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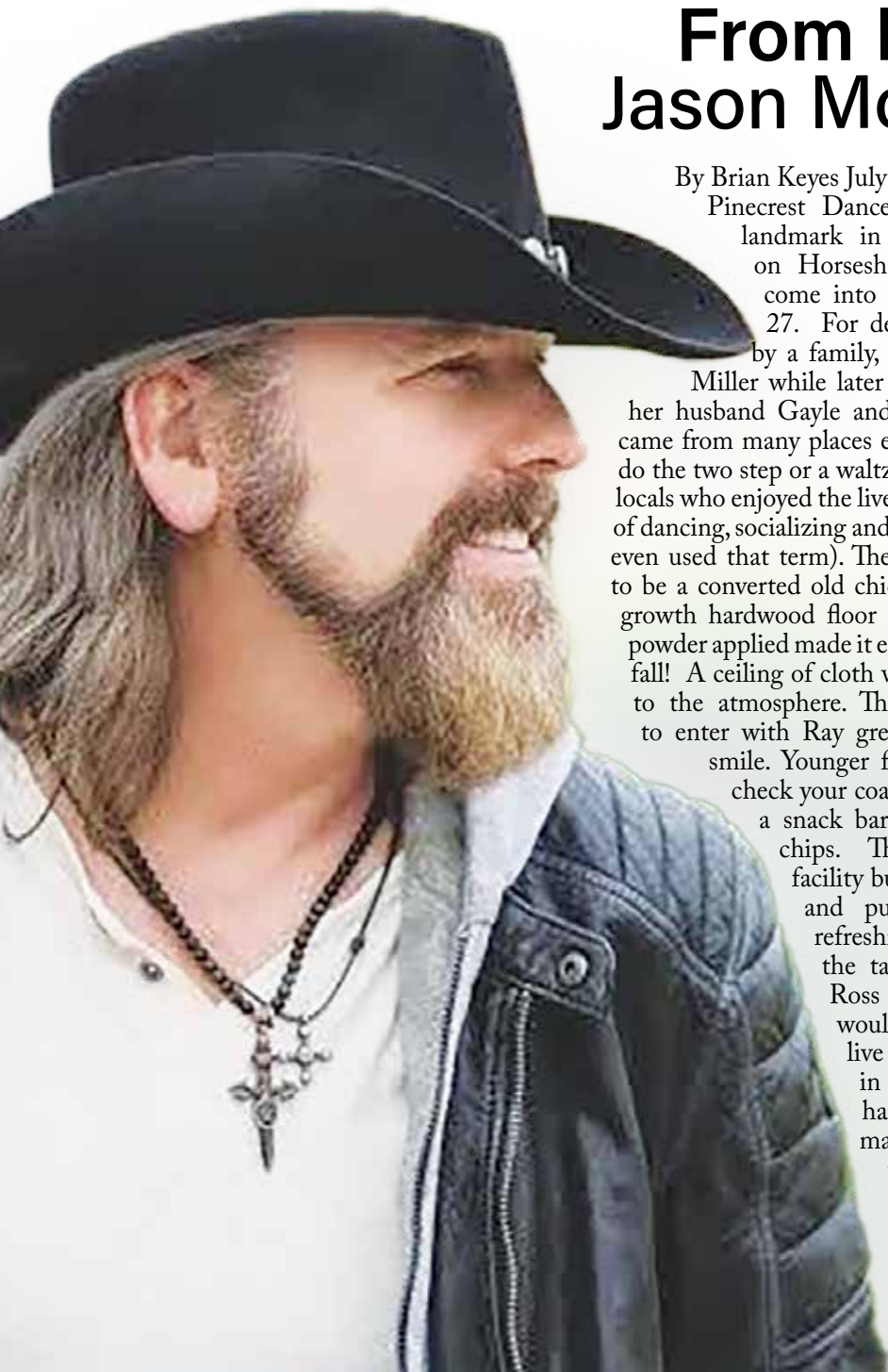
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NEWS

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From Pinecrest to Stardom: Jason McCoy's Hometown Roots

By Brian Keyes July 13, 2025

Pinecrest Dance Hall was an iconic landmark in Anten Mills located on Horseshoe Valley Rd as you come into the village from Hwy 27. For decades it was operated by a family, first Charlie and Barb Miller while later by their daughter and her husband Gayle and Ray Collins. Patrons came from many places every Saturday night to do the two step or a waltz. It also included many locals who enjoyed the live bands with an evening of dancing, socializing and networking (before we even used that term). The building was thought to be a converted old chicken coop with an old growth hardwood floor that with a little corn powder applied made it easy to dance on and also fall! A ceiling of cloth with green lights added to the atmosphere. There was an admission to enter with Ray greeting everyone with a smile. Younger family members would check your coat while Gayle operated a snack bar with soft drinks and chips. This was an unlicensed facility but somehow many bags and purses contained other refreshments stored under the table! Bands like Andy Ross and The Bluenotes would provide a night of live music and even take in a few requests! Dance halls were common for many decades but sadly they have largely disappeared in the last 25 years. Pinecrest was later sold and operated as a general store by Frank and Doreen

Orr for several years but now stands empty. One of the locals attracted to Pinecrest was a youngster named Jason McCoy. Jason and his family moved to Anten Mills on Luella Blvd in 1976. Jason's parents, Jim and Roberta organized a Cub's pack and even held the meetings in their house. One of Jason's first jobs was delivering newspapers, the Barrie Examiner here in the village. Jason later got a job cutting grass at the Barrie Airport on Anne Street. He would ride his dirt bike there and back home. Jason obviously was enthralled with flying and got his pilot's license at age 17 which was a record at the time. His other passion was music and perhaps this attracted him as a young kid to ride up to Pinecrest on his bicycle with his buddies after the parents had gone dancing there on Saturday night. They could peek through the cracks in the walls to watch and hear the music. Both of Jason's parents were musical and so he had good genes for a natural ear to play and sing but he did take music lessons as well. He won a contest at Minesing Minifest as a young boy singing a George Jones song. Jason joined Cliff Legault to form a band, 'Three Quarters Country'. One of the venues that Jason honed his skills at was a familiar locale, Pinecrest Dance Hall. Later Jason won an event in Barrie at Lakeview Dairy which catapulted him to visit Nashville. Jason started touring across Canada in 1987. Jason's motor home that he used for travelling was often seen in the driveway at his parent's house here in the village. He told me he can remember the sounds and smells of Pinecrest Dance Hall on Saturday Night! Jason McCoy is a member of the Country Music Hall of Fame and has won Canadian Country Music Male Artist of the Year. When asked about his fondest memory of growing up in Anten Mills, Jason told me it was riding his bicycle in the summer and at night it was so quiet here in the village you could hear the hum of the street lights. Perhaps like the memories of our native son Jason McCoy, many current residents treasure that quietness we enjoy here in Anten Mills.

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THE SCOOP

By Linda Belcourt

OPINION: Why I Can No Longer Stay Neutral

As the editor of this newspaper, I've always tried to keep a clear line between fact and opinion. The news pages will always remain unbiased, factual, and rooted in evidence. That commitment has not changed and never will. But I can no longer remain silent in the opinion pages. Our political environment is uncertain and I feel motivated to stand up for you. I am a reliable resource of communication to many communities, that would not get information otherwise.

I feel a responsibility to tell you what's happening when things are unchallenged — to shine a light on stories others won't tell. That includes my own. I've experienced intimidation. I've been threatened. While I have carried those burdens quietly, the time has come to speak up.

What you will read in these pages from now on will be the bold truth, no unproven accusations, no reckless claims. But I will no longer pretend that "neutrality" means silence in the face of injustice or wrongdoing.

I wasn't just invited, I was honoured with a scholarship selected from among all weekly newspaper editors across Canada to attend the ISWNE (International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors) Conference in South Dakota and shouldered with some great media barons in United States.

I was nervous to travel to the USA. I have heard stories of electronic device searches at the border. It was terrifying that my rights would be violated. The political climate in the USA is unsettling, but I didn't let that stand in the way of an incredible opportunity to learn from the very best.

I am part of a team of professionals and have access to editorial advice as part of the Ontario Newspaper Community Association. I have a responsibility to watch dog the people making choice for us that affect us the most.

Send me your bold opinions.

The opinions expressed in articles contributed by interested parties and through the 'Letters to the Editor' or 'Open Letters' do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this newspaper and/or the editor.

Please submit your letters to the Editor or open letters. Email: info@springwaternews.ca or drop off at office. Contact information is on the right hand side of this page.

Full name, phone number and address must be supplied for records but name only in publishing.

OPINION

OPEN LETTER

Open letter to Mayor Coughlin of the Township of Springwater

Dear Mayor Coughlin,

I have zero desire to wade into political controversy, but as someone who values humanity and feels empathy for others, remaining silent is no longer an option.

I regularly attend council meetings, both online and in person; and have watched with increasing concern as you have made efforts to share information and articulate your position about important issues facing the Township; only to be accused by your peers of not acting in the best interests of Springwater residents and to have your integrity unjustly challenged.

I am a strong believer in the benefit of intelligent, robust debate as part of civil discourse. However, that is not what I have observed at some of our council meetings. The behaviors of some council members have been unprofessional to say the least; but stronger terms such as grandstanding and bullying more accurately reflect some of the conduct that has been on display. As far as I am concerned, there is no justification that gives anyone the right to demean, belittle, or mistreat another human being. What troubles me most is that some of your peers seem to think they are somehow exempt from a basic standard of decency.

Your composure and grace under pressure in the face of these antics is extraordinary and admirable. I know how infuriated I have been after some meetings, and I'm only an observer. I can only imagine the pent-up frustration and anger that you must come away with. While some people might argue that being verbally attacked is part of the risk of holding office, I would argue that this has gone well beyond that.

As a side note to Springwater residents – please educate yourselves on the very important issues facing Springwater Township using factual resources, as there is a significant amount of information floating around that is skewed to a single narrative. Springwater is currently facing some very complex issues, and as much as some would have you believe that it is black and white, I'm sure most people understand that it is far from it.

I have reached out to Mayor Coughlin with questions on several issues during her 10+ years on council and have always found her to be very approachable, knowledgeable, and always willing to spend time with concerned residents. If you have questions or concerns, reach out to her directly. I believe you'll find the conversation both

enlightening and worthwhile. While council has recessed for the summer after the July 2nd meeting, please listen in and be informed when sessions resume in the fall. Regardless of what route we end up travelling, big changes are coming.

In closing Mayor Coughlin, your passion for Springwater has always been evident. Continue to wear your chain of office with pride. It is my hope that the weight of it doesn't become too heavy to carry. If that day comes, it will be Springwater's loss.

With deep respect,
Heidi Currie-McElwain

An Open Plea for Rural Safety: Educate Drivers on the Green Flashing Light

Dear Editor

I was going to send this out as an open letter to the Premier and his MPPs but there is no sense in that, as he and his MPPs refuse to respond to important rural issues. Yes, they have been emailed, with no response for over 2 weeks...

Sure, the province might send money for some hospitals and schools but it seems something as simple as using their time, in the media, to explain to those from urban centres that when they see a "GREEN" flashing light, either, coming toward them or in their rear-view mirror, they should pull over.

We all understand the Premier Ford is purportedly trying to balance the economy with the U.S. tariff scares, but 5 minutes could make a huge difference if he's only take that 5 minutes when giving an interview to express that a "GREEN" flashing light means lives could be on the line.

So why the poke at the Premier and his MPPs. Generally, their majority is because of the rural vote. The rural people have volunteer firefighters and these "GREEN" flashing lights are their way to drop everything, including leaving their work, to get to the fire-hall to go to an emergency. These emergencies can include fires, accidents, flood assistance, etc., and yet when trying to reach the fire-hall they are met with traffic that (i) does not understand what a "GREEN" flashing light is, or (ii) that they should be pulling over to give way to that firefighter so he/she might save lives, if the case warrants that.

As the Premier and his MPPs seem to think the rural people are disposable and consider rural Ontario as lesser than the urban counterparts, some thought it pertinent to inform those on the roads that when you see a "GREEN" flashing light please do your part and pull over.

Lives are on the line and it could be your or your family member's life...

Elizabeth Marshall

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North Simcoe Springwater News Awarded National Recognition



This local newspaper is no local rag!. It has come a long way since the early days of The Lance or “The Glance” as it is fondly referred to. The community really won this award, not me.

I applied for a scholarship to the ISWNE (International Society of Weekly Newspaper Editors) Conference in South Dakota and won the award. There were two ISWNE journalists from Canada and one from USA that narrowed the selection down to me, Linda Belcourt, Editor.

So say I was shocked, would be an understatement.

I asked Gordon Cameron, Executive Director of Ontario Canadian that was a judge for this competition why I was chosen. I made reference that I thought maybe no one else applied. Gordon just laughed and replied, “There were three reasons. One, every time I talk to you, there has been an improvement in your paper and then you tell me what improvement you are working on next. Two, your obvious passion for the community and your dedication to your newspaper and three, I knew

with your outgoing personality that you would fit into this group very well. You are definitely not a wall flower and you add relevant comments to the Ontario Community Newspaper Association Conference sessions that bring value to the group.”

The editors that I met from award winning newspapers are very successful industry leaders. They were the friendly bunch of people I have ever met. The confidence in myself grew every hour of this five day conference.

I attended an editorial critic session. The panel consisted of four highly regarded journalists. Dana Hess professor of journalism that spent more than 25 years in South Dakota is a Golden Quill judge.

He told me I had a “really good paper” with incredible community involvement but I had to increase my editorial content to inform people of the real issues. He said that I have a strong voice and I should use it. So I will.

There were other housekeeping issues like using headers and to get better organized with your content. So I will.

The most interesting thing he mentioned was that he was astonished by the community involvement. Dana Hess asked, “How the heck do you get community members to write for you? You must be doing something very well.”

I explained that our community is very tight and they love this paper. I told him I get daily phone calls from people telling me how much they love the paper and appreciate that they still have one.

When you have a community such as ours with many going back three to five generations, it builds a deep caring environment. Telling our local stories is a big part of keeping our community’s interests front and center.

“And that’s the way it is.”
Quote by Walter Cronkite



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MIDLAND

'Take NIMBY argument to OLT, I dare you,' Gordon says as council approves 12-storey build

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Jul 10, 2025

On the surface, a simple request to Midland council for a zoning bylaw amendment for 1191 Harbourview Drive would facilitate allowing a two-12-storey-tower condo-hotel on town lands if approved; which, council did approve in a 5-4 decision.

However, the hour-long discussion was much deeper and involved a rare allowance for discussion resulting in light contention of facts by planners, last-minute correspondences, councillors pulling shy of accusations and others voting in favour despite "hating" their decision.

The item was in regard to a proposed request for zoning change from a highway commercial zone to a site-specific apartment building/mixed-use within a highway commercial zone, and returned to a special meeting of council after a public meeting in May attended by many concerned residents about the 12-storey height and other issues.

Community and growth executive director Steve Farquharson spoke to the primary reason staff was recommending a denial of the request, stating it did not meet the town's official plan policy nor the Provincial Policy Statement.

"When we got this application, and going through it for – now – two buildings at 12-storeys (from the previous design)... there've been indications that the height may not be as high as what's being applied for," said Farquharson.

"Well, that's part of the application process; staff are not just going to support a number because that's what you want. You have to justify it, you have to provide the material to support that," Farquharson added.

Council members voted in favour to have Kaitlin applicants speak in defence of their request, with director of business development Devon Daniell reiterating a last-minute correspondence sent to council the day

prior (without town staff able to address it), claiming that Simcoe County planners and Kaitlin lawyers had agreed the request was in order.

Daniell also committed to lowering the height of the two towers to 10-storeys as per neighbouring resident concerns, despite the application continuing to request a 12-storey maximum height.

As well, Daniell admitted that roughly a third of units had already been sold in the first design when the building was pitched, where each floor was sold to separate owners to lease to tenants; and by decreasing to 10 storeys, buyers were offered an opportunity to opt-out or stay-in as the proposal underwent design change.

Some council members stated disappointment in the admission.

Deputy Mayor Beth Prost called it a "risky business" to sell units before getting approval while Coun. Bill Meridis raised past Kaitlin controversy over contentious developments including Bayport Village, saying he would not support the zoning request.

Coun. Sheldon East said he felt council was locked in due to pre-sales and that he "hated that that many (units) were already approved." Coun. Catherine MacDonald noted that "shovels could be in the ground" already for the previous design.

Mayor Bill Gordon said with staff firm in their stance against the proposal, the cause was on the shoulders of higher-tier government.

"If there's a defect in their Provincial Policy Statement that is actually getting in the way of housing being approved in non-conventional areas of zoning, then let the province explain that."

Gordon further reiterated his campaign promises to get more homes built in Midland, calling out potential resident opposition to his claim.

"By saying: 'We're going to approve this even though our staff say it doesn't align with the Policy Statement'... let someone challenge us on that. Let them take us to the

(Ontario Land Tribunal) and say: 'Midland approved housing, we don't think there should be housing built in Midland; or if it is it shouldn't be here, it should be somewhere else.'

"Take that NIMBY argument to the OLT, I dare you," Gordon said. "I'm not going to spend tax money defending us getting in the way of building housing, only to have it appealed, overturned, and have to pay the cost to the proponent. I will go down approving housing if it's the last thing I do as Mayor; I will approve every application that comes to us that's reasonable."

In a recorded vote, a 5-4 approval was granted by Gordon, Prost (who flipped a coin), and Coun. Jaz Patel, Jamie-Lee Ball, and Roberta Bald voting yay; as Coun. East, Meridis, MacDonald, and Eric Major voted nay.

Following the decision, Daniell told MidlandToday it was a "great decision" to "bring a great project forward to Midland."

"It was close, but we believe council made the right decision for Midland," said Daniell. "This is just the first step. There's a long process to go through with the site plan application, so we'll be taking a lot of feedback from local residents, staff, and commenting agencies to come back with a great plan."

Gordon told MidlandToday that the decision also proved that council could achieve results without resorting to provincially-mandated Strong Mayor Powers.

"Tonight was my first test, and I'm so proud of the debate and ultimately the decision. Most especially, the fact that I didn't get painted into a corner where I'd have to choose whether or not to use those new powers. My faith in this council as a team and my planning staff remains intact."

The zoning bylaw amendment recommendation report for 1191 Harbourview Drive is available through the council agenda on the town of Midland website.



Town of Midland

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The Town of Midland is preparing a Waterfront Master Plan that will create a guide for future decisions about the Town's waterfront.

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midland.ca/Closures

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midland.ca/TallShips



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- Vacancy: Midland Penetanguishene Transit Committee

midland.ca/Apply

Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament

Mayor Bill Gordon is excited to invite you to the second annual Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament!

- Friday, September 12, 2025 from 11am-6pm
- Player registration is open
- Sponsorship opportunities are available

Visit midland.ca/Golf for more about this extra fun day!

All proceeds directly support our [Community Grant Program](#). Join us for a day of fun, philanthropy, and community spirit!



Upcoming summer events!

July

- Music in the Park (Sunday evenings) - first day July 6, 2025

August

- Tall Ships Midland - August 15 - 17, 2025
- Music in the Park (Sunday evenings) - final day August 24, 2025

September

- Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament - September 12, 2025
- Midland Mural Festival - September 27, 2025

midland.ca/Events

Watermain flushing underway

Yearly watermain flushing has started. When flushing takes place in your area you may experience water interruptions for the day. Find your flushing zone and more on our website.

midland.ca/Flushing



Hitting right note: Finished bandshell sets stage for Midland park events

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter,

Source: MidlandToday.ca, Jul 11, 2025

The grand unveiling of the redesigned Rotary Stage bandstand in Little Lake Park should be music to everyone's ears.

An announcement was made Friday morning to celebrate an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant for \$149,900 which provided funding for a roof to the performance area, finishing the reconstruction project which had begun in 2022.

"The new stage roof not only completes the vision for this outdoor venue, but ensures that performers, organizers, and audiences alike can enjoy events rain or shine with comfort and confidence," said Leslie Stroud, representing Simcoe North MPP Jill Dunlop.

As noted by town operations manager Josh Fuller, the original stage was constructed in 2005 through the Midland Rotary Club to provide entertainment in the heart of Little Lake Park for residents and visitors.

An Ontario Trillium Foundation grant was obtained in 2022 which allowed the town to provide paved amphitheatre-type seating on the former natural slope of Little Lake Park. As well, a new roof had been budgeted in 2024 for the stage area.

"Building on that momentum," said Fuller, "we were able to secure funds through another OTF-approved grant to help us put up our new stage and new bandshell, including the installation of the roof and ensuring the space is safe and modern, and accessible for all."

A further redesign of the stage integrated modern infrastructure and accessibility features, such as lighting for performers and along the seating edges, and coverings for the performance area and electrical components.

"The (audience) lighting came in after the fact," said Fuller, "because once we set it up, we felt it was



Perhaps demonstrating what future musicians could look like, Midland Mayor Bill Gordon (center) provided entertainment during the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the redesigned Rotary Stage in Little Lake Park. Gordon was joined by: Leslie Stroud representing Simcoe North MPP Jill Dunlop (far left); town councillor Jamie-Lee Ball (left); CAO Rhonda Bunn (right); and operations manager Josh Fuller (far right). Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

very dark. We knew that the new bandshell would have lighting, but we wanted to make sure it was safe for everyone to use. The lighting came in with that last grant as well."

Midland Mayor Bill Gordon stated that while it could normally take a municipality years of long-range investing to provide service improvements to public space, government funding brought the long-range into a short-term solution.

"The province supporting us with grant funding allows us to actually action some of our goals in our parks and trails strategic plans that we've made, and our master plans," said Gordon, "and actually put them into action in the near term rather than the long term."

"From my perspective, the province is being the best partner ever this term for us," added Gordon, "so I'm going to continue that relationship as long as I can, and make Midland better for it."

Gordon also reiterated a council commitment for accessibility, noting that Midland-born former lieutenant-governor David Onley achieved great success as a champion for accessibility legislation within Ontario.

When asked how long the new bandshell would last given the two decades of the previous stage, Fuller replied: "I'm hoping double that. The Rotary Club who originally put up the stage did a fantastic job; nearly 20 years of service and memories that it provided to the town – you can't beat that."

Information on town-hosted live events at the Rotary Stage can be found on the community, tourism, and culture page of the Midland website.

Established as a provincial government agency in 1982, the Ontario Trillium Foundation handed out \$105 million in grants to 730 non-profit organizations in 2024.

Council hears there is 'low support' for paid parking in downtown

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Jul 14, 2025

Parking issues in Midland are one step closer to being resolved, as per two recent matters raised at the recent special meeting of council.

A report regarding a parking bylaw amendment for electric vehicle charging stations was presented to council, which would allow bylaw enforcement to ticket any non-compliant vehicle in the four designated harbour parking spots.

Discussion across the dias, prompted by Coun. Eric Major, dove into the potential for electric vehicle users to be ticketed for remaining in the parking spots beyond charge times.

Coun. Bill Meridis drew attention to the prime waterfront parking spaces, noting that if an electric vehicle had charged but remained in the parking spot, a \$15-per-hour fee would be levied by Lakeland Solutions upon the vehicle owner – to be collected solely by that business.

"The company is making all the money, and we're making nothing," said Meridis, sharing a similar concern raised independently in a Penetanguishene council discussion that same evening.

Coun. Jamie-Lee Ball called the subject a moot point as electric vehicle owners were generally familiar with charging station usage, and the bylaw would be targeted to other vehicles taking advantage of those parking spots.

Steve Farquharson, the town's community and growth executive director, reiterated that the bylaw

amendment would allow for parking enforcement of the installed stations, later saying the matter was a legislative provincial requirement in addition to being a requirement of the lease. It was approved by council.

The second item addressed phase one of a strategic parking study, presented by representatives of consultants R.J. Burnside.

Approximately 1,100 parking spots are available on-street or in municipal lots from Yonge Street to the harbour (between First Street and Midland Avenue), and along parts of Bayshore Drive. The lots at the Pete Pettersen Park boat launch also contain roughly 100 spots.

During the previous term of council, updated parking kiosks installed throughout the downtown core had been considered faulty. A priority of the current term for council was to remove and sell the kiosks while designating the otherwise revenue-generating parking spaces as free parking until the matter could be considered.

The first phase of the parking study looked at consultations with businesses and residents including an April open house session, as well as various surveys.

"Overall, there was low support for introducing paid parking in the downtown, particularly among business owners and employees," said RJ Burnside project manager and engineer Gordon Hui.

"Many emphasized that paid parking plays an important role in supporting customer traffic,

accessibility, and economic health for local businesses," Hui added, "and for the public survey we heard a preference for free parking."

Several on council were appreciative of the report, while some had reservations. Coun. Sheldon East asked for the consultants to look to other municipalities for ways of enforcing against parking spot "squatters".

Major restated his concerns from last year that the consultants wouldn't experience first-hand the adverse winter weather conditions unique to Midland and urged them to visit; he was told by Farquharson that the intent was to have the study completed by early fall, before the arrival of snow.

Farquharson also noted that the parking study would "dovetail" into other prominent studies including Midland Bay Landing and the waterfront master plan.

Council received the report and presentation as information only.

The reports on the electric vehicle charging stations bylaw and the phase one strategic parking study are available through 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.



SENIOR TINY TIMES

By Jennifer Gray, Volunteer Writer
Township of Senior Symposium - June 12, 2025
Last month older adults and caregivers were treated to an information-packed day and complimentary luncheon hosted by the Township of Tiny's Senior Advisory Committee (SAC).

The morning kicked off with a presentation by Jenna Wickens on the Grandpals Program. This is a unique intergenerational program that connects elementary school classes with a small team of GrandPals (adults 55+) for weekly conversations through storytelling. Volunteers are trained as a Grandpal to meet with students in their classroom and share their history. The volunteer is well supported in the process, working in collaboration with the host teacher and program collaborator.

This was followed with a comprehensive session on Dementia Care led by Tom Johnston from Trustwell Senior Care. Dementia is an umbrella term that encompasses various types of brain changes including Alzheimer's Disease. These changes often begin altering brain chemistry long before any outward symptoms appear. Emerging caregiver practices such as PAC (Positive Approach to Care) focus on utilizing the skills and abilities that remain with a person. This method has been shown to reduce friction and increase positive care outcomes.

The third presentation of the morning was on Fostering Connection with older adults by Cindy Marshall and Georgina Megans from North Simcoe Muskoka Specialized Geriatric Services. Older adults are facing growing rates of social isolation and loneliness. It is globally recognized that socially engaged adults experience both better mental and physical health. It is therefore important that communities develop initiatives to support and involve their seniors.

During the hour-long lunch break, attendees had the opportunity to socialize and peruse the perimeter of the room to collect information from community organizations and service providers. Representatives shared information on seniors' social clubs, hospice care, vulnerable seniors' programs, paramedic services and mental health care, among others.

After lunch, Anneliese Kelley from the Waypoint Centre for Mental Health delivered a presentation on mental health services offered by the Ontario government called Ontario Structured Psychotherapy (OSP) Program. The program offers free cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) to treat emotional issues including depression, anxiety and stress. The services are guided by a clinician or coach and can be done in self-led, individual, or group settings. The programs are approximately 6-16 weeks and can be virtual, by telephone or in person, depending on need.

The final presentation presented lighter fare and fun. Registered Psychotherapist and Certified Music Therapist Kelly Lefaive led a workshop on the benefits of music for physical and mental health.

The event was a big success and credit is given to the organizers and volunteers who worked hard to put it on. The township welcomes new volunteers who would like to help out with similar events. For those interested visit www.tiny.ca/volunteer.

For more information on the day's presentations please see the following:
www.grandpals.ca
www.trustwellseniorcare.ca
www.teepasnow.ca
www.nsmgs.ca
www.waypointcentre.ca
klefaive@waypointcentre.ca

The information in this article is provided as a public service by the Township of Tiny Senior's Advisory Committee. We invite and welcome your feedback and suggestions on how we can make Senior Tiny Times a valuable information resource for our Seniors.

Website: www.tiny.ca/seniors
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Across

- 1 Refreshing place
- 4 Herb in stuffing
- 8 "Mission: Impossible" figure
- 11 Boat propeller
- 12 Think ahead
- 13 Tint
- 14 Risk a perjury rap
- 15 Fast time
- 16 Well-chosen
- 17 Pulitzer Prize category
- 19 Undeveloped idea
- 21 Pray
- 23 Settle
- 26 Aquarium performer
- 30 Way of doing something
- 31 Ten Commandments taboo
- 32 Hockey game divisions
- 34 Just wins over, with out
- 36 Bottom of a royal flush
- 37 Capri is one
- 39 Carry a torch for
- 43 Useful abbr.
- 45 Kind of column
- 47 Head of the family
- 48 Traveling through
- 49 News source
- 50 Archaeological site
- 51 Reef dweller
- 52 Lasting impression
- 53 Guileful

Down

- 1 Gone
- 2 Match
- 3 Word with staging or wilderness
- 4 Big media to-do
- 5 Alcoholic beverage
- 6 Jets or Sharks, e.g.
- 7 Type in
- 8 Shower item
- 9 Young seal
- 10 However
- 18 Box elders, e.g.
- 20 Jog the memory
- 22 Olympic-champion Keino
- 24 Do some simple calculating
- 25 Twenty Questions answer
- 26 It's cast at a casino
- 27 Unusual
- 28 Clearly reasonable
- 29 Fiscal bottom line
- 33 First grade book
- 35 Puts on the brakes
- 38 "Paradise Lost," e.g.
- 40 Percentages
- 41 Method of shipping goods
- 42 Nervously irritable
- 43 Time of anticipation
- 44 Bind
- 46 Geological time span



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POLITICS

Springwater council does about-face, throws cold water on MZO support

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Jul 03, 2025

SPRINGWATER—What was once unanimously supported has now been overwhelmingly rejected.

Springwater Coun. Phil Fisher's motion to have township council revoke its support for two minister's zoning orders (MZOs) for developments just north of the Barrie city limits unless they are serviced through the Midhurst water and wastewater treatment facilities was passed in a recorded 4-3 vote at Wednesday night's council meeting.

Deputy Mayor George Cabral and Councillors Danielle Alexander, Anita Moore and Fisher voted in favour of the motion, while Mayor Jennifer Coughlin and Councillors Matt Garwood and Brad Thompson voted against.

According to Cabral, council's support of the proposals — one from the Remington Group for a seniors-related medical campus at 727 Bayfield St. N., and another from Innovative Planning Solutions representing Paul Sadlon Communities at 742 Bayfield St. N., directly across from the Remington Group's proposal — allow the developers to "have their cake and eat it, too."

"You have your cake by getting cross-border servicing, but you also benefit from the reduction in development charges and the reduction in taxes," he said of the proposed developments being built in the township. "It doesn't seem quite fair to me."

Earlier in the meeting, Cabral said the municipality provided support of the MZOs to circumvent the township's planning policies. He said council did that in order to take control of the Bayfield Street corridor.

Unanimously supported in December 2023, both developments, when they came before council seeking MZO support, indicated that their preferred water and wastewater solution was to connect to the City of Barrie's infrastructure.

"It seems to me that this has come back to become a bargaining chip," he said. "It's kind of like having a gun put up, you know, the side of your head in order to do something. A term I would use in my previous life in law enforcement would be extortion, but that's a very, very strong word."

Cabral said the township ended up having to enter into a boundary adjustment, which may still

happen regardless of how the servicing works out. "We had to enter into a boundary adjustment and this is the bargaining chip," he said.

That initial MZO support has vanished as the township has gotten deeper into talks with the City of Barrie and its boundary expansion proposal.

A month before Springwater council endorsed the two MZOs, on Nov. 6, 2023, Barrie Mayor Alex Nuttall presented to the standing committee on heritage, infrastructure and cultural policy during a meeting in Barrie. He provided the committee with an update on Barrie's housing targets and highlighted why the city requires additional employment land so more residents can have jobs closer to home.

According to Nuttall, the City of Barrie is in dire need of land that would be suitable for large-scale manufacturing and industrial development. He said Barrie needs space to grow as a community and it needs space to bring in jobs from outside the region.

Nuttall also said the city was eyeing industrial land outside its municipal borders in Springwater and Oro-Medonte townships for the purpose of job creation.

On Nov. 15, 2023, Springwater council voted unanimously to "terminate discussions" with Barrie "regarding the city's proposal for boundary adjustments and cross-border servicing."

A few months later, on March 7, 2024, Springwater decided to reverse the Nov. 15, 2023 council decision to "terminate discussions" with Barrie regarding the city's proposal for municipal boundary adjustments and cross-border servicing.

Springwater council voted to hold talks with the Barrie officials, but only regarding cross-border servicing. There was to be no talk of boundary adjustments.

Those talks weren't very fruitful.

"It was made very clear that we have nothing to offer if not land," Springwater's mayor said in March 2024.

Coughlin also said at the time that Barrie was "not looking for a fee-for-service or 'a la carte' service to their pipes."

According to council members Wednesday night, supporting the MZOs has put the township in a bit of a jackpot. In essence, they argued, their support



Springwater Coun. Phil Fisher looks on while council discusses his motion Wednesday night. Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

of the MZOs and the developments hooking up to Barrie infrastructure has committed the township into providing land to Barrie, as Barrie won't negotiate one without the other.

"I'm firmly opposed to allowing them (the developers) to have a foot in both camps," Fisher said. "Receiving services from the City of Barrie while we hand over 4,300 acres or whatever it ends up being. Our taxpayers should not be writing a cheque for their services, particularly when we have partners that can facilitate that here within Springwater."

"I'm staunchly opposed to this and I think we should revoke it for the time being," he added.

Coughlin said she refused to support the motion for a couple of reasons.

First, she found value in the development proposals, and second, she wasn't a fan of the message revoking the MZOs would send.

"I think that this signals to the province that, again, we can't figure things out," Coughlin said. "I don't want to signal to the province to say, please just come in and do it for us."

"We said to them that we fully endorse these projects and we will determine what the best avenue of servicing is and we're getting there," she added.

Town's \$149,900 OTF grant from the Province helped with renovations at the LLP Amphitheatre Stage

By Town of Midland News, July 11, 2025

Town of Midland's \$149,900 OTF grant from the Province helped with renovations at the Little Lake Park Amphitheatre Stage

(July 11, 2025, Midland ON) Today, a representative from MPP Jill Dunlop's constituency office, Leslie Stroud, met with Mayor Bill Gordon, members of Town Council and staff at the Little Lake Park Amphitheatre to celebrate the results of a \$149,900 Capital grant from the provincial government's Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF). The grant, which was awarded in 2023, was used to make needed renovations to the amphitheatre.

"Little Lake Park has long been a gathering place where the spirit of Midland comes alive through music, celebration, and community," said Jill Dunlop, MPP for Simcoe North. "I'm thrilled to see the provincial Ontario Trillium Foundation program provide support to enhance this special space with the completion of the stage roof. This investment means more opportunities for residents

and visitors alike to enjoy local events in a beautiful, accessible outdoor venue. Congratulations to the Town of Midland on this exciting milestone."

The Town of Midland put its capital grant to work in 2024 to complete stage renovations and build a new amphitheatre roof over the Little Lake Park Rotary Stage. This work complements a previous OTF from 2022 that allowed the Town to construct amphitheatre-style seating at Little Lake Park. All these improvements – from the new seating to the recent stage renovations and construction of the new stage roof – amplify the Town's ability to provide a welcoming, accessible space for community celebrations and live performances for residents and visitors in the North Simcoe area to enjoy.

"The Town of Midland is grateful to turn this Ontario Trillium Foundation grant into meaningful change in our community," said Mayor Bill Gordon. "As a cultural and tourism hub for North Simcoe, enhancing our outdoor amphitheatre creates a reimagined gathering space

like never before, where we can offer a great stage for artists to shine while bringing people together to celebrate all that Midland has to offer."

The new stage was built with accessibility in mind and allows for a seamless transition onto the stage. A timber structure pavilion was installed overtop of the stage to provide cover from the elements for performers. New lighting in the pavilion and lights along the sides of the seating stairs will extend the of this space well into the evenings.

The Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is an agency of the Ontario government with a mission to build healthy and vibrant communities across the province. Last year, OTF invested nearly \$105M into 732 community projects and multi-sector partnerships. Projects aim to enhance economic well-being, foster more active lifestyles, support child and youth development, provide spaces for people to come together and connect, and create a more sustainable environment. Visit otf.ca to learn more.




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*With Pharmacist Owners
Jenna Lougheed and Carolyn Glover*

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Signs and symptoms of yeast infection include: itching and burning in the vagina and vulva (the skin surrounding the vagina), a white discharge from the vagina that looks like cottage cheese, pain during sexual intercourse and swelling of the vulva.

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Summer Reading Challenge

July 2 to August 15:

This program encourages children to read and be active during the summer. Kids will receive a ballot when they finish a book or participate in a challenge. Ages: 4-14. Registration is in person only. June 9- June 14: registration open to Penetanguishene taxpaying members. After June 14: registration is open to everyone.

Pickleball at McGuire Park

Tuesday, July 22, 10:00-11:00.

Join us at McGuire Park to play pickleball. Free. Ages: 4-14. Registration is in person only. A minimum of 6 participants is required to run a program. June 16- June 21: registration open to Penetanguishene taxpaying members. After June 23: registration open to everyone.

Make a Fairy Garden

Thursday, July 31, 2:00pm

Create your very own fairy garden house. Cost: \$2.00 for members and \$5.00 for non-members. Ages: 4-14. Registration is in person only. A minimum of 5 participants is required to run a program. June 16- June 21: registration open to Penetanguishene taxpaying members. After June 23: registration open to everyone.

Lawn Games

Tuesday August 5, 2:00-3:00

Kids will play a variety of lawn games at the library. Free. Ages: 4-14. Registration is in person only. A minimum of 5 participants is required to run a program. June 16- June 21: registration open to Penetanguishene taxpaying members. After June 23: registration open to everyone.

Make a Glue Suncatcher

Monday August 11, 11:00

Make a suncatcher with glue, watercolours/ food colouring, and beads. Free. Ages: 4-14. Registration is in person only. A minimum of 5 participants is required to run a program. June 16- June 21: registration open to Penetanguishene taxpaying members. After June 23: registration open to everyone.

Reading Challenge Party

Friday August 15 at 1:00

This party is to celebrate all the hard work that kids have done throughout the summer. We will have games, snacks, and refreshments. This is a FREE program open to the children who signed up for the Reading Challenge. Waivers must be signed and registration is in person only. Parents/ guardians must stay in the building for the duration of the program.

Make a Firefly Lantern

Wednesday August 27, 11:00

Make and decorate a lantern. Cost: \$2.00. Ages: 4-14. Registration is in person only. A minimum of 5 participants is required to run a program. June 16- June 21: registration open to Penetanguishene taxpaying members. After June 23: registration open to everyone.

Book Club

Penetanguishene Public Library's book club will resume in the fall. Our next book club meeting is September 4th at 4:00pm and we will be discussing 'The Christie Affair' by Nina de Gramont. For information and how to get the book please call us at 705 549-7164 or visit us here at the library.



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Midhurst Branch (705) 737-5650
Minesing Branch (705) 722-6440
VISIT US TODAY!

Summer Reading Program Registration

This program is perfect for children ages 3-13. This summer we are travelling around the world to bring you the best programs in Springwater! You can register online on the Read Squared app to log your reading and win prizes. In branch program registration is open (see details below) and includes making jewelry, obstacle courses and much more! Go to our website and register today!

Stories in the Park

Families are invited to join us this summer outside for stories, snacks and fun in the park! We will be travelling to Homer Barrett Park Mondays 10:30am as well as different parks within Springwater so be sure to check our list below and register for one near you! Cost FREE. Ages 6 and under and their caregiver(s). Thursdays 10:30am on: July 17 at Anten Mills Park, July 24 at Hillsdale Community Park, July 31 at O'Neill Park, August 7 at Stone Manor Park, August 14 at Grenfell Park, August 21 at Minesing Park. Registration required.

Weekly STEM Activities

Children of all ages are invited to our weekly STEM project program to learn about the world around them. These fun-filled crafts and activities incorporate science, coding, engineering, and more.

Fridays 1:30pm at Elmvale Branch. Cost: FREE. Registration required.

African-Style Jewelry

Ages 7+ can come with us to Africa to make beautiful African-style jewelry. Weave colourful fabric bracelets and learn to create paper beads to use for unique jewelry. Cost: FREE. Registration required. Tuesday July 22 at Elmvale Branch: 10:30am or 12pm or 3:30pm or 5pm.

Thursday July 24 at Midhurst Branch: 10:30am or 5pm.

Kathy's Retirement

Please join us to celebrate Kathy's retirement on Wednesday July 23, 5pm-7pm at the Midhurst Branch. We will have live music and refreshments for all! Be sure to mark your calendar and drop by to wish Kathy well.

Visit Asia: Henna and a Spinning Drum

Ages 3+ can come to the library to travel to India and receive cool tattoos using henna. Then, visit China and make your own spinning drum instrument! Tuesday July 29 at Elmvale Branch, 10:30am or 12pm or 3:30pm or 5pm. Thursday July 31 at Midhurst Branch, 10:30am or 5pm. Cost FREE. Registration is required.

Obstacle Course Across Europe

Ages 3+ can join us to learn about European countries, cultures, and landmarks by completing Europe-themed activities in this fun team-building obstacle course. This program will be run at the Elmvale Community Hall on Tuesday August 5 at 9:30am. This program will also run at the Midhurst Branch on Thursday August 7 at 10:30am or 5pm. Cost: FREE. Registration required.

Antarctic Snow Slime

Ages 7+ can join us to visit Antarctica and make your own slime. Add sparkles and snowflakes to make your slime look like the snow found all over this icy continent.

This program will be run at the Elmvale Community Hall on Tuesday August 12 at 9:30am. This program will also run at the Midhurst Branch on Thursday August 14 at 10:30am or 5pm. Cost: FREE. Registration required.

Australia Dot Painting

Ages 3+ can come decorate a boomerang using Australian Aboriginal dot painting techniques. Then, visit the Maori people of New Zealand and make your own Poi to use for dancing. Tuesday August 19 at Elmvale Branch at 10:30am or 12pm or 3:30pm or 5pm. This program will also run on Thursday August 21 at Midhurst Branch at 10:30am or 5pm. Cost: FREE. Registration required.



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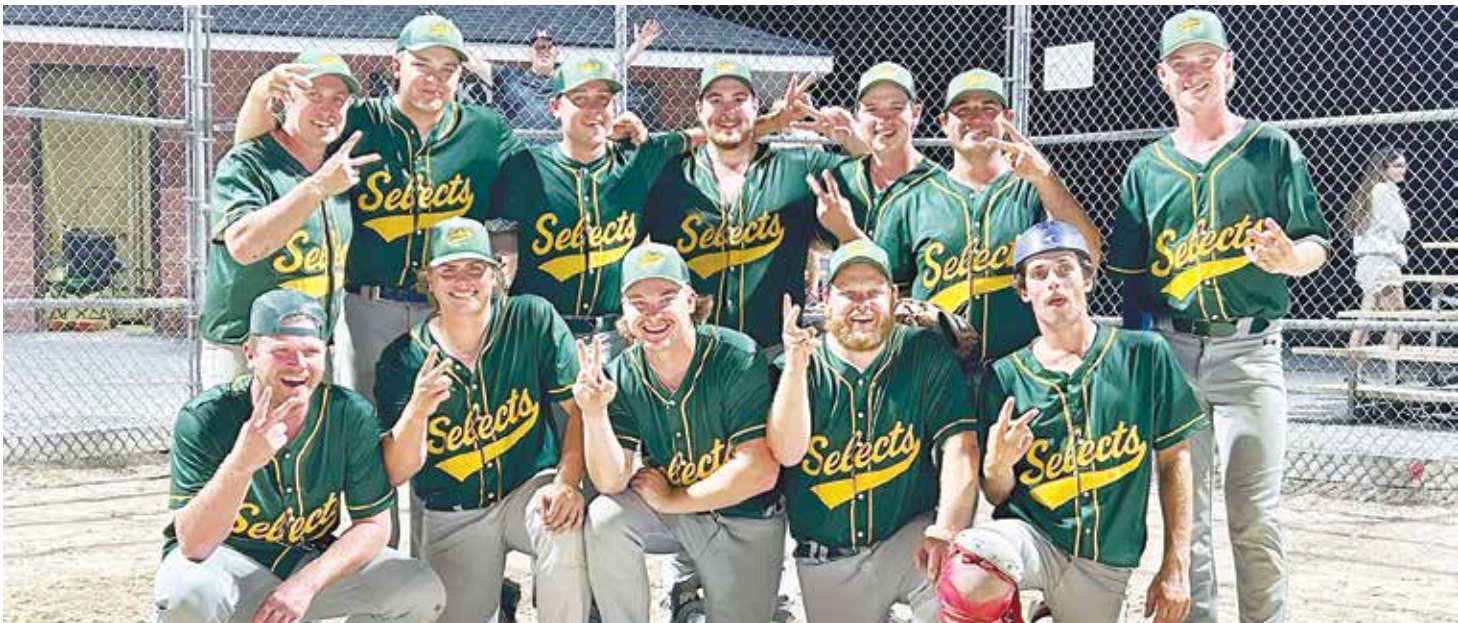
Bowling for Honours

By Leslie Gordon, July 8, 2025
MIDLAND - Congratulations to Betty Robitaille (r) and Laurie MacLeod of the Midland and District Lawn Bowling Club for their Bronze finish in the Ontario Women's Pairs competition. The two-day competition featured teams from across Ontario. On July 5, 2025, three 12 end games to determined which team took home the honours. It was great competition at a great club in Midland



Eight Teams Battle It Out in Annual Elmvale Men's Thursday Night Fastball Tournament

By Tom McGinnis, Sports Reporter, North Simcoe Springwater News, July 14, 2025
ELMVALE - This mid season tournament was held on Saturday July 12, 2025 at the Elmvale Ball Diamond. The Selects beat Minesing 3-0 in the championship game. They secured back-to-back championship wins. In the consolation final, the Royals beat the Brewers 7-6. Eight teams participated, as a good crowd—sweltering in the heat—waited and cheered on their favourite's.



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Prestigious Hartog Award presented to two deserving individuals

By GBGH, July 9, 2025
MIDLAND - At the Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation Annual General Meeting on Monday, June 23, the annual Robbert Hartog Health Innovation Award was presented to two deserving individuals from Georgian Bay General Hospital. Alex Rawn and Alanna Bouffard were recognized for their outstanding achievements that demonstrate the values of Robbert Hartog, who worked tirelessly on behalf of Georgian Bay General Hospital and the Foundation.

Established by the GBGH Foundation in 2009, the \$5,000 award is shared between the winners toward furthering their professional learning and development.

“We are so fortunate to have many incredible people on the GBGH Team, and it’s a pleasure to be able to celebrate the contributions of this year’s recipients,” says Nicole Kraftscik, CEO, GBGH Foundation. “Alex and Alanna are innovators who care deeply about patients and the GBGH Team, and they truly exemplify the dedication that drives our hospital forward.”

Alex Rawn has dedicated many years of exceptional service, evolving from a Registered Nurse and Professional Practice Leader into an outstanding clinical supervisor, demonstrating unwavering commitment and excellence in every role. She is recognized for connecting teams together and ensuring successful implementation of new programs and innovative technology in Obstetrics, Surgical Services, and Ambulatory Care.

“Alex is widely regarded as a calming influence who works well as part of a team. She is extremely open to feedback and working to improve patient and staff experience,” shares Karen Redpath,



On Monday, June 23, 2025, the GBGH Foundation presented the annual Robbert Hartog Health Innovation Award to two deserving individuals from Georgian Bay General Hospital. Alex Rawn and Alanna Bouffard were recognized for their outstanding achievements that demonstrate the values of Robbert Hartog, who worked tirelessly on behalf of Georgian Bay General Hospital and the Foundation. From left: Angela Wiggins, VP of people & culture and CHRO, GBGH; Alanna Bouffard & Alex Rawn, award recipients; and Karen Redpath, clinical director, GBGH.

clinical director, GBGH, who nominated Alex for the award. “Alex is also always ready to support the overall goals of GBGH. Her approach and collaboration is inspiring.”

Alanna Bouffard is a Registered Nurse in the Emergency Department at GBGH, and an exceptional contributor to the hospital’s DEIB (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging) committee. Her dedication and passion for DEIB initiatives have made a significant impact, particularly through her involvement in events like Bell Let’s Talk Day, the ItStarts campaign, and her work on the creation of a learning module for understanding and proper use of personal

pronouns. “Alanna’s enthusiasm for DEIB initiatives is truly infectious, and her consistent participation and dedication make her a strong champion for our ongoing efforts,” shares Angela Wiggins, VP of people & culture and CHRO at GBGH. “Supporting Alanna through the Hartog award will allow her to continue to pursue her education and bring those efforts back to GBGH for further support and growth.”

The GBGH Foundation Board of Directors and staff extend their sincere congratulations and heartfelt thanks to this year’s recipients.

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A photograph of a man sitting on a white couch, smiling and playing with two young boys. The boys are jumping on his back. The scene is set in a bright, modern living room with large windows in the background.

Ontario

HILLSDALE

‘Job has to get done’:

New Hillsdale infrastructure outweighs construction concerns

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Jul 09, 2025

For some folks living on Mill Street in Hillsdale, the long-term benefit of having a quality road with proper drainage and walkable sidewalks will outweigh the short-term pain of construction this summer.

Linda Bodrug lives in the eye of the construction zone, a couple of doors west of Highway 93.

Tuesday morning she was out in her driveway vacuuming her vehicle as heavy duty construction equipment dug up the road in front of her house and dump trucks hauled away load after load of the former road’s base, creating a dust cloud that eventually dispersed, leaving a film of grit on almost everything in the area.

“This is going to be OK,” she said with a smile and a laugh. “We live in a small village and we love it. We’re gonna have a new road, brand new sidewalks, updated and better ditches.

“Hopefully, when it’s all paved we’ll get some speed bumps,” she added.

While Bodrug admits getting in and out of her driveway has been, and will continue to be, a bit difficult, she’ll deal with it because the end result will be far superior to what’s been in place for the nine years she’s lived in the village.

She’s grateful to see the township is repairing the entire infrastructure and not just the road. She pointed out the current sidewalks have sections missing and what’s left isn’t in great shape.

“The sidewalks are in big need of repair,” she said. “Let’s face it — there’s little kids with scooters and people with mobility issues, so it needs to be done right.

“I hear it will take six months but it’s going to be fine,” she added.

Mill Street West, from Highway 93 to Old Penetanguishene Road, has been in deteriorating condition for quite some time, exhibiting signs of alligator and block cracking — issues that indicate structural failure and asphalt shrinkage due to temperature changes and aging of the asphalt binder, respectively.

“These cracks are severe and necessitate full-depth asphalt removal, along with repairs to the granular subsurface,” Amanda Jones, Springwater Township’s capital engineering technologist,



Visitors to Hillsdale are informed of construction on Mill Street. Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

wrote in her report to council on May 7, when it was recommended the contract for the work be awarded to Four Brothers Construction Corporation, the lowest compliant bidder, in the amount of \$2,448,764.82, including HST recoveries, provisional items and a 10 per cent contingency.

Township council had allocated a budget of \$3,786,000 for the work.

“Additionally, Mill Street has a long, gradual slope leading down to Highway 93, which causes significant erosion of the granular edge along the asphalt during heavy rain events,” Jones said. “This erosion results in sediment being washed into the ditches, leading to overflow.”

To address the issues, Jones wrote, the township will introduce a new storm drainage system featuring a bioswale — a shallow, vegetated channel designed to manage stormwater runoff by slowing its flow, filtering out pollutants, and allowing it to soak into the ground.

New curbs and gutters will be installed along

both sides of the road to direct stormwater into the new drainage system.

“This road will be urbanized to match the standards of Mill Street East, providing safer passage for students and parents travelling to the public school from Mill Street West,” Jones wrote in her report. “The improvements will also give the area a more modern appearance, in line with the previous urbanization of Mill Street East.”

Renowned sculptor Marlene Hilton Moore lives a couple of doors down from Bodrug and, like her neighbour, she’s dealing with the construction in a positive manner.

She knew it was coming — the township left information back in May with residents advising them of the impending construction — and even though she lost a massive 150-year-old maple tree that was partially on her property, she’s good with the work and the minor disruptions it’s going to cause.

“It’s an annoyance but who cares?” Hilton Moore said. “The job has to get done.”



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ELMVALE

Canada Day in the Village: Celebrating 25 Years of Heritage Park



By Matt Garwood Councillor, Ward 1, Township of Springwater and George Allen, July 7, 2025

ELMVALE - 25 years ago, on Canada Day, our community gathered in Heritage Park to celebrate.

Since that first celebration, this park has become a cornerstone of our community, hosting concerts, events, and gatherings that have united us in tradition. Heritage Park stands today not

only as a tribute to our history but as a vibrant space that continues to grow with care, pride, and community spirit.

As we gathered together once again to honour both the legacy of this special place and what it means to be Canadian, we reflect on the values that unite us: community, freedom, unity, and pride. In 2025, these values matter more than ever, and Canada Day gives us the perfect moment to

reflect on and honour them.

A heartfelt thank you to the Elmvale District Lions Club for providing the food, the Township of Springwater, and the many dedicated volunteers and groups who made Canada Day in the Village possible.

Thank you, Elmvale, for being part of this celebration.

Elmvale Dairy Club 4H



By Melanie Giffen, July 7, 2025

May Meeting Write-Up:

On Sunday May 11th, the Elmvalle Dairy Club had our second meeting which was held at Marben Farms. We had a shared meeting with the Elmvalle Sheep Club, and Elmvalle Soil and Crop Club. Steve Jones started off the meeting sharing information on how to identify weeds that are in our fields. Whitney Ball provided insight on judging Beef Heifers and Sheep. Owen Wright and Julie Parnell provided insight on how to judge Dairy Cows and Show Halters. Rhonda Montgomery gave us reasons on how to judge Baked Goods. Then we had the opportunity to judge and give reasons for all the different classes in preparation for our judging competition at the Elmvalle Fairgrounds. Thanks to all the speakers for the great information and to Whitney Ball for hosting.

June Meeting Write-Up:

On Sunday June 22nd, the Elmvalle Dairy Club had our third meeting which was held at Nellridge



Jerseys. We had Aaron Mosley from Pretty View Farms demonstrate on how to clip our 4-H calves. He explained the different types of clippers, and what clippers to use where on the calf. Every 4-H member had the opportunity to clip different parts of the calf to gain a little bit of experience on where to clip. At the end of the meeting, we had an ice cream sandwich to enjoy the 40 degree weather. Thanks Aaron for your clipping demonstration and to Nellridge Jerseys for hosting a great meeting.

\$3K offerings to the community



By Cathy Boles, July 9, 2025

ELMVALE - The Ladies Auxiliary have had some success in their recent offerings to the community and have chosen to donate \$3000.00 to the Legion. Accepting the donation is Graham Simmonds President of the Elmvalle Legion. Tina Ditullio and Marianne Jamieson are representing the LA.

Thank you to the community for supporting our newly resurrected Ladies Auxiliary

Clarke's U-Pic/We-Pic

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Whispers on the Wind: Hospice Huronia and Students Create Space for Healing

By Huronia Hospice, July 9, 2025

Penetanguishene – Hospice Huronia is honoured to unveil a new Wind Phone at its Summer Memorial on Tuesday, July 22, 2025, from 6–8 p.m. at Tomkins House. This heartfelt addition to the hospice grounds was brought to life through a special collaboration between volunteers, high school students, and hospice staff. The Wind Phone is a symbolic and private space where individuals can “speak” to loved ones who have passed. The booth was thoughtfully handcrafted by students from Georgian Bay District Secondary School’s Construction Technology class, under the guidance of teacher Mr. Luke Conroy. Built from cedar, the booth houses a vintage rotary telephone donated by Tammy Vaters, Hospice Huronia’s Supportive Care Lead, which is being lovingly dedicated to her parents, Ken and Connie Brown, with special remembrance for her mother Connie, whose spirit continues to inspire connection, reflection, and love. “At Hospice Huronia, we are always looking for meaningful ways to support individuals through grief,” says Debbie Kesheshian, Executive Director of Hospice Huronia. “The Wind Phone is a powerful new addition to our grounds, and I’m so proud of the compassionate collaboration that made it possible. It reflects the heart of our mission to offer comfort, connection, and care when it’s needed most.” The Wind Phone has been carefully placed within a newly enhanced garden space on the hospice grounds. Hospice Huronia extends heartfelt thanks to its dedicated Garden Volunteers and Facilities Lead, Andrew Moreau, for creating such a serene and beautiful environment for the Wind Phone to reside. “It’s been incredibly meaningful to support the creation of the Wind Phone at Hospice,” says Stacey Cooper, Director of Operations and Community Programs. “Seeing this idea come to life through collaboration



with Tammy, Mr. Conroy and his students, and our team is a powerful reminder that small efforts, when rooted in care and brought together, can have a lasting impact.” Inspired by a concept that originated in Japan and has since spread worldwide, Wind Phones provide a symbolic outlet for expressing unspoken words, preserving memories, and finding moments

of comfort during the grieving process. The Summer Memorial will include the official unveiling of the Wind Phone, along with reflections, readings, and community gathering. All are welcome to attend this special evening of remembrance and connection. For more information call Hospice Huronia at 705-549-1034 or visit www.hospicehuronia.ca

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Submitted by OPP
OPP CONDUCTING DEATH INVESTIGATION IN TINY TOWNSHIP

July 14, 2025
(TINY TOWNSHIP, ON) - A death investigation is being conducted by members of the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) after being dispatched to the Deanlea Beach area in Tiny Township at 9:00 p.m. July 13, 2025.

Officers were dispatched after the OPP Communication Centre received a call requesting police and emergency services to attend for an unconscious child that had been pulled from the water.

Tiny Township Fire Services and Simcoe County Paramedic Services upon arrival took over life saving measures from first aiders at the scene and transported the child to an area hospital for medical treatment.

Sadly, despite the extensive effort by emergency services personnel at the scene and medical staff at the hospital, the 6-year-old female of Orillia

passed away in hospital.
The investigation is continuing into the cause of death which investigators believe to be non-suspicious in nature with a post mortem to be conducted in the near future.
Emergency services personnel wish to thank everyone who assisted at the scene.



OPP SEEKING PUBLIC'S ASSISTANCE IN RELATION TO A SINGLE VEHICLE COLLISION IN SPRINGWATER TOWNSHIP

(SPRINGWATER TOWNSHIP, ON) - The Huronia West Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is seeking the public's assistance regarding a single vehicle collision in Springwater Township.

On July 10, 2025, at approximately 8:00 p.m., the Huronia West OPP received a report of a single vehicle collision where the vehicle had rolled over into the ditch on Penetanguishene Road north of Hillsdale in Springwater Township.

Huronia West OPP, Springwater Fire, and Simcoe County Paramedics attended the scene. As a result of the collision, two female passengers were transported to GBGH with serious, but non-life-threatening injuries. The male driver was transported to RVH with serious, but non-life-threatening injuries. A third male passenger was transported to RVH and subsequently transported by air to Sunnybrook Hospital with serious injuries.

Penetanguishene Road was closed last night between South Orr Lake Road and Robert Boulevard for approximately 5 hours.

The investigation is ongoing. No charges have been laid at this time.

Huronia West OPP is seeking the public's assistance and requesting that anyone who may have witnessed this incident or has video or dash cam footage that may assist the investigation is asked to contact 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-222-8477 or www.stopcrimehere.ca.

For safety and crime prevention tips, please visit our website at www.opp.ca.

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SPORTS

BLAZER
Two AA Ball Hockey Cham

Submitted by Jamie Robillard
The Penetanguishene Blazers came home with two AA Championships after playing in the Ontario Ball Hockey Association's Provincials July 4-6 weekend in Brampton. Penetanguishene, which goes into many Provincial events with strong teams showed once again that they can compete with the best in the province, winning both the U16-Bantam and the U18-Junior AA titles and finishing runner up in the U14-PeeWee division. The Blazers also captured the U12-Atom A crown and finished in third place in the Girls U13 category.
U16-Bantam
The Blazers ran over the opposition in the round robin preliminary round play tallying three wins beginning with an opening 14-1 win over the Toronto Arctic Avengers. Darcy Quesnelle, with three goals, Luca Sibley, Reid McIlravey and Spencer Galvin, had two goals each to pace the attack. Rounding out the score were Dylan Larmand, Evan Latour Cooper Thompson, Stuart deMunnik and Josh Bartosiak with single markers. Collinwood were next up, and J.P. Fiddler recorded the shut out in the Blazers goal as they topped the Collingwood Shipbuilders by a 8-0 score. Sibley and Quesnelle each fired



home two markers in the win, with single goals coming from Cohen Benkovszki, Nate Cloutier, McIlravey and Galvin.
To conclude the round robin the Blazers got past the Kingston Attack with an 8-1 win. Quesnelle, deMunnik and Cloutier each scored twice with one goal each from Landry Jones and Sibley.
Moving into the semi-finals, the Blazers played their toughest game of the Provincials, edging the Brantford Royals by a narrow 5-4 score. Nate Cloutier himself had a stellar game, scoring three times and dominating the floor at both ends of the rink. deMunnik and Galvin rounded out the goal scoring with one goal each for Penetanguishene.
In the AA Championship game, Cloutier again scored a hattrick while deMunnik added a pair of goals as the Blazers shut out the Belleville Predatorz by a score of 5-0 with J.P. Fiddler again notching the shut out.
The AA U16 Championship Blazers roster was also made up of Sam Larmand, Brycen Kingma, Ben Traynor and Ethan Binns. The coaching staff was led by head coach Curtis Anderson and assistants Cal Trumpour and Owen Bell.
U18-Junior
The Blazers once again showed they were the cream of the crop racking up five straight wins on their way to the AA crown in the U18 division of play. They opened with an 8-0 shut out over the Mississauga Titans with Mason Downs recording the win in the Blazers goal. The offence came off the sticks of Tanner Thayer with three

goals and singles from Ethan Barron, Nate Ross, Ty Hutton, Drew Robson and Wyles Charlebois. In their second contest the Blazer's Downs recorded his second shut out as Penetanguishene got past the Oshawa Stampede by a score of 5-0. Goal scoring was provided by Finn Price, Ross, Ty Hutton, Alex Sajan and Charlebois. In their final round robin game, the Blazers outran the Brantford Royals by a 6-1 margin as Price, Owen Fuller, Thayer, Cole Warren, Curtis Warren and Blake Weicker each contributed single tallies in the win.
In the semi-final the Blazers downed the Cambridge Canucks by a 7-1 score. Ross and Thayer each fired two goals with single goals from Ty Hutton, Max Geere and Charlebois.
The Blazers then met the Oshawa Stampede for a second time in the Championship game and again shut them out, but this time by a closer 3-0 score. Downs once again recorded the shutout with Ty Hutton scoring two goals and Sajan one in the win.
Penetang allowed only two goals over the weekend while scoring 29 goals with 14 different players netting at least one marker.
Completing the AA U18 roster were Aidan Gravel, Josh Hutton, Cole Tucker, Cohen Smith and Liam Cole. The coaching staff was made up of Braeden Dorion (head coach) and assistant coaches Andrew Snowden, Zac Archer and Joey Moir.
U14-PeeWee
The U14 Blazers marched two the AA



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SPORTS

BLAZERS WIN Championships at Provincials



Championship game where they dropped a 5-2 decision to the Belleville Predatorz. Scoring for Penetanguishene in the final were Brody Quesnelle and Mason Stevens. Belleville showed they were the class of the division limiting the Blazers to only a few scoring chances while peppering Blazer's goaltender Cash Lavechia throughout the contest.

Penetanguishene started out with a 7-0 shutout over the North York Lynx with Austin Charlebois in goal. Scoring were Parker Sneddon, Aubrey Ireland, Keegan Smolin, Wylie Ladouceur, Blake Waschenko, Caleb Lesperance and Stevens. In their second contest the Blazers shut out the Ottawa West Eagles 8-0 with Lavechia in net. Stevens paced the attack with three goals and three assists, while Ladouceur and Anderson Dalziel scored two markers apiece and Smolin rounded out the scoring with one goal.

In their final round robin game, the Blazers squeezed out a narrow 2-1 win over the Cambridge Canucks with two goals in the final five minutes. Parker Sneddon scored first on the power play then Ireland fired the winner just 33 seconds later. That put Penetanguishene in the semi-final where they topped the Oshawa Stampede by a score of 5-1 on goals by Quesnelle, Ladouceur and Lesperance before Eli Latour salted the game away with two empty net markers.

The AA Finalists U14 roster also consisted of Ticeson Hrizo, Noah Robitaille, Maverick Gouett, Chester Badger, Liam Moreau, Cashton Marion, Gavin Sloss and Cole Traynor. Coaches

David Summers, Lucas Weissflog, Justin LeMesurier and Brandon Lafond.

U12-Atom

The U12-Atom Blazers captured the A division Championship as they edged the Collingwood Shipbuilders 3-2 in overtime in the 5th/6th place game. Scoring the O.T. winner was Brennan Murray on along bouncing shot that evaded the Shipbuilders goalie just 1 minute and 38 seconds into the first overtime. Hank Badger scored the two regulation time goals for the Blazers, while Jaxxon Cadeau was outstanding in the Penetanguishene goal recording the win.

The Blazers advanced to the A final with a 1-0 shutout victory over Peterborough Force in the semi-finals. Cadeau again played fantastically in the win turning aside many good Force opportunities. Gavin Graham fired the winning and only goal midway through the first period for the Blazers.

In round robin play the Blazers tied the Cambridge Canucks 1-1 in the first game with Graham scoring the only goal for Penetanguishene. In game two they dropped a 4-1 decision to the Oshawa Stampede with Max Moreau scoring the Blazers marker. In their third game Penetanguishene Hamilton Heat 8-1 with goals from Kolten MacDonald (three) and singles from Badger, Graham, Hudson Kent, Easton Lee and Mason Torrville.

The Blazers U12 roster also included: Striling Baxter, Brayden Caldwell, Sam Gunnis, Charlie Robitaille, Riley Robitaille, Aaron Sloss and Jett

Bondar. Coaches were Nathan Schaap, Ethan Wright, Charlie Wright and Isaac Larmand.

Girls U13

The Girls U13 Blazers dropped a 7-0 score to the Cambridge Canucks in their semi-final contest to finish in third place. In round robin play the Blazers started with a 5-2 win over the Ottawa West Eagles with two goals from Hannah MacDonald and single goals for Ava Duval, Ava Binns and Maci Oliver. Penetang then lost a 3-1 decision to the Brantford Royals with MacDonald scoring the lone goal. In their third contest the Blazers lost 2-0 to the Canucks.

The Blazer roster also included: Madison Torrville, Jane Awrey, Brooklyn Binns, May Gignac, Liv Granlund, Aubree Harrer, Danica Lee, Avery Maurice, Mnidoo Pamajawon, Gracie Seguin, Ilya Taylor and Lilly Zandbelt. Coaches Bryan Awrey, Madison Ross, Alexa Weatherell and Dave Gignac.



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Jo Knows Nutrition

by Joanne Nijhuis



Wanting to boycott your stove in the heat of the summer? Meet ceviche - a Latin American no-fuss, no-cook seafood dish bursting with vibrant flavours and healthful ingredients. Ceviche is easily prepared by marinating fresh seafood in citrus juice typically from lemons or limes. The acidity from the citrus breaks down the protein content of the seafood, giving it a firm texture without heat. Although ceviche tastes similar to cooked seafood, it is classified as raw, so serve it chilled and always use sushi-grade or previously-frozen fish to prevent food-borne illness.

Did You Know?
Health Canada states that there are health risks associated with eating raw or undercooked fish. Pregnant women, young children and those with weakened immune systems should avoid consuming raw fish such as sushi, gravlax or ceviche. To reduce the risk of foodborne illness, freeze fish for at least 7 days at -20 Celsius (-4 Fahrenheit) before eating raw and when cooking fish, ensure that the internal temperature reaches at least 70 Celsius (158 Fahrenheit).

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound (500 grams) halibut, cod, scallops or shrimp

CEVICHE

A REFRESHING SEAFOOD DISH TO BEAT THE HEAT



- 1 cup (250 ml) freshly squeezed lemon or lime juice
- 1 small red onion, sliced
- 1 tomato, diced
- 1 cucumber, peeled and diced
- 1 small jalapeño, finely minced (optional)
- 1/3 cup (79 ml) fresh cilantro, chopped
- Salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Defrost frozen seafood or use sushi-grade seafood instead.
2. Place the halibut, cod, scallops or shrimp or mixture of these in a bowl.
3. Pour the lemon or lime juice overtop, ensuring that the seafood is fully submerged.
4. Cover and refrigerate for 45-90 minutes, stirring occasionally until the fish turns opaque.
5. Do not marinate for more than 4 hours as the



fish will become chalky and tough.

6. Drain half of the lemon or lime juice.
7. Add the onion, tomato, cucumber jalapeño (if using), cilantro and salt and pepper. Toss gently to combine.
8. Serve the Ceviche with tortilla chips or lettuce leaves.

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 – in person and online via Zoom Health. For more information, email Joanne at jo.knows.nutrition@outlook.com

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Isn't It Worth A Conversation?

Annie's Journal

by Annie Warner Donnelly



Hello Everyone. Pastor J. Alfred Johnson II is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Some years ago, he wrote a document called "The Kindness Crusade." Kindness emerges from love and is considered a Fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22.

In his introduction, Pastor Johnson wrote: "To be 'kind' means to be gentle, thoughtful, good-hearted and considerate in both our behaviour

and deeds. And 'crusade' means any vigorous or concerted movement for a cause. So, in short, Kindness Crusade means an enthusiastic and deliberate effort to be kind to everyone we can whenever, wherever, and however we can!"

The first verse he quoted was Romans 12:10 – "Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly (and sisterly) love, in honour giving preference to one another ..."

Honour places high value on a person. Our family and friends, even strangers, may never be honoured with a medal, the Nobel Peace Prize or an Academy Award, but they've been honoured by God though the resurrection of Jesus Christ and His offer of eternal life. We're to love as Jesus loves. We're to love the same people Jesus loves. Honouring one another is a part of loving one another.

Together, Gary Smalley and John Trent wrote a book called, "The Blessing". Referencing the story of Issac's interaction with Jacob and Esau,

the authors detail five blessings, all elements of kindness:

1. Meaningful Touch
2. A Spoken Message
3. Attaching High Value
4. Picturing a Special Future
5. Making an Active Commitment

Maybe no one has ever blessed us with these five elements of love and kindness, but our Heavenly Father sent His only begotten Son, Jesus, to earth proving that He attaches high value to us.

His words that we read in the Bible prove that He has made an active commitment to us. His words promise a special future for each of us, and God never breaks His promises!

Could the kindness found in these five elements of a Biblical blessing make a difference in our lives or in a troubling relationship we're facing today? Absolutely! May we pass on to others the love and kindness God offers to us today. Amen

WYEVALE

WYEVALE COMMUNITY REPORT
By Karen Moreau, June 17, 2025
Sunday Service for July 20th Our service will be a Hymn Sing Service: Please bring your voice and sing along at 10:00 a.m. All are Welcome.
Sunday July 27th at 10:00 a.m. a Camp Service
Sunday August 3rd Church Visitation
Sunday August 24th Rev. Kathleen Greidanus
Sunday August 31st Rev Hoon Kim
Saturday August 9th will be our Garage Sale. Please contact Pat Smith for details. 705-543-9043
Rev. Bonnie is on holidays from Sunday July 12-27 and August 3-9. If you have an emergency, please contact the Church at 705-322-1451. The

phone is checked on a regular basis. Or contact any member for further information. The office is open on Tuesday evenings from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Congratulations to Alex Rawn of Wyevale who was recognized for her outstanding achievement that demonstrated the values of Robbert Hartog, who worked tirelessly on behalf of Georgian Bay General Hospital and the Foundation.

Ball Season is well underway for children of all ages. You can follow the schedule by going to the Georgian Bay Minor Soft Legue and follow the age group games.

The Jug City is a busy place these days with people enjoying the wonderful Soft Creamy dessert. Please be safe when driving in this area of

the village or even walking in the area. Take care and enjoy your Ice Cream.
DRIVE SAFE and enjoy your holidays!
Next submission is July 27th 2025.



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Ontario Connecting 1725 More People to Primary Care in Barrie

\$1,691,100 investment brings the province one step closer to connecting everyone in Ontario to primary care by 2029.

By Office of Doug Downey, MPP, July 9, 2025
BARRIE— As part of its \$2.1 billion Primary Care Action Plan to connect everyone in Ontario to a publicly funded family doctor or primary care team, the Ontario Government is investing



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- Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB)

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\$1,691,100 this year to connect up to 1725 people to primary care in Barrie. This investment is part of the government’s Primary Care Action Plan that will help connect 300,000 people to primary care this year.

Through Mamaway Wiidokdaadwin, the Barrie Area Native Advisory Circle (BANAC) is expanding its services to increase access to culturally grounded health care for Indigenous communities in the region. Building on its strong foundation at the existing Barrie site, the expansion will improve access for clients who currently travel significant distances for care. The expanded model leverages the full scope of clinical and allied health staff to provide efficient and sustainable intake and attachment processes, as well as ongoing primary care. New services will prioritize coordinated care between Traditional Practitioners and the full scope of primary care services.

“This expansion of services will help to ensure that all Ontarians, no matter where they live, will be able to receive world-class healthcare whenever they need it,” said Doug Downey, MPP for Barrie – Springwater – Oro-Medonte. “Expanding access to care helps to remove stressors that can often impact wellbeing, and allows patients to access care in their home communities. I am grateful for the continued partnership between the province and the Mamaway Wiidokdadwin team to provide these services.”

The Barrie Native Advisory Circle was funded through a recent call for proposals focused on communities—identified by postal code—with the highest number of residents not connected to primary care, including those on the Health Care Connect waitlist. Each successful team has established a plan to attach a high proportion of unattached people in their postal codes and demonstrated readiness to achieve significant progress within a year.

“This expansion reflects our deep commitment to Indigenous health in Indigenous hands. The Barrie Area Native Advisory Circle brings together traditional healing and holistic primary care in a way that honours our wellness journey,” said Lynn Monague-Sauvé, President of the BANAC Board of Directors. “This expansion means more Indigenous patients will be attached to primary care which supports individuals, family and the community as a whole.”

This investment is part of the more than \$2.1 billion the Ontario government is investing to support the Primary Care Action Plan that will add over 300 new primary care teams across the province. This includes \$235 million in 2025-26 that in part is

supporting over 130 new and expanded primary care teams across the province.

“We are continuing to build on our government’s record investments, which have helped secure Ontario the highest rate of access to a regular health-care provider in the country,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “We are protecting Ontario’s health-care system and people’s access to convenient care by funding new and expanded primary care teams across the province, helping connect everyone in Ontario to a primary care provider.”

Through Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care, the Ontario government continues to take bold and decisive action to grow the province’s highly skilled health care workforce and ensure people and their families have access to high-quality care closer to home for generations to come.

QUICK FACTS

- Interprofessional primary care teams connect people to a range of health professionals that work together under one roof, including registered and registered practical nurses, physiotherapists, social workers, and pharmacists, helping patients to receive more connected and convenient care.
- Eligible teams not selected for funding in this round will be encouraged to refine and resubmit their proposals for the next call for proposals, which is expected to launch in September 2025.
- Ontario’s Primary Care Action Team, led by Dr. Jane Philpott, will implement its action plan supported by the government’s historic investment of more than \$2.1 billion to connect approximately two million more people to a family physician or primary care team by 2029, which will achieve the government’s goal of connecting everyone in the province to primary care.
- The Ontario Government recently passed the Primary Care Act, 2025., which establishes primary care as the foundation of Ontario’s health-care system and sets out six clear objectives for Ontario’s publicly funded primary care system to ensure people know what they can expect when connecting to primary care.
- In 2024, Ontario invested \$110 million in primary care teams across the province, helping to connect 328,000 more people to primary care close to home.

The Broadway Musical Phenomenon

AUG 7 TO AUG 31

KING’S WHARF THEATRE

Book, Music and Lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey

\$20M Boost for Simcoe North: Province Funds Seniors' Programs and Rural Growth

By Office of MPP Jill Dunlop, July 14, 2025

As we soak up the final weeks of summer, it's my pleasure to update you on some of the ways our government is continuing to strengthen and support communities across the province.

As part of our government's ongoing support for older adults, I'm pleased to share that the Ontario government is investing \$112,668 in seven community projects across Simcoe North through the Seniors Community Grant Program (SCGP). This funding will support local initiatives that help seniors live independently, reduce social isolation, and build stronger connections in their communities.

These community-based initiatives complement our government's broader commitment to seniors' well-being. We are also investing \$35 million to help long-term care homes provide better support for residents with complex needs. Through the Local Priorities Fund, homes will have access to the tools, training, and programs necessary to deliver more personalized care, ensuring seniors can live safely and comfortably close to home.

These community-based initiatives are part of a larger effort to strengthen our region's economy and support rural towns. To that end, our government has launched the Rural Ontario Development (ROD) program. With a \$20

million investment over the next two years, this program aims to attract new investment, create good jobs, and expand opportunities for local workers—helping rural Ontario communities flourish.

From supporting seniors to building rural prosperity, I remain committed to ensuring that communities across Simcoe North continue to thrive. I'm very proud to represent Simcoe North and advocate for the needs of our region.

As summer winds down, I hope you and your family enjoy the remaining days with community events, celebrations, and all that our beautiful Simcoe North region has to offer!

Doug Shipley Reflects on Summer, Celebrates Graduates, and Invites Community Connection

By Office of Doug Shipley, MP,

With summer in full swing, I am looking forward to spending more time in Barrie—Springwater—Oro-Medonte connecting with residents at community events and milestone celebrations. As important as the time spent in Ottawa is to my position as Member of Parliament there is so much value in being here at home, meeting with community groups and hearing feedback from constituents and the many organizations serving our communities.

The end of the school year brings many changes for local students. Even if it is just the excitement of a seemingly endless stretch of summer days in their immediate future. Some students may be looking forward to a new grade and new teacher in September. Others might be preparing for high school or starting their first summer job. And for our high school graduates, this summer may lead to big changes as they embark on the next great adventure life has in store for them. We prepared hundreds of congratulatory certificates for this year's group of graduates, to all the graduates in our surrounding communities, and their proud family members, I say congratulations and best

wishes to each of you on your future path.

A quote comes to mind at this time each year and it is sound advice for any of us, whether pursuing a career in service or trades or carrying on with post-secondary studies, it is great life advice.

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So, throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover." – Mark Twain

While times of change can be exciting, they can also raise questions, and often we just don't know where to start looking for answers. That is where my staff and I can help. My dedicated and knowledgeable constituency team might not have the answer to every question you have about government services and resources, but often they know where to look, or who might be best suited to help you. No matter what the season we are always here and ready to help.

I love to hear from constituents, whether you have questions about a federal matter, or would



like to share information about an upcoming community event, or a milestone celebration, I want to hear from you. You can contact me by emailing: Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca or contact my team by calling 705-728-2596.

I wish each of you a safe and happy summer.

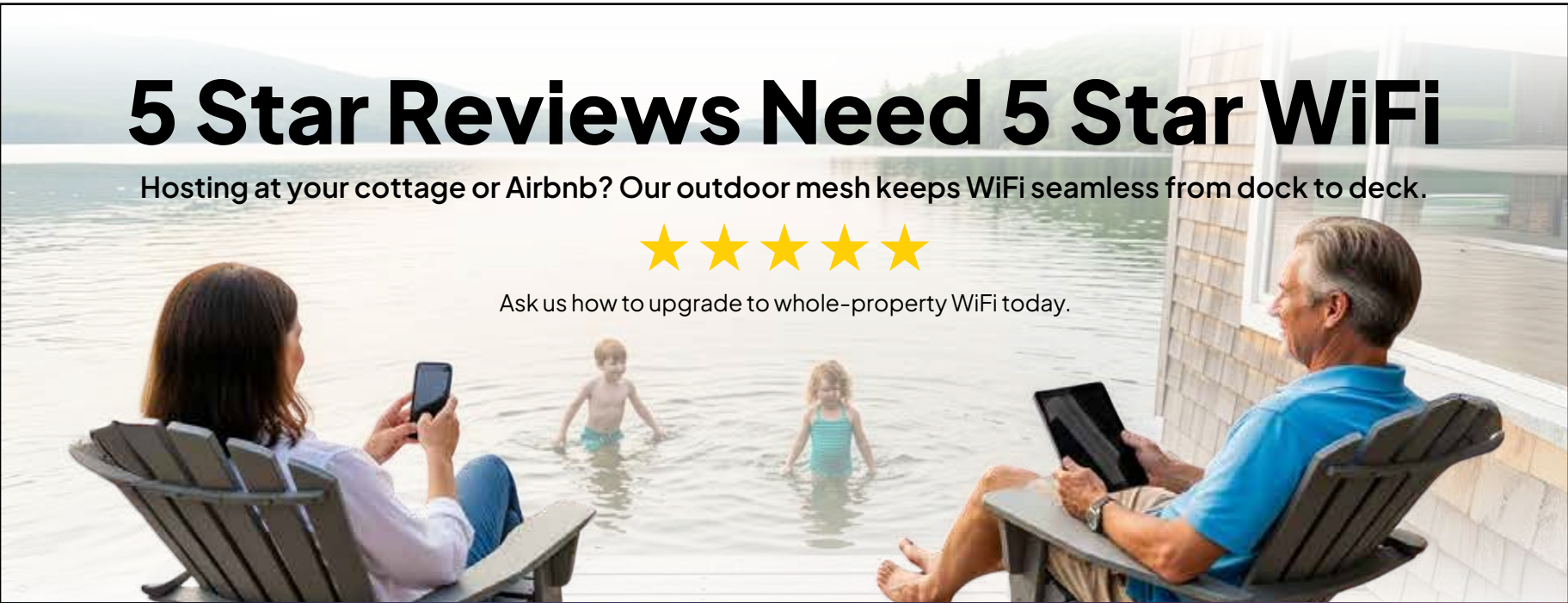
Sincerely,
Doug Shipley
Member of Parliament
Barrie – Springwater – Oro-Medonte

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Bearbells By Leslie Noonan

June 25, 2025

The heat has been heavy and oppressive, even here in Manitoulin. So after a minor shock during the night we headed off to the trails before the sun was much above the horizon. As to the shock last night, well, as I went to grab wood for our fire I had a surprise. I was wearing my headlamp but was not really paying attention to what I was doing. I grabbed a nice piece of wood from the pile, but before I could lift it, I felt a dry slithering across the back of my hand. Looking down, my headlight shone on a bright green snake, upset at my disturbing his beauty sleep. I carefully removed my hand and left him to his wood, instead choosing another piece for the fire. This morning there was no sign of my night-time friend, so we packed up and headed for the most iconic of the Manitoulin trails.

We arrived at the parking lot just after eight AM, with only one other vehicle there. The sun was already intense, and with the humidity the temperature was to climb into the mid-thirties by the afternoon. Even under the canopy of oak and birch we were sweltering with minimal exertion, and this trail does require exertion. The Cup and Saucer trail is rated a moderately difficult trail, as it climbs up the escarpment to the highest elevation of 1,155 feet. The main trail is relatively easy to follow, though you will need to watch both your foot placement with all the roots and rocks, while also watching for your blazes to stay on the right trail. There is a total of fourteen kilometers of hiking paths, with the red trail at five km being the most popular.

We took our time, admiring the limestone cliffs rearing up out of the forest. The trail gets more rugged as it leads up a switch back to the top of the escarpment, with some minor scrambling over small boulders and up blocks of rock. Ropes have been strung along some steep sections for added handholds. At one point there is a set of very steep stairs that is more of a ladder. Once up on top, the leaves begin to stir with the breeze coming in off the lake. Blue skies peek between the trees, and by the sick feeling in my stomach I know that we are coming to the cliff faces. The trail here consists of



mostly fractured rock with stunted trees and sparse underbrush, and there we are, at the first look out. A spectacular view out and over Manitoulin, across a quarry with small wind turbines just visible in the distance, and a spectacular drop. Those views become more frequent, and eventually we are standing on a flat prominence jutting out into empty space, vultures gliding on the updrafts just waiting for me to tumble over the edge. My daughter made to move closer to the precipice for some pictures, but came to an abrupt stop as I had a death grip on her shirt. She settled for some less dramatic photos to stop me from swooning, and once back in the trees I could admire the view from a safer spot. The return trip was uneventful, though by now the trail was teeming with groups of people and the heat was like standing in front of an oven. Expect to take two to four hours for this hike, depending on your fitness level and route. Once back at the parking lot, we debated on how to spend the rest of our day, and of course decided on another hike, this time by the shore. So off we went, on an hour's drive west to Misery Bay for our next adventure.



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COMMUNITY GIVING

Birch Farms Thanks Community for Sweet Strawberry Day Success



By Linda Belcourt, Editor, July 13, 2025
HILLSDALE - Birch Farms had an amazing turn out at the farm July 9th and they want to thank all of you who came and donated to the Elmvale food bank and for giving them a great end

to our strawberry season!
They are open every day at the stand for butter tarts and more as the vegetables begin to come into season; we have some new potatoes and beets at the stand now!

Local Charities Get a Boost from Huronia Community Foundation

By Scott Warnock, Director Huronia Community Foundation, July 2, 2025
MIDLAND - From food security to support for youth, programs that support and enrich our community are receiving funding from Huronia Community Foundation (HCF) through it's "Smart and Caring" grants. This year 26 local charities and organizations will share in almost \$ 23,100.

Generous citizens and companies are the benefactors who fund the Huronia Community Foundation. Working with other members of the Community Foundation of Canada, HCF then builds financial legacies through these endowments, using them to make our local community a better place to live, work and play.

Successful applicants qualified with programs in one or more of HCF's seven Giving Categories, including Arts & Culture, Community Services, Health Care & Mental Health, Seniors, Sports & Recreation, Environment and Youth & Scholarships.
Among the 2025 recipients are the Georgian Bay Food Network with its Back to School Lunch Program, Waypoint Centre's Indigenous Youth Art Program, the Dollars with Sense project by Junior Achievement NEO and the Wheels 4 Wheels Program operated by Huronia Seniors' Volunteer Care Team. A complete list of 2025 Smart and Caring grant recipients is available at <https://www.huroniacommunityfoundation.com/charity-centre/smart-and-caring-grant-recipients/>
The Smart and Caring Community Grants program was established by HCF's Board of Directors and community minded donors so that HCF could provide funding to our local charities and non-profits. Funds are awarded to programs and organizations that are registered charities, or other qualified donees (as defined by CRA).

JULY 15, 2025 || 5:30PM || MIDLAND PIER



COMMUNITY ASSEMBLY

SOUND THE ALARM! INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE IS AN EPIDEMIC

- Hear from advocates and frontline workers
- Participate in a moment of collective reflection and a public call to action
- Opportunities to connect, speak, and take action together
- Bring a noisemaker (pot, pan, bell, drum, whistle)

 www.huroniatrtransitionhomes.ca

Started a new business? Send in your introduction to qualify for a free article

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

Midland Jam
Monday, May 5
Free Admission, Show 7:00, Doors
6:30

Bid Euchre
Elmvale Community Hall 1 pm - 4 pm
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

Bay Shore Seniors Club
Bingo - Starts July 30th
Kids Start at 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Adults Start at 7:30
Bay Shore Seniors Club

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
Bay Shore Mini Putt
May 20 - Aug 26th 9:30 - 11:00 am
Skull Island Wasaga Beach

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

Seniors Springwater Golf Club
every Tuesday at 8:00 am, May 13
to September
Best ball with mixed foursomes
changed weekly

WEDNESDAY
Elmvale District Garden
Enthusiasts
4th Wednesday from March to
November
7:00 pm Elmvale Legion, 7 John St.

Bay Shore Seniors Club
Access Art - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m

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
Coffee Party - Centre Flos W.I.
Last Thursday of the month, 9:30
am - 11 a.m.
Heritage Park. Proceeds to
Community projects.
Everyone Welcome -- free-will
donation

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
All Welcome, Cost: \$3

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

Wasaga Beach Parkinson's Support
Group
1st Thursday of each month 12:30-
2:00 p.m.
Wasaga Beach Public Library
meeting room
All persons living with Parkinson's
Disease and their care partners are
welcome. For more info. contact
Dwight (705) 795-6952 or Phil at
Bender.philip@gmail.com

FRIDAY
Bay Shore Seniors' Club
Woodcarving 10:00 - 3:00 pm
Billiards/Pool 10:00 - 12:00 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)

MONDAY to FRIDAY
VON SMART Exercise Program
Low impact gentle fitness classes
Adults 55+ FREE
Call 705-355-2200 for class
locations and times

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

July 17, 2025 Edition 708

Foodland, WB. Weekly, Monday
morning bike tours from various
locations. Seasonal. Please contact
Lorraine for info. 416-606-5081.
Or lorvanvlymen@gmail.com

LIVE MUSIC

Midland's Music in the Park
returns this summer!
By Town of Midland
(July 4, 2025, Midland, ON) Rock
out this summer at Music in the
Park! Join the Town of Midland for
free outdoor concerts every Sunday
at 6:00 p.m. at Little Lake Park's
Rotary Stage. The 2025 Music in the
Park concert series is sponsored by
Desjardins Ontario Credit Union.
“Music in the Park is one of those
things that just makes summer
in Midland feel special,” said
Mayor Bill Gordon. “It is great to
see people coming together in a
beautiful setting, enjoying live music.
Supporting local talent and giving
the community a reason to connect,
that’s what it’s all about.”
This summer’s lineup includes:

- July 6 Matt Playne and 93
North
- July 13 Paul Paxton and The
Brudders
- July 20 Däv Dickenson and The
Sandra Good Band
- July 27 Jami Shaffaf and The
Outlaw Sons
- August 3 Gibbons & Figgs
- August 10 Teresa & The
Foundation
- August 17 Kitty Unplugged 3.0
- August 24 Joshua Sheppard and
Karla Crawford Band

Find your spot at the amphitheatre-
style seating for the best view of
the stage or bring your lawn chair
and pick a spot on the lawn. The
stage area is wheelchair accessible
and includes wheelchair accessible
seating. Find all you need to know
on the Music in the Park event page
on the Town’s website at midland.
ca/Music.

FREE EVENTS

PAGE FOR

NON PROFITS

Email submissions may
not be included. Please
submit your event on this
link:

https://www.
springwaternews.ca/
submit-event/

Special Events
One Time

Ministry of Transportation Presentation
July 17, 2025 1-3 pm

Askennonia Senior Centre 527 Len Self Blvd
Come learn about the license renewal process for drivers 80+! Sign up at Askennonia

Act Natural, Darling & MCC Presents: Don't Tell Mother - a comedy by Monk Ferris
July 18 – August 2 at 8 – 10:30 pm, 2 – 4:30 pm
Join us for a hilarious evening with Don't Tell Mother—a fast-paced comedy full of chaos and heart—all in support of four incredible local organizations.

Kickin' Up Our Heels: A Kitchen Party Fundraiser at the MCC!
July 19 at 7:00 pm Get ready to kick up your heels at the MCC's Kitchen Party Fundraiser—a high-energy night of music, dance, and community featuring Red Hot Stove Pipe, Marc Mantha, live raffles, and nonstop summer celebration in support of local arts and culture!

Act Natural, Darling & MCC Presents: Don't Tell Mother - a comedy by Monk Ferris
July 18 – August 2 at 8:00 – 10:30, 2:00 – 4:30.
Join us for a hilarious evening with Don't Tell Mother—a fast-paced comedy full of chaos and heart—all in support of four incredible local organizations.

MCC Presents: Rap is Poetry!
July 26 at 3:00pm
Experience Rap is Poetry!—a dynamic, family-friendly event blending spoken word, hip-hop, dance, and beatboxing, presented by Ty the Poetess and the Midland Cultural Centre.

Georgian Bay Garden Tour
July 26, 2025 from 9:00-4 pm
Wye Marsh, 16160 Hwy 12 E Midland
Tour private gardens. Tickets are \$25. Proceeds to Hospice Huronia and Wye Marsh

All Things Canadian
Jul. 26, 2025 11to 7 pm
Rotary Champlain Wendat Park (8 Owen Street), Penetanguishene
Outdoor festival celebrating heritage and culture

Senior Active Living Fair
July 29, 2025 9am to 2 pm
Askennonia Senior Centre, 527 Len Self Blvd
Pick up your free ticket at Askennonia! 50+ booths!

A Garden Walk
Aug. 09, 2025 4-7 pm
Whistling Gardens, 698 Concession 3 Townsend, Wilsonville, ON
Join Arcady's fabulous soloists and players in a combined garden tour/concert

Après Vélo Festival
Aug. 16, 2025 10-2pm
Rotary Champlain Wendat Park (8 Owen Street), Penetanguishene
Live entertainment and activities for all ages following Cycle for Hope rides.

Private Elvis Show featuring Lance Dobinson as Elvis
Aug. 23, 2025 7-9pm
Wasaga Beach United Church
380 Zoo Park Road
Tickets are \$15.00. Contact church for tickets.
Phone 705-429-9429

ENTERTAINMENT

Renowned Pianist Janina Fialkowska to Perform in Midland for Festival of the Bay

By Brookside Music Association, July 13, 2025
Midland, ON — Brookside Music Association is thrilled to present internationally celebrated Canadian pianist Janina Fialkowska in concert on Wednesday, July 31, as part of its summer Festival of the Bay series. The performance will take place at the Midland Cultural Centre, offering a rare local opportunity to experience one of Canada's most distinguished classical musicians live in concert.

Lauded as “one of the Grandes Dames of piano playing” by the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Fialkowska has earned a reputation for her lyrical artistry, refined technique, and profound interpretations—especially of the Romantic repertoire. Over her five-decade career, she has performed with many of the world's leading orchestras and conductors, and her recordings have garnered numerous awards, including a JUNO Award and the BBC Music Magazine's Instrumental Recording of the Year.

Born in Montreal and trained in Paris and New York, Fialkowska's career was launched by the legendary Arthur Rubinstein, who praised her as a “born Chopin interpreter.” She has since become known as one of the foremost interpreters of Chopin, Liszt, and Mozart, as well as an ambassador for Canadian music around the globe.



“We are incredibly proud to welcome Janina Fialkowska to our stage,” says Brookside Music Association's founder and artistic director, John French. “Her artistry is truly world-class, and this is a must-see event for anyone who loves the piano.”
The Association especially encourages local piano students, teachers, and classical music enthusiasts to take advantage of this exceptional opportunity to hear a pianist of Fialkowska's calibre right here in our community.
Tickets and more information are available at www.brooksidemusic.com.

Huronia Symphony Welcomes
Brazilian-Born Conductor Rafael Luz

By Garth McFadden
Barrie, ON – July 2, 2025 — The Huronia Symphony Orchestra (HSO) is thrilled to announce the appointment of Maestro Rafael Luz (@maestroluz) as its new conductor, following a season-long audition process that featured five exceptional guest conductors. After leading a powerful and expressive performance in one of the orchestra's 2024–25 season concerts, Maestro Luz was selected for his remarkable musical leadership, audience engagement, and artistic vision.
A native of Brazil and a rising star in the world of classical music, Maestro Luz brings an electrifying stage presence and deep musical insight to every performance. He earned his doctoral degree in conducting from the University of Toronto and has received widespread acclaim for his dynamic approach and unwavering passion for the craft.

“We were fortunate to have 5 outstanding conductors to work with this past season, chosen from a list of 30 applicants for the role of Artistic Director and Conductor”, said HSO Concertmaster, David McFadden. “Each candidate brought something unique to the podium but

Maestro Luz stood out with his exceptional musicality, inspiring both musician and audience. His musicality, energy, and vision promise an exciting future in our arts community and the next chapter of the Huronia Symphony Orchestra.”
In addition to his conducting work, Luz has a background in music education and development, having taught in underserved communities through São Paulo's Projeto Guri, and contributed to institutions such as the National Ballet of Canada and EdUSP, one of Brazil's major university publishers.
Since 2014, Maestro Luz has served as Music Director and Conductor of the North York Concert Orchestra, where he has led numerous acclaimed performances and championed both classical masterworks and contemporary compositions.
“I'm honoured to join the Huronia Symphony Orchestra as their new Artistic Director and Conductor,” said Maestro Luz. “From the moment I stepped on stage with the musicians, I felt a sense of connection and shared purpose. I look forward to building on the orchestra's legacy and engaging with the vibrant arts community here in Simcoe County.”
The Huronia Symphony Orchestra's 2025–26 season will be announced soon and will mark the beginning of this exciting new artistic partnership.

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To our players, hope you enjoyed this season
and have a great wonderful summer! Elmvale
and District Food Bank would also like to
thank everyone for the donations.
Registration for 2026 will be in March!
From coordinators,
Doug and Amanda

Thank you to Doug and Amanda for their
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an inclusive community. They lead by
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to making social and sports activities
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From your community

AUCTION NOTICES



ONLINE AUCTIONS

Upcoming Auctions

- Dobson Farm Auction - Badjeros (July 20 - 24)
- Erdman Moving Auction - Kitchener (July 20 - 24)
- Humphrey Collection Dispersal - Guelph (July 27 - 31)
- The Estate of Bruno and Mary Tessaro - Guelph (July 27 - 31)
- Ron & Jeanette Alexson - Atwood (August)
- The Estate of Marjorie O' Krafka - Guelph Eramosa (August)

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COMMUNITY

Touring for a Cause:
Garden Lovers Boost Hospice Huronia and Wye Marsh



By Laura Forma, Georgian Bay Garden Tour, July 14, 2025

NORTH SIMCOE- The Georgian Bay Garden Tour is fast approaching with its new annual date of the fourth Saturday in July: this year on Saturday July 26th. A \$25 ticket provides you with access to 12 featured gardens, several talented artisans, a silent auction and more! Round up your friends, family and fellow gardeners and head out for a gardening adventure ... prepare to be inspired! This year's garden tour benefits two very worthy causes: Hospice Huronia – Tomkins House and Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre.

Your \$25 ticket purchase provides a Tour brochure/map and an entry wristband to access the Tour's featured gardens.

Tickets are sold online at www.gbgardentour.com as well as at several local businesses: Normans Garden Gallery, Wendy B's Fine Foods, Ritchie's Feeds N Needs & Garden Centre, Wyevale Jug City, Arbours Flower Shoppe, Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre and Hospice Huronia-Tomkins House.

Each garden is as unique and varied as the location it grows on. From sandy beach gardens to peaceful shade gardens, hillsides to water features, you'll find something to inspire you and your own gardening efforts. Seven local artisans will be located amongst the 12 featured gardens to add to the enjoyment of the day and this year the Tour is bringing back the "mystery plant competition" for added inspiration and wonder. Last year's silent auction was such a success that it is back

again this year, being held at Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre with over 50 items to choose from. Stop by and place a bid in person any day of the week, between 9am-4:00pm from July 19 to July 26. More information on the silent auction items can be found at: www.gbgardentour.com

"The Georgian Bay Garden Tour Committee is proud to once again support Hospice Huronia's fast growing and much needed Bereavement Program, for which we raised \$13,500 in 2024. This year, we will be dividing funds raised through ticket sales, sponsorship, artisan fees and our silent auction between Hospice Huronia and our new charity partner, the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre. We value the unique respective contributions both organizations bring to our local communities," says Wade Fornwald, Georgian Bay Garden Tour Co-Chair.

The Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre, though owned by Environment & Climate Change Canada, is managed entirely by the work of Friends of Wye Marsh, a non-profit organization whose funding comes almost entirely through community support, program registrations, and admission fees. According to Executive Director, Eric Walter, events like this year's Garden Tour have never been more important. "Given the absence of consistent government funding, The Wye Marsh as we know it does not exist without the support of events like this, and we're thrilled to be both a stop on the tour and a recipient of the much-needed funds that it raises!"

The Garden Tour has benefited a variety of worthwhile community organizations and projects over the years, and organizers gratefully acknowledge the many years of support given by volunteers, gardeners, local businesses, advertisers and garden tour enthusiasts for making these ongoing contributions to the various communities in north Simcoe County.

Hey Dads!

July 14, 2025 - Have you ever experienced a case of mistaken identity? Maybe you mistook someone for someone else? Last year we got Camo as a kitten from some friends of ours who told us he was a he. We never questioned it. Nor did we do a close inspection to confirm or deny their claims. But suspicion began to build when a mysterious male cat was spotted around our property paying close attention to Camo. Very close attention.

My very alert wife, who happened to have 10 babies herself, informed us that Camo had a case of mistaken identity. I would consider my wife somewhat of an expert in these things. Perhaps Camilla or Camisole or Camiffer would have been a more accurate name for our little kitten. But Camo she now was and Camo she would remain. Only now we would refer to her as her. And now she went from being a strictly outdoor cat to a rather affectionate indoor cat who could give birth at any moment.

My wife was right. Again. Just before 7am on Canada Day her lovely voice rang out. "Jay! Camo's going to have her kittens!" And where was Camo lounging about in anticipation of the upcoming events? In our cozily-carpeted bedroom. The kids had built Camo a stunning customized cat-having-kittens bed: a cardboard box with one long side cut out and an old towel in it. The birthing bed was brought into our bedroom. But did Camo want to have her kittens in that beautiful box? Of course not! Where do you think she wanted to give birth?

Somewhere warm, cozy and secluded. Somewhere her kittens would be safe from harm and from curious prying eyes and hands. Somewhere directly in the middle of the carpet beneath our king bed where no one could possibly reach her to pull her back out to the box. Camo got real cozy under there and before you could say, "carpet cleaner," it was kitten time. One kitten! Two kittens! Three kittens! All born on the carpet under my bed. How precious. If you've ever seen anything be born you will know that it isn't the cleanest operation on the planet. But Camo did her best to get those kittens all cleaned up. After a little while one of the kids was able to get them all out from under the bed and into their cozy box. There has been much excitement around our house for the last few weeks as young and old gather 'round to see the new kittens. Who live in a box. Beside my bed. Many a night I am awakened by tiny meows or the brush of fur against my face as Camo politely asks to be let outside.

But the children love the kittens. And I love the children. So the kittens remain in the house for the foreseeable future. Memories were made. Kittens were born. If you're looking for something fun to do with your kids you could head down to the local animal shelter and pick up a cat or four for your kids. Doesn't that sound great? Time flies, dad! Make every moment count! Even the messy ones.

Jason Weening has 10 kids and one wife who take care of kittens. Read more of his animal encounters in his new book, "Yes, Dear...I'm Watching Them", on Amazon.

North Simcoe Springwater News
Found at Rawson's Meat and Deli,
Penetanguishene on Canada Day



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ANTEN MILLS

by Dennis Gannon

On the evening of July 9, the weather was perfect in our community. The brief rain showers had stopped, the sun came out and the temperature was just right. All that made it a great night to watch a movie under the pavilion. About a dozen families with their children along with their snacks enjoyed the first movie night of the year. Everything worked out well and thanks to the Chapman family for making it happen. The next movie night will be on Wednesday, August 6. The movie title will be released closer to the date. It will be a “Hot Summer Night” type of event as members of the Springwater Fire and Emergency Services will be present. The kids will have the opportunity to use their skills to put out a fire, handle a fire hose and to top it off get soaked when the firefighters turn the hoses on them. Mark it in your calendar now and watch for more details.

Usually not much happens in the village that gets the community on alert. That changed last Monday night. While not confirmed, it is suggested that a routine traffic stop by the OPP was anything but that. Occupants of the vehicle fled and numerous police officers were called to search for them. Patrol officers, canine officers and tactical officers were out and about searching in the back yards of homes throughout the community. It is believed several people were taken into custody and there has been no confirmation about charges or arrests at this time.

With that activity occurring the Anten Mills Community Facebook page was busy with individuals attempting to join. It is great that people want to join the page hopefully to see what a great community this is and a few were granted access. There are questions that need

to be answered before the administrators will approve them. If they aren’t fully answered then the individual will be automatically declined. As this is a private group, the administrators carefully check the individuals out in order to ensure that they are legitimate and not scammers. There have been a number of requests to join as they indicate that they recently moved into the village which is wonderful. If you are suggesting that someone join the site, make sure that they know all questions are to be answered and that their connection to the community should be fully answered.

The township has reported that the work on the community centre is going well and that it will be completed in time for the 150 celebration on Saturday, September 13. The hall will be completely painted, new flooring installed along with a new ceiling and lighting.

Sponsorships and donors for the event are still available. All proceeds will go to ensuring that this is an event that will be remembered for generations. In 1968 over 400 people attended a reunion with the closing of the school which has become our community centre. Organizers are hoping to have many more attendees as this is a combination family day, reunion and celebration. Those who sponsor or donate will be recognized in the booklet that is being produced. If you are interested in participating contact the committee by email, antenmills150@gmail.com. With production taking sometime, there is a cutoff deadline of August 1.

Work will soon begin on resurfacing and repairs to Wilson Dr. just south of the community. Nursery Rd has had its work completed and a section of Rainbow Valley Rd is to begin. While

there may be some inconvenience for the short term the benefits will be worthwhile. Caution and patience will be rewarded with a smooth road.

If you have an announcement, birthday wish or would like people to know about your business then the community signboard on Wilson is the perfect place to get your message out. Send an email to antenmillssign@gmail.com and Roslyn will do her best to help you. Proceeds from the use of the sign support the community events hosted by the Anten Mills Community Recreation Association.

When the Anten Mills CRA anniversary garden was created it was hoped to be a place where people could enjoy the beauty of the plants and further support the pollinators. The garden is blooming wonderfully and the pollinators are coming. From July 25 to August 3, the Monarch Mission is looking for people to report their sightings of the Monarch Butterfly. To find out more about how you can help, go to the Monarch Mission website, <https://www.mission-monarch.org>

In season, fruit and vegetables are important to help us with our health. Strawberry season is wrapping up and blueberries should begin any day now. To get your local and great blueberries, there is no better and local location than Clarke’s on Nursery Rd. They have pre picked and pick your own. They are open in the morning and late afternoon most days with the exception of Saturday when they are at the Barrie farmers market. Check them out.

That’s all for this week. Brian’s story this week is a combination of a local gathering location and a young man who became a country music star. THANKS for READING, BE WELL and STAY SAFE.



A Celebration of Francophone, Anglophone and Indigenous Cultures

Date/Time: July 26th, 11:00AM - 9:00PM
Rotary Champlain Wendat Park, Penetanguishene

**Vendors 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM**

**Kids Zone 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Inflatables & Other Activities**

**Rock Climbing Wall**

**Face Painting**

**Kids Fishing Casting Area**

**Strolling Performers**

**The Ships Company**

**Amphitheatre Live Music, 11:00 AM- 9:00 PM**

Spirit Works Dance Troupe: 11:00 AM

Bustin Loose: 11:30 AM

Les Retrouvailles: 12:30 PM

Smokey Monaghan: 1:30 PM

Fiddes-Lefaive: 2:30 PM

The Brudders: 3:30 PM

Matt Playne: 4:25 PM

RRPM: 5:15 PM

The 93 North - Big Chill Experience: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

In the Community:

**Penetanguishene Curling Club Bar**
Time & Date: 11:00 AM - 9:00 PM, July 26th
Location: 8 Owen St.

**Joseph Ribkoff Event**
Time & Date: 11 AM - 2 PM, July 26th
Location: Passion for Fashion, 88 Main St.

**Grew Boats Meet**
Visit the Town Dock to see some of the Grew Boats built in Penetanguishene.
Time & Date: 11 AM, July 26th
Location: 2 Main St.

Please note the 2025 activities are subject to change.
Please visit www.penetanguishene.ca for updates and activities in the community.

COMMUNITY

'A celebration of community and impact' returns in September



This stunning private property in Tiny Township is the venue for the Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation's 2025 Power of Giving event on Saturday, September 13. Tickets for the event are \$200 each and available at GIVE2GBGH.ca.

By GBGH, July 3, 2025
MIDLAND – The Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation is thrilled to announce that tickets are now on sale for the highly anticipated 2025 Power of Giving event, taking place on Saturday, September 13, 2025 at a stunning private property in Tiny Township. This year's celebration, presented by Faris Team Real Estate Brokerage, promises an unforgettable evening of live music by BLuSouL, gourmet cuisine by Feast Catering, carefully curated cocktails from the Clam Digger Caesar

Bar, and exclusive auction experiences — all in support of local healthcare. Returning as the evening's host is the incomparable Layne, The Auctionista, whose high-energy, heart-driven style inspires audiences to come together to make a difference. The event will also mark the official launch of the Foundation's \$20-million We See You capital campaign, aimed at transforming care for every patient who walks through GBGH's doors. "Our Power of Giving event is more than a



WHEELDON, Marie Alice
Passed away peacefully at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie on Friday, July 11, 2025. Marie Wheeldon of Elmvale in her 79th year. Beloved wife of Roy Wheeldon. Marie will be fondly remembered by Roy's son, Glenn Wheeldon and his children, Cassandra and Brittney. She will be dearly missed by her beloved dog, Meia.
In keeping with Marie's wishes, there will not be a funeral service.
Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com

fundraiser — it's a celebration of community, compassion, and the incredible impact we can make together," says Nicole Kraftscik, CEO, GBGH Foundation. "This year, we're excited to be back in person, with a goal to raise more than \$300,000 for essential hospital tools and technology, while celebrating the incredible generosity that has been pledged for our We See You campaign." The highly anticipated, limited edition Gbay Bags will be returning, along with the Power of Giving Online Auction, on Thursday, August 28. Tickets to attend Power of Giving are \$200 each and are expected to sell out quickly. For more information, and to get tickets, visit GIVE2GBGH.ca or contact the Foundation office (foundation@gbgh.on.ca or 705-526-4483). Cutline: This stunning private property in Tiny Township is the venue for the Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation's 2025 Power of Giving event on Saturday, September 13. Tickets for the event are \$200 each and available at GIVE2GBGH.ca.

ENTERTAINMENT

Discovery Harbour lifts the veil on summer Supernatural Saturdays



By Discovery Harbour, July 3, 2025
Penetanguishene, ON – June 26, 2025 – This summer, Discovery Harbour invites thrill-seekers and history lovers alike to experience Supernatural Saturdays.

Starting June 28 and running every Saturday until August 30, Supernatural Saturdays will blend three eerie experiences into one, including an all-new, unforgettable passage into the shadows with Secrets of Séance. Whether you're a returning fan or a first-time visitor, prepare to be captivated by this immersive blend of storytelling, puzzles and theatrical intrigue. **Choose your adventure—or experience all three:**
Ghost Tours Relive spine-chilling tales based on actual unexplained mysteries and phenomena while walking through the 19th-century naval and military site by lantern light.
Bo'sun's Brig: Escape Room Try to escape Discovery Harbour's historic prison by solving enigmatic puzzles and mysteries. With just one hour to escape, it's a race against time!
NEW! Secrets of Séance Step into the powerful world of 1800's spiritualism inside a Victorian parlour. Witness a live séance—as well as the secrets behind the magic in this expertly designed immersive experience.

Guests can book all three experiences in one evening with time for dinner at Captain Roberts' Table restaurant, located on site.
Plan Your Visit:
• Discovery Harbour – 93 Jury Drive, Penetanguishene, ON
• Saturday evenings from June 28 to August 30, 2025
• Tickets and full schedule at: discoveryharbour.on.ca/events/supernatural-saturdays/
• Book early – space is limited for each experience
• Whether you're a history buff, puzzle-solver or lover of the paranormal, Supernatural Saturdays promises an evening of hair-raising entertainment on the shores of Penetanguishene Bay.
Admission Details
Tickets for Supernatural Saturdays range from \$20 to \$24 per experience, tax included. A separate ticket is required for each of the three experiences: Ghost Tours, Bo'sun's Brig: Escape Room, and Secrets of Séance. Supernatural Saturdays is recommended for guests aged 13 and older. Advance ticket purchase is strongly encouraged, as capacity for each experience is limited.
To learn more and purchase tickets, visit discoveryharbour.on.ca.

OBITUARIES



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LEWIS, David (Dave) Robert

Dave passed away unexpectedly at 4:04 a.m. on Monday, July 7, 2025, at Georgian Bay General Hospital. Though taken from us too soon, his open and loving spirit leaves behind a legacy of light, kindness, and hope.

Dave served proudly as a Naval Firefighter with the Canadian Forces for ten years. He went on to dedicate 30 years to the Ontario Provincial Police, where he served as a Force Diver, a member of the Tactics and Rescue Unit (TRU), and on the Crime Unit (BEAT). He retired with honour in 2009 as a Detective Sergeant. Dave remained active in his community as an executive member of the Elmvale Royal Canadian Legion and as a dedicated Freemason with the Elmvale Masonic Lodge.

Brave and quietly humble by nature, Dave always made time for others. He had a gift for storytelling, a quick wit, and a heart for helping—never hesitating to lend a hand to friends, neighbours, or anyone in need.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Debbie, and was a proud and loving father to Stephen Lewis, Kelly Goulet (Robert), Ryan Lewis, and Robyn Lewis. He deeply cherished his grandchildren Juliet Goulet-Lockwood (Evan), Mackenna Goulet (Tyler), and his great-grandson Elijah Goulet-Lockwood.


Dave was a friend to hundreds and a mentor to many. He was admired, respected, and will be missed beyond measure.

The family extends heartfelt thanks to the paramedics and emergency responders who assisted Dave on July 6, 2025, and to the exceptional medical staff at Georgian Bay General Hospital for their care and compassion.

In keeping with Dave's wishes, a Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, July 26, 2025, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Elmvale Royal Canadian Legion Branch 262. All are welcome to join us in sharing stories and celebrating the many good times we had with him.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Dave's memory can be made to the Elmvale Royal Canadian Legion Branch 262 or Furry Friends Barrie Animal Rescue.

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



LEONARD, Martha Elizabeth


In loving memory of Martha Elizabeth Leonard (nee MacLean) Passed away peacefully on July 2, 2025 at Hospice Huronia at the age of 78. Loving wife of Alvin for 54 years and devoted mother of Kat-Karen, Colin (Crystina) and David (Severine); proud grandma of Nathan, Amy, Matthew, Samuel and Calum. Predeceased by brother Keith. Fondly remembered by siblings Jean, Robert (Ruth), and Evelyn. Sister-in-law of Bev (late Gordon), Carol (late Ross), Dennis (Pat) and Kevin (Tracy.)

Visitation at Lynn-Stone Funeral Home Elmvale: Sunday July 6 2025 2:00-4:00pm.

Funeral service at Elmvale Presbyterian Church: Monday July 7 2025 2:00pm.

Donations appreciated to Hospice Huronia, RVH Foundation, or Georgian Bay General Hospital.

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



ERIKSEN, Kenneth Bruce

With heavy hearts we share the loss of Kenneth Bruce Eriksen. Ken passed away peacefully in the early morning of July 3, 2025 at the Georgian Bay General Hospital. Ken was in his 96th year. He was predeceased by his beloved wife, Carrie and all of his siblings.

Although Ken and Carrie had no children of their own, they were very much a part of the Sye family, being neighbours for many years. Their close knit Orr Lake friends enjoyed many great years together, playing cards, fishing, and just enjoying life at the lake.

Ken will now reunite with Carrie in the Elmvale Cemetery.

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

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

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OBITUARIES



HUBBARD, Petronella "Nellie" (nee Van Laarhoven)
Passed away peacefully at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Barrie on Wednesday, July 2, 2025. Nellie Hubbard (nee Van Laarhoven) of Phelpston in her 76th year. Beloved wife of the late Thomas Hubbard. Loving mother of Nicole Hubbard (Jeff Pilon) and Megan Hubbard Middlemass. Grandma of Jaxon and Maxwell. Sister of Mary Golds, Case (Debbie) Van Laarhoven, late Art (survived by Cheryl) Van Larrhoven, Francie (Glenn) Hall, Anne (late Bill) Dempster, Martin (Kathy) Van Laarhoven, Cora (late Charlie) Ware, and Agnes (Darcy) Duquette. Sister-in-law of John (late Margaret) Hubbard, late Carl (survived by Irene) Hubbard, and Marshall (Jiajia) Hubbard. Nellie will be sadly missed by her many nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and neighbours. To know Nellie was to love her. She had a kindness and way about her that could bring love and laughter to any room. Heaven gained an angel who loves like no other.
A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale from 6 pm - 9 pm on Tuesday, July 8, 2025. Funeral Mass 11 am, Wednesday July 9 at Our Lady Of Lourdes Church in Elmvale.
Memorial donations in Nellie's memory may be made to the RVH Foundation or Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Elmvale.
Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com



GUGIC, Margaret Martha
Passed away peacefully at home on July 3, 2025. Margaret Gugic of Vasey in her 88th year. Beloved wife of the late Harry Hertzberg.
Dear mother of James, Johnny, and the late Jerry. Margaret will be remembered fondly by her many friends in Canada and by her extended family in Germany.
A graveside service will be held at the Vasey Union Cemetery on Saturday July, 19
Memorial donations in Margaret's memory may be made to CNIB - (Canadian National Institute for the Blind).
Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com

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FARMER, Ursule Berthe
It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Ursule Berthe Farmer (nee Pelchat) on July 7, 2025, 4 months shy of her 90th birthday.
Mom was born on Nov 10, 1935 in northern Saskatchewan. She was the third daughter born to Louis Pelchat (1895-1956) and Bertha Proulx (1911-1998). She is predeceased by 6 siblings; survived by her brother Donald, her closest sister-in-law Sarah, and numerous nieces and nephews.
When just out of high school (where she excelled in math), she headed out on her own to join the Air Force in Ontario where she began training as an air traffic controller. She soon married and had her first daughter. She left the Air Force and soon began a life long career in banking.
Ursule married Ernst Farmer in 1958. Together they built a life that moved them from Toronto to Holland Landing and then Phelpston, where they had hobby farms which included dogs, cats, horses, chickens, turkeys, geese, goats, ducks, rabbits and twitch grass, at various times; and ridiculously large gardens - both Ernie and Ursule were blessed with green thumbs. Ernie passed in 1985, and she never remarried. Ursule was fondly reminiscing the evening before she passed about the good life they had together, their friends and social clubs they belonged to. She was thankful for the life she had. Together Ernie and Ursule had a son and 2 more daughters.
When Ernie passed, Ursule bought herself a place on Orr Lake. She had an old cottage renovated; she built a place she hoped family would love to come hang out at. She loved living on the lake and was on a pontoon ride with neighbour a couple of days before she passed. Ursule was fiercely independent, loved to read and do puzzles, regularly thanked God for her wonderful neighbours, but most of all loved spending time with family.
Ursule was predeceased by her daughter Valerie Dykstra and her son-in-law Wayne Greene. She is survived by Valerie's children (Jason, Kevin, Chad, and Ashleigh), her son Rick (children Jenna, Michelle, Nicole), daughter Lisa and son-in-law Russell Callan (children Mitchell and his wife Shannon, Brendan and his wife Miranda), and her daughter Mariah (children Rachel and Bret).
Granny (as so many people fondly called her), was blessed with 11 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.
She will be so missed.
Please join us for a Celebration of Life, Saturday July 12th, 2:30-4:30, at 5580 Penetanguishene Road, Orr Lake
Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com



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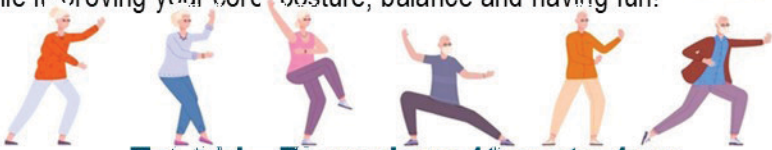
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Helping Seniors Age Well at Home
Information, Services, Programs
and Events for Seniors

Stay Active - Stay Connected!

Chigamik Community Health Centre Choose to Move (Online)

Join physiotherapist, Renée Scruton, for a weekly online exercise program for adults that focuses on overall strength while improving your core posture, balance and having fun!



Tai Chi—Thursdays 12pm to 1pm

Participants will be guided through the fundamental principles of Tai Chi, learning a series of flowing movements that are often described as "meditation in motion." These movements are performed in a relaxed manner, making Tai Chi accessible to individuals of all fitness levels and particularly beneficial for those seeking gentle exercise.

To register, visit www.chigamik.ca



Georgian Bay
Garden Tour

Garden Tour

Saturday,
July 26th, 2025

Proceeds in support of:



WYE
MARSH



Hospice HURONIA
TOMKINS HOUSE

Georgian Bay Garden Tour

Saturday, July 26th—9am to 4pm Ticket Price—\$25

Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity to explore the natural beauty of Georgian Bay! Visit: www.gbgardentour.com

FOODREACH

Transportation to the grocery store or food bank

To assist with the expense of grocery shopping, **Community Reach North Simcoe** is now providing rides to and from the store or food bank through their TLC (Transportation Linking Communities) program and available to any resident of North Simcoe (Midland, Penetanguishene, Tay and Tiny).

The suggested fee for a return ride is \$10, however, no one will ever be turned away! Please complete a Community Reach application form on the website: www.communityreach.ca or call (705) 528-6999



Community

REACH

WE ♥ OUR
VOLUNTEERS

Would you like to join a team of amazing volunteers making a difference in our North Simcoe community? Community Reach is looking for Volunteer Drivers. This is a rewarding opportunity to improve the quality of life for residents experiencing barriers to transportation. Our drivers take clients to medical appointments, shopping, and social engagements within North Simcoe and to out-of-area medical appointments. Our volunteers tell us when they are available and where they are comfortable driving. Drivers are compensated for mileage.

Give us a call or send us an email to learn more about volunteering with
Community Reach: (705) 528-6999 or admin@communityreach.ca

To find out more about Community Reach, visit our website at www.communityreach.ca.

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

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SENIOR ACTIVE LIVING FAIR

Askennonia Senior Centre

Senior Active Living Fair

Tuesday, July 29th 2025—9:00am to 12:00pm

Over 50 information booths

Pick up a free ticket at Askennonia Senior Centre at 527 Len Self Blvd.





Midland
Public
Library

DROP-IN TECH TUTOR SESSIONS

Tech Tutor Sessions Fridays—1pm to 4pm

Figuring out a new device or giving video chat a try? Drop by the Midland Public Library for hands-on support with today's tech.

Bring your devices and cables, and get the guidance you need!

Please note that sessions are provided on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For information, call (705) 526-4216

Town of Penetanguishene Country Movers—Beginning Line Dancing

July and August for adults 55+

Register under the recreational programs:

www.penetanguishene.ca

