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Edition 709 | July 31, 2025

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New Sr. AA Team Ignites Elmvale Hockey Spirit

By Jared Robertson

ELMVALE - July 17, 2025 - The Elmvale community is buzzing with excitement as we proudly announce the formation of the Elmvale Harvesters Sr. AA Hockey Club. This newly established team promises to bring the excitement of thrilling hockey action to our town, fostering a spirit of camaraderie, competition and community pride.

The Harvesters Hockey club aims to not only entertain fans with their skilled, fast paced, and hard-hitting play, but also serve as a platform for local talent, providing opportunities for players to

showcase their abilities at a higher level.

"We're delighted to bring Senior Hockey back to Elmvale," said team Vice President and Director of Hockey Operations, Jared Robertson. "Our goal is to create a team that the community can rally behind—a team that represents our values of hard work, dedication, and unity. We have our sights set on being a very competitive team right out of the gate, which I think is a clear representation of the quality of hockey players in our area".

The Harvesters will compete in the highly regarded Ontario Elite Hockey League - a member league of the Ontario Hockey Association. They will face off against some of the best teams in Ontario, all battling for the chance to win the historic J.F Paxton Trophy as the OEHL AA Champions. The J.F Paxton Champions are eligible to challenge for the Allen Cup, Canada's National Sr. AAA Championship which is Canada's oldest hockey competition which has been competed for 117 times since 1908. Last year, the OEHL Champion Minto 81's reached the semifinals of the Allen Cup Tournament, losing to the eventual champions and finishing the year as a top 4 Sr. team in Canada.

The Elmvale Harvesters will hold their inaugural season this coming fall. Ten home games will be played at the Elmvale Community Arena with most games to be scheduled for Saturday nights at 8:00 pm. Fans can expect a dynamic atmosphere, complete with family-friendly entertainment, community events, and a blueline club upstairs (19+) during game nights.

The Harvesters organization are currently looking to fill game day volunteer positions, including ticket sales, merchandise, ushers, 50/50 sales, water and equipment assistants and more! If you are interested in joining our amazing team of local volunteers, please email Gameday@elmvalerharvesters.com.

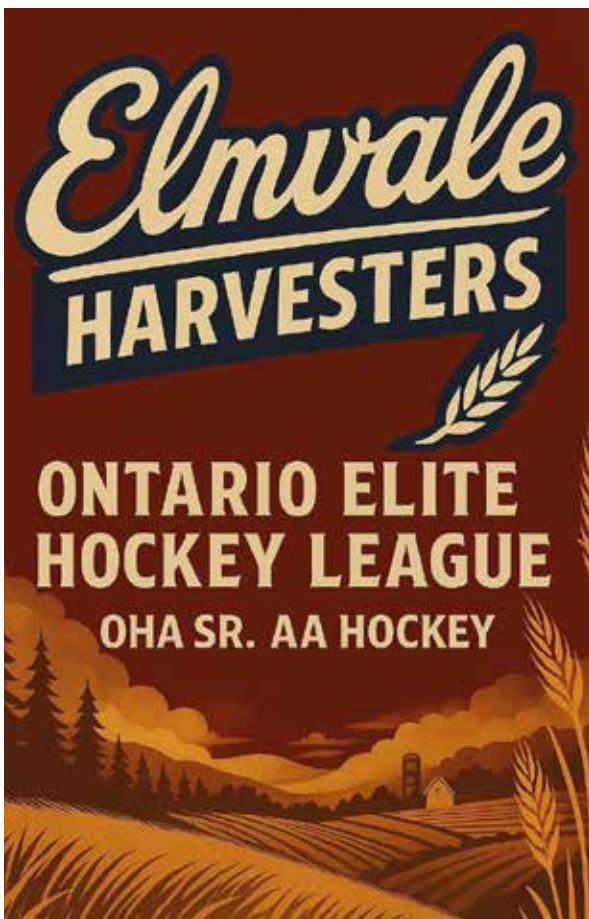
The Harvesters are also actively seeking community support, including local sponsorships and partnerships to help foster a sustainable

hockey culture in Elmvale. This is a unique opportunity for local businesses to engage with the community and support our athletes. If you are interested in pursuing a sponsorship opportunity with the Elmvale Harvesters, please email Info@elmvalerharvesters.com.


Tickets for the November 1st home opener will go on sale shortly, so be sure to stay tuned for more information on how you can bear witness to some of the most fast paced, hard hitting and exciting hockey you can find in small-town Ontario. Remember to wear your red and blue and prepare to get loud Elmvale!

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THE SCOOP
By Linda Belcourt

I appreciated the spirited feedback on the July 17, 2025 edition of the North Simcoe Springwater News. Heidi Currie's letter certainly sparked conversation — from lively discussions in local coffee shops to a buzz on social media.

NS Springwater News wants to hear from you! Let your voice be heard!

I'm always amazed at how boldly some people express their opinions on social media while hiding behind a screen, using it like a shield of cowardice.

If have something to say, say it directly to the person. I had a concerned resident send an opinion editorial to my Ontario Community Newspaper Association regarding Township of Springwater. It did not just go to the association but to Gordon Cameron, the Executive director. Gordon is a very supportive of this paper and the professionals in this association are as well.

For context, here's what the OCNA actually provides its members:

The Ontario Community Newspapers Association (OCNA) provides a broad range of services to its members, with key offerings including:

Ad*Reach: OCNA's advertising division, placing display and insert ads in member newspapers on behalf of advertisers, agencies, and governments.

Webinar Series: Ongoing educational sessions covering software training and workplace management skills.

Government Relations: Advocacy to ensure Ontario's community newspapers are represented at the provincial and municipal levels.

NewsClips: A digital publication featuring industry news, updates, and information about upcoming OCNA services and events.

Press Cards: Authorized photo press cards issued to members.

Membership in News Media Canada: OCNA membership includes automatic membership in News Media Canada, offering national communication, conferences, and federal advocacy.

Canadian Media Protective Association: Administered by OCNA, this program provides group media insurance covering libel, piracy, and plagiarism.

Additionally, OCNA emphasizes the value of events, awards, and training courses for professional development and networking.

**Please send all submissions to
Linda Belcourt
info@springwaternews.ca**

OPEN LETTER

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.

Open letter to Minister of Natural Resources from Wildlife Rehabber

As an Authorized Wildlife Custodian [AWC] under the MNR today, with 45 years' experience in wildlife rehabilitation of orphaned wildlife, the first years should have been more difficult with no internet and the money to get into computers, having no place to find information etc.

Yet rehabbers found each other, shared information, and found people willing to give up summer vacations and so much of their own and their families lives for the 4-6 months, plus the cost, space in the home and daily time.

By about 2000 there were over 200 of us when the MNR decided to get involved although they less qualifications than we did! In the next last 25 years they have learn very little on what the average Home/Backyard Rehabilitator, did or needed and they still nothing about the actual wildlife.

I was told by my first District Rep, Delbert, that the last thing they needed was to represent rehabilitators. Their days were full as it was, and they admitted they knew little but most listened and learned. More rules were made with no consultation and many didn't made sense unless you financially able to run it as a business and able to purchase land, hire people etc. Where most rehabbers have been Home/Backyard rehabbers. Then we got more rules and changes.

It has always been obvious the MNR didn't want us. We are volunteers...yet never have they helped us financially or provided the education they should have. The parameters of the government rules of how to use volunteers, have teen totally ignored.

The MNR keeps pretending to help us with information meetings, yet they don't even recognize that there is no time during baby season for a rehabber to give.

The education they expect us to have is either not available or not financially feasible to many. If

I were to apply today with what I have garnered over those 45 years of experience, I would not be authorized. Yet, I have presented Care of Orphaned Skunks in the United States and in Ontario at organized conferences. I written 3 booklets to help new rehabbers to care for skunks, squirrels and raccoons. Because there is nothing else that gives what you need when you have your hands on the animal.

Could I morally recommend anyone to become an AWC? NO!

How could I when the MNR doesn't follow their own rules, even inspections with inspections.

We should be partners with our reps, we don't even get to know them or them us. It seems the MNR trust public opinion over their rehabilitators. This was not the first raid. Instead dropping in for a surprise inspection, which by their own rules they should have done, waste money and time in an overblown drug style raid. They had no idea how to transport the animals they remove, not following any approve isolation/quarantine protocols!

They caused a family to lose their business, their home, their reputation and caused PTSD! They are still being dragged through the court system 2 years later???

Were we told anything? No. Sooo.... Who is next? You know it isn't easy seeing a man with a gun at your front door at the best of time with a regular inspection. But full-blown drugs style raids!

Does the MNR assumed that we all must be involve black market selling wildlife. Why would we when it is so easy and to go out and trap one yourself?

Is there any trust or respect for the MNR.....no. I have had experiences, of trust and respect but that was years ago. It started to come back slowly in the more recent past, but I cannot morally encourage anyone to become authorized when they could be treated like criminals at any moment.

The Ontario government cares so little about wildlife we have left in Ontario, they want to retract the protection limitations of species at risk and our environment why do I even think they should care and try to help the few humans who deal with wildlife helping wildlife?

Silly me.

Laurel A. Beechey, Skunk Haven, Tillsonburg, Ontario

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OPINION

Nickles and Sense

RESIDENTS TIRED OF PETTY POLITICS

By Brian Belcourt, North Simcoe, Springwater News, July 27, 2025

In Ontario, "strong mayor powers" refer to increased authority granted to the heads of certain municipalities, allowing them to propose and pass certain by-laws, veto certain by-laws, and appoint key municipal staff. These powers were initially granted to mayors in larger cities and have since been expanded to 26 municipalities, with a further expansion to 169 additional municipalities, as of May 1, 2025. The expanded powers are intended to facilitate the province's goal of building 1.5 million homes by 2031.

Here's a breakdown of the key aspects of strong mayor powers in Ontario:

- **Appointing and Dismissing Key Staff:**

Strong mayor powers allow the mayor to appoint and potentially dismiss the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) or City Manager and other key municipal staff.

- **Veto Power:**

Mayors can veto certain by-laws passed by the council, though there are limitations and specific areas where this power can be used.

- **Budget Powers:**

Strong mayors have the power to propose and prepare the municipal budget.

- **Directing Staff:**

Mayors can direct city staff in writing on specific matters related to provincial priorities.

Springwater Township was granted Strong mayor powers on May 1, 2025, when the province expanded the provincial Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act by 169 municipalities.

The purpose of strong mayor powers is part of the province's efforts to accelerate housing construction and infrastructure development, streamline decision making and expedited the approval of projects that support housing targets. Anyone who has had to get a building permit will understand the long wait times to get approvals for projects,

Mayors are expected to use these powers to advance provincial priorities, such as building new homes and infrastructure.

The Mayor can bring forward matters for council consideration if they are of the opinion that considering the matter could potentially advance a



provincial priority, which the Mayor of Springwater township did with the city of Barrie expansion proposal.

Springwater's council reactions have been mixed, some councillors view the change as an erosion of democratic checks and balances, while others believe it restores majority voters representation by consolidation decision-making with the mayor, who received the highest vote total in the 2022 election.

On May 8, 2025, Mayor Jennifer Coughlin exercised strong mayor powers to advance a by-law authorizing formal boundary negotiations with the City of Barrie regarding potential annexation of Springwater lands. Highlighting the word 'potential'. She directed staff to engage in talks with Barrie over land and servicing, notable extending municipal water and wastewater services to Springwater in exchange for the territory transfer to Barrie.

Deputy Mayor George Cabral and other councillors have introduced motions formally opposing these powers, expressing concern about centralization and democratic erosion- even though Ontario law makes declining them symbolic only. On the other hand, councillor Brad Thompson and Mayor Coughlin argue the powers bring decision-making in line with the mandate given by voters.

There are limitations and oversight when strong mayor powers can be used. Certain strong mayor powers can only be used to support specific provincial priorities, primarily related to housing and infrastructure. There are mechanisms in place, such as council oversight and potential appeals processes, to ensure accountability and prevent misuse of these powers. If the head of council uses their veto power, council then has the ability to override the veto. Within 21 days after the clerk provides the written veto document to the members of council, council may override the veto if two-thirds of all council members vote to override the veto. During this process, the head of council remains as a member of council for council decision-making with one vote.

As Springwater council is clearly divided on most issues, with a consistent 4-3 split among council, residents of the township are tired with of pity politics and would like to see council work together for the betterment of the township.

In essence, strong mayor powers in Ontario represent a shift in municipal governance, granting heads of council increased authority to drive specific provincial priorities, particularly in housing and infrastructure development.



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MIDLAND

Education on tap at newly opened water museum in Midland



The Canadian Museum of Water recently opened its doors at the Midland Cultural Centre. Executive director Dan Travers and director Chris Wilkie curated the exhibits to introduce Southern Georgian Bay, and Canada, to the 120 other UNESCO-endorsed Global Network of Water Museums.
Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter
By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Jul 24, 2025
It may have taken a few years to arrive, but the grand opening of the Canadian Museum of Water in Midland is ready to welcome residents and visitors alike.
Searching for a place to call home since 2022, the Canadian Museum of Water had been

pitched by executive director Dan Travers to local municipalities and interest groups as a means to add Canada to a growing list of global water museums.
In early summer, the keys to the front portion of the Midland Cultural Centre were granted to the not-for-profit organization, and a grand opening Saturday included roughly 500 attendees.
“We had a membership list that had well over 250 people sign up, so that’s a really good sign,” Travers said of the success of the opening.
The formal hours of operation began Tuesday morning.
“At last count, we’ve had 27 people through the doors today (shortly after noon), and that’s kids and adults as well a lot of people coming in and seeing what we’re all about,” said Travers.
As the UNESCO-endorsed Global Network of Water Museums had grown to more than 120 museums since its formation in 2017, the initiative was made for Southern Georgian Bay to represent Canada on that stage.
“Until Saturday, Canada really didn’t have a member museum or space as part of that network. That indicates something; like leaded gasoline in the 1970s or CFCs in the 1990s, we see our mission as advocacy through education,” said Travers.
“Canadians and people of all nations need to have a greater respect for water and treat it like a relationship, and not simply a resource to be consumed. That’s what we intend to use this space for. That’s what our major mission is, and that’s our mandate.”
With a front-facing window toward King

Street, onlookers can see screens portraying the various ways the planet is affected by water, along with its history; nautical artifacts are displayed alongside local artwork.
“We’ve partnered with the Budd Watson family and friends,” explained Travers, “and we have some of Budd’s photographs and artwork here, which we’ve selected along with the Watson family, which we think best represent that concept of water as an artist.”
A large blue rug was spread in the middle of the room, which Travers revealed was where a LUMOplay overhead projection was planned to be installed, should future funds be raised for the \$18,000 equipment. Its operation would allow participants to experience water in interactive ways with computer enhancements.
Partners assisted in getting the initiative up and running, including the Huronia Museum, Georgian College, Lakehead University, the Georgian Bay Heritage League, and more.
“This is designed to be a community initiative with community engagement,” said Travers. “This is our headquarters. This is our hub.”
Upcoming events for the museum include attending the Edenvale Aerodrome in Stayner on Aug. 9, partnering with the Midland Cultural Centre and Event Horizon Hobbies throughout mid-August, and attending the Tall Ships festival at Midland Harbour from Aug. 15 to 17.
Admission to the museum is free for 2025 during Midland Cultural Centre hours of operation, and further information on exhibits and projects for the organization can be found on the Canadian Museum of Water website.



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Council Meeting Schedule

August 6
2:00 PM

August 13*
2:00 PM

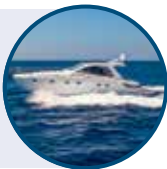
August 27
2:00 PM

Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Municipal Council Chambers and are open to the public. The Meeting of Council Schedule is subject to change. For complete details, visit the Community Calendar at www.tiny.ca/events.

*Special Committee of the Whole Meeting (Long Term Capital Budget Forecast Working Session)

Boating Speed Limit

The boating speed limit within 300m of shore is 10km/hr between Concessions 1 and 16 in the Township of Tiny.



Seasonal Reminders



Tiny Beaches

Residents and visitors are reminded that personal items/private property cannot be left unattended or overnight on municipally owned property.

Waterfront structures such as boat lifts on the lakebed that are regulated under Provincial law and are not permitted in front of any municipally owned properties.



Garbage at Tiny Parks

Garbage cans at Tiny parks and beaches are meant for waste from your time at the park or beach only.



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Planning to work on the entrance (driveway) to your property this summer? Apply for your entrance permit first!

These works include the installation, relocation, redesign, and paving of an entrance including the installation of a new culvert. The permit is free for simple driveway paving. Apply online at www.tiny.ca/entrance.

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Putting Your Ducks in a Row

By Jennifer Gray, Volunteer Writer
TINY - July 25, 2025 - As we age, there is a growing elephant in the room that is asking us about our end-of-life plans. No one likes to talk about death, particularly our own, but it becomes an increasingly important topic. Many of us have reservations - we don't want to contemplate the other side of life, upset our family or friends, bring down the mood of a social gathering, or we find ourselves fumbling over the right words or phrases to say.

Death or incapacity is not easy to discuss but preparing for it and having conversations in advance can help people become more comfortable with the idea. Proper planning can also greatly alleviate the burden that is placed on the survivors. It's enough to have loved ones grieve for us without having to untangle our personal affairs. Also, if we are rendered incapacitated without notice, our next of kin may be asked for immediate direction on next steps for our care. When we are mentally capable, we can make our own living and healthcare decisions. However, there could come a time when we cannot give instructions for managing our health and personal affairs. The best gift we can give to our loved ones is a clear and informed set of instructions for end-of-life preparations or future healthcare needs.

In recognition of this very important topic, the Township of Tiny's Senior Advisory Committee (SAC) is hosting a program this Fall called 'Ducks in a Row'. The series of three workshops is intended to guide older adults in organizing their personal information into a structured, accessible repository that provides a chosen executor or caregiver clear and concise direction on how they would like their affairs managed. Each 90-minute session will cover different topics with handouts provided. Topics will include the importance of detailed personal information, residential arrangements, and health information including personal values, priorities, and consideration regarding treatments in case of incapacity. Legal and financial matters will also be covered, including financial planning, power of attorney, and personal wills. Guest speakers will be invited to present on select topics. All sessions are interactive, with audience participation and questions are encouraged.

The workshops will be held at the Tiny Community Centre on September 24th, October 1st and October 8th, 2025. The sessions are free, but participants must register in advance. Attendees are asked to bring their own three-ring binder. Registration for this program opens for Tiny residents on August 18th at noon, and general registration opens on August 25th at noon. For more information contact the Township of Tiny Recreation and Special Events Department at (705) 526-4204 or visit www.tiny.ca/playportal.

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 Arctic sight
 - 4 Rat maze area
 - 7 Formed yarn
 - 11 Uncle Sam's take
 - 12 Announcement over a plane's P.A.
 - 13 Not there
 - 14 Medieval ____
 - 15 Non-com
 - 17 Office writings
 - 19 Auction action
 - 20 Meg Ryan film, with The
 - 22 Sorority letter
 - 25 Element in many whodunits
 - 28 Stiff
 - 29 Saintly
 - 30 Cities outside the city
 - 32 Strange
 - 33 Atlantic
 - 34 What?
 - 35 Hangs on to
 - 39 Dining prompter
 - 43 Draft choice
 - 44 Pinocchio, sometimes
 - 45 It has a canal
 - 46 Signal
 - 47 Fisheye, for one
 - 48 Friday night fish ____
 - 49 Express thoughtful hesitation
- Down**

 - 1 Article of clothing
 - 2 Give a hoot
 - 3 LSAT, e.g.
 - 4 Period of instruction
 - 5 Absorbed, as a cost
 - 6 Family reunion activity, perhaps
 - 7 Throw off
 - 8 It may be black-eyed
 - 9 "Ode on a Grecian ____"
 - 10 Surfing venue
 - 16 Cocktail mix ingredient
 - 18 Was in debt to
 - 21 Monkey business
 - 22 Good thing to break
 - 23 Core
 - 24 ____ a good plan!
 - 25 Gone by days
 - 26 Scepter of authority
 - 27 Lawn material
 - 28 Harmonize
 - 31 It may offer a Napoleon
 - 33 Gone from the game
 - 34 Towel stitching
 - 36 Per unit
 - 37 Choice job
 - 38 Appear to be
 - 39 Everyone
 - 40 Chart type
 - 41 Cookware component
 - 42 Coal derivative

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POLITICS

Township floats growth solutions at water, wastewater info session

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

Springwater - Jul 24, 2025 - It wouldn't be a stretch to suggest that most people don't spend a great deal of time thinking about the water and wastewater infrastructure in their community.

In fact, it would probably be fair to say that the only times most folks think about the topic is when they turn the tap and no water comes out, or they flush the toilet and nothing happens.

For many people, their knowledge and understanding of their local water and wastewater infrastructure is limited, which makes information sessions like the one held in Springwater Township on Tuesday night so important.

Currently in the process of developing a water and wastewater master plan that will guide infrastructure delivery and service to more than 52,000 residents by 2041, the township hosted its second public information session Tuesday night at the township's administration centre, attracting about 60 people over the course of the two-hour drop-in session.

"This master plan provides a clear direction for each of our water and wastewater systems," Dan Eberhardt, manager of capital infrastructure delivery for Springwater, told BarrieToday during an interview at the session.

"This plan encompasses different elements and different proposals while following multiple directions with multiple different criteria to come up with a viable solution, an embedded solution for each system to ensure that we have capacity to continue to grow and to continue to not limit current people that are on water or wastewater services," he added.

According to the township's dedicated water and wastewater page, the master plan will:

- evaluate current and future servicing needs to the year 2041
- apply to areas designated as urban settlement areas, including Anten Mills, Centre Vespra, Elmvale, Hillsdale, Midhurst, Minesing, Phelpston and Snow Valley
- capture servicing needs of the communities within the township, recognizing each one has its own, specific priorities, and to develop alternative solutions addressing these needs
- support the township's Official Plan and its mission of supporting development in designated areas, maintaining community characteristics and preserving natural heritage.

According to information presented Tuesday night, three communities in Springwater — Anten Mills, Minesing and Phelpston — are expected to experience minor growth, going from a combined population of about 1,500 today to just over 1,900 in 2041.

Snow Valley, which includes Centre Vespra, is expected to have intermediate growth, going from 3,800 residents today to slightly more than 8,000 in 2041.

Midhurst, Elmvale and Hillsdale are expected to shoulder the burden of the township's future growth. Combined, the population of these three communities will grow almost five times — from slightly more than 7,800 residents presently to almost 40,000 in 2041.

While the majority of that growth will be focused on Midhurst, Eberhardt said the municipality has to plan for the big picture.

"Within the township, in all of the different settlement areas, we're expecting growth, some more rapidly than others, some with more density than others," Eberhardt explained. "We want to ensure we have adequate capacity to allow for the growth that is already planned."

He said the township has looked at the constraints in its existing system and there are improvements that need to be carried out.

"We do know that we have some upgrades that we are looking to implement as part of this," Eberhardt said. "Some are long term that we may not need to trigger until that growth starts."

Tuesday night's information session picked up where the first left off — the first laid out the challenge and the second provided a solution.

The next steps will involve reviewing resident feedback, creating a draft master plan, a presentation to township council, more public engagement and, finally, an approved master plan.

"Our goal is to have a master plan approved by the end of this year," Eberhardt said.

He said the information was presented at Tuesday night's information session will be posted to the township's website soon so residents can review the materials at their own leisure.

When they've finished their review, Eberhardt said, they're encouraged to share their thoughts and opinions with township staff.

The public has 60 days to make comments.



Springwater Township residents who attended Tuesday night's water and wastewater master plan information session had the opportunity to ask questions directly to the folks who made the plans, from left, Trevor Harvey, director of public works at Springwater Township, Michelle Neal, senior operations manager at Ontario Clean Water Agency, Amanda Jones, development engineering technologist at Springwater Township, Dan Eberhardt, manager of capital infrastructure delivery for Springwater Township and Mike Ainley of the Ainley Group, consulting engineers. Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Protecting the environment



Barrie is committed to environmental sustainability by confirming the Mayor of Springwater as a member of the Little Lake Conservation Trust to help ensure the long-term protection of these lands.

Let us know what you think about conserving lands in the Little Lake area.

buildingbarrie.ca/Conservation-Trust



LIBRARIES

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

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.

Weekly Summer Giveaways!
Come into the library and enter your name to win a weekly prize! Draws will be held every Friday.

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.

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.

Reading Challenge Party
Friday August 15th, at 1:00pm
Children who registered for the Summer Reading Challenge are invited to a Reading Challenge party. Registration must be in-person and parents/

guardians must remain for the in the building for the duration of the program.

Spanish Classes
Classes are from 1:00-1:45
Cost: \$40.00 for members, \$60.00 for non-members
Beginner- Mondays 6 weeks- Sep 8- October 27. No class Oct 6 and 13.
Advanced- Thursdays, 6 weeks- Sep 4- Oct 16. No class Oct 9
July 18- July 24- registration for Penetanguishene tax paying members.
After July 24- registration will be open to everybody. A minimum of 5 participants is required to run a program.
No Intermediate level this fall due to scheduling.

First Time Homebuyers Info Session
Friday, September 12, 10:30-11:30
Limited spots. Costs: \$2 for members, \$5 for non-members, non-refundable, non-transferable. August 1 to August 8: Registration open to Penetanguishene taxpaying members. After August 8: Registrations open to everyone.

Seniors Walk & Lunch
September 24, 10:45am- 1:00pm
The program includes a short walk or a long walk, healthy lunch, and a speaker from Meridian Bank. Cost: Free, non-transferable. August 8th - August 15th: Registration open to Penetanguishene taxpaying members. August 16th - September 16th: Registration open to everyone.

Awenda Park Visit
Tuesday, September 30, 10:00-2:00
Guided tour with Tim Tully, Chief Park Naturalist. The cost is \$5.00 members, \$7.00 for non-members. Bring your own lunch. Parking fees apply. July 21 to July 28: Registration open to Penetanguishene tax paying members.
After July 28: Registration open to everyone.
A minimum of 5 participants are required to run the program. Registration for this program is at the Library, not at Awenda Park.

Popular Library
Staff Member Retires



By Jodie Player Delgado
MIDHURST - July 25, 2025- The Midhurst Branch of Springwater Township Public Library was busy on Wednesday night after hours, as many residents came to say good-bye to long-time staff member, Kathy Cook.
Kathy, who has been with Springwater Library since May 2006, announced her retirement a couple of months ago, and her last official day is July 30. As many of the community members commented, she always knew their name, even if

they hadn't been in the Library for months. They thanked Kathy for her help finding them books and recommending new authors, and for all the programs she implemented.
In her years at the Midhurst Branch, Kathy was responsible for many programs including the popular Reading Buddies, Ladies Night Out and the Silent Auction fundraisers, the Happy Bookers Club, Princess Tea Parties, and the Smile Campaign which gave back to the Elmvale and District Food Bank. She brought in the authors Kelly Armstrong, Ted Barris, Nita Prose, and Ashley Audrain. She did programs for children and adults and partnered with many in the community who came in to share information and teach new skills. She loved working with the many outstanding volunteers who helped out every day and celebrating them with the Volunteer Tea.
"Kathy has been a valuable member of our staff, and we congratulate her on her retirement. She is amazing at customer service and I'm sure our patrons will miss seeing her smiling face behind the desk," says Jodie Player Delgado, CEO of Springwater Township Public Library.
When Kathy was asked to reflect on her time at the Library, she responded; "Springwater Library

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Summer Reading Program Registration
This program is perfect for children ages 3-13. You can still register online on the Read Squared app to log your reading and win prizes up to the last week of August. In branch program registration is open (see details below). 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 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.

We are Hiring
We have the current opportunity available at Springwater Public Library: Library Technician 1 – Casual. Closing date for applications is Friday August 1, 2025. For details, see www.springwater.ca/careers

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.

has been an incredible and fun place to work due to my awesome coworkers, the opportunity to be creative, to network with our community and to serve each one of you!! It has been an honour and privilege for which I feel very blessed. I will treasure the relationships and memories for many years to come!!"
The consensus from everyone on Wednesday night was that Kathy will be missed.



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U9-1 : placed first in the regular season standings for GBMSL (Georgian Bay Minor Softball League) U9 Division and also was the first place finalist in the 'A' Division of the GBMSL U9 Playoff Tournament. Final Championship game to take place on July 29 and will be played against the 'B' Division first place finalists (Coldwater Coyotes-2).



U9-2 : placed third in the regular season and was the second place finalist in the 'A' Division of the GBMSL U9 Playoff Tournament.



U9-3 : placed fifth in the regular season



"A" division playoff champions, Elmvale team 1

Blazers U8 and U10 Play Well at Provincials in Peterborough

Submitted by Jamie Robillard
PENETANG-July 15, 2025 - The Penetanguishene Blazers U8 and U10 teams participated in the Ontario Ball Hockey Association's Provincials July 11-13 weekend in Brampton. The U8 Blazers captured the 'A' Championship while the U10 Blazers #1 team was eliminated in the 'AA' semi-finals. The U10 Blazers #2 came home with a silver medal in the 'BB' category.

U8-Tyke
The Blazers opened the tournament with a one-sided win over the Guelph Royal City Hawks. Penetang scored three first period goals and cruised to a 9-1 victory. Draper Temolder led the Blazers with four markers followed by Alec Robitaille and Isaac Lomas-Burton with two goals each and a single tally from Blake Duivenvoorden. In the second game the Blazers came up against a hot goalie when they met the Ottawa West Eagles and dropped a close 4-2 decision. Temolder and Wyatt Ferris scored for Penetang. In their third outing the Blazers met the eventual AA Champion Belleville Predatorz and came out on the short end of a 5-1 score. Temolder scored the lone Blazers goal.

On Sunday morning in the 'A' semi-finals the Blazers played a complete game and downed the Kingston Attack 8-1. Once again Temolder led the way with three goals while Duivenvoorden and Lomas-Burton both scored twice, and Rowan Stark chipped in with a single marker. Advancing to the finals the Blazers again met the Ottawa West Eagles, but this time they managed to get three goals past the solid netminder for the Eagles and held on for a 3-1 win. Temolder netted a pair of tallies while Ronan Flahive connected for one goal.

The 'A' gold medalist U8 Blazers roster also consisted of goaltender Wyatt Schepers, Kylie Archer, Jake Stone, Juhan Van Rooyen, Charlie Vaillancourt, Greyson Rosie, Brady McKnight and Nicholas Caluori. The coaches were Ryan Flahive, Pat McCarron, Kevin Temolder and Neil Rosie.

U10 Novice #1
The U10 Blazers #1 team went undefeated in round robin play to advance to the 'AA' semi-finals where they met a strong Belleville Predatorz #1 team and dropped a 4-1 decision to Belleville. Dean Bachly played a strong game in the Blazers goal stopping numerous Belleville scoring opportunities, but in the end the Blazers could not manufacture enough offence with Beau Maurice scoring the only goal. Belleville went onto to capture the 'AA' championship with a 5-1 win over the Peterborough Force #1 team in the final.

The Blazers escaped the opening game with a narrow 2-1 win over the Belleville Predatorz #2 team. The Penetang goal scorers were Fionn Flahive and Anthony Caluori. In game two the Blazers overran the Collingwood Shipbuilders by an 8-1 score. The Blazers received scoring from eight different players with one goal each, they were< Caluori, Reid Archer, Kaden Scott, Parker Maurice, Flahive, Callum Lees, Monty Gouett and Beau Maurice. Parker Maurice added three assists in the win. In their final round robin game, the Blazers stopped the Guelph Royal City Hawks by a 3-1 score with Josh Boucher scoring twice and Scott adding a single.

SPORTS

(Blazers U8 and U10....Continued)
The remainder of the U10 Blazers #1 roster was made up of Bo Vermilya, Daniel Cady, Bennett Duivenvoorden, Tatum O'Neil and Lukas Harvey. The coach staff was Chris Boucher, Austin O'Neil and Adam Boucher.
U10-Novice #2
The U10-Novice #2 Blazers was made up of mostly nine-year old players and looked at the Provincials as a developmental year. The tournament began dropping a narrow 4-3 decision to the Cambridge Canucks. Scoring for Penetang were Zane Vitelli, Louka Bracnik and Dominic Pepin. In game two the Blazers met the 'AA' semi-finalist North York Lynx and were shut out by a score of 11-0. Kendal Brech was between the pipes for the Blazers and played a stellar game stopping over 40 shots. Penetang followed up in their third game with an

8-1 loss to the Peterborough Force #2 team. Max Stone scored the lone Penetang goal.
On Sunday morning in the 'BB' semi-finals the Blazers defeated the Ottawa West Eagles 2-1 as Bracnik scored the only goal for either side in the shoot out on the 17th shot. Maverick Vandenburg scored in regulation time for the Blazers. The Blazers advanced to the 'BB' final where they simply ran out of steam and lost to the Guelph Royal City Hawks 5-0.
For the 'BB' silver medalist Blazers other members on the roster were Oliver Spence, Zaidyn Gignac, Presto Neuen, Denver Lavechia, Daxton Hingley, Scott Haines, Alex Bertram, Nicholas Recchia and Van McFadden. Coaches Trevor Ritchie, Chris Bracnik, Kristi Haines, Steve Brown and Ryan McFadden.

Timeless trio take top honours

By Leslie Gordon
Midland - July 25, 2025 - It was hot, hot, hot at the recent National Bank Open Triples lawn bowling tournament. Not only was the temperature sky high, one team made up of three legends at the club outshone all the competition. This team which shares 247 years of life experience walked away with three wins and the trophy after a stellar display of talent.



Jim McLaren Captures Gold in Youth U18 Javelin Throw at Ontario Legion Championships

By Jimmy McLaren
Toronto - July 18, 2025 -The competition was fierce at the Youth U18 Male Javelin Throw (700g) Final during the Ontario Legion Track and Field Championships on July 11-12, 2025, but it was Jim McLaren of District E who emerged victorious, delivering a commanding throw of 60.98 metres to take the gold medal.
McLaren's performance stood well above the field, with Duncan Smith and Diotte Colin, both representing District A, taking silver and bronze respectively with throws of 54.87 metres and 50.19 metres.
The event, which brought together top young athletes from across the province, highlighted the depth of javelin talent in Ontario. Full final standings are as follows:
Final Results – Youth U18 Male Javelin Throw (700g):
Jim McLaren – 60.98m (District E)
Duncan Smith – 54.87m (District A)
Diotte Colin – 50.19m (District A)
Nolan Morris Morrow – 49.15m (District G)
Colby Kekki – 48.75m (District F)
Jaxon Lamb – 47.84m (District C)
Parker Pieffers – 45.11m (District C)
Lucas Glenn – 43.23m (District G)
Anderson Parent – 39.68m (District H)
Peyton Daigle – 39.36m (District K)

Joe Duquette – 39.35m (District K)
Tyler Burns – 37.47m (District I)
Events include a full track and field program (sprints, hurdles, jumps, throws, combined events) across U14, U16, and U18 categories

The Ontario Legion Championships continue to serve as a valuable platform for youth athletes to compete at a high level and showcase their dedication to the sport. Congratulations to all participants on their outstanding performances.



SPORTS

Swinging for a Better World: Rotary's Annual Golf Tournament Back on the Green

By Jason Wilson

MIDLAND - July 23, 2025 - The Rotary Clubs of Midland & Penetanguishene will be hosting their 27th installment of their Rotary Foundation Golf Tournament on Monday, August 25th at the Bonaire Golf Club in Coldwater.

The annual tournament that started in 1998, raises funds for the Rotary Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation that supports the efforts of Rotary International to achieve world understanding and peace through international, humanitarian, educational and cultural exchange programs. Moneys raised get allocated to District Grants which support service projects in our community and around our Rotary District, Global Grants which support major global service projects, and Polio Plus Grants which support efforts to eradicate Polio from the planet. The Foundation is supported solely by voluntary contributions from Rotarians and friends of the Foundation who share a vision of a better world.

In 2022 and 2023, the tournament raised a little over \$20,000 each year for the Rotary Foundation, and last year the tournament raised a whopping

\$25,000! This was achieved through the generous support of our community and surrounding areas. Local businesses providing sponsorships of various levels, local businesses and individuals donating items for prizes and the silent auction, and of course the participants at the event through their registration fee, Fun Pack purchases and participation in the silent auction.

This year's Title Tournament Sponsors are Dillon's Woodfired Pizza and the Bourgeois Auto Group. Gold Sponsors are Jarlette Health Services, Jill Charlesbois-Richards Co-operators, Midland Foodland, and MASTERGRAIN. Midland Home Hardware is a Silver Sponsor and McDonald's of Midland is a Bronze Sponsor. And there are dozens of Hole & Cart Sponsors and those that have donated items for prizes and silent auction.

Anyone interested in sponsoring or donating a prize or auction item are encouraged to email us at golf@midlandrotary.org. Anyone looking for a fun day of golf, fellowship and fundraising, please register at midlandrotary.org/golf.



All-Star Lineup Announced for Boots and Hearts Barn Burner Charity Hockey Game



By Natasha Halikas (BARRIE, ON) July 24, 2025 – The Boots and Hearts Barn Burner Charity Hockey Game is back for another year, unveiling its 2025 roster of elite talent from

both the National Hockey League (NHL) and the Professional Women's Hockey League (PWHL). This year's event promises an unforgettable night of high-energy hockey and community spirit at

Sadlon Arena on Wednesday, August 6, 2025.

This year's star-studded roster features Toronto Maple Leafs alternate captain John Tavares, hometown heroes Jessie Eldridge and Isaak Phillips, LA Kings centre Quinton Byfield, rising NHL sensation Michael Misa, and many more elite talents ready to light up the ice.

"The Barn Burner is more than just a charity event," shared Alex Nuttall. "It's one of the most exciting nights of hockey you'll see all year. With NHL and PWHL players sharing the ice, fans can expect fast-paced action, incredible skill, and a whole lot of giving back to incredible charities. It's a celebration of the game and the community that rallies behind it."

Tickets are selling fast for this electrifying event

where hockey's best unite for a great cause. Join the action live at Sadlon Arena, 555 Bayview Drive, Barrie, and be part of a night that blends sport, entertainment, and philanthropy.

To purchase tickets or learn more about the supported charities, visit <http://bootsandheartsbarnburner.ca> or stop by 4Hundred Source For Sports at 70 Barrie View Drive in Barrie for tickets and official Barn Burner merchandise.

Background:

The annual Barn Burner has become a marquee event in Barrie, raising over \$408,000 in 2024 for vital organizations including RVH Healthcare Centre, PIE Education, the Rotary Club, and more. This year's game aims to raise the bar even higher.

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Ontario Signs New Free Trade Agreements with British Columbia and Canada's Three Territories

Memorandums of understanding now in place with 10 provinces and territories to grow Ontario's economy by removing internal trade barriers

By Premier's Office, July 21, 2025

HUNTSVILLE — Today, Ontario Premier Doug Ford was joined by British Columbia Premier David Eby, Yukon Premier Mike Pemberton, Northwest Territories Premier R.J. Simpson and Nunavut Premier P.J. Akeeagok to sign two new Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) to boost internal trade, improve labour mobility and tear down long-standing barriers to doing business between provinces and territories. This included an Ontario-British Columbia MOU and an MOU between Ontario and the three territories.

"With President Trump's ongoing threats to our economy, there's never been a more important time to boost internal trade to build a more competitive, resilient and self-reliant economy," said Premier Ford. "By signing these MOUs and working together, we're helping Canada unlock up to \$200 billion in economic potential and standing shoulder to shoulder to protect Canadian workers across the country."

Through these agreements, premiers are working together to eliminate red tape, cut costs for businesses and open new pathways for skilled workers to move more freely across the country.

With the MOUs signed today, Ontario has now secured agreements with 10 provinces and territories, making Ontario the national leader in strengthening interprovincial trade and cooperation.

To support this work, the Ontario government recently passed the Protect Ontario Through Free Trade Within Canada Act, which strengthens Ontario's ability to pursue cross-Canada commerce, withstand U.S. tariffs and tackle future economic challenges head-on. Ontario also remains the only province or territory to eliminate all party-specific exceptions under the Canadian Free Trade Agreement.

"When Ontario and BC team up to knock down trade barriers, it's good for workers, it's good for businesses and it's good for the people of both provinces," said Premier David Eby, British Columbia. "Between our provinces, we have more than half of the population of the country. This agreement is key to unlocking one Canadian economy."

"This agreement between Ontario and the territories is about making it easier for people, goods and ideas to move across the country," said Premier Mike Pemberton, Yukon. "It's an important step in reducing barriers and expanding opportunities for workers, businesses and

communities in the North — building on progress we've already made. By working together, we're helping ensure that the territories, including the Yukon, can fully participate in and contribute to Canada's economy."

"For the North to reach its full economic potential, we need to reduce the barriers that make it harder for our people and businesses to connect with the rest of the country — and for them to connect with us," said Premier R.J. Simpson, Northwest Territories. "This agreement is a step toward that: supporting labour mobility, streamlining certification and opening up new opportunities for Northerners. It reflects a shared commitment to building a more open, connected and resilient Canadian economy."

"This MOU is a strategic opportunity for Nunavut to enhance labour mobility, reduce trade barriers and strengthen our economic ties with other jurisdictions," said Premier P.J. Akeeagok, Nunavut. "It positions Nunavut to be a more connected and competitive player in Canada's economy."

Premier Doug Ford will host Canada's Premiers and their delegations for the Council of the Federation's 2025 Summer Meeting from July 21–23.

Ontario Breaks Ground on Two LongTerm Care Homes in Barrie

New projects will bring 337 modern longterm care beds to the community

By Ministry of LongTerm Care, July 28, 2025

BARRIE — Construction is underway at the Grove Park Home for Senior Citizens and the Village of Innis Landing longterm care home in Barrie. Both projects are recipients of the Construction Funding Subsidy topup and are part of the government's plan to protect Ontario by creating good jobs and building for the future, while ensuring longterm care residents get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve.

"As Ontario continues to grow, our government is making historic investments to protect families and their loved ones," said Natalia KusendovaBashta, Minister of LongTerm Care. "Today's announcement is great news for Barrie and will ensure that 337 residents will get the care they need, in modern and safe homes."

The Grove Park Home for Senior Citizens is upgrading 62 of its existing beds and adding two new beds, for a total of 145 beds in the home. The project will also update the nursing call system, improve fire detection and suppression systems and introduce new monitoring features to ensure resident safety. The home will house a café and community hub space, with mechanical lifts added to resident rooms. The property will also have a newly redesigned outdoor space.

The Village of Innis Landing project involves the redevelopment of Coleman Care Centre. The new home is adding 80 beds for a total of 192 beds. The home will include expansive common spaces to support a variety of care and recreational programming, along with various opportunities for residents to engage with one another and visitors.

Both homes will feature designs that include larger resident common areas and air conditioning throughout. The homes are centred around 'Resident Home Areas', each of which creates a more intimate and familiar living space for up to 32 residents, with dining and activity areas, lounges and bedrooms.

These projects are part of the Ontario government's continued progress toward its commitment to build 58,000 new and upgraded longterm care beds across the province, as outlined in the 2025 Ontario Budget: A Plan to Protect Ontario. The government is improving longterm care to ensure Ontarians get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve. The plan to improve care for longterm care residents is built on four pillars: staffing and care; quality and enforcement; building modern, safe, and comfortable homes; and connecting seniors with faster, more convenient access to the services they need.

"Today's announcement ensures that our seniors will be able to age with dignity and the care they need, in the community they love. By

upgrading these existing facilities, residents will be able to choose care in places they know and trust while still receiving the quality of care they have come to expect."

Doug Downey
MPP, Barrie—Springwater—OroMedonte

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TAY TOWNSHIP

Proposed Waverley subdivision prompts concerns for aquifer, burial site

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Jul 25, 2025

TAY TOWNSHIP - Consideration for a subdivision was given for a Waverley plot of land, but some concerns regarding drainage and the local cemetery were raised at a recent public meeting in Tay Township.

The discussion revolved around an application for approval of a draft plan of subdivision for 6424, 6474 and 6462 County Rd. 93 (Penetanguishene Road), located at the southern corner of County Road 27 and Penetanguishene Road, as well as a proposed zoning bylaw amendment.

The majority of the 41.9 acres (16.9 hectares) was primarily agricultural land designated by the Simcoe County Official Plan as a settlement area, and in the Tay Township Official Plan under village residential. A small section of land listed as village commercial was requested for a zoning change to village residential, as it would permit development of single-family dwelling residential lots.

Proposed by planner Celeste Phillips were two draft plans at the meeting: a version where two recreational blocks were separated on either side of a stormwater management block, and a version where they consolidated into a single recreational block behind several County Road 93 residences, with a drainage easement extending to the road.

Estimated for 52 proposed lots at roughly 2,000 square metres in the first draft plan — each with its own well and septic system — the second offering would reduce the lots to 51 but keep the recreational space as a whole unit.

Residents and council shared concern about a proposed stormwater management pond located behind the Waverley United Church Cemetery. When asked by Mayor Ted Walker about the capacity of the pond, David Reid, of Tatham Engineering, replied it would be engineered for a 100-year storm with an additional overflow pipe feeding toward County Road 93 but designed to

meet pre-development levels so as to not add more water onto the road.

While another concern raised involved additional wells in the vicinity, a hydrogeological assessment by Tatham had surprised Phillips on its capacity.

"The well results were amazing — a wonderful aquifer that provides sufficient water for the proposed 52 lots and probably more than that," she said.

A question about traffic, speed, and widening roads with a minimum six-metre (curb-to-curb) paved road width prompted Phillips to explain: "Whenever you're applying for a change in zoning, the county is always wanting to take a widening for free because that's the opportunity to do so."

"If the county is to take the widening and actually use it, they would be affecting burial sites within the graveyard," she said. "I would just push back on that a little bit, and say that the recommendation from the traffic experts is to reduce the speed limit coming into Waverley from the west."

With regard to parkland in the proposed subdivision, discussion among council members lingered on accessibility for youth to playgrounds; Walker noted the busy County Road 27 and County Road 93 leaned an emphasis toward each subdivision hosting its own residential area.

Coun. Gerard LaChapelle expressed caution, citing parkland within a development on the north side of County Road across the road.

"I just don't want to get in a situation — and we've been down this road before — we built it and they do not come," he said.

With no further questions from the public or council, it was asked that members of the public wanting to comment further on the proposed matter provide written letters to the Tay Township planning department at 450 Park St., P.O. Box 100, Victoria Harbour, Ont., L0K 2A0, or by email at planning@tay.ca.

Further information on the public meeting can be found on the Tay Township website.

Tay council meets for committee of the whole meetings every second Wednesday of the month, and regular council meetings every fourth Wednesday of the month. Archives and livestreams of council meetings are available through the Tay Township YouTube channel.

Towns of Midland and Penetanguishene seeking proposals to explore innovative microtransit systems

By Town of Midland

(July 25, 2025, Midland ON) The Towns of Midland and Penetanguishene are thrilled to release a joint Request for Proposals (RFP) to explore innovative microtransit systems that could, if approved, transform and potentially replace, the current conventional Mid-Pen Transit system. The release of this RFP marks a bold step toward providing a progressive, rider-focused transit experience that is cost-effective and affordable for both communities.

Microtransit is a flexible and affordable on-demand form of public transportation using smaller ride-share vehicles with app-based scheduling and fare payments, which provides a modern alternative to fixed-route conventional bus services. Midland and Penetanguishene are seeking proposals from innovative proponents with proven expertise in microtransit solutions to recommend strategies for implementing a new microtransit system for Midland and Penetanguishene.

During the RFP process, the Mid-Pen Transit system will continue to operate without interruption.

"Partnering with the Town of Midland on this joint RFP is an exciting opportunity to explore how microtransit could reshape the way our

residents experience public transportation. This initiative reflects our shared commitment to innovation, sustainability, and delivering services that are both responsive and cost effective. We look forward to seeing the potential creative solutions that come forward." Mayor Rawson, Town of Penetanguishene.

Following completion of the RFP process, Midland and Penetanguishene staff will provide separate, comprehensive reports to their respective Councils in early Fall 2025, outlining RFP results, anticipated benefits and recommended next steps. Council approval is required before moving the project forward. If approved, the next phase will be announced to the public outlining communications strategies and the process for anticipated future rollout of the programs.

The deadline for proposal submissions is August 25, 2025. Interested parties are encouraged to visit Midland's Bids and Tenders portal at midland.ca/BidsTenders to download the full RFP document and submit their official proposal. Only bidders with registered accounts can access bid documents on the Town's digital procurement system.

To learn more about microtransit systems, the current process and next steps, visit midland.ca/MicroTransit for details.

PENETANGUISHENE

'Embarrassing': Penetanguishene taken to task for English-only website

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Jul 15, 2025

PENETANG - Youth has a way of bringing fresh eyes to a situation, as Penetanguishene council members discovered regarding their municipal website.

At the recent committee of the whole meeting, Mayor Doug Rawson addressed a matter of correspondence from École publique Saint-Joseph about a Grade 3 and 4 class project on differing physical and political characteristics across Ontario.

"En consultant le site web de la Ville de Penetanguishene, nous avons remarqué qu'il n'existait qu'en anglais, sans option pour accéder à une version en français," stated the letter from the class. "Cela nous a beaucoup surpris, surtout sachant que notre école est une école francophone et que la Ville de Penetanguishene a une riche histoire francophone."

Rawson and Coun. Doug Leroux were invited to the class, where those findings were presented in person.

"They were doing a social studies project about government and community services," explained Rawson during the council meeting.

"They said that when they were doing the research (on Penetanguishene), they were 'embarrassed', that was the word... that our website was not bilingual and available in French."

Within the letter, it stated that neighbouring websites for Midland, and Tay and Tiny Townships provided French as an accessible option.

The class further requested the town to explore adding French as an option to the Penetanguishene site: "Nous aimerions vous demander s'il serait possible d'ajouter une version francophone au site web de la Ville de Penetanguishene. Cela montrerait que notre ville valorise le patrimoine francophone et qu'elle soutient les jeunes francophones comme nous."

Coun. Bonita Desroches provided insight from her career as the retired former Tiny Township recreation director.

"We (Tiny Township) had looked at a fully translated website, which would be financially impossible; it would be so expensive," said Desroches.

As a low cost solution, an online translation service had been added to the township website providing translations into four other Latin-based languages, including French.

"Now the accuracy of the translation is, maybe, 80 per cent," Desroches cautioned, "so it's not perfect, but it's better than nothing I would say."

Rawson noted that town staff had been informed of the letter, and while no council direction was provided, it would be a matter to be addressed.

"We're hopeful, this fall maybe we can have the students back and we can do a little presentation on the screen, and maybe we can push a button and we can see some magic happen," said Rawson. "But when I heard the words 'embarrassing' and everything else, it resonated," added Rawson.

The correspondence from École publique Saint-Joseph can be found within the council information package located on the Town of Penetanguishene website.

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

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

15:02 Jul 16, 2025
LJI-ON-Midland-Brady-anniversary-purple
"Take care of my baby": Heartfelt ceremony marks anniversary of Midland woman's murder
By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca
"Wouldn't it be great if we didn't need a transition house? Isn't that the ultimate objective?"
The question was posed by Marion Dutton, the adoptive mother of Midland resident Julia Brady, who was killed on July 15, 2024, a victim of intimate partner violence. She was 23.
The question, asked through a wavering voice, was posed Tuesday at a ceremony on the town's harbour docks during the installation of a purple bench and two purple Muskoka chairs, shortly after Dutton and Brady's aunt, Mary Ross, had placed a rose and a sunflower on each chair.
"When Julia was little, and she first came to me, I would rock her in my chair and sing You Are My Sunshine," explained Dutton, fighting back tears.
She had taken in Brady shortly after the death of her own mother as a way to carry her mother's wishes.
"To my mom and my dad, you are my heroes," said Dutton.
Unable to hold back her grief, she added, "Take care

of my baby."
It was a heartfelt ceremony filled with tears and heightened emotions — sadness, memory, and anger with frustration toward inactivity — shared by two dozen attendees.
Started in 2015, the purple bench initiative began as a commemoration in Nova Scotia of Barb's Bench to bring attention to the death of Barbara Baillie, murdered in 1990 through intimate partner violence.
Haily MacDonald, executive director of Huronia Transition Homes, spoke with passion against gender-based and intimate partner violence at the Midland event.
"We can't just call women who are murdered for the sake of being women another homicide," she said. "We have to acknowledge that it was a result of them being a woman. So, every time we use the word femicide, that itself is an act of resistance."
In attendance were representatives of La Maison Rosewood Shelter and the Georgian Bay Native Women's Association, as well as Mayor Bill Gordon and other members of council.
"Words are not actions," said Gordon. "We rely on our policing partners when it comes to being the action when it comes to intimate partner violence."
During his remarks, Gordon noted Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) members were not in attendance, despite their being a key element of

tackling the epidemic.
He cited an 18 per cent increase in intimate partner violence calls for service in Ontario over past year, according to OPP statistics, but noted it was uncertain whether that was from "more violence being perpetrated, or if people are coming forward now and reporting that."
"The stigma is being broken by efforts like this," Gordon said.
As explained at the ceremony by Desiree Salis, crisis counsellor for La Maison Rosewood, a moment of silence would be followed by the gathering making as much noise as possible to draw attention to Brady and the plight faced by women everywhere.
The silence was marked by held hands and soft tears, followed by an eruption of drums, pots, and stir spoons, shouting, clapping, banging and more. Its conclusion resulted in a second moment of unintended silence and hugs.
Huronia Transition Homes has been in operation since 1984 in north Simcoe and has a 24/7 county-wide crisis line where community members can access critical support and resources. (In north Simcoe: 1-800-461-1750; in south Simcoe: 1-800-987-0799.)
Justus Chester has been charged with second-degree murder in the death of Brady, who was his partner.

Bus breakdowns highlight 'vulnerability' of Mid-Pen Transit system

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Jul 18, 2025
Currently, the Mid-Pen transit system is up and running.
However in June, the service through the two towns had been inoperable for a short length of time due to mechanical issues, as buses suffered mechanical failures.
The topic was even brought forward during a June meeting of Penetanguishene council, where resident concerns prompted a staff response that four of the five buses shared by the two towns were out of service, due to issues securing parts.
Penetanguishene Mayor Doug Rawson stated during that meeting that the concerns were being both heard and addressed, noting a transportation update received during an in-camera special meeting earlier that evening.
MidlandToday reached out to Penetanguishene CAO Jeff Lees on the matter, who replied that the town's transit buses were sourced from Canadian suppliers, and not directly tied to components from the United States.
"The town of Penetanguishene primarily procures goods and services through suppliers and distributors based within the province, whether those businesses are Canadian, U.S., or internationally owned," replied Lees via email.
"While a small portion of specialized equipment or services may be sourced directly from U.S. vendors, this represents a limited portion of our overall procurement."
Mid-Pen Transit operates Monday through

Saturday, with Penetanguishene and Midland intersecting at three locations on their respective lines: at Georgian Bay General Hospital, the Huronia Medical Centre Bus Shelter, and at the Huronia Mall all in Midland.
During a Simcoe County transit review meeting in June, Rawson raised awareness of provincial gas tax funding for the local service, and a connection between the county LINX service within the two Midland terminus points of the Mountainview Mall and Georgian College stops. Midland Mayor Bill Gordon also asked at the county meeting if the county could absorb ownership, cost and maintenance of municipal transit systems.
Gordon spoke recently to MidlandToday about the reliability of the buses. He noted that new buses are prohibitively expensive, with procurement needing to come from previously-owned and well-travelled vehicles.
"If we go down a bus, and they go down a bus... transit's over," Gordon said. "We're getting more and more of those because stuff's aging and breaking down."
Gordon added: "It isn't just the physical hardware parts, it's the soft costs (like) hiring transit drivers. We have a small but really amazing group of drivers, but it's difficult to get enough drivers; people just aren't flocking to that."
"It's such a fragile, vulnerable system that so many people rely on in our community, that we have to do something to guarantee the uptime," Gordon said.
One potential solution Gordon offered was a

hint toward a potential solution which could be introduced at a future council meeting. He remained tight-lipped on what it entailed, but told MidlandToday, "Stand by for some information about what we're going to do about our transit problem, and spoiler alert: It isn't about shutting down transit and getting rid of buses."
Mid-Pen Transit route information is available through the official Transit phone app which provides accurate real-time location, times of arrival, and connectivity through the region.
Further information on Mid-Pen Transit, including route schedules, is available on the transit page of the Penetanguishene web site.

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Have You Spotted a Lanternfly?

By Cathy Krar, Master Gardener
Mar 25, 2025 - Yet another invasive insect is on our doorstep, pushing its way to our border at Niagara Falls. This time, it's the Spotted Lanternfly (*Lycorma delicatula*) threatening fruit trees, vineyards, our wine industry, agricultural crops, and ornamental plants. If we have a clear idea what can happen, we may be able to effectively fight back.

So far there are no established Lanternfly populations in Canada, but in Pennsylvania and New York, they are trying a variety of methods to eradicate this menace.

There are 5 instar phases to the Lanternfly life cycle: Egg, larva, early-stage nymph, late-stage nymph, and adult. Egg masses vary in size but are quite noticeable as the female secretes a white waxy substance over 30 to 50 eggs. It resembles grey mud or cement when it dries.

Lanternflies have piercing mouthpart that suck up sap, like feeding through a straw. They excrete a sugary waste that attract bees, wasps, and other insects, leaving behind a sooty mold and black

coloured fungi at the base of trees. This causes stress to plants and trees, decreasing health and potentially killing them.

The adult lanternfly especially enjoys 'Tree of Heaven' trees (*Aliaanthus*), resulting in *Aliaanthus* populations needing to be cut down. They also attack maple, birch, willow, sycamore, staghorn sumac, and black walnut.

How to Combat These Insects?

An old plastic credit card could be used to scrape the egg masses from the trees into a bag or container with rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer inside. A putty knife can be used to smash the nymphs and adults when you see them.

Our southern neighbours have resorted to approved insecticides to treat infected trees. They have tried sticky tape placed around tree trunks to trap nymphs that walk up the tree. However, sticky tape can prove problematic for our birds and beneficial insects too.

Home-made circle traps can be made by

cutting plastic tops off milk containers, taping them together and attaching a mesh bag below. When tied to a tree, it creates a small tunnel that the adult lanternflies can walk into but cannot get out.

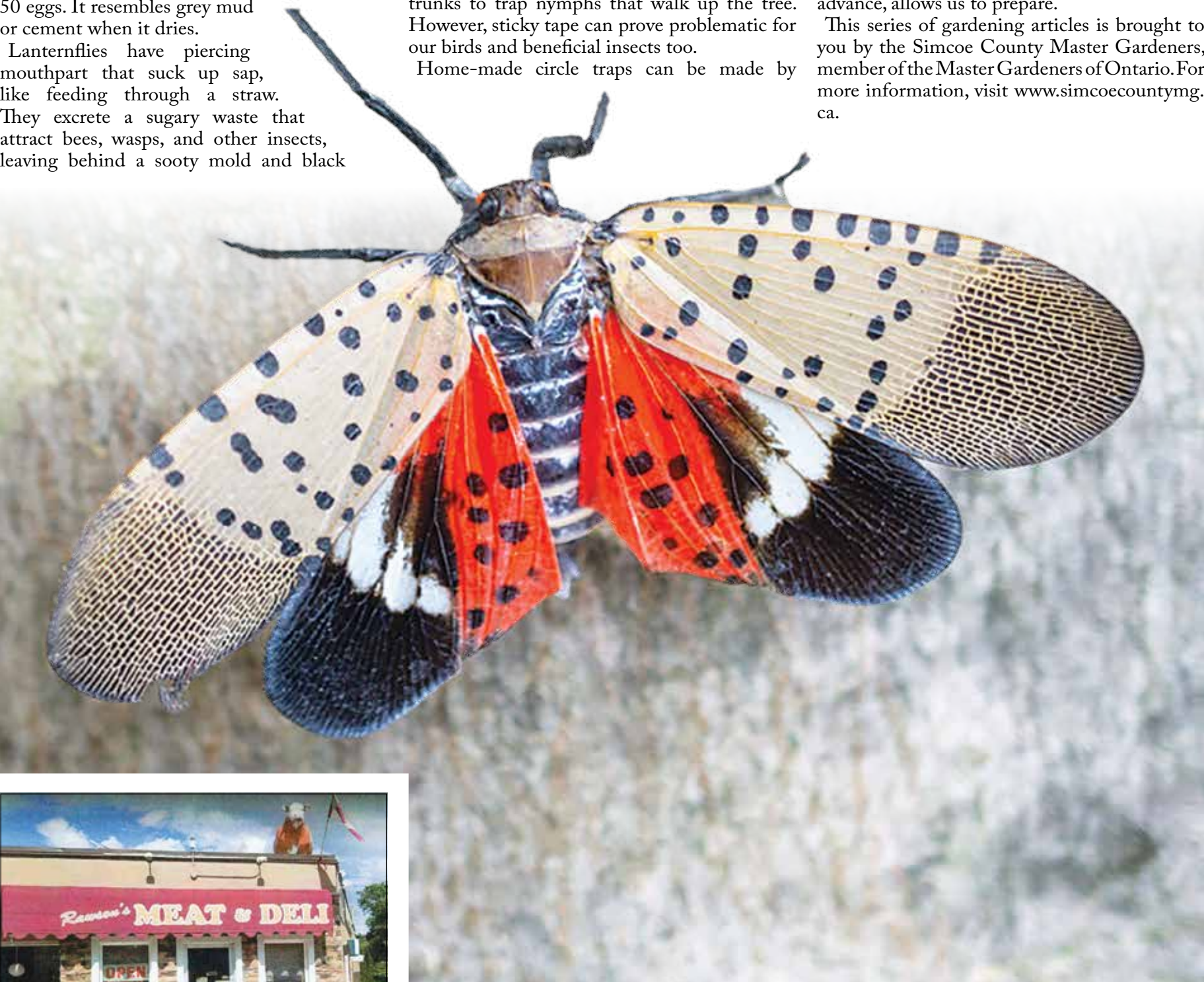
Lanternflies are plant hoppers and they like to jump toward you. Another simple and effective way to catch them is to use container filled with soapy water. Use the lid to get the lanternflies to jump inside.

Please make use of hotlines that have now been set up to report any sightings (www.inspection.gc.ca/pests).

CONSIDER THIS:

Check all vehicles and equipment when returning from travelling or camping in the U.S., as accidental transport is possible. In this case, knowing of the potential problem in advance, allows us to prepare.

This series of gardening articles is brought to you by the Simcoe County Master Gardeners, member of the Master Gardeners of Ontario. For more information, visit www.simcoecountymg.ca.







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PENETANGUISHENE

Slow Down or Pay Up:
Speed Cameras Hit Penetang Streets

By Town of Penetanguishene
PENETANGUISHENE - July 25, 2025 - At the Council Meeting in June, Penetanguishene Council continued to progress towards their goal of making Penetanguishene streets even safer by approving four (4) locations that will be part of the Town's Automated Speed Enforcement Program (ASE). Once approved by the Ministry of Transportation, the program is expected to launch in the fall of 2025. "Keeping Penetanguishene safe is always top of mind and that includes reducing speeds on Town roadways, especially in school zones. The automated speed enforcement program will help educate the community on reducing speeds while helping keep the community safe," says Mayor Doug Rawson. "This program has been implemented throughout different municipalities across the Province and has proven to reduce speed. I have no doubt it will do the same in Penetanguishene all while helping Council achieve the goal of a safer community."

The implementation of ASE builds on the goal of improving community wellbeing and the promotion of active transportation as outlined within the Community Based Strategic Plan.

In Ontario, all speed cameras must be placed in community safety zones or school zones. A community safety zone or school zone is designated by Council through a by-law and is an area that has an increased risk to pedestrians. Traffic-related offences committed within the zone are subject to increased fines.

Automated Speed Enforcement Cameras will be placed in the following 4 locations in the fall of 2025.

- Robert Street West (Owen Street to Lafontaine Road);
- Bellisle Road (Poyntz Street to Thompsons

Road)

- Church Street (Fox Street to Navy Lane)
- Fox Street (Church Street to Broad Street)

Signage will be posted 90 days prior to the cameras being activated to indicate to drivers that Municipal Speed Cameras will be "coming soon" to the area. Once the cameras are activated, signage in the area will be updated to inform drivers that cameras are now in use.

Why is Penetanguishene implementing automated speed enforcement in Town?

Higher speeds lead to higher injury severity in a collision. Fatal collision statistics show that more than 30 per cent of all fatal collisions were related to speeding.

Automated speed enforcement is a cost-effective and efficient tool that supplements the work Ontario Provincial Police are already doing. Together, speed cameras and the OPP are here to address speeding in Penetanguishene.

How do the Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) Cameras work?

The speed cameras installed in community safety zones are activated by speeding vehicles. The camera will capture a still image of the licence plate and a record of the detected speed of the vehicle. The image and the speed information will be stored securely and reviewed by a Provincial Offences Officer.

Ticket and Fines

Once the image of the licence plate and speed recorded is reviewed and verified by a Provincial Offences Officer, a ticket will be mailed to the registered licence plate holder at the address on file with the Province. Tickets issued and the dispute process will be completed through the Town of Penetanguishene's Administrative Monetary

Penalty By-Law (AMPS). The penalty is a monetary fine. Demerit points will not be issued, and driver's licences will not be suspended under the ASE program.

How will the funds be used?

The funds collected from the ASE program will be used to offset the cost to run the program to keep the community even safer. This can include, but is not limited to camera costs and lease, signage, public education and more.

The primary goal of the program is to keep the most vulnerable users in the community safe, to curb poor driver behavior and educate everyone on the importance of driving the posted speed limit.

Background:

Since the enactment of the Safer School Zones Act, 2017, the Ontario Traffic Council has been working with interested municipalities alongside the MTO through an ASE Working Group on the implementation of automated speed enforcement in Ontario. Bill 65 permits the use of Automated Speed Enforcement in School Zones and Community Safety Zones where the speed limit is less than 80 km/hour.

Automated speed enforcement, commonly referred to as ASE, is the use of a device that consists of a camera, a speed measurement device and technology that operate in combination to result in images of motor vehicles being taken, and data recorded, when a motor vehicle travels on a roadway past the device at a rate of speed greater than the posted speed limit. The operation of the device does not require that a human be present or on site.

For more information visit: Automated Speed Enforcement - Town of Penetanguishene

WASAGA BEACH

Saddle Up! Wasaga's First Mayor's Rodeo
& Hootenanny Rides In This Fall

By Town of Wasaga Beach
WASAGA BEACH - July 16, 2025 - Wasaga Beach Presents the First Annual Mayor's Charity RAM Rodeo and Hootenanny Fall Festival – October 4 and 5, 2025.

From bareback riding and barrel racing to bull riding and saddle bronc riding – grab the family for a full day of classic rodeo fun in support of local charities and causes "Saddle up!" said Mayor Brian Smith. "The Wasaga Beach Mayor's RAM Rodeo will showcase top youth and adult talent from our local area and beyond – from bareback riding and barrel racing to bull riding and saddle bronc riding and more. Grab the family for a full day of classic rodeo fun in support of local charities and causes."

On October 4 and 5, the Town of Wasaga Beach is trading in its flip flops for cowboy boots. The Town has partnered with RAM Rodeo to present the first annual Mayor's Charity RAM Rodeo, which will take place during Wasaga Beach's annual Hootenanny

Fall Festival.

The event will showcase rodeo fans and competitors of all ages, with cowboys and cowgirls competing in Barrel Racing, Saddle Bronc, Bareback, Bull Riding, Pole Bending, trick riding, junior competitions, and more.

Tickets are on sale now: Adults \$39, Youth (6-12 years) \$20, Children (5 years and under) \$5. All proceeds will go to support local charities and causes.

There will be free activities for kids and families, too. The Town will hold its annual Hootenanny Fall Festival at the same time, at the same location (1888 Klondike Park Road), offering residents and visitors free options and opportunities to join in the fall fun.

Here's what you can expect to see and experience – free – at this year's Mayor's Charity RAM Rodeo and Hootenanny Fall Festival:

- Mechanical bull • Inflatable maze • Double axe throwing • Hover ball archery, and other games
- Fun house slide and obstacle course • Hayrides



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LIFESTYLE

Jo Knows Nutrition
by Joanne Nijhuis



When you're craving big flavour without the fuss, this Thai-inspired chicken or tofu satay delivers irresistible smoky, nutty and slightly sweet notes straight off the grill. Featuring chicken breast or vegetarian tofu, all-natural peanut butter, and a splash of lime, this satay is light, protein-rich and just about perfect for a summer cook-out.

Did You Know?

Satay is a popular skewered and grilled meat dish that originated in Java, Indonesia. The word satay refers to the skewered cooking method and not the meat itself as satay is prepared with chicken, beef, goat, lamb, seafood or tofu. Satay was likely inspired by Middle Eastern kebabs and is today extremely popular throughout Southeast Asia, with each country developing its own unique version, including Thailand.

INGREDIENTS
SATAY - CHICKEN OR TOFU

- 1 lb (500 grams) chicken or firm tofu, cut into cubes
- 2 Tablespoons (30 ml) natural peanut butter
- 2 Tablespoons (30 ml) soy sauce
- 2 Tablespoons (30 ml) lime juice
- 1 ½ Tablespoons (23 ml) sesame oil
- 1 ½ Tablespoons (23 ml) honey or maple syrup
- 3 cloves garlic, minced or ¾ teaspoon (3.75 ml) garlic powder
- 1 ½ teaspoons (7.5 ml) curry powder
- Bamboo skewers, soaked in water
- Garnish with fresh cilantro, chopped

PEANUT SAUCE

- ½ cup (125 ml) smooth or crunchy natural peanut butter
- 2 Tablespoons (30 ml) soy sauce
- 1 ½ Tablespoons (23 ml) fresh lime juice
- 1 Tablespoon (15 ml) honey or maple syrup
- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) grated fresh ginger or ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) ground ginger
- 2 cloves garlic, minced or ¼ teaspoon (1.25 ml) garlic powder
- ½-1 teaspoon (2.5-5 ml) hot sauce, optional
- ¼ - ½ cup (63 - 125 ml) warm water to thin

THAI-INSPIRED SATAY WITH PEANUT SAUCE
HOT OFF THE GRILL!



INSTRUCTIONS
SATAY

1. For the marinade, whisk together in a medium bowl the peanut butter, soy sauce, lime juice, sesame oil, honey or maple syrup, garlic and curry powder, until combined.
2. Add the chicken or tofu to the marinade and cover and refrigerate for 1-2 hours.
3. Preheat the BBQ to medium heat.
4. Thread the chicken or tofu cubes onto the soaked bamboo skewers.
5. Grill on the BBQ for 2-3 minutes per side, basting with the leftover marinade. Grill until the tofu is golden with grill marks or the chicken is cooked through and nicely charred.
6. Serve with a garnish of fresh cilantro and peanut sauce (see below).

PEANUT SAUCE

1. In a medium bowl, whisk together the peanut butter, soy sauce, lime juice, honey or maple syrup, ginger, garlic and hot sauce, if using.
2. Slowly add the warm water, a little at a time, whisking until the sauce reaches a pourable consistency.
3. Serve the sauce with the grilled chicken or tofu satay as a dipping sauce, or drizzle on top before serving.

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





Book, Music and Lyrics by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey

The Broadway Musical Phenomenon

AUG 7 TO AUG 31

KING'S WHARF THEATRE



SPIRITUAL

Annie's Journal
by Annie Warner Donnelly



Annie's Journal
Written by Annie Warner Donnelly

Hello Everyone. In 2012, Bob Goff wrote a book called, "Love Does". His definition of love doesn't stop at thoughts and feelings. He believes that love takes action! Here's an excerpt from www.bobgooff.com. "After practicing law for 25 years, then becoming the Honorary Consul to Uganda,

Bob gave up his law firm to pursue writing and speaking full time ... He is the author of the newly released New York Times (NYT) best-seller, "Undistracted" as well as the NYT bestselling books "Love Does", "Everybody Always", and "Dream Big" ... He is the founder of "Love Does"—a nonprofit human rights organization operating in India, Uganda, Nepal, Somalia, Afghanistan, USA, Congo and Dominican Republic. He's a lover of balloons, cake pops, and helping people pursue their big dreams." In the epilogue of "Love Does", Bob wrote, "... what's better than all of those stories (in the book) are the stories you're continuing to write with your life. If you're like me, I'd ask myself at the end of a book called, "Love Does"—so what do I do?" It can be a tough question to answer, honestly, but it can also be an easy one ... for most of us it can be as easy as picking up the

phone, sending an email, writing a letter, buying a plane ticket, or just showing up. After that, things start happening. Things that perhaps have God's fingerprints on them. You'll know which ones do and which ones don't. Pick the ones that do. What's your next step? I don't know for sure because everyone is different, but I bet it involves choosing something that already lights you up. Something you already think is beautiful or lasting and meaningful. Pick something you aren't just able to do; instead, pick something you feel you were made to do and then do lots of that." Bob Goff isn't your everyday author. His passion is people so every book he writes ends with his personal invitation to give him a call (619.985.4747) if you want to speak to him about something. Yes, in Bob Goff's life, love does! Amen.

WYEVALE COMMUNITY REPORT

Submitted by Karen Moreau
Sunday August 3rd Church Visitation (NO SERVICE)
Sunday August 10th Rev. Bonnie Kelly
Sunday August 20th Rev. Bonnie Kelly
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 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 of the Church for further information. The office is open on Tuesday evenings from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Sending prayers to those who are grieving the loss of a loved one. Also get well wishes to those who are currently in hospital or recovering at home.
Ball Season is well underway for children of all ages. You can follow the schedule by going to the Georgian Bay Minor Soft League 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 August 10th 2025

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Isn't It Worth A Conversation?

POLITICS

MPP Dunlop Announces Ontario Government Supporting Non-Profit Organizations in Simcoe North

\$692,200.00 is helping 8 local programs and services that help deliver critical community programming across the province
By Office of MPP Jill Dunlop
SIMCOE NORTH - July 18, 2025 - The Ontario government is providing 8 non-profit organizations (OR municipalities, First Nation communities) in Simcoe North with \$692,200.00 in funding this year through the Ontario Trillium

Foundation's (OTF) Capital grant stream. This funding will help make it easier for local residents to access the critical programming, activities and spaces that make Simcoe North a great place to live, work and play.
“Our government believes organizations like these recent recipients enrich the lives of people in Simcoe North and play an important role in building a strong and prosperous economy in Ontario. That’s why I am proud they are receiving capital funding support,” said Jill Dunlop, MPP for Simcoe North. “These 8 recipients are a pillar of our community, and this support will enable them to better serve the people of Simcoe North and continue to make a positive difference.”
OTF’s Capital grant stream helps organizations improve their infrastructure so they can continue

delivering programs and services that Ontarians need to thrive. Whether it’s purchasing equipment, building a new space or completing renovations, retrofits or repairs, these grants support projects that are making a difference in Simcoe North.
In Simcoe North, organizations receiving funding include:
• Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Simcoe \$13,800.00
• Champlain Sailing Club \$90,900.00
• CLH Developmental Support Services \$117,100.00
• Community Reach North Simcoe \$52,000.00
• Hospice Huronia \$50,000.00
• Midland Cultural Centre Inc. \$128,000.00
• Orillia Rowing Club \$40,400.00
• Town of Midland \$200,000.00

Providing Provincial Support in Simcoe North

- Anniversary, Birthday & Special Event Scrolls
- Birth, Death & Marriage Certificates
- Family Responsibility Office Issues (FRO)
- GAINS (tax credits for disabled persons and seniors)
- Health Care
- Health Cards/OHIP Issues
- Natural Resources & the Environment
- Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)
- Ontario Student Assistance (OSAP)
- Provincial Government Programs
- Seniors Issues
- Small Business Issues
- Transportation
- Trillium Drug Program (OTDP)
- Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB)



JILL DUNLOP
MPP – Simcoe North/Nord

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

U.S. Softwood Lumber Duties Hurt Workers and Families on Both Sides of the Border

By Ministry of Natural Resources
TORONTO - July 25, 2025 - Today, Kevin Holland, Associate Minister of Forestry and Forest Products, Mike Harris, Minister of Natural Resources, and Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, issued the following statement in response to the latest U.S. decision on softwood lumber duties.
“Today’s decision by the U.S. Department of Commerce to increase duties on softwood lumber will hurt American and Canadian workers, families and communities alike. These duties disrupt industries, drive up costs and put our shared competitiveness at risk.
Ontario and the U.S. trade together and build together. The U.S. market needs Canadian lumber and our softwood lumber producers are proud to bring highquality, sustainably harvested construction materials to market, building communities and driving economic growth on

both sides of the border.
Continued duties on Canadian softwood lumber exports are an unjust burden which limit productivity, raise construction costs and make homes less affordable for American families. We remain firm in our position that these duties should be lifted entirely, for the benefit of workers and families on both sides of the border.”



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POLITICS

HERE TO HELP

July 25, 2025 - As your federal Member of Parliament, I work to keep you informed on what the federal government is up to in Ottawa. While I am always happy to answer your questions about policy, a significant part of my job is to help constituents navigate federal government programs and services.

My team and I are happy to greet in person visitors and answer phone calls and emails Monday to Friday in my local office. You can find us at 48 Alliance Boulevard Suite 104 in Barrie. You can also reach us by telephone at 705-728-2596.

We can assist with the following matters:

- Passports
- Canada Revenue Agency Inquiries
- Employment Insurance
- Canada Pension Plan and Canada Pension Plan Disability
- OAS and the Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Immigration Refugee Citizenship Canada

inquiries

- Any other federal matters

How we can help is determined on a case-by-case basis, so the best thing to do is contact my office by telephone or email and discuss your specific situation. Then we can let you know what steps we might be able to take to assist you.

When contacting my office, you will often reach one of my knowledgeable team members as I am juggling responsibilities both here in Barrie – Springwater – Oro-Medonte and in Ottawa. If you would like to reach me directly to share your concerns around policy, legislation or government service the fastest way to connect with me is by sending an email to Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca

With the various demands on my time every day I may not be able to respond immediately. I do review all emails and if I think that you will be best served by a direct conversation with a member of my team then I will ask them to follow up. Otherwise, you will receive a response from me.



We look forward to hearing from you.

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

Ford to change parks law for Wasaga Beach redevelopment

By: Abdul Matin Sarfraz / Canada's National Observer / Local Journalism Initiative, Source: Canada's National Observer, Jul 24, 2025

The Ford government is proposing legislative changes to the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act to remove more than three per cent of Wasaga Beach Provincial Park from protection and transfer the land to the Town of Wasaga Beach and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming for development.

Under the current Act, removing more than 50 hectares or one per cent of a provincial park requires a study, a report and approval by the Ontario Legislature. Experts say to enable this land transfer — which would remove more than 60 hectares — the province would first need to eliminate that key safeguard from the Act.

Tim Gray, executive director of Environmental Defence, warns this change would make it easier for the province to quietly remove sections of parks without public scrutiny and could open the door to privatizing protected lands across Ontario. "If that clause is repealed, the cabinet could quietly remove parts of any provincial park in Ontario whenever they want without the public knowing and without the legislature voting on it," Gray said.

In its public posting, the government mentioned an amendment to the Act but did not clarify which section would be changed. Canada's National Observer reached out to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks for clarification but did not receive a response in time for publication.

The Ford government has previously introduced dozens of legislative changes to fast-track resource development and enable the transfer of environmentally protected public land to private interests, such as the Greenbelt land swap, the Ontario Place redevelopment and the proposed Dresden landfill.

While the province says the Wasaga Beach move is intended to boost tourism, environmental advocates are raising alarms about both the local impact and the broader precedent.

The Ford government has previously introduced dozens of legislative changes to fast-track resource development and enable the transfer of environmentally protected public land to private interests.

Gray said this fits a wider pattern under the Ford

government: shifting public lands to private hands by rewriting laws.

Environmental concerns

The lands being targeted include ecologically sensitive sand dunes, wetlands and nesting habitat for the endangered piping plover. Tony Morris, conservation director at Ontario Nature, says transferring these areas to the town puts both wildlife and long-standing conservation efforts at risk.

Morris said Ontario Parks has managed the area for decades, restoring dunes and protecting habitat. Under town ownership, those protections could disappear.

Without the Provincial Parks Act in place, Morris says the town would not be required to manage the land for ecological health.

He questioned why the transfer is even needed, noting Wasaga Beach is already Ontario's most-visited provincial park.

"There's not a lot of information on why this is necessary. What's the business case?" Morris said.

Both Environmental Defence and Ontario Nature plan to submit formal comments to the Ford government and notify the federal environment minister about risks to the piping plover — a federally protected species.

Earlier this year, the Ford government announced a \$38 million investment to build "Destination Wasaga" — a tourism project that includes revitalizing Nancy Island, upgrading roads and transferring part of the provincial park to the town. The province says the goal is to boost tourism, support jobs and grow the local economy.

"Wouldn't have it any other way"

The proposed changes do not say whether the transferred lands will be sold to private developers.

In an email response, Brian Smith, mayor of the Town of Wasaga Beach, confirmed the town is seeking about 60 hectares as part of the proposed transfer from Wasaga Beach Provincial Park. Smith says the land is not being given to private developers but to the municipality, with the condition that the beach remains public.

"The plan is to collaborate with the province to reimagine the large swath of crumbling, paved parking lot at Beach Area 1," Smith said. "The Town and citizens of Wasaga Beach wouldn't have it any other way."

Smith said the goal is to create a sustainable,

four-season waterfront destination focused on eco-tourism and public access.

The town will work with ecologists, urban designers and the community to ensure shoreline areas — including dunes and piping plover habitat — are protected, he added.

The Town has recently pursued redevelopment at Beach Area One, including selling several pieces of public beachfront land for millions to a private developer.

On its website, the town says it is actively seeking "a visionary partner to help reimagine our waterfront into a globally recognized destination." It adds: "The right partner will help us set a new benchmark for sustainable urban design."

Gray said that pattern suggests the new parkland would likely follow the same path.

"There's no guarantee these parklands won't be next," he said.

Ontario Green Party Leader Mike Schreiner says Ford is once again removing important protections, just like with Bill 5 — this time putting provincial parks at risk.

"He's doing it all to benefit wealthy insiders and putting the rest of provincial parks under threat," Schreiner said. "Ontario parks belong to the people, not wealthy Ford-connected insiders."

He urged the public to push back before more damage is done.

"Our parks are home to species at risk, vital wetlands and ecological features that protect nearby communities from flooding and extreme weather," Schreiner said in a statement. "They are also cherished spaces where Ontario families can camp, hike, swim, paddle and connect with each other and nature."

What's next

The proposed changes still need to be voted on at Queen's Park, but that won't happen until the legislature returns in late October.

Gray is urging people to act now by contacting their MPPs and pushing back. He says provincial parks belong to the people of Ontario and should remain protected.

"It is appalling that the current government is trying to give away big parts of our most popular park and make it easy to give more park land away in the future," Gray said. "These beachfront lands on Georgian Bay are worth millions of dollars and owned by the people of Ontario. They should never be a gift to well-connected developers."



Bearbells By Leslie Noonan

July 26/25
Misery Bay is an isolated day park on the south shore of Manitoulin, with few visitors along the fifteen kilometers of trails that meander through mixed forest

and rocky outcrops. This area is not just considered an ecologically distinct environment, it is one of the few areas in the world consisting of alvars. Thin soil covers the limestone rocks, and the area is prone to extremes of flooding and drought, producing unique flora similar to that found in the prairies. Within feet of starting down the trail we were already identifying plants that we had never seen before. Small purple Giesecke's harebells grew in small cracks in the flat rocks and bright pink anemones waved in the slight breeze off Lake Huron. The trail is wide and easy to follow as we walked through the scant shade provided by the scrubby vegetation, and eerily carpeting the undergrowth were hundreds of flat, plate shaped spider webs. One step off the trail would have us ankle deep in webs, and I had no interest in discovering what type of spider called those webs home. Eventually the trail emerged onto the beach, soft brown sand underfoot and bright sun overhead.

This is where the alvar are clearly visible, blocks of flat dolomite or limestone jutting out into the cold lake. The blue waters extend to the horizon, small waves rolling into the shore as terns and seagulls swooped and soared over the beach. Thin reeds and sedges struggled for footing in the scant soil, and feathery prairie smoke flowers bloom close to the edge of the forest. After a hot day of hiking, it was a relief to pull off my shoes and socks and wade into the cool waters while my daughter wandered down the beach looking for shells. I sat on a rock in the water and felt the gentle pull of the cool water, and enjoyed the peace and silence of this remote place. We had the beach to ourselves, and spent the next hour leisurely exploring this unique area. We eventually headed back to our car in the search for food and lodgings, as our empty bellies were threatening a revolt if not fed soon. Tomorrow we had a long day, and a ferry ride on the famous Chi-Cheemaun and a hike on the most magical trail I had ever been on.

Our trip on the Chi-Cheemaun was uneventful, and we arrived in Tobermory by early afternoon of the next day. The day was cloudy, with a light rain cooling off the heavy heat and the wipers keeping time with the radio. On the straight road south towards Wiarton, a small sign appears almost hidden behind the greenery, and a rough dirt road leads away into the forest under a canopy of hardwood trees. After a short and bumpy ride, the

path opens out into a small parking area, and across a clearing rises the remains on a once beautiful mansion. Today only a few walls still stand, empty windows framing the weeds growing up from the rocky soil. This is all that remains of the once lavish estate of Alexander McNeill, the Corran Estate named for his childhood home in Ireland. As with so many things, time passed, the McNeill's passed away and the home fell into disrepair before being destroyed by fire. Now visitors can walk the ruins and find old orchards and gnarled apple trees still producing tart fruit. The soft rain provided the perfect accompaniment for our walk around the forlorn property. Trails, muddy with the rain, lead away towards the escarpment edge and a set of metal circular stairs appear, twisting down the cliff face. The trail continues, still a steep climb, down rocks wet and slippery and treacherous at times. It is all worth it, as the trees part and the bay appears, soft waves lapping gently at the rocky shore. Giant boulders sit on the water's edge, which have broken free and tumbled down from the escarpment over the eons. Giant ferns erupt from the verdant undergrowth, and fallen cedars wear a mantle of green moss. Small snails make a slow journey across the trail, which my daughter dutifully relocated off the path to avoid being trod upon. Unfortunately, clouds of gnats also enjoyed the area, in thick clouds that penetrated our nose, mouth and eyes, and forced us to retreat back up that winding staircase to higher ground.

Here there is another trail for us to follow that parallels the escarpment face. This is a magical trail, where the fae folk must have settled when leaving Ireland. The undergrowth is thick and lush, and mushrooms and fungi hide behind old stumps. Small birds, never quite seen, twitter overhead and rustle the light leaves. A murder of crows takes flight from a boulder, creating a cacophony of noise that echoes through the forest. The rain continues to fall, dripping from leaf to leaf to leaf to fall gently on the soft ground. Thick blocks of dark grey rock, slowly peeling away from the land, offer footing for the occasional traveler. Thin gaps appear between the rocks with small plants poking out of the darkness. Those cracks become wider, black gaps in which trolls wait to reach up and grab your ankles. Occasional breaks in the trees reveal a grey sky reflected in the greyer waters of the bay, ripples in the distance that just might be water nymphs. Small movements seen out of the corner of your eye resemble prancing pixies, always dancing just out of sight. As the trail winds back towards the derelict mansion, small white fungus poke through the wet ground, and just as we suspected, these are the aptly named fairy finger fungi. We emerged from the green forest into the parking area, sure that we heard the titter of small voices following us to our car.



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COMMUNITY GIVING

The members of the May Court Club of Barrie held their Christmas in July campaign for the Barrie Food Bank raising \$2150.00.



Photo: Karen Shuh, Executive Director - Barrie Food Bank, Susan Turner - President with Sharon Fitzsimmins - Coordinator Fundscrip; May Court Club of Barrie and Paula Marin, Donor Engagement Manager - Barrie Food Bank. By Marianne Schall, July 15, 2025

Georgian Bay Cycle For Hope Fundraiser Growing to Meet Growing Demand for Local Cancer Support



By GBGH, July 17, 2025

The Georgian Bay Cycle for Hope (presented by For Sale on Georgian Bay), a one-day fundraiser in support of the Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre (GBCSC), continues to grow to match the growing demand for local cancer support. This year's event takes place on Saturday, August 16 in Penetanguishene and Collingwood.

"The Georgian Bay Cycle for Hope is more than just a bike ride — it's a celebration of the world-class cycling we're lucky to enjoy right here at home, and a powerful tribute to the strength of community," says GBCSC Executive Director Dylan Lalande.

The annual fundraiser, now in its 14th year, has raised close to \$700,000 to help support people living with cancer, their families, and caregivers in North Simcoe, South Georgian Bay, and surrounding communities. The event features amazing, picturesque cycle routes along or near Georgian Bay. Riders have a choice of five routes ranging from 4 km to 110 km from the Penetanguishene event site at the Rotary Champlin Wendat Park. The 2025 edition will also include four cycle routes on the other side of the bay in Collingwood with four routes to suit all levels of riders.

"This year, we're thrilled to expand that sense of community to Collingwood and the rest of the Southern Georgian Bay region. With the opening of our second Home for Hope in Collingwood, we're proud to bring the Cycle for Hope to a new corner of our community — helping to grow our impact, raise awareness, and bring even more people into the ride for hope," adds Lalande.

A new Unity Route of 145 km offers cyclists a challenging ride that runs between Penetanguishene and Collingwood. As always, there's something for everyone including the All Ages, All Abilities Ice Cream Route perfect for families and those who want an enjoyable, fun outing to help a great cause.

A new addition at the Penetanguishene site is the Après Vélo Festival, hosted by the Town of Penetanguishene. The FREE family-friendly fun festival, adjacent the main Cycle For Hope site, features live music from Tyler French, facepainting, an obstacle course, and lots of other activities and much more for all ages 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Cyclists interested in participating as an individual or part of a team can do so by going online to gbcycleforhope.ca. There is no minimum fundraising requirement, but participants are encouraged to collect pledges for their ride in support of the GBCSC.

The annual fundraiser over the past decade has raised close to \$700,000 to help support people living with cancer, their families, and caregivers in North Simcoe, South Georgian Bay, and surrounding communities.

A special thanks to other lead sponsors of the 2025 Cycle For Hope: Deluxe (Green Jersey Sponsor): Swing By, Den Bosch & Finchley, Tom Smith Chevrolet Buick GMC, Rotary Club of Midland, Collingwood Optometry (White Jersey Sponsors), as well as many other sponsors and community supporters.

For more information about the Georgian Bay Cycle for Hope and how to support the fundraiser, go to gbcycleforhope.ca.

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

EVENTS

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
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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 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:**
- 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

Act Natural, Darling & MCC:
Don't Tell Mother – A Comedy by Monk Ferris
July 18 – Aug 2 | 8–10:30pm & 2–4:30pm
Join us for Don't Tell Mother, a fast-paced, heartwarming comedy packed with delightful chaos—presented in support of four incredible local organizations

Pirates of the Bay
Aug. 02, 2025 from 10:00 to 5 pm
Discovery Harbour
Ahoy, mateys, Discovery Harbour is hosting Pirates of the Bay.

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

Simcoe County Museum
Wed., August 13, 2025 6:30 – 8 p.m.
Museum After Hours – Gallery Games
Simcoe County Museum, 1151 ON-26, Minesing, L9X 0Z7
General Public: \$8
Members: \$6

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.

Wasaga Beach Coin and Stamp Show
Aug. 16, 2025 9:30am - 3pm
YMCA Recplex, 1724 Mosley Street, Wasaga Beach
Over 60 tables of coins, stamps and much more. Something for everyone!

Unity United Church Roadside Market
Aug. 23, 2025 from 8:00 to 12 pm
Unity United Church, 4967 Vasey Road at the 4th Line North
Come for fresh local corn & produce, baking, preserves and peameal on a bun.

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

Large Indoor Yard Sale
Aug. 23, 2025 8-12pm
Wasaga Beach United Church
380 Zoo Park Road
Huge assortment of attic treasures and household items.

Rudersdal Chamber Players with Paul Marelyn
Mon Aug. 04 - 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
MCC, Brookside Music Association
Individual Tickets still \$35 each + tax & fees
Quartet, Helios, violin, viola and 2 cellos

MIDLAND CULTURAL CENTRE
Rogers, Richie & Robinson
Sunday, September 7 at 3:00, The Undercovers pay tribute to Kenny Rogers, Lionel Richie, and Smokey Robinson.

EVENTS

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OUTDOOR
(wear clothing suitable for
a walk in the woods)
Fine Art Prints
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August 23rd & 24th, 2025
(Rain Date: August 30th & 31st)
11 am till 4 pm

606 Midland Point Road, Midland
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Cash or E-transfer All SALES ARE FINAL!

Sunday Restoration's Beloved Clothing Swap Returns

By Stepanie Rumball
MIDLAND, ON - July 21, 2025— Mark your calendars! Sunday Restoration's 4th Annual Clothing Swap is set to return on Friday, August 22nd, transforming the vintage shop's parking lot into a vibrant open-air boutique brimming with secondhand treasures and community spirit. From 7:00 to 9:00 PM, up to 125 guests will enjoy the thrill of the thrift under the stars, swapping their pre-loved pieces for stylish new-to-them finds.

Launched in 2022, when Sunday Restoration first opened its doors, the Clothing Swap has quickly grown into one of Midland's most anticipated summer events. This free, after-hours gathering is more than just a stylish evening out; it's a celebration of sustainability, generosity, and belonging.

Here's How It Works: Bring in five nearly new items of clothing, accessories, or footwear between Tuesday, July 22nd and Tuesday, August 18th, and receive your ticket to the event. In return, you'll get to take home five beautiful pieces from a curated, quality-driven selection that includes everything from name-brand dresses to chic handbags, stylish shoes, and statement jewelry.

"People save up their clothing donations all year round to bring the best of the best to our swap," says Jacqueline Sunday, owner of Sunday Restoration. "It's so fun to see people who come for the first time shocked at the quality and name brands of the clothing they see on the racks. A lot of the clothing is brand new with tags still on!"

And while the clothing and accessories are undoubtedly a draw, it's also about the cause. The swap has become a meaningful tradition that supports La Maison Rosewood Shelter, which provides emergency services to women and children

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BACKSTAGE SCOOP by Linda Belcourt

The Show: Beehive, King's Wharf Theatre at Discovery Harbour, Penetanguishene.
This performance was a collection of great musical talent. I loved the timeline of the 60s moving into each year highlighting the fast change in music culture relating to women's rights at the time. The influence of female musicians had a powerful impact on free-spirited young women. Their music felt relatable and helped bring women together to stand up for their rights. This musically brought that to the surface. Well done!

Kelly a resident of Penetanguishene commented, "Really good show. I am a little younger and didn't know some songs but I loved it". Brian thought, "It was too much musical and needed a more play narrative." Final Call: Thumbs Up

in need. Twenty-five spots at the event are reserved exclusively for shelter guests, and when attendees donate an additional five items beyond their initial contribution, they create space for these women to join in the experience with dignity and joy.

"This event has always been free, and it will remain free," Jacqueline emphasizes. "But for those who'd like to support even further, \$20 raffle tickets are available during the evening, with 100% of the proceeds benefiting La Maison Rosewood Shelter. Last year, thanks to the generosity of our attendees and local businesses who donated incredible prizes, we raised \$1,200, and we're hoping to top that this year."

To ensure a welcoming and well-organized experience, items are collected and sorted for a full month leading up to the swap. "We steam and organize everything in advance so it's easy to browse, and we work hard to ensure that all sizes—from 00 to 24—are well represented," says Jacqueline.

Here's what to know before you drop off your donations:

What To Swap:

- Clothing in excellent, near-new condition (no stains or tears)
- Freshly laundered or new items
- Sizes 00 – 24 welcome
- Accessories, jewelry, and footwear

What Not To Swap:

- Pajamas
- Bathing suits and undergarments
- Workout gear or short shorts

With only 125 tickets available, spots fill up fast, so don't wait to drop off your items and secure entry to this stylish summer evening! For more information or to donate items, visit Sunday Restoration at 427 King Street in Midland (look for the big blue barn at the end of the driveway).

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to check availability

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bartender available.
Main Lounge 126 capacity
Arena: 330 capacity
Caterer and Bands available upon
request

Call 705-526-5631 to book

BOARD MEMBER WANTED

Wendat Community Programs is
seeking new members to join the
Board of Directors

Wendat's roots are in the Community Mental
Health field, providing a range of mental
health programs locally and across the
North Simcoe Muskoka region since 1987.
In 2007, the Ministry of Health approved
Wendat as a Community Support Service
to provide seniors health care programs.
In 2016, Wendat completed construction of
the Lorna Tomlinson Residence for Seniors
in Penetanguishene and currently houses
21 frail, low-income seniors. Within our two
divisions, we operate 11 services/programs.
Wendat employs 77 staff, most working in
the Midland-Penetang area and a small
number providing regional programs across
the North Simcoe and Muskoka.

The Board of Directors meets from 6:30 to
7:30 pm on the first Wednesday of every
month. Each Board member is also required
to join one board committee. Typically, the
time commitment is 2 – 4 hours per month.

Anyone with an interest or passion for
community mental health services or
community support services for seniors are
welcome to apply.

Wendat's Board should be representative
of the populations and communities we
serve. Therefore, we are seeking people
with lived experience or caregivers/family
members of people with lived experience
using community mental health or
community support services. We also seek
FNIMUI and Francophone community
members. To round out the skill set of our
Board members, we are seeking someone
with a legal background and/or individuals
with experience or interest in fundraising.

There are two vacancies to be filled
immediately.

There is an application process which
includes completing an application package
and an interview with current Board
members. For more information, please
contact Andrea Abbott-Kokosin, Executive
Director at 705-526-1305 ext. 223 or
andrea@wendatprograms.com

AUCTION NOTICES



Upcoming Auctions

- Hasson Victorian Country Home Auction - Guelph (Aug. 3 - 7)
- Moving Auction for Nancy Watson - Guelph (Aug. 10 - 14)
- Jewellery Overstock Auction - Guelph (Aug. 10 - 14)
- Sunset Summer Multi Consignor Auction - Guelph (Aug. 17 - 21)
- Banbury-Campbell Moving Auction - Oro-Medonte (Aug 17 - 21)
- The Estate of Christopher Ruhl - Mono (Aug. 24 - 28)

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COMMUNITY

Penetanguishene Resident and GBGH Retiree Wins \$450,000 in Split the Pot Lottery

By GBGH, July 25, 2025

The Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation is celebrating big news close to home, as Yvonne Berriault of Penetanguishene has been announced one of the Grand Prize winners of the June 2025 Split the Pot Lottery, receiving an incredible \$450,000 in cash.

Yvonne, who retired from GBGH nine years ago after 15 years of service as a Ward Clerk, is a long-time supporter of the Foundation and regularly purchases lottery tickets in support of local care. When she bought her ticket for June's Split the Pot draw, she chose GBGH Foundation as her hospital of choice, meaning the Foundation will receive 100% of the net proceeds from her ticket sale.

"I was in shock! I couldn't believe it," says Yvonne. "This kind of thing doesn't usually happen to me. And it feels so good knowing that it supports GBGH, a hospital that's always been close to my heart."

Yvonne and her husband Guy were frequent supporters of GBGH's 50/50 draws in the past, and she says she already has her next set of numbers ready for the next Split the Pot campaign.

Split the Pot Lottery is a collaborative initiative among more than 80 hospital foundations across Ontario, offering bigger prizes and bigger impact. When purchasing a ticket, players select a hospital to support, and that hospital foundation receives the net proceeds from their ticket sale.

"We're absolutely thrilled for Yvonne," says Nicole Kraftscik, CEO, GBGH Foundation. "Her ongoing support truly reflects the power of community. Thanks to ticket buyers like Yvonne, we're able to invest in the critical tools and technology our care teams need to continue to provide excellent care every day."

For more information or to sign up for updates, visit <https://splitthepot.ca>.



Photo: Yvonne Berriault, and her husband Guy, of Penetanguishene were one of the Grand Prize winners of the June 2025 Split the Pot Lottery, receiving an incredible \$450,000 in cash.

County releases annual report on affordable housing and homelessness prevention measures

By Office of County of Simcoe
MIDHURST - July 22, 2025 – The County of Simcoe has released its eleventh annual report card to measure and evaluate the impact of the County's affordable housing and homelessness prevention measures. The 2024 annual report is considered an "interim" report between the previous ten-year strategy (2014-2024) and the County's upcoming strategy, expected to begin later in 2025, subject to Ministry approval.

The previous ten-year strategy set a minimum goal of 2,685 new affordable housing units between 2014 and 2024. The County exceeded that goal ahead of time, reaching it by the end of 2022. Work and investments continued, ultimately creating 3,250 new affordable homes by the end of the strategy.

After the original strategy concluded at the beginning of 2024, the County and its partners continued investing in safe, affordable, and reliable homes for residents across the region, creating an additional 442 spaces in 2024, bringing the total number of new spaces since 2014 to 3,692.

"While we are proud of what we've accomplished, we know there is still more to do to create strong, inclusive communities where residents can thrive as we work to maintain affordability across our region," said Warden Basil Clarke. "That's why we are committed to continuing to work together to build up strong partnerships and take meaningful action to ensure that everyone in Simcoe County has a safe and welcoming place to call home."

Highlights from the 2024 Annual Report:

- 50 new affordable housing units completed in Bradford West Gwillimbury
- Approval of 220 new mixed-income units in Barrie
- Proposed redevelopment of 30 new modular units in Collingwood
- \$2.6M invested in capital repairs for SCHC housing
- \$3.3M invested in urgent repairs for non-profit housing providers
- \$1.4M distributed in rent supplements and housing allowances
- \$1.5M allocated toward Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit rent supplements
- \$526,000 invested to create secondary suites in 2024
- 266 total funded secondary suites created since 2014
- \$701,000 invested in downpayment assistance for homeownership
- \$1.6M issued in eviction prevention and housing retention supports
- Launch of Rapid Rehousing programs in Collingwood (seniors) and Orillia (youth)
- Approval of Simcoe County Housing Corporation's Affordable Housing Development Master Plan (targeting 1,000 new units over 10 years)

Funding for the affordable housing strategy comes from a variety of sources, including the County of Simcoe, the cities of Barrie and Orillia, and governments of Canada and Ontario.

Moving into the next 10-year strategy (once approved by the Province and County Council), the County will continue to focus on supporting residents through maximizing funding, achieving targets, and working with area partners to create affordable housing units for residents across the County. To download a copy of the 2024 Annual Report or for more information, visit simcoe.ca/ourahhps.

MIDHURST
PHARMACY

Let's Talk About...

Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)

With Pharmacist Owners
Jenna Loughheed and Carolyn Glover

Women are more likely to experience urinary tract infections (UTIs) than men because they have a shorter urethra that is closer to the rectum. This allows bacteria easier access to a woman's urinary tract. Sexual intercourse increases the risk for UTIs because bacteria are spread upward into the bladder. Using diaphragms and spermicides can also increase the risk for UTIs. Women who are pregnant or have diabetes have higher rates of UTIs. In seniors, UTIs are often due to problems with incomplete bladder emptying or bowel incontinence.

Common UTI symptoms may include pain or burning during urination, frequent desire to urinate, urgently and immediately, unusual discharge from the urethra, urine that looks cloudy or smells foul, blood in the urine, pressure in the lower pelvis, fever with or without chills, bedwetting in a person who has normally been dry at night, nausea and vomiting.

At Midhurst Pharmasave, our pharmacists are able to assess and prescribe for uncomplicated urinary tract infections in adult females. Same day appointments are available.

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ANTEN MILLS

by Dennis Gannon

July 27, 2025 - The month of July was certainly an interesting month when it came to weather in our community. It has been a long time since we had numerous heat warnings and temperatures above seasonal. When it comes to rain it has been dry. Only 25.65 millimetres or 1.01 inches has fallen as of Sunday according to the CoCoRahs weather station reports. This is obviously far short of normal. While gardens may be suffering, vegetables seem to be enjoying this heat. The forecast for August when we normally have the Dog Days of summer with increased heat and humidity suggests that we will continue to see what we have experienced over the past month.

There is a perfect way for the kids to beat the heat next Wednesday, August 6. That's when the August movie night under the pavilion takes place. To help the kids cool off, the incredible volunteer firefighters from Springwater Fire and Emergency Services are going to be at the community centre with their Hot Summer Night program. Firefighters will have their trucks there for everyone to see, have some water challenges and of course, weather permitting, getting the kids wet from the spray of the fire hose. Firefighters will also be available to provide fire safety advice for those who need it. The movie that night is the most current edition of Lilo and Stitch. Activities begin at 6:45 PM with the firefighters and the movie will begin around 7:45. There is no admission and all that you need is your chairs, snacks, drinks and perhaps some dry clothes for the kids. It is going to be a fun night so plan on being there.

While the month of August is quiet in the community, September and October will be busy with a number of events. First on Saturday, September 13, Anten Mills Celebrating 150 is going to happen at the community centre. Anticipation is growing and a huge thanks to those who are supporting the event through sponsorship or donations. As the celebration booklet is being prepared for publication there is still some time to sponsor or donate so please contact by email the organizers at antenmills150@gmail.com to receive details. Then on Saturday, September 27 the annual Anten Mills Artisans Craft and Food Fair. This event began with the 50th anniversary of the Anten Mills Community Recreation Association and continues to a great success. Roslyn advises that there is still room for crafters around the pathway for those who are interested in participating. To get more information on participating, email Roslyn at farmview@on.aibn.com. For the second year there

will be the Chili Cookoff. Following the introduction last year, the cookoff is back. Details on how to join in is available on the Anten Mills Community Bulletin Facebook page. Also back this year is the very popular Two Tonnie Pancake Breakfast. While supplies last you get 2 sausages, 2 pancakes, great fixings and all for 2 Tonnies. This is in support of the Elmvale and District Food Bank. More details will be available as the event comes closer and will be posted on the Facebook page and in this column.

Come October there will be two more Halloween themed events, one for the adults and one for the kids. Stay tuned for more information.

While it may be a little warm for some outdoor activities you are reminded that there is a pickleball court at the multipurpose pad at the community centre. You will need to bring your own net and equipment and the pad is on a first come first serve basis. Early in the day and early evening are great times for playing so don't forget that the court is available.

Construction on Wilson Dr from just south of the village to the first bridge has begun. There has been some frustration from residents as the road closed sign has been posted at Horseshoe and Wilson so those who are attempting to go travel south from one of the interior streets aren't aware of the closure until they get to Binnie. Due to the extensive work that is to occur particularly at the hill, the construction will take sometime. Hopefully the road contractor and

township will come up with a solution to alleviate the disruption that are currently occurring.

We are very fortunate that we have a large county forest and a trail system where we can enjoy some outdoor activities here in the community. Many walk or cycle along the North Simcoe Rail Trail. For those who might not be aware, the trail begins at Hwy 90 near Sunnidale Rd and is 31.7 kilometres in length ending in Elmvale where it joins the Tiny Township Trail. At the intersection of Hwy 26 the trail is located within the Minesing Station Park. At the park there is a bicycle station for minor repairs and resting. A bench at this location has been installed and dedicated to longtime resident Cliff Lilley who passed away in 2022. Cliff is remembered as a dedicated resident who contributed greatly to the community. It is a fitting tribute in his memory as he was an avid cyclist. If you travel the trail south stop at the park and take a break and remember Cliff.

That's all for this week. Enjoy the Civic Day long weekend and THANKS for READING, BE WELL and STAY SAFE.





Cultivate & Connect Garden Group

Grow More Than a Garden
A new gardening group in Penetanguishene designed for adults 55+ (everyone welcome!) Join us to tend raised beds, share stories, and build something meaningful—together. Weekly one-hour meetups + monthly presentations on topics like healthy soil, growing techniques, and more. Help us grow fresh food, foster intergenerational connections, and make a lasting impact on local food security—all in our beautiful Ecology Garden.
Come dig in!

Time: Mondays from 10-11am, Summer & Fall 2025
Cost: Free!
Location: 144 Fox St, Penetanguishene
Pre-registration: top/reckdesk.com, at town hall or by phone
Contact: Mariah
Email: MMarchand@penetanguishene.ca
Phone: (705) 549-7453 Ex 509



Funded by the Government of Ontario/Financé par le gouvernement de l'Ontario





By Brian Keyes

ANTEN MILLS - July 27, 2025 - It was in error to not mention that the Pine was the official tree for Vespra Township pre1994 in the June 5, 2025 edition of North Simcoe Springwater News. As well it should also be drawn to your attention the fact that the Lilac was the official flower of Vespra Township. Both of these items were featured on the Chain of Office which the Mayor wears while presiding in her official capacity. This was brought on with the recent burst of fragrances one could enjoy as you stepped outside during the blooming of the Lilac flowers in late May. If you have a lilac bush, enjoy! If not, they make a great addition to any garden and yard.

The newest street in Anten Mills is Davis Way running between Wilson Dr and Luella Blvd. It is named in honour of Alfred Edward Davis, a WW1 veteran born in Springwater. His name, Davis, A, is inscribed on the Cenotaph in Elmvale located next to the library as a veteran who paid the ultimate sacrifice with his life in 1916. He was 19 years of age.

There were three men from Anten Mills who died in WW1. They are remembered as Lewis Cole, John Muir and Stanley Reynolds. Nine men from Anten Mills served in WW2 fortunately without casualty. You can remember all those who served by attending the local Remembrance Day ceremony on November 11th each year at Springwater Provincial Park. The Cenotaph in the park was built by The Royal Canadian Legion branch called 'Vespra 149'. It was formed by a group of WW1 veterans from the area in 1929. Vespra 149 was the only rural Legion branch in Canada at that time. The branch was headquartered down Nursery Road at the




An aerial View of Springwater Golf Course, Pt. Lots 3 and 4, Conc. 7, Vespra.

Reforestation blacksmith shop. The Cenotaph records 'Lest We Forget 1914-1918, In Memory of the Vespra Boys Who Died In the Great War'. Vespra Legion Branch 149 disbanded in 1974 when membership dropped below 12 members.

Mark Twain once said "Golf is a good walk spoiled". Alex Wilson of the William Wilson family farmed the west half of Lot 4 Concession 7 Vespra Township on the east side of Golf Course Rd. until 1943. In 1960 Charlie Wilson, who was no relation, bought the property. Charlie along with his wife and son built a 9-hole golf course on the site. They named it Vespra Valley Golf Course. Unfortunately in 1962 Charlie died but the family carried on until 1966 when the course was sold to a group of buyers. Claire and Mary Lou Whitton lived in the farmhouse on the property while they managed the course. In 1971 a group including Parker Adams, Jim Quinlan, Corby Adams as well as Claire Whitton bought the course, Claire was the greens keeper. With the purchase, the course was expanded to 18 holes and renamed Springwater Golf Course. The course has a unique layout with the North Simcoe Rail Trail bisecting the fairways while the hillside location provides a view of the Minesing Flats and Blue Mountains in the distance. A new owner, Arnold Lange took ownership in 1974. Along with his son Ed they built a new clubhouse in 1975. In 2003 David and Joyce Birimcombe took possession of the golf course from the Lange family. A significant

course reconfiguration with the addition of several ponds and other challenges were completed in 2005. Nearly 500 new trees have been planted in addition to multiple flower beds to reduce the carbon footprint. Local golfers of all ages are fortunate to have this facility on their doorstep. Another piece of local history that many in the community enjoy.

IN MEMORY



In Loving Memory
Pauline Jones
August 2nd 2020

Five years have passed, but the love and warmth you gave, remain with us every single day. You were the kindest soul, whose smile could light up the darkest moments. You were truly an angel on earth — always giving, always caring, always shining light in the lives of everyone around you. You had the kindest heart — putting others before yourself. Not a day goes by we don't miss your gentle words, your unconditional love, and your guiding presence. Gone from sight, but never from our hearts. Thank you for everything.
Forever loved, forever missed.

Midland-Based Charity Expands Support for Homeless Boys in Kenya

By Fred Hacker

MIDLAND - Jul 28, 2025A Midland-area organization is quietly transforming lives half a world away — and now, it's offering local residents even more ways to help.

Life4Kids Canada, a grassroots charity based in Simcoe County, is expanding its sponsorship and support options for a small home for homeless and abandoned boys just outside of Nairobi, Kenya.

The home currently houses 26 boys who were rescued from the streets and garbage dumps of Nairobi — many of whom had never slept in a bed or eaten a hot meal before being taken in.

"These boys have experienced unimaginable hardship," says Fred Hacker, Chair of Life4Kids Canada. "They've lived in rags, slept on concrete, and gone days without food. What they need most is to feel safe, cared for, and loved."

Meeting Every Need — One Gift at a Time

Life4Kids Canada provides for the emotional, physical, educational, and social needs of the boys in a safe and loving environment. While the home has room for up to 44 boys, limited funding means 18 beds remain empty — for now.

That's where local donors come in.

For years, the primary way to help was through full or shared sponsorship of an individual boy, now at a cost of \$3,300 per year. That option remains available, covering everything from food and school fees to healthcare, clothing, and counselling.

But now, new opportunities are opening up — making it easier for people to contribute according to their means.

Small Gifts, Big Impact

Even modest donations can make a meaningful difference. For example:

- \$19 can buy a backpack or a live chicken for the home's small farm.
- \$25 provides a soccer ball.
- \$29/month buys sheets and blankets — in constant need because many boys struggle with trauma-related bedwetting.
- \$55/month supports basic healthcare.

There's also a long list of monthly giving options that focus on learning, healing, and dignity — from library books and school supplies to garden tools and seeds that teach self-sufficiency. For more

details, visit [Specific Gifts For Specific Needs | Life4KidsCanada](#)

And for those looking to give a life-changing gift, a one-time \$3,000 donation can fund a post-secondary scholarship for one of the home's five young men currently pursuing higher education.

A Chance to Welcome More Boys

With more support, Life4Kids hopes to welcome 18 more boys into the home. Monthly sponsorship of a new boy is \$275. One-time gifts like \$125 for clothing or \$275 for a bed help provide a warm welcome.

"Whether you're marking a birthday, a wedding, or simply want to give back, your support gives these boys something most of us take for granted — a future," says Hacker.

How to Help

To learn more or donate online, visit [www.life4kidscanada.ca](#) and click "Donate."

Questions? Call 705-528-8787 or email [info@life4kidscanada.ca](#).

As Life4Kids puts it: You don't have to be rich to help. You just have to care.

OBITUARIES



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HAMELIN, Heather Lynn
It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Heather Lynn Hamelin (nee Reynolds) of Wyevale in her 66th year. Heather courageously fought a lengthy health battle and passed peacefully in hospital with her family by her side on July 21, 2025.

Heather was loved and cherished by her large family and many friends. She is survived by her devoted husband of nearly 48 years, Jack. She also leaves behind her children Leah (Scott), Joanna (Randy), and Joshua (Denise). She was adored by her many grandchildren; Chloe, Ava, Tyson, Ryder, Killian, Alora, Arya, Kiely, Liam, Mason, Joel, Jed, James, Jill, Jake and Jack. Heather was the loving daughter of Gillian Reynolds, predeceased by her father Laurence and brother Bruce. She is lovingly remembered by her siblings Janice, Carolyn, Sheila and Barry.

Heather is remembered fondly for her love of gardening, her loving commitment to her family and her years of volunteer work with Girl Guides of Canada. Friends and family are invited to a visitation on Saturday, July 26, from 11am-1pm at Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvalle, followed by funeral service at 1:00pm.

Memorial donations can be made to Toronto General Hospital Transplant team. Heather can also be remembered by planting roses, a symbol of lung transplant.

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



MAGILL, Robert Henry
February 1, 1947 – July 19, 2025
It is with heavy hearts and sadness that we announce the passing of Robert Henry Magill, at the age of 78, in the early morning of Saturday, July 19th, 2025 at Georgian Bay General Hospital after a short illness.

Bob is survived by his wife Karen (Nelson) and his sons Garrett (Angela) and Wesley.

An avid dart player and golfer, Bob also enjoyed gardening at his retirement home in Penetanguishene. He especially enjoyed the many winters he and Karen spent in Florida.

There was a memorial visitation at Nicholls Funeral Home on Friday, July 25th at 10am with a Chapel Service starting at 11am. A Celebration of life was held at the family home on July 26 from 1pm-4pm at 5 Brule Street, Penetanguishene ON

There will also be a get together at the Stone Cottage Inn in Scarborough on August 9th from 1pm – 4pm.

In Lieu of flowers a donation to the RVH Foundation in Barrie ON would be appreciated by the family.

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OBITUARIES



MAJOROS, Stephen Edward
Stephen Edward Majoros (Steve Jr) of Orr Lake, Ontario - Passed away after a brief illness on July 6, 2025, at the age of 69, at the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre in Barrie.

Beloved son of the late Steve (2002) and Marilyn (2022) Majoros. Dear brother and best friend to Marilyn and Glenn Boyd, and predeceased by his brother Bill (2022). Stephen was also a cherished uncle to Shana, Trista and Kayla, and Kim and Sam. He was especially proud great uncle to Summer, Madeline and Braya, always slipping them money. He shared an unbreakable bond with his Uncle Jack (John Thompson) who he lived with for many years. Stephen will also be missed by countless friends and neighbors on Orr Lake, as well as those from his Hamilton years, many who had kept in touch.

In keeping with Stephen's wishes, cremation has taken place. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

If desired, donations in Stephen's memory may be made to a local Animal shelter or to RVH in Barrie.

"Do as many nice things everyday without expecting anything in return"

IN MEMORY

**In Loving Memory of
Bonnie Leigh Pain**
September 2, 1949 - August 7, 2022
Love ya lots

Daughter - Betty Hlusiak (late Karl), Beloved Daughter-In-Law - John and Anne Pain. Devastating loss to her 3 sons, their wives and life partners, 4 grandsons, 3 grand daughters, 3 great grand daughters.

Your life was a blessing
Your memory a treasure
You are loved beyond words
And missed beyond measure

Her passing so quick
No time to question Why
No time to say Goodbye

*Love of my life
Always Bob
Nothing can replace your loss*

**In Memory of
Sheri Christine Miller**
August 8, 2018

It's been 7 years since that sad day
and not a day goes by when you
are not loved and missed.
In our hearts always

**Mom, Melody, Kevin,
Gary, Bobbi, Justin, Andrew**



McNABB, Laura Frances
It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Laura Frances (nee Lennox) McNabb at the Stayner Care Centre on Monday, July 7th, 2025, aged 91. She is predeceased by her loving husband Allan, son Bill, grandson Jonathan, parents (Clara and Frank), sister Pat (Elliott) and brothers Bill, Larry and Greg. She is survived by her sister Jennifer Roberts (Gord), brother Andrew Lynn (Cathy) and children Cathy (Philip) Caston, James (Kathy), John (Carol), Rob (Shelley) and Ed (Roberta), 14 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Laura was born on December 3, 1933, in Thornton but raised mainly in Barrie. At the age of eighty she said she had had the best life: 20 years at home; 20 years raising her family with Allan in Edenvale, 20 years working with the Simcoe County Health Unit and then 20 years retired. She was devoted to family, community, volunteer work and Minesing United Church, filling the house with family, laughter, good food, flowers from her garden and a great sense of fun.

A private family graveside service was held at Minesing Union Cemetery on Saturday, July 12th, with a Celebration of Life following immediately at the Grenfel Community Centre. In Laura's memory, donations may be made to the Minesing Recreation Association or the Alzheimer's Society. Messages of condolence may be forwarded to the family through Lynne-Stone Funeral Home.

THANK YOU

**Words of gratitude
from the family of Laura McNabb**
We would like to extend a sincere thank you to all those able to attend Laura's burial and Celebration of Life and to all of those who sent condolences. We deeply appreciate the kind care Laura received at the Stayner Care Centre and the extra support and care provided to her and the family during her final days. We would also like to thank the Lynn Stone Funeral Home who made easy the necessary arrangements for Laura with great kindness. Special thanks to all those family and friends who assisted with food especially former Minesing United Church members and to cousins Caroline, Helen and Sandra who kept the food flowing and kitchen organized. Laura's day would not have been as special without her brother-in-law, Gord Roberts, who spoke so eloquently as did her son Ed, and granddaughter Katie reminding us of happy memories and the hard-working, loving, giving person that Laura was.
The McNabb and Lennox families

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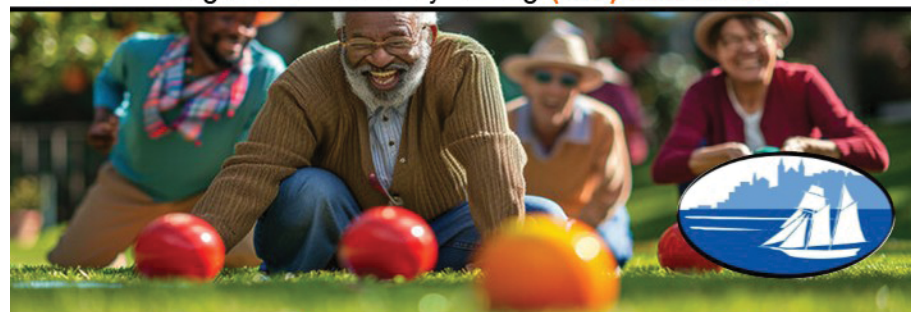


Midland Public Library

Tuesday August 26th—10am to 12pm

Discover the timeless game of Mahjong in their fun, beginner-friendly program for all ages and skill levels! Whether you're brand new to the game or looking to sharpen your skills, join us for interactive lessons and a welcoming community.

Register online or by calling **(705) 526-4216**.



Town of Penetanguishene Bocce Ball

Tuesdays & Thursdays from 6pm to 8pm

Program is at McGuire Park Bocce Courts until October.

Register online at www.penetanguishene.ca
or call **(705) 549-7453**.

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**

→ Keeping seniors healthy by connecting them to medical care, food and social events.

→ Making sure our seniors stay a part of the North Simcoe community.

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Available Monday to Saturday

Midland Accessible Transportation

In conjunction with the Town of Midland Transit Service, offers rides for Midland residents unable to use public transit due to physical, cognitive, visual, or sensory disability.

Transportation Linking Communities (TLC)

Providing rides for any resident of Midland, Penetanguishene, Tiny and Tay that is 18+, without access to transportation for healthcare, shopping and social activities within North Simcoe and out-of-town medical appointments.

850 Hartman Dr #104, Midland, ON L4R 0B6 www.communityreach.ca



Askennonia Senior Centre Events



LOVE AND

PRENUPS

BRUNCH

AND LEARN



Love & Prenups Brunch
Friday August 22nd

Free event includes brunch

Presented by Victoria & Michael Hanton, HGR Graham Lawyers
Whether you're in a long-term relationship, newly partnered, or simply curious, this session will be full of eye-opening insights.



UPCOMING BUS TRIPS!

September 18th

October 9th

November 12th

To Be Decided

Famous People Players

St. Jacob's Market

Royal Winter Fair

Christmas Market

BLOOD PRESSURE Check Clinic

Free Blood Pressure Clinics

Askennonia Senior Centre continues to host Nurse Next Door offering monthly clinics. The next dates are Mondays from 9am to noon—August 11, Sept 8, Oct 6, Nov 3 and Dec 1.

To inquire about any upcoming events, please contact
Askennonia Senior Centre at call (705) 526-7609

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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