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Canadian Made - and Elmvale Approved, Eh!

Two perfect fall days brought out thousands of smiling faces, proud traditions, and enough back bacon to feed a small village



Photos: Elmvale Fall Fair 2025; R-L Dairy Club, Truck Pull and Horse show, Graham Scott Fleming (centre). Photos courtesy of Douglas van Wolde



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OPINION

2025 Mary Bertram Memorial Baby Show
at 163rd Elmvale Fall Fair

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.

At a recent Council meeting, Mr. Tim Leitch stated that no environmental assessment was required for the new Administration Centre project, claiming that a brief, voluntary report by Azimuth Environmental from nearly a year ago was sufficient. This assertion is deeply troubling.

Significant activities have already occurred — including the clear-cutting of a large, older-growth forest on the 9th Concession during owl breeding season, and the construction of a road adjacent to a public well on the same public land — without evidence of any environmental assessment or public consultation.

As required under the Environmental Assessment Act (EAA) and enforced by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP), Tiny Township has a legal duty to conduct meaningful consultation with Indigenous communities before undertaking projects on public land. This duty includes:

- Notifying affected First Nation and Métis leadership;
- Providing access to project documentation;
- Offering opportunities for input through public meetings; and
- Maintaining a record of consultation as part of the assessment process.

Given the apparent lack of compliance with these obligations, and the potential environmental and cultural impacts involved, I formally request that this project be immediately paused pending completion of a proper environmental assessment and full consultation in accordance with provincial law.

Paul D. Bell, Ph.D., Forest Entomologist



By Jane Lees, Oct. 15, 2025

The "Mary Bertram Memorial Baby Show" was once again a success at the Elmvale Fall Fair, held Friday, October 10th. There was a great turnout with 34 babies registered in the show, amongst the 3 classes.

In the first class, 0-6 months, the winners were (1) Scarlett Guarino, 5 months, Tiny (2) Lucas Gerrior, 5 months, Orillia (3) Sage King, 3 months, Midland.

In the second class, 6-12 months, the winners were (1) Josephine Truax, 9 months, Elmvale (2) Ares Palmer, 12 months, Midland (3) Ren Tinney, 9 months, Elmvale.

In the third class, 12-18 months, the winners were (1) R.J. Doan, 13 months, Elmvale (2) Everley

RETRACTION from Sep. 25, 20205 edition



Correct photo is shown above.

Queen for a day was Peggy Waples of Elmvale, centre, flanked by her princesses Peggy Robertshaw, Waverley, left, and Joy Ingleton of Elmvale R.R., right. Miss Waples queen was named "modern queen" for the Elmvale centennial fair this week.

NS Springwater News regrets this error.

Daykin, 15 months, Elmvale (3) Avery Langman, 13 months, Elmvale.

The prize for the youngest baby boy went to Owen Ritchie, 2 months, of Elmvale, and the youngest baby girl Lennon Playne, 13 days of Elmvale. We had no multiple births this year.

The Sweepstakes winner of the "Mary Bertram Memorial" plaque was Scarlett Guarino, daughter of Becca Bonney & Victor Guarino of Tiny, On.

A big thank you goes out to the moms/dads, friends & relatives that entered babies in the show. Without them, the show would not happen.

A very Special Thank you goes out to the following Business' and individuals that donated gifts for the Show: Elm Flower Shoppe, Yonge St. S., Elmvale, Scotiabank, Barrie Financial Centre, 44 Collier St., Barrie, Essentials Salon, 19 Queen St. W., Elmvale, TD/Canada Trust, Pam Kutasienski, Wasaga Beach, Fleming Electric, Elmvale, Century Masonry, Elmvale, Scotland Tire & Auto, Barrie, Foodland, Yonge St. N., Elmvale, Elan Pizza, Hillsdale, Jim & Jacquie Spence, Elmvale, Superior Facility Services, Yonge St. S., Elmvale, Butler's Pantry, Elmvale, McLaren Equipment, Horseshoe Valley Rd. & Highway 27, Phelpston, Tizz' Me Designs, Elmvale, Edgecombe Construction, Elmvale, Klink's A Team Mechanical, Elmvale, The Old Corner Store, Hillsdale, Norwex ~ Nancy Adams-Lefave, Wyebridge, Four Corner Tea Room, Elmvale, Motivationz Fitness, Elmvale, Pharmasave, Elmvale and The Flos Agricultural Society, Elmvale.

THE SCOOP By Linda Belcourt, Editor

My opinion! There is a real issue happening in our municipal politics. Bullying and harassment is at an all time high. I sure experienced it during the last election. Soap box theatrics over integrity at the Township of Springwater meetings. This isn't an occasional occurrence; it happens at most meetings. It's happening at Township of Tiny, with aggressive protesters and claims of violence against Mayor Evans, but no charges were laid. There are slanderous comments being hurled in chambers of Township of Tiny, Town of Midland and Township of Springwater. It's sad and embarrassing.

Everyone deserves to have their voice heard—that's the heart of democracy. But when discussions turn into death threats or slander, we've lost sight of what democracy truly means.

The successful protest against Site 41 serves as a model example. Mahatma Gandhi: "In a gentle way, you can shake the world." The protesters of this fight were gentle and had the most powerful results. A whisper commands attention; a shout demands it. **Speak up. Stand firm. But never tear down others with slander or threats - that's not democracy, that's decay.**

NORTH SIMCOE
SPRINGWATER NEWS
INFO@SPRINGWATERNEWS.CA
705.790.1993
SPRINGWATERNEWS.CA
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**TRUCK
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The winner of the 2025 Elmvale District Lions Club Truck Draw is Bruce Reissner from Chatham, ON. (ticket #4444).

Bruce has won a 2025 Ford Maverick XLT AWD Supercrew.

The consolation prize winners are:

- \$500 – George Rex from Tiny, ON. (ticket #1579)
- \$300 – Ken Prentice from Beeton, ON. (ticket #4026)
- \$200 – Derek Pearson from Kanata, ON. (ticket #3608)

#ElmvaleLions #ElmvaleLionsClub
#lionsclub #truckdraw

163rd Elmvale Fall Fair - the Canadian Made Celebration of Community and Tradition



North Simcoe Springwater News, in parade, "Read all about it."

By Tanya King, Flos Agricultural President
Oct. 24, 2025

As the colourful leaves of October settled across Springwater Township, the village of Elmvale came alive once again for our 163rd Elmvale Fall Fair, held Friday, October 10, and Saturday, October 11. This beloved tradition hosted by the Flos Agricultural Society is more than just an event; it's a homecoming for many who return to reconnect, reminisce and celebrate the harvest season with family, friends and neighbours.

This year's theme, Canadian Made, was proudly on display throughout the fairgrounds, from handcrafted exhibits to the powerful symbolism in our parades and showcases.

Friday kicked off with the ever energetic school parade, where over 2000 students march thru the streets of Elmvale, dressed in spirited costumes and cheering with enthusiasm. Elmvale District High School's house teams brought fierce float building and marching competitions, showing off creativity, school pride and teamwork in full force.

On Saturday, the monster parade took over, featuring many vibrant floats, and two energetic bands, drawing smiles and applause from parade goers of all ages lining the street.

The senior and junior fair entries filled the arena and curling club with the scent of fresh baking, the beauty of handpicked flowers, the craftsmanship of many handmade items, and the rich colours of homegrown produce and preserves. Entries from all ages and skill levels demonstrated the pride and tradition that makes our fair so unique.

On Friday, 4-H clubs showcased their hard work with impressive displays of livestock and grains. The pony show and sheep show were both well attended, giving visitors the chance to learn and appreciate the dedication behind raising and showing animals.

Saturday schedule brought the thunder of the heavy horse show in the morning, followed by the dairy and beef shows continuing our proud agricultural legacy. The fairgrounds showcased a small animal display that offered families an up and close opportunity to interact with animals of all shapes and sizes.

A crowd favourite the baby show, warmed hearts as our communities youngest members took the stage. Always a treasured event, it reminded us that the future of the fair and our community is bright.

Our indoor and outdoor vendor areas were bustling all weekend, offering everything from local crafts and goods to agricultural equipment and services. The food vendors kept us well-fed with delicious offerings, satisfying every craving with their tempting menus.

The midway was full of life, laughter and excitement, as families enjoyed the rides, games and treats that make the fair a special place for kids and kids at heart.

Then there was the entertainment that brought us together; the weekends entertainment lineup was a true highlight, showcasing, incredible local talent. Headlining the stage was our own hometown star, Graham Scott Fleming, joined by performances from Gwyneth Covey, the HCES and EDHS choirs and bands, Ron Whitman, the Northern Jewels Cloggers and the ever enchanting magician Gary Austin, none



Marlene Tinney opening the fair (40 years as secretary and treasurer)

of whom disappointed!

Friday night's antique tractor pull and Saturday's modified truck and tractor pull brought roaring engines and cheering crowds, showing off the raw power and skill involved in these crowd favourite events.

We were also proud to introduce our new ambassadors who represent the fair for 2025-2026: Eliza, Lucy, Max, Peyton and Lexxy a group of amazing young leaders who embody the spirit and future of our community.

Thank you to our volunteers and sponsors. The 163rd Elmvale Fall Fair wouldn't be possible without the tireless dedication of our directors, committee members and countless volunteers who gave their time and energy, not only during the fair, but in the many weeks of preparation and post event cleanup.

We also extend our deepest appreciation to our financial sponsors, whose generous contributions help us continue to offer a fair that grows in quality and impact each year. Your support allows us to keep traditions alive while creating new memories for generations to come.

To everyone who marched, performed, exhibited, pulled, attended or simply cheered us on thank you. Your support celebrates not just our agricultural roots, but the deep sense of community that defines Elmvale and the surrounding area.

With perfect autumn weather and a spirit of togetherness, this year's fair was a beautiful reminder of what makes our town so special. Here's to tradition, to homecoming and to being Canadian Made.

Can't wait to see you next year!



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Protesters dig in outside Tiny groundbreaking ceremony

By: *Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Oct. 17, 2025*

It was a tale of two long-toothed narratives at the Tiny Township administration centre site on Friday morning, as an otherwise banal groundbreaking ceremony was elevated by the obstruction efforts of roughly a hundred opponents to the build.

The protest was a similar affair to previous protests held since Tiny council announced they would initiate the project this term.

Organized by bullhorn-wielding resident Karen Zulnyik, roughly a hundred protesters held signs to Stop The Build, as they had since 2024. Escalating rhetoric over the past two years had led to confrontations at protests, calls of “cyberbullying” from the group, calls of David Evans and other township staff being harassed at their homes, and numerous failed rulings of integrity complaints by the group against Evans.

Outside the gate, OPP officers were keeping the hundred protesters from entering the site while ensuring road safety for all vehicles and pedestrians. Despite the supervision, protesters packed into the exit where Zulnyik was hosting the open podium; throughout, protesters would need to yell “Car!” to others to alert them of incoming and outgoing vehicles. Boos and jeers were given to all vehicles with access to the event, with Zulnyik calling out their drivers as tensions rose among the protesters.

MidlandToday attempted to speak with over a dozen protesters for their views, but was met with a decline for interview by all.

Coun. Dave Brunelle, who was the lone councillor opposed to the build, also declined an interview.

Instead, he handed a media release citing an approximate \$50 million cost, citing less costly renovations to the current building for continued use, and urging for a priority shift from asset management to community care and accountability.

While peaceful but loud, protesters continued to congest the exit for the property, forcing OPP officers to provide traffic control and motioning drivers when it was safe to enter the roadway; however, several protesters continued to shore themselves right up to driver windows to make their views and opinions known.

As Evans, the most contentious figurehead to the protesters, was waived clear by the OPP traffic control, one man said the tire of Evans' pickup truck hit him. An OPP officer walked alongside the man, who didn't appear to be limping, to a cruiser where a paramedic had been dispatched.

“I was just standing at the side of the car when he was driving through, and then the wheel turned toward me and he ran over the edge of my foot,” former Tiny Township deputy mayor George Lawrence told MidlandToday.

“I never touched him, I never did anything. All of a sudden, I just felt the pain.”

Evans could not be immediately reached for comment about the alleged incident.

The earlier ceremonial speech-and-shovel announcement from Evans within the site commemorated the starting efforts for construction on a new township municipal building set to open in early 2027. Along with Evans were members of Tiny council, joined by representatives from Unity Design Studio and Bertram Construction.

Construction equipment continued humming on the live work site until the moment of the announcement, with attendees required to wear hard hats and visibility vests as per Ministry of Labour safety requirement compliance.

“This is the dawn of a new era for Tiny today,” said Evans. “We officially break ground on the new township of Tiny administrative centre, or as we commonly call it, the TTAC. This marks more than the start of construction; it marks the beginning of a new era of service delivery, innovation and community connection.”

Said Evans: “From day one, council agreed that this project had to be done the right way – responsibly and within our means. The township of Tiny continues to maintain one of the lowest tax rates in Simcoe County, has little-to-no long-term debt and has strong financial reserves.

“This project is built not just with concrete and steel, but with trust, collaboration and community spirit. This facility will be a symbol of pride within our community,” Evans added.

Photos were taken as Evans joined Bertram Construction president Lisa Bertram and Unity Design Studio managing principal Bill Lett to touch shovels to the gravel bed.

Bertram told MidlandToday that the gravel bed was in preparation for “compaction,” which would soon take place, allowing a larger footing as the natural soil beneath had neither load bearing capacity for the building or construction equipment, nor proper free-draining requirements.

“There’s an ultimate savings to using it (the gravel) up front,” said Bertram, emphasizing the importance of utilizing local source material in the build. “Everything’s local now as far as the actual mass timber construction; it’s Ontario timber and Quebec timber... the gravel companies are local, they’re hauling from local pits.

“This is my community, and we’re honoured to be able to be building local using local people,” Bertram added.

Both Bertram and Lett expressed great confidence and support for the township’s aim for a net-zero (zero energy, zero emission) project design, and its long-term savings.

“I’m a huge believer in (net-zero projects),” said Bertram, “and so I think it’s wise to put the money into the building on the front end – to not have it in the long run, and not have the impact on our long-lasting community. There’s been a lot of thought that has gone into this design, building, and longevity of the project.”

Said Lett: “Civic architecture for centuries has been the backbone of every community, and in this case building a mass timber building out of renewable resources was clearly the direction that this project had to go.”

Lett noted that Unity was working in 17 municipalities across Ontario who must address their own climate change mandates, and while Tiny’s building wasn’t “taking the lead necessarily, but they’re doing what’s right and responsible.”

He added that the project cost was “less than what we typically would build in other communities as a cost per square foot” compared to other civic buildings.

Lett also stated that the design would be “a very simple building that is made entirely of wood, which is really unique and something that we’re doing more and more; but this is cutting edge, and cutting edge doesn’t cost money.” He noted that savings from exposed mechanical systems and not using drywall and supports meant “it’s a very honest project, and I don’t think people understand that.”

The proposed cost of the project was pitched at an estimated \$25.6 million funded by a 30-year debenture. The new build would accommodate all staff in one workplace, while also offering the public to use a community room; another design directive was for the facility to be an emergency operations centre, in case a weather emergency like the March ice storm were to occur.

CAO Robert Lamb stated that had the project been built “six or seven years ago, it would have been a lot less money than it’s going to cost us today.”

As the original building had been constructed in 1967 for a township staff of 13 to serve 2,000 residents, Lamb said that over 30 staff were in the facility, including three portables, to serve 13,000 residents with more anticipated in the years to come.

When asked about the cost of the project and the protesters outside the grounds, Evans told MidlandToday: “In terms of the actual (cost) for an average house in Tiny of \$350,000 assessment, it’s approximately \$6 a month.

“In terms of long-term debt, we have no long-term debt and currently we’re in a strong financial position on many levels to be able to do this. This is something, that frankly, has to be done and that argument is actually old and done; that’s why we’re standing here today, because we are moving forward. I encourage people to do that (use the MPAC calculator) to understand (it) and what the actual facts and information are.”

OPP Investigating Incident at Demonstration in Tiny Township

By OPP
(TINY TOWNSHIP, ON) On October 17, 2025, a construction groundbreaking event was taking place on Concession 9 East in the Township of Tiny. Concurrently, a demonstration was being held at the entrance to the property. Members of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) were on the scene to keep the peace.

At midday, while a vehicle was departing the property, a heated exchange ensued involving demonstrators and the vehicle driver. OPP officers promptly intervened to maintain public order and ensure the safety of all individuals present.

Following the exchange, one individual reported sustaining an injury. Paramedics attended the scene and transported the person to a local hospital for medical assessment.

Members of the Southern Georgian Bay OPP Detachment have launched an investigation to determine whether any criminal offences occurred during the incident. At this time, no charges have been laid.

The OPP was supported during the incident by the OPP Provincial Liaison Team (PLT). The PLT’s primary role is to foster communication and build relationships with involved parties before and during major events, helping to ensure safe and lawful conditions for the exercise of rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly.

The OPP remains committed to respecting the rights of all individuals to express themselves and assemble peacefully, while also upholding the safety and security of the broader community.



Protesters heckled those attending Friday's groundbreaking for new administration centre.

Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter



A culturally diverse community, that respects the traditions of the past, is future focused, while protecting our environment and heritage for generations to come.



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CO Alarm Changes to the Ontario Fire Code

Tiny Fire is launching an education campaign regarding carbon monoxide (CO) awareness to provide residents with information about changes to the Ontario Fire Code.

What are the Changes?

As of January 1, 2026, all residential occupancies (homes, apartments, etc.) that have a fuel burning appliance, fireplace, or attached garage, must have:

- a carbon monoxide alarm adjacent to each sleeping area, and
- a carbon monoxide alarm on each storey (floor) without a sleeping area.

Learn more about these changes at www.tiny.ca/fireprevention.

Need help to understand the changes? Book a free in-home fire safety inspection with Tiny Fire by emailing fireofficeadmin@tiny.ca or calling 705-322-1161.



Council Meeting Schedule

October 29
2:00 PM

November 19
2:00 PM

December 10
2:00 PM

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

Note: Special Budget Committee of the Whole Meetings will occur on November 13, December 1, 2, and 3 at 12:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers and are open to the public.

Annual Winter Road Closures

Notice: The hills located on Concession 8, 15, and 17 West, Hall Road, and the majority of Stamp Sideroad will be closed for the winter months as of October 31, 2025, as there is no winter maintenance on these sections of roads. Full details: www.tiny.ca/news.

Sign up for E-Billing!

Did you know that the Township of Tiny offers e-billing? E-billing is a secure and convenient way to receive an electronic version of your property tax bill and or water bill directly to your email. Learn more at www.tiny.ca/taxes or www.tiny.ca/waterbill. The Canada Post strike may impact Township mailed services. It is the property owner's responsibility to ensure tax and water payments are made in the event of a strike. Have questions? Reach out to the Tax Department: taxdepartment@tiny.ca or 705-526-4204.



Recreation and Special Events

Tree Lighting Celebration

Date: Friday, December 5, 2025
Time: 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Location: Perkinsfield Park, 43 County Road 6 South

One Click, Endless Play

Sign up for fall and winter programs using the Township of Tiny's Play Portal at www.tiny.ca/playportal.

March Break Camp Registration

Resident: Monday, November 17, at 12:00 p.m. (noon)
General: Monday, November 24, at 12:00 p.m. (noon)

Coffee and Connect

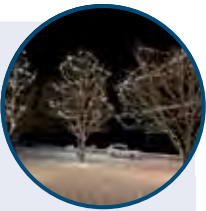
Registration is open for this fun and inclusive opportunity for older adults to learn more about technology. Sessions begin Tuesday, October 28!

Youth Trip: Strike up the Fun at Bayshore Lanes

Date: Friday, December 5, 2025. Registration includes both transportation and a meal. Only \$35! Register online at www.tiny.ca/playportal.

Pumpkin Trail and Halloween Movie Night

Saturday, November 1, 2025 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the TTCC. Enjoy a family friendly Halloween evening starting with an outdoor walking trail lined with glowing jack-o'-lanterns, festive inflatables, and seasonal décor. After the walking trail, head indoors for a free screening of *The Addams Family*. Have your pumpkin be part of the event! More details: tiny.ca/pumpkintrail.



Shoreline By-law – Site Alteration Reminder

The Township of Tiny enacted three by-laws to regulate site alteration activities within Tiny's shoreline through a permit process. One of these by-laws is currently under appeal, so the rules from the Interim Control By-law 23-044, as amended, remain in effect. The By-law prohibits the erection of any structure, fence, or sign through the duration of this by-law. This includes, but is not limited to, boathouses, retaining walls, patios, landscaping, decks, fences, walls, or shoreline alteration that are in proximity to the 178-metre contour elevation of the Georgian Bay Shoreline. Before you start your construction project, visit www.tiny.ca/interimcontrol for more information or contact us.

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

For further information:
Planning and Development Department
E: interimcontrol@tiny.ca
T: 705-526-4204



2026 Municipal Elections

The 2026 municipal elections in Ontario will be held on October 26, 2026. Registration is open - make sure you are on the voting list!



Springwater council bogged down by legal opinions around Barrie boundary talks

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Oct 16, 2025

On a night when a decision on Barrie's boundary expansion proposal was supposed to take place, Springwater Township council opted to get more information before it made a commitment, one way or the other.

After almost two years of reports, analysis, peer reviews and legal opinions, Springwater council voted Wednesday night to have staff compile yet another report, as proposed in a referral by Coun. Anita Moore, who said the township was in a "precarious situation" based on advice it received from law firm Loopstra Nixon LLP.

She referred to the law firm's opinion on the use of strong mayor powers that was posted to the township's website at 6:20 p.m. Wednesday, about 10 minutes before the council meeting started.

"Important to me is that I go on the public record with concerns about our legal opinions that we received today," said Moore. "Because should we find ourselves in a situation that we are exposed or in jeopardy, that is a very, very costly process for this township and I am not in support of putting ourselves in a place where we are going to spend millions on a potential either judicial review that takes forever, or two lawyers duking it out and judge finally make a decision."

"I don't know, but I do want to say that I'm not in favour of putting ourselves in a situation where we are exposed," she added.

The township also received a legal opinion from Alex Lusty, a lawyer with Davies Howe, representing the Midhurst Landowner's Group.

"The strong mayors powers are an extraordinary power," he wrote. "The Municipal Act and O. Reg 580/22, far from providing limited guidance, express the range of permissible actions a mayor can take."

"Given the extraordinary nature of these powers the province intended to place limits on them by enumerating the objectives and providing limits on their use," Lusty added. "New powers should not be read into the legislation, and the existing limits should be respected."

Moore's referral calls for staff to "engage" with Loopstra Nixon LLP to provide advice regarding the possibility of initiating a judicial review of the City of Barrie's boundary adjustment process and report back to council at a special meeting to be held the week of Oct. 20-24.

Further, township staff have been asked to request Hemson's technical data for peer review, and that the municipality continues to work collaboratively with the County of Simcoe.

Springwater Mayor Jennifer Coughlin was visibly frustrated.

She noted the township had received five legal opinions prior to Wednesday's council meeting, including one from John Mascarin, a lawyer with Aird Berlis, who provided Springwater council with an overview of strong mayor powers shortly after the new measures were installed by Premier Doug Ford on May 1.

"It is our opinion that the mayor's powers under Part VI.1 of the Municipal Act, 2001 could be exercised in relation to Barrie's restructuring proposal," Mascarin wrote in his conclusion. "We believe there is a reasonable connection between the proposal to extend municipal water and wastewater servicing to certain lands within the township and at least one of the prescribed provincial priorities, being constructing infrastructure to support housing."

Another legal opinion, provided by Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP, requested by 2252841 Ontario Inc. (Paul Sadlon), said "the exercise of strong mayor powers in connection with the proposal would be reasonable."

The Fasken opinion added that, "arguments against the availability of the strong mayor powers fail to give due weight to the liberal and discretionary language conferring those powers"

This includes the power to propose a bylaw and enact it with a one-third vote of council may be exercised whenever the mayor is of the opinion that a bylaw "could potentially advance" a provincial priority.

"In other words, it is not necessary that the mayor be certain that the anticipated residential development will, in fact, occur as a consequence of the bylaw. A mere possibility of such development, and a reasonable belief in that possibility, are sufficient," Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP stated.

A third legal opinion that supported using strong mayor powers was delivered by David Bronskill, a lawyer with Goodmans LLP, which was requested by Lonybra Developments.

"It is reasonable and permissible for the mayor to use the strong mayor powers in respect of the proposed boundary adjustment," Bronskill wrote.

Coughlin said she understands how difficult it is to make a decision on the matter, but that's what council



Springwater Mayor Jennifer Coughlin looks on as township council discusses Barrie's boundary expansion proposal at Wednesday night's meeting.

Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

was elected to do.

"I understand that we may want to do anything we possibly can to avoid having to make the decision that we've been asked to make tonight," she said. "We know what we need to do and we know that this is being asked of us to make this decision."

"The province has not given us that opportunity," Coughlin added.

She asked rhetorically what other information council wanted and answered before anyone else could respond.

"We have the information, we know what the information is and the information is not going to change," Coughlin said. "What's going to change is legal opinions and when we don't like that one, we'll get another. We have them."

She said doing nothing tells the province that Springwater Township has the "inability to make a decision."

And Coughlin is concerned about the repercussions. "That is the message that I feel we are sending to the province and it is my fear that the province absolutely will look to this as a non-decision," she said, "and that decision will be made for us."

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swoopfiber.com/grand-raffle/

Springwater mayor defends integrity amid boundary map dispute

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Oct 17, 2025

When Springwater Deputy Mayor George Cabral called for an investigation into how and when various parcels of township land were considered through the proposed City of Barrie boundary adjustment, he said he was doing so in an effort to “provide clarity and transparency” to local residents.

He contended Springwater council had “absolutely no knowledge of, involvement in, nor did it provide any direction regarding any boundary adjustment mapping.”

According to Cabral’s motion, organized boundary adjustment meetings in early 2023 between officials from Barrie, Springwater and the Township of Oro-Medonte were taking place without the knowledge or direction of Springwater council, and well before strong mayor powers were granted to the two local townships.

When the report’s findings were delivered at the township’s council meeting on Wednesday, in which the township’s IT team found no evidence to indicate municipal staff offered or authorized any additional land to be included in the boundary adjustment mapping with the City of Barrie, Cabral didn’t hold the item for discussion.

Typically, a report requested through a motion is discussed by council so it can be informed before making next steps, if necessary.

Seeing Cabral had no intention of pulling the report he initiated, Mayor Jennifer Coughlin did, apparently eager to share its results.

“I just have one comment and that is that I’m

satisfied with the results,” she said before urging the public to read the report for themselves.

When the report was requested at the Sept. 3 council meeting, Coughlin considered the investigation “a personal attack.”

Her reasoning was straightforward: if, as Cabral contended, council had no role or provided no direction, then that direction must have come from the mayor.

“In my opinion, this is nothing more than a personal attack and a personal vendetta,” she said at the time. “I am tired of sitting at this table and having my integrity, my process, my goodwill, my oath of office be questioned.”

Coughlin agreed that residents have the right to the truth, but not at the expense of the taxpayer.

She made Cabral an offer.

“Let’s do a forensic audit, but when the report comes back and it says that I’ve done something wrong, I’ll pay for it,” the mayor said at the time.

“But when it comes back and proves again, just like the FOIs (freedom-of-information requests), just like the integrity commissioner reports, just like everything else that has been put forward and against me and comes up clean because there’s nothing to find, you pay for it — not the taxpayers,” Coughlin added.

Wednesday night she called on Cabral to address the report findings.

“None of the maps were created in Springwater Township, so it kind of indicated to me that they came from somewhere else and if staff aren’t able to determine where they came from, then they’ve done what they can,” he said. “And that’s it.”

Coun. Brad Thompson voted against the motion originally, as he considered it a waste of staff’s time and taxpayer money.

He echoed those sentiments again Wednesday night.

“The report concludes there was no financial consequences to the township for the report, but I see, whenever we use staff for these silly little reports and audits there is a cost to the township,” he said. “It’s something about nothing and hopefully we can do better in the future.”

Barrie city council recently endorsed a plan to annex almost 2,150 total acres from Springwater and Oro-Medonte, for employment and residential purposes, in a boundary restructuring deal that would cost the city nearly \$39 million by 2030.



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Major local developer says Barrie doesn't need industrial land

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Oct 16, 2025

About 90 per cent of the people who spoke at Oro-Medonte Township's public meeting on Barrie's proposed boundary expansion Wednesday night were against it.

The only voice in favour, and it was somewhat conditional, was Oro-Medonte resident and local developer Steve Sperling.

Sperling, who says he's developed more than three million square feet of industrial/commercial land in the Barrie area and more than 1.5 million square feet south of the city, acknowledged there is a "tremendous need for housing today."

"If you drive along old Penetanguishene Road and you look at one side of the street, it's got sidewalks and curbs," he said. "And the Oro side hasn't been developed. It's waiting to be developed."

"The City of Barrie is on the other side of that curb, so as far as I'm concerned, I think we should be looking towards annexation," Sperling added.

He quickly added that he was not in favour of the industrial component, though, simply because he says Barrie has enough industrial land right now.

"Barrie is sitting with a lot more industrial land that is raw, ready to be developed, than what they're coming forward with," Sperling said at the meeting. "So, I don't understand the whole industrial approach that they've taken."

Sperling said he has 13 acres of property at Salem and Veteran roads that could be developed right now. Across the road are 150 acres more that could

be developed, he added. So he doesn't think Barrie needs more industrial land.

"I think there's a need for schools, affordable housing and seniors development," he said.

Yvonne Klima has lived in Oro-Medonte for the past 32 years and she agrees with Sperling. The area identified for annexation should be void of industry, she said.

Klima attended the public meeting to speak for "the creatures great and small who are not represented."

She's concerned about what impact annexation and subsequent development will have on animals that live in the environmentally protected area included in Barrie's boundary expansion plan.

She said it's home to 25 to 30 mammal species, 100 species of birds (both migratory and year-round), 15 to 25 species of amphibians and more than 200 different plants, mosses, lichens and fungi. Any industry in the area would be disastrous, Klima said.

"Factories have 24/7 bright industrial lighting that would disturb and destroy any nesting and mating for all creatures," she said. "It confuses their biological clocks. There's a constant hum and drone from rooftop HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) machinery and loud noises that confuses all species and adds extreme stress to their lives."

"All of this is highly detrimental to the creatures living in the sensitive, adjacent fields, forests and wetlands," Klima added.

Greg Harris stood shoulder-to-shoulder with Klima. He said he attended the public meeting with

City of Barrie held on Sept. 29 and was concerned with the fate of the area. He contends that if the land is transferred to Barrie, the city will eventually do whatever it wants with it.

Greg Wood has lived in Oro-Medonte for 26 years, and while he isn't an advocate for annexation, he wants to ensure that if it does happen, the township and its residents are protected. He said a number of conditions must be added to the agreement before it is signed and it must be binding.

Wood's conditions include:

- A minimum 75-metre green buffer zone between developed areas and existing residential lot lines
- A 30-year moratorium on any additional annexation of land from Oro-Medonte
- The City of Barrie would agree not to seek connection to Colborne Street as it would create traffic issues
- If current environmentally protected land is developed, the City of Barrie agrees to pay full compensation to Oro-Medonte.

"I'm not a lawyer, but I would suggest some kind of revenue clause outlining specific remuneration awards financially to Oro-Medonte in the event of a breach of any of these conditions," he said.

"I think these amendments I put forth are reasonable and if they aren't accepted by the City of Barrie, then the agreement should be declined," Wood added.

Oro-Medonte council will consider Barrie's boundary expansion proposal at its next meeting on Oct. 22 starting at 3 p.m.

Attempted Murder Charges Laid in Midland

By OPP, Oct. 20, 2025

(MIDLAND, ON) - One individual is in custody following a serious incident that occurred on Hanna Street in Midland yesterday afternoon.

On Sunday, October 19, 2025, just after 5:30 p.m., officers from the Southern Georgian Bay Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to the report of a stabbing inside a residence on Hanna Street in the Town of Midland. Upon arrival, officers located a 64-year-old male suffering from serious injuries.

A suspect was found elsewhere within the residence and was taken into custody without incident.

Once the scene was secured by responding officers, the injured male received essential care from Simcoe County Paramedics and the Midland

Fire Department. He was first transported to a local hospital and subsequently transferred to a Toronto-area hospital for treatment of life-threatening injuries.

As a result of the investigation, Griffin BLACK, 19 years old, of Midland, ON, has been charged under the Criminal Code with the following offences:

- Attempt to Commit Murder
- Assault with a Weapon
- Aggravated Assault

The accused remains in custody and is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice on October 20, 2025.

Police presence in the area has decreased however officers continue to investigate at the scene of the incident. A thank you to community concern for a family pet that escaped the home during the incident, the pet is safe and has been returned.



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Elmvale farm transformed from naked land into natural oasis brimming with life

*By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative
Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Oct 15, 2025*

About a half-hour north of Barrie, on a small farm just outside the village of Elmvale, one man has spent a large part of his adult life creating his own utopia.

Purchased 50 years ago by his father at his request when he was in Grade 8, Dr. William Shotyk has transformed a simple, naked piece of land into a natural oasis that teems with life forms that have been lured to the farm because of its idyllic man-made habitat.

Shotyk started the transformation with trees — many, many trees.

"I started when I was in high school in 1975," he told the audience that gathered at the Elmvale Community Hall last night to hear his presentation, titled 'Celebrate nature: 50 years of ecological restoration in the Wye River Watershed.'

"We planted 2,000 white spruce and red oak, and that was my first summer living at the farm. It was a wonderful place for a young person from Toronto to live for the summer," he added. "That's really when I fell in love with the farm."

Born and raised in Toronto, Shotyk returned to the 72-acre farm a couple of years later with 16 of his pals to plant more trees — seedlings he purchased from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) nursery in Midhurst, which was shuttered in 1996.

He paid one penny for each seedling.

"We planted 5,000 seedlings all around the farm property," he recalled. "We all slept in the old hay barn."

"I know they've forgiven me for all that hard work," Shotyk added with a laugh.

Ten years would pass before Shotyk would return.

He was off to university to pursue an education in agriculture, first at the University of Guelph, where he completed his bachelor's degree in 1981 and

then the University of Western Ontario where he earned his PhD in 1986.

Shotyk recalls visiting the farm once, around the time he earned his doctorate, to thin out the spruce trees.

A year later, he cut down some of the trees and sold them at a gas station as Christmas trees. He sold enough of them to cover the cost of an airline ticket to California, where he had secured a position doing scientific research at the University of California Riverside.

A year later, he was back at Western.

From there, Shotyk joined the Geological Institute at the University of Berne, Switzerland. In 2000, he was hired by the University of Heidelberg as a professor. He became the director of the Institute of Environmental Geochemistry. Since 2011, he has held the position of Bocock chair in agriculture and environment at the University of Alberta.

Before he went to Europe, he entered into a Woodland Improvement Act agreement with the MNR, which would see the ministry plant almost 14,000 spruce trees on the farm.

Today, the farm is home to more than 25,000 trees, and includes more than 50 species. They all contribute to a healthier, more sustainable ecosystem.

According to Shotyk, trees protect crops, livestock buildings and conserve moisture. They also provide a habitat for birds, which consume insect pests, a benefit for farmers, and they also remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

“When I was born in 1958, the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere was 315 parts per million,” Shotyky said. “Today, we’re at 426 parts per million.”

“Those trees that we plant are removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, helping to battle climate change,” he added.

By his own calculation, Shotyk says that by planting so many trees, he's offset his own carbon footprint for the next 300 years.

With the forestry component of the property taken care of, Shotyk turned his attention to other matters. In 2016, he started to work with Ducks Unlimited to build a wetland on the property.

In the fall of that year, it was nothing more than a hole in the ground. The following spring, it was full of water and that's when things really began to happen, Shotyk said.

"Immediately, the frogs arrived," he said. "I don't know how they found it, but they did, and the water turned black with tadpoles and lots of waterfowl."

A variety of plants began to take root. A painted turtle arrived, followed by snapping turtles.

"I have no idea how the painted turtle found the wetland in the middle of the farm, but it did," Shotyk said. "I'm pretty sure the snapping turtles spend their winter in that wetland, because when I arrive in May, they're slowly dragging themselves out of the wetland to go back to the Wye River."

But it's the birds that have captured Shotyk's attention. He said the farm has played host to 145 species of birds, including bluebirds, meadowlarks, green herons, trumpeter swans and, the ultimate reward, a pair of bald eagles that made their first appearance last year.

"Why is it so incredible to have bald eagles on our farm? Because they were almost wiped out by DDT," he said of dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane, which is a man-made insecticide once widely used for pest control, but is now banned in most countries due to its environmental persistence and negative health effects.

"If you look at the bald eagle population in the early 1960s, there was almost nothing there. Nobody would see a bald eagle in Elmvale, Ont."

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Springwater council chambers packed as Barrie annexation debate heats up

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Oct 9, 2025

It's not often the Springwater Township council chamber is standing room only.

Typically, there are a few people who are there because there's an item on the agenda that either affects them personally or has township-wide implications.

Last night's public meeting to discuss Barrie's boundary expansion proposal, or annexation, hit both targets dead centre.

Of the almost 200 people who packed the township's administration centre, more than two dozen of them — individual residents of Springwater and Oro-Medonte townships, and a number of developers who have land in the affected areas — addressed council, some looking for answers to questions they feel have not been addressed, and others looking to offer support to get annexation done.

A big concern for some was the process, or what they say is a lack thereof.

The first person to diss the process was the opening speaker, Alex Lusty, a lawyer from Davies Howe, representing the Midhurst Landowners Group.

"This group opposes the annexation because there is no need for it. Springwater will be ready in time to accommodate growth and this annexation process is inherently flawed," he offered from the outset.

Last December, Lusty said, it was concluded from the Hemson report that Barrie has enough employment land to 2051 and annexation would not help the city meet its short-term gap.

"That fact does not support annexation," he said.

Lusty noted this summer the timeline was extended from 2051 to 2061, though the reasons for it have not been made clear.

"The theory is that, by then, 300 hectares of employment land might be needed for Barrie," he said. "Much is uncertain from now until 2061, but one thing's for sure — there's no rush at all for this annexation."

Putting the brakes on all boundary talks was an idea that earned traction from a large portion of the anti-annexation crowd in attendance last night.

David Strong, of Midhurst, said he didn't appreciate the urgency of rushing everybody through the process.

"People here haven't had a chance to say what they think," he said. "I think they should have a lot longer to consider what's going on."

Not everyone agreed.

Paul Sadlon Jr. said the annexation couldn't happen fast enough. His family has a proposed development slated for 742 Bayfield St. N., just beyond Barrie's northern boundary.

The proposal, which includes 2,000 residential units in a variety of formats, including single-detached, semi-detached, townhouses and tiny homes, mixed-use medical, commercial and retail space, as well as recreational areas, was originally

supported by Springwater council in December 2023.

In July, council pulled its support of the project because the developer wanted cross-border servicing with Barrie.

As part of the annexation proposal that was delivered to the township last week, the City of Barrie would provide water and wastewater servicing to the Sadlon development and another one across the street, proposed by the Remington Group.

"Over the past two years, we've hired consultants and engineers to study every servicing option and every one of them came to the same conclusion — the most efficient, timely and cost-effective way to service this land is through Barrie," Sadlon told council.

"It's a practical solution and it works for both municipalities," he added.

Additionally, Sadlon said, if the project goes ahead, it will result in the first high school in the township's southern district.

"The school board has made it clear that their needs are immediate and the only way we can make this happen is with servicing from Barrie," he said. "Without it, the school can't move forward."

James Sheldon spoke on behalf of the Remington Group, a developer that sought council's support for a seniors' continuum of care, including long-term care facilities, retirement residences, a palliative and hospice care centre, life-lease building and medical offices that would create about 300 jobs at 727 Bayfield St. N., across the street from Sadlon's proposal.

Like the Sadlon property, Springwater council supported it initially in 2023 and then pulled its support this past summer because the developer wanted to have water and wastewater service from Barrie.

Sheldon said the Remington Group has done exhaustive reviews and consulted with numerous engineering firms and the conclusion remains the same — the preferred solution is for the City of Barrie to provide both water and sanitary services.

"Barrie is simpler, more cost effective and quicker," Sheldon said. "It only requires extensions to linear infrastructure as opposed to water and wastewater

treatment plant upgrades if servicing were to go through Midhurst."

He added servicing through a Midhurst water and wastewater treatment facility is "neither a financially viable nor time-certain option," both of which are crucial to advance the project.

Springwater resident Mike Douglas said he sees both sides of the issue. He acknowledged there were people who are totally opposed to annexation and others who are in favour.

He said he understands why they're anxious and angry. He called for calm and urged people to fully understand how the province works, in his opinion.

Douglas said any outcome is going to harm some and benefit others.

"Municipalities in Ontario have much less autonomy than many of us think and definitely much less autonomy than many of us would like to have," he said. "The province could simply mandate a decision here and we'd all be forced to live with it."

Douglas thinks the township should get as much as it can.

"My perspective is this annexation is happening, by default or design," he said. "I say let's milk this. Let's do it strategically and let's do it wisely and let's get as much as we possibly can."

The City of Barrie, the townships of Springwater and Oro-Medonte, the County of Simcoe and the province still need to agree to the deal — which would see Barrie pay its neighbours \$15,000 per developable acre, or more than \$33 million in total (about \$22 million to Springwater), the county \$5 million for regional economic development initiatives, and Springwater another \$850,000, also related to economic development initiatives.

Springwater council will vote on the final offer from the City of Barrie during its Oct. 15 meeting.

The County of Simcoe will host a public meeting on Barrie's boundary expansion proposal on Oct. 14 at 10 a.m. at the County of Simcoe Administration Centre in Midhurst.

Oro-Medonte Township will host a public meeting on Barrie's boundary expansion proposal on Oct. 15 at 6 p.m.

and gestured to them to come down. The hecklers weren't so sure they wanted to meet an irate athlete carrying a baseball bat, but they gathered their courage and went. Instead of being furious, which would have been his typical reaction, the baseball player now chose to respond differently. Flipping his bat over, he grabbed it by the barrel, extended the handle to the two men, and said, 'Do you guys want a Dodger's bat?'

After that, they never badgered him again. Attending almost every game, they did nothing but support and encourage him just as loudly as they had previously heckled him. It was an event that changed the player's life because he realized that he could choose to react differently."

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Annie's Journal

by Annie Warner Donnelly



Oct. 20, 2025

Hello Everyone. On February 27, 2020, CREATION Life shared this story. Let's see if it has a message for us today.

"Sports psychologist Herndon Harding tells the story of a baseball player in the Los Angeles Dodgers' minor league system.

When something went wrong with his game, the athlete would throw bats or verbally lash out — apparently as a way of preventing other people from criticizing him first. Such behaviour, though, made him somewhat of a target, particularly to two fans who heckled him on a routine and rigorous basis.

Once, after the batter had struck out, the two young men again began taunting him. With a look of determination, the player strode over to the fence where they sat a couple of rows back

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Residents raise concerns over Sandy Bay Road development in Penetanguishene

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

Residents in the Gordon Drive area of Penetanguishene appeared recently in council chambers to voice concerns over a committee of adjustment decision regarding 1500 Sandy Bay Road. The matter centres on the plot of land between Watson Road and Gordon Drive on the west side, where three lots were proposed for future residential use.

A consent application was submitted in July 2023 to the committee of adjustment, and had since received technical materials including an environmental impact study as supporting documents on the application.

Residents had their say at the open forum portion of the recent Penetanguishene council meeting regarding the committee of adjustment in September where the application was granted approval subject to conditions of consent, including rezoning of wetland to environmental protection zone, and the preparation of a reference plan of survey to confirm lot sizes.

Neighbour Martin Prost reiterated much of his submitted letter of appeal at the council meeting podium, with an initial focus on drinking water.

“We (the local residents) are all worried sick about the proposed development at the bottom of Sandy Bay Road on a swampy area,” said Prost, citing run-off from septic as the concern.

However, as Prost had written in his appeal that the siting of new wells on the proposed lots may be located down-gradient of the proposed septic systems, planning consultant Jamie Robinson of MHBC countered the claim – within an MHBC letter and also later in the council meeting – by specifically addressing the servicing feasibility study and building code requirements to “ensure that future septic design is in accordance” with Ministry of Environment and regulatory standards.

Prost also noted aquifers in his comments, which Robinson also countered, saying that the only time aquifers had been brought up was by Prost and not technical experts. Prost requested council for a pause on the development so that a groundwater assessment on proposed wells and septic system flow could be obtained.

The presumed raised septic system was also brought up by other residents, with other concerns including the protection of wetlands. One contention raised by a resident involved a 2022 assessment by Azimuth Environmental Consulting, which was peer reviewed by town retained WSP Canada Inc in 2023; both companies visited the site in 2024 and refined their assessment – thus conflicting with the resident’s stance aligned with the 2023 disagreement.

At the open forum, Robinson reiterated his professional opinion that the application met all applicable policy requirements and applications and conformed to official plans for town and county, as well as Provincial Policy Statement consistency, which had also been the committee of adjustment’s decision.

Planning director Andrea Betty noted the septic and feasibility study, reviewed by staff, which met policy and conformed to documents. “They felt in their recommendations that this development could proceed, and that there was no danger to drinking

PENETANGUISHENE



Many residents of the Gordon Bay area joined attendance of a recent Penetanguishene council meeting regarding 1500 Sandy Bay Road and concerns over drinking water and proposed septic systems.

Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

water with appropriate design of each system on the lot,” said Betty.

Once council adjourned and the committee of the whole began, with nearly no one left in the audience having all dispersed in the break, Coun. George Vadeboncoeur – who sat on the committee but who had been away on vacation when that September committee of adjustment meeting was held – shared his thoughts.

Calling Azimuth “acknowledged experts... one of the best consultants that operate in Simcoe County”, Vadeboncoeur shared that he read all reports and visited the site prior to the council meeting, and acknowledged the residents’ concerns but was confident in the staff and technical studies.

“If I had been in attendance at the committee of adjustment meeting,” said Vadeboncoeur, “I would’ve supported the staff recommendation and voted to approve the application,” and its requirements needed for creation of the three lots, septic permits and well-drilling.

The October 1 council information package, including letters from Prost and Robinson, can be located on the agenda page of the Town of Penetanguishene website.

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



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Across

- 1 Understands
- 5 Sauna locale
- 8 Feasted
- 11 Floor space
- 12 Stroke
- 13 Bit of sunshine
- 14 Room divider
- 15 Snack
- 16 __ we there yet?
- 17 Gazing
- 20 Start, as a trip
- 23 Shopping aids
- 26 Routing word
- 27 “O.K.”
- 29 Relative of a rabbit
- 30 Move slowly
- 32 Stop color
- 34 Wimple wearer
- 35 Facebook approvals
- 37 Cheered
- 39 Spoke in an angry way
- 41 Make the most of
- 43 Allegiance
- 44 All right!
- 48 Potpie morsel
- 49 Hostel
- 50 Fully developed
- 51 Pin down
- 52 Bring in
- 53 Part of a process

Down

- 1 Cut
- 2 “Golden” time
- 3 Scaleless fish
- 4 The new ketchup
- 5 Lecturer
- 6 Brandy flavor
- 7 Upper-story room
- 8 Like a rose
- 9 Corn serving
- 10 Hide the gray, maybe
- 18 “Don’t give up!”
- 19 “Forget it!”
- 20 Antithesis of good
- 21 Short skirt
- 22 Kind of driver
- 24 Faithful
- 25 Post
- 28 Genesis villain
- 31 The chicken on the egg
- 33 Buck’s mate
- 36 Lustrous fabric
- 38 Bouquets
- 40 Christmas tree
- 41 Pkg. deliverer
- 42 __ you tomorrow?
- 45 Hobby shop buy
- 46 Forest swinger
- 47 Slangy affirmative



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Residents voice fears over potential changes to local bus service

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Oct 16, 2025

Buses are a necessity for seniors and the poor, and when public transit is perceived as threatened, residents get worried.

In June, town councils with the joint Midland-Penetanguishene transit system announced that they were looking into the possibility to expand bus service, lower costs and make a better system for users – by means of a ‘microtransit’ provider. An RFP (request for proposal) was sent out by the two towns, offering interested companies to apply.

Local bus riders have been a fiercely protective group for years, having appeared at town budget discussions to defend their reliance on transit. When the microtransit press releases announced that potentially improved service could transform ‘and potentially replace’ the current system, that sparked uncertainty through the ridership.

Two public information meetings were held by the towns, with Penetanguishene hosting an afternoon session on October 8, and Midland during its regular council meeting on Wednesday night. Roughly 25 attendees at the Midland meeting were given a presentation by infrastructure management and town engineer executive director Mitch Sobil, containing much of the Penetanguishene presentation with additional slides for greater clarity.

“Microtransit is, essentially, a more flexible transit system,” said Sobil. “It can be on-demand, it can have many different forms, and it can work for communities of our size in different ways.” Sobil provided examples of schedule based pick-ups, different fare-payment options, alternative and modern route options, and that it could work in tandem with fixed routes.

Reference was made to breakdowns in June where four of the five shared buses were inoperable due to mechanical failure; the joint agreement meant Penetanguishene would suffer no service first so that Midland riders could continue limited usage.

Both Sobil and Mayor Bill Gordon explained to attendees that transit was a costly service paid by all taxpayers regardless if they used it, which provided needed accessibility but would cause any municipality to lose money; smaller towns like Midland and Penetanguishene fared better than larger cities in that financial loss.

Some residents were open and curious for reasons why microtransit was being explored, while others held misconceptions that the transit was going away and demanded answers to personal situations. A misconception that transit would end on January 1st

was quickly corrected by Sobil, who said that possible consideration of enhanced service – not ended service – could potentially be explored by March or April.

Throughout the 80-minute discussion, Sobil and Gordon stressed that the current fixed route transit system would remain as is, but if the Midland and Penetanguishene councils were to agree to having a third party join, it would: enhance service and provide wider coverage, attract more riders and extend hours of operation, and allow for greater accessibility to residents.

The ‘if’ portion of that statement was glossed over by many concerned residents, as Gordon and Sobil also tried to explain that the RFP was an exploration to see if there were viable companies who could match the offer of what Midland and Penetanguishene councils were asking on behalf of all residents, not just regular ridership. No decisions had been made on altered transit service.

Even transit-adjacent service provider Community Reach appeared at the meeting, with Deborah Clyne stating “we are technically a microtransit system” that served roughly 1,700 riders in September in hopes to alleviate concerns. While resident worries were raised about perceived failures of microtransit in places like Kenora, Clyne offered that microtransit in Sault Ste. Marie was a more apt comparison as per geography and population demographics.

Rider Stephanie Gromard challenged the town on buying a new bus instead of fixing old ones; when Gordon explained that the bus manufacturer had gone bankrupt and parts for old buses were scarce to replace, Gromard countered that she had done research on the internet and claimed to have found Canadian parts providers.

Gromard also asked why funds from public art couldn’t be put towards transit, to the applause of attending residents; Gordon countered that provincial grants covered the cost of the installations.

Resident Diane Quinn expressed her concerns passionately, pounding the podium and spooking town staff and other residents as she demanded bus drivers be treated properly; Gordon replied that drivers were the first ones spoken to and had been offered the option – at their personal choice – of staying on as drivers or choosing a severance package, should an RFP be approved.

Following the meeting, Sobil told MidlandToday that it was of importance for the public to know that Midland and Penetanguishene staff were in the information gathering stage.

“We’re not looking at taking transit away,” stated Sobil. “It’s an important asset to our community and

we understand the need for it. What we’re looking for is ways to improve the service level, consider costs, consider the areas in town that aren’t currently serviced, and where the future of transit is going

“There’s no decision made yet, and we just hope to make the right one for our community.”

Outside council chambers, Gromard told MidlandToday she was firmly against microtransit, and only by keeping the current buses and drivers would she consider the matter as solved.

“I don’t think they’re telling us the truth; (they’re hiding) that they’ve already got it planned,” said Gromard. “They’ve got pages on the bus for microtransit, which is really upsetting when people get on, to see that.”

Gordon said to MidlandToday that many of the same residents, questions and concerns were raised at the prior Penetanguishene session, prompting the Midland personnel to try to clear misconceptions on those “core issues” as a “lesson learned”.

“I wanted to make sure that I conveyed that even if I’m not changing hearts and minds, they can still be upset that we’re considering doing this – but at least they’ll be upset based on fact rather than fallacy, because there’s a lot of rumors going around out there,” said Gordon. “The main one I had to dispel was about us considering shutting transit down entirely just to save money.”

Regarding next steps in the process, resident comments (including a petition with over 900 signatures) would be included in the list of considerations that Midland and Penetanguishene councils ask RFP applicants, with a report on all findings anticipated following the interviews.

“I truly believe it is the right thing to do,” said Gordon. “I’m not trying to say that I completely know which way to go; I wouldn’t have invested the past year getting staff to work on this in the background – to see whether it makes sense or what other options we have about keeping our fixed route – unless I believed this was the right path to go. Councils clearly agreed as well from both municipalities, because we went ahead with the RFP.”

The slideshow presentation on exploring microtransit in Midland and Penetanguishene, is available in the council agenda on the town of Midland website.

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



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- Trillium Drug Program (OTDP)
- Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB)



JILL DUNLOP
MPP – Simcoe North/Nord

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

By Office of Jill Dunlop MPP, Oct. 20, 2025 - As we move into November, with the return to Queen's Park and the changing season brings a time for reflection, gratitude, and community. Across Simcoe North, the vibrant colours of fall give way to the stillness of winter, and with it comes an opportunity to pause and appreciate the people and places that make our region so special.

I was thrilled to share with municipal leaders across Simcoe North, the provinces investment of over \$7 million to help renew and rehabilitate critical infrastructure across the eight municipalities. The funding will be delivered through the 2026 Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) as part of the government's more than \$200 billion capital plan to protect Ontario by building key public infrastructure that will strengthen the economy and keep workers on the job in the face of tariffs and economic uncertainty.

November is also a month of remembrance—a time to honour the brave men and women who served, and continue to serve, to protect the freedoms we hold dear. Each year, I am deeply moved by the ceremonies and gatherings that take place in communities across Simcoe North. From Coldwater to Orillia, Midland to Penetanguishene, residents come together in solemn tribute to those who sacrificed so much. The strength and unity shown at these events truly reflect the heart of our communities.

As we prepare for the winter months ahead, I want to thank the many organizations, volunteers, and service providers who support others during this time of year. Whether it's offering a warm meal, assisting seniors, or lending a helping hand to a neighbour, these acts of kindness embody the values that define Simcoe North.

Let us carry that spirit forward—not just on Remembrance Day, but throughout the season—by showing compassion, gratitude, and respect for those around us.

Lest we forget.

**Orr Lake Ratepayers
Association is Back**



**Photo: Back row from left: Phil Stafford, Blaine Squires, Jack Franzin
Middle Row from left: Ron Gratton, Virginia Freeland, Jim Strong
Front Row from left: Nora Dixon, Barb Spottiswood, Cheryl Hoffmann
Missing: Brianna Freeland, Jacob Balsdon**

This group of dedicated volunteers have reactivated the Orr Lake Ratepayers Association. As the new Board of Directors, they have adopted the motto "Lake First, Community Always".

In the spring, ORLA will be canvassing for membership and look forward to hearing from you as the community unites to keep Orr Lake healthy and happy.



Dear Neighbours,

On September 15th, I returned to Ottawa for Parliament's fall session. I am happy to be back on Parliament Hill to represent your voices and share your views with my colleagues.

Under the current Liberal government, the cost-of-living crisis, including the rising cost of food, continues to spiral out of control.

According to the Canada Food Price Report 2025, the average Canadian family of four is expected to spend \$16,833.67 on food in 2025. This represents an increase of up to \$801.56 from last year, not to mention the rising costs of heating, gasoline, and rent.

Conservatives believe that everyone—families, seniors, and workers—deserves nutritious, delicious, and affordable food on their tables. Meat and potatoes should not be a once-in-a-while treat. Canadians should not feel stress and anxiety while walking down grocery aisles.

That is why Conservatives have proposed a

concrete plan to eliminate all taxes on food. Under our plan, we will remove the industrial carbon tax on fertilizer and farm equipment, eliminate the fuel standard tax on diesel and gasoline, and scrap the food packaging tax on plastics and packaging.

It is time for the government to end inflationary deficits and stop taxing groceries, so Canadians can enjoy nutritious, delicious, and affordable food.

Please know that my Conservative colleagues and I will continue to fight for affordability, safe streets, housing, and lower taxes.

As always, my constituency office is available to assist you with any federal matters. Please contact us at Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca or 705-728-2596 for assistance.

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



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Harvesters Split Weekend Road Games After Thanksgiving Break

By Adrianna McGinnis, Oct. 19, 2025

After a well-deserved Thanksgiving break, the Elmvale Harvesters were back in action this past weekend for a pair of road games. The weekend off gave players the opportunity to enjoy time with family and visit the Elmvale Fall Fair, where they had the chance to connect with fans. The team proudly entered a float in the parade, helped with setup and takedown inside the arena, and hosted a popular booth where supporters could stop by, chat, and pick up Harvesters merchandise.

A big thank you goes out to everyone who came by. It's incredible to see so many people around town repping the Harvesters! For those who missed out, team merchandise will be available at all home games.

Friday, October 17 – Elmvale Harvesters 5, Georgian Bay Applekings 1

The Harvesters kicked off the weekend with a trip to Thornbury to take on the Georgian Bay Applekings, coming away with a convincing 5–1 victory.

Elmvale's offense was firing on all cylinders, with goals from Dylan Palomaki, Jordan Fuller (2), Brad Kuepfer, and Jacob Kelly. Goaltender Andrew Best made an outstanding debut, standing tall between the pipes and turning aside key scoring chances to earn his first win in a Harvesters uniform.

Will Marshall Insurance Brokers Three Stars of the Game:

- 1. Andrew Best
- 2. Dylan Palomaki
- 3. Jordan Fuller

Saturday, October 18 – Ripley Wolves 5, Elmvale Harvesters 3

The following night, the Harvesters bus hit the road again, this time to Ripley to face the Wolves. It was a spirited matchup filled physical play and penalty troubles which Ripley was able to take full advantage of. Despite a strong effort, Elmvale suffered its first loss of the season by a score of 5–3.

Brad Kuepfer, Dylan Palomaki, and Austin Pope provided the offense, while Noah Featherstonhaugh-Gowe battled hard in net through a challenging, high-tempo game.

Will Marshall Insurance Brokers Three Stars of the Game:

- 1. Noah Featherstonhaugh-Gowe
- 2. Austin Pope
- 3. Jared Robertson

The Harvesters now look ahead to their next matchup on Friday, October 24 in Durham as they continue to fine-tune their game ahead of the much-anticipated home opener on November 1.

Fans are encouraged to follow the team's social media pages for ticket information — it's shaping up to be a sold-out night in Elmvale!

The Harvesters continue to prove they're a team to watch in their inaugural season, showing grit, chemistry, and a growing bond both on and off the ice.

Elmvale Harvesters

2025–26 Schedule

Pre-Season Exhibition Game

Sat. Sept. 27 @ 7:00 PM

Wasaga Stars Arena vs. Creemore Coyotes

Home Games

Sat. Nov. 1 @ 8:00 PM

vs. Ripley Wolves

Sat. Nov. 8 @ 8:00 PM

vs. Georgian Bay Applekings

Sun. Nov. 23 @ 4:30 PM

vs. Minto 81's

Sat. Dec. 6 @ 8:00 PM

vs. Saugeen Winterhawks

Sat. Dec. 13 @ 8:00 PM

vs. Creemore Coyotes

Sun. Dec. 21 @ 4:00 PM

vs. Durham Thundercats

Sat. Jan. 3 @ 8:00 PM

vs. Lucknow Lancers

Sun. Jan. 11 @ 4:30 PM

vs. Minto 81's

Sat. Jan. 17 @ 8:00 PM

vs. Georgian Bay Applekings

Sat. Jan. 31 @ 8:00 PM

vs. Shelburne Muskies

Away Games

Fri. Oct. 24 @ 8:30 PM

at Durham Thundercats

Sun. Nov. 9 @ 1:00 PM

at Minto 81's

Sat. Nov. 15 @ 7:30 PM

at Lucknow Lancers

Sun. Nov. 16 @ 1:30 PM

at Shelburne Muskies

Sat. Nov. 29 @ 7:30 PM

at Creemore Coyotes

Sat. Dec. 20 @ 7:30 PM

at Creemore Coyotes

Sat. Jan. 10 @ 7:00 PM

at Ripley Wolves

Will Marshall Insurance Brokers Three Stars of the Game:

Andrew Best, Goalie

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Austin Pope, Forward

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Kings Climb Into 3rd Place with 3 More Wins



Submitted by Jamie Robillard, Oct. 19, 2025

The Penetang Kings continued their regular season winning three of four games played between October 9th and October 17th in Provincial Junior Hockey League play and moved into third place of the Carruthers Division.

On Thursday October 9th the Kings travelled to Stayner and came away with a 6-2 victory over the Siskins. Kings goaltender Owen Moreau turned aside 40 shots in the contest and was named the Canadoor Garage Doors player of the game. The Penetang offence was led by Camron Hutchinson who notched two goals and added one assist. Also scoring for the Kings were Ethan Barron, Wyndam Brownlee, Spencer Walker and Matthew Laframboise with one goal each.

The Kings followed up the win over Stayner on Friday October 10th with another road victory this time coming out on top of the Huntsville Otters by 5-1 score. Once again Hutchinson led the scoring with three goals and one assist while Carter Wilson and Owen Clennett each scored single markers. Due to his overall play and scoring efforts Hutchinson was name the Canadoor Garage Door player of the game.

On Friday October 17th the Kings dropped a hard fought 4-1 decision to the undefeated Alliston Hornets. Penetang entered the third period, trailing by a 2-0 score before Hutchinson scored just 59 seconds into the period, narrowing the margin to 2-1. The score remained 2-1 until Alliston salted the contest away with two late goals in the final six minutes of play. Landon Simec was

named the Kings Canadoor Garage Doors player of the game turning aside 45 of the 49 Hornets shots he faced.

The Kings returned to action on Saturday October 18th at home with a 6-2 win over the Muskoka Bears. Moreau faced 28 shots in the Penetang goal while the Kings peppered Bears goaltender Joseph Degan with 40 shots. Leading the scoring for Penetang were Brownlee with two goals and two helpers followed by Cole Rumbolt with one goal and one assist and Walker with two goals. Rounding out the Kings scoring were Wilson with three assists, Owen Fuller and Blake Weicker with two assists each, Hutchinson potted one goal and Laframboise added one assist.

Penetang is now in third place in the Carruthers Division standings on the strength of six regulation time wins, one overtime loss, one shootout loss and two regulation time losses in ten games.

Alliston leads the division with 20 points in 10 games followed by Orillia with 16 points, Penetang and Stayner with 10 points as of games played after Saturday October 18th. Innisfil is in 5th place with 9 points, Midland sits 6th with 8 points while Muskoka with 7 points and Huntsville with 4 points round out the standings.

The Kings continue the regular season on Friday October 24th at home when they face off against the Orillia Terriers before travelling to Alliston on October 31st for a Halloween encounter with the Hornets and then on November 2nd they will be in Huntsville to meet the Otters.

Penetang Kings 2025-26 Schedule

Date	Visiting	Home	Venue	Time
Fri, Oct 24	Orillia	Penetang	Penetang Memorial CC	8:00 pm
Fri, Oct 31	Penetang	Alliston	New Tecumseth Rec Centre	7:30 pm
Sun, Nov 2	Penetang	Huntsville	Canada Summit Centre	2:30 pm
Fri, Nov 7	Muskoka	Penetang	Penetang Memorial CC	8:00 pm
Sun, Nov 9	Penetang	Midland	North Simcoe SRC	2:30 pm
Fri, Nov 14	Alliston	Penetang	Penetang Memorial CC	8:00 pm
Sun, Nov 16	Penetang	Stayner	Stayner Memorial Arena	1:30 pm
Fri, Nov 21	Muskoka	Penetang	Penetang Memorial CC	8:00 pm
Sat, Nov 22	Penetang	Orillia	West Orillia Sports Complex	7:30 pm
Fri, Nov 28	Innisfil	Penetang	Penetang Memorial CC	8:00 pm
Sat, Nov 29	Alliston	Penetang	Penetang Memorial CC	8:00 pm

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Bearbells By Leslie Noonan

Oct. 6, 2025 - When I first bought my kayak, transportation was easy, as my husband had also bought a kayak and we had his truck. Just a quick load into the vehicle and we would be on our way. I ran into trouble when he was gone to work and I wanted to go out on my own. With no roof rack, I resorted to some techniques that the ministry of transportation would definitely frown on. I opened the trunk, and shoved the kayak in between the seats. The sound of cracking up by the windshield had me pause in my forceful ministrations, and a quick investigation found my rear view mirror hanging crooked and the tip of the kayak pushed up on the front window. Alright, nothing broken, so that part is good, but the rear of the kayak hung out a good few feet from the back hatch. Hmm, bungee cords, that would work. After a good twenty minutes of muttering and sweating and a bizarre crisscross of cords and wires attached to random points in the car, I was satisfied that the back hatch would mostly stay shut and hopefully the kayak would stay in the car. I stayed close to home with this set up, as surely I would be ticketed if I made it out on busy roads.

Over the summer I began to venture further afield, and made the wise decision to buy a removable roof rack for my car. As with most things, the directions are akin to the Rosetta stone and undecipherable to the average layperson. After several false starts involving numerous ties and straps, I was ready to shove the kayak up on the car roof. A few grunts and I had the boat up on the roof rack with only a few scrapes off the vehicles paint. Another battle scar for my old car. Off I went, up the highway to Nine Mile Lake, with that kayak swaying and shifting while I kept a close eye on the movement above me. Perhaps I needed some more practice with those straps, as the nose of the kayak slowly shimmied further forward with every vibration. I had a moment of consternation as I pictured me having to slam on the brakes and my bright red kayak becoming air borne. I really did not want to end up on the evening news. Flying kayaks aside, I made it to nine mile without any incident.

Nine mile lake is found near the Torrance Barrens,

down the winding Southwind Road. Parking is found at the Marina, where the owner nicely let me park without charging the daily parking fee. I released the straps and the kayak slid off the roof rack, and landed with a thunk on the concrete boat launch, leaving behind another nice gash in my car's paint. I guess I should find a mat to slide the kayak along the car's roof, but that is a future problem. I settled in the kayak and went off with the warm sun on my shoulders through still and dark waters, the few cottagers sunning on their docks giving me a friendly wave as I glided by. Once past the protected inlet, small ripples formed from the autumn breeze. I enjoyed paddling into the wind, feeling strong as I pushed my muscles to dig deep as I bounced over the waves. That breeze also brushed along the tree tops, red and yellow leaves slowly drifting down to float on top of the dark water, reflecting the autumn foliage. In other areas, the surface was covered in pine and spruce needles, greens and browns highlighted by the black waters.

I travelled along the shoreline, grey granite emerging from the undergrowth to flow down and under the lakes waters. Cottages became sparse then disappeared as private land gave way to Crown land, perfect for backcountry camping. In a marshy inlet, a great blue heron stood perfectly still amongst the reeds, head turning to watch my slow progress as I drifted by. I continued paddling around the lake, exploring all the nooks and crannies, and was surprised to find a large inuksuk standing guard at the end of another small inlet called Robbin's Point. The stone giant rose over the lake, brown marsh reeds and rushes thick behind it. I considered paddling up the small creek just visible through the vegetation, but perhaps that was an adventure for another day. Instead I turned back to the marina, relaxed after a beautiful day on the lake, though my anxiety came back as I considered that roof rack waiting for me. I few more scrapes on my car roof, a slightly white knuckled drive, and home to practice those straps a few more times.



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ANTEN MILLS by Dennis Gannon

Oct. 19, 2025 - If you have been out and about late last week, you may have noticed that we were treated to a spectacular scene. Normally we see lots of yellows when the trees change their colour in the fall. This year however the colours were more orange, burnt orange, red and yellow. The rain and grey skies made them stand out even more. Soon the leaves will all be on the ground but while we can, let's enjoy the beauty that the fall brings. For those who may have a large number of pine trees on their property, we will be watching to see who wins the "pine needle" olympics that Brian wrote about in his Anten Mills Celebrating 150 Years stories.

There are two special events occurring this weekend in the community. First tomorrow night, Friday October 24 it's the 3rd annual Witches Walk with a live band. This is a fun adult evening starting at 6:45 when the Witches of the community get dressed in their worst attire and walk in unison throughout the village. Of course many are dressed in amazing costumes and then there are those who are the evil ones and dress very scary. When back at the community centre the evening carries on with the band Bombshell rocking the pavilion with their great music until 10:30. If you don't wish to get dressed in costume that's not a problem so plan on coming out and having an adult fun night with your neighbours and friends. Admission is by cash donations to offset the cost of the band and hot dogs, soft drinks and chips will be available.

On Sunday there will be pumpkin carving, dancing, games and crafts for the younger set as the Kids Halloween Party takes place. Starting at 11 and going to 1 the volunteers have activities to keep everyone busy. Costumes are welcome as there is a photo booth to create memories. Loot bags will be handed out at the end along with the pumpkin that you carved. There will be pizza slices available for sale and preregistration is requested to ensure that there are sufficient treat bags to hand out. There is no charge for the kids to attend and as our community continues to support the Elmvale and District Food Bank, those attending are asked to bring a generous donation to support them. More details can be found on the Anten Mills Community Bulletin Facebook page.

Did you know that very soon the sun will set around 5PM and then even earlier? On Sunday, November 2 the sun sets just after 5PM. Sunday, November 2 is also the day we return to

Standard Time. At 2AM that morning we turn our clocks back one hour until March 8. When we turn our clocks back it is also a good time for some housekeeping and to replace the batteries in our smoke alarms. Remember as well that smoke alarms need to be replaced every 10 years so check the date on your alarms and if they are 10 or more years old, go get some new ones.

The Springwater Vespra Lions Club are having their Pumpkinpalooza on November 2 just outside Midhurst that day. After the Jack o Lanterns have done their duty head out to the Pumpkinpalooza with them and see them fly high and return to nature. More details can be found on our facebook page.

Are you aware that October 31 there are two special occasions that occur? Obviously the first is Halloween and all the fun associated with it. The second is one that we all should participate in. The last Friday in October, which this year is the 31st, is also the start of the Remembrance Day Poppy Campaign. Starting that day and up to Remembrance Day we honour those who gave their lives for our freedom and to those who served by wearing a poppy. It is an outward sign of our respect for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for all. Poppies are not sold. You are asked to give a donation and they are available at many locations around the area so please donate generously and wear a poppy.

On Tuesday, November 11 we will remember our veterans at the Remembrance Day services. Last year a new group of volunteers helped to organize the Remembrance Day service held at Springwater Provincial Park. The group has been working actively to ensure that a meaningful and special service is being held again this year. There is complimentary park admission that day and for those with mobility concerns a disability parking area. Under the pines in the park the cenotaph sits in memory of the Vespra Boys who during WW1 lost their lives and didn't come home. Everyone is welcome to attend and refreshments will be available thanks to the Midhurst CRA. Should you wish more information about the service feel free to contact Joan by email at sweetgannon@gmail.com.

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

May Court Holds 32nd Annual Home Tour

By Marianne Schall, Sep. 16, 2025

The volunteers of the May Court Club of Barrie have worked for a year to present Homes For The Holidays on Nov. 9, 2025. Be inspired by this self-drive tour which includes 4 professionally holiday decorated homes in the Horseshoe and Barrie area plus the opportunity to shop for fantastic gifts for family and friends at the Makers Market and Tea Room at the Heights Ski & Country Club. Additionally this year there is a bonus historic stop at the Oro African Methodist Episcopal Church on Old Barrie Rd. All proceeds go to charitable donations such as the Nutrition Program in 21 local schools, Scholarships, assisting in mental health programs, the Barrie Food Bank and so

much more. Tickets are only \$40.00 available on-line at www.BarrieMayCourtClub.ca

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MAKER'S MARKET & TEA ROOM
The Heights

TICKETS \$40
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AVAILABLE AT:
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54 Maple Ave.

OR ONLINE AT:
www.barriemaycourtclub.ca/events

SUNDAY, NOV. 10TH, 2024

FLOS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
2025 AWARD WINNERS

Ambassador Contest:
Winner: Eliza Graham; 1st Runner-up: Lucy Grummett

Jr. Ambassador Contest:
Winner: Max Stones
Runners-up: Lexxy Edmonds & Payton Rowland

Best Rural Display:
Winner : Alicia Spence

Residential Decorating Contest:
Winner: Karen Locke & Brian Lambie

Business Decorating Contest:
Winner: Four Corner Tea Room

Junior Fair:

Elementary Student with the most points
Winner: Annie Stroud, HCES

Pony Show:
High Point Pony & Rider: Hannah Mooney

Baby Show:
Sweepstakes Baby: Scarlett Guarino, Tiny Twp.

Junior Pedal Tractor Pull
Class 1 winner: Tiatgo Campo
Class 2 winner: Harvey Wittick
Class 3 winner: Tave Cobbett
Class 4 winner: Emmett Lees

Bicycle Draw: (Donated by Elmvale Maple Syrup Committee)
Winner: Finn Trace

Sheep Show:
Overall Grand Champion Ram: Derrick Robertson
Overall Grand Champion Breeder's Flock: Leo Atkinson

Market Lambs: Alexa Livingston
Overall Grand Champion Ewe : Garry Milne
Overall Grand Champion Get-Of-Sire: Chris Atkinson
Top Youth Showperson: Olivia Livingston

4-H Achievement Day:
Beef Club:
Champion Calf: Brooklyn Cramp

Champion Showperson: Brooklyn Cramp

Elmvale Dairy Club:
Grand Champion Animal: Grace Finch
Champion Showperson: Emi Lange
Champion Jersey Calf: Landry Jones
Overall Grand Champion 4-H Showperson: Emi Lange
Reserve Grand Champion 4-H Showperson: Brooklyn Cramp

Things From the Past:
Best Antique entry: Dianne Doan

Flowers:
New Exhibitor Award: Rebecca Elliott

Domestic Science:
OAAS Butter Tart class: Heather O'Neill



1st Prize - Alicia Spence

New Exhibitor Award: Samantha Wesson
Exhibitor winning the most points in the Domestic Science Section, sponsored by PineRitch Fur Farm Ltd: Jean Jolie

Handcrafts:
Elaine Parnell Memorial Quilt of the Fair: Karen Street
Bea Lambie Memorial Quilt: Cheryl Webb
Phelpston Quilter's Special: Frank Klurowicz

New Exhibitor Award: Pamela Burt
Exhibitor winning the most points in the Handcraft Section: Ricky Hummelink

Memorial: Jennifer Klurowicz

Grain & Forage:
4-H Exhibitor with the most points : Carina Jones

Field & Garden Produce
Exhibitor with the highest points: Linda Marchant

Heavy Horse Show:
Best Foal on the Grounds: Kent Bruce
Best Horse on the Grounds: Kent Bruce

Beef Show:
OVERALL CHAMPIONS:
Grand Champion Bull: Lori Chalmers
Grand Champion Female: Medonte Highlands

Breeder's Herd & Get-Of-Sire: Chester Tupling

Jacob Martin memorial Banner: Best Cow-calf pair –British breeds. Medonte Highlands

Dairy Show:
Class 15-1: Holsteins
Champion Jr Female: Emi Lange
Champion Sr Female: Jay Robertson
Best Herd: Arway Farms

Class 15-1: Other Dairy Breeds
Champion & Reserve Jr Female: Mark & Julie Parnell

Parade Winners:
Business: Adamson Tree Service
Church: Elmvale Presbyterian Church
Community Entry: Elevate Dance Company
Family entry: Morgan "Mugs" Adams Memorial Float

Township of Springwater
Officially Unveils
Commemorative
Crosswalk in
Honour of Veterans



Township of Springwater / October 16, 2025 – The Township of Springwater Mayor and Council, representatives from the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 262, and Elmvale Business Improvement Area (BIA) gathered, to unveil Springwater's new commemorative crosswalk in honour of veterans, located on Maria Street at the intersection of Queen Street West in Elmvale.

The crosswalk features a design that includes bilingual stencilled messages, two large red maple leaf symbols, and a ladder-style crosswalk configuration. This design was carefully selected to embody national themes of remembrance and adheres to the Royal Canadian Legion's design standards to honour and commemorate the contributions of Canadian veterans.

The initiative stems from a Council-approved motion on November 6, 2024, which directed the installation of a pedestrian crosswalk honouring our veterans, in time for Remembrance Day 2025.

Mayor Coughlin stated, "This commemorative crosswalk is a meaningful addition to the community. It stands as a daily reminder of the courage and selflessness of our veterans and reflects our community's respect for their service."

The Elmvale Legion's President, Graham Simmonds, added, "The Elmvale Legion is honoured to see this crosswalk serve as a lasting tribute. This commemorative crosswalk is a testament to our enduring respect for veterans and their invaluable contributions. It serves as both a daily reflection point and a symbol of our commitment to honoring their legacy."



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Local church celebrates 165 years

By Marlene Lambie, Oct. 17, 2025

“Generations of Faith: Honouring the Past, Embracing the Future”. Elmvale Presbyterian Church (EPC) is celebrating 165 years of worship as a faith community on November 2, 2025. You are invited to come and join the celebration.

Throughout the years, many generations have worshipped, been married, had children baptized, said goodbye to loved ones sharing laughter and tears within the walls. Many children have grown in their faith as a result of faithful Sunday School teachers who brought the word of God to them through stories, craft and song. Groups of many different forms gave the youth of the generations a time to be together with others to sing as a choir, play baseball, do crafts, have a meal all the while learning about their faith and how to deal with the challenges of life. Several of the participants in these youth activities went on to become ministers or missionaries to spread the Good News of the gospel and nurture others in their faith.

Mission has been a focus for the church families from the beginning and has been sustained and nurtured to present day. Over the years, funds have

been raised or material goods accumulated for many in need locally, nationally and internationally. The community of Elmvale and surrounding area has always been an important part of the outreach of EPC and has supported our mission events. In recent years at Christmas, a free turkey dinner has been held so that anyone who is alone at that time can find fellowship and comfort. Food and fellowship again being the reason, many of the community and surrounding area come together on the 2nd Thursday of each month for Let’s do Lunch. Many BBQs and dinners have been held, food and fellowship offered and enjoyed by the community to raise funds in aid of a local project or need, national wildfire disasters, international earthquake devastation, in support of our local hospitals, shelters and care facilities. Sports teams and school breakfast programs have also been assisted in their ventures. Items have been crafted for distribution overseas, for national missions and for the use of those at local shelters.

The ministry of music has been an important part of the life of EPC. A choir, accompanied by a piano or organ, has always led the congregation in singing praises and added to the service with an anthem,

practiced on a Thursday night. We have been blessed, over the years, to have had talented, faithful music directors/organists to lead us. Many musical evenings have been a source of community gatherings.

We know we are one of many churches with the same attributes as EPC, but, when so many churches have had to close their doors, 165 years of faithful worship is a milestone to celebrate and with God’s blessing we will continue to carry on His vision for us, love and care for each other and welcome all who enter.



Did This Thanksgiving Feel Different?

By Stephanie Rumball, Oct. 16, 2025

You might not be able to pinpoint exactly when things changed, but this Thanksgiving, you noticed. Mom seemed quieter. Dad forgot a few details. Maybe they looked a little more tired, or the house didn’t feel quite as cared for as it once did.

These moments can weigh heavy. You tell yourself they’re managing, but deep down, you wonder if they’re really okay. For many adult children, the holidays bring these quiet realizations, and with them, a new kind of worry.

At The Villa Retirement Lodge, we understand how difficult these experiences can be to navigate. It’s not just about logistics or care. It’s about love, trust, and wanting the very best for your family. We appreciate that considering retirement living is a big decision, and as a result, your loved one may be quick to say “I’m not ready yet.” But in our experience, that often means they’re not sure what to expect, or of afraid of losing the life they love.

That’s why a visit can change everything. When step into The Villa, you’ll see that our Lodge isn’t a “facility,” but a warm, welcoming community where residents live life on their own terms. Here, days are filled with friendship, chef-

prepared meals, cozy firesides, and meaningful connection. Independence is encouraged, support is always close at hand, and families find comfort knowing their loved ones are safe, happy, and thriving.

Before the snow flies and the added stress of winter arrives, why not consider visiting our team? We’re here to listen, answer your questions, and help you explore what this next chapter could look like, at your own pace, and without pressure.

Sometimes, the best place to start is to see what’s possible. Let’s talk about what comes next, together.

Did This Thanksgiving Feel *Different?*

Maybe Mom seemed quieter. Maybe Dad forgot a few details. Maybe you noticed they’re not managing quite as easily as before...

When the signs are small but the worry is real, we can help

Isn’t It Worth A Conversation?



The Villa Retirement Lodge
689 Yonge St, Midland, ON L4R 2E1
Call Lise Today! (705) 527-3267



SPRINGWATER
LIBRARY

Elmvale Branch (705) 322-1482
Midhurst Branch (705) 737-5650
Minesing Branch (705) 722-6440

VISIT US TODAY!

Tween/Teen Program
Join a library program to explore creativity in a supportive environment for all skill levels. Make a beaded keychain. Saturday October 25, 2pm-3pm at Elmvale Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

Drop-In Craft
The library will be offering a fun drop-in craft every month. This month you can make a paper cup ghost. This program will be available as long as supplies last. Thursday October 16 at Elmvale and Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free.

Take and Make Craft
Every month the library will have a new FREE craft kit for you to take home and make! Each month be sure to stop by and ask staff for a kit! November is a Fall Tree Saturday November 1.



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Kits are only available while supplies last.

Kid Entrepreneur Fair
Hey kidpreneurs! Got a cool business or something awesome to sell? Grab a spot at our Kids Business Fair! Saturday November 8 from 10 am to 2 pm at Midhurst Branch. Registration required. Parents are responsible for their child, participation, and bringing your starting cash float for business. Please note, this event may/may not have vendors who are selling products that may have come in contact with nuts.

Closure: Staff Training & Remembrance Day
Please note, all branches of Springwater Public Library will be closed Monday November 10. We will reopen to regular branch hours on Tuesday November 11 (with the exception of Elmvale Branch due to the Remembrance Day service we will open at 12noon on Tuesday).

PA Day Program: Tilly the Dog
Sign up for your 10 minute time slot and read to Tilly, a trained ambassador dog. Friday November 14 from 12pm-1pm at Elmvale Branch. Registration required.

Senior Social Coffee and Crafting
Drop by the library for a fun hour of crafting and socializing! One morning a month we will have a simple craft activity set up in the branch along with light refreshments. This is an excellent opportunity for seniors in the community to connect for a fun morning of creativity! Friday November 14, 11am-12noon at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

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

Book Club - First Thursday of each month, 4:00pm – 5:00pm
The book club is resuming this fall. We meet once a month at the library to discuss a pre-selected book. November's book is 'Our Missing Hearts' by Celeste Ng. If you have any questions about the book club, please contact the library.
A minimum of 5 participants is needed to run the program.

Day of the Dead Craft - Friday October 24th 10:30-11:30
The Day of the Dead – Dia de los Muertos is a Mexican holiday to honor those who have passed away. This celebration has become very popular in Canada in the past few years.
Registration is open for Penetanguishene taxpaying members with a valid library card. After September 18th Registration is open to everyone with a valid library card.
The program includes painting a skull, learning about tradition, and making a bookmark.
Ages 4 and up \$2.00 for members, \$3.00 for non-members. Nontransferable, non-refundable. A minimum of 5 participants is required to run the

program.

Swift Party - Friday, October 24th, 2:00-3:00
Join us for a fantastic Swift party. Make a bracelet, a bookmark, sing and have some fun! Ages: 4-14, \$2 for members, \$3 for non-members. Nontransferable, non-refundable. September 11-September 18: Registration open to taxpaying members with a valid library card. After September 18: Registration for everyone. A minimum of 5 participants is required to run the program. Parents/guardians must stay in the building for the duration of the program.

Guided Tour of the Wye Marsh - Tues, Oct 28, 10:00-12:00
Hike, explore, learn! \$4.00 for members, \$9.00 for non-members, non-refundable, non-transferable. Sep 29- Oct 6. Registration open to Penetanguishene taxpaying members with a valid library card. Oct 7- Oct 20. Registration is open to everyone.

Senior's Info Series
In collaboration with many organizations, we are proud to present a series of presentations about seniors' issues and concerns on Thursdays this November. Spaces are limited. These presentations are open to the public. A library card is not required. A minimum of 5 people is required to run a program. We hope you can sign up for the following;

- Oct 30, 10:30-11:30 - Importance of exercising. Speaker: North Simcoe Muskoka Specialized Geriatric Services Program.
- Nov 6, 10:30-11:30 - Human connection. Speaker: Genwell.
- Nov 13, 10:30-11:30 - The future is old. Speaker: Mature Minds.
- Nov 20, 10:30-11:30 - Home modifications and mobility aids. Speaker: Superior Home Health Care.
- Nov 27, 10:30-11:30 - Stay sharp: Keeping your mind active as you age. Speaker: North Simcoe Muskoka Specialized Geriatric Services Program.

Diamond Painting Bookmark - Friday, Nov 7, 2:00-3:00
Make a bookmark with "diamonds". \$2.00 for members, \$3.00 for non-members. Oct 1- Oct 8, Registration open for Penetanguishene taxpaying members with a valid library card. After Oct 8th Registration is open to everyone. Nontransferable, non-refundable.

Wicked Craft - Friday November 14, 2025, 10:30am - 11:30am, Ages: 4-14
Make a Glinda wand at the library! \$2 for members \$3 for non-members. A minimum of 5 participants is required to run the program. October 6th - October 14th: Registration open to taxpaying members with a valid library card. After October 14th: Registration is open for everyone. Parents/guardians must stay in the building for the duration of the program.

Learn to Play Mahjong - Every Monday in November, 10:30-12:30,
\$2.00 for members \$3.00 for non-members. Nontransferable, non-refundable. Oct 6- Oct 14, registration opens for Penetanguishene taxpaying members with a valid library card. After Oct 14 registration is open to everyone. All sessions must be attended.

Have your say
in protecting
drinking water



DRINKING WATER
SOURCE PROTECTION
South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Region

You are invited to view and provide comments on the proposed amendments to the South Georgian Bay Lake Simcoe Source Protection Plan Assessment Reports.

The proposed amendments are in response to updated wellhead protection areas as part of the Midhurst drinking water system within the Township of Springwater.

Visit nvca.on.ca/source-protection/ for more information. Comments on the proposed amendments must be submitted in writing by **November 13, 2025.**

Jo Knows Nutrition

by Joanne Nijhuis



Move over, sour cream, this dip made with protein-rich cottage cheese and naturally sweet onions is here to steal the show. It's a flavourful upgrade on a traditional party favourite that feels indulgent and is far more nutritious than a package of dried onion soup mixed with mayonnaise or sour cream. Pair it with crisp veggies, crusty sour dough bread or whole-grain crackers and watch it disappear in a heartbeat at your next social.

Did You Know?
Cottage cheese is one of the oldest known fresh cheeses, dating back over 4000 years. Its name originates from early European and North American "cottages" where people made simple cheeses from leftover milk after butter-making. Cottage cheese is a nutrient dense, high-protein dairy product made by curdling milk and draining off most of the liquid whey. It is especially valued for being rich in casein protein, which digests slowly, keeping you fuller longer. Substituting blended cottage cheese for sour cream or mayonnaise is a win as it is higher in protein, vitamins and minerals and lower in saturated fat and calories.

- INGREDIENTS**
- 2 cups (500 ml) cottage cheese
 - 2-3 large white onions, thinly sliced
 - 2 whole garlic bulbs, roasted
 - 2-3 teaspoons (10-15 ml) olive oil
 - 2 teaspoons (10 ml) balsamic vinegar
 - 1 teaspoon (5 ml) onion powder
 - ½ teaspoon salt (2.5 ml)
 - ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) ground black pepper
 - Parsley, chopped or green onions, sliced for garnish (optional)

CARMELIZED ONION
& ROASTED GARLIC DIP

AN OLD FAVOURITE GETS A MAKEOVER WITH
PROTEIN-RICH COTTAGE CHEESE



- INSTRUCTIONS**
1. Preheat the oven to 200 C (400 F). Wrap the garlic bulbs in foil and roast for 30-35 minutes. Let cool.
 2. Peel and mash the roasted garlic cloves. Set aside.
 3. In a large frying pan, sauté the onions in olive oil over medium-low heat for 30-40 minutes until a deep golden brown. Be careful not to burn the onions. Add the balsamic vinegar and sauté for 5 more minutes.
 4. Set aside 1-2 Tablespoons (15-30 ml) of the caramelized onions for garnish.
 5. In a food processor or blender puree the cottage cheese, roasted garlic and onion powder until smooth.
 6. Season with salt and pepper to taste.
 7. Transfer to a serving bowl and garnish with the extra caramelized onion and parsley or green onions, if desired.

8. Chill in the refrigerator before serving with crusty bread, crackers or raw vegetables.
- Note: This dip is also delicious as a sandwich spread and in wraps.
- PER ¼ cup (63 ml) SERVING: | Calories: 45 kcal | Carbohydrates: 2-2.5 g | Protein: 6-7 g | Fat: 0.5-1.5 g | Fibre: 0 g

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!

Oct. 19, 2025 - Do you ever feel like the wheels are coming off? Hopefully not literally. But in my case, literally, the wheels are coming off. They were a few years ago anyways.

My patient wife, the kids, and I were on our way home from some event or another. We had taken two vehicles that day. She was driving with most of the kids in our not-quite-new minivan and I was following in our no-longer-new Honda Civic. Everyone was cruising along quite nicely until I noticed her slow down and pull over to the side of the road. We were still about 40 minutes from home. Nothing good can come of this. I thought. I pulled over behind her. She got out. I got out. We told the kids not to get out.

"Something feels odd on the van," she told me. "Something is shaking." Shaking vans are rarely a good thing. Not being a mechanic, these sorts of things cause me some stress. "I'll take a walk

around the van and see what I can find," I told her. I suspected a flat tire. A somewhat easy problem to remedy. But all the tires were inflated. I did a second loop around the van and came upon something most curious. Even without being a mechanic, I was quickly able to deduce what the problem was. You see, most wheels are secured to vans with wheel nuts that tighten on to wheel studs. One of the van wheels was missing about half the wheel nuts. Not only were the nuts missing but the studs were also missing. (Except for me. I was still there. You know... "stud"...never mind.) Perhaps my massive muscles had overtightened the wheel nuts on the last seasonal tire change? Unlikely.

It didn't seem prudent to drive the family home in a van with a wheel secured by only a few nuts. We had friends that lived about 10 minutes away so I thought we could try to limp the van over there and get it towed later. So we switched vehicles. My patient wife and most of the kids hopped in the Civic while I drove the van (very slowly) to our friends' place with a couple kids. All was going

well until the final turn onto their street. Maybe that turn was just a little too much work for those few studs still holding the wheel on. Because they all snapped and I felt the front of the van drop with a jarring clunk. And we were so close to the target! I got out and sure enough there was a tire leaning over, still precariously supporting the van. The kids I had in the van thought this was quite an exciting adventure! At least my patient wife and most of the kids were enjoying a jolly 'ol time at our friends' place just up the road.

I called the tow truck and a few hours later the van was on its way to the mechanic for some TLC. We were all grateful the wheels didn't fall off driving down the road at a rapid rate! But it was close! Time flies, dad. Make every moment count! Even when the wheels are literally or metaphorically falling off!

Jason Weening drives a giant van with his 10 kids and one wife. Read more of their adventures in his new book, "Yes, Dear...I'm Watching Them," on Amazon.

Dr Sean Corsini

Orthodontist

(705) 527-5570

550 Hugel Ave, Midland

DrSeanCorsini@hotmail.ca

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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 Community Church
10 am - 12 noon
Call Lynn for info, 705.322.3309

Midland Jam
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
Adults Start at 7:30
Bay Shore Seniors Club

Askennonia Seniors Centre
Table Tennis, 9am-11am
Yoga, 9am-10am
Line Dancing Advanced, 9:15am-
10:30
Fun Fit Circuit, 9:15-10:15am
Coffee Break, 10:00-12pm
Chair Pilates, 10:30am-11:30am
Intro to Line Dancing- Baby Steps,
10:30am-11am
Walking Club, 11am-12pm
Line Dancing Basic, 11am-12pm
Hand and Foot Card Game, 1pm-
3pm
Writers Workshop, 1pm-3pm

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
13 Queen St W, Elmvale

Penetanguishene Legion
Lunch and/or Regular Euchre
luncheons 11:30am arrivial. It fills
up. Lunch served 12 pm.
Euchre
Tuesdays, 1 pm - 4 pm
\$4, Drop-in, Legion #68, 2 Poyntz
Street, Penetanguishene

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
Pickleball, 9am-12pm (starting
October 14)
Cardio Drums Alive, 9am-10am
Quilting, 9am-12pm
Photography Club, 10am-12pm first
Tuesday of every month
Darts Club, 10am-12pm
Zumba Toning, 10:30-11:30
Badminton, 1pm-3pm
Circle of Friends, 1:30pm-2:30pm

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
Table Tennis, 9am-11am
Pickleball, 9am-11:30am (starting
October 15)
Step Class, 9 am-10am
Line Dancing Advanced, 9:15am-
10:30am
Chair Yoga, 9:15am-10:15am
Men’s Shed, 10am-12pm
Cribbage, 10am-12pm
Intro to Line Dancing- Baby Steps,
10:30am-11am
Line Dancing Basic, 11am-12pm
Walking Club, 11am-12pm
Creative Crafting, 1pm-3pm
Bid Euchre, 1pm-3pm
Woodcarving, 1pm-3pm

Midland Ganaraska Hiking Trail
Club
Meets Wednesdays to hike,
snowshoe, go camping or enjoy
nature outings led by qualified hike
leaders. Hikes meet at Food Basics
Midland at 1 p.m For information
contact Kris 705-435-8593.

Ganaraka Hiking Club-Wasaga
Beach
Weekly hikes Wednesday at 9:30
am from various locations, year
round. Both levels of hikes offered,
intermediate and easy. Snowshoeing

in winter. Please contact Lorraine
at 416-606-5081 or lorvanvlymen@
gmail.com for information.

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

Askennonia Seniors Centre
Zumba, 9am-10am
Pickleball, 9am-11:30am
Corn Hole, 10am-11am
Tai Chi, 10:15am-11am
Chair Pilates, 10:30am-11:30am
Writers Circle, 1pm-3pm
Uke and Guitar Jam, 1pm-3pm
Card Games, 1pm-3pm

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
Palace Tavern Elmvale BINGO
Karaoke 8:30 pm Every Friday
13 Queen St W, Elmvale

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
Cardio Drums Alive, 9am-10am
Pickleball, 9am-11:30am
Badminton, 9:30am-11:30am
Tabata, 9am-10am
Chair Zumba, 11:10am-12pm
Card Making, 1pm-3pm
Musicians Jam Circle, 1pm-3pm

WEEKENDS
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)

Midland Ganaraska Hiking Trail
Club
Meets **Sat and Sun**, snowshoe, go
camping or enjoy nature outings led
by qualified hike leaders. Check the
hike schedule on [https://ganaraska-
hiking-trail.org/?page_id=13455](https://ganaraska-hiking-trail.org/?page_id=13455).
For information contact Kris 705-
435-8593.

Ganaraka Hiking Club-Wasaga
Beach
Weekly Sunday hikes at 1:30 pm in
the Wasaga Beach Prov Park from
Ansley Drive. Please contact Lorraine
at 416-606-5081 or lorvanvlymen@
gmail.com for information.

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
northsimcoebridge@gmail.com.

MIDLAND CULTURE CENTRE
333 King St., Midland
705-433-2321
Guy Davis
Thurs Nov. 13, 2025 from 8-10pm
Canadian Improv Showcase
Thurs Nov. 27, 2025 from 8-10pm
Guy Davis
Thurs Nov. 13, 2025 from 8-10pm
BORN RUFFIANS
Dec 31, 2025 from 9pm -12:00am

HURONIA PLAYERS - MCC
333 King St., Midland
705-433-2321
You’ll Get Used To It!
**Oct, 24, 25, 29 and 30 - Nov. 1, 2, 5, 6,
7 and 8**
Online: huroniaplayers.ca

Battery Collection Week
starts Mon. Nov. 3

Sunday School Registration
Calvary Baptist Church
598 King St, Midland
Open for registration and drop off
to the community. Contact Jody
705-529-3941

Special Events One Time

Trunk or Treat by Tiny Township Lions
Oct. 25, 2025 1-3pm
Perkinsfield Park
Prize for Best Decorated Trunk. Collecting for the Food Bank.

Take-Out Roast Beef Dinner
Oct 25, 2025 from 4-6pm
Midhurst United Church 91 Doran Road
Pick up a roast beef dinner with all of the fixings. \$35. Call 705-722-7208.

Trunk or Treat
Oct. 26, 2025 12 to 2pm
St. John's United Church, Elmvale
Please join us for family Halloween fun and treats

Big Brothers Big Sisters Big Brunch
Nov. 2, 2025 from 10am – 1pm
Sponsorship opportunities
Tickets are \$100 and you get a \$50 tax receipt, Brunch and other fun activities.

Homes for the Holidays& Makers Market
Nov. 9, 2025 from 10-4pm
Self-drive tour for 4 holiday decorated homes and stop at Makers Market at The Heights.
Tickets \$40 at www.BarrieMay CourtClub.ca

Annual Remembrance Day Ceremony
Nov. 11, 2025 at 10:45 pm
Springwater Provincial Park
Complimentary Park admission

Brookside Music Association Presents:
Labyrinth — A Musical Journey Across Asia and the Mediterranean
Nov. 12, 2025 at 7:30pm
Midland Cultural Centre
Tickets: www.midlandculturalcentre.com

Sunday Restoration Holiday Market
Nov. 15th from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Festive outdoor marketplace filled with local makers, music, and holiday spirit.

SCACA: Highland Cow Ornament
Nov. 03, 2025 1 pm-3:30 pm
St Paul's Anglican Church, 5 Noraline Avenue, Midland. All materials Supplied. Members \$15
Guests \$20. Register at 705-727-7389

BOO - BARK - BASH” Halloween
Nov. 01, 2025 1-3 pm
Matheson Creek Camp, 1674 Gill Road,
Event for family and dogs. Come in costume.
Midhurst, Halloween Pet/Owner Costume Parade; doggy obstacle course, and more.
<https://mathesoncreekcamp.com/>

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Apprendre encore plus: <https://nsbcentre.com/fr/side-hustle-success/>



FREE EVENTS PAGE Please submit your event on this link:
<https://www.springwaternews.ca/submit-event/>

Boo Bark Bash!

.... Calling all “Dog lovers”

Saturday November 1st from 1 – 3 pm
Matheson Creek Camp,
1674 Gill Road, Midhurst

By
Get ready for a tail-wagging good time at MATHESON CREEK CAMP'S BOO ... BARK ... BASH event Dress up your pup (and yourself if you wish) and join us for a lively pet costume parade, delicious designer treats for both pets and people, fun photo ops with your furry friend, an entertaining doggy obstacle course, and plenty of prizes and other surprises. Don't miss out—Come early as the first 30 families/pets to register will receive a free Doggy Loot Bag.

This is you, your family, and your “Pet’s” opportunity to have some Halloween fun and show off you and your Dog’s creative costumes in the Pet Halloween Parade.

So much fun to be had In addition to the Halloween Costume Pet Parade, there will be

- Awesome designer cookies for your pet and for you

- Pet and owner photos
- A family and pet scavenger hunt with prizes
- Doggy Obstacle Course
- Prizes for best Pet and Owner Costumes!

Matheson Creek Camp is owned and protected by Communities Connecting for Children – not for profit – Canadian registered charity located at 1674 Gill Road in Midhurst.

This is an important fundraiser for the camp/charity whose mission is to provide Simcoe County children, young adults, youth organizations and families with an outdoor natural environment and heritage experience. Please plan to come experience and enjoy Matheson Creek Camp and support this fun event.

Admission is \$5 per dog (cash only). Again, the first 30 families/pets to register will receive a free Doggy Loot Bag. Come early because there is lots to enjoy.



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Directed by: Ron Payne
Written By: Peter Colley



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Back to the 1940's"



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by request
Call Francis 705-322-1741
to check availability

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Arena: 330 capacity
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request

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Please call 705-533-0998
Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

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Include a little bit about yourself in the email.



Jack Dyer, 94 years young, driving
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He drives the float, "Stop the Pits."



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Buy Canadian should fund Canadian jobs and news, not U.S. Big Tech

A Message from Canada's news publishers

To the Government of Canada,

We applaud the Government of Canada's ambition to build Canada strong, and commitment in the forthcoming Budget to Buy Canadian.

Last year, the federal government including agencies and Crown corporations spent over \$100 million on advertising. Most of it went to U.S. Big Tech.¹

Why are we funding American tech monopolies that extract tens of billions a year out of Canada -- largely untaxed -- at the expense of local journalism and culture, and whose platforms have become vectors for division and disinformation?

Let's reinvest our ad dollars in Canada. In Budget 2025, the Government of Canada should follow Ontario's lead and set aside a minimum of 25% of its advertising budgets for Canadian news media.

At no additional cost to taxpayers, the government can support local jobs while getting its message out in a brand safe environment. Far fewer Canadians trust ads on Facebook and Instagram than those published by Canadian news media.²

Buying Canadian advertising in Canadian news media is both the right and smart thing to do.

Respectfully,
Canada's news publishers



SOURCES
¹ Annual Report on Government of Canada Advertising Activities 2023-2024, combined with proprietary industry data.
² Totum Research Canada, January 2025, Canadians 18+, n=2418; Pollara for the Dais, 2025 Survey of Online Harms, Canadians 16+, n=2502.

MIDHURST PHARMACY



Let's Talk About...

Influenza (flu) & COVID-19 vaccines
With Pharmacist Owners
Jenna Lougheed and Carolyn Glover

We are awaiting our shipments of influenza and COVID-19 vaccinations. The newest COVID-19 vaccine will be covering the LP.8.1 omicron strain. We can begin vaccinating high risk individuals upon vaccine arrival. The program opens up to the general population on October 27, 2025. The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) is recommending administration of both the influenza and COVID-19 vaccine at the same time. Visit our website: www.pharmasavemidhurst.com to add yourself and family members to our waitlist. We will send out booking links via email based on stock availability. If you do not have a computer or internet access, please call us at 705-503-7333 to assist you. We offer prescription delivery and are open 7 days per week for all your health and wellness needs.

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SENIOR TINY TIMES

Jennifer Gray, Volunteer Writer

211 Ontario Helpline and Emergency Preparedness for Seniors

Finding the right type of community service when needed is not an easy task. We're not always aware of the services available to us or how to find them. For older adults, it can be even more difficult. Seniors may not have the digital literacy or desire to search online for information. They may also be managing compounded difficulties which can include isolation, health, and mobility issues.

211 Ontario is a free, confidential service that connects people with local community and social services across the province. It can be accessed by phone (call 2-1-1), text, online chat, or by searching its database of over 60,000 programs and services. The service is available 24/7 and helps with a wide range of needs, including housing, food, health care, employment, and mental health services - all in multiple languages. Using 211 as a non-emergency enquiry line during times of emergency (declared or undeclared), will reduce the load on municipalities, 911 and 311, allowing them to focus their resources on ways that they are uniquely equipped to do.

Unlike search engines, 211 applies a human touch for personalized solutions. The service provides trained and accredited Community Navigators who know how to ask the right questions to get the full picture of a person's needs. Navigators then provide referrals to services to connect callers to the right supports. In addition, some partnerships include 211 registering individuals for services directly or providing a transfer to the program. 211 will also advocate on a contact's behalf, at their request.

The helpline is answered by real people 24/7. Service is available in 150+ languages. Text is also available 24/7. Live chat service is available Monday to Friday from 7am-9pm ET.

Some of the key 211 support services for older adults or their caregivers include:

- Financial assistance: OAS, GIS, GAINS, CPP, and help with applications.
- Housing and home support: retirement homes, long-term care, home maintenance.
- Health and wellness: mental health support, geriatric care, assistive devices.
- Transportation: accessible transit options for those with mobility challenges.
- Social and recreational programs: clubs, meal programs, volunteer opportunities.

- Elder abuse support: counseling, shelter, legal aid.
- Fraud prevention: Seniors can call 211 if they suspect a fraud or scam call. They may be redirected to Fraud Prevention Centre.

To contact 211 Ontario:
Phone or text: 2-1-1
Email: gethelp@211ontario.ca
Live chat is also available through the website.

Emergency Preparedness for Seniors

Emergencies can happen without warning. Whether it's a flood, power outage, wildfire, or severe storm, being prepared can make all the difference. Ontario communities face a range of hazards – from ice storms and wildfires to floods and tornadoes. Knowing which risks are more likely in a region is a crucial part of being emergency ready. This November, the Township of Tiny is hosting a presentation on Emergency Preparedness for Seniors as part of their Senior Speaker Series.

This practical and informative session will focus on how to stay safe and ready for unexpected situations such as power outages and severe weather. Attendees will learn how to create a simple emergency plan, what to pack in a go-bag, and how to stay connected during emergencies. Designed with seniors in mind, the workshop offers clear, step-by-step guidance to help you feel confident and prepared. Presentations will be delivered by Denis Maurice, CEMC & Division Chief of Fire Prevention, Township of Tiny; and Sahar Balvardi, Emergency Management Coordinator, Canadian Red Cross.

Date: Thursday, November 6, 2025, 9:30am-12:00pm
Location: Township of Tiny Community Centre (91 Concession 8 East, Tiny)
Registration is free, but participants must reserve a ticket in advance.

For more information and to register, visit www.tiny.ca/seniors/programs or call the Recreation and Special Events Department at 705-526-4204.

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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In Loving Memory of Esko Vartiainen

We sadly announce the passing of Esko Vartiainen, a loving husband, devoted father, proud “Ukki,” and a man of true Finnish sisu (grit and perseverance). Esko left us peacefully on September 27, 2025, at the age of 87, in Penetanguishene, Ontario. Esko’s journey began in Lappeenranta, Finland on October 31, 1937. He brought his adventurous spirit to Toronto, where he later met and fell in love with Marita, his beloved wife of over 50 years. Esko was a steadfast father to Jari, Jussi, Larry, and Christel, and their family was lovingly completed when he formally adopted their youngest son, Shawn, as a toddler. In the mid-1970s, the family moved to Midland, where Esko’s entrepreneurial spirit thrived. Through his businesses—from Sunnyside Upholstering to Esko Tops and Canvas Products, and later the Midland Bay Marina—he exemplified the values he taught: honesty, hard work, and finishing what you start. His faith became a cornerstone of his life in the last few decades, and he was a deeply committed member of the Pentecostal church. His quiet presence, unique sense of humour, and unwavering support will be profoundly missed by all who knew him. He was a proud Ukki to his cherished grandchildren, Matthew, Kyle, Heili, Lucas and Amelia. He will live on in our hearts forever. Please join us to celebrate Esko’s life and share our memories at The Shores Community Church, 256 Queen Street, Victoria Harbour, on Saturday, October 25th, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. A reception will follow at the church. For those who wish, donations in Esko's memory can be made to The Shores Community Church through My Charity Fund - Georgian Shores Community Church. Memorial condolences may be shared at www.leclaircremation.ca



Vlietman, Rosalina (Lynn) (nee Govaert)

July 18, 1929 - September 21, 2025

It is with great sadness, that we announce the passing of our greatly loved Mom, Oma and great Oma, at the age of 96.

Lynn was the beloved wife of 68 years, to Petrus (Peter) Vlietman, (predeceased 2015).

Devoted and loving mother to Thea Patterson of Minesing, Frank (Debbie) Vlietman of Lindsay, and Marion Vlietman of Chatham. Predeceased by daughter Elly Vlietman (2016), and son-in-law, Doug Patterson (2015).

Lynn was the beloved Oma of 8 and great Oma of 16. She was the third of seven children born to Emile and Lotje Govaert of Amersfoort, The Netherlands. Predeceased by five siblings, Lynn will be deeply missed by her one surviving sister, Betty Kraaijenbrink-Govaert, and many nieces and nephews in The Netherlands.

Lynn & Pete, along with their four young children, immigrated to Canada in 1958. Being the only members of their families to do so, they thoroughly enjoyed their return trips to visit with family and friends there, and were excited to host family visiting them here, in Canada. For many years their love of road trips took them to many places across the U.S. and even Mexico, to spend their summer vacations. As doting and involved grandparents, Lynn & Pete were very much present in their grandchildren's lives, and looked forward to family gatherings to simply spend time with them, and seeing them all thrive. A private family service was held on Friday, Oct. 3rd at Minesing Union Cemetery.

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