children's lives. Between Landon, Isaak and myself, I think we've played any sport you can think of. Both on school sports teams, and extracurricular sports teams. You name it, we've played it. Having most evenings off, it allowed Dad to be one of our biggest supporters. Tom and Colleen would juggle who would take us where. From coaching us, to driving us and other teammates to games at different schools, to freezing their butts off all weekend long watching all of our hockey games. Dad and Mom rarely missed a game.

Although January 12, 2024 was the official end of Tom's chapter at the Township, don't worry, you'll still see him around. He still enjoys catching as many hockey games as he can at the arena, umpiring Friday Night Ball, helping out with Minor Ball and Minor Hockey when he can, and of course, continues to cheer us on at our games. I'm sure like his brother Tim, Tom will likely have 3 jobs lined up to start next week and of course I can't leave out his "girls" Stella and Mildred who I'm sure will be taken on endless amounts of walks throughout the day.

Congrats on your retirement Dad, it is very well deserved! Enjoy your time relaxing in the backyard with a cold Coca-Cola in hand.

Love Colleen, Adrianna, Landon and Isaak.

News & Events at the Penetanguishene Public Library

24 Simcoe Street 705-549-7164
www.penetanguishene.library.on.ca

Technology Sessions for Seniors

We will be holding technology sessions for Seniors interested in learning how to use Android and Apple Tablets. Must have a valid library card to participate. Android tablets – Jan 26 and Feb. 9 from 9:30-10:15
Apple iPad: Feb. 23, Mar. 2 and Mar. 22 from 9:30-10:15

Programming fee is \$2:00. Please register in person during library hours with your library card.

Wonka Themed Craft

Make a candy necklace and edible gumdrop tree. This program will take place on January 26th at 10:00 a.m. for ages 5-16 years. Registration in advance with a valid library card. Programming Fee: \$5.00

Lunch and Learn for Seniors

An interactive cooking class with Chef Jennifer from Fresh Baked Consulting will take place on Feb. 12th from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Enjoy recipes, healthy cooking and snacks, must have a library card to participate. Programming fee is \$5.00. Register in person at the library.

50 Reads 2024

Once again in 2024, you can participate in our 50 Reads. Read a selection of 50 books throughout the year with a chance to win a prize. This year we will

be featuring selections from Canadian Authors. We will also be featuring 15 French books for our French reading members.

Sign up with your library card and start your 2024 journey reading some great Canadian literature!

Spanish Lessons

Learn Spanish in 6 weeks! Starting Feb 6th, 3 levels of Spanish will be available. Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced. Register in person with your library card. Cost: \$30.00 per level.

New @PPL

Library Memberships

Haven't renewed your library card yet? Drop into the library with your picture ID and proof of address. Enjoy our e-services as part of your library privileges even while you are out of the country!

2024 Park Passes are available at the library. Sign out with your library card for one week and enjoy winter walks through the park.


Library Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting will take place on January 29th at 6:30 pm. Public is welcome to attend.

Town of Penetanguishene Winterama Buttons available for purchase at the library. Cost. \$3.00 each.



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Ontario Putting More Repeat Violent Offenders Behind Bars

Province giving police more resources to monitor and enforce bail conditions
Submitted by Ministry of the Solicitor General

Jan. 11, 2024 WHITBY — As part of the province's plan to protect communities, support victims of crime and keep people safe, the Ontario government is investing \$24 million over three years to help prevent repeat and violent offenders from committing serious crimes while out on bail.

"It is unacceptable that repeat and violent offenders are committing serious crimes while out on bail," said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. "By giving police the tools they need to track and arrest offenders who violate their bail conditions, our government is helping to ensure Ontario is one of the safest jurisdictions in Canada."

The investment is being delivered through the Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension (BCWA) Grant program and will help police services establish dedicated bail compliance and/or warrant apprehension teams to monitor high-risk individuals. It will also support new technology for a provincewide bail compliance monitoring system.

The BCWA Grant program is part of a \$112 million investment to strengthen the province's bail system and ensure high-risk and repeat violent offenders comply with their bail conditions. Other measures include:

- The creation of a Bail Compliance Unit within the OPP's Repeat Offender Parole Enforcement (ROPE) Squad
- The establishment of Intensive Serious Violent Crime Bail Teams within the court system
- A new provincewide bail compliance dashboard to help monitor high-risk offenders with the most accurate data possible

The BCWA Grant program will support 17 municipal police services, four First Nations police services and 12 Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) services.

Quick Facts

- Ontario is fighting auto theft by investing \$51 million over three years to help police identify and dismantle organized crime networks and put thieves be-

hind bars. This includes \$18 million to support new and enhanced crime-fighting measures.

- In November 2023, the Ontario government introduced the Enhancing Access to Justice Act, 2023 that will, if passed, make it easier for more victims of crime to sue an offender for emotional distress.

Quotes

"We are proud of the work we have done in collaboration with Toronto on the bail dashboard and appreciate the Ontario government's investment to expand it across Ontario. The sustained success of the dashboard and bail compliance initiatives will come from the continued support and investments to deliver and grow this important community safety program."

- Chief Peter Moreira, Durham Regional Police Service

"The Police Association of Ontario represents over 28,000 police service personnel that service 45 communities provincially. For years, members have been raising issues with Canada's bail framework and how it was failing to prioritize the safety of our communities. The Government of Ontario's continued support for increased bail compliance and monitoring will allow police to better ensure violent offenders out on bail are unable to commit further crimes and allow officers to continue to keep our communities safe."

- Mark Baxter, President, Police Association of Ontario

"Violent crimes committed by repeat offenders and individuals released on bail pose a significant risk to public and officer safety. The alarming level of re-offending, especially violence towards police in the execution of their duties, drives home the need for change. The Bail Compliance and Warrant Apprehension (BCWA) Grant program will enhance monitoring and tracking of those out on bail who pose the highest risk of committing further criminal acts and make our communities safer. Everyone in the province can get behind that."

- Deputy Chief Roger Wilkie, 1st Vice-President, Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police

"The City of Toronto, along with communities across Ontario, continue to deal with a troubling number of incidents of gun and gang violence, many involving individuals who are out on bail. We've heard from community members and organizations who have called for coordination between police, community supports, city resources and all levels of government to address this issue. This funding will support the initiatives our Service is undertaking in the area of bail compliance to ensure these high-risk individuals don't have the opportunity to reoffend. I would like to thank the Ontario government for continuing to support police services across Ontario and the victims of these crimes."

- Chief Myron Demkiw, Toronto Police Service



In these early days of 2024, I would like to say that it is my honour to continue to serve as the voice of Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte on Parliament Hill. Reflecting on the past year, I am proud of the work my staff and I have done to deliver on critical issues for the residents of BSOM.

I was pleased to connect with so many community members in our riding as we celebrated our much-anticipated local traditions such as seasonal festivals, fall fairs, parades, and tree lightings.

It is clear to me that the primary issue facing residents in our community over the past year has been the cost-of-living crisis. I have received countless emails, phone calls, and letters from constituents who are concerned about the rising costs of gas, groceries, and home heating.

My colleagues and I fought hard in the House of Commons to hold the government to account over policies such as the carbon tax, which makes life even more unaffordable for Canadians and pours fuel on the inflationary fire, keeping interest rates higher for longer.

In the fall, the Liberal government backtracked on their carbon tax program, by announcing a three-year temporary pause on the carbon tax for Canadians who use home heating oil. This temporary pause, which specifically targets Atlantic Canadians, will not provide relief for most residents in our community and the 97% of Canadians who use natural gas and propane to heat their homes.

In response, I was proud to second a Conservative motion which called on the Liberal government to axe the tax on all forms of home heating for all Canadians, regardless of how they heat their home.

While our Conservative motion was voted down by the Liberal government, my Conservative colleagues and I will continue to pressure the Liberal government to provide relief for Canadians struggling with the cost-of-living and cancel all planned tax hikes.

At every turn, my staff and I have remained focused on helping community members, their families, and local businesses navigate challenges and celebrate their successes. I am proud to represent our community on Parliament Hill and I will continue to discuss your concerns and suggestions with my colleagues in the new year.

I am excited to see what 2024 will bring for those in our community and across Canada.

Please remember that my staff and I are here and happy to assist you with any federal matters and you can contact us by calling 705-728-2596 or by email at Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca

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

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Photo above: The Sunday Mixed League winners were: Skip Tye McCutcheon, Vice Sue Henry, Second Hudson Styles (note: Heather Mephram spared in the final game), Lead Steve Adams.



Photo above: The Thursday Afternoon League winners were: Skip Diane Kenney, Vice Sue Henry, Second Shirley Richardson, Lead Heather Milligan.



Photo above: The Tuesday Afternoon League winners were: Skip Diane Kenney, Vice Bonnie Locke, Second Beth Arnold and Lead Anne Harrison.

Elmvale Curling Club Season Off to a Great Start

Submitted by Sue Henry
Christmas season started off on a high note for several Elmvale Curling Club league participants.
The 1st schedule of the Tuesday and Thursday Afternoon Women Leagues and the Sunday Mixed League celebrated their winners just prior to the Christmas break. Skip Diane Kenney had a notable start to the season by leading both her women teams to victory!
The Tuesday Afternoon League winners were: Skip Diane Kenney, Vice Bonnie Locke, Second Beth Arnold and Lead Anne Harrison.

The Thursday Afternoon League winners were: Skip Diane Kenney, Vice Sue Henry, Second Shirley Richardson, Lead Heather Milligan.
The Sunday Mixed League winners were: Skip Tye McCutcheon, Vice Sue Henry, Second Hudson Styles (note: Heather Mephram spared in the final game), Lead Steve Adams.
This team was presented with the Lou "Dad" Turner Memorial Trophy by Lifetime Elmvale Curling Club member, and Lou's wife, Doreen Turner.
The Sunday Mixed League is a multi-generational group who share a love of curling, the youngest in

their teens, the most senior in their 80's! Tye and Hudson play on the Elmvale District High School Team, and Tye is part of a competitive team that recently qualified for the Ontario Under 18 Championship. All age participation makes this league unique and very enjoyable.
"Fun with the Friends" is the goal of the Elmvale Curling Club, whether the play is competitive or recreational. Curlers of all ages and levels of experience are welcome. Participation is a great way to get involved in the community, and build relationships.
Wishing you "Good Curling" in 2024!

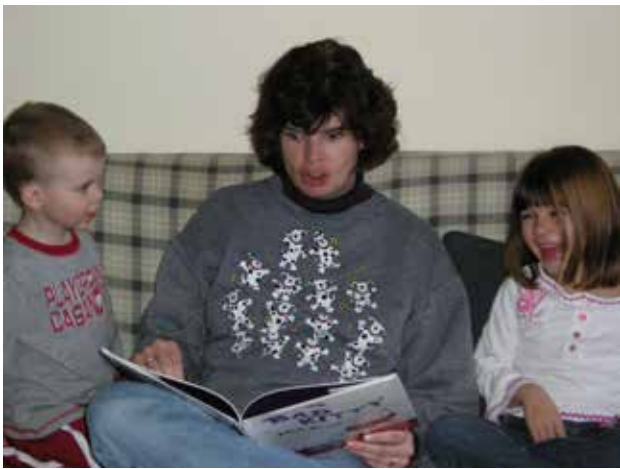
Midland Public Library Launches New Collection Celebrating the Legacy of Former Patron: Lindsey Martin-Penny



fan of mystery and crime fiction, enjoying the works of both traditional and contemporary authors in the genre. Not surprisingly, her favourite place in town was the Midland Public Library.

Jan. 11, 2024 - Midland, ON-Lindsey Martin-Penny was a life-long resident of Midland, a very creative person, and a lover of books and fierce promoter of reading and literacy. She was a great

In her memory and with the support of her family, we're launching Lindsey's Sleuth Shelf, a comfy corner to enjoy the newest mysteries and detective novels.
Join us on Saturday, February 3 at 2pm to celebrate this new collection and share our favourite mysteries and memories. Register for the free reception online at midlandlibrary.com or by calling 705-526-4216.
Lindsey died on July 21, 2022 from untreatable Clear Cell Ovarian Cancer. A special research fund in her honour has been established at the Princess Margaret Cancer Foundation: www.lindseyslegacy-fund.ca



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Penetang Kings
Provincial Junior Hockey Team
By James Robillard
Photos by Russ Zmijowskyj

Penetang Kings Tie 1 of 3 Games

Submitted by Jamie Robillard, Penetang Kings
The Penetang Kings played three road games as they returned from their holiday break, tying one and losing two in the North Carruthers Division of the Provincial Junior Hockey League play.
On Friday January 5th the Kings travelled to Alliston face the first place Hornets and dropped a 7-1 decision to the home side. Owen Collins netted the lone marker assisted by Owen VanDusen. Sawyer Lammle stopped 23 of the 30 shots fired his way in the Kings net, while Penetang only managed 17 shots on the Alliston goal. The Aim Power Performance of the Game went to defenseman Kaden Goggins.

On Saturday January 6th in Orillia the Kings battled to a 1-1 tie with the third place Terriers. Penetang led 1-0 on a goal from Carter Wilson with Kaleb Seaman and Isaak McGinnis drawing assists midway into the opening period. Orillia tied the game at the 12-minute mark of the second period on a goal from Dylan Palomaki. Lammle made 22 save in the Kings goal while Aiden Jerry stopped 27 Penetang shots for the Terriers. The Aim Power Performance of the Game was awarded to the Kings goaltender Lammle.
Finally, in Stayner on Thursday January 11th the Kings were edged by the second place Siskin 4-3. Cole Rumbolt, Harrison Holroyd, and Aiden Mac-

Donald shared in the Kings scoring with one goal each. Assists were collected by MacDonald, Rumbolt, Seaman and Lars Derstroff. Lammle stopped 28 of the 32 Siskins shots. The Kings had 17 shots on the Stayner goal. The Kings Aim Performance Player of the game went to forward MacDonald.
The Kings still sit in 5th place in the 9-team division, play their next home game on Saturday January 20 at 8:00 pm when they face the Huntsville Otters at the Penetanguishene Memorial Community Centre.
As the season reaches the three-quarter mark the Kings are hoping for a strong finish as they head towards the play-off in beginning in late February



Photo above: AIM Power Performer - Aiden MacDonald



Photo above: Isaak McGinnis & Kaleb Seaman behind the Stayner goal

Olympic Medalists Elizabeth Manley and Elvis Stojko to Perform in Wasaga Beach

Canadian Olympic medalists Elizabeth Manley and Elvis Stojko are the latest Canadian icons to sign on to help celebrate the Town of Wasaga Beach's 50th anniversary and the grand opening of the Town's new twin-pad arena and library.
The iconic figure skaters will take over one of the Town's new NHL-size ice pads and perform a Valentine's Day themed show called "Love is in the Air". The show is being creatively directed by local Olympic figure skating hero, Elizabeth Manley, and presented in partnership with the Wasaga Beach Skating Club. It will star Elvis Stojko and include dynamic performances by a selection of local figure skating talent.
The spectacular skating show will take place on February 14 during the Family Day long weekend, as part of the Town's Breaking the Ice Festival: A Celebration of Legends, Icons and 50 Years of Sunshine
"The Town of Wasaga Beach is thrilled to have Canadian Olympic medalists Elizabeth Manley and Elvis Stojko perform at our Breaking the Ice Festival, as part of our Town's 50th-anniversary celebrations," said Mayor Brian Smith. "We're also thrilled to have them showcase local talent while we celebrate the grand opening of our Town's new NHL-size twin-pad arena and library."
Riley Wimmer, a very talented local skater from Elmvalle will be performing during the show.
Tickets on sale now: www.50YearsofSunshine.ca



Photos above: Riley Wimmer will perform at the Love is the Air on Feb. 14,2024 at the new Wasaga Arena. Riley is a grade six student at Huronia Centennial Elementary School. She started skating at the age of 2 coached by her mom, Corrie Wimmer, head coach at Wasaga Beach Figure Skating Club.

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THE STORY OF DOUG DRYSDALE.

CHRISTMAS TREE GROWER AND SIMCOE COUNTY FORESTER

Written by Glen Ritchie
Doug Drysdale 1932-L, Interviewed at his residence at Tiffin Place in Midland, Ontario, Dec 15, 2023.

Jan. 13, 2024 - According to Family Search.org, Doug Drysdale is my 4th cousin, once removed. In other words to described my relationship to Doug, he is a descendant from my 3x grt grandfather OLD JOHN Ritchie's brother, OLD BILL Ritchie. OLD BILL Ritchie's oldest daughter, Mary Ritchie (1834-1921) married James Drysdale (1831-1901). James son, David Drysdale (1861-1926) married Elizabeth "Bessie" Elrick (1875-1926) and they had only one child, Howard Reginald Drysdale. (1907-1994).



Doug is the son of Howard Reginald Drysdale (1907-1994) and Marjory Mae Moriarty (1908-1976). His family was from the west end of Toronto near Bathurst and Wilson now called Downsview. Doug's grandfather, David Drysdale (1861-1926) married Elizabeth "Bessie" Elrick and farmed the N1/2 of Lot 7, Concession 6, Flos Township, Simcoe County. Before Doug's grandfather owned this farm, Doug's great grandfather, James Drysdale owned the N 1/2 lots 1, 2 and 3 of Concession 7. James had a large family and divided up many lots to give to his children. The Ken Ritchie, Alvin Greenlaw and Herman Lalonde sugar bushes were once owned by James Drysdale that lined the south side of Concession 8, east of Hwy 27. Herman's son, Tim is the only syrup producer left operating. David Drysdale's received part of lot 3 as an inheritance. He bought the farm on L7, C6 (see above) had the Grand Trunk Railroad running through it. Doug's father, Reg Drysdale, was born on this farm in a little white house. He could never understand why he had this little house and all of his uncles and cousins that occupied the 7th concession of Flos Township, had very large two story brick farm houses. Doug explained that when his dad had farmed, the beef herd had to be moved across the tracks to get to the pastures and many cows and dogs were killed from trains that ran along this rail line at its height of existence. Up to

17 trains a day used this line, transporting goods and services before the roads were built. When his dad was orphaned, his uncles thought he wasn't cut out



to be a farmer and ended taking charge of his affairs and then ended up auctioning the equipment off as well as the farm land. Doug mentioned that his dad didn't seem to not mind him not choosing a career in farming.

His dad, Howard REGINALD Drysdale, went as far as grade twelve in Elmvale and wanted to further his education. He had to take the train into Barrie, Ont. to attend grade 13. He boarded in Barrie at times during the winter months, not having to travel by train back and forth back to where he was living. After achieving his grade 13, he attended the MacDonald School in Toronto to become a teacher. At the age of 19 in 1926, he taught in a one room school on the Base Line and 10th concession of Flos. His placement at the Base Line School coincided with the opening of the Provincial Tree Nursery in Midhurst, also in 1926. Reg took an interest in forestry and contacted the superintendent of this tree nursery to have his one room school students visit this nursery. The nursery had an over-supply of pine tree saplings and gave each student, a thousand saplings. Realizing the situation, the parents were told that the kids can do what every they wanted with these tress. He took his inheritance and decided to purchase two pieces of property to plant these trees. He purchased the N1/2 of L1, C7, Flos in 1926 & 1927, and planted these trees on about 20 acres on one of the parcels of land. This is directly across the road from Ritchie Forest Products once owned by Robert 'Bob' Ritchie. The maple sugar bushes operated by Ken Ritchie, Wally Greenlaw and Tim Lalonde are also on this road. In the preceding years, Reg also purchased land near Phelpston, Ont. His father also had used his inheritance to buy new cars every other year. He figured it would draw the attention of the ladies. While attending what was then called, 'Normal' school, in Barrie, his classmate, Marjory Moriarty, turned out to be his future bride. Doug explained that his dad and mom were never really serious about each other in school. Doug described her as a very popular girl that could play piano. She came up to Flos Township to teach at Ushers School which was located on the 8th concession of Flos and the 5th sideroad which later became Ushers Sideroad. She taught there for two years around 1928 & 1929. She then moved to Barrie and taught at Cundles Street for the next two years. The both of them would eventually meet up and talk about teaching. Ushers School was the next concession to the north of Doug's father's family farm. Doug's parents were married in August of 1931 and Doug was born in 1932. Doug's parents moved to York Township, just west of Toronto to teach the same year Doug was born. Reg had taken summer school courses for two years to become a shop teacher. When Doug became of school age, his father thought it wasn't a good idea to have his son in the same school where he taught. He transferred to a school in Toronto. This was during the depression

years and Doug's father thought that due to a lack of money to pay shop teachers, his position as a shop teacher was in jeopardy. He would scrounge pieces of lumber from just about anything including cedar rail fences to provide material for his students. Reg Drysdale taught for 47 years.

Doug's mother, Marjory Moriarty, came from the north of Bradford area called Coulsons Hill. Through Doug's mother's family, John Coulson owned a farm and donated land for two churches and a cemetery. He built a hotel on this site around the 1920's. This site was used by travellers coming from Toronto going north. This livery stable provided accommodations for the travellers and the teams of horses. Doug would spend summers at his grandfather Coulson's farm as a young boy. He remembers the building being boarded up but recalls a very long brass rail used at the bar and numerous whiskey bottles stored in the basement. The bedrooms were very small. In 1957, Doug was a Forester with Ontario Lands & Forests. He met the curator who was in charge of building the Black Creek Pioneer Village in Toronto. The curator wanted to move this abandoned hotel to Toronto but it was just too huge to move. It sat idle until the Highway Department demolished it in favor of a new highway. It was too close to the road. Doug tells the story of the valuable highly sought after empty whiskey bottles by antique collectors, that were stored in the basement ended up being smashed upon demolition.

Doug's mother's family (Moriarty) had numerous girls in her immediate family. When Doug was at his grandfather's farm in his teenage years, these girls would pick him up and off they went to dances in the Bradford area. Doug didn't care where they were going because he was in his glory being in the company of all of these girls. One of his mother's cousin's, Connie Moriarty, married an Elmvale dairy farmer. Don and Connie MacLean's prefix was Condon Holsteins. Doug tells the story about his great grandfather, Patrick Moriarty (1820-1879) of when the Catholic Church allowed mixed marriages for about a ten year period during the mid-1800's. The condition was that the Protestant males had to convert in order to marry the Catholic females. Doug's great grandmother, Agnes Coulson (1820-1886) family were Presbyterians. These Coulson daughters would attend church with their mother in their horse drawn carriage. His great grandfather didn't think this was proper having the mother drive the carriage to church so he became a Presbyterian and he drove the carriage of these Coulson women to church. Doug joked about the fact that his great grandfather's brothers were all Catholic and you better not say anything bad about the Catholics!

During WWII, there was gas rationing and there was a severe shortage of Christmas trees in Toronto. The tops of pine trees would be sent to Toronto from a pulp and paper mill north of North Bay, Ont. Reg believed that there was a market for commercially produced Christmas trees and bought property near Cookstown in 1945 and started planted pine seedlings. This was the beginnings of the Drysdale Tree Farms. It took about 5 to 6 years to grow a mature Christmas tree. While planting these trees, a bulldozer broke through the bush, much to the surprise of Doug's father. The Highway Department ended up taking 12 acres off his tree farm in around 1946 and it ended up being part of the Hwy 400. Reg had paid \$400.00 for this 50 acre parcel and was paid \$400.00 for the land that the Highway took. At first, Reg only considered this tree growing business a hobby. A few years later he became very keen in the business of growing trees commercially and he sought out information on how to grow and care for them. There was another grower in New York State that also was growing Christmas trees. Together, they would exchange letters and make phone calls to discuss techniques on growing Christmas trees.



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This person was a professor, Joshua Cope, at Cornell University. Reginald Drysdale was nominated by Don Bell, Warden of Simcoe County, around the mid 1970's for the Simcoe County Agriculture Hall of Fame. His nomination was declined but ended up being inducted into the Ontario Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1997 for his contribution to pioneering the Christmas trees industry. Reg was very active for organising the Christmas Tree Association. He had sought out growers that were in contact with the different levels of government seeking information on where to buy seedlings and how to grow them. Reg saw a lot of potential in this growing industry and sought out interested growers seeking information. The Association of Christmas Tree growers began around the early 1950's. There was no information on when or how to prune them. Doug remembers when he was in high school pruning trees with just a hand held clipper, grass clippers and knives.

Doug was about 13 when he started to help his father on their Essa Township farm. At the age of 19 in 1951, Doug enrolled into the Forestry Program at the University of Toronto. Doug convinced his father to purchase 117 acres of what he described as a "hard scrabble farm" in Whitechurch-Stouffville, owned by Howard Pegg. This farm had cattle on it and an undependable crop growing on it. They decided to plant Scotch pine trees and turn it into a Christmas Tree Farm. It was around 1960, The Drysdale's had heard about cut-your-own Christmas Tree farms in the United States. Doug approached a neighbour and fellow Christmas tree grower, Keith Horton, about starting a cut-your-own Christmas Tree operation that would be opened to the general public. This particular location turned out to be spectacular. These two businesses created 'quite a few traffic jams' and the police were not impressed during Christmas time. In 1968, Doug purchased another 26 acres near the existing site fronting the St. John's Sideroad to grow more trees. While expanding the tree growing operation, it was only a hobby for Doug and his dad.

The first crop was progressing along well and a vegetable grower from the Bradford Marsh knocked on their door asking his father if he would be interested in providing about 1000 Christmas trees to a 'Krogers' grocery store in Cincinnati, Ohio? Peter Vertike provide vegetables to this Kroger chain and they had heard that there were Christmas tree growers in Ontario and would Peter find out if they were interested in shipping trees to them. Krogers initially wanted 1,000 trees but they only were able to ship about 800 trees. They sold so well that Kroger's wanted 10,000 trees the following year. The Doug and his father Reg realized that they could not possibly supply the requested 10,000 trees Krogers wanted and this is when Doug explains that at the age of 19 and while in University he became involved in rounding up the trees for Peter VanTike from the growers that had joined the Association his father had founded. Christmas trees were shipped beginning the end of October. The first trees shipped to Krogers were not baled. They were just thrown into the back of trucks. Later, Reg would invent a baling machine to wrap up the trees. One of the early machines was a boat winch with a truck tire rim with bearings from a roller skate.

Reg was the treasure for the Christmas Tree Growers Association for 37 years. He never wanted to be the president nor was he ever the president of this Association. He felt that if remained as secretary, he

would keep this association alive of about 100 members.

Realizing that Reg was already inducted into the Ontario Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1997, Simcoe County followed suit after rejecting Warden, Don Bell's initial nomination of him back in the 1980's and he was finally inducted into the Simcoe County Agricultural Hall of Fame.

Before graduating from University, Doug's job was mapping the line of sight and the height of the land for the Planting and Development Department of the University involving the watersheds in Simcoe County for the Conservation Authority. Each township in Simcoe County had to supply a detailed study of the watersheds that emptied into the rivers, creeks and other bodies of water.

Doug married his high school sweetheart, Joan Clifton, of Toronto on Valentine's Day in 1953. They raised their family in Don Mills and relocated to live full time at their family home on the Drysdale Tree Farms in 1980. Doug and Joan had celebrated 67 years of marriage together. They raised three children, Douglas, Donna and Diane. Sadly, Joan passed away in July of 2020.

Doug worked for the Simcoe County Lands and Forests starting in 1957. He held two degrees in Forestry. He was Chief of the Timber Branch. He also held the position of General Manager of Tree Improvement for the Forest Management Tree Institute. He bought property best that suited for growing trees and at its height the business, it had owned 1200 acres and it's been downsized to about 800 acres. Doug had spent 33 years with the forestry branch.

In 2012 after owning the Christmas Tree Farm on Durham Rd 30 for 62 years, it was time to close the Whitechurch-Stouffville operation. Doug said it was a hard decision to make. After all, Doug and his father were now two generations of tree growers. The Drysdale family donated this 136 acre property to the York Regional Forest. The land is adjacent to the Hollidge Tract Accessible Trail on Hwy 48 and it is a nature trial her enthusiasts.

The business that the Drysdale's started has been named the best Christmas tree farm twice by the National Christmas Tree Growers Association. The farm has also been named the best Christmas tree grower in Ontario quite a few times.

Doug mentioned a few Flos families that help him prune trees in the Phelpston area. These included the McGill's, Elrick's, Craddock's, Mike Fallon and the Marley boys. Doug recalls a lad named Frank Craddock who had worked for him. He was the only person that could pick up a cut tree and shack it by the stump. Doug tells the story of this Frank Craddock from Phelpston who became a police cadet and became a motorcycle policeman.

The property where the Drysdale Tree Farm now operates is about 400 acres and Doug's son, Douglas and his kids operate the business as of this day in 2023. Doug is in his 92 year and still enjoys his independence of driving his car back and forth to his son's tree farm business near Egbert.

THE HUGH CREIGHTON RITCHIE CONNECTION

Doug's paternal grandfather was David Drysdale (1861-1926) who married Bessie Elrick (1875-1926) and farmed L15 C6 Flos Township near the Elliott Sideroad. Bessie Elrick was Doug Drysdale father's aunt. As a teenager at the age of 14 doing the summer months from being off from University, Doug was

living in a tent on his grandfather's property tending to seeding Red Pine trees during 1926-1927, when a severe thunder storm blew in during the night. The Coughlin Farm was next door and the horses were spooked and stampeded passed Doug's tent that was set up in the bush and along a pathway. Thinking that this was not a good idea living dangerously in a tent, he ended up living with his cousins, George and Merle Elrick who owned the neighbouring farm of his grandfather's farm on the corner of the 6th Concession of Flos and the Elliott Sideroad.

About the same time era, Doug remembers a relative named Hugh Creighton Ritchie who had played as a lineman and kicker for the Varsity Blues in the very 1st Grey Cup game held in the Varsity Stadium, at the University of Toronto. 'Bull' Ritchie, as he was nicknamed visited his family in Downsview. He remembers Hugh as a very big and tall man. Doug referred to him as, Uncle Hugh. His dad's (Reg) nephew was this Hugh Creighton Ritchie. They would talk about football. Hugh had found a teammate in the phone book and this teammate came to visit him. When this friend answered the phone on the other end, Doug overheard (Hugh) saying, "Get your foot out of the way"! The two of them laughed and giggled sharing stories of their University years. The story in the Barrie Examiner from Nov, 2012 tells the story of how Doug remembers visiting George & Merle Elrick's farm with his family and his relative he called, 'Uncle Hugh'. Playing football in the front of the barn, Hugh kicked the football right over the roof. Hugh became a football player by chance and loved the game so much he stayed in school and received two engineering degrees while playing for the Varsity Blues. Doug told the story that Hugh donated his boots to the Hall of Fame. Hugh was an engineer in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan but moved to New Westminster, BC to retire with his wife, Louisa (nee Elrick). Hugh came back to Flos/Elmvale to visit his Ritchie, Elrick and Beardsall nephews and cousins in the summer of 1958. Hugh died the following year and is buried in Surrey, BC.



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Photo: “These Hands Do No Harm” Activity, showing the painted hands of HTH staff, and the women and children in our service

By Amanda Wagner, Community Development Officer, HTH

Jan. 8, 2024 - On December 6th, 2023, the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women, La Maison Rosewood Shelter hosted a vigil to remember the lives of the 14 women murdered at L'école Polytechnique, and the 58 women and 5 children that were murdered in Ontario in 2023.

Just ten years ago, this vigil remembered 28 women, and the alarming rise in fatalities is a startling illustration of the epidemic of gender-based violence. The Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses reported that 74% of the femicides in 2023 were committed by an intimate partner, family member, or by men known to the victim. This is not a crisis without a face; gender-based violence continues to happen because we live in a culture that allows and enables violence to continue.

On the heels of the developments in the femicide cases of Ashley Schwalm (41) and Kinga Kristen (55) of Collingwood, we urge community members to take tangible steps to end gender-based violence.

At Rosewood's vigil, attendees were invited to participate in the activity “These Hands Do No Harm.” People were invited to write out an action that they were going to take to end gender-based violence on a cut-out hand. This cut out could then be taped to a banner that was covered in the painted handprints of



Photo: The community came and showed their support during Rosewood Shelter's Annual December 6th Vigil.

Huronion Transition Homes' staff, and the women and children in the programs.

We call on the community to remember the actions you committed to:

- Voice the need for safe, affordable housing, safe supply, and a [guaranteed] basic income
- Advocate for the voices of women and children who are not able to use theirs
- Write a motion to Council to revitalize affordable housing initiatives
- Share my story. Stand up. Speak up. Show up.
- Never commit, condone, or stay silent about gender-based violence
- Speak out against gender-based violence
- Connect and collaborate with agencies doing the work already

Haily MacDonald, Acting Executive Director of Huronia Transition Homes, reminds us that “we owe it to these women whose lives have been taken away, who have had their children robbed from them. We owe it to them to make a difference, to show them that they are valued, loved, and cherished. But we also owe it to the women in our shelters, and in our programs, because they know what it feels like to just get away.

“Our voices as an organization are strong, but our voices along side the voices of the community are stronger.”



You're invited! Township of Tiny's Winter Carnaval d'Hiver

Submitted by Jacqueline Brown, Communication Officer

Jan. 8, 2024 - The Township of Tiny is inviting the community to the annual Winter Carnaval d'Hiver for a day filled with fun winter activities, taking place on Saturday February 10, 2024 at Perkinsfield Park (43 County Road 6, South) from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Here is a brief look at some of the scheduled activities:

- Skating Performance by Elmvale Skating Club – 11:30 a.m.
- Outdoor Public Skate– 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. (bring your own skates, or borrow skates from the township)
- Free Pancake Lunch (while supplies last) donated by Phil's Catering – 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Bex in Motion Fire Performance – 12:30 p.m.

Activities that can be enjoyed throughout the event include the mobile snow tubing hill provided by Snow Valley, the Tiny Township Lions Club mini stick arena, carnival games, s'mores and Bannock roasted on the fire, snowshoeing, or join the Midland Public Library, Springwater Public Library, Wye Marsh, and Severn Sound Environmental Association for a variety of children and family activities!

“Winter Carnaval d'Hiver is a uniquely Tiny event that provides an opportunity for families and friends to come out and enjoy winter in our community,” said Mayor David Evans. “We are grateful to all of our sponsors, volunteers, and community partners that consistently make this event better and better every year. We can't wait to celebrate with everyone over some delicious pancakes and hope you enjoy all of the winter activities and performances we have lined up”.

For more information about the Winter Carnaval d'Hiver, visit www.tiny.ca/winter-carnaval.

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HEARTY POTATO SOUP

COOKED UP HEALTHY WITHOUT THE CREAM

A steaming bowl of soup on a cold winter's day is one of life's simple pleasures. Delicious, hearty and filling, this healthier version of the classic cream of potato soup is easy to prepare and also good for you. Double the recipe and freeze half for future lunches and dinners.



Jo Knows Nutrition by Joanne Nijhuis

- Ingredients:**
- 6 cups (1500 ml) potatoes, chopped into 1inch (2.5 cm) pieces
 - 1 tablespoon (15 ml) olive oil
 - 2 small or medium onions, diced
 - 1 cup (250 ml) thinly sliced carrots
 - 1 cup (250 ml) thinly sliced celery
 - 2 cloves garlic, minced or ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) garlic powder
 - 2 teaspoons (10 ml) fresh rosemary or ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) dried
 - 1 teaspoon (5 ml) dried thyme
 - 5 cups (1250 ml) chicken or vegetable broth
 - 1 cup (250 ml) milk, dairy or plant-based
 - ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) salt, optional
 - Freshly ground black pepper
 - Freshly grated parmesan or cheddar, optional
 - Chopped chives, optional

- Instructions:**
1. In a large pot, heat olive oil on medium heat. Sauté the onions, carrots, and celery for about 5 minutes until the onions become translucent. Add the garlic and sauté for one more minute.
 2. To the pot, add the potatoes, broth, rosemary, thyme, salt and pepper. Bring the soup to a boil.
 3. Reduce the heat and let the soup simmer for 30 minutes or until the potatoes are fork tender.
 4. Once cooked, stir in the milk until combined.
 5. Blend the soup smooth with an immersion blender or regular blender.
 6. Serve hot with a garnish of chopped chives or freshly grated parmesan or cheddar cheese. 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 and online via Zoom. For more information, email Joanne at jo.knows.nutrition@outlook.com



DID YOU KNOW?
Potatoes have a bad reputation for their carb content, but this vegetable is actually quite nutritious and low in calories if prepared correctly. In addition to carbohydrates, potatoes are a good source of fibre with the skins left on and they are high in potassium and vitamin C. How potatoes are prepared and what they are paired with are the real reasons potatoes are not considered a healthy choice. Clearly, consuming potatoes as potato chips at home or as fries when dining out adds extra calories. This is especially true when paired with pop, chicken wings or other fried foods. Boiled or roasted, potatoes should be celebrated for their low cost, nutritional value and versatility.

Bearbells by Leslie Noonan



Jan. 12, 2024 - Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!! Finally, some lovely winter hiking weather, at least until tomorrow when the wind starts howling through the trees and my car ices over. For today, the air is crisp and the snow is light and fluffy, perfect for a hike through the bush. I left my snowshoes

at home, as the snow layer was not thick enough and I risked tripping over the many roots and branches. The snow may be fluffy, but surely not deep enough to cushion an awkward stumble onto my face.

The Ganaraska trail has many little used trails that travel through our area. I headed out to Reeves Road just north of Vasey Road in Tay Township. There is no parking, so I gingerly pulled off the side of the road, conscious of the deep drop into the ditch below, partially hidden by the piles of snow. The trail itself is easy to miss, and found on the east side of the road in the trees is a small sign indicating that this is private property allowing foot traffic along the Ganaraska trail, however hikers should note that **DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED**. I gingerly inched down the steep ditch to a wooden plank across the icy water and up and into the forest trail. No one has been out here before me and the snow is a blank white canvass, only marred by the tiny prints of mice and the occasional rabbit. Almost immediately the trail moves to the top of an old beaver dam, which I follow for about 300 meters. It is not difficult to navigate and is stable enough that you don't need to worry about falling through. The trail then turns south and heads into a low lying forest that is particularly wet. Several times I had to leave the trail to find a way around flooded areas. The forest is not large however, so there is no fear of getting lost.

Once you leave the forest you will need to watch



for the white blazes on the trees, as the trail heads north along the tree line next to the farmers' fields. The fields are more treacherous, as the frozen clods turn your ankle and several times I had to do some quick foot work to avoid a spill. The trail meanders along fields and pastures and woodland forests, gradually heading to Hogg Valley. This is farther then I



wanted to go today, but it is a beautiful hike in the late spring, when the land is drying but the trilliums are thick and lush. For today, I returned the way I had come and prepared to hunker down for the weekend's wild winter weather.

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Winter certainly arrived with a vengeance this past weekend. After a very mild start to the year, the significant drop in temperature along with the wet heavy snow followed by the squalls means winter is here, for at least now. The long-range forecast is indicating that it will get milder again next week but as we all know, the weather can and will change.



One thing that this cold weather has done for the community is that it has allowed for the ice rink to get established. Thanks to Chad and the other volunteers, the ice has been made on the pad and the kids can skate. Unlike some rinks, the Anten Mills rink does not have established times for recreational skating or shinny hockey. It is up to the users to remember to respect each other and share the ice as they can. If the weather does turn mild, please remember to stay off of it and hopefully we can get a longer season than last year. As well, if you are going to use the rink, help is always appreciated. Shovels are out and cleaning the snow off is an easy task. Flooding is done generally around 9PM so feel free to stop by and see what assistance can be offered. The lights do go off at 10PM and the rink house is not available for skate changing but there are benches available.

Have you noticed that we have daylight now until after 5PM. The sun won't set before 5PM for another 9 months which is nice to have. On November 6 the sun will set at exactly 5PM which coincides with the return to Standard Time on November 2.

It was great to see an amazing turnout for the first

Knit and Crochet Together on Tuesday afternoons.



The group quickly came together enjoying each other's company and sharing and honing their skills. The group has established that they would like to continue the Anten Mills tradition of supporting the Elmvale and District Foodbank but with a bit of a twist. Instead of collecting food or money, they are requesting anyone attending to bring personal products preferably for women. Items such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, deodorant are also needed by the food bank but are not often collected so they felt that this was a great way to support them. The group meets on Tuesday afternoons

at 1PM to 3PM at the Anten Mills Community Centre and is open to everyone regardless of your knitting or crocheting abilities so feel free to join them.

On a trip along Wilson Drive this past weekend there was a new large sign posted at the entrance to the Estates of Anten Mills subdivision. The sign was noting that lots were available from the low \$600,000's and custom homes could be built. A check on First-view Homes website is indicating homes on lots for sale starting at just over 1.2 million dollars. This subdivision has been under development now for several years and hopefully they have the drainage issues resolved. It should also be noted that the roads all have names now. Interestingly enough they still reflect in most cases nature with them being named Winterberry Drive, Cottonwood Street, Whitecedar Street and Red Maple Road. No streets with Pine in this subdivision. It will be interesting to watch and see how quickly this part of our community gets built and how long it will take.

If you have travelled along Golf Course Road you may have wondered about the small lake that is at the bend in the road. From the A History of Vespra Township book, we know that the lake is officially known as Hendrie Lake. The Hendrie area is part of the Anten Mills community. The lake we now see was known as the White Lake; there were in fact two lakes along that area joined by a channel with the southern lake known as Black Lake. The lake that we see was the larger of the two and apparently had a whitish-gray colour which gave it the name. It was thought to be bottomless and in years past was a local source of activity. More to come about the lake in future columns.

A reminder that euchre is offered on Thursday evenings at the community centre starting at 7PM and all are welcomed. In a previous column it was noted that cribbage would also be offered at the same time but unfortunately this is on hold for the time being.

That's all for this week, THANKS for READING, BE WELL AND STAY SAFE.

Exclusion Games

Jan. 14, 2024 - A phenomenon that has often puzzled me is the way in which schoolchildren, (more often girls) may decide to exclude certain children from their activities. This is not simply a matter of staying away from children who are aggressive or difficult to get along with, but rather seems to be part of a pattern of power, in which an "elite" group decides who may or may not play with them on any given day. It's a little like a "recess lottery" to see who will be the chosen ones.

This is certainly not a new phenomenon, but it seems to be accepted as a "given" over which all are powerless. It might just be time to change our awareness about this, and to help children become aware of an unconscious pattern that they are perpetuating. On one level we can say that this is simply the way children are, but on another level, if we look closely, we can see that they are playing a "discrimination game." This behavior is practicing shutting others out, simply because it is decided that they are not

"in" today. Sometimes individuals are shut out because there is a disagreement, and if children do not know how to resolve disagreements, then the path of least resistance is to avoid the whole thing by dispensing with the person. Frankly, this all sounds pretty scary to me, and I'm not sure that this is a practice that we should be dismissing as child's play. It is too easy for this to become a lifelong pattern; too easy then to shut others out because of superficial differences, or because we do not understand their language, culture or point of view. On the playground, when children are systematically excluded, the pain of this experience eclipses the purpose of schooling; for it becomes difficult for them to concentrate on learning. The pain does not stop when the bell rings. One of the reasons children have not been helped to transform this process is because in general, adults

have not transformed it in their own lives. While perhaps more subtle, the pattern plays itself out daily in neighborhoods and offices everywhere. Change will only come when we understand that judging others is destructive. We will need to learn that every human being has value, and to love ourselves enough that we do not need to tear others down to make ourselves feel better. The universal playground is huge, and believe it or not, we are all on the same team. There is room for everyone, and no reason in the world why everyone can't play. Let's help the children to learn this. Better yet, let's show them. *Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, CDs or MP3s, visit www.gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Facebook for inspiration.*

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Town of Penetanguishene Schedule 'B' Class EA

Town of Penetanguishene Class Environmental Assessment Schedule "B"

Municipal Snow Storage Location

NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

The Town of Penetanguishene ('Town') has initiated a Schedule 'B' Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for the selection of a Town owned storage location for snow that is removed from the road network and Town owned parking lot areas during winter maintenance operations. Currently, the Town utilizes one (1) privately owned snow storage site situated on Fuller Avenue between Robillard Drive and Laurier Road, which has been the solitary storage area for snow since 2018.

Preliminary Class EA Report:

A Preliminary Study Report has been completed and has identified a preferred snow storage location and an evaluation of multiple locations according to the Schedule "B" Class EA guidelines. The results of the preliminary report are to be presented to the public through a Public Information Centre ('PIC').

A PIC is being held to provide an opportunity for the Public to review and provide input on the new snow storage preferred location. The PIC will consist of a short presentation followed by a question-and-answer period. Representatives from the project team will be present to provide the presentation and answer questions regarding the preliminary study report.

For those members of the public that wish to attend the PIC virtually, please contact Sarah Marshall, Communications and Technology Coordinator, at smarshall@penetanguishene.ca.

PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE:

Date: Thursday, February 8th 2024

Time: 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM (Presentation at 7:00 PM)

Location: Council Chambers, 10 Robert Street West, Penetanguishene, ON

If you are unable to attend or require further information, please contact or provide comments to:

Brad Parker, P. Eng. Consultant
Project Manager
Greenland Consulting Engineers
120 Hume Street
Collingwood, Ontario L9Y 1V5
Tel: (705) 444-8805
Email: bparker@grnland.com

Bryan Murray, P.Eng
Director of Public Works
Town of Penetanguishene
10 Robert Street West
Penetanguishene, ON L9M 2G2 Tel: (705) 549-7992
Email: bmurray@penetanguishene.ca

Figure 1 - Snow Removal Areas Priority Map


HEY DADS!

HEY DADS! There's no denying it now. Winter has arrived. What activities do you do with your kids in the winter? Hockey, figure skating or maybe good old-fashioned sledding? We just moved to Saskatchewan and sledding is, well, rather hill-intensive but we're doing our best to cope.

I looked out my window the other day and the kids had their sleds in the ditch. Good for them! Making the best of a bad situation. They piled snow beside the ditch...on the road side of the ditch. Desperate times call for desperate measures. We're at the end of a dirt road so traffic isn't really a thing here. A few tractors and trucks on a busy day.

They must have searched hard for an actual hill when they walked up the driveway. "Up" is a mild exaggeration but with some ice on it and the slight incline it was good enough for them. They came inside to get me. Very excited. Not about the "hill" but about the sledding apparatus they had just stumbled upon. We must not have enough sleds for everyone so they were forced to innovate.

This is where I need to mention that we swapped out



one of the toilet seats the other day and the old one went in the trash. Or so I thought.

Do you know how slick and smooth the top of a toilet seat is? Neither did I...but I do now. They were

flying down the driveway spinning out of control on an upside-down toilet seat. I thought it was clever. Their mom had other thoughts.

As the weather cooled (it was a balmy -35 yesterday) the boys noticed the pond behind our house had frozen. It's not actually a pond but a dugout the farmer made so his cattle had a place to drink. He had dug it out and created two big piles of dirt on either side. Genius move if someone is looking for a skating pond AND sledding hills in the same prairie location! I called him up the other day to ask if we could skate on his ice patch and a little while later we were out there. Mom had some concerns about the thickness of the ice. "Do the kids even know what to do if someone falls through?" Fair enough concern. I took my cordless drill and a long bit to hopefully alleviate her concerns. I drilled down eight inches and still didn't hit water. According to the Internet eight inches is almost enough to drive a car on so we were safe. We even did some training about what to do if someone fell through. Our training even included children screaming as they pretended the ice was breaking so I'm sure it was very effective and will never be forgotten.

Not only do those dugout hills allow for sledding but they block the blistering prairie winds from blowing us all to kingdom come. The ice could use some help from a Zamboni but the kids loved it. People were skating and sledding, dad was shoveling and mom was in the house enjoying a few moments of peace and quiet. A win-win for the entire family! Dads, try and conquer the sub-zero climate this winter and do something outside with your kids. It's all about the memories. Time flies! Make every moment count! Even the chilly ones.

Jason Weening ties a lot of skate laces for his nine kids (and a new one arriving Spring 2024!) but his beautiful wife ties her own. Read more at heydads.ca.

SPIRITUAL

Annie's Journal

by Annie Warner Donnelly

International Correspondent for the North Simcoe Springwater

Leaving Dar es Salaam should've been easy: about a two-hour flight to Mwanza, a few hours' drive through Bunda to Musoma to pick up my Residence Permit, then back to Bunda on the way to

Mugeta.

I arrived at the airport about nine am. Going through security should've been easy, after all, I'd flown across the Atlantic Ocean, part of Europe, over the Mediterranean Sea, followed the Nile River into Africa and safely arrived in Tanzania. During those many hours, the keys that locked my luggage travelled in my skirt pocket. That morning, I put my luggage keys safely inside my last packed suitcase and clicked the final lock. As I passed through security and they asked me to open one of my suitcases, I realized where the keys were.

So, there I was trying to get back into my shoes, stunned by what I'd done. I am so grateful to all the people who are praying for me, because, in that moment, I relied heavily on the grace of God and the goodness of the airport's security guards. To my relief, the man operating the camera took another look in my suitcase and waved me through. My Grandmother Warner told me that events like this make for good stories to tell. I hope you are able to laugh with me over this, after the fact of course!

I enjoyed a leisurely breakfast at the airport before my scheduled 11:30 am departure. Then I saw Delayed until 1:00 pm beside my flight. The flight did leave at 1:00 pm only to have the pilot tell us, shortly after take-off, that we would be returning to Dar es Salaam due to a problem with the cabin pressure. Musoma, that day, was now out of the question.

My 4:00 pm departure brought me to Mwanza in time to view a portion of southern Lake Victoria with its islands and its fishing boats bathed in the rays of the setting sun. Lake Victoria is Africa's largest lake by area, the world's largest tropical lake, and the world's second largest freshwater lake by surface area. Lake Superior is first.



It would be another day before I set foot in Mugeta, and then another 10 hours before I saw it in the daylight. I didn't realize there would be so many mountains in Tanzania. Many look like they had handfuls of brilliantly coloured rocks dropped on them; big rocks tumbled together, jutting into the sky!

The red sand road to my home washes into gullies when it rains. An attentive hound dog, with a good howl, keeps watch here.

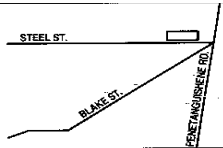
There's a heavy-laden orange tree in my front yard and three more in the back. The first corn crop of the season is being harvested; the next crop will be planted in April. The markets are filled with fresh vegetables, avocados, mangos, papayas, and watermelons direct from the farms. I saw my first Tanzanian rainbow today.

Guidebooks and documentaries don't do this country justice. God has indeed blessed Tanzania and her people! 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
10am-noon
Basement of the Elmvale Library. NEW hours are from 10am to noon.

Seniors Activities
Hustle and Muscle, 11:30 – 12:30 pm
Bid Euchre, 1 – 3:30 pm
Bayshore Srs Club, 2000 Tiny Beaches Road S, Woodland Beach

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

Seniors On The Move
Line Dancing, Beginners, 9:30 – 11:00 am
Line Dancing, Easy Intermediate, 11:30 – 1:00 pm
Seniors in Motion Fitness, 2:00 – 3:00 pm
Bayshore Srs Club, 2000 Tiny Beaches Road S, Woodland Beach

WEDNESDAY

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.

Bridge - 12:30 - 4:00 p.m.
Bayshore Srs Club, 2000 Tiny Beaches Road S, Woodland Beach

Seniors On The Move
Chair/Floor Yoga, 9:30 – 10:30 am
Zumba Gold, 11:30 – 12:30 pm
Games Afternoon, 12:30 - 3:30 pm
2nd Camera Club, 2:00 - 3:30 pm
Bayshore Srs Club, 2000 Tiny Beaches Road S, Woodland Beach

THURSDAY

Smart Seniors
1st Movie and Lunch, 12 noon - 3:30 pm
2nd & 4th Tiny Stitchers, 9:00 - 3:00 pm
3rd Book Club, 1:30 - 3:30 pm
Bayshore Srs Club, 2000 Tiny Beaches Road S, Woodland Beach

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

FRIDAY

Fun Friday
1st Bingo & Lunch, 12 noon - 3:30 pm
TGIF social, 4:00 – 6:00 pm
Bayshore Srs Club, 2000 Tiny Beaches Road S, Woodland Beach

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-Kempfenfelt 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, barriekempfenfelt72@gmail.com (705) 220-3501

Connecting Together - Fellowship with Others
Thursdays 2-3:30 pm call 705-526-6077
St. Pauls United Church Atrium, 308 King St Midland

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

Ganaraka Hiking Club-Wasaga Beach
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

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

Indoor Pickleball
Sun 2:00 p.m.; Wed 4:30 p.m. and Fri 4:00 p.m.
Bayshore Srs Club, 2000 Tiny Beaches Road S, Woodland Beach

Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
Bayshore Srs Club, 2000 Tiny Beaches Road S, Woodland Beach

One Time Events

Celebration Service
Jan. 21, 10:30 m
Knox Presbyterian Church, Midland
Please RSVP to 705-526-7421 or email to knoxmidlandpx@gmail.com

Mid- Winter Social
Family Day Weekend from 11am to 4pm
Discovery Harbour

Lula and Blue Hawaii Concert
Sat. Jan. 13, 2024 at 1 pm

Wasaga Beach United Church
Call Jayne for tickets 705-352-0302

Learning Together
Thurs. Jan 18 2-4pm call 705-526-6077
Speaker: Ted Williams, Chief of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation.
St. Pauls United Church Atrium, 308 King St Midland

Mid-Winter Social at Discovery Harbour
Sat. Feb. 17 to Mon., Feb. 19, 2024 at 11am – 4pm
Discovery Harbour, 93 Jury Drive, Penetanguishene, ON, L9M 1G1
Tickets: \$12 tax included. Children 5 and under FREE.

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Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
10am until 1 pm

Saturday IF FLAG IS FLYING WE ARE OPEN

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

Please call Rej (Springwater Forestry)
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EVENTS



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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.

Please consider attending the Elmvale BIA
Board Meeting...
Thursday, Jan. 18 @ 5:30pm
Elmvale Library

CLASSIFIED

HIRING



Junior Building Official
– 12 Month Contract

The Corporation of the Township of Tiny

The Township of Tiny is seeking a qualified applicant for the position of a full-time Junior Building Official for a period of 12 months.

The most northerly township in the County of Simcoe, Tiny Township offers 70km of coastline along Georgian Bay, and is home to Awenda Provincial Park, Tiny Marsh Provincial Wildlife Area, and the 23-kilometre long Tiny Trail. Our diverse network of communities throughout the municipality offer our residents a four-season destination with activities for all ages.

Reporting to the Chief Building Official, this position will be responsible for the enforcement of the Building Code Act, the Ontario Building Code (OBC) and all other applicable Township By-laws policies and procedures. Responsible for the review of the Planning and Development's portion of short-term rental accommodation license applications through the Granicus software. As a result of the new short-term rental accommodation license requirements in the Township, this position will be the point person for assisting applicants in: closing open building permit files through site inspections, follow up with violations and Building Code Orders, participate in prosecutions and review permit records for both building and sewage. This position will also be required to review minor planning matters such as zoning and parking requirements for short term rental accommodations. This position requires an individual who enjoys working with the public, with minimal supervision and in a fast-paced environment who has the ability to prioritize workloads.

For complete details, including necessary qualifications, please visit www.tiny.ca.

Individuals having these qualifications are encouraged to submit a resume and letter of application by 12 noon, Monday, February 5, 2024 to:

Human Resources
Township of Tiny
130 Balm Beach Road West
Tiny, ON L0L 2J0
Fax: (705) 526-2372
Email: humanresources@tiny.ca

We thank all applicants who apply for this position but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Corporation of the Township of Tiny is committed to a barrier-free recruitment and selection process. Please inform us should an accommodation be required at any point in the recruitment process. Information received relating to accommodation needs of applicants will be addressed confidentially.

Personal information collected shall 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.



Tax & Revenue Clerk
– 12 Month Contract

The Corporation of the Township of Tiny

The Township of Tiny is currently seeking a qualified applicant for the position of Tax & Revenue Clerk for a 12-month contract.

Reporting to the Deputy Treasurer, this contract position is part of the Corporate Services - Finance team and is the first point of contact for walk-in, telephone and emailed Tax and Accounts Receivable questions/issues/payments. The Tax & Revenue Clerk assists tax payers and other customers with inquires and tax related documentation, payment processing, administration of tax records and MPAC changes, tax certificates and is the back up for the front counter cashier as well as assists the Treasury department with other tax related functions.

For complete details, including the necessary qualifications, please visit www.tiny.ca

Individuals having these qualifications are encouraged to submit a resume and letter of application by noon, February 1, 2024 to:

Human Resources
Township of Tiny
130 Balm Beach Road West
Tiny, ON L0L 2J0
Fax: (705) 526-2372
Email: humanresources@tiny.ca

We thank all applicants who apply for this position but only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The Corporation of the Township of Tiny is committed to a barrier-free recruitment and selection process. Please inform us should an accommodation be required at any point in the recruitment process. Information received relating to accommodation needs of applicants will be addressed confidentially.

Personal information collected shall 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.

THANK YOU

The Elmvale Legion Branch 262 would like to thank Bourgeois Motors, Lynn-Stone Funeral Home (in memory of Mike) and Dan McGinnis for their generous sponsorship towards our New Years dance. We would also like to thank Ryan from Elmvale Foodland and Carol Proffitt on behalf of United Independent Operators for your generous donations towards the evening as well . Thanks to Jeff Young and the Muskoka Roads Band for the great music .

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AUCTION NOTICES



Upcoming Auctions

Candiwerx Storefront Closing Sale - Hamilton (Jan 21 - 25)
Commercial kitchen & candy making equipment, collectibles, décor & more!

Georgetown Storage Clearout Auction (Jan 21 - 25)
Great vintage finds, tools and equipment, furniture and more!

January Jumpstart Multi Consignor Auction - Guelph (Jan 28 - Feb 1)

Horn of Plenty Closing Auction - Dundas (Jan 28 - Feb 1)

Moving Sale for Doug & Susan Lane - Guelph (Jan 28 - Feb 1)

Turf Care Plus Surplus Inventory Sale - Guelph (Jan 28 - Feb 1)

www.rapid-sell.ca

519-763-1856

info@rapid-sell.ca

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www.mooreandassociates.on.ca



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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

Cost: \$350.00

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Capacity indoors: 125 in hall

Capacity with outdoors: 184

Call Lion Bob Coe to book 705-322-4484

NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on behalf of Tara Rayner, application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Ontario for an Act to revive 100015830 Ontario Inc.

The application may be considered by the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs. Any person who has an interest in the application and who wishes to make submissions, for or against the application, to the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs should notify, in writing, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Legislative Building, Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1A2.

Dated at Waubashene Ontario this 7th day of December, 2023

Tara Rayner
1000151830 Ontario Inc.

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OPP REPORT

Combination of Snow, Impaired Driving Investigations and RIDE Keep OPP Busy Over the Weekend

Jan. 15, 2024 - (MIDLAND, ON)- Roadways in the Southern Georgian Bay OPP Detachment area over the weekend received a healthy coating of snow and with strong gusting winds created winter driving conditions for drivers. Officers responded to 22 reported vehicle crashes between January 10-15, 2024, with two of them causing officers to conduct impaired driving investigations.

Patrol officers were able to set up 12 Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (R.I.D.E.) programs at various locations during the same time frame resulting in 148 drivers being checked for signs of impairment.

Impaired Driving Investigations

A head-on crash at the south entrance to the Town of Penetanguishene near 4:30 p.m. January 13, 2024, involving a northbound and southbound vehicle on Simcoe County Road 93 sent both drivers to hospital with non-life threatening injuries. The driver of the northbound vehicle, Martin SIMS 60 years of Midland was the subject of an impaired driving investigation and once completed was charged criminally with the following offences.

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)
- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Operation causing bodily harm

Officers responded to a report at 10:55 p.m. January 11, 2024, of a single vehicle crash on Sundowner Road, Midland. The attending officer entered into an impaired driving investigation upon speaking with the lone driver resulting in Gavin BLOK-KAVANAUGH 24 years of Midland being charged criminally with the following offences.

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)
- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- and further

Novice driver - B.A.C. above zero contrary to the Highway Traffic Act

Both accused persons were released from police custody to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice on January 25, 2024, and they also face a 90 day driver's licence suspension along with a tow and impound invoice for seven days as per the Ministry of Transportation (ADLS) guidelines).

SAFE SNOWMOBILING MEANS NOT GOING OUT UNTIL IT IS SAFE

(ORILLIA, ON) - Ahead of Snowmobile Safety Week, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is reminding snowmobilers to stay off Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) Trails, which remain closed at this time. They are also urging snowmobilers to stay off frozen waterways, which unseasonably mild temperatures have made particularly unpredictable and unsafe throughout the province.

In the past 10 years, 158 snowmobilers did not make it home to their families in what were almost all preventable riding incidents. Common factors included driving too fast for the conditions, alcohol/drugs and riding on unsafe frozen waterways. Forty-one (41) per cent of the fatalities were linked to alcohol/drugs and 36 per cent of them occurred on frozen lakes and rivers (in OPP jurisdictions).

“Safe and responsible snowmobiling means not going out if there is any doubt about whether it is safe to do so. This cannot be overstated where frozen waterways are involved, which are never guaranteed to be 100 per cent safe. Making smart decisions before and during your ride, such as always riding sober and drug-free, is what will get you home to your family.”

-- Rohan THOMPSON, Deputy Commissioner, OPP Traffic Safety and Operational Support.The OPP remains committed to saving lives on more than one million square kilometres of land and waterways throughout the province.

Snowmobile Safety Week runs from January 13 to 21, 2024.

<https://www.ofsc.on.ca/trail-maps/>

Weekend OPP Driving Notes

Jan, 8, 2024 -(MIDLAND, ON)- Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (R.I.D.E.) programs were operated by members of the Southern Georgian Bay OPP Detachment at 17 locations between January 4-8, 2024, checking 348 drivers for signs of impairment with no arrests.

A patrol officer on the other hand, noted the actions of a vehicle in the area of the roundabout on Simcoe County Road 93 near 1:36 a.m. January 7, 2024, and upon stopping the vehicle, after speaking with the driver the officer entered into a drinking and driving investigation. Further investigation at Detachment resulted in Dallas GIDDY 25 years of Victoria Harbour being charged criminally with the alleged offence of Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).

The accused was released from police custody to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice on January 18, 2024, and also faces a 90 day driver's licence suspension along with a tow and impound invoice for seven days as per the Ministry of Transportation (ADLS) guidelines).

In a second incident, a patrol officer on Highway 93 near Darby Road, Tay Township was alerted to a suspended driver by the on-board Automated Licence Plate Recognition (ALPR) near 3:00 p.m. January 6, 2024. After stopping the vehicle the officer entered into an investigation resulting in the driver George PICHE 71 years of Orillia being charged criminally with the offence of - Operation While Prohibited under the Criminal Code, and further charges of Drive motor vehicle - no licence contrary to the Highway Traffic Act, Driving motor vehicle with open container of liquor and Driving motor vehicle with liquor readily available contrary to the Liquor Licence and Control Act and further with Drive vehicle or boat with cannabis readily available along with Have care or control of vehicle or boat with cannabis in open baggage contrary to the Cannabis Control Act.

The accused was released from police custody to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice on January 25, 2024, with a tow and impound invoice for 45 days as per the Ministry of Transportation (ADLS) guidelines).

Educating the public about safe driving, boating and ORV practices with our community safety partners is a priority, if you see a possible impaired operator on our roadways, waterways or trails please “Make the Call” and dial 911 as impaired driving never ends well, please make a plan to get home safely.

ASSAULT CHARGE LAID OVER SPILLED MILK

(HAVELOCK-BELMONT-METHUEN TOWNSHIP, ON)- One person has been charged with assault after a dispute over spilled milk.

On January 6, 2024, shortly after 6:00pm, members of the Peterborough County detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a call regarding a dispute between two residents of the same building. The complainant advised that they had been blamed for pouring coffee creamer down the drain which belonged to the accused. The complainant stated that the accused became agitated and at one point attempted to strike them hitting the victim's hand.

Robert LIVINGSTONE (age 61) of Havelock, ON., was arrested and charged with:

- Assault

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Peterborough on February 13, 2024.

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Coalition Demands Ontario Halt New Gravel Mining: Crisis Revealed by Auditor General

(Toronto, Ontario) The Reform Gravel Mining Coalition (RGMC) is calling on the Ontario government to safeguard lives and the environment by introducing an immediate moratorium on new aggregate approvals, in order to implement the recommendations presented by the Auditor General in the Value-for-Money Audit of the Management of Aggregate Resources, published on December 6, 2023. In a statement, the coalition of impacted community groups said: “The Auditor General exposes an alarming truth: that the management of aggregate resources is in crisis, and the province is failing to protect the public from the negative impacts of gravel mining. The Ontario government must pull the emergency brake and halt new approvals until it can guarantee public safety by enforcing the Auditor General’s commonsense proposals.”

The Auditor General concludes that the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is “falling short” in its duty to “minimiz[e] the impacts of aggregate operations, particularly through its role in regulating the industry to ensure approval holders comply with all necessary requirements.” “Shockingly” low rates of inspection and enforcement demonstrate a pattern of regulatory failure that has enabled widespread violations in the aggregate industry to persist unchecked, said RGMC. For example, the Auditor found that three quarters of aggregate inspectors checked less than 5% of the operations in their district. Up to 64% of aggregate companies are violating regulations; however, inspectors referred less than 1% of non-compliant companies for an investigation that could lead to a charge.

In response to the audit’s findings, David Donnelly, the environmental lawyer who represents RGMC communities, said: “The aggregate industry has long claimed to be well-regulated; the Auditor General has disproved this long-standing claim—it simply isn’t true.” David Jeffery, President of Simcoe County Greenbelt Coalition and member of the RGMC Steering Committee, added: “The Auditor General reveals the true face of Ford’s open for business approach. The province has given the industry a free hand to operate as it pleases, leading to a ‘gravel rush’ that benefits big corporations at the expense of communities, municipalities and our quality of life in Ontario.”

The Auditor General confirms what many impacted communities report: that aggregate extraction can cause significant “negative impacts” to lives and the environment. The Auditor states that gravel mining can “alter or destroy woodlands, grasslands, wetlands or farmland”; “pose a risk to local groundwater resources”; and cause serious health impacts from air pollution and heavy truck traffic. Additionally, sand, stone and rock are non-renewable resources that provide important ecosystem services.



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Obituaries



GOGO, Norman Allan

Norman Allan Gogo, a man of unwavering duty and boundless generosity, passed away suddenly on January 10, 2024, in Midland, Ontario. Born in Toronto on June 18, 1921, to George Allan Gogo and Maryanne, Norman's life was a testament to his unyielding commitment to service and his love for his fellow man.

A veteran of World War II, Norman fearlessly served with the 48th Highlanders and the Royal Canadian Signal Corps. His bravery and dedication led him to the shores of Juno Beach on D-Day, where he fought valiantly to liberate France, Belgium, and the Netherlands. His selfless actions during the war exemplified his unshakeable belief in the inherent good of humanity.

Following the war, Norman dedicated 35 years of his life to the Toronto Fire Department, ultimately rising to the rank of Chief of Alarms. His commitment to public service extended beyond his retirement as he became an active member of the Royal Canadian Legion and was the Midland Lions club representative of 724th RCAC Squadron. His impact on the community was immeasurable, and he was beloved by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

In his leisure time, Norman was an ardent supporter of the Toronto Maple Leafs, though their perennial challenges often tested his unwavering loyalty. As an armchair manager to his "boys of summer," the Toronto Blue Jays, his passion for sports was matched only by his quick wit and boundless generosity. His contributions to the National War Museum and National Archives, particularly through his oral history of World War II, stand as a lasting tribute to his dedication to preserving the memory of those who served.

Norman Allan Gogo will be remembered not only for his remarkable deeds but also for his sense of duty, his integrity as a man of his word, and the enduring impact of his kindness on those around him.

Norman was preceded in death by his beloved wife Audrey, whom he married while stationed in England in 1942, and his sons Richard and John, along with their loving surviving wives, Merle and Cathy. He is survived by his devoted daughter Wendy, her husband Jack, 8 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, and 6 great-great-grandchildren.

Norman was also a big brother to his 8 siblings, Allan, Jack, Robert, Donald, Bettie, Thelma, Marilyn, all preceding him in death, and he leaves behind his sister Jean.

Norman's legacy of love and compassion will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew him. His unwavering spirit and kindness will be dearly missed but will continue to live on through the countless lives he touched.

Norman's family will honour his life and legacy with a memorial service, the details of which will be announced at a later date.



JOHNSTON, Paul

Passed away peacefully at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie on January 3, 2024. Paul Johnston of Barrie, formerly of Hillsdale in his 67th year. Beloved son of the late Allan and Joyce Johnston. Dear brother of Karen (Dave) Ritchie, Darlene (Roger) Blake, Tim (Trish), Kevin (Sue), late Linda (survived by Herb) Moreau, late Bob (survived by Joan), late Ken, Winston, and Marion. Paul will be dearly missed by his many nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale from 11 am - 2 pm on Monday, January 8, 2024. A funeral service will be held in the chapel at 2 pm.

Interment Hillsdale United Cemetery.

Memorial donations in Paul's memory may be made to the Epilepsy Foundation or the Elmvale Food Bank.

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



ST. AMANT, Norman

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Norman St. Amant on Monday, January 8th, 2024 in his 84th year. He was the loving husband of 64 years to Marjorie and beloved father to Rodney (Lori), Vicky (Chris Chapman) and Kevin (Judy). He will be sadly missed by his grandchildren, Brad Chapman, Tasha Chapman (Chris Schuenemann), Ryan Bourassa (Melissa), Tyler St. Amant, Tori St. Amant and predeceased by Christa and Jason Bourgeois. Norm will be fondly remembered by his siblings, Beatrice (Gord), and Roger. Predeceased by his parents Norman and Mary and his siblings Marie (Alfred), Christine (Jim), Bernice (Gus) and Clifford.

Norm was born and raised in Midland where in 1972 he started Norm St. Amant Aluminum and it is still in business today. Norm enjoyed nothing more than spending time with his family, singing and playing guitar, fishing, hunting, boating and spending time at the cottage.

The family would like to thank Dr. Julie Caron, Community Paramedic Home Visit Program team and Bayshore Home Health nurses and personal support workers who all provided him with exceptional care over the past several months that allowed him to remain at home where he passed peacefully sitting in his favourite chair.

Cremation has taken place. If desired, memorial donations to the Heart & Stroke Foundation or the Canadian Diabetes Association would be appreciated by the family and will be accepted by the Leclair Cremation Centre, 565 King Street, Midland 705-527-8955.



TRACE, John Arthur "Art"

We are very saddened to announce the passing of Art Trace on Jan. 7, 2023, age 90 years. He will be most sadly missed by his children: Tom, Alan, Neil (Teresa), John, Rosemary (Mike); his stepchildren Diana (David), Dana (Nikki); his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Art will be lovingly remembered by his brother Jim (Theresa) sister (Valerie (Ray), in laws Bunny Trace, and Ross Leonard.. Art was predeceased by his wife Mary (nee Roherty); his wife Irene (nee Edge); brothers Bill, Carl, Roger; sister Mary Ann; and step-son Warren.

Art grew up on the family farm near Elmvale. However his thirst for adventure led him to join the RCMP on his 18th birthday. This led to a successful and adventurous career, and he retired as Staff Sergeant in 1977. He then became Safety Supervisor for R Angus, and then Northwestern Utilities until 1992. In retirement years, in Mulhurst Alberta, he and Irene were able to enjoy family and travel. Art's devotion to volunteering and service continued with positions in many organizations. He received the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012, in recognition of his contributions.

Art was a kind, gentle man. His constant service to others and his tales of adventure in the Far North enthralled his Ontario and Alberta Families. He will be missed.

A private Family Service has been held.



TWITCHIN, Timothy John Twitchin

March 8, 1962 – January 11, 2024

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Timothy John Twitchin on Thursday, January 11, 2024, at the age of 61 years with family by his side at Hospice Huronia.

Beloved husband of Madelaine of 24 years. Devoted father to Ashleigh; Amber (Ryan); Tyler (Tiffany); and TJ [Timothy John Jr.] (Kayla), loving grandfather of Dallas, RJ [Ryan Jr] and Freya.

Little baby brother of Pat (late Chuck) Lutz, Chris (Doug) Atkinson, Debbie (late John) Pilon; Son-in-law of Alde (Judy) Desrochers, Brother-in-law of Richard (Anita) Desrochers.

Pre-deceased by parents Ernest Michael Twitchin and Agnes Marie Smith (nee Dorion) and sister Marie (Harold) Wilson.

Tim will also be remembered by his many nieces, nephews, cousins extended family and friends.

January 11, 2024, was the hardest day our family has ever had to endure. On this day I lost my husband, my best friend, and my true love. I am truly blessed to have had Tim in my life as my soul mate.

We worked and played hard together loving every minute inseparable, hand in hand. I will forever cherish and hold dear to my heart the memories that we made and the life we built over our 24 years.

We have successfully brought together a family that truly loves, supports and protects one another. We are so very proud of them.

Honey, you are the best husband, father, grandfather and brother. You have provided, protected and given unconditional love. A true family man and we are forever grateful. You will be deeply missed.

Tim valiantly and quietly fought a 7-year battle with cancer. We are so sad that he is no longer with us, but grateful he is no longer in pain and is at peace.

Tim's love of butchering began while in his teens at Meatland and finished as Meat Manager at Penetanguishene Foodland after 25+ years.

He loved gardening, cooking in the kitchen and the barbecue. He loved the Toronto Maple Leafs, a true fan through and through.

As per Tim's wishes in place of a service, he would like his family and friends to have a drink for him on his 62nd Birthday March 8th.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to be made to the Canadian Cancer Society or Hospice Huronia.

Arrangements entrusted to LeClair Cremation Centre.

Special thanks to Dr. Russell and the Oncology Team at RVH. The staff at Hospice Huronia who helped Tim live out his life in comfort and care.

Until our hearts meet again.



FOURNIER, Shirley Marie

It is with great sadness that the family of Shirley announce her passing on December 24, 2023, in Midland Ontario at the age of 86. Loving wife of 66 years to Howard and a loving mother to Kevin, Derrick, and Brian. Grandmother to Shanna, Holly, Natalie, Sylvia, and Adam. Shirley was born, raised, and retired in Midland, however, spent time living in Toronto and Vancouver. Shirley also enjoyed her many camping trips throughout Canada and the United States, making friends wherever she went. Known for her kindness and willingness to help, Shirley will be missed by many and all that knew her. Shirley will be forever in our hearts, rest in peace. A memorial mass will take place in Midland on February 21, 2024 at St. Margaret's Roman Catholic Church. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.carsonfuneralhomes.com

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Obituaries



WOJCIK, Walter Michael


Passed away after a short illness at the Georgian Bay General Hospital in Midland on Sunday, January 7, 2024. Walter Wojcik of Waverley in his 81st year. Beloved husband of Sheila (nee Coxon). Dear father of Janet (Eric Plouffe). Proud and loving grandfather of Gavin. Brother of Amelia Uhrig, Loretta Hayden, George Wojcik, Murray Wojcik, and pre-deceased by Stan, Mary, Anne, Richard, and Jenny. Walter will be dearly missed by his many nieces and nephews.

Walter had a diverse career as a registered nurse working in the Emergency and Crisis Services as well as working as a Hospital administrator. Walter had a passion for humanitarian work which he began in the Dominican Republic with the Rotary Club in 1986. He continued this work for over 35 years. Walter was honoured to receive the Paul Harris Award for his volunteer work with Rotary International. He was an active member of the Arabian Horse Association of Eastern Canada and continued to take excellent care of his retired show horses at home.

A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale from 6-8 pm on Thursday, January 11, 2024. A funeral service will be held in the funeral home chapel on Friday, January 12 at 11 am. Cremation to follow.

As an expression of sympathy donations in memory of Walter may be made to the Religious Hospitaliers of St. Joseph, Montreal Quebec or Ontario SPCA Barrie Animal Centre.


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



ARMSTRONG, Alan Clarke

We regret to announce the sudden passing of Alan on Wednesday January 10, 2024 at the age of 79. Alan is predeceased by his father Clifton (1995), mother Marjorie (1992), brother John (1986) and brother James (2017). Alan is survived by his sister Barbara Fortin (Maurice), his son Andrew (Barbara) and daughter Amy, grandchildren Emma and Jeffrey, his sister-in-law Carol, and his nephews and nieces.

Cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life will be held in the spring. Donations in Alan's memory can be made to the Diabetes Canada or the Heart & Stroke Foundation if desired. Arrangements entrusted to Nicholls Funeral Home – 330 Midland Ave, Midland, Ontario (705) 526-5449.




LARKINS, Patricia Anne

We're sad to announce the death of Patricia Anne Larkins (nee Thomson) on January 4, 2024 at the Villa Care Centre in Midland. Pat was born in Toronto on January 9th, 1930. She was predeceased by her husband Fred (1930-2007) and by siblings Robert (Marg) Thomson, Margaret (Alex) Stittle, and Eleanor (Ed) Downey. She was the loving mother of daughters Kathy and Karen (Allan), and grandmother of Paul (Kris), Laura (Mark), Sarah (Mike) and Mary (George). She leaves great grandchildren Jack, Ryan, Lucy, Nathan, Emma, Liam, Jack, Isabel and Malakai. She was a beloved aunt, fondly remembered by many nieces and nephews.

Pat and Fred moved to Midland in 1967 and together owned and operated Atlas Block for more than 20 years. Her whole life Pat loved crafts and was a seamstress, quilter and knitter. She made everything from baby clothes to wedding gowns and knitted countless sweaters. But quilting was her passion and her family and friends received and still treasure many of her quilts. She was an amazing woman and will be missed dearly by her family.

We will always remember the funny, intelligent, feisty and talented woman who loved to play cards, solve crossword puzzles....and could beat anyone at a game of scrabble!

Cremation has taken place and an event to honour Pat's life will be planned for the spring. We wish to thank the staff at the Villa Care Centre who provided such wonderful care during the last stages of Pat's life. Donations in Pat's memory may be sent to Hospice Huronia or the Villa Care Centre.



LAURIN, Roland "Pooh-Bear"

June 26, 1967 - December 29, 2023

It is with great sadness, we announce the passing of Roland Laurin at the age of 56. Roland is the beloved son of Guy and Doris Laurin. Funeral Mass will be held at St. Ann's Catholic Church on Tuesday, January 23 at 10:00 a.m. Memorial condolences may be made at www.penetangfuneral.ca

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Obituaries



VAN DER VELDEN, Christa
Christa van der Velden (nee Blankenhagen) passed peacefully at the age of 86 on December 13, 2023. She was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Henk. Loved and missed by her children, Andy (Jan), Michael (Cindy) and Tina,

her grandchildren, Cody and Ryan and her great grandchildren, Evie and Jake. She is predeceased by her sisters, Erni and Helga & brother-in-law, Peter, and her sister-in-law, Jane. She will be fondly remembered by her brother-in-law, Arnold, and her nieces, nephews and friends. Her love and caring for family and friends will remain with us all.

Christa, youngest daughter of Anna and Max, emigrated to Canada at the age of 19 and became a proud Canadian a few years later. She worked at the Leitz Group in Midland until her marriage to Henk. After raising her children to school age, she worked in food preparation at Royal Victoria Hospital until her retirement.

Christa and Henk were active members of Trinity Anglican in Barrie and later at St Peter's in Minesing. She was active in church events and the altar guild, joined the Good Times Club and the Minesing Women's Institute and enjoyed being a part of the Minesing community. She loved to travel and see new places across Canada, the US and Europe. When at home, she would spend her time gardening, baking and enjoying time spent with others.

Mom made friends all along the way, beginning with her arrival to Canada on day one, right up until the last several years living in Minesing. She was still close to her childhood friends in Germany. She would strike up a conversation easily, a quality that led to her very close friendships, both new and old. Our home was always a welcoming place that many remember through the years. Family and friends were always her foundation.

Our thanks to the surgeons and doctors that helped her live well in the last years of her life, to see those summers in her garden and her final trip to visit her daughter's new home. Our appreciation to the Palliative Care team on Medicine Inpatient who showed her such care in her last days.

A remembrance and celebration of Christa's life will be held on July 13, 2024 in the Barrie area. More details will be made available closer to the date.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Elmvale Food Bank or the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) would be appreciated by her family.



STIBLER, John Steve
It is with profound sadness to announce that John Steve Stibler passed away peacefully, in his sleep, at the Villa Care Centre in Midland on December 23, 2023 at age 83.

Beloved husband of the late Arlene in 2012. Predeceased by his dear brothers Joseph and Andrew Stibler, as well as his parents, Agnes and André. John is survived by his only sister, Bernice DeGrace and many nieces and nephews.

John was a wonderful person: private, quiet, a man with pride and style who would not criticize or judge anyone.

Many years of his life were dedicated to volunteering in various areas. John found inspiration, pride and joy in service to others before his own needs.

Family and friends would like to express their sincere thanks and appreciation to John's doctors, nurses, all staff including cleaning staff from Georgian Bay Hospital and The Villa Care Centre from Midland for their hard work, devotions, compassion and patience. Another important person to thank at the Villa is "Chaplin "PAT" for his religious dedication he held on Sundays for the residents.

During John's struggle with illnesses, he would often say, "The good Lord will take care of me."

John will greatly be missed by so many people who loved and appreciated him.

"MANY PEOPLE CROSS OUR PATH EACH DAY BUT ONLY A FEW STAY IN OUR HEART FOREVER"



MACDONALD (nee Strath), Grace Evelyn Elizabeth
April 17, 1930-January 15, 2024

Passed away peacefully at Georgian Manor, Penetanguishene on Monday, January 15, 2024. Dear wife of the late Donald MacDonald (2021). Cherished and very loved Mother of Beverley (late Gordon) Leonard and Allen Mosley and Kenneth and daughter-in-law Mae. Proud Grandma to Darrell (late Kim Jones) and Kim Foster, Michelle and Mark, Karla and Joel. Great Grandma to Justin, Tyler, Zoe, Maddox, Lucas, Nathan, Allie and Molly.

Sister of the late Graham (Mary) Strath and Wreatha (late Elgin) Speers. Sister-in-law to Allister (late Vi) Lorraine and the late Earl, George and Irene, Dennis and Cathy. Aunt Grace will be fondly remembered by nieces, nephews and friends in the community area and staff on Sumac Wing.

After 93 accomplishing years Grace's life included being a farm wife and worker, Sunday School teacher, 4-H leader, involved in Women's Institute, Lioness Club, Elmvale Seniors and a helpful neighbour and a true friend to so many. The family will treasure her knitted sweaters, toques, mitts, socks, knitted and crochet afghans and bedspreads, her quilts, needlepoint and lastly her scrumptious and delicious baking and preserves.

Despite suffering from arthritis and loss of her eyesight, Grace lived a long, loving life and she left a treasure trove of happy memories for all who knew her.

Honouring Mom's request, cremation has taken place and there will be a private family graveside service in the spring.

If desired memorial donations may be made to Georgian Manor Bus Campaign or the charity of your choice.

The family wishes to thank the staff (present and past) on Sumac for their love, compassion and care for Mom.

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



HACOCK, Donald Bruce
Passed peacefully at Royal Victoria Hospital on Thursday January 11th 2024 at the age of 79.

Born February 11 1944, he served his community by joining the Metro Toronto Police Force, as a volunteer firefighter and driving a school bus. In Don's younger years, he loved the water and would often spend summers at Wasaga Beach and Woodland Beach with his parents and siblings. He later bought property in Woodland Beach and built his own cottage where Don and his wife Jean would spend much of their summers with their three children Ian, Glen, and Yvonne. In 2001 Don and Jean started their next adventure and opened an ice cream shop in Woodland Beach called The Beach Frog Ice Cream and Grill. Don will always be remembered as a people person who loved to tell jokes and laugh often.

Left behind is his loving wife of 52 years Jean Hacock (Arthur)

He was a proud father to Ian (Heather), Glen (Amy), Yvonne (late Rocco) Grandfather (Papa) to Bailey, Isabell, Jocelyn, Matteo and Rosalina. Brother to Bill (Heather), George (Joan), Carolyn (late Keith Squires), Gary (Barbara) late Douglas Arthur (Jean) and Don Arthur and many nieces and nephews.

Please join us for a visitation January 27th, 2024 held at Lynn Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale, ON from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm followed by a funeral service in the chapel.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to
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IN MEMORY

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Joan, Rob, David, Barry and families.

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Tax Increase Protest Well Attended Despite Blowing Snow

By Linda Belcourt, Editor

Jan. 13, 2024 - In the heart of Township of Tiny, a peaceful and picturesque township nestled in farmland and rimmed with beaches has experienced a protest as taxes rates are going higher. No one want higher taxes!

The township had always relied on these taxes to fund essential services, but will the sudden spike leave many residents struggling to make ends meet.

On Jan. 10, 2024 at 4:30pm the approximately 75-100 residents gathered in the high winds with snow blowing in the faces of passionate protesters at the Township of Tiny administrative building. Holding handmade signs that read "There's no such thing as government funded. It's all taxpayer funded"; "Listen to the People" and "Our voices matter! Nos Voix Comptent!!", they voiced their concerns and frustrations.

Janet Marks was called upon for her input and she exclaimed, "It is all in the budget that the taxes will go up to fund a new building. After Covid we feel we don't need a brand new building."

Mayor David Evans explains the reason for a new building, "The township has been operating out of the current facility since 1967. Since then, several additions and renovations have been made, including the addition of three portables to accommodate staff. We have also had to relocate some staff to off-site facilities which impacts efficiency. We are currently beyond capacity. As the population has grown, so too have our number of employees in order to meet the servicing levels of our community. The current facility and portables need many repairs and replacements due to age and this ultimately limits the ability to operate an efficient facility in terms of workflow, staff levels, operational costs, and to be environmentally responsible. No cost estimates have been established at this point as the township is in the early, high-level planning stages of the new administrative building project." Karen Zulynik, a passionate local, stood at the center of the protest. With a strong voice, she addressed the press and the Mayor. "It would be a good time for a new building when the inflation is down and the economy stabilizes," she declared. "We don't even know what the cost of a new building is."

Mayor David Evans want residents to know:

- The costs of maintaining and repairing the current facility are high, and the current structure does not provide a barrier free workplace to our staff.

While we have a responsibility as a township to be accessible under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, it is also the right thing to do to ensure everyone feels valued and that they belong here. The portables do not have ramps to allow those with mobility devices to enter the workspaces. Part of the desire for the new building is to ensure that the space is accessible and inclusive for everyone, both the public and staff.

- By constructing a new building, we will see long term savings. We will be able to cut the cost of repairs, see a net zero building, and reduce operating costs by amalgamating several offices into one. The implications of not building the new facility now will only continue to grow. Construction costs will continue to increase as time goes on, and we could lose out on accessing Federal funding for designing the building to be net zero.

- If we choose to defer decisions or not go ahead with constructing a new municipal building, we are going to impact future generations and their ability to make meaningful change in our community. The responsibility for the infrastructure deficit cannot all be placed on the younger generations – we need to work together now to put in place the best infrastructure we can to ensure that Tiny is the best place to live, work, and play for many generations to come.

When asked about public consultation Karen replied, "...there is no community involvement. When the former Deputy-Mayor Steffen Walma and former Mayor Cornell in 2016 directed staff by council motion to set up the needs assessment committee they delegated Council powers to staff. Since there were only 2 elected officials on the committee and many senior staff this was not a Council Committee but more like an internal committee that is CLOSED to the public and does not let anyone in. This is legal under the Municipal Act. What this Council can do to put this plan on hold is to revoke the previous motion, add one more councillor to the committee and it then becomes a Council Committee that must be OPEN to the public. Many residents that have said No to a new township hall through a petition."

Over the past weeks, town meetings were held, and constructive dialogues and off topic discussions ensued between residents and officials. Mayor David Evans explains, "The first public engagement sessions were held on December 11, 2023, to provide an initial opportunity to residents to provide their input

into the features they would like to see in the new building. More public engagement meetings will be held to ensure the public is involved throughout the process. Engagement opportunities will continue to be sent out via public notices, Tiny Connect, our social media channels, and will be listed on the dedicated webpage when announced: <https://www.tiny.ca/township-hall/new-building>. Tiny has also set up a dedicated email address to provide residents with an opportunity to provide any feedback on this project at any time: newtownhall@tiny.ca. The emails will be logged for consideration and review by the Committee."

Mayor Evans expressed, "...that a new building is in the best interest of our community to ensure that future generations are not further impacted by the township's infrastructure deficit. In line with the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan, the priorities of Fiscal Planning and Infrastructure Revitalization come into play. The municipal office is a key asset in order for the township to provide the quality customer service that our residents deserve. By bringing staff together, we could implement a one-stop-shop model that would be more user-friendly for residents.

Protest organizer Karen Zulynik expresses her view by stating, "In 2020, 2021 and 2022 – we were over-taxed, and all monies went into the reserves. They continue to use the reserves for other projects. Not sure how much is in there. Current, line item is \$400,000 for a design for a new administrative building for the 2024 budget – which is approx. 2%. The cost of construction for a brand-new building is undetermined, with no plans for the old building. Tiny Township raised property taxes by 10.82% in 2023. They have passed another unprecedented increase of 8.19% for 2024 with additional expense coming forward in the next few months. There was no need to pass the budget quickly. There was truly little cutting and additional projects added."

The peaceful and respectful protest had united the people, reminding all of us that our voice is our greatest asset. The Mayor was there to listen. This is democracy at it's best. When it is time for public consultation and when should the experts decide? That is the real question. Let's hope that through collaboration and determination, they can secure a brighter future for themselves and generations to come.



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