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NORTH SIMCOE Springwater NEWS

SERVING SPRINGWATER, TINY TOWNSHIP, MIDLAND, AND PENETANGUISHENE

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Edition 710 | August 14, 2025

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Bridge Plan Puts Rare Trees, Cleanest Groundwater at Risk



Shotyk Farm in Elmvale 1938

By William Shotyk, Ph.D., Dr. rer. nat. habil., FRSC, Bock Chair for Agriculture and the , Environment, University of Alberta, President, Elmvale Foundation Aug. 11, 2025

Bridge rehabilitation an ominous development for plant and animal species already endangered, at risk, threatened or vulnerable

The County of Simcoe has released their Municipal Class Environmental Assessment of the proposed improvements to the Wye River South Bridge and Martin Drain Bridge (Public Information Centre No. 1 and No. 2 dated September 6, 2024 and August 5, 2025, respectively). These slides do not contain relevant information I shared with the county in August of 2023. Here are some potential impacts of the bridge rehabilitation on adjacent plant and animal species, the groundwater, and the Wye River.

Our farm property (15463 County Road 27) is on the EAST side of the road and adjacent to the Martin Drain Bridge. We have planted more than 25,000 trees since 1976, including more than 50 native species. The main goal was to restore our section of the Wye River watershed which was badly degraded due to past deforestation. In the area which may be directly impacted by the bridge rehabilitation, we have planted Black Walnut, Blue Ash, Cherry Birch, Swamp Cottonwood, Red Oak, Silver Maple, Sycamore, and Tamarack. Some of these trees are now of a considerable size and greatly benefit the watershed. Blue Ash is the only native ash species which is resistant to the Emerald Ash Borer. Cherry Birch is provincially and nationally Endangered and is protected under the Endangered Species Act, 2007: there are only 17 of these trees in Ontario (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/cherry-birch-species-risk>).

The farm today provides habitat for at least 14 species that are either Endangered (Butternut, Cherry Birch, Cucumber Tree, Red Mulberry), threatened (Barn Swallow, Bobolink, Chimney Swift, Meadowlark, Blue Ash, Kentucky Coffee Tree), of Special Concern (Hop Tree, Short-eared



Shotyk Farm in Elmvale 2008

Owl and Snapping Turtle) or vulnerable (Digger Crayfish). To date, 145 bird species have been identified here, along with many species of amphibians, insects, mammals and reptiles. The property is still a working farm, with 40 acres of arable land, and is used as a model of soil and water conservation in my lectures at the University of Alberta.

The farm is also home to the Elmvale Groundwater Observatory, a dedicated research facility for sampling groundwater which is now under threat. The book summarizing our data of the past 35 years can be downloaded for free, here:

<https://gw-project.org/books/the-elmvale-groundwater-observatory/>

After reviewing our data, Prof. John Cherry, the foremost authority on groundwater, said that he has “never seen cleaner groundwater anywhere”.

I am sharing this information about our farm property because the preferred design of the new bridge involves shifting the bridge to the EAST which will alter the course of the river (!) and impact current ecosystems. If the proposed dewatering affects the shallow artesian aquifer, there may be profound hydrological impacts, including increased flood risk and accelerated soil erosion. There appears to be no consideration given to a detour for traffic instead of a second bridge, to avoid additional construction and disturbance, much less reduce the carbon footprint of all of these activities.

If you also have concerns about their plans, please share them with the county. The development as proposed threatens 50 years of ecological restoration, hundreds of trees planted by scores of volunteers, supported by many conservation organizations. To provide more information about our farm property, and to answer any questions, I will organize a public lecture in the near future and welcome your participation.



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THE SCOOP

By Linda Belcourt

I have been flooded with emails and phone calls calling with ideas to research. People are talking politics a lot to me. I am getting so much positive feedback on the new style and approach of this newspaper.

One of the most interesting items brought to me was from John Degroot. This base legend travelled to the East Coast to play in a tournament and won first place. That's not surprising news — but what he found there was. He found photos of the Hill family and a few pictures of the 1918 Elmvale Angels hockey team. They are dressed in long thick wool skirts and matching sweaters.

These pictures are copies from *Focus 50+* 2016 edition. I need your help in researching this team for a future article and for the Sports Hall of Fame website. Hill General Store was the family business at the time. I am very curious if the Elmvale Angels Baseball team got their name from these ladies on skates. Email or call me with stories or photos.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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.

Dear Editor,

Congratulations on your award, what a well deserved achievement.

I am writing to you as I respect your paper, and knowledge of the Springwater area.

I look so forward to the Springwater news, (I moved into this new community in 2022.) I get to learn all about our new community and love it!

I really am hoping you can get some answers for myself and my neighbours, about the water treatment plant in the area and what needs to be done to get it fixed.

I am on a local community site where neighbour's are so upset that new homes are expected to be built in this area when, and at the moment for

Get Ready for Our Fall Fair:8 Weeks to Go!



By Tanya King FAS president, Aug. 6, 2025

Mark your calendars! Our beloved Elmvale Fall Fair is just eight weeks away, and we're gearing

up for a spectacular weekend of community, tradition, and fun. From October 9th to 11th, we will be celebrating our

Canadian Made theme in true homegrown style. This fair has been a staple of our community since 1859, bringing people of all ages together to celebrate our roots and showcase our talents.

This year, more than ever, we invite you to join in the spirit of togetherness and show your Canadian pride. It's a homecoming weekend where we come together, not just as individuals, but as a community united by our shared heritage and love for this great land.

Calling All Participants: Get Involved in the Monster Parade!

One of the most exciting events of the weekend is our Saturday Monster Parade, and we want YOU to be a part of it! Whether you're a local business, club, organization, or individual, we encourage you to show your Canadian loyalty by entering a float, marching, or getting creative with a themed costume. This parade is a highlight of the fair, and we want it to be bigger and better than ever!

It's a chance to let your creativity shine and showcase what makes our community so special. Whether you're honouring our Canadian heritage or celebrating the unique spirit of our town, we want to see your ideas come to life in the parade!

Check Out the Fair Book

To get inspired, be sure to check out this year's fair book on our Facebook page You will find a full list of events, contest, and activities to get involved in whether it's a new new entry, or an old favourite, there's something for everyone –so don't miss out!

Traditional Events: the Best of Country Fun

the last couple of months it can't service us, never mind the new homes it has not been working very well at all.

The community understands about the drought and having to reserve water for fires. However, what doesn't make sense, is why would they have not have taken the design and infrastructure originally into consideration, before building up this area.

I believe that the existing system should be prioritized to be expanded or fixed before any shovels go in the ground, before building more houses here.

They can't service the existing ones??

I feel this Stonemanor community would like a meeting with council and planning, to explain

August 14, 2025 Edition 710

Our fair wouldn't be complete without our, favourite traditional events. Get ready for the tractor pulls, horse shows, sheep and livestock competitions, and the always popular mini tractor pulls for the kids. And this year, we're adding a special treat: a bumper car exhibit presented by our junior board. It's a free activity for those who meet the height requirement, and it promises to be a blast!

Exciting Entertainment Line-up

We have an incredible lineup of entertainment this year, including performances by local hometown star Graham Scott Fleming on Friday night as well as a toe tapping performance by the Northern Jewel Clogging Group.

Ron White a talented solo songwriter and singer will perform on Saturday. Gwyneth Covey will also be performing and we are thrilled to welcome Gary Austin, our Magician, who will surely leave you spellbound!

And don't forget local favourites – the HCES choir, EDHS choir, and the EDHS band will all be performing throughout the weekend.

Homecraft and Junior Competitions: Show Your Talent!

Our Homecraft competition is always full of breathtaking, handcrafted items, delicious baked goods, and preserves. Meanwhile, the junior school competition continues to impress, showcasing the incredible talents of our young people. We encourage both the newcomers and seasoned competitors to submit your entries – you won't want to miss the chance to see your work display for all the enjoy!

Let's Make This Year's Fair, the Best Yet!

This year's Elmvale Fall Fair promises to be a celebration of all that makes our community great – our pride, our talent, and our share shared history. Let's come together to make this year's fair one to remember. Whether you're participating in the

Monster Parade, or simply enjoying the events, we can't wait to see you there!

Get involved, show your Canadian spirit, and be part of something special!

who approved the plan originally, what is actually happing here, and why?

I have heard some of my neighbours talk about brown or dirty water coming out of bath faucets?

They don't want to bathe their kids in "dirty water"

I feel that your knowledge of the whole area here, and the people you know who can answer our concerns, can arrange a meeting.

You may get what we need to know and why, and believe would go along way to achieve some unanswered concerns, instead of several emails that has been suggested to the group to send to council and the planners..

I am hoping you can help us with some answers and continue to keep us informed.

Gratefully, Deborah Van Pelt, Stonemanor

NORTH SIMCOE SPRINGWATER NEWS

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Tiny's Beaches and Trails Come Alive with Art

Township of Tiny unveils artwork from community art project funded through County of Simcoe grant

Date: August 7, 2025
(Tiny, Ontario) The Township of Tiny is unveiling the artwork from a community art project known as Art in Our Parks that was funded through a grant of \$6,400 from the County of Simcoe's Tourism, Culture, and Sport Enhancement Fund. Through this grant, the township commissioned several local artists to work with approximately 70 students from Wyevale Central Public School and École élémentaire catholique Sainte-Croix. Together, they painted a total of 11 waste barrels (garbage cans) that will be displayed throughout the township at beaches, parks, and along the Tiny Rail Trail.

The four art themes of Art in Our Parks emphasize the cultural significance of Tiny including our rural landscape, beautiful beaches, rich Francophone culture, and the township's commitment to pollinators as a recognized Bee City.

Art in Our Parks also highlights the importance of litter awareness by drawing attention to the waste barrels and helps to improve the aesthetics of the township's public spaces.

The Township of Tiny would like to give a special thanks to the seven artists that partnered with us to bring this idea to life: Justin Burley, Samatha Daigle, Jocelyn Howe, Joanna Katchutas, Alex

Kostecka-Silva, Angie Longpre, and Josephine Vaccaro-Chang. All seven of these talented local artists are from Simcoe County, highlighting the local impact of their involvement with the Art in Our Parks project.

"We'd like to thank the County of Simcoe for funding this amazing collaboration opportunity between local artists and our youth," said Mayor

David Evans. "All of this new artwork brings vibrancy to our parks, beaches, and trails. This project truly speaks to the talent of our community and is the perfect way to draw interest in the history and culture of Tiny."

To see highlights of the Art in Our Parks project 2025, visit our Facebook profile or view the photo gallery at www.tiny.ca/photos.





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TINY

New Tiny public beach one step closer, despite nearby opposition

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Aug 08, 2025

Two hundred metres of potentially public Georgian Bay beach became the focus at a recent Tiny Township council meeting, as 8.26 acres of donated lands received neighbourly objections on a municipal decision to accept the dedication.

As presented in the bylaw to be passed, the first Crown Survey of the township had completed in 1823 but didn't provide for original shore road allowances. For part payment of services in laying out the land, surveyor John Goessman received Crown Patents for certain parcels of land, each of which contained a reservation for shore road allowances of 20.1 metres, or one chain, in width.

Wording in the Crown Patents stated that one chain in width would be reserved "as an allowance for a road with free access to the beach by all vessels, boats and persons"; a choice of wording upheld by courts.

In March, land acquisition of two of those adjacent properties in the Sawlog Bay area was announced by the township. The intent by the township was stated for it to be a new public beach, formally opened once the deal had closed and financing was in place.

At the recent regular meeting of council, a bylaw was readied which could either be passed, delayed for decision at an upcoming meeting, or declined.

The deputation portion hosted an audience of two dozen residents wanting to have their say, but limitations of just five speakers with a three-minute timeframe forced a strategy to have the most vocal cover as many talking points as could be conveyed.

All speakers urged council to choose to defer the decision, citing that they had only discovered the donation and hadn't had enough time to research

its implications for Thunder Beach residents, many of whom were in attendance.

When challenged on transparency, Mayor Dave Evans retorted that acquisition of the Goessman lots had been addressed by council in early 2023, citing that numerous confidential legal meetings were noted throughout the years in public forums; furthermore, as legal challenges had been made against council regarding the donation transfer, what could be discussed openly at the meeting was also limited.

The matter went to a recorded vote requested by Coun. Dave Brunelle who sided with the deputants that a deferral until the next meeting would allow for further investigation by residents; however, his vote was the sole 4-to-1 opposition as the rest of council chose to pass the bylaw and accept the land donation.

Following the meeting, MidlandToday spoke to CAO Robert Lamb on the differences between what closed session information is by a municipality, and how that differs from publicly available information.

"Closed session information is governed very closely by the rules and regulations of the Municipal Act, as ruled as well from the Ombudsman's office," Lamb explained. "You can only go into closed to talk about very specific things and legal is one of those, so you do not normally have your lawyers sitting in front of the general public talking about a position."

Lamb provided a unique example of the short term rental task force established by the previous council, which allowed the public an opportunity to receive usually closed session questions within an open format. However, he added that in any standard situation: "If I talked about (something

that wasn't closed information) in public session, that's a fireable offense."

"But you don't negotiate in public, you don't get legal advice in public, and it stays in closed session – but you do ratify (in public)," Lamb added. "And council did ratify multiple times what direction was given, especially this file and very clearly on multiple occasions, it was talked about as a matter of public record, council giving direction to staff and legal to go to the next step on the Goessman file."

Further to the short term rental perspective, Lamb pointed to an Ontario Superior Court of Justice decision from March where the Tiny Township Association of Responsible STR Owners had lost to the township, with the justice stating: "It is evident... that the Township heard their concerns regarding the anticipated bylaw but simply didn't agree with them."

"That is democracy," said Lamb. "The justice hit it on the nail on that issue, but it is with any issue – ultimately in a year and a half's time as the population will come in, and hopefully a whole lot more of them than the last time, will cast their ballot."

As stated by Coun. Kelly Helowka during the meeting that council were elected representatives for the whole of the township, both Evans and Deputy Mayor Sean Miskimins also reiterated the sentiment by agreeing with Lamb that democracy would be upheld by the voters every four years.

The bylaw to accept the reservation dedication of Goessman shore lots can be viewed on the agenda page on the Township of Tiny website.

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

Net-zero administration centre project gains Tiny \$10,000 grant

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Aug. 7, 2025

Net-zero ambitions became a net-positive boon for Tiny Township thanks to a \$10,000 greenhouse gas reduction grant relating to the upcoming administration centre build.

The announcement was made during the recent regular meeting of council, as public works director Tim Leitch provided an ongoing update on the construction of the new municipal administration centre due for a 2027 opening.

Tiny had previously been awarded the \$10,000 Municipal Climate Action Offer grant in 2023 for installing electric vehicle charging stations in the municipality, and in 2024 for purchasing hybrid and electric vehicles for the municipal fleet in an effort to migrate from gas powered vehicles.

"This year, we applied with our net-zero building and all the positives that are going forward with that," said Leitch, noting that as a result, "Enbridge has awarded us a \$10,000 cheque again this year based on that objective; so that's going to go towards our build."

"We just got that cheque in last week, and that's another positive thing in showing (the) industry that moving in these directions of net-zero is the way to go forward with new buildings, and the township is following that protocol."

The Tiny Township administration centre project has been protested against in recent years both by a vocal minority of residents and by Coun. Dave Brunelle, objecting to the 2024

proposal for a net-zero energy, net-zero carbon, water conserving, and biodiverse regenerative design, which could last over 60 years, and instead demanding the municipality stay in the current 68-year-old facility despite numerous obsolete flaws.

In addition to the grant announcement, Leitch stated that a successful first meeting of the ad hoc committee had proven fruitful as elements of the public space were addressed by the group, and archaeological assessments in consultation with Huron-Wendat representatives had been made on the property at 255 Concession 9 East with results pending.

"Just a reminder to the public that the site is closed off to the public," Leitch cautioned. "It may appear flat, it may appear there's no hazards, but the trees have been cut down; it's a lot of ground cover that's unpredictable. We do have test holes that are on the site, so we just want to keep everybody off that site that's obviously not part of the construction crew or does not have authorization to be on the site."

Leitch added that trespassers had been caught on camera and if the actions continued, "we will be notifying the police to make sure that people's safety is paramount."

Following the meeting, Mayor Dave Evans told MidlandToday that the township was honoured to receive the third straight Enbridge Gas grant for \$10,000, saying "it's a strong vote of confidence in Tiny's leadership on sustainability

and innovation.

"This funding supports our vision for the Township of Tiny Administrative Centre as a net-zero facility," added Evans. "We are also pursuing funding through the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Green Municipal Fund that would further support our net-zero objectives for the TTAC. I can confidently say that we are building a community space that reflects our environmental values and long-term goals."

When asked how proactive the township was toward the goal of reducing greenhouse emissions was, Evans replied that the municipality's strategic plan as well as partnership with the Severn Sound Environmental Association climate change action plan identified protecting the environment of Tiny as a top priority for council.

"We are not immune to the effects of climate change," said Evans, "and we continue to take meaningful action to support a greener future -- from transitioning our fleet vehicles to hybrid and electric, to building a net-zero community hub as the TTAC. From our shoreline to our forests, we're taking real steps to reduce emissions and support a cleaner future."

Updates regarding the Tiny Township administration centre, including a project roadmap and reports dating back to 2014, can be found on the new building page of the municipal website.

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

CanadaOne Auto Drives Mental Health Forward with \$1-Million Gift to RVH



Pictured L-R: Jason Teal, RVH Board Chair, Dominic Lazzaro, Managing Partner, Barrie Ford, Mike Ferreira, General Manager, Georgian BMW, Christy Fines, General Manager, 400 Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Ltd, Stephanie Gourlie-Murray, RVH Campaign Cabinet Chair Barrie, Cole Allinger, Dealer Partner, Georgian Chevrolet Buick GMC, and City of Barrie Mayor Alex Nuttall.

By RVH, August 8, 2025

The energy was electric Tuesday night at Boots & Hearts Barn Burner, and not just because of the music. In front of a packed crowd, Alex Nuttall, Mayor of Barrie, announced a historic \$1-million gift from CanadaOne Auto to Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre’s (RVH) Keep Life Wild campaign.

The donation, the largest ever to mental health at RVH, will directly support the expansion of RVH’s regional mental health program—bringing more care, more compassion, and more hope to people across Simcoe Muskoka.

The announcement was met with cheers and heartfelt applause from the Barn Burner’s attendees, recognizing the need for strong mental health services in the region. The expanded program will include more inpatient beds, enhanced outpatient services, and new spaces designed to promote healing and dignity.

“This is a bold step forward,” said Gail Hunt, RVH president and CEO, “CanadaOne Auto’s generosity sends a powerful message: mental health matters. And together, we’re building a system that reflects that.”

The Keep Life Wild campaign is RVH’s \$100-million fundraising effort to expand and transform healthcare across the region. With this gift, CanadaOne Auto joins a growing list of community champions helping to end hallway medicine, reduce wait times, and ensure world-class care is available close to home.

To learn more or make a gift, visit <https://www.keeplifewild.ca> Photo outline: Members of CanadaOne Auto present a cheque (the first in a 5-year pledge) to representatives of Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) and RVH Foundation at the annual Boots & Hearts Barn Burner Charity Hockey Tournament, hosted by Mayor Alex Nuttall.

City statement:
Status of wooded area west of Anne Street

By City of Barrie, August 9, 2025

Yesterday, the wooded area between Victoria Street, John Street, and Anne Street South was turned back to the City following a Police investigation. The site was secured by City staff yesterday anticipating the need for significant cleanup.

The City requested the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) attend the site to conduct an inspection. Following their investigation, the MECP issued an Order under the Environmental Protection Act to close the site down. The amount of waste that is on the site poses health and safety risks as well as environmental concerns and must be cleaned and restored.

Given the MECP order to close the site down, the City is working with the County of Simcoe and our community partners to ensure that anyone affected by this cleanup is provided shelter and connected to appropriate resources.

NS Springwater News
Found in Pentiction

Aug. 6, 2025 - Mark and Sacha Sternberg and friends floating down the lazy river in Pentiction BC! Lots of time to read the great news back home on this road trip.



‘Everything on track’ for road reconstruction work in Angus: CAO

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Aug 06, 2025

For folks living in Essa Township, patience will definitely be a virtue as the municipality carries out a number of road construction projects.

In the community of Angus, the largest project — the \$3.8-million reconstruction of Simcoe Street and Raglan Street — is moving ahead as planned and is expected to be mostly complete by November.

“Everything is on track,” Michael Mikael, Essa Township’s chief administrative officer, told BarrieToday in an email Wednesday. “Asphalt is scheduled for the spring of 2026.”

The reconstruction includes Simcoe Street between the western dead end and the eastern dead end, and Raglan Street from King Street to Simcoe Street as well as some ditch work on Water Street.

The construction will include:

- Repaving and infrastructure renewal
- Installation of a storm-sewer system to manage surface runoff and minimize/eliminate localized flooding
- Construction of improved concrete

sidewalks to enhance pedestrian accessibility and safety

- Elimination of existing roadside ditches/closed ditches/drainage swales to improve visual aesthetics, and property access

Introduction of permanent traffic-calming measures such as raised intersection, traffic control improvement, pavement marking and narrowed lanes to reduce vehicle speeds and enhance safety for all road users at selected locations.

“The urbanization of Simcoe Street and Raglan Street will deliver significant long-term benefits to the community, including safer pedestrian access, better drainage, and improved traffic management,” John Kolb, the township’s manager of public works, said in a report to township council.

The project was awarded to Arnott Construction. On Tuesday, the township announced three new construction projects.

Green Infrastructure Partners (GIP) will begin emergency repairs on the 5th Sideroad, Scotch Line and the 10th Line this week with a deadline of Sept. 13.

The repairs will include grinding — removing the top layer of an existing asphalt pavement,

typically with a milling machine, to correct surface imperfections, remove damaged pavement, or prepare the surface for a new layer of asphalt — and paving.

Green Infrastructure Partners will also begin work on the 6th Line and 8th Line, where they will complete base stabilization work, culvert replacement, pulverizing, grading and paving. This work is also scheduled to be completed by Sept. 13.

For the 8th Line to be completed, temporary full road closures will be in place during construction between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m.

During closure hours, traffic will be detoured to adjacent local roads — County Road 56 and the 9th Line.

According to Mikael, the cost for these two projects will be around \$1.2 million.

The last project announced Tuesday was the closure of the 30th Sideroad, between County Road 56 and the 6th Line, on Aug. 22.

According to the township, Canadian Pacific Kansas City Railway will be conducting track repairs and there will be access for local residents only.



SENIOR TINY TIMES

By Thomas Bialas August 14, 2025

Help Shape Tiny’s Age-Friendly Future

The Township of Tiny is proud to be recognized as an Age-Friendly Community by the World Health Organization (WHO), joining a global network of cities and towns committed to supporting older adults. This honour reflects the Township’s long-standing dedication to creating a community where seniors can live with dignity, respect, and independence.

In 2017, Township staff, along side Tiny’s Senior Advisory Committee worked diligently to implement Tiny’s Local Aging Plan, a document that guides efforts to improve the lives of older adults. This plan focuses on key areas that impact daily life for seniors, including outdoor spaces and buildings, social participation, health services, civic engagement, transportation, housing, and access to information. These key areas make up the eight domains of community life as indicated by WHO.

Through community engagement and planning, the Township has introduced a range of initiatives that promote inclusion, activity, and wellbeing among its aging population. Notable achievements include the development of the North Simcoe Directory of Senior Services; a collaborative guide that helps connect seniors to important resources. Annual celebrations such as June is Seniors’ Month, the Senior Symposium, and the Senior Speaker Series have become enduring traditions. The Township also recognizes an outstanding resident over the age of 65 through the Heart of Tiny Award, part of the Citizen of the Year Awards program.

Programs like pickleball, shuffleboard, cooperative art circles, various fitness classes, and the “Coffee and Connect” technology workshops offer older adults a wide variety of ways to stay active and engaged. The Township looks forward to offering more new programs this Fall, including “Ducks in a Row” and “Nature Connect: Outdoor Adventures for Seniors”. The Township has also built strong partnerships with local Seniors Clubs and continues to create meaningful volunteer opportunities for older adults to share their time and talents.

Now, as part of its ongoing commitment to continuous improvement, the Township of Tiny is updating its Local Aging Plan, and community input is vital. A public survey has been launched to gather feedback from residents, caregivers, organizations, and local businesses. The goal is to ensure that future strategies reflect the real needs and experiences of the people who call Tiny home.

“This update is about more than just services for older adults,” said Mayor David Evans. “It’s about creating a community where everyone, regardless of age, can stay active and thrive.”

The Township encourages all residents to share their voice by completing the short online survey, which is available on the project webpage at www.tiny.ca/agingplan. There, residents can learn more about the plan and follow its progress. Hard copies of the Survey have also been made available at local Seniors Clubs and at the Township office on 130 Balm Beach Road West. Your input today helps shape a more inclusive and supportive Tiny for tomorrow.

The Aging Plan update is made possible with support from the Simcoe County Age-Friendly Municipal Grant Program. The Township of Tiny extends its sincere thanks to the County of Simcoe for its continued investment in age-friendly communities.

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
Phone: 705-526-4204
Email: seniors@tiny.ca

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4 Plays the odds

8 Overly

11 Princess woe

12 Neck of the woods

13 Mascara can do this if you cry

14 “Nightmare on ___ St”

15 Fabrication

16 “We ___ family”

17 “Saturday Night Fever” music

19 Little BMW

21 Noise of an engine or a casino

23 One on one specialist

26 Annul

29 From now on

31 Public image

33 Produced offspring

34 Conduct

35 Apple, popularly

37 Center’s pass

39 Snares

43 Extinction verb

45 Partner of rank and serial number

47 Workout target

48 Word with ball or socket

49 Weight

50 Go ___

51 Sack

52 Corn units

53 Ewe’s mate
- 1 Newspaper essay page

2 NY food store

3 Blocks up

4 Born on the ___

5 “Big Band” period

6 Kind of paper

7 Sensibleness

8 Benedict Arnold, for one

9 Possessive

10 Single

18 Elected

20 Musical selection

22 Provide employees for

24 Miners’ find

25 Rare meat color

26 Downs’ opposite

27 Court divider

28 Got “Tom” ready for the oven

30 Power or cat

32 Juice source

36 Features

38 Word with medic or normal

40 Distant

41 Bear of literature

42 Cordial glass feature

43 Spider’s “parlor”

44 Word from the decks

46 Scratch

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POLITICS

Hwy. 400 corridor emerges as top pick for Barrie employment expansion: report

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Aug 07, 2025
The verdict is in.

One location within the Barrie boundary expansion proposal's study area stands out for future employment area expansion: land along both sides of Highway 400, starting at the Highway 400/Highway 11 split and extending north toward Forbes Road.

According to stage three's initial findings in the joint land-needs analysis and study, prepared by Hemson Consulting and posted to Springwater Township's website on Wednesday, the location could accommodate Barrie's 300-hectare employment area land needs through to 2061, contribute to Simcoe County needs for its 'northern regional market area,' and address longer-term needs in Springwater.

According to the stage three initial findings, key advantages of this area include:

- Direct access and visibility from a 400-series highway
- Topographically suitable for industrial development
- Potential for large, contiguous employment blocks
- Minimal land-use conflicts
- Good access to supply chains, markets and labour
- Ability to serve both rural and urban employment needs
- Proximity to the Lake Simcoe Regional Airport
- Limited environmental and existing infrastructure constraints.

While report authors Stefan Krzeczunowicz, an associate partner at Hemson, and Walid Abi Akar, senior project manager with RV Anderson Associates, say the land was "strategically well located" to meet regional and provincial interests for employment land, "the main drawback of this area is that it represents a new employment area location, with no existing area urban infrastructure, and servicing feasibility requires further study."

Hemson's stage three findings have also refined the land needs that were identified in stage two.

Current estimates, according to Hemson, suggest Barrie needs about 500 developable hectares for 'community area' and at least 300 developable hectares for 'employment area' — totalling approximately 800 hectares, which is slightly lower than the 930 hectares identified in Hemson's report from December 2024.

"The 300-hectare employment area estimate reflects not only Barrie's 2051 needs, which become constrained before 2051, but also its post-2051 growth," the report says. "It does not address the broader employment land deficit identified in Simcoe County's municipal comprehensive review

or longer-term needs in Springwater."

Hemson developed three scenarios to accommodate the 500-hectare community area land need, but none of them on their own was sufficient to meet the need.

According to Hemson, if the growth were to occur in Midhurst, it would include all of the Midhurst Secondary Plan area and would deliver about 250 hectares. The report notes it would require expansion to the Midhurst Secondary Plan area or a land transfer to Barrie.

If the growth were to occur along the Barrie-Springwater boundary, it would deliver about 470 hectares. If the growth were to occur along the Barrie-Springwater boundary but the land on Bayfield Street North remains in Springwater, it would deliver about 390 hectares.

If growth were to occur on the Barrie-Oro-Medonte boundary, meanwhile, it would deliver about 450 hectares.

The report also looked at the existing water and wastewater treatment systems in Barrie, Springwater and Oro-Medonte. They were analyzed to assess current infrastructure, planned expansions, available capacity and projected future demands.

Planned capacities were determined using information in the 2020 Midhurst Class Environmental Assessment (EA), communications with the City of Barrie regarding its ongoing water and wastewater master plan update, Barrie's design criteria and Barrie's 2019 infrastructure master plans.

"Oro-Medonte's infrastructure was excluded from the analysis, as it is located too far from the planned expansion areas to be considered a viable servicing option," the report says.

The available and planned capacities in Barrie and Springwater were evaluated against projected demands under each growth scenario.

Scenario #1: The Midhurst servicing system is expected to have insufficient capacity, even with planned expansion under approved environmental assessments, to meet future water demands and wastewater flows.

Scenario #2: The Barrie servicing system is expected to have sufficient capacity to meet future water demands and wastewater flows.

Scenario #3: Under this scenario, the Barrie system is also expected to have sufficient capacity to meet future water demands and wastewater flows.

The stage three report also considered cross-border servicing options between Barrie and Oro-Medonte, or Barrie and Springwater, with or without municipal boundary adjustments.

The report says these arrangements could offer mutual benefits for the townships, access to servicing capacity to support growth within

existing boundaries — and for Barrie — and opportunities to share infrastructure costs, including new investments, with a neighbouring municipality, as well as maximizing the use of existing capacity for broader regional economic benefit. The provided overall fiscal impacts to the city was deemed positive.

However, the report noted, there are also potentially significant drawbacks, particularly for Oro-Medonte.

"The township would be managing large-scale urban growth the first time, which can bring financial and operational challenges," the report says. "New residents in the serviced area are likely to expect the same level of services available to their neighbours in Barrie," such as transit, full-time fire protection and solid waste management.

"As such, servicing arrangements may need to extend beyond water and wastewater, even covering soft services like recreation services and libraries," the report says.

The report notes that many of the benefits and drawbacks for Springwater are the same as with Oro-Medonte, although Springwater is planning for a significantly greater amount of urban growth than Oro-Medonte.

From Barrie's perspective, a partnership could bring long-term servicing obligations and associated risks, the report says.

"It would be difficult to justify sharing services designed for the city's own growth without a mechanism to share tax revenues from developed lands," the report says. "Experience from similar cross-boundary arrangements elsewhere in Ontario suggests success requires willing partners, clear mutual benefits and, typically, provincial support."

Over the next two months, Hemson will be working on the following tasks:

Environmental mapping and constraint analysis for potential community and employment area expansion land.

Servicing requirements and costing, including water, wastewater, transportation, stormwater, as well as electrical, and natural gas. This work will, in particular, consider the option for servicing proposed development along Bayfield Street immediately north of the current Barrie/Springwater boundary.

Continuing engagement with all municipalities over the coming weeks with a plenary session in September among the four municipalities (Barrie, Springwater, Oro-Medonte and Simcoe County) to establish a framework agreement.

Reporting on the results of the technical work completed by the consulting team. The preliminary findings of this technical work will be available for September's plenary session.



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NORTH SIMCOE

Christian Island welcomes modern, new ferry to replace Sandy Graham

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Aug 11, 2025

Ferry rides just became a lot more modern to-and-from Christian Island, as the Niigaan Enaazhek arrived at its new home over the weekend.

Translated as 'Shine Forward' from Anishinaabemowin and symbolizing progress and a bright future for the community, the custom-made double-ended Ice Class Super 1A vessel built in 2024 reached its destination on Saturday after a week of travel from Fraser Shipyards LLC in Superior, Wisconsin.

"This vessel represents a critical infrastructure investment for the island community of Chimnissing, ensuring a reliable, year-round transportation link to the mainland for its members," said marine consultant Arnold Jamieson Jr.

Serving nearly 700 full-time residents (as per the 2021 Census), the Sandy Graham had been built in 1955 as an interim measure for vehicle ferry service, while attempts were made in the early 2000s to provide a more stable replacement.

"The Niigaan Enaazhek is set to replace the community's long-serving ferry, the Sandy Graham," noted Jamieson Jr. "The acquisition was a multi-year project made possible through the dedication of present and previous Beausoleil First Nation Chief and Councils, staff, and significant funding from Indigenous Services Canada and

other government partners."

The Niigaan Enaazhek has a passenger capacity of 150 and vehicle capacity of 36; an approximate 50 per cent increase over the 99 passenger capacity and 26 vehicle capacity of the Sandy Graham. As well, max speed of the new vessel is 11.5 knots compared to 8.5 knots of its predecessor.

Gross tonnage of the new ferry is 569, well over the 212 gross tonnage of the former. Additionally, the diesel-electric Niigaan Enaazhek was engineered to break through ice up to roughly 60 centimetres (or 24 inches), allowing consistent service through winter months.

As a means to provide a seamless transition for ferry service, Jameson Jr. stated that the Sandy Graham would "be kept in place as a redundant, backup vessel until December 2025."

A feast and ceremony for stakeholder and community guests will be held on Aug. 13 at 5 p.m. on the island. Engagement with Beausoleil First Nation Chief and council, community elders, residents, and ferry crew will be available, as well as a walkthrough of the Niigaan Enaazhek including pilot house and engine room.

Information on costs, departures from Christian Island and Cedar Point, and other information on the ferry schedule can be found on the Chimnissing website.

Penetanguishene to Launch Speed Camera Program in Fall

By Town of Penetanguishene, Aug. 5, 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."

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.

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).



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: 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 Elmvalle Branch. 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 Elmvalle 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.

Summer Reading End Party

Come celebrate all the reading fun you have had this summer at the Summer Reading Program End Party! Enjoy some treats, games, prizes, entertainment, and more! Wednesday August 20, 1pm-3pm at Heritage Park. Cost: Free. Registration required.

Holiday Closure

Please note, all branches of Springwater Public Library will be closed Monday September 2 for the Labour Day long weekend. We will return to regular branch hours on Tuesday September 3.

Return of regular programming

With September right around the corner, our regularly scheduled programming will return as follows:

Mondays: English Language Learners Club 1pm at Elmvalle Branch (registration required).

Tuesdays: starting September 9 - Storytime 10:30am at Elmvalle Branch (no registration required).

Wednesdays: starting September 10 - Storytime 10:30am at Midhurst Branch (no registration required).

Wednesdays: Senior Tech Help 10am-12noon at Midhurst Branch (registration required).

Wednesdays: The YoungandtheRest of Us 1pm at Midhurst Branch (no registration required).

Thursdays: Senior Tech Help (bi-weekly September 11 and 25) 3pm-5pm at Elmvalle Branch (registration required).

Thursdays: After School Games 3:30pm at Minesing Branch (no registration required).

Thursdays: Knit and Crochet 6:30pm at Elmvalle Branch (no registration required).

Encaustic Art Workshop for Seniors

The Barrie Community Health Clinic will be running an encaustic art piece workshop on Friday September 12, 1pm-3pm at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required. Register early as space is limited. All abilities are welcome!

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Brushes Fly at Art Slam

By Stephanie Rumball Aug. 6, 2025
Quest Art School + Gallery Announces Art Slam: True North With Presenting Sponsor Larmand Group Private Wealth Management

Midland, Ontario (August 5th, 2025) - Quest Art School + Gallery is thrilled to announce the return of Art Slam, Midland's most electrifying live painting competition, taking place on Friday, September 12th, 2025, at the Midland Cultural Centre. This year's edition, Art Slam: True North, is proudly presented by Larmand Group Private Wealth Management, whose generous sponsorship is helping bring this dynamic celebration of Canadian creativity to life.

A highlight of the local arts calendar, Art Slam: True North promises an unforgettable evening of art, energy, and community connection. Audiences will watch 20 artists go head-to-head in three adrenaline-fueled, 30-minute rounds, transforming blank canvases into powerful works of art live and in real time. "There's something electric about watching art come to life right in front of you," says Lawrence Sagar, Executive Director of Quest Art School + Gallery. "Art Slam isn't just about the competition, it's about the shared experience, the energy in the room, and the way creativity connects us all. It's a night that stays with you, and one of the best in Midland in our opinion!" The audience plays a starring role in the night's excitement, voting after each round to determine who advances. The final face-off features the top contenders from rounds one and two battling it out for the title of Art Slam Champion...and of course, all-important bragging rights.

All artwork created during the evening will be available for purchase, meaning guests have the opportunity to own these one-of-a-kind pieces. Round one and two works will be offered through a silent auction, while the finale works will be sold in a live auction, sure to keep guests on the edge of their seats.

This year's theme, True North, invites artists to explore what it means to be part of this vast and diverse country, from awe-inspiring landscapes and vibrant cityscapes to the deep cultural roots and enduring stories of its people. Each interpretation helps paint a richer portrait of our collective Canadian identity.

Early bird tickets for Art Slam are available now at www.questart.ca for just \$25 until August 11th, followed by general admission for \$30 and \$35 at the door the evening of the event. Event Details: Art Slam: True North Date: Friday, September 12th, 2025 Time: 6:00 PM – 10:00 PM Location: Midland Cultural Centre, 333 King Street, Midland, ON Tickets: \$25 (Early Bird until August 11), \$30 Regular Admission, \$35 at the door

Quest Art School + Gallery gratefully acknowledges the support of Larmand Group Private Wealth Management, whose commitment to the arts continues to uplift and inspire our community.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Five recipients awarded with Township of Tiny education bursaries

By Township of Tiny, August 6, 2025

(Tiny, Ontario) At the August 6, 2025, regular meeting of Council, the Mayor and Council announced the 2025 Education Bursary recipients. Each of these five students entering their first year of post-secondary education will receive a \$1,000 bursary from the township. The Township of Tiny would like to congratulate the 2025 Education Bursary recipients:

1. Leo Chicoine, graduating from École Secondaire Le Caron is going to Brevard College to pursue a Bachelor of Business Administration.
2. Olivia Reynolds, graduating from St. Theresa's Catholic High School is going to York University for Performance and Dance.
3. Robyn Donaldson, graduating from Georgian Bay District Secondary School is going to Wilfrid Laurier University to pursue a Psychology degree.
4. Isabella Gendron, graduating from Georgian Bay District Secondary School is going to Queens University for an Honours Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Education.
5. Anna Ryde, graduating from Northern Secondary School is going to University of Waterloo for Mechanical Engineering.

The Township of Tiny Education Bursary program assists students who are entering their post-secondary education, including courses and training programs of a technical and vocational nature. Applications for the bursary are anonymously vetted by a selection committee and scored based on set criteria consisting of volunteer experience, essay response, post-secondary education length, and completeness/comprehension.

“On behalf of Tiny, we would like to congratulate our five Education Bursary recipients and wish them continued success as they pursue post-secondary education,” said Mayor David Evans. “Tiny’s longstanding bursary program is an example of how we continue to support the youth in our community.”



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Simcoe County Archives re-opens to public after undergoing renovations

By County of Simcoe, Aug. 11, 2025

Midhurst/August 11, 2025 – The Simcoe County Archives has officially reopened to the public after an eight-month closure to accommodate significant on-site renovations. Key improvements include:

- **Revitalized Reading Room:** Designed to be more welcoming and accessible, the updated space now features a small multi-purpose room and a self-serve reference library and microfilm area. These changes will streamline service delivery and improve the research experience.
- **Enhanced Staff Workspace:** The staff area has been expanded and tailored to support the efficient processing of archival records. Additional shelving in the Receiving Room will further expedite record handling.
- **New Digitization Area:** A dedicated space has been created for scanning and digitizing archival materials, supporting long-term preservation and improved access.
- **Sustainable Flooring:** Eco-friendly cork and marmoleum flooring have been installed throughout the facility, aligning with the County’s commitment to sustainability.

These renovations not only improve the physical infrastructure but also enhance workflow efficiency, enabling staff to make more archival material readily available to researchers.

The Simcoe County Archives houses municipal records from the County of Simcoe, all 16 lower-tier municipalities, and the City of Barrie, along with documents from over 30 historic townships, towns, and villages. The archival holdings take up 3.5 kilometres of shelving.

Among the treasures preserved are the first known butter tart recipe published in a cookbook (1900), one of the earliest photographs of a Canadian women’s hockey team (1896), documentation of local involvement in the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837, newspapers dating back to 1847, and culturally significant collections such as the James R. Gowan Papers.

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POLITICS

Is anyone else shocked at how quickly this summer has passed? It feels like we just started summer and suddenly it is mid-August and 'Back to School' sales are popping up everywhere. The great news is there is still time to make memories and enjoy summer here in Barrie – Springwater – Oro-Medonte.

I really enjoy this time in the summer when I am home from Ottawa. Not only can I see my family every evening I also have more chances to connect with the constituents I serve.

Please remember that I do enjoy commemorating milestones with residents and businesses. If you are planning a celebration for a milestone birthday or anniversary, or a grand opening for a new business please contact my team by calling 705-728-2596 and share details so I can provide my congratulations too.

While it might seem early to talk about preparing calendars for next year my staff and I have already

started working on my annual calendar so that we can have it printed and in your hands in January. We decided to use original artwork, including paintings and photographs, to fill the calendar in recent years and people really loved it. My team and I are looking forward to doing it again. So please remember to keep sharing your original photos and art with me for consideration in our 2026 calendar. You can email pictures to: Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca

I hope each of you finds time to get out and enjoy your favorite summer activity here in our community. Please contact my office if there is any federal matter with which my team and I can assist.

Sincerely,

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

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DOUG SHIPLEY MP
BARRIE - SPRINGWATER - ORO-MEDONTE
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Statement by Mayor Brian Smith on Province's Proposal to Return 3% of Parkland to the Town
By Town of Wasaga Beach, July 30, 2025

WASAGA BEACH – Today Mayor Brian Smith issued the following statement about the town's vision for Wasaga Beach to become an iconic, four-season recreation and nature-based destination:

"I want to take a moment to clarify our community's vision for the future of Wasaga Beach's iconic shoreline, and respond to concerns about the Province of Ontario's proposal to return less than 60 hectares of parkland to the Town.

Wasaga Beach is more than a destination. It's a town with a deep sense of place, the longest freshwater beach in the world, Ontario's most visited provincial park, and a summer tradition for generations of families. Each year, over 2 million visitors come here to enjoy our 14-kilometre sandy shoreline, vibrant local businesses, community-

run festivals and events – and some of the most magnificent sunsets on the planet.

But for those of us who call it home, Wasaga Beach is something even more profound. It's where we live, work, raise families, and build our future. The beach isn't just part of our landscape – it's part of us. The longest freshwater beach in the world – including the lake, river and dune ecosystem that makes it all possible – are the heart and lungs of our community. They fuel our local businesses and economy, inspire local artists and musicians, and provide a quality of life for our full-time residents that you will not find anywhere else in the world.

What many people don't know is that over 50 years ago, our town was forever changed. To create Wasaga Beach Provincial Park, the province bulldozed hundreds of homes, family-run cottages, and thriving small businesses. While the positive legacy of this mass expropriation is that it gave the public access to the beach – something we will always defend – it left our economy hollowed out and our future uncertain. We became dependent on two things we couldn't control: the weather, and provincial priorities. It also left us with massive, crumbling parking lots that sit empty most of the year, particularly at Beach Area 1.

As we look ahead, we have a chance to restore what was lost, without repeating old mistakes. The province is considering the transfer of less than 60 hectares of land – just 3% of the park's 1,844 hectares – back to the municipality.

Let me be clear: this land would go to the Town, not to developers – and it would come with the requirement that the beach remains public. The citizens of Wasaga Beach wouldn't have it any other way.

Roughly half of the proposed land includes beach and environmentally sensitive dunes – areas that will be preserved.

That leaves about 30 hectares, mostly paved parking lots, that could be reimagined through a thoughtful, community-led Waterfront Master Plan. That work is already underway. In June, we launched a national search for a multi-disciplinary team of ecologists, designers, and planners to

guide that process, grounded in sustainability and public input.

Our vision is to become an iconic, four-season recreation and nature-based destination that protects, celebrates, and educates people about the rare dunes, wildlife, and heritage that make Wasaga Beach so unique. There are no plans to build on the beach. No sensitive habitat is being threatened. On the contrary, municipal stewardship allows for more community-led protection and programming, more educational access, and more responsible, year-round use.

We are already engaging with conservation organizations such as Birds Canada, and we welcome further collaboration. We all want the same thing: a healthy, protected, and accessible beach for generations to come.

This is not about selling out our natural heritage or sacrificing values. This is about restoring local voice and taking back responsibility for our community's future. For the first time in half a century, the people of Wasaga Beach may have a meaningful say in how we protect, enjoy, and share our waterfront.

We know Wasaga Beach can stand alongside the great recreation and nature-based destinations of the world—where tourism, conservation and community thrive together."



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Former Springwater councillor rails against Barrie annexation plans

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Aug 10, 2025

When the City of Barrie first announced its boundary expansion proposal into Springwater and Oro-Medonte almost two years ago, residents in those townships were swift to organize and voice their opposition.

An Oro-Medonte group called Friends of the Future was assembled and started a petition against the proposed boundary expansion.

In early 2024, the group presented the petition, signed by more than 400 township residents, to Oro-Medonte officials.

Since then, the group has continued its anti-annexation efforts with spokespeople appearing before township council almost every time there's a new development, erecting anti-annexation signs along township roads, and ensuring they were in attendance at town hall meetings when the topic was being discussed.

Organized opposition to Barrie's proposal in Springwater took much longer.

In fact, the only organized group to oppose the proposed boundary expansion didn't start its public campaign until June of this year.

"Before there (were) strong mayor powers, there was some expectation that council would negotiate and do the right thing for the residents of Springwater," said Jack Hanna, a former Springwater councillor and one of the founders of a group called Springwater Simcoe County.

"Knowing what happened as soon as strong mayor powers went into effect, myself and others were concerned and got involved."

According to its website, Springwater Simcoe County is "a collective united by one goal: to protect and restore Springwater."

It was organized by Hanna and residents John Spring, Jim Sales and Roy Monk.

Hanna thinks strong mayor powers "impose minority rule, diminish council and disengage public representatives."

He questioned why Springwater Mayor Jennifer Coughlin used strong mayor powers to advance discussions with Barrie Mayor Alex Nuttall when the township was working through the facilitation process as prescribed by the Office of the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator.

During the May 21 council meeting, following Nuttall's presentation called 'Proposed Principles for Boundary Adjustment Agreement, City of Barrie and Township of Springwater,' Coughlin answered that question when Deputy Mayor George Cabral asked her directly, "Why the rush?"

"The decision to get to the table and have discussions with the City of Barrie was made in the best interest of the Township of Springwater," she answered.

According to Hanna, Springwater residents have nothing to gain if part of the township is annexed by Barrie. In fact, he said, Springwater residents will end up having to pay for the annexation.

"Why the hell does Springwater give up those

properties when they're collecting taxes on it?" he asked. "When Springwater loses those properties, they're losing tax revenue that they're currently getting."

"What are they going to do if they lose tax revenue?" he asked.

Hanna, who spent 12 years on Springwater council, said he's confident the only recourse the township will have is to spread the lost tax revenue across the remaining properties.

"The people who are still residents are going to see a bump in their taxes, no doubt, to make up for those that went away," he said.

According to Coughlin, there are 81 properties in the areas that have been identified for possible annexation.

Nine of those properties are owned by the City of Barrie, 20 properties pay the township's agricultural tax rate, there are 42 dwellings, and the remainder of the land is vacant.

"The taxation on those properties is \$258,000 per year," Coughlin said during an interview. "The township gets \$185,000 and the county gets \$100,000."

In a June 26, 2025, letter to Coughlin, Michael Prowse, the City of Barrie's chief administrative officer, upped the city's previous offer of \$7,500 per developable acre annexed to \$12,500.

That works out to about \$22.6 million, based on the land needs not changing from the city's initial offer — 1,769 hectares (4,373 acres), of which 733 hectares (1,811 acres) would be deemed developable.

Barrie's first offer was almost \$13.6 million, based on a compensation fee of \$7,500 per developable acre.

If the township can work a deal with Barrie to provide cross-border servicing for two proposed developments just north of Barrie's border — one from the Remington Group for a seniors-related medical campus at 727 Bayfield St. N., and another from Innovative Planning Solutions representing Paul Sadlon Communities at 742 Bayfield St. N., directly across from the Remington Group's proposal — Coughlin said the lost taxes would be recouped 10 times over on an annual basis.

(Springwater council voted unanimously to support the two developments by endorsing them when they applied for minister's zoning orders (MZO) in December 2023. This past July, township council threatened to revoke its support of the MZOs unless the developer agreed to have water and wastewater services provided by the township. On July 2, during a council meeting, council revoked its support of both MZO applications as both developments were looking for cross-border servicing with the City of Barrie. What impact that had on the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's decision is not known, but the minister does not need the municipality's support to approve an MZO application.)

"The lands that are going to be cross-border serviced by Barrie, just north of the city's limits,

there's the potential for \$2.5 million in taxation annually," Coughlin added.

Additionally, she noted, if those two developments can hook up to Barrie's infrastructure while remaining in Springwater, they could be developed much faster.

"Rather than waiting a decade to bring those lands on, if we bring them on now, not only are we looking at \$20-plus-million compensation from the City of Barrie, but if we bring these on 10 years earlier, that's another \$25 million in tax revenue," she said.

After Springwater council decided to revoke support of the MZOs, Nuttall sent a letter to Coughlin on July 14.

"If Springwater Township chooses not to support this growth, then I believe that those affected by this recent decision should be given the opportunity to grow under a jurisdiction that is willing and able to support them," Nuttall wrote. "The City of Barrie is prepared to support the current MZO requests by expanding the Barrie municipal boundary to include these lands to which we would provide servicing to allow them to proceed. As part of the city's urban boundary, we will ensure that any such developments are adequately serviced through Barrie's infrastructure."

If that happens, Coughlin said, the tax revenue would go to the City of Barrie, not Springwater.

Hanna thinks the township should do everything it can to avoid annexation and invest in a 'made in Springwater' solution.

He said the township has the capabilities to develop itself and it doesn't need to give away thousands of acres to get those two developments on Bayfield Street serviced by Barrie.

"If Springwater can provide those facilities and hook up to those two projects without giving away 4,373 acres, why wouldn't you do that?" Hanna asked.

He thinks the township should run water and wastewater pipes to Barrie's northern border to accommodate the needs of the two proposed developments.

Doing that, he said, would set the township up for future success as Bayfield Street would become service ready.

According to Coughlin, the township's consultants have advised that if Springwater were to service the developments itself, it would run a deficit.

Also, it would also take years to build the infrastructure required, and there have been no technical studies done to determine if Willow Creek could handle additional capacity.

"I don't think the province will sit around and wait a decade for us to do this when Remington is ready to go today," Coughlin said.

She said the township doesn't have the luxury of time.

"The province wants a framework agreement in place by Sept. 30," she said. "That's the deadline."

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Elmvale Dairy July Meeting Minutes and Pictures

By Tyler Phillips Aug. 6, 2025
On Sunday July 20th, the Elmvale Dairy Club had our fourth meeting at Langman's dairy farm in Elmvale. We started off by splitting up into two groups to make a list of what to bring to a show. Everyone had the opportunity to learn how to safely tie up a calf. Emi Lange and Grace Finch showed everybody how to get your calf ready for the show ring and gave members tips on products they use, and showed us how to fit your

show halter to your calf. Next, Tyler Phillips was demonstrating how to load their 4-H calf on a trailer and giving everyone advice on how to safely load their animals onto the trailer. Finally, we ended the meeting with a game to see which team could move the most amount of water with a cup to another pail. Thanks to the senior members for helping the younger members on how to prepare your calf for the shows, and also, thank you to the Langman's for hosting a great meeting.

Thirty-five years in the making — and worth every minute.

By Linda Belcourt and Tim McGinnis, Aug. 11, 2025
The Elmvale Classics first laced up in 1990, a 50-plus division hockey team built on grit, laughter, and friendship. For years, they travelled together, competing in four or five tournaments a season, collecting trophies and memories in equal measure. Then the pandemic came, and the tournaments — and the regular meetups — faded into memory. But on Saturday, August 9, 2025, those memories

came roaring back to life. At Bishop Park in Elmvale, the Classics gathered once again — older, but with the same twinkle in their eyes. “It was a wonderful reunion and just great to see everyone,” said Deb McLean, speaking for many. As the stories flowed and the laughter echoed, it was clear: the Elmvale Classics aren't just a hockey team. They're a brotherhood — one that can weather years apart and pick up right where they left off.



Elmvale Classics Hockey team Reunion: (Front row L-R)Tom McGinnis, Chuck Jordan, Tim Hesch, Rob McClung, Jeff McKelvey, Scott McLean, Paul Archer, Tim McGinnis, Murray Archer, Dave Shuker, Paul Muldoon, George Woods, (Back row L-R) Mike Trace, Warn Wilkey, Paul Hopkins, Paul Marley, Doug Cairncross, Jim Dicken, Craig Beacock, Bob Colin, Doug McMann, Tim Lyte, John Trace, Greg Giffen, Lorne Ogden, Kelly Best, Bob Coe, and Peter Whitfield



Elmvale Classics Hockey team Reunion: Some Loyal fans consisting of wives, girl friends and loyal supporters





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Jo Knows Nutrition

by Joanne Nijhuis



There's something cozy and comforting about a warm pancake stack, and it's even better when each bite helps you meet your protein goals. Packed with protein-rich cottage cheese, filling fibre and vitamin-rich blueberries, you'll enjoy a delicious breakfast and a way to stay full and satisfied all

morning long. Let's get flipping!

Did You Know?

Not only are they flavourful, fresh or frozen blueberries are excellent for their antioxidant, fibre and vitamin content. During the summer months, fresh blueberries make sense as they are inexpensive and readily available at local farmer's markets and in grocery stores. During the rest of the year, frozen blueberries are easier on the wallet, but still offer a similar nutritional value as they were picked at peak ripeness and flash-frozen to preserve their goodness.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup (250 ml) cottage cheese
- 3 eggs
- ¾ cup (188 ml) rolled oats
- ¼ cup (60 ml) ground flax or chia seeds
- 1 Tablespoon (15 ml) honey or maple syrup
- ½-1 teaspoon (2.5-5 ml) vanilla extract

LIFESTYLE

BLUEBERRY COTTAGE CHEESE PANCAKES

A VITAMIN-RICH & PROTEIN-PACKED START TO THE DAY



- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) baking powder
- 1 teaspoon (5ml) ground cinnamon, optional
- ¼ teaspoon (1.25 ml) salt
- ¾ cup (188 ml) fresh or frozen blueberries
- Oil or butter for cooking
- Serve with maple syrup and fresh or frozen blueberries as a garnish

INSTRUCTIONS

1. In a blender or food processor, blend the cottage cheese, eggs, oats, flax or chia seeds, honey or maple syrup, vanilla, baking powder, cinnamon (if using), and salt until almost smooth.
2. Gently fold in the fresh or frozen blueberries.
3. Heat a non-stick frying pan over medium heat. When hot, lightly oil it.
4. Pour ¼ cup (60 ml) of the batter per pancake into

the hot frying pan. Cook about 2-3 minutes per side.
5. Serve warm with maple syrup and extra blueberries as a garnish.

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

Hey Dads!

Have you ever looked out your window and seen something shocking? It just happened to me. I mostly work from home. This sometimes means interruptions from one or more of my ten kids. Today it was one of my nine-year-old daughters. "Dad, look out your window."

Dad looks out window. The trampoline has been moved. Why would children move a trampoline? While mowing the lawn the other day my son moved it so he could mow the grass which was nearly growing over it. But he was not mowing the lawn today.

The trampoline usually lives in a lovely open spot on the lawn far from surrounding trees. The trampoline had been moved to a spot on the lawn incredibly close to the surrounding trees. It was actually touching a tree. You can probably see where this is going. Who could possibly imagine a reason why children would drag a trampoline ridiculously close to a tree? The answer lies in simple physics.

Newton's third law states that for every action there

is an equal and opposite reaction. If the action is to move the trampoline closer to the tree then the equal and opposite reaction is for a child (most likely a 10-year-old male child) to climb high into said tree. He shall then leap as Superman from a branch of that tree and land on the trampoline conveniently located directly next to the tree. When he has bored himself of this activity he will move on to another. And the trampoline shall move with him.

A little while later I needed a break from my computer screen so I wandered out to the porch for some fresh air. The porch is about four feet off the ground. The railing of the porch is probably another four feet higher than the porch. Just high enough for Sterling, a 13-year-old boy who has become bored of jumping out of trees, to leap over. The trampoline was now pulled up nice and cozy beside the porch. He looked at me as I walked out the sliding door. "Mom said I could do it once. Violet is filming it." Sure enough, wise and mature 16-year-old sister

Violet had the iPad out to film this one-time event. I commented to my wife, "This looks like a trip to the hospital."

"That's why I told him he could only do it once."

Even one-year-old baby Juniper could see this was a bad idea. She pointed to the window and used most of her vocabulary to express, "Uh-oh."

What could possibly go wrong? Sterling ran. Sterling leaped. Sterling landed. And Sterling lived. Another successful day in parenting for the children's mother and I. I do recall jumping off my grandparents' roof when I was around their age so they come about it naturally. Time to get away from this computer and go outside with the kids. I won't be leaping out of any trees but I may drag this aging body up onto the trampoline for a hop or two. Time flies, dad! Make every moment count! Even the somewhat risky ones!

Jason Weening rarely jumps on the trampoline with his 10 kids and one wife. Read more in his new book, "Yes, Dear...I'm Watching Them", on Amazon.



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others.
 Dr. Dick Tibbits in his book "Forgive to Live - How Forgiveness Can Save Your Life" uses this definition of forgiveness: "Forgiveness is the process of reframing one's anger and hurt from

August 11, 2025
 Hello Everyone.
 We may not be able to bring peace to the world, but with God's help, we can achieve peace in our hearts and minds. One of the most important things we can do to maintain peace within us is to forgive

the past, with the goal of recovering one's peace in the present and revitalizing one's purpose and hope for the future."
 Tibbits has "broken forgiveness into three distinct dimensions:
 1. Relational forgiveness focuses on what happens between two people when a conflict arises ... Although reconciliation may be the ultimate goal of relational forgiveness, it won't be possible if one person refuses to offer forgiveness or if the other person refuses to accept forgiveness. However, real forgiveness can happen without reconciliation.
 2. The hurts inflicted on us can turn our world completely upside down. The spiritual dimension of forgiveness can help us get things right side up again; it can help us find personal meaning and purpose regardless of where we are on our spiritual journey.
 3. Personal forgiveness has the most therapeutic and healing value of the three because

it can help us along our journey from hurt to healing, from victim to victor, and from bitter to better."
 If these aren't reasons enough to forgive, Matthew 6:14,15 makes this chilling pronouncement:
 Jesus said, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Heavenly Father forgive your trespasses."
 Forgive to be forgiven; there's no way around it. Becoming a forgiving person lays a foundation of trust and hope and peace in our lives. The world around us may not be experiencing peace, but we can, and with God's help, it can be peace that lasts.
 Everything in the Christian life comes down to this question: Do we trust God's wisdom and love in all things?
 The choice, as always, is ours. Amen.

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Isn't It Worth A Conversation?





Learn More!



By Brian Keyes

Aug. 11, 2025 - Residents of Anten Mills have arrived from many places over the past 150 years. European immigration brought families like the Carsons, Priests, Giffens, Coughlins, Binnies, Muirs and Wilsons across the Atlantic in the 1800s to Simcoe County and eventually to Anten Mills. There must have been a feeling of excitement for these immigrants while I am sure there was a fear of the unknown, sadness of leaving family and friends along with separation anxiety at the thought of never seeing loved ones again. We know that the lure of plentiful land and an abundant supply of lumber attracted many of these early settlers.

What continued to attract new residents as the village grew? Experts might tell you things like small and intimate combined with being unique works. Lots of social interaction that is locally driven serving a mixed community of ages, backgrounds and income makes a perfect recipe. So, I asked some residents and here are their thoughts:

A former neighbour told me they brought their dogs to the Hendrie Tract for exercise and discovered this gem of a village after they got lost, so they bought a house here. Another family loved the private and quiet neighbourhood with no cars parked on the streets. Others said it felt like living at the cottage year round amongst the trees in a spacious yard whilst near ski hills, lakes and even a skating rink. I should mention they told me having their own mailbox was simply grand. One family moved here to be closer to adult children but then decided it would have been the perfect place to have raised their own kids. Small as in a

small village with quiet streets and a small school was what mattered according to this resident. Several folks mentioned the spirit of people always being there for others who are in need. One of my favourites was the comment that the houses are not cookie-cutter which makes them all unique. A final comment was about proximity to Barrie that facilitates work and family.

A family that matches my theme of ‘they came from away’ is the Watson family of Lawrence Ave. Grandparents Peter and Jackie were born in the villages of Brinscall/Withnell in Lancaster County, England. Peter’s dad was a boy from Toronto who served in the Canadian Army during WW2. Peter’s mom served in the Women’s Royal Air Force. They married and had 8 children, all of whom came to Canada except the oldest brother Paul who served in the British Navy. Peter said Canada was seen as a “Land of Opportunity”. Jackie’s family, The Baldwins, had emigrated to Nova Scotia but Jackie

followed her heart to Toronto in 1966 to be with her ‘Pete’ whom she was dating back in England! The Watson’s were married in 1967. Peter was working at Georgian College and in 1969 they moved to Wasaga Beach. A colleague of Peter’s, John Knapp told Peter to look for a house in this quaint little village near where John lived called Anten Mills. They purchased a home in the village at 8 Lawrence in 1972 from builder Morris Cate. Starting in 1972 the family started to grow when son Oliver was born. Paxton followed in 1974.. Luke arrived in 1977 and Jacob in 1980. Luke and Paxton and their families both currently live in Anten Mills which they call the Centre of the Universe. Peter retired in 2000 as Dean of Arts at Georgian. In addition to raising her 4 boys, Jackie has had a catering business, day care plus found time to work in retail at Georgian Mall. This is truly a multi-generational family which is a common theme here in the village. They came from away to Anten Mills because it ‘felt like home’.

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ANTEN MILLS

by Dennis Gannon

Aug. 11, 2025 - After a prolonged dry spell that saw only one inch of rain over a month, we got a deluge last Friday, August 8. In a time period of just over one hour we received 1.46 inches of rain here in Anten Mills. This was confirmed by two rainfall gauges and according to the CoCoRaHS website where rain reports from across North America are submitted, this was the most in all of Ontario for Friday. Reports from elsewhere indicated rainfall amounts up to .6 of an inch and we received almost 3 times that amount. While the rain was welcomed, it did sit on the ground for some time before soaked in as the ground was hard. Again this week there is no significant rain expected other than a possible storm. Rain in the form of a gradual steady one day event is most needed to replenish the earth and water reservoirs.

The unusual hot and dry conditions have resulted in almost the entire province under a fire ban. Recently the Springwater Fire and Emergency Services have had to deal with two large field fires which fortunately did not cause much damage. Living adjacent to a county forest does make us susceptible to a degree and therefore we must exercise caution until the danger passes. If you see smoke or fire in the forest, don't hesitate and call 9-1-1 immediately to report it. At many of the entrances to the forest there are municipal address signs to help report the exact location of the emergency. This would also be a good time to remind everyone that we are protected by truly dedicated volunteer firefighters who need to respond to the fire station to get their equipment before heading to the emergency. Most volunteer firefighters use a green flashing light on their vehicles to indicate that they are on an emergency call. If you see a green flashing light, please yield to them so that they can get to the hall quickly and safely.

Weather has played a terrible blow to the 50th anniversary garden at the community centre.

Unfortunately many of the beautiful perennials have suffered the same drought damage without regular watering. Our community thanks goes out to the volunteers who have spent time weeding and cleaning up the garden, it is greatly appreciated. A special thanks go out to Andy and Judy who have uprighted the garden memorial stone so that it is more visible.

This past Wednesday night the second movie under the pavilion was held. A good mixture of families with children enjoyed the movie along with the treats that were given out. Thanks to the Chapman family for their support in making this happen.

Work is continuing along Wilson Dr and will continue for another few weeks. Concrete curbs have been installed going down the hill from Binnie Dr with the hope that water can be properly redirected into the ditch. It would also appear that the hill itself will be slightly refigured which is welcomed. Existing pavement has been removed and new paving will take place. For those who have lived in the village for many years, driving on the gravel is like old times when there was no hardtop along Wilson.

During the past week the Anten Mills Community Recreation Association was notified by township staff that a majority of the refurbishment of the community centre was completed. In anticipation of the Celebrating 150 Years on Saturday, September 13, the official "Grand Reopening" of the hall will occur at that time. For those who attended school during the time it was functioning, hopefully some of the work done will bring back memories from days past.

Organizing the Celebrating 150 Years has been a pleasure for the team of volunteers who are working on the day. For almost one year the group has been meeting monthly and planning an event that will be fun and meaningful as well. The group now needs your assistance. Volunteers are required

for the day before and during the day. Tasks include parking control, setup and tear down, helping at the children's activities, registration, games and goodie handout. Most of these tasks can earn credit for volunteer hours for students and with many hands they can be accomplished in short order. Anten Mills events have always had great volunteer assistance and the committee is hoping that you will consider an hour or two of your time to help Anten Mills Celebrating 150 Years. To volunteer or find out more about the opportunities please contact the committee by emailing antenmills150@gmail.com.

Doors Open is an annual event that allows the public the opportunity to see inside heritage buildings normally not seen. This year Springwater Township is showcasing the Hillsdale Lock-up. The old jail, located at 4552 Penetanguishene Road in Hillsdale will be open for the public to see on Saturday, September 13 from 10AM to 4PM. Check out more details on the Township of Springwater website and social media channels.

Knotty Knitters are gearing up for another session starting September 16. This active group is seeking donations of wool for their varied projects. If you have any wool that you would like to donate please reach out to Joan at sweetgannon@gmail.com.

Blueberry season is almost over for the year. Clarke's expect that the end of blueberry picking will be this week. There are lots of fresh vegetables available at the stand out at the road where you can pick what you like and even pay by e-transfer. Fresh sweet corn is now ready at the stand also and for larger orders you can call them or go up to the house. Help support our local farm economy and stop by.

That's it for this week. 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



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Bearbells By Leslie Noonan

August 9, 2025
While I love hiking, I decided it was time to add to my outdoor repertoire. Water sports sound like the perfect idea with the incessant heat we have been having. I have

mentioned before about my bad knee, and I truly thought that kayaking was the answer, as you don't need your knees to kayak right?! Wrong, as I was about to learn.

We chose beginner kayaks, which have a wider base to be more stable on the water. So far so good. I asked friends about the best way to get into the craft and liked the one idea of just straddling it and sitting down. Easy peasy! We took the kayaks to the local river that has a public boat ramp, and a calm river flowing out to the Georgian Bay. I put the front end of the kayak in the water and walked with legs on either side. Well, that extra wide body on the kayak was a little too wide for me to straddle, and I had to abandon that idea. No problem, I will just step into it from the side. Hmm, which leg first, the good leg or the bad one? Let's try the good leg first. Step into the kayak, check. Bend the bad leg to start to sit, and here I am sitting not in the kayak but in the water. Right, that bad leg doesn't bend, so when I went to sit that darn leg went up in the air instead of into the boat, and over I went. Ok, no problem, bad leg first it is. I gingerly approached the kayak that I was now thinking of being my nemesis, and I am sure I heard it chortling at my failures. Ok, ok, here we go, bad leg into the kayak, slide it down and sit...in the warm water. The bad leg could not hold my weight as I attempted to get my other leg in and gave out. Sigh, this might be more of a process than I was expecting.

I should mention that this area we are in is very popular. People walk their dogs, ride their bikes and, just above us, is the highway into Midland. Cars driving by with people craning their necks to watch my humiliation. By now I was wet, muddy and absolutely determined to get in this darn watercraft by any means possible. I stared long and hard at that bright orange kayak, before tentatively approaching it like I would a wild animal. A small and gentle wave nudged the boat, and I jumped back sure that the kayak was a bucking bronco ready to fling me back into that water. Slowly, oh so slowly, I reached out to touch its plastic hull to steady it, then placed my paddle across it to provide more stability. Oh so gently I



put my bad leg back in, slowly, slowly starting to lower my self by using that paddle to prevent me from abruptly falling. Ok here we go, good leg in and finally, I am sitting in the kayak instead of the river. I breathed a sigh of relief and pushed myself away from the shore into the gentle current.

The next hour was perfect, as we learned how to maneuver our kayaks. The water was dark and still, green water lily pads dotting the river along with duck weed. Closer to the shore tall reeds hid mallard ducks, while Canada geese paddled through the deeper waters. Partially submerged logs provided sunning spots for large numbers of painted turtles, who were unconcerned with our approach. So much so that when I attempted to take a picture of them, my kayak banged into the log and knocked all the sunbathing turtles into the water. Oops. A blue and white kingfisher darted over head, before diving into the river in the search for small fish while tiny marsh wrens warbled their calls from the tops of cattails. The stillness was incredible peaceful and soul soothing, even though the sun beat down relentlessly, making me thankful for my very unfashionable hat. After an hour of paddling, we headed back to the boat launch. I stared with trepidation at the shore, as I had come to the realization that I now had to get back out of the kayak. Sigh, I will leave it up to your imagination as to how this went, only to say that I was very wet once again.



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POLITICS

Residents blame closed-door talks for rise in annexation misinformation

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Aug 12, 2025

For people who believe in the established principles of democracy and transparency, they say the process being used to resolve Barrie’s proposed boundary expansion is not the model to follow.

According to them, the process currently in place is undemocratic, secretive and confusing, while also leading to the spread of misinformation.

Oro-Medonte resident Jane Voorheis, spokesperson for the anti-annexation group Friends of the Future, has been a vocal opponent of behind-closed-doors meetings since Day 1.

Her criticism of the process escalated in June 2024, about eight months after Barrie Mayor Alex Nuttall made his presentation on Nov. 6, 2023 to the province’s standing committee on heritage, infrastructure and cultural policy, when the Office of the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator (OPLDF) announced it would facilitate discussions between the City of Barrie, the Township of Oro-Medonte, the Township of Springwater and the County of Simcoe.

Under the direction of the OPLDF, all of the municipalities involved were under a gag order — none of them were allowed to comment on the proceedings. Any public comments or statements would be vetted, approved by all parties, and delivered by the facilitator.

That didn’t sit well with Friends of the Future. “Friends of the Future believes that public participation in meetings about the proposed annexation is essential for maintaining trust,” Voorheis said at the time. “Greater transparency and collaboration with municipal leaders will strengthen democracy and improve negotiations.

“Open meetings would enhance accountability and keep residents informed,” she added.

Bryen Wakeman, an Oro-Medonte resident for 40 years, was shoulder to shoulder with Voorheis. He’s not in favour of Barrie’s proposal or private meetings on such important issues. He thinks closed-door meetings are a problem.

“They should be open. People should be able to see and hear what’s being discussed,” he said. “There’s a lot being demanded of the population as a whole, yet we’re not involved in those discussions.

“There’s very little input from the people who are most affected,” Wakeman added.

Jack Hanna, a former Springwater councillor who served a dozen years on township council, agreed, noting closed-door meetings lead to misinformation, speculation and rumours.

As a veteran of municipal politics, Hanna knows items discussed in closed sessions can’t be discussed in public, which leaves the general public guessing and making assumptions that may or may not be accurate.

“Do away with the closed meetings and I don’t think you’ll have anybody complaining,” he said during a recent interview.

“That’s what confuses people — the reports and that kind of thing that you and I aren’t seeing,” Hanna added. “That’s what bothers me.”

He said the reports and conversations the public doesn’t see or hear may contain the answers to questions they have, but they’ll never know because they’re not public.

Hanna pointed to a Barrie council meeting that was held Dec. 11, 2024. During that meeting, Barrie’s mayor talked about the boundary expansion proposal. His presentation included a map with five parcels of land highlighted, numbered one through five.

Parcel one was in Oro-Medonte.
Parcel two was Little Lake.
Parcel three was on Bayfield Street, just north of

the city limits, where two proposed developments, one by Paul Sadlon and the other by the Remington Group, are located.

Parcel four’s eastern boundary started at the western boundary of parcel three and ran along the Barrie-Springwater boundary to Miller Drive.

Parcel five goes from Miller Drive west to just before Bradford Greenhouses in the southern section. It goes due north from there to where Edgemoor Drive would be extended in Springwater and then west to George Johnston Road. The northern border of this parcel would run from the point where Miller Drive intersects with the current Springwater border.

During his presentation, Nuttall said Barrie didn’t propose parcels three, four or five.

“Number three was actually proposed by, uh, not by us,” he said. “If you want to know who it’s proposed by, Springwater Township will either have to release the minutes or you can ask them.

“Number four was asked by Springwater, at a previous meeting when we made the presentation, to be removed before we made the presentation because they felt it would be very offensive to some members of council there,” the mayor added. “And number five was brought forward by, again, not us.”

He reiterated that folks would have to ask Springwater why it was included.

“He (Nuttall) said this was closed-session information, but he came out and he shared it with us,” Hanna said. “He didn’t name anybody, but my question is who added those parcels if it wasn’t Barrie?”

Hanna said it’s a legitimate concern, but one that appears to have been answered the same night during Springwater’s council meeting.

However, only someone who watched both would be able to connect the dots.

Jeff Schmidt, Springwater’s chief administrative officer at the time, addressed the study area question.

“Through discussions tonight, you see what the City of Barrie did propose to Springwater back in September of last year,” he told council. “Those are the lands that were provided and presented to members of council.

“As for other mapping, yes, we’re familiar that there are other reiterations of that map that were submitted by the City of Barrie to the minister of municipal affairs back in December of last year as part of their Official Plan amendment,” Schmidt added.

Schmidt told council those parcels of land were not presented to Springwater council, but staff are familiar with them.

“They don’t form part of tonight’s presentation,” the CAO said. “That said, again, I think we need to make sure that everybody’s aware and it’s clarified, that although those lands were lands that Barrie has identified, should council agree and all parties agree to move to the next stage, additional lands will likely be identified through that process and will be brought forward for council consideration as to how you would like to proceed.

“We just need to qualify the study area includes the borders between Barrie/Springwater and Barrie/Oro-Medonte. It’s not just specific to what Barrie has presented or previously presented to council,” Schmidt added. “It’s the study area and it includes the full boundary between Barrie/Oro-Medonte and Barrie/Springwater.”

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
13 Queen St. W, Elmvale , 705-322-1741

Probus Club of Simcoe North
Meetings monthly 2nd Thurs. 10 a.m
For women & men in retirement or semi-retirement.
Penetang Legion, 2 Poyntz St.
Mary Grise 705-526-6349
marygrise0@gmail.com

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

Georgian Shores Seniors Club
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
1st: Movie and Lunch, 12 noon - 3:30 pm
2nd & 4th: Tiny Stitchers, 9:00 - 3:00 pm
3rd: Book Club, 1:30-3:30 pm

Let's Do Lunch \$5:
Elmvale Presbyterian Church

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

North Simcoe Bridge and Games Club
Brooklea Golf and Country Club
Mon. 12:45pm: Duplicate Bridge,
Tues 6:45pm: Social Bridge, Wed., 12:45pm Duplicate Bridge, Thur. 12:45pm Duplicate Bridge, Fri. 12pm: Bid Euchre. Contact Gail Chapman @ 705-361-9222 or northsimcoebridge@gmail.com.

Ganaraka Hiking Club-Wasaga Beach
Wed hikes 09:15-09:30am at various locations, year round. Also a casual hike, same time. Winter can be snowshoes. Weekly, hikes Sunday 1:30pm from a park near 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 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

All U Can Eat BBQ & Corn
August 30, 2025 11:30-1:30pm
Elmvale Presbyterian Church, 22 Queen St. E
\$12, kids 8 & under \$6

MCC Presents: Rogers, Richie & Robinson
Saturday, September 7 at 3:00 PM
Join The Undercovers as they celebrate the legendary music of Kenny Rogers, Lionel Richie, and Smokey Robinson. Enjoy timeless hits like “The Gambler,” “Hello,” and “Cruisin” reimagined with fresh arrangements and captivating stories that reveal how these icons inspired one another.

Tour and Talk: Marguerite Larmand
Aug 23 at 1:00 PM
Discover the creative process behind Marguerite Larmand’s work as she explores her use of diverse materials—some sourced, some processed by hand. Using the cloaks featured in her exhibition, Marguerite will share insights into her passion for natural materials and the stories they carry.

MCC Presents: Rogers, Richie & Robinson
Saturday, September 7 at 3:00 PM
Join The Undercovers as they celebrate the legendary music of Kenny Rogers, Lionel Richie, and Smokey Robinson. Enjoy timeless hits like “The Gambler,” “Hello,” and “Cruisin” reimagined with fresh arrangements and captivating stories that reveal how these icons inspired one another.

Stonebridge Wasaga Beach Blues Festival
Sept. 12 - 14, 2025 from 5-8pm
Stonebridge Town Centre, Wasaga Beach
3 day outdoor music festival to 2 main stages with 20 bands & Vendors Village

Cornhole for Hospice!
Sept. 13, 2025 12-4pm
Tay Rink - 560 Calvert St, Port McNicoll
No experience needed! A Hospice Huronia fundraiser. www.hospicehuronia.ca

Music & Charcuterie
Sept. 20, 2025 from 4-6pm
Five Oaks Retreat Centre, 1 Bethel Rd, Paris
Enjoy new Canadian music and a fully catered charcuterie reception!

8th Annual Bridget’s Run
Oct. 18, 2025 09:00 to 12 pm
Centennial Beach Park, Barrie
A community celebration of love for those we have lost in pregnancy or infancy.
Visit bridgetsbunnies.ca/bridgetsrn to register or volunteer and learn more

EVENTS

Toss for a Cause: Hospice Huronia’s First Cornhole Tournament



By JoAnn Warren, Hospice, Aug. 11, 2025
What combines fun, laughs and friendly competition? Cornhole! This game, the tossing of bean bags towards a box with a hole is something people of all ages enjoy ... at home, at the cottage, sometimes even at work, with friends and family.

Hospice Huronia invites YOU to come out on Saturday, September 13th for an afternoon of fun and friendly competition and help raise funds for your hospice home – Tomkins House and the services provided for end-of-life care, home visiting, caregiver respite and bereavement support. No experience is needed!

“Cornhole for Hospice” is being held at the covered Tay Rink at Port McNicoll on Saturday, September 13th. It starts at 1 pm with check-in and practice beginning at 11:30 am. Pre-registration is required and can be done with a phone call (705-549-1034) or a few simple clicks on their website: www.hospicehuronia.ca. A team of 2 people is required for registration (\$130/team) and spectators are more than welcome to just show up and cheer people on. More information is available at www.hospicehuronia.ca/events

“With extra activities to entertain our participants and spectators, prizes and music, we know that people are going to have a great time. We hope to see some of the families we’ve touched in the last 5 years since opening the doors of Tomkins House and meet a lot of new people too!” says Debbie Kesheshian, Executive Director of Hospice Huronia. “It is a fun way to raise part of the 50% of funds needed to provide the essential programs we offer at no cost to the individuals or families.”

Hospice Huronia has been offering in-home volunteer hospice visiting, caregiver respite and bereavement support for over 30 years and opened Tomkins House in April of 2020 to provide end-of-life care to individuals and support for their families. They recently opened a 6th bed to meet the growing need for end-of-life care in North Simcoe. All services and programs are free to the individuals and families needing them thanks to generous donors, community support and fundraisers.

BACKSTAGE SCOOP by Linda Belcourt

King’s Wharf: Grease
This play was very well done. The music, the laughter and the costumes were all fabulous. It felt like I knew the characters very well but the end of the production. It was one of best performances I have seen here.

The audience was dancing along by the end of the show. Truly an outstanding out show.

AJ Bridel was the co-star playing sweet Sandy and during intermission I met her parents. Her mother was telling me that AJ was singing Momma Mia by age three and her talents were recognized by many people. Interesting that her mother at a young age saw grease 6 times because she loved it so much and now her daughter is the star of the show.

“A-wop-bop-a-loo-bop A-wop-bam-boom!”, and two thumbs up for this one. I urge you to see this.



Shown above during the opening night, August 8th, 2025. L-R: Family friend, Kory Fulton, AJ Bridel, Mrs and Mr Bridel.

Music for the Marsh Returns to Wye Marsh with a Celebration of Music, Conservation, and Community Spirit!

The Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre is excited to welcome the return of Music for the Marsh on Saturday, September 13, a day filled with live music, family fun, and meaningful conservation impact. The evening wraps up with an open-air concert from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM, featuring performances by Madison Mueller, Krista Blondin & Dave Bayley, and Tom Barlow & Kristen Prince. Set against the stunning backdrop of the wetlands at sunset, this adult-focused concert offers a unique and meaningful way to support conservation. Light food and refreshments will be available, and guests can take part in a raffle with prizes in support of the Wye Marsh’s ongoing efforts.

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A photograph of a person wearing a blue shirt and a wide-brimmed hat, working in a garden with various plants and flowers.

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A dark, atmospheric photograph of the interior of a tavern, showing wooden beams and a dimly lit space.

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Auction Closes: September 4th at 8pm Over 850+ auction items!
- Sunset Summer Multi Consignor Auction - Guelph (Aug. 17 - 21)
- Banbury-Campbell Moving Auction - Oro-Medonte (Aug 17 - 21)

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Saturday 9:00am until noon

Simcoe County Archives
re-opens to public after undergoing renovations

By Office of County of Simcoe
Midhurst/August 11, 2025 – The Simcoe County Archives has officially reopened to the public after an eight-month closure to accommodate significant on-site renovations. Originally constructed in two phases in 1979 and 1992, the facility had seen minimal structural changes until now, making these upgrades essential to modernizing operations and enhancing public service.

- Key improvements include:
- **Revitalized Reading Room:** Designed to be more welcoming and accessible, the updated space now features a small multi-purpose room and a self-serve reference library and microfilm area. These changes will streamline service delivery and improve the research experience.
 - **Enhanced Staff Workspace:** The staff area has been expanded and tailored to support the efficient processing of archival records. Additional shelving in the Receiving Room will further expedite record handling.
 - **New Digitization Area:** A dedicated space has been created for scanning and digitizing archival materials, supporting long-term preservation and improved access.
 - **Sustainable Flooring:** Eco-friendly cork and marmoleum flooring have been installed throughout the facility, aligning with the County's commitment to sustainability.

These renovations not only improve the physical infrastructure but also enhance workflow efficiency, enabling staff to make more archival material readily available to researchers.

The Simcoe County Archives houses municipal records from the County of Simcoe, all 16 lower-tier municipalities, and the City of Barrie, along with documents from over 30 historic townships, towns, and villages. The archival holdings take up 3.5 kilometres of shelving.

Among the treasures preserved are the first known butter tart recipe published in a cookbook (1900), one of the earliest photographs of a Canadian women's hockey team (1896), documentation of local involvement in the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837, newspapers dating back to 1847, and culturally significant collections such as the James R. Gowan Papers.

For details booking in-person appointments, making donations and more, please visit <https://simcoe.ca/explore/simcoe-county-archives/>.

About the County of Simcoe
County of Simcoe is composed of 16 member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at simcoe.ca.



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Upcoming clothing drive organizer wears her heart on her sleeve

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Jul 31, 2025

Area residents wanting to make a difference have a month to gather clothes for a local donation drive that's returning after a successful debut last year.

The 'New to You 2.0' clothing donation drive will be happening once again from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday August 23 at St. Paul's United Church in Midland, according to organizer Tori St. Amant.

Donations will be accepted until Wednesday August 20, with an emphasis toward men's and women's gently used clothing and shoes, new health and hygiene products and large sized reusable bags for attendees to fill.

While the origin of the drive began when St. Amant was in high school to collect for local youth homeless shelter Youth Haven, the project the project started last year when she aimed for a larger clothing donation drive in the downtown church.

"I wasn't thinking anybody was really going to come," said St. Amant on the 2024 event. "Maybe 10 or 20 people trickling in throughout the day just as they walk by up on King Street in Midland. But I opened the doors at 10:30 and there were people waiting out there."

St. Amant said that last year, "we probably had 50 to 100 people come through throughout the day, coming from all walks of life," with donations of hundreds of bags of clothing, to which the excess were further donated to an unnamed local organization.

"Just the gratitude of everyone coming up, saying: 'thank you so much for this; you're so sweet; I really needed this; you have no idea how much it helped; when are you doing this again?' The reaction of everyone who did participate was really heartwarming."

This time around, St. Amant told MidlandToday that the intent would remain the same: welcoming those who struggle to make ends meet; people wanting to refresh their wardrobes; and to accept pre-laundered clothing and laundry-supply donations from those looking to clean their closets.

"We have the same goals: spreading kindness, helping those in need, and trying to make a positive difference in people's lives," said St. Amant.

Previous participants included Access Storage who had taken in donations within their storage space, and St. Amant stated they were returning for the same role again this year. As well as host venue St. Paul's United Church, St. Amant confirmed that Triple H Contracting would be donating use of a trailer for transportation of the donations.

Other partnerships were remaining to be confirmed, but St. Amant stated that refreshments last year from Tim Hortons and Shoppers Drug Mart had been graciously welcomed by volunteers as well as attendees.

"There were a few unhoused people that came up to us and said they hadn't eaten in awhile, so that's who we were giving the donuts, muffins, and



coffee to," said St. Amant.

For volunteers, St. Amant stated that the not-for-profit would be a great opportunity for high school students looking to acquire hours while contributing back to the community.

"I'm open to offering this, because it is a lot of work lugging it down and setting it up. That's a great opportunity for high school students... or even someone who's wanting to help out but is maybe unable to actually donate physical items – they can maybe donate some of their time."

Another improvement upon the previous year involved a re-examination of how change rooms operated during the donation event, with St. Amant noting: "We're looking to make that a better system."

St. Amant added that the summer event would likely take a pause for the next two years as she attended schooling through a Master's program of physical therapy in Kingston. "However, after that I would absolutely love to make this an annual thing, if I can."

For those interested in donation drop off information, or to participate through partnership or volunteer efforts, St. Amant said she could be reached through her Facebook account or by email.


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TRENDELL, Dan

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Dan Trendell on June 28, 2025, at the age of 66.

Born in Galt, Ontario on April 25, 1959, Dan was the beloved son of the late Marilyn and Hugh Trendell. Dan was a devoted husband, proud father and a friend to many. He shared 38 wonderful years of marriage with his wife, Christine. Together, they raised two children, Melissa (Ryan) and Matthew (Disa), who were the pride and joy of his life.

Dan is survived by his brother, Dave and his sister Teri (Rich). He was also a brother-in-law, uncle and great-uncle to a large and loving extended family, with 32 nieces and nephews across generations who will remember him with affection and gratitude for his warmth, wit and generous spirit.

Dan dedicated 36 years of service to Waypoint, retiring in 2015. Dan had a wide range of interests that brought him joy and forged lasting friendships. He was an avid ham radio enthusiast, found great excitement in remote control aviation, and his winters were often spent on the trails as a passionate snowmobiler. Dan also had a lifelong love of motorsports and never missed a chance to talk engines or catch a race.

A celebration of life will be held outdoors on Saturday, September 13, 2025 between 1:00 and 3:00pm, 360 Marshall Road, Midland.



BRADY, William Albert

Passed away peacefully at the Collingwood General and Marine Hospital on Saturday, August 2, 2025. William Brady of Wasaga Beach in his 91st year.

Beloved husband of the late Katherine Brady. Loving father of the late Brian and Richard Brady. Cherished Grandpa of Matthew Brady of Elmvale, Melissa (Jamie) Corbett of Crossland, and Dallas (Levi) MacLeod of Nova Scotia. Proud Great-Grandpa of Aiden Gonsalves (Rachel), Avaya Gonsalves, Mason Corbett, Kiera Corbett, and Everson MacLeod. Brother of Marie (Doug) Hutchinson, Jim (Judy) Brady, and the late Russell Brady. Bill be dearly missed by his dog Petey.

A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale from 2-4 and 6-8 pm on Thursday, August 7, 2025.

If desired, memorial donations may be made to the OSPCA.

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

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OBITUARIES



ABRAM, Peter
March 14, 1928 – July 27, 2025

Peter Abram passed away peacefully on Sunday, July 27, 2025, at his home at Chartwell Allendale Station in Barrie. He was

in his 98th year.

He was born on March 14, 1928, in Toronto and was predeceased by his parents, Earnest and Elsie Abram.

Pete worked for Bell Canada (Newmarket and Midland) for 35 years. He, along with his first wife, Betty, were founding members of the Huronia Handgun Club. He was a Canadian champion marksman for many years, competed in the Olympic trials in 1968 and participated in the PanAm Games. He was a Bell Pioneer, a brother of the Tuscan Lodge AF and AM No 99 GRC, Newmarket, and was a partner in establishing, HAPAMP, a utility contract company, that is still in operation in Elmvalle, ON. He spent many years with the Midland Minor Hockey organization as a team manager and, most notable, as a trainer.

He loved the outdoors, loved to camp and loved to travel. He was an avid garage saler and his greatest satisfaction came from knowing he'd found a great deal. Pete had a huge heart and a terrific sense of humour.

Pete was predeceased by his first wife of 33 years, Betty (Topper), and is survived by his current wife of 38 years, Irma (Drummond). He will be lovingly remembered by his children, Mike (Leanne), Jane (David), Pat (Jennifer) and his step-son, Wayne Drummond, as well as 9 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

A special thank you is extended to the staff at Allendale Station, in particular those in Assisted Living. The care that was provided to dad/Peter over the last 3 years was greatly appreciated.

Online memories and condolences may be shared with the family at www.peacefultransition.ca



GRAHAM, Colleen June
A beautiful soul has left this world...

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Colleen June Graham (nee Blair) on July 30, 2025, aged 76. Mom was born on June 27, 1949 in Midland, Ontario. She grew up on a farm in Tay Township and from a young age she had a love of animals and developed a deep respect and understanding of Mother Nature.

After she got married, Colleen and Rod built a home and raised a family just down the road from where she grew up.

She cherished country living and was in her glory when she was in her gardens. The harvest would be turned into an impressive stock of preserved vegetables and fruit.

Mom always had a beautiful way with words. She would spend countless hours writing poems, short stories or extensive entries in her diary.

So many words can describe Mom. She was supportive, generous and kind beyond measure. She was truthful and sincere. She held honesty to the highest regard.

The very first word that comes to mind when I think of Mom is LOVE. The word love was very meaningful to her. She never wanted to hear it devalued. She would say, "You don't love pizza, you really like it. You love your family".

Her commitment to her family was unwavering. She always had our backs.

She will be deeply missed by her devoted husband Rod of 55 years, her three loving children, April (Mark), Shaun (Sula) and Michael (Denise), her four grandchildren Anastasia, Dean, Olive and Gavin, her brother John (Bev) and her sister Kay (Greg), as well as her nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She is predeceased by her parents, Tom and Vera Blair and her sister Anne (Allen).

Please join us for a Celebration of Life on Saturday, August 23rd from 1-4 pm. It will be held at 1973 Wood Road, Wyebridge ON.

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



By GBGH, July 29, 2025

On July 12, 2025, the Kraftscik Family hosted a summer party in support of cancer fighters and those who fight with them, raising \$35,075 to be split equally between the Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) and the Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre (GBCSC). Party guests Carol Cruden, Monika Hopkins and Jennifer Schnier show off their event t-shirts alongside host Nicole Kraftscik (third from left).

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SENIOR TINY TIMES



Wyevale Community News

By Karen Moreau

THROWBACK THURSDAY

Photos and Editorial courtesy of Admin: Ric Archer, Facebook Group, You might be from Elmvale...If you...



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Submitted by Ontario Provincial Police

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