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NORTH SIMCOE Springwater NEWS

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Community Celebration and Gathering: The Elmvale Fall Fair

By Kari Belcourt / North Simcoe Springwater News

Enthusiasm fills Elmvale's schools and streets in the weeks leading up to the Elmvale Fall Fair. Fair rides appear in the background, schools practice their cheers, and volunteers work late into the night decorating parade floats. These familiar sights and sounds are part of a tradition celebrated for generations, bringing communities together throughout North Simcoe.

The tradition began in Elmvale, where the fair continues to be hosted annually every Thanksgiving weekend. While childhood memories of the fair parades remain special to many local residents, the celebration has grown tremendously over the years, now bringing together more than 2,500 students from schools across Springwater, Tiny and Midland. Organizations, businesses and community groups from throughout North Simcoe also take part in this annual tradition.

For many, the fair represents more than a weekend of rides, food and entertainment. It is a symbolic homecoming, offering families and friends an opportunity to reconnect while celebrating the community's agricultural roots and shared history.

The Flos Agricultural Society is celebrating another successful year following the 167th Elmvale Fall Fair, with organizers describing the 2026 event as a banner year. Beautiful weather, strong crowds and a packed schedule of activities helped make the Thanksgiving weekend memorable.

The festivities began Thursday evening with a homecoming show featuring Elmvale's own Graham Scott Fleming. Throughout the weekend, visitors enjoyed tractor and truck pulls, fair food, livestock shows and two parades. Thousands of students proudly marched in Friday's parade, representing schools from across Springwater, while the Trojans, Blizzards, Pirates and Rowdies brought their own energy and enthusiasm to the celebrations.

These are the moments that continue to make the fair such a meaningful part of community life, connecting generations through traditions that have endured for more than a century and a half.

Although the fair takes place over just a few days, bringing it to life requires a year-round commitment. Directors, executive members and volunteers dedicate countless hours to planning, organizing and preparing for the event. Vendors, sponsors, exhibitors, local businesses



and community partners also play an important role in ensuring its continued success.

The impact on Elmvale extends well beyond the fairgrounds. The annual gathering brings former residents home, fills local streets, supports businesses and celebrates agriculture. It also gives families an opportunity to create lasting memories and introduces younger generations to traditions that have helped shape the community.

The Flos Agricultural Society Executive expressed its gratitude to everyone who volunteered, participated, sponsored, exhibited, visited or supported the fair in any way, recognizing the collective effort required to sustain the longstanding tradition.

The Elmvale Fall Fair's influence continues throughout the year, supporting the community and preserving a place for agricultural education, local involvement and connection between neighbours.

As the 2026 celebrations come to a close, the message is clear: the fair's lasting success is rooted in the people who continue to give their time, energy and support to keep it alive.

After 167 years, the Elmvale Fall Fair remains a reminder of the value of community traditions and the importance of passing them on to future generations. For the children who proudly march in the parade today, the memories created today become their own cherished stories of growing up in North Simcoe.

It takes a village to keep a tradition thriving, and Elmvale has demonstrated that commitment for generations.




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2026 Mary Bertram Memorial Baby Show At 167th Elmvale Fall Fair

The “Mary Bertram Memorial Baby Show” was once again a success at the Elmvale Fall Fair, held Friday, October 9th. There was a great turnout with 22 babies registered in the show, amongst the 3 classes.

In the first class, 0-6 months, the winners were (1) Willow Millhiser, 5 ½ months, Elmvale (2) Addison Rowe, 3 months, Penetang (3) Wyatt Thomas, 4 ½ months, Elmvale.



The Elmvale Co-operative Nursery School was delighted to take part in this year's annual Fall Fair parade, bringing the theme "Wonders of Ontario" to life with a cheerful float displaying the message "Good Things Grow in Ontario". Our adorable ECNS children brought plenty of smiles to spectators along the parade route, making the experience a memorable one for everyone involved.

In the second class, 6-12 months, the winners were (1) Josie Gallwey, 6 months, Elmvale (2) Chase Smith, 8 months, Tiny (3) Bridgett Weegar, 6 months, Elmvale. In the third class, 12-18 months, the winners were (1) Beckham Priest, 15 months, Minesing (2) Kade Ranger, 13 months, Tiny (3) Scarlett Guarino, 17 months, Tiny. *On a side note, Scarlett was our 2025 Sweepstakes Baby!

The prize for the youngest baby boy went to Rory Brohm, 9 days, of Elmvale, and the youngest baby girl Georgia Goettsch, 8 weeks of Wasaga Beach. The youngest multiple births went to twins Mary & Frederick Ruth of Honey Harbour.

The Sweepstake winner of the “Mary Bertram Memorial” plaque was Willow Millhiser, daughter of Kelsey Robson & Tyler Millhiser of Elmvale, On.

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

A very Special Thank you goes out to the following Business' and individuals that donated gifts for the Show: Elm Flower Shoppe, Yonge St. S., Elmvale, Scotiabank, Kim Letourneau, Barrie Financial Centre, 44 Collier St., Barrie, Stacey McFadden, Elmvale, TD/Canada Trust, Pam Kutasienski, Wasaga Beach, Fleming Electric, Elmvale, Century Masonry, Elmvale, Bernie Pilon Construction, Elmvale, Scotland Tire & Auto, Barrie, Foodland, Yonge St. N., Elmvale, Darlene's Hair Design, Elmvale, Chelsea Chocolates, Elmvale, Jim & Jacque Spence, Elmvale, Superior

Just as good things grow throughout Ontario, we believe that wonderful things grow when children, families, educators, and communities come together.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the Elmvale community, the Fall Fair organizers, and everyone who helped make this event such a fun and memorable tradition. A special thank you to Andrew Ritchie and family for providing the tractor and wagon.

NORTH SIMCOE SPRINGWATER NEWS

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Dan Clement, Former Springwater Councillor

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Letter from the Editor: A Slice of Paradise

You've taken my breath away and left me speechless — which, if you've met me, is no easy task.

There is a lump in my throat, a smile on my face and tears balancing on the edge of my eyes. Familiar faces, cheering crowds and memories of fairs gone by return as floats roll past and generations gather to celebrate a tradition that has brought us together for years.

There is something special about returning to a place you've known all your life. You leave, you grow, you change and try to find your place in the world. Yet somehow, you find your way back.

Each year brings something different, but the things that matter most remain the same. We come home. We show up. We gather and embrace one another. To me, this is the true nature of community.

Growing up here taught me that ordinary people can do extraordinary things. Volunteers give their time, families carry on traditions and neighbours show up for one another, often expecting nothing in return. Together, they create something none could accomplish alone.

When I left Elmvale to discover what I wanted to be, I carried a mission to make a difference. I wanted my life to mean something. But life has a way of humbling you — sometimes as abruptly as a frying pan to the head.

You learn that you cannot fix everything, help everyone or control how the world responds to your best intentions. There have been times when I've questioned where I fit and wondered whether wanting to make a difference is enough.

Someone once reminded me that we can want to change the world so badly it hurts, but we can only control what is within our reach. I have returned to that thought many times. If I help someone feel heard, make a difficult day easier or contribute something meaningful to the community that raised me, does that make my efforts any less important?

I don't think it does. Perhaps I was so busy searching for purpose that I overlooked the opportunities already in front of me.

Standing up for what you believe in is not always easy. It can mean disappointing people, challenging someone you respect or being misunderstood. But I never want to mistake making enemies for making a difference.

We rarely know every struggle someone has faced or what has shaped their beliefs. I want the courage to speak when something is wrong while maintaining the humility to recognize that I might be wrong, too. We can stand firmly for our beliefs while remaining willing to listen, learn and grow. We do not have to agree on everything to recognize one another's humanity.

I am still learning. I have trusted people and been let down. I have learned lessons I wish had come more gently. But I do not want disappointment to make me bitter or uncertainty to make me afraid of trying. Despite everything, I still believe in the people of this community.

As we enter the final stretch of the municipal election

period, this is my last call for your participation in shaping the future of the place we call home. I commend everyone who has put their name forward as a candidate. It takes courage to enter public life, invite scrutiny and offer to serve your neighbours.

To those voting, look beyond the noise. Ask questions, consider the issues and make an informed decision. Challenge ideas respectfully and remember that people can care deeply about the same community while imagining different futures for it. Democracy asks more of us than casting a ballot; it asks us to remain engaged and recognize that our shared future belongs to all of us.

I want my work to mean something, my words to make a difference and my time here to count. But I am beginning to understand that meaning does not always come from the biggest accomplishments. Perhaps our legacy is found in the people we encourage, the stories we tell and the kindness we offer when no one is watching.

When I look out at the Elmvale Fall Fair, I see generations coming together, carrying forward traditions while creating memories of their own. I see a community that continues to show up, even as the world changes. I am reminded that the things we take for granted are often the very things we spend our lives trying to find again.

When someone asks where I am from, I tell them I write about North Simcoe. But if I am being honest, I prefer to call it a slice of paradise.

Not because it is perfect. No community is. We have disagreements, challenges and difficult days. But this place means more to me than a name on a map could ever convey. It is the familiar faces in a crowd, the traditions passed between generations, the volunteers who give their time and the neighbours who show up when someone needs help.

It is the feeling of coming home. You change worlds.

So, thank you. Thank you for giving your time and hearts to the places we call home, for standing up for what you believe in and for reminding me why community matters. Most of all, thank you for continuing to show up for one another, even when it is difficult.

We may not solve every problem or agree on every answer. But we can choose kindness, courage and curiosity. We can leave people feeling heard rather than dismissed, connected rather than alone. We can make our corner of the world a little better by making room for one another.

No matter where life takes me, I will always carry a piece of this place with me. For all the things I am still trying to figure out, there is one thing I know: I am grateful to call this community home.

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2026 Municipal Elections



Internet and telephone voting is open until October 26, 2026, at 8 p.m.

Register to Vote

You can register to vote up to and including Election Day. Eligible voters can come to the Township Office to register with valid ID.

Election Help Centre

Located at the Township of Tiny in Council Chambers, 130 Balm Beach Road West

- Thursday October 22 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Friday October 23 - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday October 24 - 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Monday October 26 - 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Have Questions? Contact Us.

Our appointed election officials are here to help. Please contact us with questions at 705-526-4204, elections@tiny.ca, or in person at the Township Office.

Visit the official source for all information about the Township of Tiny Municipal Elections at tiny.ca/Elections.

Winter Maintenance Reminders



Snow Removal

- Higher speed roads with heavier traffic are plowed first based on Provincial Maintenance Standards.
- Property owners are responsible for removing snow that accumulates at the end of driveways as a result of road maintenance.
- Disposing of or piling snow from private property onto a highway or municipal lands, including ditches, is strictly prohibited.
- Sand is only applied to roads at major intersections, hills, and corners during freezing rain/icy conditions.
- Sand is not applied to straight-a-ways as it is the driver's responsibility to drive according to weather and road conditions.

Winter Parking

- During the winter months, parking on the road is strictly prohibited where it interferes with snow removal practices. The township does not have an allotted time of day to which parking is allowed as snow removal can happen at any/all times of day. Cars that are found to be parked on the roadside during snow removal operations will be ticketed.

Hazards

- Ensure children refrain from building tunnels or forts inside snow banks by roadways.
- The Township owns and maintains municipal road allowances including roads and shoulders which need to be clear of landscaping and other stored materials. Residents are asked to keep this area clear of stored items and other obstructions. Items left within the road's allowance may be damaged during winter maintenance, and the Township is not responsible for any resulting damage.
- The township will not replace items (including mailboxes and garbage bins) that are damaged as a result of snow accumulation or force of snow off the plow blade. Please be sure to place items far enough back onto your property to keep them out of reach of this area to avoid damage or destruction.

Beaches in Tiny

Reminder: personal items cannot be left unattended/overnight on municipally owned property. Waterfront structures such as boat lifts on the lakebed are not permitted.

Why We Chose Midland: A Community That Has It All

By Kari Rosteck & Kari Belcourt

After spending 10 years living in Detroit, Michigan, our family of three recently moved back to Canada and chose Midland, Ontario, as our new home. With me growing up in Toronto and my husband, Étienne, coming from Montreal, we had plenty of places we could have settled. Yet, Midland stood out for all the right reasons.

We wanted to share why we chose Midland, because we believe the community has so much to offer and deserves recognition for the infrastructure, amenities and lifestyle that make it such a wonderful place to live.

One of the first things that drew us to Midland was its lively downtown. The events and activities bring together local residents and visitors, creating an atmosphere that feels welcoming and vibrant. At the same time, Midland remains a working town, with businesses in the downtown core and surrounding areas that focus on meeting the needs of local residents. While tourist shops certainly have their charm, we appreciate that Midland offers a balance between welcoming visitors and serving the people who call it home.

The cycling infrastructure was another major selling point. Bike lanes make it easier to travel between home, grocery stores and parks, while the beautiful trails and paved paths provide opportunities to explore

neighbouring communities. Having accessible options for getting around and enjoying the outdoors adds so much to everyday life.

Little Lake Park was another highlight for us. It feels like a little oasis, offering activities and recreation surrounded by the beauty of the lake. It is the kind of place that makes it easy for families to spend time outdoors and enjoy what the community has to offer.

As sailors, our proximity to Georgian Bay was also a significant factor in choosing Midland. We have sailed from here all the way to the Atlantic Ocean, giving us plenty of experience exploring the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River. We found the waters around Midland to be among the best for exploring and sailing, making this area an ideal home for our family and our passion for being on the water.

Finally, Midland's French-speaking community played an important role in our decision. With Étienne originally from Montreal, maintaining a connection to French language and culture was important to us. We wanted our four-year-old daughter to have the opportunity to attend a French-language school, and Midland offered the community connections we were looking for.

Choosing where to put down roots is a big decision, especially after living away from Canada for a decade.

For us, Midland brought together the things that matter most: a vibrant downtown, practical infrastructure, beautiful outdoor spaces, access to the water and a community that supports our family's needs.

We wanted to share our perspective because we feel there is so much to appreciate about Midland. Sometimes, when we live in a community every day, it is easy to overlook what makes it special. As newcomers, we hope our reasons for choosing Midland remind others of the many things that make this town a wonderful place to call home.



Springwater-Area Music Producer Brings 15-Year Journey to Debut Album

By Kari Belcourt / North Simcoe Springwater News

A music producer based in neighbouring Barrie is bringing more than 15 years of creativity, experimentation and unfinished ideas together with the release of his debut album.

Working under the name ZANETS, the independent producer released BEAT-MAN on October 9, a 14-track project blending hip-hop, melodic hooks and electronic influences around a beatmaker-superhero concept.

The album began long before its release, with beats ZANETS created while growing up in the Greater Toronto Area. Initially recording music in his mother's basement and experimenting with beatmaking, he eventually pursued audio engineering and began producing music for artists and businesses.

Over the years, many of those early musical ideas

remained unfinished, surviving old computers, abandoned recording sessions and changing creative priorities. When ZANETS revisited the material, however, he discovered that the ideas still resonated with him.

Rather than leaving the tracks behind, he decided to finish what he had started.

"I didn't come back to recreate the past. I came back to finish what I started," reads the accompanying album booklet, capturing the motivation behind the project.

One aspect of completing BEAT-MAN involved using modern artificial intelligence tools to create vocals for his productions. For an independent producer, the technology offered a way to develop songs that had existed as instrumentals for years without the expense of hiring vocalists and arranging recording sessions.

Lancashire, England — A Natural Paradise

An enchanting corner of England, where nature reveals its timeless beauty.

The beauty of nature has a way of connecting people across borders, inspiring us to appreciate the landscapes and communities we call home while encouraging others to explore the world around them.

Shah Monsur Ali Numan, a Bangladeshi writer, researcher, columnist and nature photographer based in England, captured this enchanting scene in Lancashire on September 13, 2026.

Inspired by the beauty found in his own surroundings, Numan is sharing his photograph with readers of the North Simcoe Springwater News, extending an invitation to appreciate nature beyond geographical boundaries. His submission also reflects the special character of our own North Simcoe communities, where scenic countryside, peaceful trails, waterfront views and the changing seasons offer countless opportunities to

connect with nature.

From the landscapes of Lancashire to the natural beauty of North Simcoe, these shared experiences remind us that appreciating our surroundings can inspire people worldwide to discover, photograph and celebrate



the places that make their communities unique.

Photography by Shah Monsur Ali Numan | Lancashire, England | September 13, 2026

Tiny Fire Reminders



CO Alarms

Under the Ontario Fire Code all residential occupancies (homes, apartments, etc.) that have a fuel burning appliance, fireplace, or attached garage, must have:

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

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Need help to understand where to put your CO alarms? Book a free in-home fire safety inspection with Tiny Fire at tiny.ca/Fire or by calling 705-322-1161.

Change your clocks, check your alarms!

Daylight Savings Time ends on November 1st. When you set your clocks back an hour, it is a great time to check your smoke and CO alarms.



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Springwater United Soccer Academy Builds Community Through Youth Sport

By Kari Belcourt / North Simcoe Springwater News
A new soccer field at Adam Elliott Park in Midhurst Valley is helping bring local youth and families together, with Springwater United Soccer Academy (SUSA) looking to build more than players through its commitment to community sport.

On September 26, SUSA hosted “A Day of Soccer,” a championship-style event that brought players and teams together for a day of competition, connection and fun. The event saw young athletes take to the field while families gathered on the sidelines to cheer them on, highlighting the value of accessible recreational spaces and opportunities for youth to participate in organized sport close to home.

Established in April 2025 by Mark Cristante, SUSA is a private sports organization operating in Springwater, Ontario. Although it is not a non-profit organization, the academy aims to contribute positively to the community by providing children and families with opportunities to develop soccer skills, build confidence and grow through sport.

“Our mission is to provide a player-centred environment that fosters individual growth, confidence, and excellence, both on and off the field,” the academy explained. Its approach focuses on developing technically skilled, intelligent and respectful players while encouraging discipline, resilience, leadership and teamwork.

Access to the Adam Elliott Park soccer field was made possible through a collaborative partnership between SUSA and the Midhurst Valley Builder Group,



comprising Brookfield Residential, CountryWide Homes, Sundance Homes and Geranium.

According to Cristante, the academy recognized the potential of the field to serve local children and families and approached the builder group to explore opportunities to work together. Through open communication and a shared interest in supporting the community, the partnership helped make the field available for soccer programming and events.



“Our partnership with Midhurst Valley has created more than a place to play. It has given local youth and families a space to connect and grow. We’re proud to work together in creating a stronger, more connected community,” said Cristante, SUSA operations.

The partnership reflects a shared interest in creating opportunities for young people to stay active, develop their abilities and form lasting friendships. For SUSA, access to welcoming spaces close to home is an important part of providing positive experiences for young athletes and helping them reach their individual potential.

The Midhurst Valley Builder Group’s involvement also highlights how community development can extend beyond building homes to creating spaces where residents can gather, participate in activities and establish connections with their neighbours.

Looking ahead, SUSA hopes to foster a lifelong love of soccer among children in Springwater through structured coaching and a clear pathway for player development. The academy aims to provide a supportive environment where young athletes can strengthen their skills, build confidence and grow both on and off the field.

Through its partnership with Midhurst Valley, SUSA hopes to create more opportunities for local families to experience the benefits of youth sport while building a stronger sense of community.

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Paint the Town Pink Supports Local Residents Facing Cancer

The Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre (GBCSC) is once again painting the community pink this October through its annual Paint the Town Pink campaign, raising funds and awareness for individuals impacted by cancer in North Simcoe and Southern Georgian Bay.

The campaign features 650 uniquely decorated pumpkins, supplied by R & P Desroches Farm and Morrison’s Pumpkin Farm, available for \$20 each while supplies last. Decorated by local volunteers, the pumpkins come in pink, lavender, white and blue, including special white “Hope Pumpkins” available at Test Batches Brewery in Midland.

Pumpkins can be purchased at the GBCSC locations in Penetanguishene (45 Edward Street) and Collingwood (185 Hume Street), at For Sale on Georgian Bay in Midland (255 King Street), or online for pickup. The campaign’s Lead Community Partner has also decorated and is selling 100 pumpkins.

“This campaign is well-known by many in the community because of the painted pumpkins,” said Paul Eichhorn, GBCSC Manager of Fundraising and Stewardship. “It’s a fun way to not only raise funds but also raise awareness about so many who need support during one of the

toughest moments in their lives.”

Local businesses are also participating through donations, product sales and special fundraising events. Community Partners include Gordon’s, Fresh by Leanne, A Passion for Fashion, Elevate Design, Piercy Parcels, Collingwood Tattoo, Iris Midland, Happy Buddah Soap Co. and Twin Tiger Boxing.

Fresh Baked Consulting is once again selling Pink Sprinkle Cookies, with \$1 from every cookie supporting GBCSC programs and services. Cookies are available individually or by the dozen at both centre locations. Orders of two dozen or more can also be placed online for delivery at www.gbcsupportcentre.ca/paint-the-town-pink-cookies.

The GBCSC has also partnered with the Midland Flyers, whose players will wear special jerseys in support of those facing cancer. The jerseys will be auctioned in late November, with all proceeds going to the centre.

Eichhorn credited the campaign’s continued success to the generosity of pumpkin buyers, volunteers and participating local businesses.

For campaign details and a complete list of Community



Partners, visit www.gbcsupportcentre.ca/paint-the-town-pink or follow the GBCSC on Facebook and Instagram. All funds raised support programs and services for people impacted by cancer in the region.

Barrie MLS NEXT Pro Opens Season Ticket Deposits to the Public

Strong early demand follows Priority Access launch ahead of the club’s inaugural 2028 season

BARRIE, ON — October 6, 2026 — Barrie MLS NEXT Pro has opened season ticket deposits to the general public, giving fans an opportunity to secure their place as founding supporters of the professional soccer club ahead of its inaugural 2028 season.

The public launch follows an exclusive purchasing window for Priority Access members last week, which generated strong early demand for season ticket deposits and premium hospitality experiences.

“Season ticket deposit sales exceeded our expectations during last week’s private window, with certain premium sections already nearing 50 per cent sold out,” said Peter Raco, President and CEO of Barrie MLS NEXT Pro. “We’re really encouraged about the interest from the community, from future season ticket holders to local businesses and national interest.”

The club was officially announced in downtown Barrie in July 2026, attracting more than 1,000 people to what was described as the largest-attended MLS NEXT Pro team launch in league history.

Scheduled to begin play in 2028, the club will relocate Toronto FC II, Toronto FC’s MLS NEXT Pro affiliate, to Barrie. The team will play at a new downtown stadium designed to host professional soccer, other sporting events, concerts, arts programming and community celebrations.

Planned seating options include traditional grandstand seats and premium hospitality experiences, such as executive suites, club seating, a rooftop terrace and

pitchside seats. Season ticket members will also receive priority purchasing opportunities for other events hosted at the stadium.

“For us, this is bigger than soccer. We’re building a community in the downtown core of Barrie, and soccer will be the heartbeat of this stadium,” Raco said. “We want to build a club that Barrie can call its own, with traditions, supporter culture and an identity shaped by the people who are here from the beginning.”

Stadium planning and design continue as the project advances through the municipal review process. The club’s official name, crest, colours and full identity are scheduled to be unveiled in spring 2027, alongside a stadium groundbreaking marking another milestone toward its planned 2028 opening.

Fans can place a season ticket deposit at barriemlsnextpro.ca or through Ticketmaster. Availability is limited within each seating category, and supporters are encouraged to secure their deposits early.

Media assets: Stadium renderings, logos and launch event photos are available through the club’s media assets link.

About Toronto FC II and Barrie MLS NEXT Pro

Toronto FC II is the professional development club of Toronto FC and competes in MLS NEXT Pro, serving as the final step in the club’s player development pathway. Beginning in 2028, Toronto FC II will relocate to Barrie and compete as Barrie MLS NEXT Pro, continuing its mission of developing elite players and inspiring the next



generation of athletes throughout Simcoe County and Central Ontario. The club’s permanent identity will be unveiled at a future date.

About Barrie Stadium Group

Barrie MLS NEXT Pro and Barrie Stadium Group were founded by Barrie business leaders and philanthropists committed to investing in the community’s future. In partnership with the City of Barrie, the organization is developing and operating a landmark downtown stadium and community hub while bringing the city its first professional sports franchise through MLS NEXT Pro.

The project aims to create a destination for sport, entertainment and community programming that supports economic growth and leaves a lasting legacy for Barrie.

Media Contact

Peter Raco

President and Chief Executive Officer

Barrie MLS NEXT Pro | Barrie Stadium Group

peter@barriemlsnextpro.ca

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A MESSAGE FROM DOUG SHIPLEY

Here to help!

My office is here to assist with any federal programs including CRA, Passports, Service Canada, and Immigration.

DOUG SHIPLEY MP
BARRIE - SPRINGWATER - ORO-MEDONTE
DOUG.SHIPLEY@PARL.GC.CA • (705) 728-2596
DOUGSHIPLEYMP.CA

On September 21st, I returned to Ottawa for Parliament's fall session. I am happy to be back on Parliament Hill to represent your voices and share your views with my colleagues.

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

These challenges could be further compounded by reports that President Trump may impose restrictions on U.S. diesel exports. Such measures risk increasing costs for Canadian families and businesses while creating potential supply chain disruptions.

In response, Conservatives introduced a Diesel Price Relief Action Plan, which would secure our fuel supply and protect farmers, businesses, and families from higher costs.

Our plan would remove all federal taxes on diesel and scrap diesel production taxes, boost Canadian fuel production to eliminate the price gap with the U.S. in 5 years and create emergency permitting for diesel refineries, storage, and transportation.

Unfortunately, on October 7th, Liberal MPs voted

against the Conservative Emergency Fuel Relief Plan motion, which proposed further federal diesel tax relief through Canada Day 2027 and tax measures to support infrastructure for Canadian fuel production.

These measures would have helped lower fuel costs for Canadian farmers, reducing financial pressures on producers and helping keep food costs more affordable for Canadians.

Despite this, please know that my Conservative colleagues and I will continue to advocate for lower fuel taxes, fewer regulatory barriers, and faster approvals for infrastructure projects to support investment and employment.

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

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

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JILL DUNLOP
MPP – Simcoe North/Nord

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

MESSAGE FROM MPP DUNLOP

Springwater News November 2026

As November arrives, we are reminded of the importance of community, gratitude and the sacrifices that have shaped the freedoms we enjoy today. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the progress being made across our region and the people who make our communities such wonderful places to call home.

Across Ontario, investments in housing, infrastructure and essential services continue to support growing communities like Midland and Springwater. Through the province's Housing-Enabling Water Systems Fund, Midland is advancing important water infrastructure improvements that will help accommodate future housing and strengthen services for residents.

Supporting seniors and helping them remain connected is equally important. I was pleased to see Community Reach in Midland receive a \$52,000 capital grant to purchase a new minivan, allowing the organization to provide more transportation services for seniors. These investments make a difference by helping residents maintain their independence, attend appointments and remain engaged in their communities.

As we look toward November 11, our attention turns to Remembrance Day and the extraordinary courage and sacrifice of those who served our country.

Remembrance Day is more than a moment of silence. It is an opportunity to honour those who gave their lives, recognize our veterans and serving military members, and reflect on the responsibility we share to preserve the freedoms they defended.

I encourage everyone across Midland, Springwater and our surrounding communities to attend a local Remembrance Day ceremony, wear a poppy and support their local Royal Canadian Legion. Our Legions play an invaluable role in supporting veterans, preserving their stories and bringing communities together throughout the year.

To our veterans, military families and all who have served, thank you for your courage, dedication and

sacrifice.

As we move toward the end of another year, let us continue looking out for one another, supporting local organizations and building communities that reflect the values of service, compassion and resilience.

ANITA MOORE
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For the past eight years, I have been committed to serving Springwater with integrity, respect, and accountability.

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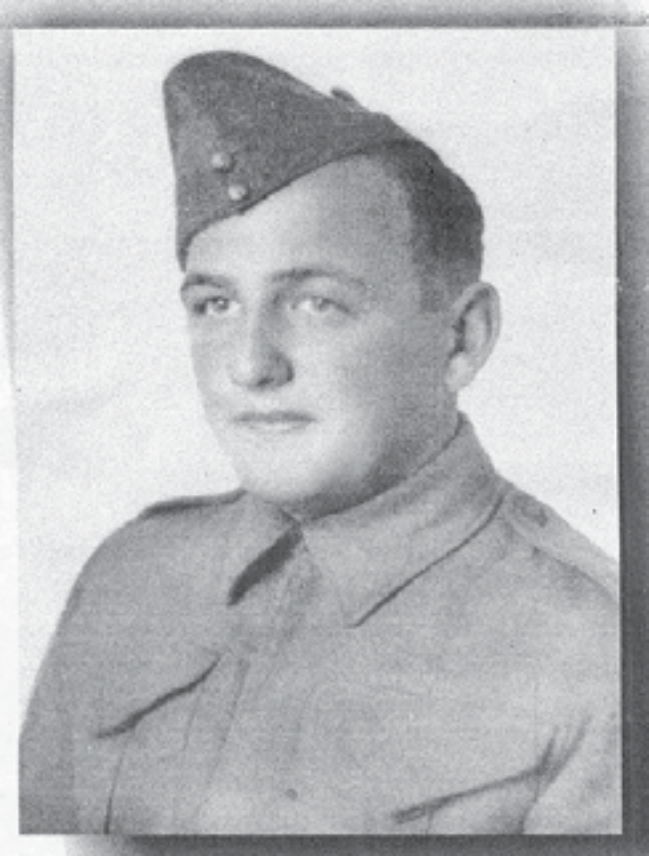
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A Second World War Story: The Experiences of Bruce Baker



Submitted by Dave Mattison of Wyebridge

This story recounts one of my great-uncle's military experiences during the Second World War. His name was Bruce Baker, and he enlisted in Owen Sound

with the Grey and Simcoe Foresters of the Canadian Armoured Corps in the summer of 1940, at the age of 18.

Over the next three years, Bruce trained at Camp Borden, Aldershot and Debert, Nova Scotia, eventually qualifying as a tank driver.

In June 1943, the Grey and Simcoe Foresters regiment was sent overseas to England. Sadly, after three years of training and living together, the regiment was disbanded, and its members were dispersed among various reinforcement units.

Bruce remained in England for another year, continuing to train and wait, while his brother Alvin and the Canadian Army fought in Italy.

On July 17, 1944, Bruce was transferred to the British Columbia Regiment, an armoured unit. His new regiment landed in France near Caen on July 24, following the D-Day landings.

After the capture of Caen, General Bernard Montgomery launched Operation Totalize on August 7, 1944. The German forces were well entrenched, and the fighting proved devastating for the regiment.

Bruce's tank was hit, killing everyone aboard except him. He was thrown through the driver's hatch and managed to escape into the nearby forest, where he hid for several days. Eventually, German forces captured him, and he spent the remainder of the war as a prisoner of war at Stalag VII-A near Moosburg, Germany.

Bruce's mother, my great-grandmother Harriette Baker, was notified by Canadian National Telegraph on August 19, 1944, that he had officially been reported missing in action on August 9.

On November 5, 1944, the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland, wrote to the Secretary of State for External Affairs in Ottawa, confirming that it had received a prisoner-of-war capture card for Bruce. On November 14, Harriette received further notification that her son was officially a prisoner of war in Germany.

Conditions during Bruce's captivity were harsh. Prisoners were forced to work and endured severe shortages of food and clothing. The bread was reportedly made up of approximately 30 per cent sawdust, and some guards were brutal. The man in the bunk beside Bruce was bayoneted because he was too ill to get up and work.

At times, Red Cross packages were the prisoners' only source of food. Bruce was also forced to march between 300 and 400 miles. Stalag VII-A, originally built to accommodate 10,000 prisoners in 1939, held approximately 80,000 by the end of the war.

Bruce was liberated on May 1, 1945.

Beyond the glamour often portrayed in war movies, the reality for many servicemen was years spent training and living far from their homes and families, waiting for the day they would face the enemy. For some, that wait ended with the ultimate sacrifice. Others, like Bruce, survived their first engagement only to endure the hardships of captivity.

His story is a reminder of the sacrifices, uncertainty and suffering experienced by those who served during the Second World War, and of the families who waited at home for news of their loved ones.

Remembering Midhurst's War Dead Six Stories of Service and Sacrifice

By Kari Belcourt / North Simcoe Springwater News

As Remembrance Day approaches, the stories of six men with strong connections to Midhurst offer a reminder that the cost of war was felt deeply in local communities, through lives lost overseas and families left behind.

Gregory J. Barker and Beau B. Barker of Midhurst have researched the lives of six Canadian war dead connected to the community, tracing their military service, family histories and the circumstances surrounding their deaths in the First and Second World Wars.

Their research aims to preserve more than names on memorials, offering a fuller picture of the individuals behind them and the sacrifices they made.

Among those remembered are Privates Ernest Alexander Finlay, Henrikus "Harry" Lyffyt, George Herbert Selkirk and William Ward, who served during the First World War; Lieutenant-Colonel

Frederick Sneath, whose death resulted from a wartime military duty; and Sub-Lieutenant Robert John Orok of the Royal Navy, who died during the Second World War.

Finlay grew up in Midhurst, where his father operated a mill near what is now Finlay Mill Road and Willow Creek. After moving west to farm in Alberta, he enlisted in the Canadian Expeditionary Force in 1916. He was reported missing and presumed killed during the Canadian attack on Hill 70 in France on Aug. 15, 1917. His remains were never identified. He is commemorated at the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in France and on the Vespra section of the Barrie cenotaph.

Lyffyt, known as Harry, was born in Utrecht, the Netherlands, and settled in Canada around 1911. He farmed in the Midhurst area before moving with his wife and young child to Orillia, where he worked in a munitions plant. He enlisted in 1916 and was sent to the Western Front the following year. On Oct. 21, 1917, just four days after arriving at his unit, Lyffyt was killed when an artillery shell struck his platoon near Ypres, Belgium. He left behind his wife and two young daughters. He is buried at Ypres Reservoir Cemetery in Belgium.



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and their four young children. He is commemorated on the Vespra section of the Barrie cenotaph, and Ward Road in Midhurst Heights bears his name.

Sneath's story is distinct. Born in Midhurst in 1862, he became a prominent local farmer and an experienced military officer, eventually commanding the 35th Regiment, the Simcoe Foresters. Following the outbreak of the First World War, he was responsible for recruiting in Simcoe County, helping enlist hundreds of men for overseas service.

In July 1915, while travelling to Camp Niagara on military business and seeking medical assessment for a knee injury sustained during his duties, Sneath was involved in a fatal accident while attempting to board a departing train in Barrie. He died the following day, aged 52, despite medical treatment. He received a military funeral and was buried in Barrie Union Cemetery. Although his death arose from wartime military duties, he is not officially recognized as a war casualty in Canada's Books of Remembrance or the Commonwealth War Graves Commission registers, and he is not commemorated on a war memorial.

Haunted History: North Simcoe's Spookiest Stories Come Alive as Halloween Approaches

By Kari Belcourt / North Simcoe Springwater News
As Halloween approaches, tales of unexplained sightings, mysterious footsteps and restless spirits offer a chilling reminder that North Simcoe's history is filled with stories that continue to capture the imagination.

From historic military bases and museums to centuries-old settlements, several local landmarks have developed reputations for paranormal activity. While these accounts remain rooted in local legend and reported experiences rather than proven hauntings, they add an eerie dimension to the region's rich history.

Sainte-Marie among the Hurons

One of the region's most significant historic sites, Sainte-Marie among the Hurons in Midland, is known for its connection to the Jesuit missionaries and Huron-Wendat people during the 17th century. Beyond its historical importance, the site and surrounding area have inspired stories of spirits said to linger long after their deaths.

Among the figures associated with local legends is Jesuit missionary Jean de Brébeuf, who was captured and killed during an attack by the Iroquois in 1649. Another is French explorer Étienne Brûlé, whose life and death remain subjects of historical discussion and folklore. Legends tell of his spirit wandering the surrounding forests, sometimes accompanied by stories of a ghostly sister seeking vengeance.

Whether viewed as folklore or a reflection of the region's turbulent past, these stories lend an unsettling atmosphere to a place where history is never far from the surface.

The Beck House

In Penetanguishene, the Beck House carries stories connected to the prominent Beck family. Carl Beck, a lumber magnate who lived in the late 1800s, experienced family tragedies that became part of the property's history.

Two of his children reportedly died at a young age in the same year, followed by the death of their mother. Family accounts also tell of tension between Beck and his daughter Mary, particularly after she left home to marry and raise a family of her own. Upon his death, Beck reportedly divided his estate among his children but left Mary just \$1.

Over the years, stories have circulated about unexplained activity inside the house, including objects moving and lights switching on and off without an apparent explanation. Some have speculated that the reported activity is connected to members of the Beck family, though the stories remain unverified.

Penetanguishene Centennial Museum

Not far from the Beck House, the Penetanguishene Centennial Museum occupies the original location of the Beck general store and lumber office. Today, the museum preserves artifacts connected to the community's past, including items associated with the Beck family.

The building has also become the setting for reported paranormal encounters. Visitors and staff have described

The final story concerns Orok, whose family roots were firmly established in Midhurst, although he was born in Alberta in 1914. After growing up in Ontario and graduating from the University of Toronto in electrical engineering in 1939, he travelled to the United Kingdom and joined the Royal Navy as an engineering officer.

Orok initially served aboard HMS Southampton, surviving its sinking in January 1941 after a German air attack. He was subsequently assigned to HMS Gloucester. On May 22, 1941, during the Battle of Crete, the cruiser came under heavy air attack and sank. Orok, aged 26, was among those lost. His body was never recovered. He is commemorated on the Plymouth Naval Memorial in England, at the University of Toronto, on the Barrie cenotaph and on a family monument in Midhurst Union Cemetery.

Together, these six histories illustrate the varied paths that brought men from Midhurst and its surrounding area into military service, from local farming communities to the battlefields of Europe and the waters of the Mediterranean. Their

experiences also reveal the personal consequences of war: young children growing up without fathers, families waiting for news, and names preserved in cemeteries and memorials far from home.

The Barkers are continuing their research and welcome information about other individuals with connections to Midhurst who died in military service. They are also seeking a photograph of George H. Selkirk.

Residents with additional information can contact info@villageofmidhurst.ca. Full profile and reading can be found on the Association's website at https://www.VillageOfMidhurst.ca - go to the "Midhurst History" tab and then, on the drop-down menu, click on "Midhurst's War Dead". Lest we forget.

As Remembrance Day brings communities together to honour those who served, these stories underscore the importance of remembering not only the names of the fallen, but also the lives they lived and the families and communities they left behind.

seeing figures dressed in late-19th-century clothing, while others have reported unexplained footsteps, falling objects and the sound of a bell ringing when no one appears to be entering the building.

Some accounts describe the sensation of being followed, particularly in areas of the museum where no one else is present. The location has even attracted paranormal investigators, including a visit associated with the television program Rescue Medium, whose host reportedly produced drawings of figures resembling Carl and Mary Beck.

For those who enjoy a little mystery alongside their local history, the museum's reported experiences add another layer to the stories surrounding one of Penetanguishene's historic families.

Discovery Harbour

At Discovery Harbour, the former British naval and military establishment on Penetanguishene Bay, tales of ghostly soldiers and mysterious figures have become part of the site's folklore.

One reported encounter dates to 1987, when an interpreter described seeing a man dressed in what appeared to be historical gentleman's clothing. According to the account, the figure stood from a chair, took a step and disappeared.

Other stories involve soldiers believed to haunt the former military grounds. One frequently repeated tale concerns Private James Drury, who reportedly fell asleep in the snow while on guard duty after drinking during the night and was found frozen to death the following morning.

A separate account dates to a military reenactment in July 1991, when volunteers camped overnight on the parade square. One woman reportedly awoke early in the morning and saw two soldiers dressed in historical uniforms speaking near the officers' quarters. As she approached, she claimed to realize she could see through the figures. The two men allegedly walked away and disappeared behind a building.

According to the story, the woman could not locate the soldiers afterward, and their uniforms did not match those worn by the reenactors.

Whether these encounters can be explained or not, the stories have become part of Discovery Harbour's enduring reputation for the unexplained.

Fort Willow

Located in Springwater, Fort Willow also offers a glimpse into the region's military past. The site served as a strategically positioned supply depot during the War of 1812, helping transport provisions and military supplies through the area.

Today, the historic ruins are associated with tales of ghostly figures, including a commanding officer and a young soldier said to have deserted military service. Stories also describe unexplained gunshot sounds echoing across the grounds.

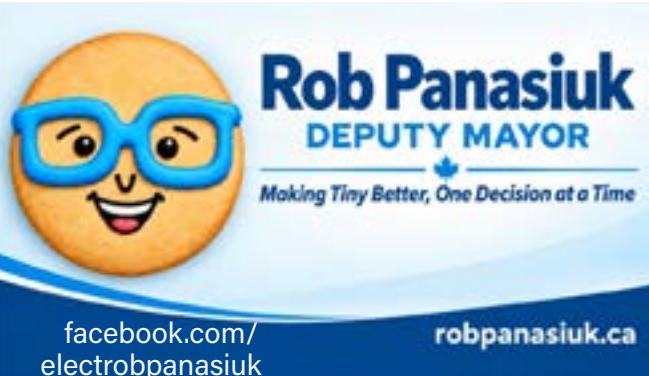
With its weathered remains and connection to the hardships of early military life, Fort Willow provides a fitting setting for stories of the past refusing to stay buried.

History, folklore and Halloween

North Simcoe's haunted legends offer more than seasonal scares. They reflect the people, tragedies and historical events that have shaped communities across the region.

From the early missionary settlements of Midland to Penetanguishene's military history and the remains of Fort Willow, these locations preserve important chapters of the past while inspiring stories passed from one generation to the next.

As Halloween draws near, the tales serve as a reminder that local history can be fascinating, mysterious and, at times, a little frightening. Whether you believe in ghosts or simply enjoy a good story, North Simcoe offers plenty of haunted history to explore — at least in the imagination.



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The Harvesters Are Back: Season Opens with a 10-3 Victory!

October 22, 2026 Edition 739

The Elmvale Harvesters are officially back in action, and what a way to kick off the season!

First, we would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who stopped by and supported the Harvesters booth at the Elmvale Fall Fair. It was great connecting with fans, chatting about the upcoming season, and seeing so much interest in Harvesters merchandise. We were excited to get some new merch into the hands of our supporters and appreciate everyone who came out to show their support. Don't forget, our Fall Fair raffle draw will take place during our home opener on October 31, so there is still something exciting to look forward to!

Our 2026-27 season got underway Saturday night in Thornbury as the Harvesters faced off against the Georgian Bay Applekings. Ryan Hackett wasted no time getting the team on the board, scoring the first goal of the season. From there, the Harvesters took control of the game, putting on a dominant performance and skating away with an impressive 10-3 victory.

The Will Marshall Insurance Brokers Three Stars of the Game were awarded to first star Jacob Kelly, second star Dave Pearce, and third star Adam Redgate. It was also an encouraging first look at our new coaching staff, who made a strong impression as the team opened the season with a convincing win.

Along with the season opener, the Harvesters announced their leadership group for the year. Owen King will wear the captain's "C," with Dave Pearce, Steve Hlusiak, and Jacob Kelly serving as alternate captains. Congratulations to all four players on being selected to lead the team both on and off the ice!

The road trip continues next weekend with two more away games. The Harvesters will travel to Saugeen on Friday for an 8:30 p.m. puck drop before heading to Durham on Saturday for a 6:30 p.m. start. Fans who can't make the trip can still catch all the action, as both games will be streamed live on the Elmvale Harvesters YouTube channel.

Of course, the team is most excited to welcome everyone back to the Silo for our home opener on Saturday, October

31, at 8:00 p.m. against Creemore! With Halloween falling on game day, we encourage everyone to get their trick-or-treating done early and make the Harvesters game their final stop of the night. We'll have plenty of candy on hand and can't wait to see the creative costumes our fans come up with!

A new season means new memories, exciting hockey, and another opportunity to bring our community together. Thank you again to our fans, sponsors, volunteers, and everyone who continues to support senior hockey in Elmvale.

We'll see you at the Silo!
Go Harvs Go!



October 22, 2026 Edition 739



Submitted by Jamie Robillard

The Penetang Kings regular season play continued with two wins and one loss in Provincial Junior Hockey League's Carruthers Division in games played from October 9 to 16.

On Friday October 9 the Kings travelled to Huntsville and came away with a 7-2 win over the Otters. Penetang trailed Huntsville 1-0 after the first period but exploded for five second period goals while only conceding one marker to the Otters. Max Geere tied the score early in the second period for the Kings before Cole Rumbolt, Josh Hutton, Owen Fuller and Brycen Kingma scored single markers. In the third period Wyndam Brownlee and Conner Varley rounded out the scoring for Penetang who outshot the Otters by a 51 to 26 margin. Kings' goaltender Landon Simec made 24 saves. The CompuSOLVE Kings Player of the game was defenseman Max Geere who turned in a strong performance on the blueline.

On Saturday October 10 the Kings returned to home ice and were shut down by a strong Alliston Hornets squad dropping a 6-1 decision. Alliston connected for four power play goals enroute to the win. Owen Moreau played a strong game between the pipes for Penetang stopping 36 of the 42 shots fired his way. Alex Sajan netted the Kings' lone goal midway through the third period. Penetang managed 38 shots on Alliston goaltender, Patrick Suhterland.

The Kings again hit the road for a second trip to Huntsville in a week on Friday October 16 and this time came out on top with a convincing 8-1 victory. Penetang peppered the Otters goaltenders with 48 shots. Brody Coe fired home three goals to pace the Kings attack with single goals scored by Brendan Williams, Owen Fuller, Lucas Sibley, Alex Sajan and Carson Thayer. Landon Simec made 14 saves in the Penetang goal. The CompuSOLVE Kings Player of the Game was awarded to Coe for leading the attack.

Notes: The Kings' next game is on Friday October 22 when they play host to the Orillia Terriers at 8:00



Penetang Kings Sport 6 Win 2 Loss Record In Early Season

www.SpringwaterNews.ca 13



pm. They then travel to Bracebridge on Saturday October 23 to face off against the Muskoka Bears before returning home of Friday October 30 when they once again meet the Huntsville Otters at 8:00 pm. On Sunday November 1 the Kings will be in Innisfil to tangle with the Spartans for the first time this season.

The Kings will wear Pink Jerseys for warmups at all home games in October to recognize Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Penetang currently stands in third place with six

wins in eight games for 12 points. Alliston leads the division with 14 points in eight games followed by Stayner who has 14 points in 11 games. Orillia is on fourth place with 10 points having only played six games.

The Kings leading scorers are forwards Brendan Williams with 15 points on 3 goals and 12 assists, Alex Sajan with 6 goals and 8 assists for 14 points and defensemen Josh Hutton with 11 points on 3 goals and 8 assists.



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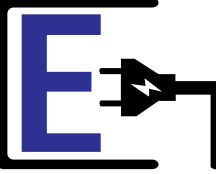
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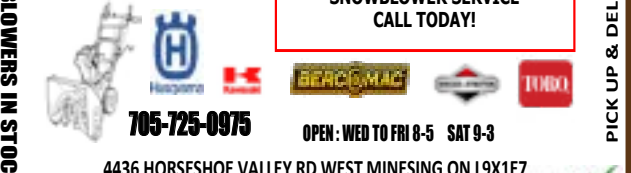
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Bearbells By Leslie Noonan


October 17, 2026
The cold woke me up. The cabin was in total darkness, and I searched for my headlamp on the table. The woodstove had gone out, and I spent some time relighting it, until the flames began to leap and dance and the small cabin began to warm up. With a screech of rusty springs, I opened the screen door and stepped outside. Snow had fallen, and everything was covered in a thin mantle of white. The night sky was breathtaking. A dome of black covered in thousands of stars, more than we would ever seen in southern Ontario. The milky way spanned the sky from horizon to horizon, while a sliver of moon illuminated the white snow. I spent several moments marveling at the sky and listening to the wind in the trees. I had hoped to hear the wolves behind us howling, but for now they were silent. The cold chased me back inside to the warmth of a big bed covered in thick blankets. Tomorrow would be a long day hiking a section of the La Cloche mountain range.
The La Cloche mountain range runs along the north shore of Lake Huron, from Killarney to Manitoulin Island. The numerous hiking trails offer spectacular vistas of lakes and rivers, as well as the white quartzite ridges and mountains. These trails are considered the most difficult in Ontario, both for their isolation and challenging climbs. We chose to start at Red Deer trail and head north up to Florence Lake. The morning was still cold, hovering around zero, but we quickly warmed up with exertion. Most of the leaves had fallen and we walked through ankle deep golden yellow leaves. Oaks still had kept their leaves, which had turned deep rust colors. My son gave a startled yelp, and I turned to see him wrestling with a strange creature attached to his face, like a scene from an alien horror movie. The creature turned out to be a harmless wet leave, loosened by the wind to land and stick on his face. Before long the hardwood forest began to thin and give way to marshy land. The mud was thick in places, and

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MATT GARWOOD
WARD 1 COUNCILLOR


ANTEN MILLS
By Dennis Gannon

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ELECT

LIZ GRUMMETT
DEPUTY MAYOR


OCTOBER 16 - 26

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often we had to balance across logs to cross small streams and marshes. We left the Red Deer trail and merged into the Alexandar trail, a multiuse trail that was wide and easy to follow, but the ATV's had made deep ruts in the mud that made keeping dry feet impossible.

This trail followed the low areas between mounds of granite and quartzite boulders. Towering cliffs formed on both sides, moss and ferns clinging to crevices. The sun seemed to disappear, though we could see it catching the tops of the tallest trees. Down in the gullies it was cool and gloomy. Multiple trails veered off from the main one, and there was little in the way of signage or blazes to follow, and even our map did not show the multiple routes. After an hour of hiking, we noticed blue signs ahead and we were eager to confirm that we were on the right trail. The only problem was a bridge we needed to cross first. A bridge that was leaning dangerously to one side, with missing planks, and large nails protruding from the rotten wood. With some tentative steps and fervent appeals to several deities, we managed to cross with no harm. Our blue sign indicated that we were at the convergence of three trails, including the Florence Lake trail heading north. Off we went, through more marsh and wetlands. Shortly we arrived at the lake, deep blue waters reflecting the huge granite ridges rearing up from the far shores. Deep reds and yellows still clung to some trees and showed up against the deep greens of the pine forests we had just entered. Some enterprising people managed to bring a canoe and small boat to the shore next to a deserted camp site. We took our time admiring the view and catching our breath before starting out on the next section.

We followed the trail around the lake, a route that

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became more and more difficult. It narrowed to half a foot as it slid off down steep cliffs to the lake below. Mosses and loose pine needles made the footing treacherous, and the trail was so steep that my feet threatened to slide sideways out of my shoe. An old rockslide provided an interesting obstacle, with the wet and mossy rocks providing precarious footholds. It was a beautiful area, with the deep brown of pine needles carpeting the forest floor, and vibrant green mosses growing like pincushions beside the trail. The lake shone next to us and the granite behemoth rose overhead. Eventually we came to another convergence of trails. We had hoped to continue up higher on the mountain, but the sun was moving low in the sky, and the next section of trail would be even more difficult. With regret we turned back, past Florence Lake to the marshy land. A huge pawprint in the mud caught our attention, one that was not there on our way in. The prints followed ours for at


RE-ELECT
MATT GARWOOD
WARD 1 COUNCILLOR


ANTEN MILLS
By Dennis Gannon

Superman, firefighters, police officers, fairies and witches will all be heading to the community centre this Sunday as the annual Kids Halloween Party takes place. Thanks to Max and the volunteers, this annual tradition is returning again this year. While preregistration was required, you can check the Anten Mills Community Bulletin Facebook page link to see if you can get your children in. A reminder to those who are attending, a donation for each child in support of the Elmvale and District Food Bank is required so please give generously as they need your support.

While it might be early to mention this, the CPKC Holiday Train which supports the food bank system including the Elmvale food bank will be making a stop again this year. On Monday, November 30 during the lunch hour in Midhurst. More details will be posted closer to the date.

Municipal elections will come to a close this coming Monday, October 26. There were many opportunities to vote in our municipality and everyone who can, should. Municipal government is the grassroots of democracy that we can participate in. Those who are elected are our neighbours with whom we can directly talk to and discuss our issues and concerns. Voting can be done at your convenience at home or by going to one of the voting stations. Get your voice heard and please vote for those who you support and believe will do the best for our municipality before 8PM, Monday, October 26.

Saturday, October 24 will be the start of the Legion Poppy Campaign. In previous years the campaign began the last Friday in October and ran until Remembrance Day. This year the Legion changed the campaign to start yearly on October 24 regardless of the day of the week. It is important to support the Legion and remember, you don't purchase a poppy, you donate what you can.

Remembrance Day is November 11. Each year communities commemorate the day with services at the local cenotaph. Here in Springwater there are two cenotaphs and two services on November 11. In Elmvale

at least a kilometer, and we wondered what canine had been following us out here. It gave me shivers to think that we had not even heard or seen the creature. It did give us added incentive to move a brisk pace along the trail.

It was near the trailhead that my son motioned me to stop and be quiet. Ahead of us was a deer and her two fawns. Her large ears flickered and moved while she looked directly at us. To our surprise she actually wagged her tail and walked towards us, close enough that we could have reached out and touched her. Instead, we continued on our way with a warning to her about stranger danger, especially strangers with big guns. Back at the car the sun had slid low in the sky, and a cold wind had us shivering after the exercise. It was time to head back to the cabin for a hot chocolate and an evening spent around the woodstove in our secluded off grid cabin.

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Thank You, Elmvale! Celebrating 167 Years of Community, Tradition and Agricultural Heritage

By Tanya King, 2025–2026 President, Flos Agricultural Society

As I reflect on the 167th Elmvale Fall Fair, I am filled with gratitude and pride for our community and for everyone who helped make this year's fair such a tremendous success. Whether you volunteered your time, participated in an event, exhibited your animals or handiwork, donated goods or services, sponsored an activity, worked behind the scenes, operated a vendor booth, or simply attended and supported the fair, please know how much you are appreciated. This fair belongs to all of us, and it takes an entire community working together to bring it to life.

For 167 years, the Flos Agricultural Society has been at the helm of this treasured tradition, preserving our agricultural heritage while celebrating the people, talents and spirit that make Elmvale such a special place to call home.

This year's festivities kicked off on Thursday evening with an outdoor concert featuring our own Graham Scott Fleming. Unfortunately, the rain had other plans, and our preparations for the outdoor stage were for naught. But in true Elmvale fashion, Graham adapted and treated those in attendance to an intimate acoustic performance beneath the tent generously erected by our firefighters this year. For those fortunate enough to be there, it became a very special and memorable experience. Sometimes, the unexpected moments turn into the most meaningful memories.

Thankfully, that was all the rain we saw for the weekend. Friday and Saturday brought beautiful blue skies, warm sunshine and spectacular crowds, all ready to celebrate the 167th Elmvale Fall Fair.

Friday morning's ever-popular school parade was an extraordinary showcase of community spirit, with more than 2,700 students marching proudly through Elmvale. The enthusiasm of our young people was inspiring and a wonderful reminder that the future of our community is in good hands. Senator Rob Black was in attendance and remarked repeatedly on how special this event was. He noted that not every community is fortunate enough to have a hometown fair so closely connected with its schools and township. We are truly fortunate to have that connection here in Elmvale.

Throughout Friday, the fairgrounds were alive with activity. Our barns and show rings welcomed 4-H members competing in their achievement programs in dairy and beef and our sheep show was once again successful. The commitment these young people demonstrate in caring for their animals and developing their agricultural knowledge deserves recognition and applause.

On the ball diamond, the pony classes showcased the skills that continue to improve year after year, while the ever-popular kids' tractor pull had young competitors racing toward the finish line, eager to claim their prizes.

The Homecraft Department was beautifully displayed, featuring the talents of those skilled in baking, sewing, quilting, floral design and a wide variety of crafts. These exhibits also offered treasured glimpses into our past, with handmade items and keepsakes that preserve memories and traditions for future generations. Our Junior Fair exhibitors were equally impressive, demonstrating remarkable skill, creativity and craftsmanship across their classes. The flowers and other exhibits brought in by our exhibitors were stunning, and we are grateful to everyone who took the time to prepare and share their work.

Friday afternoon also brought one of the fair's sweetest traditions: the Mary Bertram Memorial Baby Show. The little ones once again stole the hearts of everyone who gathered to cheer them on, making it another memorable moment of the fair.

On the track, Friday's heavy equipment demonstration gave children and their parents the opportunity to get up close and personal with the machinery and try their hand at manoeuvring it. The excitement and enthusiasm of the participants, along with the appreciation shown by their parents, made this a wonderful addition to the program. Friday evening's antique tractor event was another crowd

favourite, reminding us of the importance of preserving the machinery that once represented the latest technology in our fields. It is remarkable to see the dedication of those who maintain and restore these pieces of our agricultural history.

The entertainment continued into Friday evening and throughout Saturday afternoon, with familiar tunes encouraging fairgoers to tap their toes, hum along and enjoy the atmosphere. The midway was busy on both days, and our food vendors worked hard to keep everyone fed and happy. The fairgrounds were filled with the sounds of laughter, music, conversation and the unmistakable excitement that comes with fair weekend.

Saturday morning was equally spectacular. The heavy horse show once again delighted spectators, while senior exhibitors brought dairy and beef cattle into the barns and show rings. We sincerely appreciate the time, effort and expense involved in bringing these magnificent animals to the fair. Their participation gives the general public an opportunity to learn about and appreciate the animals and agricultural practices that remain such an important part of our heritage.

Saturday's parade was another highlight, with the theme "Wonders of Ontario" reflected throughout the many entries. We were especially honoured to welcome two bands to perform during the parade, adding to the excitement and pageantry of the occasion. Thank you to everyone who designed, built, organized and participated in the entries, and to all those who helped make the parade such a success.

Our Junior Board also deserves special recognition. Throughout the year, these dedicated young people work hard to raise the funds needed to provide activities for fairgoers. This year, they offered basketball and hockey stations for youth to enjoy at no charge. Their commitment to creating opportunities for younger visitors is commendable, and we are proud of the leadership they continue to demonstrate.

The Kids' Corral was relocated this year and, for the most part, was respected as a welcoming space for families with young children. Parents appreciated having a free area where their children could be entertained while remaining under their supervision. Providing accessible activities for families is an important part of making the fair enjoyable for everyone.

Saturday afternoon's heavy equipment skills competition added another exciting element to the program before the main truck and tractor pull. Eight competitors took part, most bringing previous experience operating the equipment. Two brave exceptions were our own executive members, President Tanya King and Vice-President Matt Garwood, who finished seventh and eighth, respectively. Although we may not have claimed the top spots, we both thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to take part and try our skills. The willingness to jump in and have fun captures the spirit of our fair!

As we watch these events unfold, it is worth remembering why agricultural fairs began in the first place. Our ancestors gathered to compare crops, livestock, machinery and farming methods, sharing knowledge to improve planting, harvesting and the quality of the produce available to the public. That spirit of learning, sharing and improving continues today. While our fair has grown and evolved over 167 years, its agricultural roots remain at the heart of everything we do.

Of course, an event of this scale would not be possible without the generous support of our local businesses and sponsors. Their donations and contributions help us offer the variety of activities and entertainment our fairgoers have come to expect. Without this generosity, admission costs would be higher and our events would have to be considerably smaller in scale. To every business, organization and individual who contributed financially, donated goods or services, or supported us in any way, thank you. Your generosity makes a real difference.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to all of our Senior and Junior Ambassador representatives.

Our Senior Ambassador, Madison MacDonald, along with First Runner-Up Payton Evan's and Second Runner-Up Anara Kippax deserve recognition for their participation and willingness to represent our fair. Congratulations as well to our Junior Ambassador, Ariah Hunting, and First Runner-Up Layton Fay and Second Runner-Up Ellie Kenney.

These young people are wonderful examples of the leadership, enthusiasm and promise found within our community. We are proud of each of them and grateful for



their willingness to represent the Elmvale Fall Fair and the Flos Agricultural Society. Their involvement, along with the dedication of our Junior Board members, gives us every reason to be optimistic about the future of our society. Our young people are not only the future of this tradition; they are already making valuable contributions to it today.

Finally, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our directors, volunteers, exhibitors, 4-H members, parade participants, entertainers, vendors, sponsors, donors, emergency service personnel, township partners, community organizations and every fairgoer who joined us this year. To those who worked quietly behind the scenes, often without recognition, please know that your efforts did not go unnoticed. Every task, every contribution and every helping hand played a part in making this fair what it was.

The Flos Agricultural Society will continue to preserve our heritage, celebrate our present and embrace our future. We can only do that with the dedication of our directors and volunteers, the generosity of our supporters, the participation of our exhibitors and vendors, and the continued enthusiasm of a community that understands the importance of keeping this tradition alive.

I am honoured to be part of the Flos Agricultural Society, proud of what we have accomplished together, and excited to see where we go from here.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for being part of the 167th Elmvale Fall Fair. Your support is what keeps this tradition thriving, and I look forward to welcoming you all back next year.

With sincere appreciation,
Tanya King 2025–2026 President
Flos Agricultural Society

Jo Knows Nutrition *by Joanne Nijhuis*



As the autumn breeze starts rattling the windowpanes, our kitchens naturally call out for something warm and comforting. While sweet apple pies usually dominate this time of year, there is a savoury side to the seasonal harvest that deserves a chance to shine. This gorgeous onion and apple tart delivers all the decadence of an artisanal offering, but

with a healthy modern upgrade. By swapping out store-bought phyllo for traditional puff pastry, this recipe is both nutritious and delish. The kids will love the flaky crunch of the pastry base, while the adults will appreciate the deep, complex layers of slow-cooked caramelized onions paired with thinly sliced apples. Because it uses simple, wholesome kitchen staples, you can easily throw it together using whatever crisp apples are rolling around in your fruit bowl. Serve it warm alongside a steaming cup of coffee or a glass of wine, and watch your friends or family crowd around the kitchen island for a second slice.

Did You Know?

Choosing phyllo pastry over traditional puff pastry for this tart dramatically slashes both the fat and calories. Puff pastry relies on dense layers of solid butter laminated into the dough, which means a single serving can quickly pack on the saturated fat. Phyllo, on the other hand, consists of paper-thin sheets that are naturally fat-free. Because this recipe uses a light mist of olive oil spray between the layers instead of blocks of butter, you get a delicately and satisfying crust with only a fraction of the calories.

INGREDIENTS (6 Servings)

Filling:

- 3 medium white onions, thinly sliced
- 1 Tablespoon (15 ml) olive oil
- 2 medium tart-sweet apples (Honeycrisp or Gala), cored and thinly sliced
- ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) dried thyme
- ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) salt
- ¼ teaspoon (1.25 ml) black pepper
- ¼ cup (60 ml) plain Greek yogurt or light cream

cheese

Pastry Base:

- 6 sheets phyllo pastry sheets, thawed

Building a Life for All Seasons written by Annie Warner Donnelly



CARMELIZED ONION & APPLE TART SIMPLE, RUSTIC, SAVOURY & SWEET



- Olive oil cooking spray or 2 Tablespoons (30 ml) olive oil

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat your oven to 400F (200 C).
2. Heat 1 Tablespoon (15 ml) olive oil in a large non-stick frying pan over medium-low heat. Add the sliced onion and cook, stirring occasionally for 10-15 minutes until soft and golden brown.
3. Add the sliced apples, thyme, salt, and black pepper. Cook for another 3-5 minutes until the apples are slightly soft, but are not falling apart. Set aside to cool while you prepare your dough.
4. Line a large baking sheet or tray with parchment paper.
5. Lay down your first sheet of phyllo dough on the parchment paper. Spray it lightly with the cooking spray or brush a small amount of olive oil on it. Put the next sheet of phyllo on top and spray or brush with the olive oil. Continue this process until all 6 sheets are stacked and coated thinly in oil.
6. Gently spread the Greek yogurt or light cream cheese across the centre of the phyllo sheets, leaving about a 2-inch (5 cm) border around the outside edge.
7. Spread your caramelized onion and apple over the yogurt or cream cheese in a design to your liking.
8. To form a border, fold the exposed outer sections of the phyllo dough over the edges of the filling, gently pinching and pleating to form a rustic crust. Spray or brush the crust with the oil to keep it in place and prevent it from drying out.
9. Bake in the preheated oven for 15 to 20 minutes

until the phyllo pastry edges turn crisp and golden brown.
10. Allow the tart to cool for 5 minutes before slicing into 6 portions.

ENJOY!

Range of values per serving calculated using cooking spray or olive oil, light cream cheese or Greek yogurt.

Per Serving: |Calories: 147-198 kcal | Carbohydrates: 27 g | Protein: 3.1-3.4 g | Fat: 3.7-9.8 g |Fibre: 2.9 g | Sodium: 265-308 mg |

Joanne Nijhuis, MSc, RD is a Consulting, Media and Culinary Registered 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 is currently working on her first cookbook. For more information, email Joanne at jo.knows.nutrition@outlook.com.



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the methods some use to “break them in”; methods that can leave a horse with a broken spirit.

My grandfather Flanigan had a method that could be used for horses and for children. “Never break a child,” he would say. “Just rein them in.” His was a kind, patient strategy that produced better results than the alternative.

Recently, I was stopped beside a car as we waited for the green light. The sticker on the back of it said: “I am a new driver. Thank you for your patience.”

The Canadian Oxford Dictionary shares the standard Oxford definition for patience: “the capacity to accept or tolerate delay, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious.”

What are some of the delays, problems, or sufferings that can hurt our hearts and dim our cheerful smiles? Frankly, this column doesn't have enough space to list them!

Instead, let's think of those who will benefit from

the patience of our joyful hearts and our cheerful faces: new husbands and wives; new parents; new big brothers and big sisters; children attending school for the first time; new teenagers; first-time employees; first-time college/university students living away from home; becoming an in-law, a grandparent, a widow or a widower. These are just a few of the changes that can occur in our lives whether we're ready/trained for them or not. And we know what they all require: patience!

Patience lives in a cluster of character traits that can lessen the negative impact of the challenges we face and the weather that comes with them. Let's build our resilience with the FGGKPS Cluster - Faithfulness, Gentleness, Goodness, Kindness, Patience, Self-control – bundled tightly into Love!

Love, as a verb, describes the actions we take as faithful, gentle, kind, patient and self-controlled individuals. Let's make these actions a habit. It'll be good for us. Amen.

Hey Dads!

Do you ever notice one of your kids out of the corner of your eye? Something that just seems off but you're focused on something else that's probably highly important. Then you actually turn your head to see what's going on and maybe there's a ladder leaning against the house or something is on fire or someone is about to jump out of a tree onto the trampoline. Sometimes dads notice these things and sometimes we don't.

We have people of many ages in our house. Our eldest is 20 and our youngest is two. There are seven girls and three boys. Believe it or not, mom and dad do not always have an eye on everything going on throughout the organization. Well, usually mom does. To keep the organization running almost smoothly each member has various roles and responsibilities.

Doing dishes is not an entry level job. It requires some height to reach the sink and some care to prevent the smashing of dishes and such. But little

children sometimes want to copy what they see their older siblings do. The other night our two-year old, Juniper, decided she was going to give dishes a shot. Like most toddlers, she is somewhat of an expert at splashing around in water. It was after dinner so family members were strewn about the house in various stages of pre-bedtime preparation. A few family members, including dear ol' dad, were sitting in the living room within sight of the kitchen. Juniper dragged a tall wooden stool over from the kitchen island to the kitchen sink. If you've ever stood on a stool you can maybe see where this is going. My personal experience of standing on stools isn't positive.

Juniper climbed up on the stool, turned on the sink and started "washing" dishes. This meant reaching her tiny arms into the sink, into the flowing water, splashing various items around, spilling water on the floor, etc. Due to her limited body height and limited arm length she had to stretch over that tiny strip of

counter on the edge of the sink. We soon heard Juniper calling, "Kids! I need help!"

All family members within earshot looked over and saw Juniper balancing on her belly with her little feet floating in the air. As her legs hung in the air she had kicked the stool away from counter and was now stuck in limbo and in need of assistance. Big sister Florence came to the rescue and collected Juniper from her precarious position. All is well. We know who is next in line to be on dish duty but perhaps some more training and a step ladder is necessary. Is there a chore around your house that you can train an eager child to do? I suspect there is one or two or a whole pile. Time flies, dad. Make every moment count! Even the precarious ones.

Jason Weening helps with chores with his 10 kids and 1 patient wife. Read more in his book, "Yes, Dear...I'm Watching Them" on Amazon.

Orr Lake Currents: The Great Blue



Orr Lake Ratepayers Association Readers who followed along to the end of our last article might remember that we promised to discuss more of the issues raised during our AGM. But, my goodness, these beautiful October days have us contemplating the splendid colours of trees, migrating birds in a blue sky and the delicate beauty of bursting milkweed pods. So, let's leave the "issues" for a conversation on another day and take a moment to celebrate the promise of autumn and the Great Blue Heron.

A couple of months ago we asked our Facebook Group members to nominate the bird, tree and flower that they thought best represented Orr Lake. We had some good nominations!

In the Tree category, the nominations were Maple, Oak, Cedar, Pine and Willow, all of which are admirable emblems of the foliage that rings the lake. We have a Cedar Lane on the north shore, so plentiful are the Eastern White Cedars on properties around the lake. The watershed has rich deciduous forests abundant with Maples and Oaks, particularly beautiful in the fall. The tall Pines, White and Red especially, give a unique character to the south side of the lake. The large Weeping Willow is iconic along the shore, where it thrives in the wetland environment. So diverse is the Orr Lake watershed that no one tree can define it for everyone. The vote was split. We will have to revisit this one!

Flower nominations proved much more difficult with one member suggesting that there wasn't one flower that represented the lake. We encouraged nominations of plants that grow natively at Orr Lake. Trilliums and Joe Pye were the most popular choices. Trilliums are of course the harbingers of

spring, carpeting the floors of the deciduous forest and bringing great joy to our hearts. Joe Pye is a showy cluster of bright pink that loves the wetland and adorns the shore of the lake all summer long. It's going to be a tough decision to choose an emblematic flower!

In the bird category, the nominations were Duck, Swan, Seagull, Canada Goose, Loon and the winner, the Great Blue Heron. There was really no contest here. The Heron is a favourite among residents and such a joy to have on the lake. Our social media often



features people's photos and videos of this regal bird. The Heron is now the official bird of Orr Lake!

The Great Blue Heron is over a metre tall, with a wingspan approaching two metres. It can wait perfectly still for long stretches before striking with lightning speed at fish, frogs and other small creatures along the shoreline and in the marshes. Herons build large stick nests high in the treetops. Our neighbourhood heron family probably nests in the wetland at the west end of the lake. Because they depend on clean water, healthy fish populations and undisturbed wetlands, Great Blue Herons are often seen as a sign of a thriving ecosystem. In adopting the heron as its emblem, the Orr Lake community recognizes the value of protecting the lake and the natural habitat that is home to beautiful flora and fauna.

Watch our social media for the next round of voting for Tree and Flower. Meanwhile, there's an even more important vote for you to cast - in the Municipal Election. Your vote matters!

"Lake First, Community Always"



Wasaga Ganaraska Hiking Club

The Wasaga Beach Ganaraska Hiking Club held its 30th Anniversary celebration on Wednesday October 14th. Photos of the original and current event are attached.

The Wasaga Ganaraska Hiking Club has been a fixture in this community for over 30 years. It is part of a larger network of 8 organized clubs and 500 km of groomed hiking trails looping from Midland in the north to the Niagara Escarpment and the Bruce Trail in the west, Orillia and the Queen Elizabeth Wildlands in the west and Port Hope in the south. The 49 km Wasaga Beach section of the Ganaraska Trail



Ward 4 Update Oct 22/26

As colder weather approaches, winter road maintenance is on many residents' minds. Difficult conditions can affect daily travel, farming, feed and other deliveries, and the work of our EMS personnel.

At its September 16 meeting, Springwater Council awarded the contract for bulk highway salt and treated salt and renewed the Township's winter sand supply contract through August 2027. These materials are an important part of the Township's winter road operations.

Forecasters expect this winter to be influenced by El Niño, a climate pattern linked to warmer-than-usual waters in the tropical Pacific that can shift weather patterns around the world. Its effects vary across Canada, and eastern Canada generally experiences less pronounced effects. It is not a day-to-day forecast for Springwater, and winter storms and difficult road

winds its way through Wasaga Beach's forests, beaches and roadways to connect with the larger network.

The Ganaraska Trail is completely free to the public and in most sections is a multi-use trail. It is used by visitors from all over the province all year round. The Wasaga Beach section is a real asset to our community connecting everyone to our beautiful forest and beaches.

On Wednesday October 14, club members attended a presentation by a former club president, Marilyn Flood and the Ganaraska Association president Frieda Baldwin followed by an official ribbon cutting reenactment of the opening of the trail on Veterans Way. The ceremony was followed by hikes into the Provincial Park.

conditions remain possible. Environment and Climate Change Canada explains El Niño here.

Conditions can also vary greatly between the north and south ends of Springwater, so it's helpful to check updates for your area. Residents can visit the County of Simcoe's Road and Weather Conditions page for road conditions, live traffic cameras, and emergency closure information. For provincial highways, Ontario 511 provides road conditions, closures, and other travel updates.

As a Council member, I welcome your feedback on what is working well—or not working well—in your area, and on the challenges, faced when roads are closed. Please allow extra time during winter weather, be careful, prepared and give road crews room to work.

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

Hello Springwater residents. I'm pleased to share updates on recent council decisions, community events, and improvements 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.

The 2026 Elmvale Fall Fair

What a weekend! Blue skies, sunshine, and record-breaking crowds made the 2026 Elmvale Fall Fair one to remember. This year's Wonders of Ontario theme celebrated everything that makes our province, and our community, such a wonderful place to call home.

From the midway and livestock shows to the domestic science exhibits, school entries, parades, live music, entertainment, food trucks, vendors, and tractor and truck pulls, there was something for everyone to enjoy. Of course, an event of this size wouldn't be possible without the countless sponsors, dedicated volunteers, and community members who come together each year to make it all happen. It truly takes a community to bring the Township's largest annual event to life!

And, most importantly, thank you. Thank you for making the Elmvale Fall Fair part of your Thanksgiving tradition. We are incredibly grateful to the thousands of visitors who came through the gates, the volunteers who dedicated their time and energy, and the families who

continue to return year after year.

We can't wait to welcome you back for the 168th Elmvale Fall Fair on October 8–9, 2027!

Elmvale Harvesters Home Opener – October 31 at 8:00 p.m.

Get ready for a spooky night at the barn! The Elmvale Harvesters kick off another exciting season on October 31 at 8:00 p.m., taking on the Creemore Coyotes in what promises to be a thrilling home opener.

Coming off a successful inaugural season, the Harvesters made the playoffs, picked up plenty of wins, and, most importantly, built strong connections with the Elmvale community and local businesses. Now, they're ready to hit the ice again for another season!

There's no better way to support your local team than by filling the barn and cheering the Harvs on! Get your tickets today and join us in making this another unforgettable season for the Harvesters.

Let's fill the barn!

Elmvale Community Recreation Association Bingo – Supporting the Elmvale Legion

The Elmvale Community Recreation Association (ECRA) is back with another fun filled evening of bingo, this time in support of the Elmvale Legion! Join us on November 5, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Elmvale Community Hall for an enjoyable evening with family,



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-  **PROTECT OUR FARMLAND**
I will stand firm against any further loss of Springwater farmland. *Our farmers deserve more.*
-  **BETTER TRANSPORTATION**
Continue to advocate for weekend LINX Route 1 service through Springwater.

-  **FAMILIES, SENIORS, AND FARMERS FIRST**
Putting the needs of our families, seniors and agricultural community at the centre of decisions.
-  **OPEN, TRANSPARENT, AND ACCOUNTABLE**
Create a Citizens' Advisory Board to Council and ensure every voice is heard every time.
-  **A MAYOR SHOULD LEAD COUNCIL — NOT REPLACE IT**
I will not use Strong Mayor Powers. Strong leadership doesn't need Strong Mayor Powers.

 **VOTE** **OCTOBER 26**
MUNICIPAL ELECTION
Authorized by the George Cabral Campaign



Elmvale Branch (705) 322-1482
Midhurst Branch (705) 737-5650
Minesing Branch (705) 722-6440
VISIT US TODAY!

Library Service Survey
Whether you're interested in books and reading, crafts, technology, games, movies, learning new skills, or simply finding a fun place to connect with others, your feedback can help us plan programs that are meaningful, useful, and enjoyable. Your responses will help us understand what our community is looking for and guide the development of future library programming. Thank you for helping us make the library a place where everyone can find something to learn, create, explore, and enjoy! You can use the QR code to access the survey or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/5n8h7djy>

Georgian Bay Reads
This program is **SOLD OUT**. Your five local libraries – Clearview Public Library, Collingwood Public Library, Meaford Public Library, Springwater Township Public Library, and Wasaga Beach Public Library – are pleased to present an evening of laughter and spirited debate as their Defenders engage in a fast-paced discussion to prove that their book deserves the title of Georgian Bay Reads. Hosted by Springwater Township Public Library, join us at the Elmvale Community Hall, 33 Queen St. West. Saturday, October 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

YMCA Job Search and Employment Services
The Midland YMCA Employment Service is available for walk ins and appointments to assist with resumes and job searching. Last Thursday of every month, 10am-4pm at Elmvale Branch.
Cost: Free. Walk in assistance is available or to book an appointment call (705) 528-0845.

Closed for Staff Training
Please note, all branches of Springwater Public Library will be closed Friday October 30 for staff training. We will reopen to regular branch hours on Saturday October

31.
Trick or Treat at the Library!
On Saturday October 31, 10am-4pm at Elmvale and Midhurst Branch come and trick or treat, help us with our big community Halloween colouring page and play our hide and seek mini pumpkining game!

ODSP
Are you on the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) or have questions about ODSP? Come see an ODSP caseworker every other Monday 10am-4pm at the Elmvale Branch on November 2, 16, 30. What is ODSP? It is a social assistance program in Ontario, Canada, that provides financial and employment support to adults with disabilities and their families. Key Supports of ODSP: Income support - Monthly financial entitlements to help cover basic needs like food, clothing, and housing/shelter allowances. Health Benefits: Coverage for prescription drugs, dental care, vision care, and medical supplies or medical travel costs.

Hospice Simcoe Seasons Centre: Understanding Grief
An introduction to grief, how it can impact us emotionally, physically, socially, and spiritually, and why every grief journey is unique. Thursday November 12, 6pm-7:30pm at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

Online Resource Training
Learn how to access thousands of FREE online: books and audiobooks, movies, TV shows, and magazines. Friday November 13: Online Resource Training, 11am at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

Crafternoon Tea Party
Please join us for a fun afternoon filled with tea drinking and crafting! Presented by the Barrie Community Health Clinic, all participants will be leaving with a hand painted bag filled with resources on self-care. All abilities are welcome! Friday November 13, 12:30pm at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.



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WARD 2 COUNCILLOR
Resident. Volunteer. Councillor.
VOTE OCTOBER 26



Authorized by the Danielle Alexander Campaign

Special Events
One Time

In Grandmothers Hands Annual African Dinner

Oct. 07, 2026 6pm-8pm

Location: Royal Canadian Legion, 196 Queen Street, Midland, ON L4R 0C8

African Dinner fundraiser supporting the Stephen Lewis Foundation, By Donation : Simcoe County Arts and Crafts Association - November Craft Workshop - Jewelry Making

Nov. 02, 2026 1:00- 3:00 PM

St. Paul's Anglican Church - 5 Noraline Ave, Midhurst

Make earrings, necklace & bracelet. Instructions & materials supplied. Cost \$25

Barry James Payne, Emm Gryner & Luna Keller - Utopia Hall, Sunday, November 1st

Utopia Hall, 8396 6 Line, Essa, ON L0M 1T0

Probus Club of Simcoe North

Start: Nov. 12, 2026 - Jun. 18, 2027 10:00

Penetanguishene Legion

Seniors enjoy Fun & Fellowship monthly 2nd Thursday. Contact Mary 705.526.6349

Georgian Bay Coin & Stamp Club

Date: 3rd. Thursday of each month 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Prime Time Club location, (RecPlex) 1724 Mosley St.

Please come & join us. For more info:www.geobaycoinstampclub.com

Publication Dates
2026

Next Editions
November 5th

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- Across
- 1 Flu symptom

5 Place

8 Belonging to (pronoun)

11 Philosopher's study

12 How the excited go

13 Afternoon sleep

14 "Trick" joint

15 Won-__ soup

16 If at first you don't succeed, __ again

17 Take-out food

20 Mommy's sis

23 Contract information

26 __ Beta Kappa

27 Kind of fingerprint

29 Come again

30 Kids' party ride

32 Six less four

34 Airport sign data

35 Bo Peep's charges

37 Impassiveness

39 Concert souvenirs

41 Had some nuts

43 Quirky

44 Inspiration

48 Hen or doe

49 Swimming pool tester

50 Follows relentlessly

51 Coop female

52 Decrepit

53 Holiday findings
- Down
- 1 "Funny you should __ ..."

2 Sting

3 Tinge

4 Choose by vote

5 Guest role on 'House'

6 Aware of

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- 7 Basic belief
- 8 Service offered at some cafes
- 9 Seasoned sailor
- 10 Get data secretly
- 18 Went underground
- 19 Home to many schools
- 20 Droid downloads
- 21 Tot's alert
- 22 College age
- 24 Drug abbr.
- 25 Pull
- 28 Honored with
- 31 "You wanted my attention?"
- 33 Make a selection
- 36 ID necessity, often
- 38 Note to the audience
- 40 False god in the Bible
- 41 A grate build-up
- 42 Oft-used article
- 45 Hound
- 46 Future flamingo
- 47 Donkey relative

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Upcoming Auctions

J&S Heating and Air Conditioning Auction: St. Catharines (Act now & bid - auction closes on Oct. 26.)
October Multi Consignor Auction: Guelph (Hundreds of lots to explore - bidding starts on Oct. 25.)

The Estate of Robert Sheard: Woodville (Over 1500 + lots! You don't want to miss this auction, ft. a stunning collection of furniture, antiques, vintage jewellery, art, tools & more! Opens Nov 4. and closes Nov 11. & 12.)

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NOTICES

Happy Retirement John!
After 30years in business, Hallyburton Automotive will be closing at the end of November 2026.
Thank you to all of our awesome customers and employees, over the years, who made this small town business a success.
Wishing everyone all the best in the future.

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Elmvale Community Church
12 Queen St. E.
Saturday, November 7, 2026
9am – noon
Everyone Welcome!!

LOFTUS, Marjorie – October 30. 2007

**We often think of bygone days
When we were all together
The family chain is broken now,
But memories will live forever.
Sadly missed along life's way
Quietly remembered every day.
No longer in our life to share
But in our hearts, she's always there.
Lovingly remembered by the family.**

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DESROCHES, Leona Ellen Veronica

Passed away peacefully surrounded by family at Georgian Bay General Hospital, Midland on Thursday, October 15, 2026. Leona Desroches (nee Hocken) of Elmvale, age 94. Beloved wife of the late Luc Desroches.

Loving mother of Joyce (late Bill) Reynolds, Linda (Ross) Eccleshall, Nelson (Sue) Desroches, Annette Middlemass, Bonnie Isaac (Trevor), Gary (Kim) Desroches and Sandra (Dave) Grenier. Proud grandmother of 12 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren. Daughter of William and Reta (Crawford) Hocken. Pre-deceased by sister, Velma (Mel) French, Mildred (Leonard) Cadeau, Madeline (Henry) Forget, Phyllis (Ken) Truax, Margaret (Roy) Truax, Francis (Alda) Hocken, Clinton (Buck) Hocken, Theresa (Grant) Ball. Leona will be fondly remembered by her many nieces and nephews.

Thank you to the staff at Georgian Bay General Hospital for their care and compassion of mom in her final days.

A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale on Tuesday, October 20, 2026 from 2-4 and 7-9 pm. A funeral mass will be held at Mt St Louis Church on Wednesday, October 21 at 11 am. Interment Mt St Louis Cemetery.

Donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or the Georgian Bay General Hospital Foundation.

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

OBIT SUBMISSIONS

Obituary Notices are at a custom cost. Please submit to the Editor. Email: info@springwaternews.ca
Full name, phone number and address must be supplied.



ERNEST RAMLER (Twin Bridge Marina)

With heavy hearts we announce the passing of Ernest Ramler, two months short of his 99th birthday. He passed peacefully at his home in Waubashene on 1 Sept, 2026. Beloved husband of Elfriede. Loving Father of Brian (Jackie), and Monica. Cherished Grandfather of Brandon (Victoria), Shawn, Axel and Cameron. Great Grandfather of Bowe and Blaze. A Celebration of Life is to be held at a later date. Ernie was trained as a Master machinist and worked in his chosen profession in Austria. Ernie left for Canada in 1951 at the age of 24. He worked in Sept Iles Northern Quebec in a logging operation and wanted the peace and tranquility that working in the forest could bring. He did this for quite some time until he was able to save enough of his earnings to send his Fiancée Frieda, passageway to come by ship from Austria and they were married in La Valle, Quebec immediately upon arrival. A marriage that lasted 73 years. His machinist skills brought him to MacNamara's in Toronto and then Walter Young's in Waubashene in 1955. In 1964 they started building Twin Bridge Marina out of the swamp and shoreline on Duck Bay Road. Sixty-six years later the Marina continues to be owned and operated by the Family and is now run by their Children, Brian and Monica along with their Grandson Axel. Ernest retired in 1993. His passion was to create things on the lathe all the while singing and yodeling Austrian folk songs. Work was not a chore, it was looked forward to every day. He touched many lives through his work and his time hunting in Northern Ontario. All who knew him saw the hard working, honest man that he was. His favourite times were Family dinner celebrations surrounded by Family and good food. Throughout his time in Canada he cherished moments spent hunting and fishing enjoying the peacefulness of nature and recounting his many stories of moose and deer sightings, his favourite place being his little cabin on the Black Sturgeon River near Nipigon. Thank you to the many PSW's who cared for Ernest with dignity and kindness throughout his last years. Til the end, his heartwarming smile and songs were a delight and will be dearly missed.

Arrangements entrusted to LeClair Cremation Centre

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Jon Townes
February 18, 1986 – October 5, 2026

It is with profound sadness that we announce the sudden passing of Jon Townes, a deeply loved husband, father, son, son-in-law, brother, brother-in-law and uncle, who passed away on October 5, 2026, at the age of 40.

Jon was the beloved husband of Nicki Townes (née Northmore), with whom he shared eight years of marriage and a life filled with love, laughter, adventure and family. Together, they built a beautiful life and a family that meant everything to him.

Above all else, Jon was an incredibly proud and devoted father to Lily and Liam. His children were among his greatest accomplishments, and the love and pride he had for them was unmistakable. Being their dad was a role he treasured, and the memories they created together will be carried with them always.

Jon was the cherished son of Paul and Diane Townes and loving brother to Matt and Sarah (Greg Whitfield). He will also be deeply missed by his grandmother, June Linssen.

Jon was a much-loved son-in-law to Mike and Deb Northmore, brother-in-law to Natalie (Tyler) Hoolans, and the very best and so very loved “Uncle Jon” to his nephews, Deacon and Porter.

Jon will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by his many cousins, extended family and dear friends, whose lives were touched by his presence.

Jon will be remembered for his kindness, strength, humour, work ethic, loyalty, generosity and determination. He had an incredible wealth of knowledge and seemed to know a little something about just about everything. A natural conversationalist, Jon could talk to anyone about almost anything, always bringing his knowledge, curiosity and sense of humour to the conversation.

Jon also had a wonderfully creative side and loved crafting and making things. He was a proud Marvel fan and enjoyed the things that sparked his imagination and curiosity. Whether he was creating something, sharing an interesting fact, having a great conversation or simply making those around him laugh, Jon brought his own unmistakable personality to everything he did.

But more than anything, Jon loved his family. The life he built with Nicki and the love he had for Lily and Liam were at the centre of his world. Time spent with the people he loved—celebrating the big moments, laughing together or simply enjoying the everyday ones—meant the most to him.

Jon’s sudden passing leaves an immeasurable hole in the lives of those who loved him. While his time here was far too short, the love he gave, the laughter he shared and the memories he created will remain with his family and friends forever. His greatest legacy will live on through Lily and Liam and through all those fortunate enough to have known and loved him.

Jon was deeply loved, and he will be deeply missed. His memory will remain forever in the hearts of everyone whose lives he’s touched.

A Memorial Visitation will be held on Friday, October 16, 2026, from 5-8pm at the Reynolds Funeral Home, 1 Mary Street, Bracebridge. Followed by a Celebration of Jon’s Life on Sunday, October 18, 2026, from 1-4pm at Sawdust City Brewery, 397 Muskoka Road North, Gravenhurst.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Home Depot Canada Foundation as well as The South Muskoka Memorial Foundation.

WANDA
MAW-CHAPMAN
Township of Springwater - Ward 3 Councillor

YOUR VOICE. YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR FUTURE.



VOTE
October 16 -26

CROSSWORD

ANSWER

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SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TINY

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the lands described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on October 29, 2026, at the Township of Tiny Municipal Office, 130 Balm Beach Rd. W., Tiny, Ontario.

Description of Lands:

- Roll No. 43 68 000 010 00600 0000; TINY; PINs 58422-0075 (LT) & 58422-0125 (LT); File No. 24-04; **Minimum Tender Amount: \$15,074.05**
- Roll No. 43 68 000 004 52600 0000; TINY; PIN 58393-0055 (LT); File No. 24-07; **Minimum Tender Amount: \$10,320.14**

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to, availability of road access or any other matters relating to the lands to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers. This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. A full copy of the tax sale advertisement and further information about this matter is available online at www.OntarioTaxSales.ca or www.tiny.ca or you may contact Ashley Brodeur, CPA, Deputy Treasurer, The Corporation of the Township of Tiny, 130 Balm Beach Rd. W., Tiny ON L0L 2J0, Telephone: 705-526-4204, Email: abrodeur@tiny.ca

MIKE CAMPBELL

FOR WARD 5 COUNCILLOR
SPRINGWATER

YOUR VOICE. YOUR VOTE.
OCTOBER 16-26



FREE EVENTS PAGE
at this link:
<https://www.springwaternews.ca>



Your *Vote* matters!
I am asking for your vote.

Over the past **12 years**, I have had the privilege of serving you as Councillor, Deputy Mayor, Mayor and Deputy Warden of Simcoe County.

I have proven my leadership by **listening** to you, **learning** from professionals, and **networking** with all levels of government.

As your Mayor, I want to lead a team that works **collaboratively** - that sees opportunity, negotiates difficult decisions **together**, and ensures a strong, vibrant and sustainable future for Springwater.

Protecting our roots. Preparing for our future.

Thank you for your trust in me. I will continue to lead with **respect**, resilience and an unwavering commitment to ensure Springwater remains the place we all love and call home.

Vote Jennifer Coughlin For Mayor

 coughlinforspringwater@gmail.com  (705) 321-9272  [coughlinformayor](https://www.facebook.com/coughlinformayor)



Costly Coughlin.

Township taxes up **8.26%** in 2026.

We can't afford four more years.

Her budget. Your bill.

Township taxes up **8.26%** in 2026.

**Council said no.
Coughlin did it anyway.**

She used Strong Mayor powers to push it through.

Our land. Her sellout.

3,004 acres to Barrie. **\$22.93 million** in compensation.

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Voting day is Monday, October 26.

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