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Springwater NEWS

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Edition 693 | December 19, 2024

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FATHER CHRISTMAS

By Kari Belcourt, Dec. 16, 2026
(photo courtesy of Dennis Gannon)

A jolly fat man who sneaks down our chimneys every 24th of December yet is beloved around the world. Who is this man and where does he come from? Santa Claus, St. Nicholas or Father Christmas? A corporate figure head or a Christmas miracle? Santa is a legendary figure who originates from western Christian culture known to bring gifts in the late evening and overnight of December 24th. He is said to accomplish this with the hard work of a team of elves, a North Pole workshop and a team of flying reindeer to pull his sleigh. This portrayal is thought to come from folklore traditions surrounding the 4th century Christian Bishop Saint Nicholas, the patron saint of children. Bishop Saint Nicholas was renowned for his secret gift giving and generosity, a tradition and meaning often associated with Christmas. He is thought to appear as a jolly old man, with a round belly, thick white beard, often donning a red and white suit. He is known is often say "Ho, Ho, Ho! Merry Christmas!"

This image originated in North America during the 19th century, influenced by Dutch immigrants who brought the legend of St. Nicholas to 17th century New York City. This is Santa but is he a Christmas Miracle or a corporate figure head? The Bank of Montreal's Real Financial Progress Index shows 79 per cent of Canadians are planning to spend less this holiday season. It also says more than half are feeling financial anxiety over holiday spending, and almost a quarter are feeling uncertain they will be able to pay off holiday bills on time. "Faced with higher living costs and a rising unemployment rate, it's no surprise that many Canadians are planning to scale back their holiday spending plans this year," says Sal Guatieri, a senior economist at BMO. On average, Canadians plan on spending almost \$2,000 this holiday season, with the majority of the spending on travel (\$1,802), followed by holiday gifts (\$519) and entertaining, decorations, and other holiday expenses. While Canadians are planning to spend less this Christmas season at least a third plan to keep their donations to charities at the same level as previous years,



Santa Claus was at Anten Mills this past weekend

according to a survey conducted for BMO Financial Group. The survey, conducted by Ipsos, found the majority of Canadians who plan on giving back to their communities want to help people in need at 61% and support their preferred causes at 51%. While 23 % indicated that giving back allows them to teach their children and family the importance of giving. Commenting on the survey results, Lydia Potocnik,

head, Estate Planning & Philanthropic Advisory Services, BMO Private Wealth, said the holiday season often inspires Canadians to spread hope to communities, and strategic giving allows them to be part of the change they want to see. Reports look promising but we await to see if our Christmas magic is once again enough to bring Santa and the miracle of Christmas to life on the night of December 24th.



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STAY CONNECTED TO NORTH SIMCOE SPRINGWATER NEWS DURING THE CANADA POST CATCH UP!

The Canada Post strike may be over but it is not really over. Regular mail delivery will resume after about two weeks according to the NS Springwater News Canada Post Representative. The January 2, 2025 edition will be mailed out. We want to ensure you stay up-to-date with the latest news and stories. You can view our current edition online anytime at www.springwaternews.ca and you're invited to sign up for free, to receive each edition straight to your inbox. This way, you won't miss a beat! We have been refilling news stands steadily for those of you who still prefer to have a hard copy of the paper in your hands. We'll be continuing dropping off papers at many local businesses and community spaces.

We are all in this together!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please submit your letters to the Editor.

Email: info@springwaternews.ca or drop off at office. Contact information is on the bottom of this page.

Phone number and address must be supplied for all letters to the editor. The opinions expressed in articles contributed by interested parties and through the 'Letters to the Editor' do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this newspaper and/or the editor.

I will never take a printed newspaper for granted ever again. Even though I do enjoy the on-line versions - I am a tactile person and just love the feel of a fresh newspaper. (I do subscribe to the Toronto Star) Cracking open a new newspaper is like breathing - just feels good. (I have Oct. 24 Edition 689 in my hands and found I was flipping and playing with the paper). This very long, expensive and not fun postal strike needs to end soon or they will be Scrooged for a long time!
Marianne Schall

EDITORS NOTES

STRICT DEADLINE

Monday Dec. 30th at Noon for Jan. 2, 2025 edition

I hope everyone stays safe and healthy this holiday season. It is a fun and exciting time for many. The focus in this edition is to enjoy the people this holiday. Presence is better than presents. Forgive others and take care of yourself.

May your New Year be filled with hopes of a prosperous 2025.

It is a relief that the postal strike is over. If you have to mail Christmas gifts you might as well wrap it in New Years wrap. They are not likely to arrive before Christmas.

North Simcoe Springwater News is now working on the January 2 edition. There is a very tight timeline to the printer and the Monday noon deadline will be a strict one.

Thank you to Dennis Gannon who writes the Anten Mills column. He has written for the NS Springwater News for 6 years and I am very grateful for his time and attention to community. He has also been delivering the paper to Anten Mills residents during the strike.

New Business in Elmvale, Indian Curry and Grill House



Amolak Chauhan is the owner of the new Indian Restaurant on main street (46 Queen St. W) of Elmvale. The place is beautifully decorated and the food is very high quality and delicious. Amolak was fund raising for the Elmvale Foodbank during his grand opening. He had free samples for everyone. He raised \$390 for the food bank. This was on November 29, 2024 and the place was packed. Stop by and give thanks for supporting the community. The buffet had a wide variety of really good food. He started up this restaurant in Elmvale so that people could experience good quality Indian food. There are a lot of cheap low quality Indian restaurants that do not show case how good Indian food really is. If you have never tasted the foods of Indian, give it a try and it may surprise you how good it is.

Springwater NEWS NEWS STANDS

MINESING

Auto Guy 4712 County Rd 90 & George Johnson Rd
Grenfel Community Hall 1989 Sunnisdale RD Minesing
Four Cedars Café 1605 George Johnston RD Minesing
Minesing Library 2347 Ronald Rd, Minesing

MIDHURST

Linda's Eating Place 1027 Bayfield St, Midhurst
Midhurst Library 12 Finlay Mill RD, Midhurst
Pharmasave 94 Finaly Mill RD, Midhurst
Nicholyn Farms 3088 Horseshoe Valley RD W, Phelpston
Apto Esso 13103 Simcoe County RD 27, Phelpston

ELMVALE

Elmvale Foodland 14 Yonge St N, Elmvale
Elmvale Library 50 Queen St W, Elmvale
Whitfield's Pharmacy 16 Queen St W, Elmvale
Steelers Restaurant 23 Queen St W, Elmvale
Tim Hortons 68 Yonge St S, Elmvale
Pharmasave 70 Yonge St S, Elmvale
Clover Variety 34 Yonge St S, Elmvale
Ritchie's Feed N Needs 1548 County Rd 92, Elmvale
Esso 2236 County Rd 92, Elmvale
Spring Water Flow North of Elmvale before Flos Rd 10

WASAGA BEACH

Tim Hortons 720 River Rd W, Wasaga Beach
Wasaga Beach Foodland 711 River Rd W, Wasaga Beach

CRAIGHURST

Craighurst Esso 3406 Penetanguishene Rd, Craighurst
Craighurst Foodland 2106 Horseshoe Valley Rd W, Craighurst
Guardian Drugs 2054 Horseshoe Valley Rd, Craighurst

HILLSDALE

Elan Pizza 2 Mill St., Hillsdale
Orr Lake General Store 5639 Penetanguishene Rd, Elmvale

TINY

Township of Tiny Office 130 Balm Beach Road West
Wyevale Jug City 870 County Rd 6, Tiny
Binghams General Store 5 Tiny Beaches Rd S, Tiny
T's Market 345 Lafontaine Rd W, Tiny
Tirebuster 7002 Hwy 93 Stamp Sideroad, Wyebridge
Wye River Flooring 8262 ON-93 Wyebridge
Binghams Variety Store 5 Tiny Beaches Road N

PENETANGUISHENE

Town of Penetanguishene 10 Robert St., Penetanguishene
Penetanguishene Library 24 Simcoe St, Penetanguishene
Rawson Meat & Deli 27 Main St, Penetanguishene
Tim Hortons 132 Main St, Penetanguishene

MIDLAND

Town of Midland 575 Dominion Avenue, Midland
Midland Cultural Centre 333 King St, Midland (on Elizabeth)
The Water Stop 780 Balm Beach Rd W, Midland
Tim Hortons 9225 Hwy 93, Midland (maybe in reno)
Midland Foodland 795 Balm Beach Rd, Midland
Tim Hortons 475 Bay St, Midland
Midland Recreation Centre 527 Len Self Blvd, Midland

LAFONTAINE

Variety Foodmart 345 LA Road, Lafontaine



NORTH SIMCOE SPRINGWATER NEWS

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THE NEXT PAPER WILL BE ON JAN. 2, 2025



PUBLISHER/EDITOR/OWNER:
LINDA BELCOURT



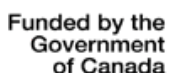
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ELMVALE LIONESS LIONS GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY



By Linda Belcourt, Editor

Dec. 15, 2024 - Elmvale Lioness Lions hosted their annual Sleigh Ride in the Village on Dec. 6, 2024. This event was free to the public and they ask for donations or sponsorship. The cost is high for the three teams of horses. We thank the Elmvale Lions members for helping out with loading of the horse wagons and for their sponsorship.

As a non-profit organization this event is the Lioness' opportunity to give back to the community of Elmvale. They offer a free night for Elmvale to bring family and friends together and offer a horse drawn wagon ride through the village. They provide hot dogs, a hot beverage and keep the children entertained with crafts and face painting. Lioness also provide every child that walks through the door with a goody bag. There is a toy give away for a small donation.

They had over three hundred people walk through our doors. This event seems to have marked itself on family calendars for decades now. They like to see every child and adult regardless of means, go home with a huge smile on their face, from the memories of the evening.

This event started around 45 years ago with Peter Whitfield when he owned the Whitfield Pharmacy. He wanted to encourage people to shop local in Elmvale. All the stores stayed open late and decorated the store fronts. A local farmer came in with a tractor and wagon to give families a ride around the village singing Christmas Carols. It was so wonderful to see the Christmas Market come back but this year it was on a different night. Tina of Tiny Art Shack was a force behind the greatly successful Christmas Market this year. It is so wonderful to see Elmvale growing with a few new business' coming to town. Merry Christmas!

THANK YOU FOODBANK VOLUNTEERS



By Linda Belcourt, Editor

Dec. 15, 2024 - The volunteers of the Elmvale Foodbank work hard to help people that need a support. We thank you for your time and efforts. The photo above show a few of the loyal volunteers accepting food from the Elmvale Lioness Lions donations gathered at the Sleigh Ride in the Village on Dec. 6, 2024.

ELMVALE LIONESS LIONS

would like to thank the generous sponsors that made this event possible:

- Elmvale Lions
- Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival
- BMR Pro Elmvale
- Pharmasave
- Ritchie's Feeds'N Needs Garden Centre
- Solly Family Dentistry
- Elmvale Pet Value
- Elmvale Dental
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It doesn't get better than this! By purchasing a ticket for the Elmvale Lions Club Truck Draw, you're not just getting a chance to win a brand-new 2025 Ford Maverick XLT AWD SuperCrew—you're helping us make a real difference in our community!



Wishing you and yours a spectacular Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

The holidays always get here faster than we think they will. Even the most organized of us will rush to get last minute things checked off the list. I hope that in the next few days you make some time to relax a little, chat with friends and neighbours, share a hot chocolate with your family, or maybe bake some cookies with your kids.

We all need the gentle reminder to take time for ourselves, whether that is time alone to read, start a new hobby, hike a local trail, or have a nap. However you choose to spend your time leading up to or during the holidays, I hope you make some good memories, laugh out loud, hug the people you love, and celebrate the season with a smile. This Christmas, I look forward to spending time with my wife and my sons, and our dog Ollie. We're going to watch some of our favourite movies, eat too much, and likely shovel some snow, maybe a lot of snow. I'm also going to walk our dog on the amazing trails near our home, hopefully in softly falling snowflakes rather than a blizzard. Either way, Ollie needs to spend time outdoors.

As 2024 winds down, we should embrace the highs of the past year and learn from the lows, which I know is much easier to say than it is to practice. To help practice embracing the highs, let's get out there and celebrate life, celebrate the holidays, and celebrate our communities. I wish you and yours a spectacular Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year. I hope to see you around town or maybe on the trails.

As always, my staff and I are available to discuss any federal matters that may be of concern to you and your family. Please do not hesitate to get in touch by phone at 705-728-2596 or email at Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca.

Merry Christmas everyone!

Doug Shipley

Member of Parliament

Barrie—Springwater—Oro-Medonte

Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte MP and MPP

recognize twenty-five community members with King Charles III Coronation Medal.

By Office of Doug Shipley
December 6th, 2024 Barrie, ON – On Friday, December 6th, twenty-five remarkable community members from Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte were honoured with the King Charles III Coronation Medal, recognizing their outstanding contributions to the community, the region, and Canada at large. The ceremony was attended by family members and friends who gathered to celebrate the exceptional achievements of each of the recipients. Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte MP Doug Shipley, and MPP Doug Downey, presented the medals to each recipient, acknowledging their dedication to improving the lives of others through volunteer work, leadership, and community service. "Today, we are celebrating individuals who go above and beyond to make our country a better place," said MP Doug Shipley. "These recipients

have not only contributed to their communities, but they have done so with unwavering dedication, passion, and a commitment to creating positive change. I am proud to be able to recognize their outstanding achievements." MPP Doug Downey praised the honorees for their dedication to public service. "This award allows us to acknowledge the incredible work these recipients do throughout the community," said MPP Doug Downey. "The contributions that these individuals have made has left a positive impact across our communities. I am grateful to be able to honour and celebrate their achievements in such a meaningful way." The event concluded with a reception, where guests and honorees came together to celebrate the achievements of the recipients and reflect on their shared commitment to building a stronger, more connected community, region, and country.

Long Time Resident Dan Clement wins honored award



Doug Downey MPP, Matt Garwood Ward 1 Counc., Dan Clement, Mayor Jennifer Coughlin, Doug Shipley MP, When Springwater News reached out to Dan he commented, "It was an honour to be recognized."

Submitted by Councillor Matt Garwood, Dec. 9, 2024

On Friday December 6, we recognized the outstanding contributions of Dan Clement, a lifelong resident of Elmvalle, who has devoted decades to serving his community. It was an honour to nominate and witness him receiving the prestigious King Charles III Coronation Medal, hosted by MP Doug Shipley and MPP Doug Downey.

This medal serves as a commemoration of the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, awarded to individuals who have made significant contributions to Canada or to a particular province, territory, region, or community, or have made an outstanding achievement abroad.

Dan's impressive community service includes his tenure as Past President of the Elmvalle Maple Syrup Festival, Flos Agricultural Society, and Springwater Township's Ward 1 Councillor from 2006 to 2014.

I commend Dan for his continued commitment to the Elmvalle community and to all Springwater residents who were honoured.



Dedicated Mayor Jennifer Coughlin wins honored award

By Linda Belcourt, Editor - Dec. 16, 2024
Jennifer Coughlin was an advocate for Springwater well before her political career began. Before everything else, Jennifer is a Mom to three girls, a champion for local recreation and a community builder. Residing in a century home in Anten Mills where five generations of Coughlin's have called home, Jennifer has dedicated the past decade to local public service. From Ward 3 Councillor, Deputy Mayor, County Councillor, Mayor and Deputy Warden for the County of Simcoe, Jennifer's story is one of perseverance.

Mayor Coughlin leads with integrity by fostering a spirit of collaboration. She's here for all the right reasons, and more. The Mayor has built a genuine relationship with her constituents and staff.



Mayor Jennifer Coughlin, shown in middle, surrounded by her proud family.

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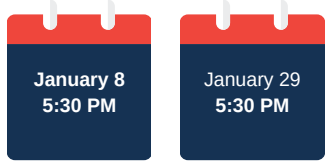


Participate - hear about community events, recreation programs, and public meetings



Be Prepared - receive alerts about pending and existing emergencies

Council Meeting Schedule



January 8
5:30 PM

January 29
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 2025 Meeting of Council Schedule is subject to change.

For complete details, visit the Community Calendar.

Recreation and Special Events

Winter Carnaval d'Hiver

Date: Saturday, February 8, 2025

Time: 11a.m. - 2 p.m.

Location: Perkinsfield Park, 43 County Road 6 South



Registration is open for winter programs!

Register online at www.tiny.ca/playportal, or contact the Recreation and Special Events Department at recreation@tiny.ca or 705-526-4204.

Changes to Mortgage Company Tax Payment Services

We have noticed an increase in mortgage companies that no longer offer a property tax payment service. **It is the property owner's responsibility to ensure that property taxes are paid. As per the Municipal Act, penalties and interest due to late payments cannot be waived.**

There are several alternative payment options:

- Pre-authorized payment (PAP) plan
- Online or telephone banking
- At financial institutions
- By credit card
- In-person/drop-box



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Interim Control By-law for the Tiny Shoreline

Did you know? The Interim Control By-law 23-044, as amended, prohibits the erection of any structure, fence, or sign through the duration of this by-law. This includes, but is not limited to, boathouses, retaining walls, patios, landscaping, decks, fences, walls, or shoreline alteration that are in proximity to the 178-metre contour elevation of the Georgian Bay Shoreline. Before you construct, visit www.tiny.ca/InterimControl for more information.

If you have witnessed a violation of the Interim Control By-law and wish to file a complaint, please By-law at 705-526-4204.

For further information contact the Planning and Development Department

E: interimcontrol@tiny.ca T: 705-526-4204



Winter Storms, Power Outages, and Emergency Preparedness

- Prepare your emergency kit in advance so that you can be ready for any emergency.
- Prepare an emergency car kit in the event you become stranded on the road.
- Know who your local electricity distributor is and how to contact them to report a power outage.
- Do **not** use 911 to report a power outage - this is for medical or fire emergencies only.
- Purchase a battery-operated, portable radio and extra batteries so that you can receive emergency information in your home or work place during an outage.
- Listen to the media for information regarding power advisories, warnings, and emergencies.

Winter Maintenance Reminders



Snow Removal

- Higher speed roads with heavier traffic are plowed first based on Provincial Maintenance Standards.
- Property owners are responsible for removing snow that accumulates at the end of driveways as a result of road maintenance.
- Disposing of or piling snow from private property onto a Highway or municipal lands, including ditches, is strictly prohibited.

- Sand is only applied at to roads at major intersections, hills, and corners during freezing rain/icy conditions.
- Sand is not applied to straight-a-ways as it is the driver's responsibility to drive according to weather and road conditions.

Winter Parking

- During the winter months, parking on the road is strictly prohibited at all times as it interferes with snow removal practices. The township does not have an allotted time of day to which parking on the road is allowed as snow removal can happen at any/all times of day. Cars that are found to be parked on the roadside during snow removal operations will be ticketed.

Hazards

- Ensure children refrain from building tunnels or forts inside snow banks by roadways.
- The township will not replace items (including mailboxes and garbage bins) that are damaged as a result of snow accumulation or force of snow off the plow blade. Please be sure to place items far enough back onto your property to keep them out of reach of this area to avoid damage or destruction.



**Notice of Virtual Public Information Centre (PIC) Meeting
For Proposed Minister's Zoning Order Request Application to the Township of Springwater**

Sunnidale OP Inc. are pleased to invite you to participate in an upcoming Public Information Centre (PIC) meeting related to a mixed townhome and commercial community for the property located at 731 Sunnidale Road in the Township of Springwater. The Applicant seeks endorsement from Township Council to request a Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) from the Province of Ontario.

A PIC meeting will be hosted virtually via Zoom on **Tuesday, January 21st, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.** to present information on the proposal in accordance with the Township of Springwater's MZO Request Protocol.

The Subject Lands

The Subject Lands are located at 731 Sunnidale Road. They are legally described as Part E1/2 of Lot 19, Concession 7, former Township of Vespra. The total lot area of the Subject Lands is approximately 10.97 ha (+/- 27.12 acres). A **key map** is included to illustrate the Subject Lands.

Purpose and Effect

The purpose of the MZO request is for approval of a mixed townhome and commercial community that would include conventional, back-to-back, and double front townhomes at 731 Sunnidale Road. The Subject Lands and surrounding area are located in the Township of Springwater in the County of Simcoe, abut the boundary between the Township of Springwater and the City of Barrie and are outside of a Settlement Area boundary.

The proposal seeks to permit a mixed townhome and commercial community that will include affordable townhome units, a convenience commercial use (approximately 400 sq. m or 4,305.6 sq. ft in area) and four parks (a total of approximately 16,400 sq. m or 176,528 sq. ft in area). A total of 509 units are being proposed, which includes 162 conventional townhomes, 278 back-to-back townhomes, and 69 double front townhomes.

The Township's MZO protocol sets out a process to request the lands to be zoned appropriately despite the applicable planning policies.

Pre-registration: Note that pre-registration is **required** for those who would like to make verbal or written comments during the meeting. Please visit <https://forms.office.com/r/UKbRjLbzEY> or scan the QR code with your smartphone device to register by no later than January 20th. Instructions on how to participate will be provided in advance of the meeting date.

All minutes, written submissions and a recording of the meeting will be submitted to the Township as part of the proposal and for Township Council's consideration.

If you wish to have your name added to the project mailing list, would like to provide comments in writing, or have any questions about the upcoming PIC, please contact:

Mariusz Jastrzebski, Associate, MHBC Planning
7050 Weston Road, Suite 230, Woodbridge ON, L4L 8G7
905-761-5588 x 222, mjastrzebski@mhbcpplan.com

Key Map



QR Code

Please scan this code to register for the meeting.

Hey Dads!

By Jason Weening, Dec. 16, 2024

It's almost Christmas. Have people been asking you the question? You know the one, "Are you all ready for Christmas?" Are we ever all ready for Christmas? I've been getting ready for the season by taking daughters to the Emergency Room. Join me on a Christmas journey to the hospital...

It was just before dinner and almost dark on a wintery weeknight. I was on my way down to the barn with one of the boys to check on the chickens, calves, and pigs. We were halfway to the barn when I heard screams in the night. Not the regular kids-having-fun sort of screams. Emergency screams: "DAD! DAD! DAD!" I looked around. I thought maybe our puppy had grabbed another chicken. I didn't see any animals fighting so I put down the buckets I was carrying and briskly walked back to the house to see what was amiss.

No sooner had I entered the house when I was bombarded with children shouting, "You have to take Emerald to the hospital!" "Emerald's finger is bleeding really bad!" "[NAMELESS BIG BROTHER] slammed Emerald's finger in the door!" With 10 kids, I've experienced door-slammed fingers before but never one that required a doctor's intervention. Perhaps all these children of mine were exaggerating. I squeezed through the panicked crowd to where my patient wife was bandaging up her patient - our 8-year-old daughter. She gave me the urgent-eyes look (which I don't see frequently, thankfully) and shouty-whispered, "The tip of her finger is coming off!" That's a serious door slam! Another sister was holding the wound shut and released it briefly so I could see what we were working with. When I saw the wound I agreed with the analysis.

Big sister carried little sister to the van while continuing to hold the bandaged wound shut. I hopped in and we were off to the ER! This was sort of a special hospital visit. I've taken my sons to Emergency Rooms in three different countries but never a daughter! There's a first time for everything. Everyone is nice and calm in Emergency Rooms. I frantically whispered to the nurse behind the desk, "It looks like the tip of her finger is coming off!" She smiled at me unconcerned and sat down to fill out 87 forms. Then she had the nerve to ask us to have a seat and wait for a few minutes! She seemed less concerned than I did that MY DAUGHTER'S FINGER WAS FALLING OFF!! Another nurse came in after a few minutes and escorted us to another room where she took a look. "Nice bandaging job," she commented. I smiled with pride but with a father's humility didn't mention that I had helped with the bandage. "We'll need to do an x-ray to see if the bone's broken." Yikes. Serious stuff for a door slam. X-ray revealed no broken bones and the doctor came in to stitch her up. Five stitches around a teeny-tiny finger is no joke!

We're supposed to go back Christmas Eve to have the stitches taken out. But maybe it will be fun to try take them out ourselves. Time will tell. Enjoy Christmas with your kids and I hope you spend more time at home than at hospitals this Christmas. Time Flies! Make every moment count, dad! Even the door-slammings ones! Merry Christmas!

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are in need for Christmas.
PLEASE DONATE
Friday December 20, 2024
Live Band
7 pm - 11 pm



Elmvale Branch: 705 322-1482
 Midhurst Branch: 705 737-5650
 Minesing Branch: 705 722-6440
www.springwaterlibrary.on.ca

Inter-Library Loan Service On Hold

With the Canada Post Strike currently in effect, all inter-library loan service is on hold at this time. We invite you to try using our extensive online database of ebooks and eaudiobooks available at cloudLibrary and hopefully we can reinstate this service again soon. Thank you for your patience.

Q-Tip Snowflakes

Come on into the Midhurst or Elmvale branches and make some q-tip snowflakes! Instructions and supplies will be provided by the library. This drop-in program is available as supplies last. Thursday December 19, 10am at Elmvale and Midhurst Branches. Cost: FREE.

Holiday Hours

Springwater Public Library branches will close on the following holiday dates in 2024: Christmas Eve: Tuesday December 24 close at 2pm, Christmas Day: Wednesday December 25 CLOSED, Boxing Day: Thursday December 26 CLOSED, New Years Eve: Tuesday December 31 close at 2pm, New Years Day: Wednesday January 1, 2025 CLOSED.

Hannukah Fun

Come to the library and learn how to play the dreidel game! This passive program will be out in the main area of the library with instructions and when you finish, you can ask for a piece of chocolate from the front desk. Chocolate available while supplies last. Monday December 23, Tuesday December 24 (open until 2pm), Friday December 27 and Saturday December 28 at Midhurst and Elmvale branches.

Make Stickers

Children and/or Teens - using our cricut, design your own stickers! Monday December 30, at 2pm or 3pm, Midhurst Branch. Cost: \$2 per participant. Registration required.

Take and Make Craft

Come to the library and get your free craft while supplies last! Starting Thursday January 2 we have a Mancala game kit to take home and make.

Vision Board Workshop

South Georgian Bay Health Team is at the library to facilitate a vision board workshop, participants will create their own vision board – focusing on specific areas in their lives such as career, home life, spiritual growth, health and wellbeing or relationships. All materials will be provided. Tuesday January 14, 6pm at Elmvale Branch. Cost: Free. To register call (705) 422-1888 ext 143.

Drop-in Cork Animals

This DIY craft uses felt and corks to make a cute critter of your choice. Available while supplies last. Thursday January 16 at Elmvale and Midhurst Branches. Cost: Free.



Annie's Journal
 by Annie Warner Donnelly

Dec. 16, 2024

Hello Everyone. Here's a question: What's keeping us from forgiving someone we will be seeing this holiday season?

Does it have something to do with life being fair? I do this for you; you do this for me. I give you a gift; you give me one back. I work hard at something; I receive a reward. I love you; you love me back. What if forgiveness has nothing to do with being fair?

Years ago, when I first read these Bible verses (Matthew 6:14,15) they shocked me: "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins." It took me nineteen days to forgive the family member who had hurt me most, but what a relief it was when I was finally able, with God's help, to do it!

Here's another verse to think about - 1 John 4:16 - "And we have known and believed the love God has for us."

If we know and believe the love God has for us, forgiving others is easier because we see how God forgives us every time we ask. We learn how to forgive others even when they don't ask.

Ken Sande, in his Peacemaking Principles, outlines these four promises of forgiveness:

1. I will not dwell on this incident.
2. I will not bring this incident up and use it against you.
3. I will not talk to others about this incident.
4. I will not allow this incident to stand between us or hinder our personal relationship.

Let's not allow unforgiveness to hurt us anymore. It takes a lot of energy to keep reminding ourselves to re-live the hurt we felt. Forgiving others and receiving God's forgiveness fills us with a peace that passes understanding.

Let's remember another Bible verse – Matthew 5:9 – "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God". Forgiveness lays the foundation for peace.

Let's end 2024 with human interactions filled with love and peace and joy, not unforgiveness and sorrow. It's possible to do this when we believe God's promises. Amen.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10
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		39			40						
41	42			43				44	45	46	47
48				49				50			
51				52				53			

Across

- 1 Word of honor
- 5 Stayed
- 8 "For what ___ worth ..."
- 11 Unleash
- 12 Rock
- 13 Kindergarten break
- 14 Alarm
- 15 Grown boys
- 16 Hear
- 17 "As I live and ___"
- 20 Didn't participate
- 23 Injures
- 26 Find a purpose for
- 27 Your father
- 29 Hardly more than
- 30 Rolling in dough
- 32 "Is it soup ___?"
- 34 Call, as a poker bet
- 35 Put away
- 37 Lock in place
- 39 John Lennon's most famous song
- 41 Furthermore
- 43 Mover
- 44 TV show
- 48 Fess (up)
- 49 Wolfed down
- 50 Central watery feature
- 51 Proposition vote
- 52 Called the shots
- 53 Hide

Down

- 1 Absent from work
- 2 It frequently follows you
- 3 Leafy drink
- 4 Marjoram and basil
- 5 Eventually
- 6 Field of expertise
- 7 Last Commandment
- 8 Rate of return on investments
- 9 Road cover
- 10 Sneak a peek
- 18 Like hearts and diamonds
- 19 Be busy
- 20 Free from contaminants
- 21 Major land mass
- 22 Parts
- 24 Family ___
- 25 Caught a look at
- 28 Clearly outlined
- 31 Line of fashion
- 33 Summer goal, maybe
- 36 Like sea battles
- 38 Markets
- 40 Golden in San Francisco
- 41 Miniature
- 42 Have chits out
- 45 "Mighty" tree
- 46 Winter sport action
- 47 Number

MIDHURST PHARMACY



Wishing you and yours...
A Healthy and Happy 2025!

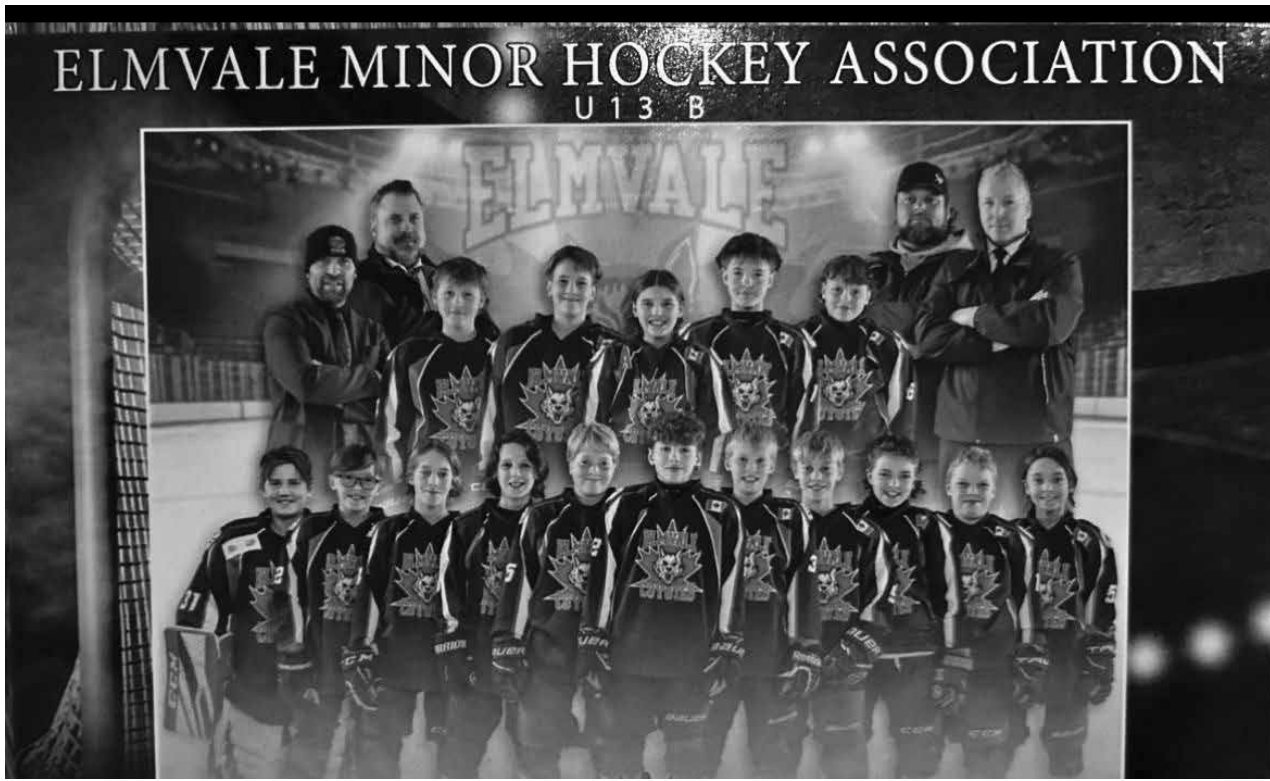
From all of us at Midhurst Pharmasave,
 Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!
 At Midhurst Pharmasave we provide personalized patient care by our pharmacist owners, Jenna and Carolyn and team. We offer free prescription delivery to Midhurst and area.

Our holiday hours will be:
 Saturday Dec 24th 9-3
 Sunday Dec 25th CLOSED
 Monday Dec 26th 10-2
 Saturday Dec 31st 9-3
 Sunday Jan 1st CLOSED
 Cheers!

94 Finlay Mill Rd, Midhurst 705.503.7333
 Mon-Fri 9-7 Sat 9-4 Sun 10-4

LIVE WELL WITH
PHARMASAVE

U13-B ELMVALE COYOTES 'ELMVALE LIONS CLUB'



The Elmvale Coyotes U13-B boys hockey team has been skating strong through the season, currently sitting in third place in their competitive division with 7 wins, 4 losses, and 1 tie. With a roster full of talent, teamwork, and determination, these young men have been

turning heads and gaining recognition as one of the top teams in the league.

Head Coach Brandon Godin credits the team's success to a balanced combination of offensive firepower and defensive discipline. The boys have really come together this season, they work

hard in practice put effort into each game and have already shown much growth.

The boys were glad to beat rival 'Huntsville Otters' 7-0 in November with goals scored by Reed Dermott, Cameron Lalonde, Seamus Wickett, and Gib

Springwater, Oro-Medonte agree to keep border talks going with Barrie

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Dec 12, 2024

The township councils in Oro-Medonte and Springwater had similar yet different reactions to the same news Wednesday afternoon and into the evening.

In Oro-Medonte, the council chambers were filled to capacity as Hemson Consulting's Stefan Krzczunowicz presented the Joint Lands Needs Analysis and Study - Stage 2 summary, which evaluated land requirements for the City of Barrie and the townships of Oro-Medonte and Springwater to accommodate growth up to 2051, focusing on employment and community areas.

Community areas are defined as being centred around housing and the supporting infrastructure, services and local retail employment necessary to sustain residential communities.

At the end of his presentation, Krzczunowicz fielded a number of questions from Oro-Medonte councillors about the study, which concluded the case for additional land for Barrie being relatively weak for only employment areas, but relatively strong for community area and for comprehensive community/employment area uses.

Oro-Medonte Mayor Randy Greenlaw tried to get some clarity on the numbers and asked Krzczunowicz specifically about Barrie's land stock. "We think on the employment area side of things they're probably going to run short before 2051, but after 2041," Krzczunowicz said. "On the housing needs front, it's a little bit more short term. I would say they have enough to get them to 2031."

Greenlaw tried again. "My understanding was they had enough industrial land to 2051, but they do not have enough shovel-ready land, but they were addressing it within their own city plan," the mayor said. "There are several targets here," Krzczunowicz said. "On the employment side, the key target is 2051 employment/job target. We think there's just about enough employment land to get them to that target, but they might

run a bit short before 2051. "On community area side of things, there are two targets — 2031 provincial housing pledge target, and the other is 2051 population target. We think they can probably hit the 2031 target, but will fall short of hitting the 2051 target."

An hour and a half later, Krzczunowicz made the exact same presentation for Springwater council, where about a half-dozen folks gathered in council chambers to hear the findings. When Krzczunowicz finished, he was asked to clarify a couple of numbers and the difference between a boundary adjustment and annexation — "there isn't any," he said — and if there were any other study areas that were identified that weren't included on any of the maps council had seen. "I saw one other that included proposed lands that are larger than what you see here," Krzczunowicz said.

Jeff Schmidt, chief administrative officer for Springwater, addressed the study area question a few moments later. "Through discussions tonight, you see what City of Barrie did propose to Springwater back in September of last year," he told council. "Those are the lands that were provided and presented to members of council. "As for other mapping, yes, we're familiar that there are other reiterations of that map that were submitted by the City of Barrie to the minister of municipal affairs back in December of last year as part of their Official Plan amendment."

Schmidt told council those lands were not presented to Springwater council, but staff are very familiar with those lands. "They don't form part of tonight's presentation," the CAO said. "That said, again, I think we need to make sure that everybody's aware and it's clarified, that although those lands were lands that Barrie has identified, should council agree and all parties agree to move to the next stage, additional lands will likely be identified through that process and will be brought forward for council consideration as to how you would like to proceed. "We just need to qualify, the study area includes the borders between Barrie/Springwater and Barrie/

Oro-Medonte. It's not just specific to what Barrie has presented or previously presented to council," Schmidt said. "It's the study area and it includes the full boundary between Barrie/Oro-Medonte and Barrie/Springwater."

Both township councils voted to receive the report and both voted to continue to engage with each other, the Office of the Provincial Land and Development facilitator, Hemson Consulting, the City of Barrie and the County of Simcoe to develop a work plan for the analysis of options identified in the Joint Land Needs Analysis and Study, as well as the costs to complete the proposed scope of work.

Staff for both townships will report back to their respective councils regarding the contents of a proposed work plan in January 2025.

Barrie city council also met later on Wednesday night to discuss the same report and hear a similar presentation.



Jane Voorheis, a member of Oro-Medonte-based Friends of the Future, shows off her red ribbon of solidarity against Barrie's annexation plans. She's hoping all residents of the township will start wearing the ribbon as a show of support.

Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter



**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PENETANGUISHENE
NOTICE OF A RESCHEDULED PUBLIC MEETING ON A PROPOSED
ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT**

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Town of Penetanguishene has received a Zoning By-law Amendment application (File No. Z.A. 4/2024) to the Town's Comprehensive Zoning By-law 2022-17, as amended, and deemed the application "Complete" under Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13 on the 15th day of January 2025. The application was originally scheduled for a Public Meeting on June 12, 2024 and was deferred at the request of the Owner.

- Application No.:** Zoning By-law Amendment Z.A. 4/2024
- Owner:** Brittany Jane Lowry
- Applicant:** MORGAN Planning and Development
- Location:** 65 Nettleton Drive (see Location Map)

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ZONING BY-LAW AMENDMENT

The application is submitted in support of the approval of a Provisional Consent to Sever application (File No. B3/2024) which will create two (2) lots for residential purposes. The Zoning By-law Amendment application proposes to rezone the Subject Lands from the Open Space (OS) zone and Environmental Protection (EP) zone to the Residential One Exception (R1-X) zone and Environmental Protection Exception (EP-X) zone. The R1 zone exception relates to a proposed setback of 5 metres to a watercourse, whereas a minimum setback of 7.5 metres is required, as well as a site-specific definition of Lot Coverage. The exception to the EP zone is to permit the installation of municipal water and wastewater services through this portion of the subject lands. The Amendment would facilitate future residential development and establish a building envelope on each of the lots.

PUBLIC MEETING

Pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, Council of the Town of Penetanguishene will hold a Public Meeting on January 15, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be dealt with in the Council Chambers Townhall, 10 Robert Street West, Penetanguishene to consider the application.

HOW TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK

All comments will be considered up until the Council of the Town of Penetanguishene makes a decision regarding the application. Written comments may be submitted by email to planning@penetanguishene.ca or in writing to the Town of Penetanguishene Planning and Community Development Department, 10 Robert Street West, P.O. Box 5009, Penetanguishene, ON. L9M 2G2 If you are submitting letters, faxes, emails, presentations, or other communications with the Town concerning this application, you should be aware that your name and the fact you communicated with the Town will become part of the public record. The Town will also make your communication and any personal information in it available to the public, unless you expressly request the Town to remove it.

APPEAL

If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of the Council of the Town of Penetanguishene to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town of Penetanguishene before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision. If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to Town of Penetanguishene before the by-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further information regarding this matter can be obtained by visiting the Town of Penetanguishene Townhall at 10 Robert Street West, Penetanguishene, by email planning@penetanguishene.ca or by telephone at 705-549-7453. The complete application materials are available for inspection by visiting the Town of Penetanguishene Townhall or online at connectpenetanguishene.ca/development.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Penetanguishene on the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment, you must make a written request to the Planning and Community Development Department 10 Robert Street West, P.O. Box 5009, Penetanguishene, Ontario L9M 2G2 or by email to planning@penetanguishene.ca.

It is requested that this notice be posted in a location visible to all residents if there are seven or more residential units at this location.

Dated at the Town of Penetanguishene this 19th day of December, 2024.

Kelly Cole,
Director of Legislative Services/Municipal Clerk

EDCNS faces council scrutiny as Tiny kicks off budget talks

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Dec 04, 2024

The first of three straight draft budget days began this week in Tiny Township with adjustments and challenges made straight out of the gate.

Faced with a daunting percentage before starting the meeting, an alleviating announcement was made regarding a recent \$77 million injection by the province that would address OPP billing for municipalities across Ontario.

The impact on the municipal tax rate lowered it to 7.17%, with a blended tax rate increase of 5.837% to residents. Those figures were tempered by Mayor Dave Evans who put forth a reminder that the initial estimate would change over the three days.

Nine groups were represented for the annual request portion of the agenda preceding draft budget discussions, ranging from high-ranking services like Georgian Bay General Hospital Foundation and Southern Georgian Bay Physician Recruitment, down to smaller causes such as the Culture Alliance in the Heart of Georgian Bay.

The largest discussion was drawn to the Economic Development Corporation of North Simcoe, who despite providing a well-documented business plan, stumbled for 25 minutes as their request for \$87,000 from Tiny Township was viewed as unfair.

Of the four partner North Simcoe municipalities in the EDCNS, Tiny held the smallest commercial tax revenue generator at roughly \$160,000 in 2024, but was asked to contribute just behind Midland (\$120,000) and well ahead of Penetanguishene (\$68,000). "I have no doubt that the innovation hub will be successful," said Evans, "(but) I think you're being a little audacious asking us to be the second largest supporter of something that represents such a small portion of our commercial tax revenue."

EDCNS treasurer David Potter countered that despite the population-based funding formula used, Tiny looked to gain \$500,000 at best within a year's time.

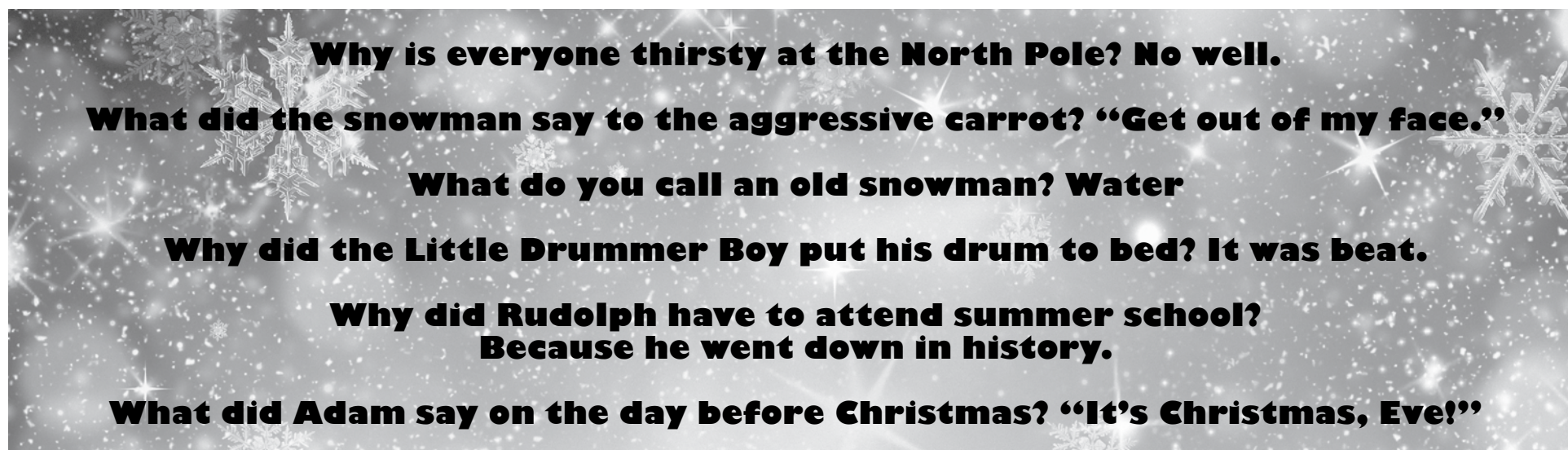
Other discussions were less contentious, with high praise and a look at expansion given to the Busk 'til Dusk program, and a further question toward Community Reach if they would consider a Balm Beach transport to Midland similar to the town's pilot project this year, making it a two-way contract.

Deputy CAO Haley Leblond, also the corporate services director and treasurer, explained that the OPP figure (estimated at a \$451,000 budget decrease) would adjust the overall taxes but wouldn't be addressed in the presentation due to its late announcement and that the previous rate would be used as noted.

Pressures on Tiny included increased insurance costs and a decrease in the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund grant, but savings were anticipated through estimated taxation growth to the township in 2025, increased Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund, and a county relocation of township internet technology services.

The draft net operating budget was anticipated at \$14.8 million, "which is the tax levy that we have to collect," said Leblond.

The 2025 draft budget can be found in the agenda page on the Tiny Township website. Archives of council meetings are available to view on the township's YouTube channel.



KINGS SOLIDIFY FOURTH PLACE POSITION WITH PAIR OF WINS

Submitted by Jamie Robillard

The Penetang Kings solidified their position in fourth place in the Carruthers Division of the Provincial Junior Hockey League with a pair of wins over between November 29th and December 7th.

On Friday November 29th the Kings mauled the Muskoka Bears by a 5-1 margin as Tanner Thayer scored a hatrick and added one assist to pace the Kings offence. Aidan Gravelle and Wyndam Brownlee added single markers for the Kings while Landon Simec turned aside 27 of the 28 shots he faced in the Penetang goal. Penetang fired 42 shots on the Muskoka net to entertain the home crowd. Thayer was named the Kings player of the game.

The Kings' followed up that win with 5-2 victory over the Innisfil Spartans on Friday December 6th with single goals from Carter Wilson, Camron Hutchinson, Owen Fuller, Noah Saye and Cole Rumbolt. Saye playing in his first game in a Kings uniform after signing with the team earlier in the week looked like he fit in well showing off some good speed and offensive savvy. Simec once again was strong between the pipes for the Kings making 28 saves on the night and was named the Penetang player of the game. Penetang managed 32 shots on the Spartans goal.

On Saturday December 7th the Kings travelled to Alliston to face the undefeated Hornets in an afternoon tilt and came out on the short end of the

score 5-2. Thayer and Brownlee netted one goal each for Penetang in the loss. Alliston outshot Penetang by a 43 to 14 margin, keeping the Kings netminder Simec very busy throughout the contest. Once again Thayer collected player if game honours for the Kings.

The Kings' next home game is Friday December 20th when they meet the Midland Flyers at 8:00 pm at the Penetanguishene Memorial Community Centre then take their annual Christmas break before returning with a Friday January 3rd home contest when they face the Muskoka Bears.

Notes: The Kings game between Penetang and Orillia originally scheduled for November 30th was postponed due to inclement weather and will be rescheduled at a later date.


The Kings Program and Yearbook is printed and waiting for distribution once Canada Post returns to full operations. In the meantime, Programs can be picked up at Kings home games.

As of December 12th, the Alliston Hornets lead the division standings with 22 wins for 44 points followed by Orillia with 37 points, Stayner with 36 points and Penetang with 24 points in 24 games. Innisfil is fifth with 16 points followed by Huntsville with 15, Midland 11 and Muskoka 7 points respectively. Alliston continues as the only undefeated team in the 63 team PJHL.

All pictures are submitted on behalf of Russ Zmijowskyj.



Carter Wilson gains the zone and drives to the net



WATERSIDE RETIREMENT LODGE FRIDAY SENIOR STANDINGS @ ELMVALE CURLING CLUB

	RECORD	POINTS
TEAM SCOTT	6-2-0	31.0
TEAM JOHNSTONE	6-2-0	30.0
TEAM DON	5-2-1	29.75
TEAM MADORE	5-3-0	29.0
TEAM McCLUNG	5-3-0	26.5
TEAM BELCOURT/TOWNES	4-2-2	24.5
TEAM MARSHALL	2-5-1	21.5
TEAM MURPHY	2-5-1	21.0
TEAM KENNEY	2-6-0	17.25
TEAM ALLEN	2-5-1	17.0
TEAM HUTH	2-6-0	16.0

The above are the final standings for our Fall Schedule. In the first round of playoffs, Team Belcourt/Townes defeated Team Huth, Team Murphy defeated Team Kenney and Team Allen defeated Team Marshall. Round two on Wednesday Dec. 18th, has Team Scott vs Team Allen and Team Johnstone vs Team Murphy, both at 9:15 am. Also, Team Don vs Belcourt/Townes and Team Madore vs Team McClung, both at 11:30 am.



Friday November 29 vs. Muskoka
Saturday December 7 @ Alliston
- Player of the Game - Tanner Thayer



Friday December 6 vs. Innisfil
- Player of the Game - Landon Simec

Report says Springwater's wards not serving township well

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Dec 10, 2024

When Springwater Township council reviews the results of the just completed ward boundary review on Wednesday afternoon, it will have two paths to consider.

It can adopt one of the two recommended final options, or it can do nothing at all.

Either option would be open for challenge at the Ontario Land Tribunal. "If it declines to act, council must clearly understand that such a decision essentially indicates to the township's residents that it believes retaining the existing ward system still serves Springwater well," states the report from Watson and Associates Economists. That would not be the conclusion the report's authors reached.

Within the report, Watson and Associates highlighted some deficiencies in the current ward boundary system in relation to the guiding principles, which were identified as:

- representation by population
- population and electoral trends
- means of communication and accessibility
- geographical and topographical features as boundaries
- community or diversity of interests.

"Taken together, these principles will contribute to achieving the over-arching principle of effective representation," the report stated. "These deficiencies have led the consultant team to conclude that there are alternative ward boundary systems that can better serve the residents of Springwater well and council should consider changes. "The public engagement efforts throughout this review have been largely consistent with this view," it added.

In 1997, an internal review led to a reduction in the number of Springwater councillors and wards from seven to five. Although modifications to ward boundaries were considered but not adopted in 2002, 2005 and 2009, a subsequent review in 2012 led to the boundaries currently in place.

Today, Springwater council consists of a seven-member body, including a mayor and deputy mayor who are elected at large, and five councillors who are elected in five wards. As the present wards were adopted more than 10 years ago through a boundary review and the township has experienced significant population growth and intensification within Midhurst and the surrounding settlement area, a ward boundary review was deemed necessary. If council's decision is to endorse one of the final options, a bylaw to implement the preferred direction would be expected to occur as soon as possible. The bylaw would describe the boundaries associated with

the approved wards and assign numbers (or names) to them.

In the preliminary options report, prepared in October, three alternatives were presented to the public for further feedback. Two of those options are being presented as the final recommended options for council's consideration.

According to Watson and Associates, Final Option No. 1 (which is preliminary option No. 3) is considered a "population parity" option since it places a priority on providing representation for both the existing and future populations over three election cycles. "The objective of population parity (every councillor generally representing an equal number of constituents within their respective ward) is the primary goal of an electoral redistribution with some degree of variation acceptable considering population densities and demographic factors across the township," the report stated. "The indicator of success in a ward design is the extent to which all the individual wards approach an 'optimal' size," it added.

According to the report, optimal size can be understood as a mid-point on a scale where the term "optimal" describes a ward with a population within five per cent on either side of the calculated optimal size. The classification "below/above optimal" is applied to a ward with a population between six per cent and 25 per cent on either side of the optimal size and is considered an acceptable variation.

A ward that is labelled "outside the range" indicates that its population is greater than 25 per cent above or below the optimal ward size. (The adoption of a 25 per cent maximum variation is based on federal redistribution legislation and is widely applied in municipalities like Springwater that include both urban and rural areas.)

Data confirms that four of the five current wards in Springwater vary by more than five per cent from the optimal point in 2024, and all five fall outside the optimal range of variation by 2034, but with significant variances projected, since the Ward 4 population is 12,820 and the Ward 5 population is 11,480, while the remaining three wards are projected to include less than 6,000 people. "Analysis of the current and future population trends, along with feedback received during the public consultation and other features of Springwater in 2024, leads to a recommendation that the present wards fall short of achieving effective representation across the township," the report stated. "When compared to the existing system, only minor changes have been proposed to the northern two wards (Ward 1 and Ward 2) while larger changes to the remaining three

wards are proposed, to maximize future population distributions around the Midhurst and surrounding areas," the report noted.

According to the report, one consequence of emphasizing both current and future population growth is the proposed division of the Midhurst community into two wards: one east of Wilson Drive and the other west of Wilson Drive (with the area south of Snow Valley Road between Wilson Drive and Bayfield Street captured within the western Midhurst ward). "This Final Option 1 successfully meets most of the guiding principles being considered in this (review) and has received the largely successful evaluation of effective representation," the report said.

Final Option 2 (which is Preliminary Option 1) is considered a "minimal disruption" option since it preserves (and in some cases improves) the groupings of the main settlement areas found in the existing wards, while moving to more identifiable lines between wards. "Significant changes between the existing configuration and the proposed alternative are visible around the proposed Wards 4 and 5 as the consultant team strived to achieve better parity between the Midhurst ward and other wards," the report stated. "This proposed configuration utilizes a dividing line along Wilson Drive between the proposed wards 4 and 5, optimizing current population parity between the two southern wards."

Final Option No. 2 looks to maintain similarities to the existing configuration while seeking and achieving current population parity. "As growth continues to develop across the southern region of the township, four of the five wards are expected to fall outside of the ±25 per cent acceptable range by 2034," the report stated.

This option addresses some of the more significant issues with the existing system, but recognizes some of the uncertainty surrounding future residential and population growth. This option could mean the township would have to review boundaries again after two elections, depending on growth. "The practice of reviewing boundaries after every two or three elections, should be a recommended practice," the report stated. "With the growth expected to be largely concentrated in Ward 5 in this option, future ward population imbalances could be fixed in the future with tweaks to this proposed system or changes to composition."

Springwater Township council will consider the boundary review report Wednesday afternoon during a special session of council.



Jack Ammendolia, managing partner of Watson and Associates Economists, presented three preliminary options for Springwater Township's ward boundary review earlier this year. Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

ANTEN MILLS

By Dennis Gannon - Dec. 16, 2024

There is that old saying about the weather, if you don't like what you see, just wait 5 minutes and it will change. For the second year in a row in our community that certainly was the case for our Christmas in the Village events. On the Saturday night, we had gentle snow fall and some wind. When it came time for the tree lighting and the fireworks everything calmed down and the skies lit up with the beautifully adorned tree and the spectacular fireworks.

On Sunday morning we were greeted with rain and the roads were pretty bare. Just around noon the skies opened up with some light showers that ended quickly just in time for the parade. For the balance of the afternoon it was pleasant.

Christmas in the Village was a great success this year. On Saturday night a large number of people showed up for the activities. Hot dogs were served up by Stephanie, Dave, Roslyn and Shawn and bellies were filled. Delicious hot chocolate was made by Gord and Pat who along with Georgia, Callia and Allie made sure everyone enjoyed one along with the glow sticks that all the children received. Our community thanks Snow Valley Barrie for showing up with the SnoTube slide and team who created a tremendous fun experience for everyone who rode down it. Of course the evening would not have been a Christmas party if Santa Claus wasn't there. The Springwater Fire and Emergency Services volunteer firefighters made arrangements for the jolly old elf to show up and he did, riding in a fire truck. Everyone who wanted a photo with Santa had an opportunity as lots of photos were taken. The evening concluded with a countdown to turn on the lights on the tree and ground displays and then fireworks lit up the night. Thanks to Gord and Lawrence for putting on a display that was exciting. A huge thanks goes to all who contributed and to the Wilson and Dunn families, Snow Valley Barrie, and McLaren Equipment for their continued support.

Sunday saw the community get together for the 27th annual Santa Claus parade. New and old participants gathered to make this an exciting experience. New this year was before the parade started off, Mayor Jennifer Coughlin, MP Doug Shipley and MPP Doug Downey checked out the entries and 3 new awards were presented. Barrie Dance Conservatory received the Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer award. The Tantalo family and friends got the Naughty or Nice List award and the Caston kids were awarded the Elf of the Village award. All three groups proudly displayed their banner as they marched through the village.

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus were the highlight of the parade watched by a large crowd spread throughout the community. At the end of the parade hot chocolate and cookies were available thanks to the Wilson's with the assistance of Atthill boys. The Anten Mills Community Recreation Association thanks the Springwater Vespra Lions for their support for this event and to the OPP Auxiliary officers who provided assistance ensuring that the parade made it safely through the streets. Of course the volunteer firefighters who escorted Santa and Mrs. Claus deserves a special thank you for their dedication as they have been part of every Santa Claus parade since the beginning.

If you are thinking about next year, Christmas in the Village will take place on Saturday, December 13 and Sunday, December 14 and in case you missed it, check out the CTV website as they featured the parade as part of their news coverage.

For the past several weekends and during the Christmas in the Village events the community was asked to help support the Elmvale and District Food

Bank. The community response was very positive and following the parade a load of food was taken to the food bank. This past week a second full load was sent up and the Elmvale Food Bank was extremely appreciative of all the support. Thank you for considering others at this time of year and know that it is greatly appreciated.

Recently a deserving Anten Mills resident received a distinguished award, the King Charles III Coronation Medal. In recognition of his ascension to the throne, the medal was struck and first presented earlier this year on the one year anniversary of the coronation. Presented by MP Doug Shipley, the award recognizes the achievements and contributions this individual made for the benefit of all. For over thirty years Marjan Deller has contributed countless hours of service to both Hospice Simcoe and the RVH Auxiliary. Marjan is noted for her individual and collective fundraising to Hospice Simcoe every Spring which many in the community help support. Congratulations Marjan from the entire Anten Mills community.

It has been confirmed that on Christmas Eve, escorted by the volunteer firefighters of the Springwater Fire Department, Santa Claus will tour the streets of our community bringing Christmas wishes to all. The year that this tradition began has never been officially recognized but it definitely has been going on for more than 45 years. Families, friends and neighbors gather and wait for the arrival

of Santa and his arrival can't be missed as the fire trucks' emergency lights light up the night along with their sirens. Usually Santa and the firefighters get to Anten Mills between 6 and 7PM and you can check the Anten Mills Community Bulletin Facebook page for updates.

That's it for this week and for 2024. It is an honour to bring you the community news and a thanks to the editor and publisher for providing the space in this newspaper. The comments received through the year demonstrates that the column is welcomed and the required input to continue. It's been just over 6 years since I submitted my first column and at 26 columns a year this should be about number 160. From my family to everyone, MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR and THANKS for READING, BE WELL and STAY SAFE.



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Pizza Delight

MAY COURT CLUB GIVES \$2535 TO FOOD BANK

The members of the May Court Club of Barrie gave \$2535 in gift cards to the Barrie Food Bank to purchase toilet paper in bulk. The Barrie Food Bank had 7,456 client visits in November 2024 which is double from last year. On a recent tour of the facility, it was learned that a family of five could only choose up to 2 rolls of toilet paper on a visit every 28 days and that was only if it was in stock. With unprecedented needs, the Barrie

Food Bank (and 40% of Food Banks across Canada) have had to cut back quantities issued to clients due to increased costs. Generous community donations in food, non-perishables and funds ensure that the purchasing and logistics of the Barrie Food Bank can continue in a very well thought out manner. Please support them with direct donations, through a Food Drive or at your local grocery store.



Hughes Home Health is a new business in Midhurst

By Lisette Hughes Dec. 16, 2024

This is a family business consisting of father, mother and son. With the ageing population expected to amass 25 percent of our population by 2041, the economic and financial reality is that seniors will be required to remain in their homes for longer periods of time without the option to seek alternative living accommodations. This is where we can help. We are a full service business, offering mobility products such as walkers, scooters and hospital beds for sale or rent. We are prepared to help your home transition into the

ageing process with stair-lifts, lift chairs, kitchen aids and bathroom aids designed to maintain the activities of daily living. But these products aren't just for the ageing. Individuals suffering from chronic disease or post surgical rehab can also benefit from many of these products. The store also carries medical compression garments and adaptive clothing for those with limitations due to disease, surgery or assisted care needs.

Unique to our store is that we offer home handyman service for anyone requiring small household safety modifications and adjustments.

All the best for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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This may be the installation of products such as grab bars, hallway railings or doorway modifications. And if you have a small job that needs done, we can do that too. As a family run business and long term residents of Midhurst, it was important for us to focus on the community and surrounding area we love. Our passion is to affect the process of ageing into a dignified and confident experience. We want you to know that “we see you” and that you matter.

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Kari Belcourt pet Gemmie



Springwater News' Assistant Shadow with Pet Value's Santa Visit Dec. 15



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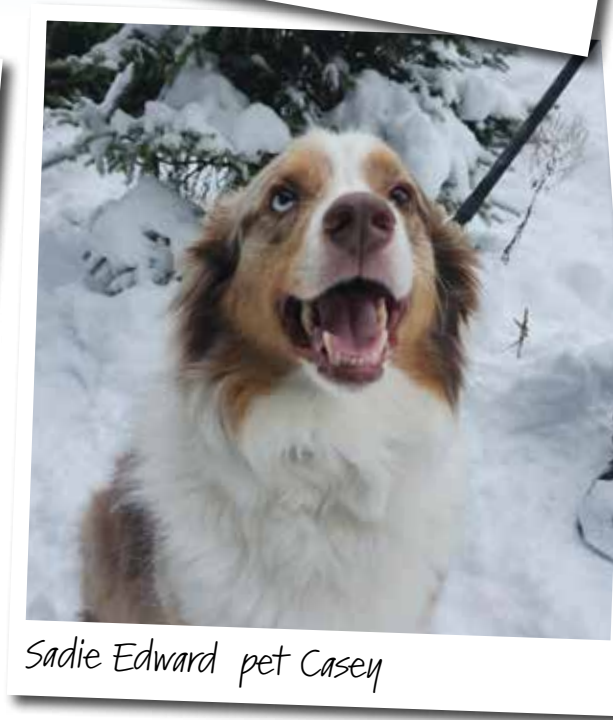
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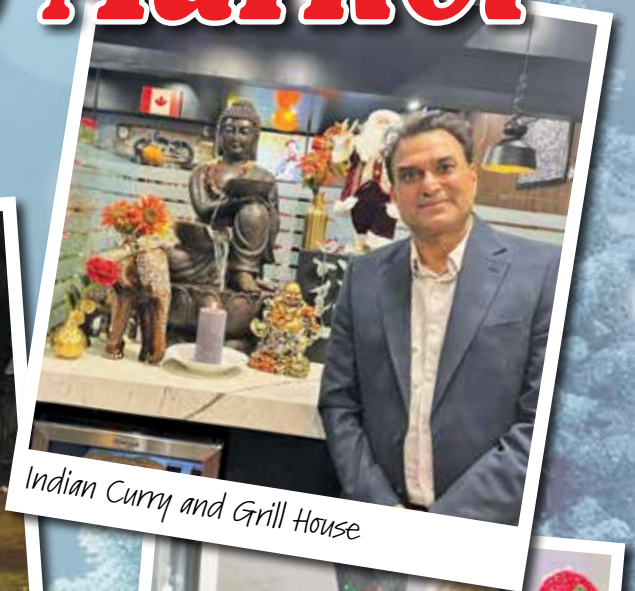
November 28th and 29th Elmvale Christmas Market Was a huge success!



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Indian Curry and Grill House



Bloom was busy



Waterbed Gallery and Jacks on Queen



Bounce Back hosts Chic Boxing



Wishing our community a safe and Happy Holidays. May your days be filled with joy, laughter, and love.

Matt Garwood, Ward 1 Councillor

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Bearbells

by Leslie Noonan

December 7/24

The winter wonderland had my husband throwing out some choice curse words as he headed outside to shovel for the third time. I did offer to help, perhaps half-heartedly, and when my husband declined I gleefully threw my snow shoes into the car that he had so nicely brushed off. As the weather had made driving treacherous, I stayed close to home and only ventured as far as the Wye Marsh, and even that was a tense five minute drive through whiteouts. The Marsh was open, though only a few brave souls had ventured out. All the better for me, guaranteeing a peaceful time on the trails.

I strapped on my snowshoes while listening to the sounds of chickadees flickering overhead, hopeful for a handout of sunflower seeds. These tiny birds will sit in your hand for a photo op, however patrons are asked to refrain due to the spread of avian bird flu. Obviously the chickadees weren't made aware of this, as they gather on the small twigs overhead in anticipation of a handout. I left the birds behind and continued out to the Graham McDonald snowshoe trail. No one had been out here, and even with my snowshoes I was up to my knees in soft snow. Breaking trails is an incredible workout that will have your legs burning and a sheen of perspiration on your brow. This is when those layers are so important, using fabrics that will whisk away the moisture. Cotton kills, as it absorbs moisture and holds onto it, putting the wearer at risk for hypothermia. Synthetics and wools are a smarter choice.

The heavy snow had settled on the bushes and trees, causing them to lean heavily across the trail. Initially I tried to duck under these, but with every accidental touch the cold, wet snow would fall on my head and

back of my neck. This is when I had the bright idea to knock the snow off before ducking. Off came the snow with a smack of my mitts, and I smiled at my genius. Maybe not, as with the weight of the snow gone the branches flung up and smacked me in the face. Mother Nature has a twisted sense of humor some times. Another lesson learned, and I made sure to stand back and use my poles to knock off any further snow covered branches.


Once on the Graham McDonald snow shoe trail follow the orange blazes around the loop, a short 2 km trail. You can also take the green blazes off the loop and out to Freshet creek. This is a more remote trail and I rarely find anyone out here. The silence is deep, as the thick snow continues to fall around me to soften the squeak of my shoes. Only the dark tree trunks and green cedars break the stark whiteness. Above me the snow higher up in the trees began to fall off with regularity, as the west wind picked up and shook the bare branches. It was time to head back, as the weather was turning and another squall was on its way. This is not an area that I would want to be stranded in during a storm. I made better time on my return, as the trail was already broken in though starting to fill in with the soft new snow. As I returned home and pulled into my driveway I admit to feeling some guilt. My husband was still out shoveling and had a mantle of snow on his shoulders and a scowl on his face. Karma was out to get me, as a tickle in my throat soon turned into a horrible flu and our home became a plague house. There would be no more outside time for me over the next week, though my poor husband continued to battle both the flu and the piles of snow.




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Jo Knows Nutrition
by Joanne Nijhuis

CLEMENTINE UPSIDE DOWN CAKE PERFECT FOR THE HOLIDAYS



There is something magical about Ontario winters, especially when clementine season arrives! From late November through February, these easy-to-peel citrus treasures brighten up even the coldest days. Perfect for snacking, but why stop there? Clementines are a versatile alternative to oranges in so many recipes, including this delicious dessert that is sure to charm your family and friends.

DID YOU KNOW?

Clementines are small, but mighty when it comes to nutrition! Packed with Vitamin C, just one clementine provides almost half of the daily needs for healthy, non-smoking adults. Not only do clementines support your vision (beta-carotene) and your gut (fibre, water, vitamins), they also contribute to keeping your immune system (vitamins, antioxidants) healthy during the colder months.

INGREDIENTS

- 5-6 clementines, peeled and sliced into rounds
- 2-3 clementines zest and juice
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) unsalted melted butter or vegetable oil, divided
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) packed brown sugar or 1 1/4

- cups (313 ml) maple syrup or honey, divided
- 1 1/3 cups (333 ml) white or whole wheat flour
- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon (2.5 ml) baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon (1.25 ml) salt
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) buttermilk, sour cream or Greek yogurt

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 350 F (180 C). Spray a 9-inch (23 cm) cake pan with non-stick cooking spray.
2. Thinly slice 5 or 6 clementines and set aside.
3. Zest the remaining clementines and set aside.
4. Pour 1/4 cup of the melted butter or oil into the bottom of the cake pan.
5. Add 3/4 cup (188 ml) of the brown sugar or 1/2 cup (125 ml) of the maple syrup or honey on top.
6. Arrange the slices of clementine in a circular pattern, slightly overlapping in the cake pan. Set aside.
7. In a large bowl, mix together the flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt.
8. In another bowl, whisk with an electric or

handheld mixer the eggs, remaining brown sugar, maple syrup or honey, zest and juice from the 2 to 3 clementines, the remaining melted butter or oil, vanilla extract, and buttermilk, sour cream or Greek yogurt. Slowly add the dry ingredients, mixing until well combined.

9. Gently pour the batter over the clementine slices and smooth with a spatula.
10. Bake for 30 to 40 minutes until golden and a toothpick comes out clean in the middle of the cake.
11. Cool for 15 minutes. Gently run a knife around the edge of the pan to loosen the cake.
12. Carefully invert the cake onto serving plate. Let cool before slicing.

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 cooking demos/classes and individual counselling. For more information, email Joanne at jo.knows.nutrition@outlook.com

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Submitted by Helmut Paddags, Dec. 16, 2024
 Golf Committee members not present include Chris Greer, Wendy Lang and Barb Holloway. The Murray Donaldson Memorial Golf Tournament successfully raised \$1587.07 for the GBGH Foundation.
 The 5th annual golf tournament in memory of Murray, a long-standing Club member, was held at

Brooklea Golf & Country Club. The tournament consisted of a 4-member team scramble and an 18-hole mini putt challenge held at Balm Beach Mini Putt for those unable to participate in the scramble. A BBQ lunch was served at The Place to all participants after the tournament. Prizes were awarded and a silent auction was held to raise funds for Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH)

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Merry Christmas Minesing Moments Readers

By Lorrie Norwood, Dec. 16, 2024
 Our great village of Minesing was filled with excitement last Friday night as our local farmers and neighbours came together to present the 5th Annual Tractor Parade to the people-lined streets. What a beautiful display of tractors covered in Christmas lights and decorations, floats with families and friends from our local farms, music to celebrate the season and elves collecting for the local Elmvale Food Bank. The organizer, Shannon Giffen, began this great tradition back during covid and each year since, our local farms have taken time and energy adding more floats and creativity to their machinery. We hope that this wonderful tradition continues for many years to come. Our Minesing community never ceases to amaze me with their generosity towards the food bank. The Rowland Brothers Movers were also decorated in the parade with volunteer elves and filled a good portion of the truck bed with donations. We were also lucky that Santa was able to take a quick trip down from the North Pole to participate with his good pal Swampy who also ventured out of the swamp to see everyone! Thank you to all involved in organizing and delivering such a great event. We cannot wait until next year and hope it's bigger and better than ever!

communities, as I am sure Minesing isn't the only one it's happening to. If you have security cameras and ring cameras, it may be a good idea to check them regularly for suspect people and vehicles and make note of the make, model, colour and license plates in case something happens. Let's keep our communities safe and be on the lookout. Sadly, we are past the time when we could say it wouldn't happen to us because unfortunately it can.

For those travelling this season, leave early, take your time and arrive safely. Remember to make plans ahead of time if you are going to be drinking. There are many options to get home safe so do the right thing! We know that RIDE programs will be active for their annual Christmas crack down.

Until next time, from my family to yours, Merry Christmas and all the best for a wonderful season ahead.



Christmas has become a very different holiday for my family, we have gotten rid of the gift giving and focus more on our time together. As years pass it just makes it more sense to us that presence, not presents, is the focus of the season for us. However, with my new grandson, a few presents have made their way back under the tree for him. The excitement through a child's eyes is so amazing. The lights on the tree and the man in the red suit, decorations and music all are new to the little ones. Whatever way you celebrate in your home and whatever works for your family, we wish you all the very best.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ALERT – Last Friday night there was a report of a vehicle right here in Minesing, who approached a woman walking her dog inquiring if she wanted a ride with them. The OPP have been contacted and an investigation is ongoing. Be sure to keep an eye out in our

County insurance pool pitch makes splash with Penetanguishene

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca

Dec 16, 2024 Municipal insurance has been a costly necessity for many years now, but a recent resolution by Simcoe County has allowed for its municipalities to sign onto an insurance pool if they want.

For individual councils, such as had been seen by Penetanguishene in its regular meeting of council, a presentation by the county and service provider helped to inform the decision makers as well as residents with how it can lighten wallets while making communities safer.

The presentation to Penetanguishene was an easily-digestible slideshow and in-person explanation from CIO and principal broker Ryan Durrell of Axxima Insurance Services, along with Simcoe County general manager of corporate performance Trevor Wilcox. "Starting around the early 2000s, we had the longest and most prolific soft insurance market with prices regularly reducing over that 15 year period until about 2019, (where) everybody realized that the insurance premiums were going up significantly over the following few years," said Durrell.

Similar to the Waterloo Region Municipalities Insurance Pool of 1998 and Durham Municipal Insurance Pool of 2000, the proposed startup for Simcoe County would be available for any of its municipalities should they choose to join.

Projected county insurance premiums (amounting to \$20.6 million for 2025) estimated that while expected losses of 34 per cent went to pay claims, roughly 66 per cent of premiums would "go places other than serving the needs of the community" (Durrell). "To drive this home is a great analogy," said Durrell. "Self-insurance is very much like making your own meals at home, and insurance is

very much like dining out at restaurants; both have their places."

Durrell added that instead of 18 individual municipal policies, one large policy would provide "best in class" coverage comparable to the status quo they had experienced, with savings of \$4.3 million (or 19.2 per cent).

Wilcox cautioned that it would be most beneficial for municipalities to sign on initially rather than wait and attempt to enter at a later date once the pool had been established, with municipalities ideally joining before mid-February for a five-year commitment.

A report was addressed during the latter committee of the whole meeting, with an approved recommendation that the town become a founding subscriber of the municipal insurance pool. "Penetanguishene is going to realize about \$400,000 in savings," said Mayor Doug Rawson following the meeting. "This pooled approach is very positive, but more importantly, it provides depth for risk management expertise – where we can lean on the strength that the county can put in, but it's being paid for in concert with the other 16 municipalities and the county of Simcoe."

The matter is anticipated to appear for possible ratification at an upcoming regular meeting of council.

The municipal insurance pool presentation and accompanying town report can be located on the agenda page of the Town of Penetanguishene website.

Meetings of Penetanguishene council are held on the second Wednesday of each month, and can be watched live on Rogers TV cable 53 when available, or on the Rogers TV website.

Archives of council meetings are located on the Town of Penetanguishene YouTube channel.

Penetanguishene eyes 4.5% municipal tax increase with 2025 budget

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Dec 13, 2024

Penetanguishene Mayor Doug Rawson said that with council's due diligence on the 2025 budget, taxpayers should feel proud; however, the job isn't finished quite yet.

The comments came after council passed a 4.5% municipal tax rate increase for next year's budget, equating to a 3.9% blended tax rate increase – or \$61.24 per \$100,000 of residential current value assessment.

The 4.5% (\$600,000) increase was due to town increases of 2% (\$265,000) for operating and 1% (\$139,000) for capital purposes, as well as a 1.5% (\$195,000) policing increase. However, an announcement by the province in late November noted a \$77 million injection to municipalities which would address OPP billing costs, equating to roughly \$330,000 for Penetanguishene.

The policing alleviation, announced after the draft budget had been presented, wasn't calculated within the 2025 budget final draft report presented at the recent council meeting, as noted by treasurer and finance director Carrie Robillard. "The reduction... which we haven't received yet," said Robillard, "it'll come to us in the form of a revised 2025 billing. But a large part of that reduction is also related to 2023 reconciliation, so it's not all based on 2025 policing costs."

A forthcoming report by March is expected to address the policing aspect, allowing for final revisions by council to the tax rate.

Coun. Suzanne Marchand, chair of the finance and corporate service section, extended thanks to staff for hard work on the budget, as well as council

for approving the \$24.7 million annual budget of funding from \$13.8 million operating, \$8.7 million capital, and \$2.2 million policing. "The goal was to develop a budget to maintain and enhance the service levels that residents enjoy, focused on key areas that the public identified as priorities such as roads and fire service, and keeping the tax rate increase at a reasonable level," said Marchand.

Key projects in the 2025 and 2026 capital budgets include: reconstruction of Peel Street from Robert Street East to Brock Street (\$2.3 million); intersection upgrades at Robert Street East and Fuller Avenue (\$1.5 million); an expansion of the road division garage and wash bay (\$1.2 million); and more.

Following the meeting, Rawson told MidlandToday that council and staff had worked through the process while balancing community wants and needs against current realities and pressures. "We've still got some work to do to reconcile everything," said Rawson. "I think if you think about where we're at from a capital, policing, and operation (perspective), I think we did a really good job. And I think they should be (pleased). I am, and unanimously this council's behind it. I think a lot of hard work's been done, and (residents) should know that we've done due diligence and they should be proud."

The 2025 budget final draft report can be located on the agenda page of the Town of Penetanguishene website.

Meetings of Penetanguishene council are held on the second Wednesday of each month, and can be watched live on Rogers TV cable 53 when available, or on the Rogers TV website.

Archives of council meetings are located on the Town of Penetanguishene YouTube channel.

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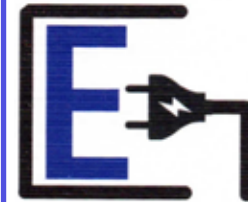
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Notice of the Adoption of an Amendment to the Official Plan and Notice of Passing of By-laws to Amend Zoning By-law 5000, as Amended OP-2024-005 & ZB-2024-016 – Short-Term Rental Premises

Take notice that the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Springwater passed **By-law 2024-105** to adopt **Official Plan Amendment 69** to the Official Plan of the Township of Springwater on the 4th day of December 2024, under Sections 17 and 21 of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13*, as amended.

And take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Springwater passed **By-law 5000-399** on the 4th day of December 2024, under Section 34 of the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13* as amended. **This By-law will take effect upon the final approval of Official Plan Amendment 69 by the County of Simcoe.**

Prior to the passing of the above noted by-laws, a Public Meeting was held on September 11, 2024 in accordance with the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13*, as amended.

Subject Lands

Entire geographic area of the Township of Springwater. **No key map** has been included in this notice as the proposed amendment applies to the entire municipality.

Purpose and Effect

The purpose of the proposed Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments is to establish the land use permissions to allow Short-Term Rental Premises within the Township of Springwater.

Proposed Official Plan Amendment

The Official Plan Amendment proposes to add language to the Official Plan to permit Short-Term Rental Premises and allow the Zoning By-law to regulate Short-Term Rental Premises with respect to permissions within specific Township zones, parking requirements, use within accessory buildings and other such matters deemed necessary.

Proposed Zoning By-law Amendment

The purpose of the proposed Zoning By-law Amendment is to develop new policies related to Short-Term Rental Premises. The effect of the proposed amendment is to clearly define Short-Term Rental Premises within Zoning By-law 5000 and permit the use of residential dwellings and additional residential units as dedicated Short-Term Rental Premises in the following zones: Residential One (R1); Residential Two (R2); Residential Three (R3); Residential Four (R4); Residential Five (R5); Urban Residential One (UR-1); Urban Residential Two (UR-2); Urban Residential Three (UR-3); Rural Residential (RR); Residential Estate (RE); Residential Conversion (RC); Residential Seasonal (RS); and Agricultural (A) Zones.

Further Notice or Appeal of Official Plan Amendment

The County of Simcoe is the approval authority for Official Plan Amendments and that any person or public body will be entitled to receive notice of decision of the approval authority with respect to Official Plan Amendment No. 69 adopted, if a written request to be notified of the decision (including the person's or public body's address, fax number or email address) is made to:

County of Simcoe
Planning Department
1110 Highway 26
Midhurst, Ontario, L9X 1N6

Appeal of Zoning By-law Amendment

A specified person or body as identified in the *Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.13*, as amended, may appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) in respect to all or part of this Zoning By-law Amendment may be made by filing a notice of appeal with the Township's Secretary Treasurer either via the Ontario Land Tribunal e-file service (first-time users will need to register for a My Ontario Account) at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/e-file-service/> by selecting the Township of Springwater as the Approval Authority or by mail to 2231 Nursery Road, Minesing, ON L9X 1A8, no later than **5:30 p.m. on December 29, 2024.**

The filing of an appeal after 5:30 p.m., in person or electronically, will be deemed to have been received the next business day. The appeal fee of \$1,100 can be paid online through e-file or by certified cheque/money order to the Minister of Finance, Province of Ontario. If you wish to appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) or request a fee reduction for an appeal, forms are available from the OLT website at www.olt.gov.on.ca.

If the e-file portal is down, you can submit your appeal to brooklynn.paolucci@springwater.ca

Dated at the Township of Springwater on the 9th day of December 2024.

Attention: Planning Department
Township of Springwater Administration Centre
2231 Nursery Road
Minesing, Ontario, L9X 1A8
T: (705) 728-4784 x 2019
E: planning@springwater.ca
www.springwater.ca



www.springwater.ca

2231 Nursery Road
Minesing, Ontario
L9X 1A8 Canada

**Notice of Passing of a By-Law to Amend
Municipal Wide Development Charges By-law No. 2023-070**

Take notice that the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Springwater passed By-law No. 2024-100, being a by-law to amend municipal wide Development Charges By-law No. 2023-070 on the 4th day of December, 2024 under section 2(1) of the Development Charges Act, 1997, S.O 1997 c. 27, as amended;

And take notice that the Cutting Red Tape to Build More Homes Act, 2024 (Bill 185) received Royal Assent on June 6, 2024 and reduces the requirement for municipalities to freeze development charges imposed on developments subject to site plan and/or a zoning by-law amendment. The purpose of the amending by-law is to reduce the development charges freeze period from 24 months to 18 months, and to update the capital cost estimate for Fire Station 2 in the Township's Development Charges By-law No. 2023-070.

And take notice that any person or organization may appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal under section 14 of the Act, in respect of the development charges by-law, by filing with the Clerk of the Township of Springwater on or before the 14th day of January, 2025 a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons supporting the objection.

The schedule of municipal development charges imposed by By-Law No. 2023-070, as amended, effective December 4, 2024 are as follows:

Services	Residential					Non-Residential	
	Single and Semi-Detached Dwelling	Other Multiples	Apartments - 2 Bedrooms +	Apartments - Bachelor & 1 Bedroom	Special Care / Special Dwelling Units	Per sq. ft. of Gross Floor Area	Per sq. m. of Gross Floor Area
Municipal Wide Services:							
Services Related to a Highway	8,112	5,872	4,517	2,944	2,694	3.66	39.36
Fire Protection Services	2,652	1,920	1,476	963	881	1.18	12.74
Parks and Recreation Services	10,743	7,775	5,981	3,899	3,568	1.69	18.24
Library Services	1,582	1,145	881	575	525	0.25	2.64
Growth Studies	417	302	232	151	139	0.19	2.06
Total Township Wide Services / Class of Service	23,506	17,014	13,087	8,532	7,807	6.97	75.04
Urban Services Elmvale:							
Water Services	1,327	961	739	482	440	0.64	6.89
Wastewater Services	12,925	9,345	7,169	4,690	4,293	6.18	66.55
Total Urban Services Elmvale	14,252	10,315	7,935	5,172	4,733	6.82	73.44
Total Elmvale	37,758	27,329	21,022	13,704	12,540	13.79	148.48

A copy of the complete by-law is available for examination at the Township Administration Centre, 2231 Nursery Rd, Minesing during regular business hours (weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.) excluding statutory holidays. A copy of the by-law can also be found on the Township website: www.springwater.ca/developmentcharges

Dated at the Township of Springwater on December 10, 2024.

Jennifer Marshall, AMP, Clerk
Township of Springwater
2231 Nursery Road Minesing, ON L9X 1A8
Phone: 705-728-4784 x 2015
Fax: 705-728-2759
E-mail: clerks@springwater.ca
www.springwater.ca

OPP REPORT

Submitted by OPP

FROM/DE: Southern Georgian Bay OPP Detachment DATE: December 12, 2024

Sharp Eyed OPP Officer Makes Arrest in Overnight Commercial Midland Break and Enter (MIDLAND,ON) - A sharp eyed officer from the Southern Georgian Bay OPP Detachment made an arrest solving an overnight break and enter to a popular Midland restaurant.

Officers were dispatched at approximately 2:39 a.m. December 11, 2024 to a report of an entry alarm at Mom's Restaurant on Pillsbury Drive, Midland. Although the officers attended the scene promptly the suspect had fled the scene after smashing the front glass entry door. Video surveillance provided the officers with suspect descriptors and at 9:30 a.m. December 11, 2024 an OPP officer patrolling on William Street observed an individual matching the suspect descriptors. When the officer approached, a foot pursuit ensued resulting in an arrest of the suspect.

Charged in connection to this investigation is Jamie Paul DUBE 43 years of Tay Township with the following criminal code offences.

- Break, Enter a place - commit indictable offence
- Mischief - destroys or damages property
- Theft Under \$5000
- Possession Property Obtained by Crime Under \$5,000 - in Canada
- Resist Peace Officer

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

Anyone having knowledge of drug or property related investigations is asked to contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122, opp.southern.georgian.bay@opp.ca or by calling Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). You can submit your information online at <https://www.crimestoppersdm.com/> Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to call display and you will remain anonymous. Being anonymous, you will not testify in court and your information may lead to a cash reward of up to \$2,000.00.

Splash-pad study wets appetite of Midland council

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Source: MidlandToday.ca, Dec 11, 2024

Little Lake Park was ranked the top choice if a \$1.2 million splash pad were to be installed for opening in 2026, according to a feasibility study presented to Midland council.

By definition, a splash pad is an immersive zero-depth aquatic play area. Midland residents had been requesting a splash pad for roughly a decade, with approval to start the process granted during last year's budget cycle.

Sean Kelly, landscape architect for SKA Plural, provided the results of the study including preferences from an open house during a recent committee of the whole meeting. "Definitely, Little Lake Park is a bit of a destination...in the Midland region," said Kelly.

Eight local parks were looked at for criteria with that number being whittled down to three. However, 85 per cent of the 33 attendees from the open house said they preferred a large (350- to 500-square-metre) splash pad at Little Lake Park over the other choices. "When you look at things like: creating a leisure service delivery network; one-stop shop; something that can actually work for tourism... for economic development... for residents and community members at large - there seems to be something there for everybody, and there's some current infrastructure to build in to," said Kelly.

An estimate under \$1.2 million was listed based on a preliminary concept, shown on-screen at the meeting.

Kelly noted that the contained-water recirculation system could be cheaper in the short term but much more expensive over the anticipated 20-year life cycle of the splash pad than the municipally-connected flow through system.

Mayor Bill Gordon said: "The general feel, still, from people who contact me online and offline is that this is a real investment in our community, but

the concern has always been around the cost."

He noted that his 2019 projection was fairly close to the estimation presented in the study, adding that the annual operation cost would be "almost immaterial" to other recreation aspects of town, referencing the \$1.8-million yearly stipend for the North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre. "This becomes an accessible and wet way to cool off in summer, something most Midland residents are deprived of. We used to have historic access to beaches in the neighbouring municipalities; it isn't happening any more. "And we really can't swim in Little Lake," Gordon added. "I mean locals won't; visitors will."

With a reminder that sponsors and pledges from 2019 could reduce the capital cost through in-kind contributions for core infrastructure, his intent would be to reduce the amount needed to be pulled from reserves.

It was echoed further when Coun. Bill Meridis received clarification from CFO Lindsay Barron that a \$1.25-million estimate would be included in the upcoming 2025 draft budget as a service level change request, to be taken from reserves.

When asked if the public would be able to participate in further engagement on the splash pad, infrastructure manager and town engineer Mitch Sobil replied that a finished feasibility study would instead be posted on the town website for public information.

Detailed information, timelines and reports on the 2025 budget can be found on the budget and finance page of the Town of Midland's website.

The splash pad feasibility study presentation, including slides, is available in the council agenda on the town of Midland website.

Council meetings are held every third Wednesday, and can be viewed on Rogers TV cable channel 53 when available, or through the livestream on the Rogers TV website. Archives of council meetings are available through Rogers TV and on the Town of Midland's YouTube channel.

Tiny exploring 'forever chemical' PFAS detection for municipal water systems

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Dec 09, 2024

Council of Tiny Township were recently given an update on what source water protections were for the municipality, as well as risk management from their delegated official.

Severn Sound Environmental Association source water protection manager Melissa Carruthers provided a slideshow presentation on the township's drinking water, stating that a mid-year deadline identified 11 existing risk management plans in the municipality. "Just because those plans are completed doesn't mean we're done," said Carruthers, explaining that continued development application reviews and potential provincial lowering of thresholds could result in changes to the plans. "The work's not done, but we've met a major milestone."

Water protection was implemented through policies from the local source protection plan for each region. During the meeting, a map revealed roughly 20 municipal supply well systems, each displaying two key vulnerable areas of a wellhead protection area and an intake protection zone.

"These areas are mapped based on the time of travel it takes from the groundwater to reach the municipal well," said Carruthers, "with the furthest being 25 years; we don't map forever, there is a confined time frame."

Carruthers also pointed out additional protections placed on observed low nitrate concentrations at the Lafontaine well supply, which were erred on the side of caution for drinking water.

When pressed further by Coun. Dave Brunelle on nitrates in Lafontaine, public works director Tim Leitch replied that the levels remained "fairly stable at this point" and provided additional peace of mind for residents on initiatives over the decade to minimize nitrate impact. "We've changed how we pump our systems down there, so we're blending our water because we do have one very good well and a couple that have nitrates," said Leitch. "By blending, we can reduce the nitrate levels down to an acceptable amount. "I don't like to jinx anything, but we are seeing leveling off of that data which is a positive thing," Leitch added.

Coun. Kelly Helowka, a member of the Great

Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, raised the topic of testing local water sources for the 'forever chemical' PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, measured at four-parts-per-trillion), suggesting that if found then Tiny could explore legal action as seen with other recent global PFAS lawsuit settlements amounting to billions of dollars.

Mayor Dave Evans later inquired about the difference between residential fertilizers and commercial fertilizers (defined by Carruthers as common off-the-shelf brands which could be purchased), but also asked about PFAS detection within the program. "Internally, we are looking at starting to include that as part of our measurables; but at this point we are not," said Leitch. "If we do start to monitor it... that we're using proper data, we're using proper information, so that we don't have any public confusion."

The drinking water source protection update presentation can be viewed on the agenda page on the Township of Tiny website.

Archives of council meetings are available to view on the township's YouTube channel.



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AUCTION NOTICES



Upcoming Auctions

- The Olympic Coach Collection Auction - Guelph (Jan 5-9)
- Churchill Estates Moving Auction - Campbellville (Jan 19 - 23)
- Bryant Moving Sale - Guelph (Jan 26 - 30)
- The Estate of Fred Walker - Orangeville (New Year)
- Murray Hobbs Moving Auction - Maple (New Year)
- Winter Estate Jewellery - Guelph (New Year)



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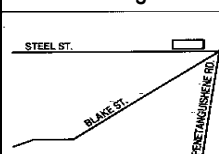
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Teen Hormones and Teen Males

Dec. 8, 2024 - We are not surprised when teenage girls start acting 'hormonally'. We expect they will no longer always be sweet little girls and anticipate a whole range of different moods. We do not, hopefully, suddenly decide they are 'bad' simply because they have become harder to get along with. We can relate; women have been through the same thing themselves, and fathers have experience with their partner's mood variations.

Although they go through similar changes, teenage boys are not always shown the same understanding. Because they have more testosterone, their 'moodiness' will often manifest as anger and aggressiveness, or simply a surly demeanor. This is often met with anger and aggression in return, which only adds to the emotional stew that is brewing in the family.

Girls have the advantage of naturally being more expressive when it comes to feelings. They also talk a lot amongst themselves. They have the opportunity to vent and get support for whatever they are going through. Boys, as we all know from our experience with men, are less likely to keep a running tab on the state of their emotions, much less to give a play-by-play of same to their best buddy.

Most boys have not had adult males around who model the processing of feelings. Is it any wonder, when the maelstrom of adolescent changes strikes, that boys withdraw into themselves and snarl at anyone who comes near? Are we surprised when they barricade themselves behind cereal boxes at breakfast, or suddenly have zero tolerance for anyone who steps over the threshold of their bedroom? We should not be.

In early times, the young adolescent would be spending his time hanging out with the men, learning the skills of hunting/gathering, and sitting around the fire at night listening to their stories. His days would be active, and the adrenalin and testosterone would make him a threatening foe for his prey. Now, at thirteen or fourteen he sits in a desk all day, and more than likely has female teachers. He is inactive, unless he is involved in sports—but they are extra-curricular. Biologically, he is programmed primarily for activity.

What can we do to help? First off, we can have a great deal of compassion. Culturally, we have not made it easy for him. We do have to set boundaries for acceptable behaviors, and we should try to elicit his co-operation rather than demanding and forcing it. He needs to be treated with kindness, even when we must be firm. We need to ensure that siblings are not adding to his frustrations and doing things they know will set him off. It is not an easy time for him, and so he needs our love and support.

Gwen Randall-Young is an author and award-winning psychologist. For permission to reprint this article, or to obtain books, audio recordings or to read other articles visit www.gwen.ca. Follow Gwen on Facebook for inspiration. Gwen Randall-Young Psychological Services Ltd. (780) 464-7005 | gwendall@shaw.ca

Community Events - Ongoing

SENIOR CLUBS

Askennonia Seniors Centre
 Rec. Centre, 527 Len Self Blvd, Midland
 P: (705) 526-7609

Bay Shore Seniors' Club
 2000 Tiny Beaches Road S., Woodland Beach
 Call 705-361-1331 or info@bayshoreseniors.ca

Georgian Shores Seniors Club
 The Place, 300 Balm Beach Road West, Tiny
 Call 705 526 5074 or gssseniors2016@rogers.com

MONDAY

Midland Jam
Mondays 6:30-10 pm Free, Bring food bank item,
 1st come, first 15 minute play
 Midland Cultural Centre, 333 King St, Midland

Elmvale Seniors Drop In
Monday's
 10 am - 12 noon
 Elmvale Library. Call Lynn for info, 705.322.3309

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

Georgian Shores Seniors Club
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
Seniors in Motion Fitness, 10:00 – 11:00 am
Hustle and Muscle, 11:30 – 12:30 pm
Bid Euchre, 1 – 3:30 pm

Askennonia Seniors Centre
Table Tennis, 9am-11am
Yoga, 9am-10am
Fun Fit Circuit, 9:15-10:15am
Coffee Break, 10:30-12pm
Intro to Line Dancing- Baby Steps, 10:35-11am
Walking Club, 11 am-12pm

TUESDAY

Elmvale Legion
Tuesdays at 1 pm
 Table Shuffleboard, Cost \$1

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

Bay Shore Seniors Club
Billiards/Pool 10:00 – 12:00 p.m.
Indoor Pickleball 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Bid-Euchre – 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Georgian Shores Seniors Club
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
Line Dancing, Prog. Beginners 9:30 – 11:00 am
Line Dancing, Easy Intermediate, 11:30 – 1:00 pm

Askennonia Seniors Centre
Badminton, 1pm-3pm
1:30 Circle of Friends, 1:30pm-2:30pm

Probus Club of Simcoe North
Penetang Legion, Poyntz St., Penetanguishene
 Monthly meeting for fun & fellowship every second
 Tuesday. Mary Grise (705)526-6349 marygrise0@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY

Bay Shore Seniors Club
LifeStyles - 9:00 - 10:30 am
Bridge – 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.
Access Art - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m
Indoor Pickleball - 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Georgian Shores Seniors Club
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
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

Askennonia Seniors Centre
Step Class, 9 am-10am
Chair Yoga, 9:30am-10:30am
Cribbage, 10am-11am
Men's Shed, 10am-12pm
Walking Club, 11am-12pm
Creative Crafting, 1pm-3pm

THURSDAY

Jam Night Elmvale Palace
Thursdays at 9 am-1am
 13 Queen St. W, Elmvale , 705-322-1741

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.
 Mary Grise 705-526-6349 marygrise0@gmail.com

Coffee Party
Last Thursday of the month 9:30 - 11a.m.
 Elmvale Presbyterian Church
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Bay Shore Seniors' Club
Choir 10-11:30 am
Book Club (4th Thurs) 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Darts 2:00 - 4:00 pm
 2000 Tiny Beaches Road S., Woodland Beach
 Call 705-361-1331 or info@bayshoreseniors.ca

Georgian Shores Seniors Club
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
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

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.

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

FRIDAY

Bay Shore Seniors' Club
VON Smart Exercise (FREE) 9:30 - 10:30 am
Woodcarving 10:00 - 3:00 pm
Billiards/Pool 10:00 - 12:00 pm
Indoor Pickleball 10:30 - 12:00 pm/ 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Shuffleboard 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Georgian Shores Seniors Club
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
Table Tennis, 9:30-11:30 am
3rd Bingo & Lunch: 12 noon - 3:30 pm
TGIF social, 4:00 – 6:00 pm

Askennonia Seniors Centre
Knit'n Needles, 9am-12pm
Drumming Alive, 9am-10am
Pickleball, 9am-11:30am
Chair Yoga, 9am-10am
Badminton, 9:30am-11:30am
Game Club, 10am-11am
Tabata, 9am-10am
Card Making, 1pm-3pm

SATURDAY

Elmvale Legion
Saturday at 5 pm
 Meat Darts- \$ 10.00 for 3 games
 3 prizes per game and a meat draw prize after \$1.00
 a ticket (\$25.00 value)

SUNDAY

Bay Shore Seniors' Club
Indoor Pickleball 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Good Vibes
First Sunday 2-5 from 2 to 5 p.m.
 An open-mic music event. For winter months,
 relocated to Hackney Horse Bed & Breakfast, 3276
 Penetanguishene Rd. near Craighurst. \$5 donation,
 tea, coffee & baking at a small extra cost.

MONDAY to FRIDAY

S.M.A.R.T Exercise Program with V.O.N.
 Mon 9:30-10:30am
 1724 Mosley St - Hall 1A Recplex gym
 Wed & Fri 1:00 - 2:00 pm 44 River Road West
 Re/Max Room (Stars Arena)

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

North Simcoe Bridge and Games Club
Brooklea Golf and Country Club
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 Gail Chapman @ 705-361-9222 or
 northsimcoebridge@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

Special Events - One Time

Free Christmas Dinner
Dec. 25, 2024 12 pm dine in or takeout/delivery
 Elmvale Presbyterian Church, 22 Queen St. E
 Call 705-322-1411 on Dec. 17, 9-3pm to order.

Inflatable Kidzone and Dinosaur Display
Dec. 27, 10-5 pm
 Bradford Greenhouses 4346 County Rd. 90, Barrie
 Inflatable Kidzone and Dinosaur Display with
 Tattoos, Fun Foods, Balloons + more

Barrie will ring in 2025 with Madeline Merlo as
headliner
Dec. 31, 2024 at 6 pm to midnight
Barrie City Hall, 70 Collier St
 Sonshine and Broccoli return as children's
 performer. Variety of family activities and a
 spectacular fireworks display. Visit Barrie.ca
 Barrie Transit bus service will be free on New Year's
 Eve starting at 5 p.m. with hourly service extended
 to 3 a.m. Extended schedules can be found on
 myridebarrie.ca.

BAY SHORE SENIORS CLUB
January 1st, 2025, from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.
 Join the Bay Shore Seniors Club's 50th Anniversary
 Open House. Enjoy guest speakers, Barrie's Poet
 Laureate, and our Time Capsule. Please celebrate
 with us and kick off a year of exciting monthly
 events.

Tim Hicks at Wasaga Stars Arena
Feb. 7, 2025
 Tickets are on sale now through Ticketmaster and
 at wbse.ca. Prices range from \$80 to \$125 (plus fees
 and taxes).

Donate blood

Elmvale Community Centre

35 Queen Street, Elmvale

Saturday, January 11

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Book on blood.ca or at 1-888-2DONATE

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Reason for the Season

Our Lady Of Lourdes Roman Catholic Church, Elmvale. Christmas Eve, 7pm
St Patrick's Catholic Church, Phelpston. Christmas Eve 9:30pm, Christmas Day 9am
St John's United Church, Elmvale
Knox Flos Presbyterian Church, Crossland Road. Christmas Eve candlelight service on Tuesday, Dec., 2024 at 5:30 p.m
Knox Presbyterian Church Elmvale, Christmas Eve, 7pm.
Elmvale Community Church, Christmas Eve. 5pm. 7pm
St. John's United Church Elmvale, Christmas Eve 7pm
Midhurst United Church, Christmas Eve 9pm
St. Margaret's Parish, Midland - 2024 Christmas Schedule Christmas Eve - Tuesday, December 24, 5pm, 8pm, 10pm, Christmas Day, 10am
St., Paul's United Church, Midland, Christmas Eve 7pm.
Midland Alliance Church. Christmas Eve candlelight services 4pm, 6pm,
St. Mark's Anglican Lutheran Church, Christmas Eve 7pm, Christmas Day 10am
St. Anne's Parish Penetanguishene, Christmas Eve, 5pm English, 7pm Francais, 9:00pm~English
Our Lady of the Rosary Christmas Day, 9am Francais, 11am English, 12.30 pm ~ English (Our Lady of the Rosary Mission)
Ste. Croix Parish Tiny, Christmas Eve, 7 pm Francais, 9pm English St. Florence Chapel, Christmas Day, 10:30 am Francais
St Patrick, Perkinsfield, Christmas Eve, 5 pm Francais, 7 pm English. Christmas Day 9 am English, 11am Francais.
Wyevale United Church, Christmas Eve 7pm
 Covenant Christan Community Church, Penetanguishene, Christmas Eve 5pm
First Presbyterian Church Penetanguishene, Christmas Eve 7pm

SERVICE



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 Father Tony Vandervechte (705)549-0241
 Rev. Mother Denyse Wigglesworth (705) 529-4291
 Father Don Dorion (705) 528-4513
 Rev. John Stokes (705) 534-3251

EVENTS

THANK YOU

THANK YOU to everyone who helped and participated at the 1st annual Bill Truax Memorial Euchre Tournament. Funds were raised to support the local community.

Event winners
Carol McMann & Bernie Edgecombe
 2nd. place - Brian Ball & Bill Boyle
 3rd. place - Renea Truax & Kevin

Shout out to the Elmvale Legion & the Ladies Auxiliary.

First Annual Bill Truax Memorial Euchre Tournament at Elmvale Legion Gives To the Community

Dec. 12, 2024 - On November 30, 2024 many were shared throughout the day by all who were in attendance. His selflessness touched many lives and left a lasting impact.



Event winners on left: Carol McMann & Bernie Edgecombe. 2nd. place on right - Brian Ball & Bill Boyle

Life Labs Elmvale
Holiday Hours
 Dec. 24 Open 7-9pm
 Dec. 25 Closed
 Dec. 26 Closed
 Dec. 31 Open 7-9pm

Dr Sean Corsini
Orthodontist
 (705) 527-5570

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 DrSeanCorsini@hotmail.ca

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OBITUARIES



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STRATH, Edward Alexander
Passed away peacefully at the Cortellucci Health Centre in Vaughn on Saturday, December 14, 2024. Edward Strath of Maple in his 67th year. Beloved father of Adam and Peter Strath. Dear son of Mary (late Graham) Strath. Loved brother of Anne (Al) McLean, Cindy (Kevin) Fleming, and Becky (late Daryl) Halloch. Edward will be missed by his nieces and nephews Jennifer, Danielle, Amanda, Scott, Jack, and Makenna and his 6 great nieces and nephews.

Ed was an active member of the Maple Lions Club of District A-16 where he held many positions including president of the Club for several years. During his membership the Maple Lions Club won the prestigious International Kindness Matters Service Award for Club Activity.

Ed loved to help at the annual pancake breakfasts and turkey shoots.

Ed was also a very active member of the Zion Church in Maple.

He will be greatly missed by the entire Lions Club Community as well as his Church Community.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Diabetes Association or the charity of your choice.

WILKINSON, Elizabeth Hannah "Bette"

Passed away peacefully at the Georgian Bay General Hospital in Midland on November 28, 2024. Bette Wilkinson of Tiny in her 91st year. Mother of Barbara Turnbull and Jim (Linda) Wilkinson. Grandma of Lisa, Mike (Shenene) and Great-Grandma of Liam, Caelan, and Isla.

In keeping with Bette's wishes there will not be a funeral service.

Memorial donation may be made to the Georgian Bay General Hospital Foundation.

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



GODSMARK, George Fredrick

(Retired Etobicoke Fire Captain, Retired Volunteer Fire Chief Tiny Township, Volunteer with Georgian Bay Search and Rescue)

Passed away peacefully at the Georgian Bay General Hospital in Midland on Sunday, December 8, 2024. George Godsmark of Elmvale in his 94th year. Cherished husband of 40 years to Dianne. Beloved father of Fred Godsmark (late Cathie), Bruce (Lori), Trish (Jim), Norm, Cheryl (Oivind), Shelly (Mike), and Rob. Loved grandfather of George, late Rachael, Giacomo, Lillah, Hailey, Logan, Steven (Melanie) and great-grandfather of Fraser. Pre-deceased by siblings, Richard, Frank, Effie, Edna, and Florrie. George will be missed by his many friends and neighbours that were like family to him.

In keeping with George's wishes, there will not be a funeral service.

If desired, memorial donations may be made to the Midland OSPCA or the charity of your choice.

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

Pocknell, Willa Mary

Peacefully passed away at home surrounded by her family on Sunday, December 8, 2024 at the age of 87 years. Predeceased by her husband Robert and her one grandchild. She will be lovingly remembered by her 3 children, her 9 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, extended family and friends. Cremation has taken place.

Memorial condolences can be shared at www.leclaircremationcentre.com

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OBITUARIES



ENGELKE, Curt

Passed away at the age of 70 on Saturday, November 23, 2024 at his home in Minesing after a lengthy illness. Father of Aaron and Daniel Engelke. Brother of Lisa Stephens (Jeremy). Uncle of Lindsay, Sarah and Cameron Stephens. Curt is predeceased by his parents Lila and Rudolf Engelke, and brother David Engelke. For many years, Curt was involved with the Snow Voyageurs Snowmobile Club in Springwater. Every morning, he loved to get his Tim Horton's coffee and Timbits in Elmvale and meet up with his motorcycle group of friends to chat. Cremation has taken place. Arrangements entrusted to Nicholls Funeral Home, Midland. To leave a condolence or a message please visit Curt's memorial page on Nicholls Funeral Home's website.



ABRAMS, Shawn Ronald

With heavy hearts we announce the peaceful passing of Shawn Abrams, with family by his side after a courageous battle with cancer on Monday, December 9, 2024. Shawn Abrams of Elmvale in his 55th year. Shawn was the beloved husband of Michelle, and most loving and devoted father of Tanis Dionne (Mark) and Paisley Abrams (Alex). Shawn was also the proudest Poppa to the apples of his eye, Georgia and Clarke Leduc. Shawn leaves behind his parents Bill and Jane McKelvey, and sister Paisley Abrams. He will be fondly remembered by his in-laws Pete and Georgi, Matt (Sandy), Aaron (Carla), Michele (John), Gerry (Ashleigh), Bill (Melissa), and his nieces and nephews, Damian, Tatum, Jaden, Dylan, Jozey, Allie, Aric and Duke, as well as his many Aunts, Uncles and Cousins. He was welcomed in the skies by his late father Ronald, his late brother-in-law Darryck, and sister-in-law Leah.

Shawn was a man of nature. He enjoyed hunting, camping, woodworking. He had a career with Hardship Acres, where he could be in the great outdoors. Wherever Shawn was, you knew his wife Michelle was two steps away. They had the fairytale marriage that cartoons portrayed! His love for his kids and grandkids was eminent in his stories. Shawn was a great son, brother, dad, uncle, grandfather, and friend. We cherish the memories he provided and will always hold them dear to our hearts.

A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home on Friday, December 13 from 1 pm - 3 pm, followed by a funeral service at 3 pm in the funeral home chapel.

Memorial donations may be made to the Pancreatic Cancer of Canada.

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



FURLONG, Janice Elizebeth

Passed away peacefully at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie on Tuesday, December 11, 2024. Janice Furlong of Elmvale in her 67th year. Beloved wife of the late Jeff Sulley. Mother of Lisa and Brian Buchanan. Grandmother of Brooke (Steven), Briar (Jason), and Great-Grandmother of Scottie. Much loved daughter of Shirley and the late Stanley Furlong. Little sister of Linda (Jim) Abrey. Aunt of Shawn, Connie, Doug, Randy, Candace, and Brittany.

Jan will always be remembered for her valued friendship to many, her love of Harleys, and her great love for all cats.

I'm sure Jan and Jeff are riding on their Harleys with their angel wings covered in cat hair.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale on Saturday, January 4, 2025 at 1 pm.

Spring interment Allenwood Cemetery.

If desired memorial donations may be made to the Feral Cat Rescue in Janice's memory.

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



CONN, William George

October 12, 1948 – December 13, 2024

With great sorrow we announce the passing of a wonderful gentleman who will be missed tremendously. George Conn of Elmvale passed away unexpectedly on Friday, December 13, 2024 at the age of 76. He was a dedicated and loving husband to Sandy (nee Handy) whom he shared 55 amazing years of marriage with. A proud and respected father to Rob and his wife Debbie and Shannon and her husband Kevin Fay, and a most loving Papa to his grandchildren, Jacob, Darcy, Garrett Fay, Dalaynie and Makayla Conn.

George was a warm and loving family man who always put his family first. His children and grandchildren considered him their Hero. He was very proud of his grandsons' achievements and his granddaughters were the apple of his eye. He rarely missed an opportunity to spend time with any of his grandkids. His strong hugs and great smile will be forever missed and never forgotten. He will be lovingly remembered by his brother Jim (the late Sandra) and his in-laws Brian and Carolyn Handy, Dianne and Tim Columbus, Brenda Handy and Howard Sage and Mike and Cheryl Handy. George will remain in the hearts of his nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends. He will be reunited with his brother Mike (survived by Marj), his parents Bill and Gloria Conn and his mother and father-in-law Leonard and Doreen Handy.

Though family came first for George his community was a very close second. His favourite time was spent at the hockey rink, baseball diamond or curling club. He enjoyed cheering on all players, but especially his grandkids. He found a passion in coaching and he made an impression on all of the athletes that he coached. This became more evident recently as he was inducted into two categories with the Springwater Heritage Sports Hall of Fame. George loved to socialize and enjoyed morning coffee with friends at The Four Corner Tea Room. He was a loyal employee for 51 years, very proud of his job and truly enjoyed working for multiple generations of the Hanna family at Hanna Motors in Collingwood.

As a Husband, Dad and Papa, he has inspired his family to be better humans. He never placed judgement. He was caring. He was a good listener. He wanted people to be happy. He accepted anyone that crossed his path. He will be missed!

A visitation will be held at Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale on Thursday, December 19th from 1-3 pm and 6-9 pm. Funeral Service at Elmvale Presbyterian Church on Friday at 11 am, followed by a time to celebrate George's life at the Elmvale Lions Club Hall, 1979 Flos Rd. 7 W., Elmvale.

Spring inurnment will be held at Allenwood Cemetery.

Memorial donations to the Ball Park Maintenance Fund (cheques accepted) in support of new lights at the Elmvale Ball Park or Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides (www.dogguides.com)

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



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Arbor Memorial
Legal Will Guide

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Official Family Registry

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adamsfuneralhome.ca

Arbor Memorial Inc.

Seniors Community
OUTREACH Helping Seniors Age Well at Home
Information, Services, Programs and Events for Seniors

Upcoming Events

NEW YEAR'S EVE AFTERNOON JAM
 SUNDAY
 DECEMBER 31 AT 03 PM
 RCL BRANCH 316 WAUBAUSHENE
 BRING A DISH FOR POT LUCK @ 6:00
 PARTY FAVOURS SUPPLIED

VICTORIA HARBOUR LIONS CLUB
 Tuesday, December 31
 Doors open @ 8 pm
 Ticket includes Late Night Buffet and Spot Dances!
 Must be 19+ to attend
MASQUERADE NEW YEAR'S PARTY

Everyone Welcome at the Waubaushene Legion
New Year's Eve Afternoon Jam
 Sunday December 31st beginning at 3pm
 Party favours and a potluck at 6pm!
 RCL Beaverbrook Branch 316 is located at 26 Willow Street in Waubaushene

Victoria Harbour Lions Club
Masquerade New Year's Party
 Tickets include late night buffet and more.
 Oakwood Community Centre—200 Park Street, Victoria Harbour
 Tickets—\$30 per person in advance/\$35 at the door
 Contact Lion Greg Morrison (705) 527-3483
 or Lion Dennis Esterbrooks (705) 209-0848

2025 NEW YEAR Celebration
 DECEMBER 31st - 8 pm
 Legion

Penetanguishene Legion
New Year Celebration
 December 31st at 8pm
 There will be live music, party favours, food and more. Live music by the Renaissance Band. Tickets can be purchased at their location at 2 Poyntz St in Penetanguishene or call (705) 549-4126.

Stride and Socialize
 JOIN US EVERY TUESDAY FROM 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM AT THE INDOOR TRACK AT THE WASAGA BEACH ARENA
 REGISTER TODAY!

South Georgian Bay Community Health Centre
Indoor Walking Group
 Every Tuesday—9:30am to 10:30am
 544 River Rd W in Wasaga Beach
 Join them every Tuesday at the New Wasaga Stars Arena indoor track.
www.southgeorgianbaychc.ca

Community **REACH**



Help Us Drive Happiness In Our Community

Consider donating to a local charity in place of gifts this year!

Community Reach keeps people connected to our community by providing transportation for activities of daily living, social programs and health appointments. Access to transportation is critical in preventing isolation and helping people to remain independent.



Help us provide over 4,500 rides annually to residents in North Simcoe!

Please visit our website at www.communityreach.ca to donate or visit us in person at 850 Hartman Drive, Unit #104 in Midland.

Funding for this project is provided by the Ministry of Employment and Social Services to help seniors age well at home.

Funded by the Government of Canada's Age Well at Home Initiative

Financé par l'initiative Bien vieillir chez soi du Gouvernement du Canada

