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# Here Comes the Sun

By Kari Belcourt, North Simcoe Springwater News

The long-awaited return of sunshine has finally arrived just in time for the unofficial start of summer — the May 24 long weekend. Across North Simcoe and Springwater, signs of the season are appearing almost overnight as communities come back to life under warmer skies.

Lawns have suddenly turned a vibrant green, roads are busier, and neighbours once again wave across driveways while tackling spring cleanup projects. Garage sale signs are beginning to line local streets, offering weekend adventures for bargain hunters, while trailers, boats, bicycles, and visitors return to the roads as summer activity ramps up throughout the region.

With the arrival of warmer weather also comes the reopening of many beloved local attractions and outdoor destinations that make the area such a treasured place to live and visit.

#### Family Fun Returns

#### Rounds Ranch

Rounds Ranch is preparing to welcome families back for another exciting season beginning May 22, opening Fridays and Saturdays.

The popular family attraction offers more than 25 activities, including tractor rides, a petting zoo, corn maze, Bandit's Bubble Bash, and seasonal events throughout the year. Visitors can also look forward to baby animals in June, blooming wildflowers in July, sunflowers in August, and Pumpkin Mania and Halloween festivities in the fall.

Since purchasing the farm in 2001, owners Ken and Geri Rounds have transformed the 125-acre property into a destination focused on family fun, learning, and creating lasting memories.

#### Barrie Hill Farms

Another seasonal favourite, Barrie Hill Farms, has officially opened its farm market for the year, with Pick-Your-Own asparagus beginning May 16.

The family-owned farm has deep roots in the community dating back to 1968 when Adrien and Evelyn Gervais purchased the property. Originally a tobacco farm, the operation evolved over the decades into one

of Ontario's largest highbush blueberry farms while expanding into strawberries, raspberries, apples, pumpkins, asparagus, and other crops.

Today, Morris Gervais and his family continue the tradition by welcoming visitors for pick-your-own experiences, wagon rides, fresh produce, baked goods, and locally sourced products.

#### Elmvale Jungle Zoo





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The Elmvale Jungle Zoo also opens for the season on May 16.

Established in 1967, the zoo has grown from a small reptile collection on two acres into a 30-acre wildlife attraction operated by the Persi family since 1972.

Much of the property remains untouched to protect natural habitats for local wildlife, reflecting the zoo's commitment to conservation and education.

Exploring Local Treasures  
Awenda Provincial Park

For outdoor enthusiasts, Awenda Provincial Park continues to offer one of the most scenic natural escapes in the region.

Located along Georgian Bay, the park spans more than 2,900 hectares and features forests, wetlands, beaches, and over 31 kilometres of trails.

Popular features include the towering Nipissing Bluff, Kettle's Lake canoeing, and trails such as Beaver Pond Trail, Bluff Trail, and Wendat Trail.

Wasaga Beach Provincial Park

Meanwhile, Wasaga Beach Provincial Park is once again preparing for another busy summer season along the world-famous shoreline.

The park's seven kilometres of sandy beach attract thousands of visitors each year for swimming, boating, hiking, and family recreation.

The Wasaga Nordic & Trail Centre also provides year-round recreation opportunities, including hiking and cycling during the warmer months and skiing and snowshoeing in winter.

Tiny Township Beaches Welcome Summer Visitors

The Township of Tiny's stunning 70-kilometre shoreline once again becomes a summer destination for beachgoers looking to enjoy Georgian Bay's crystal-clear waters and sandy beaches.

Tiny Township's five major waterfront parks — Balm Beach, Bluewater Beach, Jackson Park, Lafontaine Beach Park, and Woodland Beach — continue to serve as key gathering spaces for residents and visitors throughout the summer season.

The beaches offer a wide variety of amenities including:

- Accessible beach access, Picnic areas, Playgrounds, Boardwalks, Boat launches, Washroom facilities, Swimming areas, Family-friendly recreation spaces

Throughout the summer, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit conducts regular water testing at designated public beaches to help ensure safe swimming conditions for visitors.

From relaxing beach days and waterfront walks to boating, paddleboarding, kayaking, and family gatherings, Tiny Township's shoreline remains one of the area's greatest natural treasures during the warmer months.

Beach Parking Information for Summer Visitors

As summer visitors begin flocking to Tiny Township's popular waterfront destinations, residents and tourists are reminded of the township's beach parking regulations and permit options for the busy season ahead.

Resident parking permits are available to both permanent and seasonal residents of Tiny Township. The first permit is provided free of charge, while a second permit may be purchased for \$30, with a maximum of two permits permitted per property.

Parking permits can be obtained: Online, In person at the municipal office, By mailing or dropping off an application

For visitors and occasional beachgoers, hourly and daily parking remains available through both the HotSpot Parking mobile app and on-site Pay & Display parking machines.

The HotSpot Parking app, available on Apple and Android devices, allows users to conveniently pay for parking, extend time remotely, and receive reminders before parking sessions expire.

Pay & Display parking machines are available at:

Woodland Beach, Jackson Park, Balm Beach, Lafontaine Beach Park

The township also offers free parking at pay parking locations for vehicles displaying Ontario Veteran Licence Plates, though the exemption does not apply in permit-only or no-parking areas.

In addition, non-resident parking permits are available to residents of:

Midland, Penetanguishene, Tay Township, Springwater Township

As the warm weather returns, officials encourage visitors to plan ahead, respect parking regulations, and help preserve the area's beaches and waterfront spaces for everyone to enjoy throughout the summer season.

As sunshine returns and seasonal destinations reopen, communities across North Simcoe and Springwater are once again reminded why the area is such a special place to call home — especially beneath the bright light of the spring sun.



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# Pick Fresh Asparagus

2935 Barrie Hill Road, Springwater

## Letter to the Editor Submission

The provincial government needs money, seems it always does - government ministers can't live within their budgets and the debt continues to grow. Interesting that the Conservatives would tax alcohol - seems an easy win as no one is forced to have a beer on Saturday, therefore it can be thought of as a non forced tax. I can see the simple yet juvenile reasoning behind such a move by the Ford government.

But the tax is a flat tax - it is the same for everyone; again it sounds fair, but a person whose income is \$500,000 will pay exactly the same amount for a bottle of wine as a person earning \$40,000. For the wealthy the tax increase is a no-never-mind while for the rest of us the increase hurts, makes life just a little more of a struggle.

If you and your fellow Conservatives are interested in remaining in power, then perhaps you should endorse legislation which favours the

underclass rather than the elite. Think in terms of reducing the 8 percent provincial sales tax, a flat tax - everyone pays the same \$5,000 on an auto purchase - crushing for the lower wage earners, but petty cash, chump change, for the six figure club.

The income gap between the top 10 percent and what remains of the middle class is widening - and the Conservative government continues to

push through taxation schemes which affect the lower income strata disproportionately.

Today I paid \$50 for a case of beer (one of life's simple pleasures) Better that the salaries of MPPs were reduced by the same percentage that taxes are increased.

Joffre McCleary  
16 Dyer Blvd.  
Barrie L4N 9G2

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### Recreation and Special Events

#### Charity Tournaments

##### Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament

- June 11, 2026, at 11:30 a.m. at the Orr Lake Golf Club

##### Charity Pickleball Tournament

- August 27-30, 2026, at Parkside Park in Balm Beach

Join us to play, sponsor or donate. All proceeds will be distributed to charities and non-profits in North Simcoe. Learn more at [tiny.ca/CharityTournaments](http://tiny.ca/CharityTournaments).



#### Canada Day

- July 1, 2026, from 11:30 a.m. to 10:15 p.m. at Balm Beach

Live entertainment, family-friendly activities, and an evening drone light show.

Learn more at [tiny.ca/CanadaDay](http://tiny.ca/CanadaDay).

#### New Family Disc Golf Program

- Starts May 26, 2026, for 4 weeks from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Wyevale Park

Open to participants ages 10+ with a parent or family member. The first 30 minutes includes guided instruction followed by 60 minutes of gameplay. All equipment is provided. The program wraps up with a celebratory pizza party. Register for \$10 + HST at [tiny.ca/PlayPortal](http://tiny.ca/PlayPortal).

#### Tiny Walking Group: Tiny Rail Trail 7 Bridges

- June 23, 2026, from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. at the Concession 12 Rail Trail Parking Lot

Join our 55+ Walking Group for casual group walks throughout Tiny, supported by Nature Connect Volunteer Ambassadors. Register for free at [tiny.ca/Seniors](http://tiny.ca/Seniors).

#### Tiny Fun Art

- Two 4-week session options:

- June 6, 2026 - July 7, 2026, Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- July 28, 2026 - August 8, 2026, Tuesdays from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

- Located at the Township of Tiny Community Centre

Open to children ages 5-10. Children will be guided through painting, sculpting, and mixed-media techniques. Register for \$100 + HST at [tiny.ca/PlayPortal](http://tiny.ca/PlayPortal).

### Seasonal Reminders and Notices

#### Public Washrooms

Washrooms at our major beach parks in Tiny are now open! To see which parks have washroom facilities, visit [tiny.ca/Beaches](http://tiny.ca/Beaches).

#### Water Fill Stations

The public water fill stations at many of Tiny's beaches, parks, and facilities are now open. To check the status and location of the waterfill stations, visit [tiny.ca/WaterStations](http://tiny.ca/WaterStations).

#### Jackson Beach Boat Ramp

The Jackson Park boat ramp is now open! Please note that the boat ramp has limited depth and is intended for small watercraft use only. Conditions may vary day to day based on sand movement. Ramp use is at the risk of the user, and they must assess depth and suitability for the watercraft. The Township of Tiny is not responsible or liable for any vehicle or watercraft damage or usability of the ramp.

#### Boating Speed Limit

The speed limit within 300m of shore is 10km/hr in Tiny between Concession 1 and Concession 16. This speed is enforced by the OPP.

#### Beaches in Tiny

Residents and visitors are reminded that personal items/private property cannot be left unattended or overnight on municipally owned property. Items left unattended or stored on municipal property will be removed by the township at the owner's expense. Waterfront structures such as boat lifts on the lakebed are regulated under Provincial law and are not permitted in front of any municipal property.

#### Road Resurfacing and Capital Projects

2026 capital projects including road, water, and park improvements can be viewed at [tiny.ca/CapitalProjects](http://tiny.ca/CapitalProjects).

### Council Meeting Schedule

June 3 2:00 PM	June 24 2:00 PM	August 5 2:00 PM	YouTube Watch the live-stream on Tiny's YouTube channel
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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 [tiny.ca/Events](http://tiny.ca/Events).

### 2026 Municipal Elections

The next municipal elections in Ontario will be held on October 26, 2026.

#### Voter List

Registration is open! Make sure you are on the voting list and update your information by visiting [RegisterToVoteOn.ca](http://RegisterToVoteOn.ca).

#### Update and Check Your School Support

Make sure you check your school support by June 1, 2026. This will ensure that the correct School Board Trustee candidates will be available for you during the election period. Visit [mpac.ca/SchoolSupport](http://mpac.ca/SchoolSupport).

Visit the source for all information about the Township of Tiny Municipal Elections at [tiny.ca/Elections](http://tiny.ca/Elections).

### Tiny Fire Reminders



Permit holders are reminded that slow, smouldering fire sometimes can lead to nuisance complaints and may result in an order to extinguish. Leaf burning is prohibited. Get your permit at [tiny.ca/Fire](http://tiny.ca/Fire).

### 2026 Property Taxes

Final tax bills have now been processed. Please watch for your bill, which will be delivered by mail or email (if enrolled in e-billing). Failure to receive a tax bill does not excuse a property owner from payment or relieve them from any late payment charges.

Register for e-billing and pre-authorized payments!

**Installment Due Dates**  
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Have questions? Contact us at [taxdepartment@tiny.ca](mailto:taxdepartment@tiny.ca) or 705-526-4204. Learn more at [tiny.ca/Taxes](http://tiny.ca/Taxes).

## CLH Foundation's Red Carpet Concert Featuring Juno-Award-Winning Artist William Prince raises more than \$135,000 to benefit CLH Developmental Support Services

Penetanguishene, ON – CLH Foundation's annual Red Carpet Concert returned to King's Wharf Theatre on May 9, and brought together a powerful blend of live music, community and purpose in support of the more than 2700 adults, seniors, youth and children with developmental disabilities served by CLH Developmental Support Services in our region.

This year's concert featured Juno-Award-winning artist William Prince, one of Canada's most compelling and gifted singer-songwriters. A direct descendant of Chief Peguis, William Prince was born in Selkirk, Manitoba, and moved with his family to Peguis First Nation as a boy. He creates music that reflects resilience, belonging, and the shared human experience. Currently on tour in support of his fifth album "Further from the Country", William Prince has built an exceptional body of acclaimed work, and is celebrated by peers, critics and fans alike. Prince announced on Saturday morning that he will take the stage in Toronto next month to kick off the FIFA World Cup opening ceremonies, joining a roster of performers including Alanis Morissette and Michael Bublé.

His recent honours include two Juno Awards, the John Prine Songwriter Fellowship, and an



Americana Honors & Awards nomination. From Newport Folk Festival to sold out shows at Massey Hall, and from NPR's Tiny Desk to The Grand Ole Opry, William Prince has performed on many of music's most historic stages. CLH Foundation is proud to have presented this talented and prolific artist here in North Simcoe.

Sarah Kitchen, Chair of A Red Carpet Concert and CLHF Board President: "We are incredibly proud to have welcomed William Prince to the stage for A Red Carpet Concert in support of CLH Foundation. His generosity and support made a tremendous impact on this year's event, and his performance left the audience absolutely captivated. Whether longtime fans or hearing

him for the very first time, guests were moved by the authenticity and extraordinary talent he brought to the stage."

A Red Carpet Concert is CLH Foundation's most significant public fundraising event. This year's event has raised more than \$135,000. Funds raised support CLH Foundation's Means to Thrive initiative, and contributes to essential care, enriched programming, and opportunities that foster connection, confidence, and community for every member of the CLH community to truly thrive.

Media Contact:  
CLH Foundation  
705-528-2825 | [sue-ellen.boyes@clhmidland.on.ca](mailto:sue-ellen.boyes@clhmidland.on.ca) | [www.clhfoundation.ca](http://www.clhfoundation.ca)

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# A LIFT FOR ST. JOHN'S U.C. AND COMMUNITY

The move toward accessibility for St. John's U.C and greater Community was climaxed by this group photo showing Councillor Matt Garwood presenting a congratulatory certificate to CoChairs Pam Erskine and Krista Clark at the Ribbon cutting ceremony. The photo includes the construction team Mighton Construction, planner Markus James, ribbon cutter Doreen Turner, Revs. Pat and Colin MacDonald and people representing the many committee members and contributors of St. John's. A huge step ahead for accessibility!



## High Tea Entertainment

A delightful High Tea was recently held at St. John's United Church as part of the ongoing fundraising efforts for side entrance accessibility improvements at the church. Guests enjoyed a delicious selection of traditional High Tea treats while being entertained by The Kooky Ukeys ukulele group, whose lively music and sing-alongs added to the warm and welcoming atmosphere.

The afternoon was filled with laughter, conversation, and a wonderful sense of community spirit. Attendees gathered to enjoy good company, warm cups of tea, and a memorable afternoon together in support of an important cause.

Organizers extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended, volunteered, donated, and supported the event. Thanks to the community's generosity and participation, the High Tea was both a meaningful fundraiser and a tremendous success.

# OLRA Update

The Victoria Day long weekend is behind us and the lake community has swung into summer mode. It's time to put life jackets on the boat, renew fire permits, and plant some native species along the shoreline. The Orr Lake Ratepayers Association (OLRA) is here to help!

Over the winter months the OLRA continued discussions with the groups that have jurisdiction around the lake including Springwater Township, Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA), the OPP, and the Couchiching Conservancy, whose region abuts the Orr Lake Watershed.

Our focus has been on the health and safety of the lake and its residents. Concerns about unsafe driving habits were raised with OPP Community Engagement Officer Adrianna McGinnis

and Councillor Alexander. It's a complicated matter as Penetanguishene Road falls under the provincial government, South Orr Lake Road under Simcoe County, and the remaining roads are Springwater's responsibility. As a first step, we will ask that traffic calming studies be implemented by all three levels of government. Please do your part and respect the speed limits!

There is good news on monitoring water quality in Orr Lake! Olena Volik at SSEA is implementing a new Smart Water Watch program. It will enable members of the public to monitor water quality and report concerns directly to SSEA. OLRA will instruct residents on reporting methods and will also continue to assist with regular water testing. Springwater Council, recognizing the confusion around reporting the

presence of blue green algae, will collaborate with SSEA and Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit to coordinate communication with the public.

In order to better engage with the Orr Lake community, the OLRA is managing the 'Orr Lake Ratepayers Association' Facebook page and 'Orr Lake Currents' chat group. Be sure to check in on our social media where we share information from our partner organizations. We are also compiling a handbook that will include a comprehensive list of contact information for government departments and agencies. If you have a concern, you'll know who to call.

Stay tuned for membership information. We need YOU!

Remember: Lake First, Community Always.



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**LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Stewart L. Page Scholarships in Agriculture and Home Economics, as contributed primarily by people and organizations of North Simcoe, are offered annually in recognition of the guidance given in the development of agriculture and rural life by Stewart L. Page, Agriculture Representative for North Simcoe during the years 1925 to 1967.

The Scholarship is open to residents of North Simcoe for at least

One year at the time of application, who've attained an acceptable

Grade 12 standing as required by the selected college or university; and who wish to enroll in an approved Agriculture, Veterinary or Home Economics related degree or diploma course, as may be available at Kemptville, Ridgeway, Alfred or University of Guelph, or any other similar institution with a course approved by the committee. Applications are available from the School Guidance Departments or by contacting Myrna Jones at myrna.jones48@gmail.com Thank you Myrna Jones



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**Message from MP Shipley**

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

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

We can assist with the following matters:

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- Immigration Refugee Citizenship Canada inquiries
- Any other federal matters

How we can help is determined on a case-by-case basis, so the best thing to do is contact my office by

telephone or email to discuss your specific situation. Then we can let you know what steps we might be able to take to assist you.

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

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

We look forward to hearing from you.

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

**Community Update from Ward 1 Councillor Matt Garwood, Township of Springwater**

Community Update from Ward 1 Councillor Matt Garwood

Hello Springwater residents. I'm pleased to share updates on recent decisions and developments that are shaping our community. My goal with these columns is to inform, not to offer opinions, so you can stay connected with what's happening in Springwater.

**Sponsor a Flower Basket:**  
Show your community pride while helping beautify downtown Elmvalle by sponsoring a hanging flower basket. This simple yet meaningful program enhances the downtown experience for residents, visitors, and local businesses alike, creating a welcoming and attractive community space.

**2026 Springwater Swing:**  
Be part of the 18th Annual Springwater Swing Golf Tournament on Wednesday, June 24 at Vespra Hills Golf Course. This popular event brings the community together for a day of golf while supporting important local initiatives. Every birdie, bogey, and bunker shot helps raise funds that are reinvested into programs benefiting residents across

Springwater, making it both a fun and impactful way to give back.

**Changes to Elmvalle Community Garden:**  
The Elmvalle Community Garden will be relocating from Bishop Park to Robinson Park following Council approval, as the new location has been identified by Staff as more suitable for its intended use. In addition, Council adopted a new Community Garden Policy to provide a clear, consistent, and well-managed framework to support community gardening initiatives moving forward.

**Public Engagement on Natural Ice Rink Policy and Procedure:**

Council has directed Staff to begin a public engagement process to help shape a potential policy and procedure framework for natural ice rinks on Township-owned property.

Following this engagement, Staff will report back to Council with recommendations, including proposed policies, procedures, and any associated resource or budget considerations.

**WE WANNA HEAR FROM YOU!**

**WHAT POLITICAL AND NEWS COVERAGES MATTER TO YOU?**

**SUBMISSIONS**

Do you know someone who would like to be featured in our paper? Submit your photos, events or the good news you'd like to share with your community.  
Please submit your photos to the Editor. Email: info@springwaternews.ca  
**Full name, phone number and address must be supplied.**



**Don Marchant**  
Owner / Operator  
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**Notice of Open House for the Township of Springwater Official Plan 2051**

Wednesday, June 10, 2026 | 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.



**Take Notice** that the Township of Springwater in collaboration with the County of Simcoe will hold an Open House for Official Plan 20251 (OP2051) on **Wednesday, June 10, 2026**, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at the Township Administration Centre, located at 2231 Nursery Road in Minesing. The Corporation of the Township of Springwater has initiated an Official Plan Update pursuant to Sections 17, 26 and 27 of the Planning Act.

The Open House is intended to provide for informal discussion regarding the process and information completed to date in support of the Township's Official Plan 2051. Members of the public and stakeholders are encouraged to view information boards and discuss the project with staff members on an informal basis.

**Purpose and Effect**

The purpose and effect of the Township's Official Plan Update is to implement changes to effectively manage growth to 2051 and implement the findings of the Growth Management Study, including the Settlement Area Boundary Expansion of Midhurst for Employment Lands. The Township is also utilizing this opportunity to align the Township's Official Plan with changes made through Provincial and County legislation. The following will be included through this update:

- Proposed modification to the Midhurst Secondary Plan schedule and text to reflect the Settlement Area Boundary Expansion and the introduction of a policy section for the Forbes Road/Highway 400 Employment Area.
- Addition of a Special Policy Area schedule and text for the Long-Term Employment Reserve Overlay.
- The planning horizon of the Official Plan document will be extended to 2051 and a conformity exercise for all upper tier (County and Province) legislation.
- Align the Official Plan schedules with the Barrie/Oro-Medonte/Springwater Boundary Adjustment Act

**The Proposed Township Official Plan Update**

**Subject Lands:** For the Midhurst Settlement Area Boundary Expansion (Employment Lands) and Special Policy Area (Long-Term Employment Reserve Overlay) the key map is available on our website. The proposed Official Plan update applies to the entirety of the Township of Springwater and therefore no key map has been provided.

At this time, a Growth Management Study 2026 has been prepared, presented and endorsed by Township Council. The Growth Management Study, and supporting documents are available for review on the Township of Springwater website, by visiting [www.springwater.ca/OfficialPlan2051](http://www.springwater.ca/OfficialPlan2051)

The OP2051 webpage will continue to be updated as additional material becomes available prior to the Open House. All materials will also be available for review at the Township Administration Centre. It should be noted that the Open House does not representant the formal Statutory Special Meeting/Public Meeting under the Planning Act, notification of this meeting will follow in the future under a separate notice. No decision will be made at the Open House.

If you are unable to attend this meeting but would like your comments and/or concerns received by members of Council, please submit your comments along with your name and mailing address to the Township of Springwater Planning Department, or by email to [OP2051@springwater.ca](mailto:OP2051@springwater.ca). Please note that the County of Simcoe will hold additional statutory public consultation and notice of these meetings will be provided at a later stage in the process.

**Additional Information**

If you wish to be notified of the decision of Springwater Council on the proposed Official Plan 2051, you must make a written request to the Township of Springwater.

If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of Springwater Council to the Ontario Land Tribunal but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Springwater before the proposed official plan is adopted, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Township of Springwater before the proposed official plan is adopted, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Ontario Land Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

**Dated at the Township of Springwater on May 1, 2026.**

**Planning Department**  
Township of Springwater, Administration Centre  
2231 Nursery Road, Minesing, ON L9X 1A8

Tel: (705) 728-4784 x 2019 Fax: (705) 728-2759  
E-mail: [OP2051@springwater.ca](mailto:OP2051@springwater.ca)  
Website: [www.springwater.ca/officialplan2051](http://www.springwater.ca/officialplan2051)

# CROSSWORD ANSWER

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## Hey Dads! By Jason Weening

Hey Dads! How has your spring been? Warm and sunny or maybe cold and windy? Or maybe dry and super windy? Like, the-neighbours-shed-just-blew-across-the-field-and-the-tree-outside-my-window-just-blew-down windy. The pros say the winds around here reached almost 100km/hr the other day! That's about as fast as my highway driving...or something approximately close.

Do you remember the Dust Bowl back in the 30's? Me neither. But I hear it was quite windy and dusty! The combination of dry dust and windy wind last week reduced visibility to less than a mile. It was almost like fog but more like fine dusty fog that gets in your eyes and nose and mouth if you look into the wind. How do I know this? Well, I had to go for a little adventure walk with one of the kids to see if it was as windy as it seemed out there.

It was! 5-year-old Mabel held my hand tight lest she blow away. We were strolling around the yard counting how many trees we would have

to clean up later and inhaling fine dust into our lungs. I'm no fan of face masks but this could have been an opportunity to wear one. I'm glad I borrowed my brother-in-law's chainsaw last year and still had it borrowed this year. It will come in handy on tree clean-up day. Little Mabel decided she had enough of this weather and headed back to the house without blowing across the prairies.

The previous dad who lived here did a great job of repairing one of the trees in the yard. I bet you didn't know you could repair trees. Maybe saying "repair" is a stretch. "Prolong it's upstanding years" would be a more accurate phrase. The tree I refer to was split down the middle and I'm sure would have come crashing down in this wind if it wasn't for his clever thinking. I guess at some point he noticed the tree splitting and wrapped a nice thick ratchet strap around it 3 or 4 times to keep it up a few years longer. Well done, previous dad!

Mabel had walked up on the porch behind the house while I wandered over to inspect how that strap was holding up in this wind. There were plenty of creaks and groans but it was still nearly good as new! Suddenly, I heard a giant crack behind me! Another tree came crashing down right between Mabel on the porch and me at the strapped tree. That was close! Thankfully neither

Mabel nor I were traumatized, maimed, or killed by the falling tree. My patient wife and a few kids were watching from in the house and saw the near miss. No harm done. Just some more future chainsaw work.

Mabel and I lived to tell the tale but if you're looking for some advice, I don't recommend inspecting gale-force wind damage in the middle of the gale-force winds. Like the old wives' tale says, "Safety first!" Time flies, dad! Make every moment count! Even the windy ones!

Jason Weening cleans up trees with his 10 kids and one patient wife. Check out his book, "Yes, Dear...I'm Watching Them," on Amazon.

**North Simcoe Springwater News**

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# Emma Cole -Grade 5 Student Huronia Centennial Elementary School

Happy May! We have been having lots of fun at HCES this month. Between sports, music, and community events, it has been another busy month!

Congratulations to our boys and girls basketball teams on their strong performances at the recent regional championships where both teams won gold! Their teamwork and sportsmanship made us proud, representing our school with determination and spirit. Thank you to Mrs. Isaac and Mr. Cook who gave their time and shared their expertise for a successful season.

This month we welcome our newest learners to our school as they visit us for Kindergarten Orientation Night, where families and new students will have the opportunity to explore the school and meet the staff. We can't wait to meet these new Hawks!

A thank you goes out to students and staff for our recent clothing drive in support of Sharewear. This was our second annual clothing drive, with all items going to support Sharewear and our community. If you didn't get a chance to donate through the school, consider dropping your gently used clothing off at Sharewear.

As a school we celebrated Music Monday this month. This is a national celebration of music in schools. We had an assembly and listened to music and learned how important music is in our lives. The choir and band did a great job performing.

Both our choir and band under the leadership of Ms. McGinnis, also recently participated in the Midland Music Festival. Both groups were awarded gold for their performances. The choir

also earned an award of distinction. We look forward to hearing these students perform again at our concert later this month.

We recently had our Smile Cookie Campaign. Our school community came together showing great school spirit during this year's SMILE Cookie campaign. With the generous support of Tim Horton's and our community, we raised nearly \$17,000. All students were also grateful to receive a Smile cookie from a very generous donor. Yum! The funds raised will support initiatives such as our Mindful Mornings and enhancements to our schoolyard for the whole community to share. Families and staff played an active role in the campaign, decorating cookies and volunteering

their time to support this great campaign. Many also greeted customers at the drive-through, encouraging the community to buy a cookie and support our school.

Our Drama Club under the leadership of Ms. Potts, had their first play last week, with two performances - Humpty Dumpty and Tacky the Penguin. Families and kindergarten students came to enjoy the productions.

None of these activities in May, along with Mindful Morning, reading with students, chaperoning field trips and more, could be possible without all of the amazing volunteers and our School Council. Thank you to everyone!



## THE FINNISH PHILOSOPHY BEHIND SIMCOE COUNTY'S GROWING WELLNESS RITUAL



As summer begins to settle into Simcoe County, more people are rethinking what recovery actually looks like.

Not the once-a-year escape kind. The kind you build into your life before burnout forces the issue.

That shift is happening at Vettä Nordic Spa, located in Horseshoe Valley, where hydrotherapy is becoming less of an occasional indulgence and more of a regular wellness practice for many local guests.

Rooted in authentic Finnish sauna culture, Vettä Nordic Spa was designed around a philosophy that has existed in Finland for generations: that rest, nature, and sauna are not luxuries, but essential parts of maintaining wellbeing. Guests move through cycles of heat, cold, and rest intended to support physical recovery, mental clarity, stress reduction, and nervous system reset.

"We're seeing people approach wellness differently now," says the Vettä team. "People are realizing recovery works better when it becomes part of a rhythm, not something reserved for the point of exhaustion."

That mindset is becoming increasingly common among people looking for quieter, more intentional ways to recover without having to leave the region.

Some visit after work to decompress and replace

another night of screen time with something more restorative. Others come during quieter weekday mornings for movement, recovery, and social connection.

To support more regular wellness routines, Vettä Nordic Spa currently offers several weekday initiatives throughout the summer, including promotions for healthcare workers, seniors, and teachers, along with its Twilight evening hydrotherapy offering Sunday through Thursday after 5 p.m.

Memberships offering unlimited Monday through Thursday hydrotherapy access have also become increasingly popular among guests embracing sauna culture as an ongoing wellness

practice rather than an occasional escape.

That connection to Finnish tradition will be especially visible during Juhannus on June 19 and 20, the traditional Finnish midsummer celebration marking the longest days of the year. The event will feature "Sauna with a Finn" experiences led by founder Eric Harkonen, flower crown workshops, patio gatherings, and programming inspired by Finnish midsummer traditions rooted in nature, community, and seasonal living.

Because recovery shouldn't only happen once you've hit empty.

Learn more about seasonal offerings, memberships, and Juhannus celebrations at Vettä Nordic Spa. <https://vettaspa.com>



# Springwater Sports Heritage Announces 2026 Hall of Fame Inductees



principal commitments, dedicated to recognizing and preserving the achievements of local athletes, builders, and teams who have brought distinction to the Township of Springwater through sport.

"We are absolutely thrilled to unveil this exceptional group of Athletes, Builders, and Teams," said Barb Maw, chairperson of the induction committee. "Every induction cycle is special, but there is an intense sense of energy this year. These individuals and teams have reached incredible heights in their respective fields, and it is a true honour to see them join

**2026 Hall of Fame Inductees**  
The 2026 athlete inductees are:

- Lou Belcourt — Baseball**
- Matthew Beleskey — Hockey**
- Jamie Clarke — Figure Skating/Baseball**
- Robert Conn — Hockey**
- Graham McNabb — Hockey/Baseball**

**Builder inductees include:**

- George Allen**
- David Drinkill**
- Kathleen McCarroll**

- The teams selected for induction are:**  
**1983-84 Elmvale Juvenile Hockey Team**  
**1986-87 Elmvale Bantams Hockey Team**

the ranks of our outstanding Hall of Fame Alumni. The calibre of talent in our community continues to inspire us all."

According to Springwater Sports Heritage, inducted athletes and teams are recognized for demonstrating exceptional talent, dedication, and determination, while builder inductees are honoured for helping create an environment that significantly benefitted athletics and athletes within the township.

The Hall of Fame currently operates as a digital archive while also displaying awards and memorabilia in a public area of the Elmvale Community Arena. The organization says it continues to work toward establishing a permanent dedicated Hall of Fame location

Upon induction, all athletes, builders, and team members become part of the Springwater Sports Heritage Alumni — a network the organization describes as "a prestigious and active circle of leaders dedicated to the future of our community."

Springwater Sports Heritage says the alumni group works collectively to preserve local sporting history, inspire future generations, and strengthen community spirit throughout Springwater.

Additional details regarding ticket sales and banquet information are expected to be released in the coming weeks through Springwater Sports Heritage.

# Barrie Baycats Open 2026 Season



By: Brian Belcourt  
North Simcoe Springwater News

The Baycats return to action hosting their home opener against the Toronto Maple Leafs on May 14th, at Athletic Kulture Field. Coming off a successful 2025 season including a trip to the IBL finals - the 15th finals appearance in the franchise's history - ultimately falling in six games to the Welland Jackfish.

The longtime powerhouse Baycats will be adapting to some new changes as the IBL transitions into the Canadian Baseball League, marking a rebranding into a fully professional model heading into the 2026 season.

Some of the major changes include going from a 42 game schedule to a 48 game schedule, expanded rosters, and more imports. The new postseason format has now also reduced the number of playoff teams from 8 down to 5. Despite the tougher challenge to now qualify for the post season, the Baycats will look to prove they can still dominate in a deeper, more competitive league. Even with less margin for error, for a franchise with eight championships, the pressure and expectations are nothing new.

Before the game began, the Barrie Baycats paid tribute to longtime owner and Vice President Paul Marley following his recent passing. Marley's granddaughter, Ella - a member of the Barrie Storm, threw out the ceremonial first pitch after what was an emotional, yet touching tribute. Referred to as a 'Mr. Everything' in local sports for more than five decades Marley was inducted into the builders' category of the Barrie Sports Hall of Fame in 2022 alongside longtime co-owner and president, David Mills

Marley, who attended virtually every game since helping found the Baycats in 2001, was instrumental in the construction of the Baycats' stadium in Midhurst and a baseball team that won seven Intercounty Baseball League (IBL) championships in the two decades Marley and Mills led the organization. Beyond the Baycats, Paul and the Marley brothers were Springwater sport enthusiasts and talented hockey and ball players---Paul's 1977 Fastball team was inducted into Springwater Sports Heritage Hall of Fame at its first Induction Ceremony in 2014. As

a member of the Elmvale Curling Club, Paul served for a term as its president in 1984. He also coached minor hockey and baseball teams in the Elmvale/Phelpston area.

Powered by dominant pitching and timely power throughout the lineup, the Barrie Baycats opened their season in style Thursday night, defeating the Toronto Maple Leafs 6-1 in their home opener at Athletic Kulture Field

As the game was set to get underway, despite the cool May weather, Baycats fans showed up in droves, ready to support another season of Barrie Baycats baseball.

Barrie's pitching staff dominated the Leafs lineup, combining for thirteen strikeouts while allowing just one earned run on six hits. Veteran left-hander Frank Garcés earned the win after tossing five strong innings, allowing one earned run on five hits while striking out six across 95 pitches. After Garcés exited, the bullpen took over.

Offensively, Barrie got on the board in the bottom of the second inning when Nolan Machibroda launched an opposite-field solo home run deep to left field to give the Baycats an early 1-0 lead. The Baycats broke the game open an inning later with a three-run third. Adam Odd started the frame's scoring with a solo home run from the nine spot in the lineup before Canice Ejoh singled and Brandon Hernandez worked a walk.

With two aboard, Ryan Rijo delivered a clutch two-run single to cap off the inning and extend Barrie's lead to 4-0

after three innings.

Toronto's lone run came in the top of the fourth when Dennis Dei Banning connected on a solo home run.

Fans can expect a familiar and fan-friendly home slate, highlighted by Thursday night games and Saturday afternoon starts, designed to accommodate families, groups, and fans of all ages throughout the summer months. The Barrie Baycats are excited to unveil their full lineup of theme nights and special events for the 2026 season at Athletic Kulture Stadium, featuring cultural nights, family entertainment, free-entry games, and brand-new experiences throughout the summer.



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## Bearbells By Leslie Noonan

May 14/26

I had finally kicked that nasty flu, but it had really sapped my energy, so I was not really in the mood for a hike. To add to that, with the grey skies and occasional rain drops,

high hills on either side, meandering through the tall trees on a gentle decline. A small flutter near some downed trees had me stopping and standing still until a small olive colored bird hopped upon the tumbled branches. Perhaps a vireo or warbler, though my birding skills are such that it could have been a parrot for all I know!

The forest began to change, hardwoods giving way to pine and cedar, and the ground became damp and muddy. The temperature dropped dramatically, and at times my breath was visible in the cold air. The trail began to branch off in several directions, and this is when the map comes in handy, as each intersection is marked with a number. However, if you are directionally challenged even the markers might not keep you from setting off down the wrong trail. I had no destination in mind and found myself taking random twists and turns, leaving the Ganaraska trail behind. This southeast section of Copeland is relatively flat, with wide trails and easy terrain. Today I had the trails to myself, except for the fleeting glance of a biker's blue and white helmet as he maneuvered through the trees. Horse riders also use the forest, so it's best to watch for road apples on the trail.

Signs indicated that I was getting close to the local resort, so I changed course and began a leisurely hike back towards the general direction that I had come from. Of course, that meant a significant climb back up through those hills and valleys. The trails became narrower and less used, and even the trail markers were occasionally missing or damaged. Luckily, I have a good sense of direction and soon found myself on a high ridge of land. I had worked up a good sweat from that uphill climb, so I was happy to see the trail heading back down to lower land. That is, until I realized that the nice climb down had brought me to the original trail that I had come in, only halfway down it and I would have to head back up again. I wiped the condensation from my glasses and have a soft sigh, and gripped my poles and trekked back up those hills. Back at my car I realized how good I felt, both mentally and physically, reminding me of the need to push ourselves sometimes to get out of both our heads and homes. Get out and enjoy nature, your soul with thank you.



I just wanted to curl up with a warm cup of tea and a good book. Instead, here I was pulling into the parking area of the Amos forest tract near Horseshoe Valley with a gloomy spirit to match the gloomy day.

The Amos Forest tract has several trails that connect with the nearby Copeland Forest, and it is prudent to take a photo of the map on the information board, as once in Copeland there are a staggering number of trails that crisscross this vast area. This is also a part of the Oro Moraine, a geologically significant area that was formed when receding glaciers left behind huge mounds of gravel, silt and meltwater valleys. Great for both skiers and hikers, though my legs might not thank me at the end of the day. The moraine is also important as a groundwater recharging area and replenishes the local aquifers, providing us with clean drinking water. All fantastic reasons to protect this beautiful forest.

Off I went, under those grey skies, through a forest of oak, maple and beech. The freshly sprouting buds gave the canopy a soft green tinge. Under the trees the forest floor was bright with colors; vibrant greens of new growth, bright white trilliums, yellow bellwort and delicate blue and white ground violets. Very soon the morels, with their brown wrinkled caps, would be poking up through the detritus. Foragers will be out collecting these mushrooms as well as the pungent ramps and delicious fiddleheads. The best foragers will abide by the ten percent rule, and only harvest ten percent of any material in patch, a sustainable practice that ensures that there is enough left for reproduction and to feed the animals that need it.

Sparrows and robins sang in the branches, as a red squirrel raced along a fallen tree. My walk became more relaxed as I began to enjoy my hike, breathing deeply of the clean air and letting my cares fall away. I had planned a short jaunt into the forest, but I was now feeling stronger and happier, and decided to go further afield. The Ganaraska Trail runs through a portion of both Amos and Copeland Forests, and the white blazes are easy to follow. Down the trail went through a valley with



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## ANTEN MILLS By Dennis Gannon

Did you have the opportunity to enjoy the warm weather this past Victoria Day weekend? Seasonal temperatures at this time of the year should hover around 19 - 20 degrees Celsius. Unfortunately we have seen more single digit or low teen temperatures than what should be expected. With a northwesterly wind, there were many days when it felt more like early November than mid May. Usually around now lawn mowers and gardening season is starting. From the long range forecast we may start seeing more normal temperatures later next week. It is nice to see that the days are longer with over 15 hours of daylight. Now only if we could get the temperature and the daylight together so we could enjoy both at the same time.

One thing that only needs temperature in the low numbers are ticks. We have not been fortunate enough to be immune from them. They have been reported along the Rail Trail and in the county forest. The best protection for your dogs are the prescribed medications and checking them after every walk. Remember to protect yourself as well by using insect repellent and checking your clothing after your walk.

Garage sale season is now here. If you are looking to have one why not join in the annual Anten Mills community wide sale on Saturday, June 13. The sale occurs in your driveway but a map is created so that shoppers can find all the great bargains in the village. There is plenty of time to sign up and all you need to do is go to the Anten Mills Community Bulletin Facebook page and follow the steps. Minessing is holding their sale on June 6 for those interested.

Canada Day, July 1, falls on a Wednesday this year. That makes it challenging for those who like to make a long weekend of the holiday. In years past when the community association had to fund not only the events but the expenses of the hall, a Strawberry Supper was held in the hall. Delicious local strawberries were supplied and a cold plate was served. Those days have long since passed. During the pandemic, the firefighters to get some community spirit alive held a truck parade on Canada Day. It was great to see the creativity of the firefighters. This year there is a group of volunteers interested in bringing back a community event.

While details are still being worked on it will likely suggest that we all decorate our homes with our Canadian flag. In recent years, the Canadian flag has meant different things to different people. But at its heart, it remains a symbol of the values we share, community, kindness, and pride in where we live. Consider flying a flag if you can and celebrate the place we are proud to call home.

The day could include a lunchtime bbq, some games and perhaps a ball hockey game and a kids baseball game. All the events would be held at the community centre and park. If you are interested in supporting the event or if you have any suggestions please feel free to reach out to me or any member of the Anten Mills Community Recreation Association. Let's make this a Canada Day to celebrate and watch for more details here and on our facebook page.

The signboard along Wilson has been busy of late. Karis has been looking after the administration and Kelly getting the messages up. Instead of it being blank, Kelly posted the information on how to get your message up. Thanks Kelly and if you're interested the contact information is antenmillssign@gmail.com.

The Ontario government has been promoting volunteers to join the Ontario Corps. Many people, while having an interest in helping others, don't want to become part of a group that meets regularly or has attendance requirements. Joining the Ontario Corps is a great way to help others when there is an emergency. The County of Simcoe has something that is more local and will assist people in need in their community. They have launched the Simcoe Emergency Response Volunteer team. This is a great opportunity for those who can assist especially those who are retired and may have had some experience with emergencies. There are three distinct streams that you can apply for or all three. You can be part of the auxiliary communication team, the emergency shelter support team or the field support team. Information on the duties of the teams and how to apply to join can be found on the County of Simcoe website, Simcoe.ca and look under the Emergency Management Department banner.

That's all for this week, as always, THANKS for READING, BE WELL and STAY SAFE!





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#### Drop-In Craft

The library will be offering a fun drop-in craft at both its Elmvale and Midhurst Branches. This program will be available as long as supplies last. There is no registration required for this free program. Thursday May 21: Moving Caterpillar

#### We Lend a Hand Movie Event

We Lend a Hand: The Forgotten Story of Ontario Farmerettes is a 50 minute documentary film that tells the extraordinary story of the 40,000 young women who volunteered on Canadian farms and helped win the Second World War. After the screening there will be a special Q&A with the filmmakers and a chance to acquire film autographed copies of Onion Skins and Peach Fuzz: Memories of Ontario Farmerettes, Shirleyan English and Bonnie Sitter's amazing book. This film has won awards for Best Documentary, Best Documentary Short, Best Canadian Documentary, and Best Film About Women. This event is sponsored by: Centre



#### Memory and Aging Workshop for Older Adults

Thursday, June 25, 11AM-12:30PM  
Join an engaging and informative session with Dr. Farena Pinnock on age-related memory changes. Explore common myths about aging, learn what's normal and what's not, and discover brain-healthy lifestyle choices and proven strategies to help you remember what matters most. Registration recommended.

#### TD Summer Reading Club

Ages 0-11  
Register to collect your official Summer Reading Club swag bag and enter our Guess the Fish contest. Drop in anytime to report on your summer reading and earn ballots for our grand prize draw! There will be activities and contests all summer long! Registration open Monday, June 15. Reporting begins Thursday, July 2.

#### Teen Summer Reading Program

June 26-Sept. 7  
Ages 12-18  
No registration required  
Collect your ballot at check out or on our website and tell us about your reading experience for your chance to win our grand prize!

#### Adult Summer Reading Program

June 26-Sept. 7  
No registration required  
Why should kids have all the fun? Collect your ballot at check out or via our website and tell us about your reading experience for your chance to win 1 of 3 gift certificates to local Midland businesses. Be sure to check out the MPL Summer

Flos Women's Institute, Elmvale Community Recreation Association, Flos Agricultural Society, Friends of Springwater Public Library, and the Simcoe Federation of Agriculture. Friday May 22, 7pm at the Elmvale Community Hall. Cost: \$20.00. Tickets are available online through the library website.

#### Get Ready for Kindergarten

Join us at the library to get your child ready for kindergarten. This is a four week series; however, feel free to sign up for the specific week(s) that your child needs. Please register your child (parents do not need to register but a care giver's attendance is required). Cost: Free. Mondays in June at Elmvale Branch, 10:30am. Registration required. Topics covered include: ABC's, Phonics, and Printing their name, Numbers, Shapes, and Patterns, Packing lunches and Backpack needs.

Reading Guide for great reading recommendations for all ages.

#### Live Music from Barrie Jazz and Blues

Friday, June 12, 1-3PM  
Join us for free live music from the artists of the Barrie Jazz and Blues Festival!

#### Children Storytime

Ages 2-4  
Wednesdays, 10:30-11AM  
Join us for stories, songs, and action rhymes every Wednesday morning! Drop-in. No registration required.

#### Baby Time

0-18 Months  
Thursdays, 2:30-3PM, May 7—June 11  
Join us for Baby Time! Enjoy bouncing rhymes, songs, and stories for babies from birth to 18 months with their caregivers. Drop in. No registration required.

#### Kinder Coders

Ages 6-8  
Meet Botley, the primary school coding robot! Botley introduces children to computational learning and simple if/then logic. Children will do some simple coding with a remote control, which Botley will then execute. Caregivers must be present. Registration required. Please limit registration to one of the following identical sessions:

Monday, May 25, 4—4:45 PM

Friday, June 5, 10:15—11 AM

Sensory Playtime

Ages 0—5

Join us every second Monday morning for sensory play. This is a drop-in space where children are given the opportunity to explore their senses through play! Caregivers must be present.

Mondays, 10-11:30AM

May 4

#### Summer Reading Program Registration

Hey kids! Sign up for our summer reading program and earn a registration prize! We've got a variety of programs, Storywalks games, crafts, prizes and STEM planned for a whole summer of fun! Registration opens Monday June 1 at 10am.

#### 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! Kits are only available while supplies last. Monday June 1: Rainbow umbrella.

#### PA Day Program

This PA Day play old favourites, learn a new game, or bring one to share! There is no registration required for this drop-in program. Friday June 5, Elmvale and Midhurst Branches. Starts at 10am.

#### June 1 & 15

Secondary School Study Hall

June 19-25

Need a place to study for exams or work on an end-of-semester project? MPL has converted one of our study rooms into the ultimate study space, equipped with supplies, snacks, and stress busters. Study alone or in a small group using your student card. No registration required. First come, first served during all MPL open hours.

#### Bubble Tea & Brushstrokes: A Painting Program for Teens

Tuesday, June 2, 4:30-5:30PM

Ages 12-18

A relaxing sip & paint session where you can enjoy delicious bubble tea, discover library resources, and explore your artistic side. No experience needed! Registration recommended.

#### Teen Summer Reading Program

June 26-Sept. 7

Ages 12-18

No registration required.

Collect your ballot at check out on our website and tell us about your reading experience for your chance to win our grand prize!

PLACE YOUR AD HERE!  
CONTACT US FOR  
AVAILABLE AD  
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## Jo Knows Nutrition

by Joanne Nijhuis



In Ontario, asparagus is one of the earliest locally harvested vegetables of the season and this green spring salad is a perfect way to enjoy nature's bounty. The recipe comes together quickly, making it ideal for weeknight dinners or backyard gatherings

with friends and family. Roasting the asparagus spears brings out their natural sweetness while the toasted almonds add a satisfying crunch. A touch of lemon zest keeps every bite fresh and vibrant. So good!

#### Did You Know?

Asparagus has a long culinary history spanning thousands of years. With origins in the eastern Mediterranean region and brought to North America by European settlers, asparagus has become one of Ontario's premier spring-time crops. Packed with mega-nutrients, asparagus is a very good source of insoluble fibre, folate and vitamins A, C, E and K. Asparagus also contains the soluble fiber inulin which promotes gut and heart health.

#### INGREDIENTS (4 Servings)

- 6-7 cups (1500-1750 ml; 450 grams) chopped asparagus
- 1 Tablespoon (15 ml) olive oil
- ¼ teaspoon (1.25 ml) salt
- ¼ teaspoon (1.25 ml) freshly ground black pepper
- ½ cup (125 ml) crumbled feta or shaved parmesan, optional
- ½ cup (125 ml) sliced or chopped almonds, toasted
- Zest of 1 lemon
- Lemon Herb Dressing
- 2 Tablespoons (30 ml) olive oil
- 1.5-2 Tablespoons (22.5-30 ml) fresh lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) honey or maple syrup
- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) dried oregano or basil
- Freshly ground black pepper and salt, to taste

Building a Life for All  
Seasons (formerly Annie's  
Journal) written by Annie  
Warner Donnelly



## LIFE STYLE

# SPRING ASPARAGUS SALAD

### A FRESH FARMER'S MARKET FAVOURITE



#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. In a dry skillet over medium heat, toast almonds for 3-5 minutes until fragrant. Set aside.
2. Toss the chopped asparagus spears with olive oil, salt and pepper.
3. Heat the grill or grill pan on a cook-top to medium-high. Grill the asparagus for 5-8 minutes, until lightly charred and tender-crisp.
4. To make the salad dressing, whisk together the olive oil, lemon juice, honey or maple syrup, oregano or basil, salt and pepper.
5. To arrange the salad, place the asparagus on a platter and drizzle with the salad dressing. Top with the feta or parmesan (optional), toasted almonds, and lemon zest.
6. Serve warm or at room temperature.

#### ENJOY!

PER SERVING: |Calories: 185 kcal | Carbohydrates: 9 g | Protein: 6 g | Fat: 15 g |Fibre: 4 g | Sodium: 390 mg |  
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—for groups or individuals—in person and online. For more information, email Joanne at jo.knows.nutrition@outlook.com.

Hello Everyone. Have we become so distracted by the events taking place around us that we find ourselves limiting the time we spend with God? Has this resulted in our moving away from Him and His promise of plans to give us a future and a hope; of His promise to never leave us or forsake us? Have we begun to think that He doesn't care about the sounds of war and economic instability, of incurable diseases and those with grief-stricken hearts? Have we stopped believing His promises?

Bringing God's words into the events of our daily living provide us with a framework that will sustain us through the ups and down of the seasons of our lives. God's word sustains through the early years when we're studying during grade school, high school, college or university—all with the hope of discovering what we like to do and are good at doing it.

Perhaps the next season is finding that special person we want to spend our lifetime loving. Having children may become a reality.

Maybe we choose to remain single, loving the members of our family and serving others in our community. Illness may come our way. Parents may die; others we love may die. The company where we work may be sold or go out of business. We may find ourselves unemployed.

The seasons of life vary from happy to sad; from challenging to uplifting; from joy-filled to grief-stricken; from lonely to not lonely; from balanced to overwhelmed; and more. We desperately need the strategies that enable us to be kept in the perfect peace that Jesus offers us—We need to build a Christ-centred life that enables us to move through all our life's seasons in His perfect peace. Will we build our lives on the opinions of others, or will we trust God's word?

Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948 when he was assassinated) taught, "The future depends on what you do today." Let's think about what that means in our lives. Let's think about the origin of our beliefs. How do they affect what we will do today? Amen.

Dr Sean Corsini Orthodontist  
No referral necessary



705 527-5570  
550 Hugel Ave, Midland



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**HALL RENTAL**

**ELMVALE LIONS HALL RENTAL**  
1979 Flos Rd 7 W, Elmvale

**Cost: \$400.00**  
**as of Jan 1, 2026**

Fully LCBO licenced facility. Bartender available for hire. Commercial kitchen and all meal serving items are included. Stage. Capacity indoors: 125 in hall Capacity with outdoors: 184 Call Lion Bob Coe to book 705-322-4484

**Elmvale Legion Hall Rental**

Available for all functions. 135 person capacity. Bar available upon request.

**Contact 322-1042 to book**

**HALL RENTAL**  
Palace Tavern available for your function at \$0 cost to you. Includes bartender. 200 person capacity. Also available: **DJ, Karaoke Live Band** by request Call Francis 705-322-1741 to check availability

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**NOTICES**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**NORTH SIMCOE VETERINARY SERVICES**  
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We are delighted to announce that we have welcomed Dr. Carleigh Cathcart to our veterinary practice as a mixed animal practitioner. Our team is thrilled to have her on board and we look forward to the expertise and care she will bring our patients.

Dr. Carleigh has been working in a mixed animal practice in southern Ontario and has decided to move to "God's Country".

Dr. Carleigh graduated with a Bachelor of Science, Animal Biology in 2016 and then the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine in 2021 from the University of Guelph.

In addition to our wonderful and growing skilled support team Dr. Carleigh Cathcart will be joining:

- Dr. Joel Rumney - Large animal practitioner
- Dr. Edie Habermellner (Rumney) - Small animal practitioner
- Dr. Rose Rumney - Mixed animal practitioner
- Dr. Shauna O'Brien - Mixed animal practitioner
- Dr. Emily Young-On - Small animal practitioner
- Dr. Elri Oosthuizen - Large animal practitioner
- Dr. Ashley Mann - Small animal practitioner
- Dr. Zoey Garland - Mixed animal practitioner
- Dr. Suzanne Abray - Small animal surgeon

**LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PRACTICE AT WWW.NORTHSIMCOEVETS.COM OR ON FACEBOOK AT NORTH SIMCOE VETERINARY SERVICES! MIDLAND VETERINARY SERVICES 705-534-7680 705-835-3722**

**NOTICES**

**Grandpa's Horse Stable Antiques & Collectibles**

10am - 5pm Daily **SPRING SALE**

May 16,17,18 & 23,24 & 30,31, 2026 **LOTS OF IN STORE DISCOUNTS!**  
Antique furniture, china, glass, silver, crystal, art, pottery, wicker, stained glass, windows, garden art, collectibles

**343 Horseshoeshoe Valley Rd West**

**GARAGE SALE**  
**Saturday & Sunday May 23 & 24th**  
**9:30 am- 4:30 pm**  
**970 Yonge St. Midland**  
**One half fishing items, 10" gas ice auger, house stuff, tools, much more, something for everyone!**



9A Queen Street East  
Elmvale

**FREE and NEW TO YOU**

**Elmvale Community Church**  
**12 Queen St E, Elmvale**

**Our hours are:**  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
10am until 1 pm,  
Tuesday 6:00-8:00pm,  
Wednesday 3:00-5:00pm  
Saturday 9:00am until noon

**CLASSIFIED**

**AUCTION NOTICES**

**Rapid-Sell**  
ONLINE AUCTIONS

**Upcoming Auctions**

- Murphy Moving Auction - Brampton (May 17 - 21)
- Signature Event Rentals Auction (May 17 - 21)
- May Multi Consignor - Guelph (May 24 - 28)
- Restaurant & Catering Equipment Auction - Guelph (May 24 - 1st)
- Executive Home Content Auction - Kitchener (May 31 - June 4)
- Coulman Moving Auction - Guelph (June 7 - 11)

**+ 2 Prime Real Estate Properties + Exquisite Antiques**

**Heritage Victorian Residence Auction**  
1900's Victorian Home Detached Residential **2,470 Sq. ft. - loaded with charm!** *June Dates*

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**RENTALS**

**FOR RENT**

Full detached house for rent \$3000 + utilities in Midland  
**3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, garage, private fully fenced backyard**

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**PHOTO SUBMISSIONS**

Do you know someone who would like to be featured in our paper? Submit your photos, events or the good news you'd like to share with your community. Please submit your photos to the Editor. Email: info@springwaternews.ca **Full name, phone number and address must be supplied.**

**SERVICES**

**ELDER HELPER**

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Melanie 705 725-6439



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For over 50 years, Jarlette has been part of the Midland community. Today, The Villa Retirement Lodge carries that legacy forward in a beautiful new space designed for modern retirement living, where comfort, connection, and compassionate support come together.

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# EVENTS

## Community Events Ongoing

### SENIOR CLUBS

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

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

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

**MONDAY**  
**Elmvale Seniors Drop In**  
Elmvale Library Lower Level  
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

**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-3:30pm  
Writers Workshop, 1pm-3pm

**TUESDAY**  
**Bay Shore Seniors Club**  
Bay Shore Mini Putt, Members Only  
May 19 - Aug 25 8:30 - 10:00 am  
Skull Island 104 Main Street Wasaga Beach  
Table Shuffleboard  
**Tuesdays at 1 pm** Cost \$2  
Elmvale Legion  
7 John Street Elmvale

**Penetanguishene Legion**  
**Lunch and/or Regular Euchre**  
luncheons 11:30am arrival. It fills up. Lunch served 12 pm.

**Euchre**  
**Tuesdays, 1 pm - 4 pm**  
\$4, Drop-in, Legion #68, 2 Poyntz Street, Penetanguishene

**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

**Steelers Music Bingo**  
5:30-6:30 pm  
Steelers Restaurant, 23 Queen Street West, Elmvale

**Bay Shore Seniors Club**  
Pool/Billiards - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Indoor Pickleball - 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm  
Crafts - 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
Bid Euchre - 6:30 - 9:30 pm

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

**Bay Shore Seniors Club**  
LifeStyles - 9:00 am - 10:30 am  
Access Art - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
Indoor Pickleball - 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

**Georgian Shores Seniors Club**  
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am  
Chair/Floor Yoga, 9:30 – 10:30 am  
Zumba Gold, 11:30 – 12:30 pm  
Games Afternoon, 12:30 - 3:30 pm  
2nd Camera Club, 2:00 - 3:30 pm

**Askennonia Seniors Centre**  
Table Tennis, 9am-11am  
Pickleball, 9am-11:30am  
Tai Chi, 9am-10am  
Step Class, 9am-10am  
Line Dancing Advancing, 9:15am-10:30am  
Chair Yoga, 9:15am-10:15am  
Cribbage, 10am-12pm  
Intro to Line Dancing- Baby Steps, 10:30am-11am  
Walking Club, 11am-12pm  
Line Dancing Basic, 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.

**Ganaraska 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.

**Georgian Shores Aquarium Club**

**2nd Wed Sept-June**  
North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre in Multipurpose Room  
Monthly meetings  
Guest speakers, DIY aquarium related projects

**Ganaraska Hiking, Barrie Club**  
Start: Feb. 25, 2026 10:00  
End: May. 27, 2026 10:00  
Location: Various locations  
Description: Guided forest hikes every Wednesday as detailed in the GHTA website calendar.

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

Euchre - 7 pm  
Elmvale Legion

**Askennonia Seniors Centre**  
Zumba, 9am-10am  
Pickleball, 9am-1:30pm  
Men's Shed, 10am-12pm  
Cardio Drums Alive, 10:15am-11:15am  
Chair Pilates, 10:30am-11:30am  
Writers Circle, 1pm-3pm  
Uke and Guitar Jam, 1pm-3pm

**Bay Shore Seniors Club**  
Choir - 10:00 am - 11:30 am  
Book Club (last Thursday of the Month) 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
Darts - 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
Cribbage - 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

**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.

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

**Bay Shore Seniors' Club**

VON SMART Exercises - 9:30 am - 10:30 am - FREE  
Pool/Billiards - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Indoor Pickleball - 10:30 am - 12:00 pm  
Wood Carving - 10:00 am - 3:00 pm  
Shuffleboard - 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
Indoor Pickleball - 4:00 pm - 5:30 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), 7 John Street Elmvale

**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.

**Ganaraska 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**

**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.

**Barrie/Kempfenfelt Probuc Club**  
Social Club for retired seniors  
Monthly Meetings: 10:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.  
Third Thursday of every month  
Royal Canadian Legion  
410 St. Vincent Street  
(Parking lot entrance — off Ferris Lane)  
Yearly Club Membership — \$60.00  
Further Information may be had online at: <https://www.barrie-kempfenfelt.com> (705) 220-3501.

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

## Special Events One Time

**Wyevale United Church is having a Music Jam Night May 22 starting at 7 pm.** Cost \$3  
Bring an instrument, and come out. More information Beth 705-361-2644  
No experience necessary.

**Elmvale District Garden Enthusiasts Plant Sale**  
May. 23, 2026 09:00-12:00  
Heritage Park  
Locally grown reasonably priced Perennials, Annuals, Hostas, Herbs etc for sale.

**Community Garage Sale Day Rest Stop**  
Start: May. 30, 2026 10:00-1:00  
Elmvale Presbyterian Church, 22 Queen St. E  
Come, & enjoy a hotdog & pop to refresh you as you continue to shop for bargains

**Crown Hill Women's Institute**  
115th Anniversary Celebration  
Sat, May 30 2pm-4pm  
Dalston-Crown Hill United Church  
All Welcome

**Bake Sale**  
Jun. 06, 2026 08:00-12:00  
Midhurst United Church 91 Doran Road, Midhurst, ON  
Cookies, cakes and pie, oh my! Don't miss our delicious bake sale!

**North Simcoe Eco-Summit**  
Jul. 11, 2026 10:00-2:00pm  
1474 Woodrow Road, Coldwater, ON, L0K 1E0.  
Family-friendly eco event with BBQ, booths, music, and kids activities

**Rainforest Falls VBS**  
Aug 10-14 9-noon Free  
Elmvale Presbyterian Church  
For children who have completed JK through to Gr 5  
Registration Forms on the Church website, at the Church and at the Library

**Publication Dates 2026**  
Next Editions  
June 4th & 18th

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## Brookside Music Association Brings World-Class Musicians Into Local Schools

The Brookside Music Association recently completed an inspiring Music in the Schools outreach project presented in five local schools, bringing live performances and interactive music education directly to students across the community.

Participating schools included Burkevale Protestant Separate School, Bayview School, Sacred Heart Catholic School, Monsignor Catholic School, and James Keating Elementary School.

The program featured four internationally acclaimed musicians: James Campbell, Graham Campbell, Chris Kettlewell, and Jessica Deutsch. Together, they introduced students to a wide variety of musical styles, including jazz, classical music, and even K-pop selections that delighted younger audiences.

In addition to the performances, the musicians engaged students in discussions about the fundamentals of music, including instrument ranges, rhythm, and improvisation. Students were fully engaged throughout the presentations and enthusiastically participated in question-and-answer sessions with the artists.

John French, Executive and Artistic Director of the Brookside Music Association, emphasized the importance of educational outreach in the organization's work.

“Education and outreach are a key part of Brookside Music Association’s mission,” said French. “We are extremely pleased to be able to bring programs of this quality into local schools at a time when music education is often not being provided as fully as it should be. We are very grateful to the schools that recognized the value of this initiative and participated so enthusiastically.”

Brookside Music Association also expressed appreciation to the administrators, teachers, and students who welcomed the artists and helped make the program a success.

The organization looks forward to continuing and expanding its educational outreach activities in the future, ensuring that more young people have the opportunity to experience the joy and inspiration of live music.

[Photo attached: Students enjoying the Brookside Music Association Music in the Schools presentation with guest artists James Campbell, Graham Campbell, Chris Kettlewell, and Jessica Deutsch.]



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# BACKYARD ASTRONOMY

## Bright Planets and a Blue Moon

By Gary Boyle - The Backyard Astronomer

For thousands of years, the night sky has been a mystical place of wonder and entertainment. Those who followed the sky regularly realized the paths of brighter objects as they traversed the starry background over weeks, months and even years. The early Greeks called them planetes, meaning the “wanderers”.

Of the eight main planets of the solar system, we can see Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn with the unaided eye, while Uranus and Neptune are only seen in binoculars and a telescope. Even the Sun and Moon were also referred to as the wanderers, and these seven are named as the days of the week.

Looking towards the western sky will reward you with seeing the two brightest planets. Brilliant Venus is lower in the sky with the giant planet Jupiter to the upper left. Over the next few weeks, you will see Jupiter appearing a bit lower each night while Venus is moving up due to its orbit around the sun.

On the night of June 6 and 7, these two will appear side by side. I term these “spooky eyes” as they take on a ghostly appearance in the sky. They are by sight only and do not physically approach each other. These jewels will be 719 million kilometres or 447 million miles apart.

The speed of light circles the Earth seven and a half times in one second. Reflected sunlight from Venus takes over 10 light-minutes to reach our eyes, with a 50 light-minute travel from Jupiter. By comparison, Saturn is now visible in the early morning sky and is 85 light-minutes away.

A much closer object – the Moon is only 1.3 light-seconds from us. As we follow the lunar phases over the months from a thin waxing crescent low in the west to first quarter (looks like a capital D), waxing gibbous (egg-shaped) and then full phase when the sun illuminates it 100%. Then we have a waning gibbous, third quarter (backwards capital D) and waning crescent. Although spectacular in the sky, it is the worst night for stargazing as moonlight washes out the sky for all but the brightest of stars.

Each full moon has been given a name to address seasonal change, such as the “Cold Moon” in December and the “Strawberry Moon” in June. With an average of 29.5 days lapsing between full phases, some months will have two full moons, the second of which is termed the “Blue Moon”. Since the full Flower Moon occurred on May 1, the next full moon will be on May 31. The moon will not physically turn blue, but by name only.

It should be another great year to plan stargazing sessions in the countryside, at the cottage or campgrounds, preferably during a New Moon. Here you can marvel at a couple of thousand stars and the lovely Milky Way, our home galaxy. The night sky is a wonderful classroom.



**Clear skies,**  
Known as “The Backyard Astronomer”, Gary Boyle is an astronomy educator, guest speaker and previous monthly columnist for the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, as well as past president of the Ottawa Centre of the RASC. He has been interviewed on numerous Canadian

and US radio stations as well as in newspaper articles. In recognition of his public outreach in astronomy, the International Astronomical Union has honoured him with the naming of Asteroid (22406) Garyboyle. Follow him on Facebook and his website: [www.wondersofastronomy.com](http://www.wondersofastronomy.com)



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# WEED EM AND REAP PLANT SALES

By E.D.G.E. (Elmvale District Garden Enthusiasts)

The world is getting more expensive and so many are hoping to have successful vegetable gardens this summer. E.D.G.E. (Elmvale District Garden Enthusiasts) can offer you some advice and healthy plants as well. Saturday, May 23rd from 9-12 at Heritage Park Hwy 92 Elmvale will provide you with perennials, ornamental grasses, herbs, tomato plants, hostas and much more. They are locally grown and reasonably priced. Lots of free information as well as annual memberships sold if you choose to come to our monthly meetings with guest speakers.

Planting a vegetable garden for the first time can be filled with questions. How much to plant, do they need sun or can some grow in shade or part shade. Well let's try to help with those questions, so the planting can begin.

Raised gardens do not have to be made of wood but simply make your beds with the compost and soil you have. Generally, 3 feet wide is plenty and the rows can be as long as space allows. Make

Oro Medonte Horticultural Society Announces Annual Plant Sale on May 23

A wide selection of locally grown perennials, native plants, and garden favourites available at the Oro Fairgrounds

Oro Medonte, Ontario — The Oro Medonte Horticultural Society is pleased to announce its annual Plant Sale, taking place Saturday, May 23 at 10 a.m. at the Oro-Medonte Fairgrounds (7N and 15/16 Sideroad E, Oro-Medonte). This popular community event draws gardeners from across the community looking for healthy, well priced plants grown locally by Society members.

“The Plant Sale is a key event for us each spring and our largest fundraiser,” said Rhonda Hutcheson, Plant Sale Chair. “It gives residents a chance to pick up hardy plants suited to our area while supporting

sure the soil is weed free and tamp it down so a downpour won't send the soil spilling back to the original level.

Sun is the best for growing veggies, but some will do fine in part shade (3-6 hours). Here is a list of a few: lettuce, spinach, kale, arugula, cilantro, bok choy, collard greens, Swiss chard, bunching onions, parsley, peas, beets, artichokes, beans, brussels sprouts, garlic, kohlrabi, leeks, parsnips, potatoes, radishes, rutabagas, turnips, celery. Roma and black Krim tomatoes can tolerate partial shade and carrots.

Buy plants from local sources and if starting plants from sowing them directly into the warm soil, read the instructions. Tomatoes do not need staking if there are listed as “determinate variety” that means they are a compact bush plants usually 2-4 feet. Look for Roma, Rutgers, Green Zebra, patio plum, gold nugget, subarctic plenty to name a few.

Indeterminate tomatoes love reaching for the clouds. They will need to be staked or given a tomato cage. They can easily grow to 6-7 feet. You

can prune the suckers on indeterminate to prevent unmanageable growth. Don't pinch out a sucker (a new leaf in Y of the stem) that is directly below a blossom as this reduces your harvest. Here is the list of some to enjoy: heirloom, cheery, beefsteak, big boy, Brandy wine, Sweet Million, Better Boy.

Tomatoes will need space between them or they will get diseases. If you have started your seedlings and they are getting too tall, don't worry. Horizontal planting will make the roots much stronger and so you dig a trench and lay the roots and most of the plant in that trench. Gently bend the last 4-6 inches of the plant to be upright and cover the roots and the stem. Lay the plants all in the same direction so when you place the cages you will know where the roots are and not sever them. They love sun and water from the bottom, so the leaves don't get any disease and make sure there is enough space between the plants for air flow. Usually, 3 feet apart and rows are 4 feet apart.

Give growing your own veggies a try and enjoy the taste of really fresh “right from your garden” variety.

Shoppers can expect a diverse selection, including:  
• Perennials suited to Oro Medonte's climate  
• Native plants that support pollinators and local biodiversity

Knowledgeable volunteers will be on hand to answer questions and help visitors choose plants suited to their gardens.

Proceeds from the sale support the Society's community beautification projects, educational programs, and other gardening initiatives throughout Oro Medonte.

Event Details  
Plant Sale  
Date: Saturday, May 23, 2026  
Time: 10 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.  
Location: Oro Fairgrounds, 2449 11 Line N, Oro

can prune the suckers on indeterminate to prevent unmanageable growth. Don't pinch out a sucker (a new leaf in Y of the stem) that is directly below a blossom as this reduces your harvest. Here is the list of some to enjoy: heirloom, cheery, beefsteak, big boy, Brandy wine, Sweet Million, Better Boy.

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Give growing your own veggies a try and enjoy the taste of really fresh “right from your garden” variety.

About the Oro Medonte Horticultural Society  
The Oro Medonte Horticultural Society is a volunteer driven organization dedicated to promoting gardening, environmental stewardship, and community beautification. Through workshops, public plantings, flower shows, and educational events, the Society fosters a love of horticulture and strengthens community connections across the township.

For media inquiries, please contact:  
Oro Medonte Horticultural Society  
Email: [info.omhs@gmail.com](mailto:info.omhs@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.oredontehorticulturalsociety.ca](http://www.oredontehorticulturalsociety.ca)  
David St Amand  
President  
Oro-Medonte Horticultural Society

# GARDENING MADE EASY

By Kelly McNamara

As I sit on my back deck, enjoying the (finally) beautiful weather, I find myself wanting to add some colour to my space.

The easiest way to do that is to create some planters.

Using what I've already mentioned, figuring out if your space is sunny or shady, and the plants you choose can create a unique look that will spice up any outdoor area.

First you will need your container. Make sure it is big enough to fill the space you want. Too big, and your planter will over take the space. Too small, and you will wonder what happened to it. Your container should have holes in the bottom for drainage. You always want the drainage because over-wet pots can rot the roots of your plants.

Next you need your soil. Make sure you get a good outdoor potting mix. You want something

that will provide drainage yet retain the moisture. Fafard Veranda Mix and Miracle Grow Moisture Control are two great soils for this purpose. You will fill your pot to about three quarters full.

Now you can add your plants!! It's an old method but the Fill, Thrill and Spill method is tried and true. You want an anchor plant for the Thrill. Dracaena ( spikes) has always been the go to, but there are so many other plants that you can find. You want height. There are Palms, Salvia, Lemon Grass and Guara that can be alternatives. These are usually planted in the middle. Fill in with lower growing plants like Euphorbia, Geraniums, New Guinea impatiens, Begonias. These will be surrounding the Thrill plant. Last, you look for spill plants. These are Ivies, Sweet potato Vine, Trailing Petunias, Million Bells.

Before planting, make sure you have enough plants to fill the entire top of the pot. Don't worry

about leaving spaces, the more stuffed, the better. Always loosen your roots, to allow them to spread. Fill in any holes with more soil. Water with a transplant solution (fertilizer values of

10-52-10 are ideal) so that you can encourage those roots to grow.

There you go. You have just created a planter that will be the envy of the neighbourhood! Just remember to water, though. You don't want all that work to dry up.

Daily waterings are key to maintaining your planter. An easy way to know how much water is to keep the water to the planter until you see it drain out the bottom. Fertilizing with a slow release (fertilizers release over a long period of time) takes the guess work out of figuring out timing.

Now you can pour yourself a glass of wine and enjoy your handiwork!

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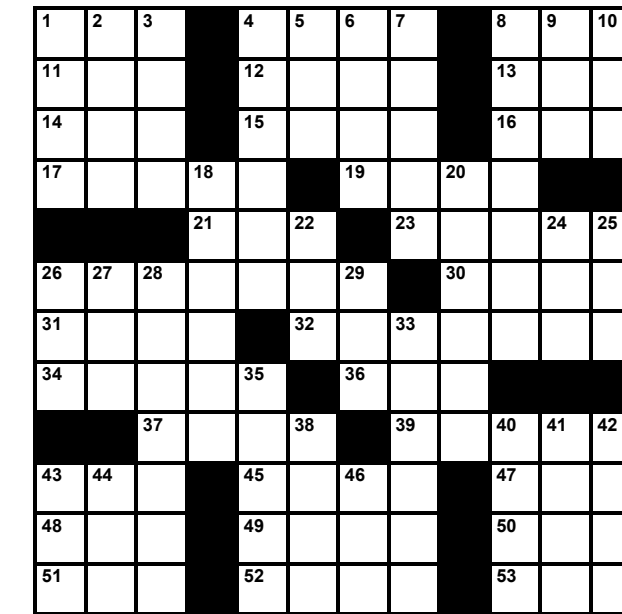


**Across**

- 1 Needing cheering
- 4 Papier mache, for example
- 8 Slightly askew
- 11 Pitcher's pride
- 12 Tiger's habitat
- 13 Word with stock or street
- 14 Get busy
- 15 Check for a landlord
- 16 Tax
- 17 Give form to
- 19 Bounce back, in a way
- 21 Bill passed regularly
- 23 Attire
- 26 Ottawa, for example
- 30 Bill killer, often
- 31 Gets some value from
- 32 About-face
- 34 Discard
- 36 Scale extreme
- 37 Deceive
- 39 Things
- 43 Overly
- 45 Some roulette bets
- 47 Pastry dessert
- 48 Possess
- 49 Test choice
- 50 Movable material
- 51 Most assuredly
- 52 Last slice of bread
- 53 World wide web

**Down**

- 1 Caspian and Aegean
- 2 Curve outward and then downward
- 3 Facts and figures and such
- 4 Mom or Dad
- 5 Administer
- 6 Post office annoyance



- 7 Quilt part
- 8 Big month for beer festivals
- 9 "Wide" partner
- 10 Cook on a griddle
- 18 Toxic substance
- 20 "\_\_\_ you heard?"
- 22 Musical asset
- 24 \_\_\_ in his kiss
- 25 \_\_\_ the line
- 26 Reduce from the workforce
- 27 Volcano fallout
- 28 Individuals
- 29 Permit
- 33 Container or craft
- 35 Monetary value
- 38 Existed
- 40 Over and above
- 41 Word with fly or ball
- 42 Pedal pushers
- 43 Miniature
- 44 Attribute
- 46 Scheduled for delivery

**2026 Municipal Election Candidates Update**

- Township of Springwater  
Mayor  
• Jennifer Coughlin  
Deputy Mayor  
• Liz Grummett  
• Mike Douglas  
• Anita Moore  
Ward Candidates  
Ward 1  
• Matt Garwood  
Ward 2  
• Danielle Alexander  
• Greg Davidson  
Ward 3  
• Wanda Maw-Chapman  
Ward 4  
• Alex Saldana  
• Christine Spellman  
Ward 5  
• Phil Fisher  
(Alex Saldana has withdrawn)

- Township of Tiny  
Mayor  
• Dave Brunelle  
• David Evans  
Deputy Mayor  
• Sean Miskimins  
• Drew Ironstone  
Councillor (3 seats)  
• Kelly Peter Helowka  
• Stephen McNamara  
• Karen Zulynik  
• Don Anthony  
• Mario Galluzzo  
• Jessie Garland

- Town of Midland  
Mayor  
• William (Bill) Gordon  
Deputy Mayor  
• Beth Prost  
Councillors (7 seats)  
• Cody Oschefski  
• Tyler Downer  
• Blain Dusome  
• Jerry Gagnon

- Town of Penetanguishene  
Mayor  
• Doug Rawson  
Deputy Mayor  
• Dan La Rose  
Councillor (5 seats)  
• Bill Waters

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**Celebration of Life  
David Campbell**

Please join us in celebrating the life of David Campbell- in honour of a life well lived and deeply loved.

**Elmvale Royal Canadian Legion Branch 262  
Saturday, June 6th  
1:00-4:00 pm**

An afternoon to gather, share stories, laughter and tears as we remember David together. Light refreshment will be provided, and a cash bar will be available. All are welcome- please come and join the family.



**Celebration of Life  
John (Moon) Ritchie**

Please join us in celebrating the life of John Ritchie.

**Elmvale Royal Canadian Legion Branch 262  
Sunday, May 24th  
2:00-4:00pm**

Obituary notices can be placed in the paper at a custom cost of size. Please submit your notices to the Editor. Email: [info@springwaternews.ca](mailto:info@springwaternews.ca) or drop off at office. Contact information is on the bottom of page 1. **Full name, phone number and address must be supplied.**

**Hospice Huronia Grief and Bereavement**

As conversations around grief, caregiving, and mental wellness continue to grow in communities across North Simcoe, Hospice Huronia is offering an extensive range of support programs designed to help individuals and families navigate loss, caregiving, and healing in a compassionate environment.

The organization provides a wide variety of grief and bereavement services tailored to people of all ages and life experiences, recognizing that no two grief journeys are the same.

Among its core services is the One-to-One Support program, where trained volunteers offer confidential grief and bereavement support either in person or by phone. The program gives individuals an opportunity to speak openly about their emotions with compassionate listeners who provide comfort during difficult times.

For those seeking connection through shared experiences, Hospice Huronia offers several group programs. Its Structured Bereavement Group is an eight-week guided program led by experienced volunteer facilitators, helping participants develop coping strategies while receiving support from others experiencing loss.

The Coffee & Conversation gatherings provide both facilitated and casual drop-in opportunities for people to connect over coffee while sharing stories and experiences. The program meets regularly throughout the month and focuses on fostering companionship and understanding. Recognizing that grief affects people differently, Hospice Huronia also offers specialized groups including the Guys Group, which creates a supportive environment specifically for men coping with loss, and a Caregiver Support



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**Marie Hubbard (nee  
LeGare)**

Passed away peacefully at the Collingwood General and Marine Hospital on May 7, 2026. Marie Hubbard (nee LeGare) of Wasaga Beach in her 91st year. Beloved wife of Dennis Hubbard and pre-deceased by her first husband Fredrick Bader. Dear mother of Carl (Maggie) Bader and Fredrick (Candy) Bader. Grandmother of Phillip, Anika, Jessica, and Andrew. Great-Grandmother of Maverick, Landon and Leo. Sister of Mary Paul Wandell and Louise LeGare. A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale from 2-4 pm and 7-9 pm on Wednesday, May 13, 2026. Cremation with interment in Elmvale Cemetery.

Memorial donations in Marie's memory may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Expressions of sympathy may be sent to [www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com](http://www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com)



**Debbie McGowan**

Sadly, Debbie McGowan passed away peacefully on April 30, 2026. Beloved wife of the late Paul McGowan, loving sister of Pamela Brady and Sheila Breen (wife of Paul Breen). Cherished Aunt of Trish, Meaghan, Sally, Terry, Dillon and Riley and Great Aunt to all their children (eight in total). She will be remembered fondly by extended family and friends, especially her neighbours in Tiny Ontario and her many sailing friends from around the world. Debbie and her late husband Paul McGowan were avid sailors and spent many years sailing in Ontario and around the Caribbean.

Memorial condolences may be made at [www.leclaircremationcentre.ca](http://www.leclaircremationcentre.ca).

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice Huronia, Tomkins House at 948 Fuller Ave., Penetanguishene ON L9M 1G7

**Services and Programs Across North Simcoe**

program for individuals balancing the emotional and practical demands of caregiving.

Several wellness-based programs are also available. Yoga for Grief combines gentle movement, breathing exercises, and meditation in partnership with The Yoga House, while Art Therapy for Grief uses creative expression to help participants process emotions in a supportive setting guided by a registered art therapist. Parents and children are also supported through dedicated programs. Parent's Circle offers a compassionate space for grieving parents to honour the memories of their children, while the Children's Grief Group uses seasonal activities, creative outlets, and age-appropriate discussions to help young people navigate loss.

Nature and mindfulness also play a role in Hospice Huronia's programming. The Healing Walk program invites participants to walk the Champlain Trail together each Saturday morning beginning in June, combining conversation, movement, and the calming effects of nature. Meanwhile, the Mindful Mourning Meditation group focuses on mindfulness and reflection to help participants find peace and resilience during grief.

Additional specialized programs include support groups for individuals experiencing pregnancy and infant loss, spousal loss, traumatic loss related

to substance use, suicide, or sudden unexpected death, as well as a MAID Support Group for those navigating Medical Assistance in Dying decisions and experiences.

The organization also encourages emotional healing through creative writing with its "Write to Heal ... Journaling" program, where participants explore grief through reflective writing in a supportive environment.

In addition to its grief support services, Hospice Huronia is planning a series of educational presentations featuring guest speakers discussing topics such as advance care planning, cooking for one, funeral planning, estate planning, and other end-of-life and wellness topics.

Residents interested in participating in any of the grief support groups are asked to book an intake appointment with Joanne B or Tammy by calling Hospice Huronia at 705-549-1034.

Community members can also stay informed about upcoming groups, presentations, and special events by following Hospice Huronia on Facebook.

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## 2026 Seniors Information Day



"A day to support our senior community members in aging with dignity and independence"

- Thursday, June 4th 2026**
- 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**
- Penetanguishene Memorial Community Centre**
- Free Entry & Lunch. No registration required.**

**Entertainment by Tyler French**

**Presentations include: Senior of the Year, Municipal Election Information, Therapeutic Recreation Ontario**



**Town of Penetanguishene Contact:**  
Cole Belcourt  
Events Coordinator  
[events@penetanguishene.ca](mailto:events@penetanguishene.ca)  
705-549-7453 ext. 252  
[www.penetanguishene.ca](http://www.penetanguishene.ca)

