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Hit the Road This Fall: A North Simcoe Trail Guide

From historic rail trails and quiet forest walks to Georgian Bay waterfronts and rocky escarpment paths, North Simcoe offers plenty of reasons to take the scenic route this autumn.

Winding roads, colourful hillsides, fall fair displays and roadside stands filled with apples and pumpkins make autumn an ideal time to explore North Simcoe. A short drive can lead to a quiet forest, a historic site or a waterfront trail with views of the changing landscape.

Springwater, Midland and Penetanguishene each offer something different, making it easy to plan a day trip around one destination or connect several stops along the way.

Springwater: Rail Trails, Forests and Local History
North Simcoe Rail Trail

Following the former North Simcoe Railway, built in 1878 to serve the lumber industry, the North Simcoe Rail Trail winds through rural landscapes, wooded sections and environmentally significant wetlands.

Its Springwater section provides access to Minesing Wetlands, Mayer's Marsh, Fort Willow and Heritage Park in Elmvalle. Multiple access points allow visitors to choose a short walk or explore a longer section of the route, which connects with the Tiny Trail to the north and the Ganaraska Hiking Trail to the south.

History is part of the journey, particularly at Fort Willow, a former supply depot associated with the Nine Mile Portage and the War of 1812. The trail also passes the remains of Josephine, a reminder of the small railway settlements that once dotted the region.

The trail is approximately 30 kilometres long, although Simcoe County lists the main route at 31.7 kilometres. Check current maps for access points, road connections and detours before setting out.

Trail information and maps are available through the Township of Springwater and Simcoe County Trails. Copeland Forest

For a more immersive woodland experience, Copeland Forest offers a network of formal and informal trails,



including the Ganaraska Hiking Trail. Routes range from flatter paths to hillier terrain, making it worth checking a current map before choosing your walk.

Access points include the Amos Tract of Simcoe County Forest on 5th Line North and a main parking

area on Ingram Road. Allow time to explore, wear suitable footwear and stay on marked routes.

Maps and additional information are available through Friends of Copeland Forest and the Ganaraska

Continued...



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Hiking Trail Association.
Hickling Trail
For a shorter outing, Hickling Trail in the Snow Valley–Midhurst area offers an approximately 1.5-kilometre forest walk. The property is known for its red and white pines, most planted in 1949 and 1950, and a switchback climb designed to meet accessibility standards.

Parking is limited, and there are no washrooms on site, so check current access information before visiting.
Midland: Georgian Bay Views and Waterfront Walks

The Midland Rotary Waterfront Trail offers more than eight kilometres of scenic walking and cycling routes linking parks, the harbour and downtown.

Along the way, visitors can take in Georgian Bay views, explore waterfront green spaces and learn about the area's maritime and industrial heritage through interpretive plaques. The route also connects with the Mid/Pen Trail toward Penetanguishene, making it possible to extend the outing.

Pete Petterson Park features a beach area, playground and recreation space, while Gawley Park offers another



waterfront stop with a beach and nature trail.

For a shorter visit, choose a section of the waterfront and leave time to explore downtown Midland. Those looking for a longer outing can follow the trail toward the Mid/Pen connection.

Maps and current trail information are available through the Town of Midland.

Penetanguishene: Harbour History and Woodland Trails

Discovery Harbour Trail

The approximately three-kilometre Discovery Harbour Trail follows the waterfront from the Historic Port of Penetanguishene toward Discovery Harbour. Its paved asphalt surface makes it an option for visitors looking to combine a shoreline walk with local history.

The route crosses a landscape shaped by the area's maritime and industrial past, where lumber mills, tanneries and a grand hotel once stood.

Penetanguishene Trail and Rotary Champlain Wendat Park

Part of the Trans Canada Trail network, the approximately 4.8-kilometre Penetanguishene Trail connects with neighbouring Tiny Township and Midland. Its surface varies between limestone, asphalt and paved sidewalk sections.

The route passes Rotary Champlain Wendat Park, a roughly 90-acre waterfront green space featuring picnic areas, a covered pavilion, an accessible playground, washrooms and recreation areas along the harbour.

It's a good place to combine a walk with time spent enjoying the waterfront or exploring the town's historic centre.

Payette Trails

Those looking for a quieter woodland setting can explore the Payette Trails, which offer approximately two kilometres of natural paths arranged in multiple loops.

Before visiting, check the town's current trail information. A closure has also affected part of Copeland Creek Trail following the closure of one of its two bridges.

For trail descriptions, park amenities and notices, visit the Town of Penetanguishene.

A Little Farther Afield: Singhampton Caves

For those willing to travel beyond North Simcoe, the Singhampton Caves area offers a more challenging hike through the Niagara Escarpment landscape.

The route combines sections of the Bruce Trail with the blue-blazed Standing Rock and Singhampton side trails, passing through mature deciduous forest and distinctive rock formations. In autumn, the changing leaves create a striking contrast with the moss-covered rock and forest floor.

Unlike the flatter rail trails and waterfront paths closer to home, this outing requires more preparation. Rocky sections, narrow crevices, mud and wet leaves can make the terrain slippery. Wear appropriate footwear, allow plenty of time and consult current trail maps and conditions before setting out.

More information is available through the Bruce

Trail Conservancy.

As the beauty of the changing season unfolds, take time to enjoy the sunshine, watch the leaves fall and gather the family for a scenic drive. Whether you choose a quiet woodland trail, a waterfront walk or a winding country road, North Simcoe has plenty of autumn beauty to discover. Sometimes, the best part of the journey is simply slowing down, taking the long way home and appreciating what's right here in our own backyard.

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Letter from the Editor

Down the mountain and into the woods. Ah, a breath of change. The colder weather settles into our bodies and, somehow, reaches right into our souls. The trees feel it, too, trading their varying shades of green for vibrant contrasts of red, yellow and orange. We trade lighter layers for cozier sweaters and fuzzy-lined coats, hoping to avoid the rain boots, although they come with the territory. The cold brings us together for warmth, while slowing us down on the trails as we take in the beauty of the changing season.

Fall teaches us the art of letting go in nature's truest form. The leaves don't release their branches because the tree is dying. They fall to nourish the ground, allowing the tree to stand tall and await better days ahead. At the heart of it all, it's okay to let go. It's okay to experience change, because change does not define you.

So many of you reached out about the front-page photo in our last edition. Unfortunately, I should have led with a disclaimer: the location cannot be shared because it is on private property. I thought I would make it up to you in the only way I know how — by finding a hiking spot that might be a little closer to home and sharing one of my favourite places: Singhampton Caves.

Before you head out, please use extreme caution. Stay on marked paths and well away from ledges. Fallen brush, erosion and the extensive cave system create serious hazards, including the risk of falling into openings or down rocky embankments. This

EMHA season gets underway

The Elmvalle Minor Hockey Association (EMHA) has begun its 2026/2027 season, hitting the ice in the first week of September for skills development, practices and team building.

As the season gets underway, families and players can also look forward to EMHA Picture Days on Wednesday, October 14, for U5, U7 and all Rep teams, and Thursday, October 15, for all Local League teams U8 and above. Exact team times will be posted soon.

EMHA is also hosting one of its biggest fundraisers of the year — the annual Fall Fair Dance on Saturday, October 10, at the Elmvalle Arena. The dance begins at 8 p.m.

EMHA families each receive two complimentary tickets, which can be picked up at the arena. Community members can purchase tickets for \$20 each at the arena or at Ritchies Feed and Needs and G & S Computers.

Arena ticket pick-up and sales dates are September 19 from 2–3 p.m.; September 20 from 3–4 p.m.; September 26 from 3–4 p.m.; September 27 from 2–3 p.m.; and October 3 from 3–4 p.m. The ice will be out of the arena for the

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is not a suitable hiking location for everyone, particularly young children, those with limited mobility or anyone without appropriate footwear and experience. Conditions can change, so please use your judgment and prioritize safety.

That said, Singhampton Caves remains one of my favourite hidden gems, and the drive back offers the opportunity to discover some wonderful local apple cider stops. This place is special to me. My mother often shared memories of adventures here with the EDHS Outdoors Club back in the 1980s — I can only imagine what the liability paperwork looked like back then! Eventually, it became a place where we would hike together, laugh together, talk together and simply take it all in. Even now, it's somewhere I return to when I need to regain a little clarity.

Unfortunately, I haven't made it there yet this fall, but perhaps I'll see some of you on the trails after the fall fairs!

I've made it down the mountain, and now I've been walking the trails of Tiny. Midland and Penetanguishene are next on the map. There is still plenty happening back on the mountain, though. I've received calls about bringing back security, reports of AI centres and even bombs in our villages. Surely, that last one must be a nightmare — I was too busy dreaming about my fair float and canning!

If I make it through the fair season in one piece, perhaps I'll see you in the caves. Until next time, take a little time to enjoy the sunshine, the falling leaves, a family drive and the beautiful places our own backyard has to offer. Embrace the change, wherever it finds you.

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Celebrating their 40th



Ellen & Tim Belcourt and Sandy & Arnold McAuley both celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversaries, along with Kelli & Jerry Wicklum and Melissa & Arny Martinson took two Springwater News editions on their Cruise from Rome to Venice. With stops in Salerno Italy, Catania Sicily, Corfu Greece, Kotor Montenegro, Zadar Croatia and Trieste Italy (Slovenia) the cruisers got to take in some amazing scenery, food and history

Springwater has never faced a more important election.

In the lead-up, Mayor Coughlin's opponents have ramped up their criticism of her use of strong-mayor powers to approve the boundary adjustment with Barrie & Oro-Medonte.

They overlook one central fact: The Province had made it crystal clear that if a locally agreed-upon solution wasn't reached, Queen's Park was prepared to legislate it, which is ultimately what happened. The province passed legislation in December, which came into effect on January 1, 2026.

In that context, the question was never simply whether people liked annexation; many people reasonably did not. The practical question was whether Springwater would negotiate firmly and secure compensation for land it was going to lose or refuse to participate, leaving the township at risk of receiving significantly less. As history has proven, two previous local annexations resulted in the smaller municipality receiving nothing at all.

In the end, Springwater received approximately \$23 million in compensation. That is real money which can be invested for the future benefit of the township; Not a press release or an empty promise.

The four members of council, Cabral, Alexander, Fisher & Moore, who continually opposed the agreement, are certainly entitled to their opinion. But they should have to provide a clear answer to a simple question: What was their realistic alternative?

I attended most council meetings, either in person or virtually. At no point did I hear a constructive suggestion or meaningful contribution expressed by those opposed to the Mayor's proposal. The only input from one councillor was an alternative proposed at the last minute, which included mapping which the province had already considered and dismissed.

Without having a realistic solution, they should acknowledge that Mayor Coughlin did what elected leaders are supposed to do when faced with an unavoidable situation, which is to protect the municipality's interests as effectively as possible.

It is easy to vote "no" on an issue like this, as that would naturally be the popular decision. I've never heard of an annexation discussion that was warmly welcomed. It is much harder to take responsibility and negotiate a deal under pressure. Strong mayor powers should never be treated casually or used as a substitute for a sound council process, but neither should they be automatically condemned when they are used to protect a municipality in the face of a clearly looming provincial decision.

Don Currie
Springwater Resident



Joseph Broadstreet
Account Executive

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Craighurst W I goes County

Craighurst Women's Institute was invited to the Simcoe County Museum Thursday Sept 24, to be part of presenting a signature quilt to the museum to celebrate Simcoe Area W I's 100th Anniversary. All County W I members embroidered each of our names onto squares (that is the building block of a quilt, gentle reader), and then the square was quilted by hand, and then all 140 or so squares were sewn together into a magna quilt. (not a "Magna Carta" where we might hold politicians feet to the fire) I include a photo. We gave it to the Museum, to be displayed maybe in their new W I corner. It was Simcoe Area Women's Institutes that began the museum in the 1920's, in Barrie, and when it had got too big for us, in 1962, we donated everything to the County. We are always made to feel very welcome at the Midhurst site. The W I motto is "For Home and Country", and we carry out that mandate by educating rural women, advocating the government - any level - to do better, and by service.

Also CWI was busy at Oro Fair, volunteering at the "Babies Feeds and Needs" tent. The Oro Women's Institutes saw a need for a quiet space for Mums to nurse their babies, and Dads to change the diaper and give a bottle. It was very popular, we even had a line up at one point during the Fair. Who knew? That's the W I for you, finding a need and getting 'er done.



Meet the Artists of the 2026 Bay Studio Tour

The Bay Studio Tour returns this October, showcasing the creativity of local artists from Penetanguishene and Tiny, along with guest artists from surrounding communities.

With more than 30 artists participating at 20 locations, the self-guided tour offers visitors an opportunity to meet artists in their studios and galleries, view their work and discover the variety of creative talent found throughout the Georgian Bay area.

This year's participating artists include:

Olga Ziouzina; Linda Brubacher and Bev Owen; Karen Amos; Nikola Quesnelle; Liz Lasky; Heather Eland; Lorie Desroches and Monica Ironside; Rosalind Daschuk; Ingrid Lupp; Melanie Robitaille and Laura Kulson; Julie McGregor and Bret Culp; Kim Maticiw; Arthur Karasik; Carol Hallman; Jerry Kulyk (Yarko); Cynthia Blair and Jana Caissie; Rod Prouse; Barbara Simmons; Christine Marshall; Antje Gagne and Sharon MacKinnon; Hilary Slater and Roger Beausoleil; Sam Sgro; Barbara Turner; Stephen St. Amant; and James Irvine.

The artists work across a wide range of mediums, including painting, sculpture, pottery, photography, textiles, jewellery, glass, wood art, Indigenous art and more.

Visitors can preview the artists' work, find studio locations, view the tour map and find contact information through the Bay Studio Tour's online artist directory.

The Bay Studio Tour invites residents and visitors to explore the studios and galleries and connect directly with the artists throughout October.

For the complete artist listings, artwork previews, map and contact information, visit thebaystudiotour.com/meet-the-2026-artists.



Pumpkinferno Returns to Discovery Harbour for Another Season of Fall Fun

PENETANGUISHENE — Thousands of glowing pumpkins, spooky pathways and a little Halloween magic will once again light up Discovery Harbour as Pumpkinferno returns for the month of October.

A fall tradition for many local families, the popular event runs October 1 to 31, inviting visitors to explore the historic waterfront site after dark, with more than 5,000 artificial pumpkins transformed into illuminated displays.

From wandering through glowing pumpkin scenes to catching live performances and stopping for seasonal treats, there is plenty to explore throughout the evening.

The event features nightly busker performances, the eerie Shadowmire Park, the Spooky Path, Macabre Manor and the Pumpkinferno Night Market, where visitors can browse local artisans and vendors. Food trucks and seasonal refreshments will also be available.

For those looking to add a little more adventure to their visit, premium experiences include Potion Craft, the Coffin Ride, Secrets of Séance and Bo'sun's Brig Escape Room. These activities are available for an additional fee, with select times and limited availability.

General admission is \$15 per person, while children five and under get in free. Discount programs are also available.

Pumpkinferno draws more than 16,000 visitors annually, bringing people to North Simcoe and supporting local businesses, including restaurants, shops and accommodations.

Something for Everyone

Pumpkinferno is bringing back its popular drive-through experience on select Wednesday evenings: October 7, 14, 21 and 28. Visitors can take in the illuminated displays from their vehicles, with public tours scheduled for 7 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 8 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$13 per person, and reservations are strongly recommended. Dedicated early time slots are available for community organizations and visitors with accessibility needs.

Several themed evenings are also planned throughout the month.

Pup-Inferno — October 8 and 29

Dog owners can bring their four-legged companions along for a stroll through the glowing displays. The evenings will include special treats, dog-focused vendors and opportunities to support the Midland OSPCA.

Beyond the Veil — October 16

For those drawn to the mysterious side of Halloween, Beyond the Veil offers an evening featuring live medium demonstrations, unique vendors and other mystical experiences. A Night with a Medium ticket includes admission to Pumpkinferno. The event is designed for adults and older teens, and advance booking is recommended.

Mini-Monster Bash — October 30

Young visitors can show off their Halloween costumes



and take part in trick-or-treating throughout the site. The evening will also feature candy stations, a costume contest for children aged 12 and under, and family-friendly entertainment.

Make a Night of It

Visitors who want to extend their stay can book Discovery Harbour's Pumpkinferno cabin package. Registered cabin guests receive complimentary event admission, on-site parking, a spooky goodie basket for two and vouchers for select activities and treats. The package also includes access to live entertainment and the Night Market.

Before You Go

Pumpkinferno is open Thursday through Sunday evenings throughout October, with additional drive-through dates on Wednesdays.

Free parking is available at Discovery Harbour's South entrance at 93 Jury Drive. Complimentary shuttle service will operate October 16, 17, 23 and 24 between Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care and the site's Gate C entrance. Gate C is reserved for shuttle passengers; all other visitors should enter at 93 Jury Drive.

Service animals are permitted throughout Pumpkinferno.

Other pets are welcome only during the designated Pup-Inferno evenings.

Whether it is a family tradition or a first visit, Pumpkinferno offers an opportunity to enjoy the sights and sounds of autumn in a uniquely North Simcoe setting.

For tickets, cabin packages and additional information, visit their website.

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A MESSAGE FROM DOUG SHIPLEY



Thanksgiving is traditionally an autumn celebration to show appreciation for the season's harvest. These days, it's a time to gather with friends and family, a time to express gratitude for the people in our lives, our loved ones, and to count our blessings. It also usually means that fall has well and truly arrived and that I should be raking leaves. Let's welcome the fall season by enjoying the changing colour of the trees, cozy sweaters, and local produce. I encourage you to stop at a local roadside stand to pick out a few pumpkins, some fresh apples, and seasonal veggies to support our local farms. We are surrounded by farmland and there are many producers to choose from within a short distance.

There are many fall fairs and markets at this time of the year, and I was happy to drop in and enjoy the sights and have conversations with constituents at the Oro World's Fair. My wife and I enjoyed visiting the vendor booths and checking out the goodies and the products created by local vendors. This Thanksgiving weekend is the Elmvale Fall Fair. There are so many

things to do and mention, from the excitement and the energy of the school parade, midway, tractor pull to meeting constituents, and, of course, choosing from a great selection of food vendors.

I hope you make the most of this fall season by getting outdoors and enjoying all that Springwater and the surrounding areas have to offer – hiking trails, waterfronts, and parks. I hope you enjoy the season, and I hope your Thanksgiving weekend is filled with the comfort and warmth of good friends, close family, and great food.

As always, my staff and I are available to discuss any federal matters that may be of concern to you and your family. Please do not hesitate to get in touch by phone at 705-728-2596 or email at Doug.Shipley@parl.gc.ca.

Sincerely,
Doug Shipley
Member of Parliament
Barrie—Springwater—Oro—Medonton

You can't live without the truth

I don't spend much time on social media anymore. Granted, part of it is due to Facebook and Instagram's parent company deciding to block all Canadian news rather than sharing some of the money it was making from it, but it goes beyond that. Once upon a time, I'd log on and be updated on the lives and loves of family, friends and acquaintances. Now my feeds are increasingly filled with ads and posts from companies, groups and bots that our ol' friend Al Gorithm thinks I might enjoy.

Sorry, Al. You're not on my friends list. You don't know me very well, and your recommendations are made with your corporate interests and not my actual interests in mind. If I could block you, I would.

However, I've got to hand it to Al. He's not content to sit on his laurels and soak up the California sun. Having vampirically sucked the joy out of social media, he's now turned his greasy gaze towards news. And while it stinks that he's hiding photos of my friends, the wretched miasma emanating from his foray into journalism is enough to choke us all.

Al's the kid in class who copies someone else's homework, only he'd rather copy from the most popular kid rather than the smartest. Sometimes, they can be the same kid, but when they're not the harm goes well beyond Al's academic career. Ever the entrepreneur, Al does a brisk business in monetizing his plagiarism by giving "his" homework to anyone who wants it. If the stolen paper was good, then the loser will be the ace student who did the work yet is seen as being no better than those who stole from him. When

it's bad, you end up with an entire generation of kids who think the United States won the War of 1812.

Al's penchant for the popular is even worse when it comes to news. As he only consumes news online, the work of credible journalists and news sources can be overwhelmed by uninformed opinion, biased writing, AI slop and the work of bad actors who sow misinformation and discord. Al knows that people are more likely to click on something that seems shocking or counter intuitive, so that's what he gives them, truth be damned.

Fortunately, there is an antidote to AI – local journalism created and curated by real people in your real community. They're your neighbours. They sponsor the local festival. Their kids go to local schools. If they get something wrong or criticize someone unfairly, they know they'll hear about it. Al? He's never been to your hometown, his e-mail is unlisted and even if you did manage to get a message to him, he doesn't care as you're only a number to him.

The character of Al Gorithm is a silly way to bring attention to a serious problem, namely that you shouldn't allow a bunch of ones and zeros to tell you what going on in a world it can't comprehend. Human journalists aren't always right, but we are dedicated to truth, fairness and our communities in a way that Al never will be.

And while you can live without the latest photos from your friends, you can't live without the truth about what's going on in the place you call home.

– Gordon Cameron is the executive director of the Ontario Community Newspapers Association.

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Sergeant James "Allison" Wheatley

More than a century after his death on a battlefield in Belgium, the memory of Sergeant James "Allison" Wheatley has been restored to the community where he had come to regard as his hometown.

Allison's childhood and youth had been scattered among several communities in Simcoe County and elsewhere, as his father's ministry took the family from one Methodist charge to another. He did not have a single hometown. But Orillia, and Elmvale, were among the communities that shaped his life before he went to war.

On Sunday, September 27, 2026, members of the Wheatley-Griffin family joined representatives of the Orillia Public Library and Branch 34 of the Royal Canadian Legion for a memorial ceremony at Veterans Memorial Park. The event, organized by the Library and Legion, began with a small parade from the Legion to the park, where Wheatley's name was formally unveiled on the Orillia cenotaph.

The ceremony was attended by civic dignitaries, including the mayors of Orillia, and wreaths were laid by representatives of the 157th and 177th Battalions, Simcoe Foresters, and the 116th Battalion, Ontario County Regiment.

Wheatley was killed in action at the Battle of Passchendaele on October 19, 1917, at the age of 19. His body was not recovered.

Wheatley was the son of Reverend John J. Wheatley, a Methodist minister whose appointments took the family to several communities in central Ontario. From 1914 to 1915, the Wheatley family lived in Orillia while Reverend Wheatley temporarily served as assistant pastor of the Methodist church, now known as St. Paul's United Church.

Allison attended Orillia Collegiate Institute and remained in Orillia to complete his student-teacher training after his parents returned to Elmvale. He was actively involved in the Collegiate's Literary Society and in the social life surrounding the Methodist church.

When the First World War began, Wheatley put his career plans aside. He enlisted in Orillia in the 157th Infantry Battalion, the Simcoe Foresters, and trained at Camp Borden. After proceeding overseas, he was among a group transferred to the 116th Battalion.

His high school friends from the communities where he had lived would also serve in the war, although they were divided among the Simcoe County battalions.

Although Wheatley had strong connections to Orillia, his name was absent from the city's cenotaph. Nor was he commemorated on the cenotaphs in Elmvale or Coldwater.

This absence was noticed by Scott Rance while researching the wartime service of his grandfather, William Henry

Rance of Elmvale, who had served in the 177th Battalion and survived the war.

William Rance and his fiancée, Mildred, were married in Toronto in 1920 by Reverend Wheatley, who had taken a Methodist charge there after the war. The couple travelled from Elmvale for the wedding.

That connection eventually led Scott Rance and his wife, Lisa, to reach out to the grandnieces and grandnephews of Allison Wheatley. They also advocated for Wheatley's story and photograph to be included in Remembrance displays in both Orillia and Elmvale.

In 2018, during the Bells of Peace commemorations marking the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War, Scott Rance participated in the ringing of 100 peals of the bell at Elmvale's Presbyterian church, where tributes to Allison Wheatley were also offered.

The Orillia Public Library later took up the effort to have Wheatley's name added to the city's war memorial after members of the Wheatley-Griffin family attended the Library's Remembrance Week displays in 2024.

Over the following years, the Library's local-history archives received additional evidence of Wheatley's life in Orillia. His involvement in the Collegiate's Literary Society and the community surrounding the Methodist church helped establish a clearer picture of a young man enthusiastically pursuing his interests and beginning his adult life.

During the September 27 ceremony, Jayne Poolton Turvey of the Orillia Public Library spoke about Wheatley's life. Although his name is already engraved on the Menin Gate Memorial in Belgium, she noted the importance of having his name represented in his home community. It was important that he not remain "lost".

Author Mark Carmichael of the 116th Battalion CEF Facebook Group described the extraordinary conditions faced by Canadian soldiers at Passchendaele in October and November 1917. Constant shelling and rain had transformed the battlefield into a vast muddy swamp. Soldiers struggled along narrow wooden duckboards, while German observers watched their movements and directed fire from reconnaissance balloons.

A wartime letter from Orillia's Presbyterian pastor, Rev. F. W. Anderson, who had served as a military chaplain, provided a poignant local connection. Just one week before Wheatley's death, Anderson had sought out soldiers he knew from home and shared a meal with them. In a letter he wrote: "I was surrounded by Q.M. Sergt. Penman and Sergts. Watson, McLean, Clark, Wheatley and Robinson, all old Orillia boys..." He went on to note that Private



George Borman of Orillia had been killed the day before.

Sunday's ceremony brought together descendants of Wheatley's family, local historians, Legion members, civic representatives and members of the community to restore the name of one of those "Orillia boys" to its rightful place.

Perhaps most fittingly, Orillia high school students stood guard at the memorial and participated in the unveiling. These students are among a group preparing to visit the battlefields of the First World War next spring.

"They may have a chance to adopt the story of an individual who served and to carry it with them," said Scott Rance. "We are grateful to the teachers and historians who help keep these individual stories alive."

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Do you know someone who would like to be featured in our paper? Submit your photos, events or the good news you'd like to share with your community. Please submit your photos to the Editor. Email: info@springwaternews.ca
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The Most Wonderful Time of the Year



There is something about this time of year in our community.

The leaves begin to turn, the evenings get a little cooler, the anticipation starts to build and suddenly, it is here.

The Elmvale Fall Fair

For 167 years, the Flos Agricultural Society has brought our community together to celebrate

agriculture, family, friendship, tradition and the incredible spirit of the volunteers and supporters who make this fair possible.

And this year, we are ready to do it all over again. What better way to begin than with something new? Thursday Night A New Tradition Begins

Thursday night will kick off this year's fair with a brand-new outdoor concert featuring hometown artist Graham Scott Fleming.

Graham has already made his mark on the country music scene and has performed at the fair before, he will be taking the stage back outdoors at the tractor pull track on THURSDAY NIGHT a first for our fair.

The Full Pull Lounge, located beside the tractor pull track, will be open with beverages being served by our volunteer firefighters.

Tickets are just \$25, with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. and music beginning at 8 p.m.

What a fantastic way to launch a fabulous Thanksgiving Fall Fair weekend!

Friday The Fair Really Gets Rolling
Friday brings the sights and sounds that so many of us look forward to year after year.

The morning begins with the giant school children's parade, as hundreds of young participants make their way through town. It is one of those wonderful fair traditions that reminds us just how important community is and how much fun it can be when everyone comes together.

The day continues with 4-H Achievement Day, the Junior Livestock Show, the Sheep Show, the Pony Show, the Children's Tractor Pull, the ever-popular Baby Contest, a Free Basketball and Hockey Activity and the Midway.

And, of course, Friday night means tractor pulls! On the entertainment stage, we will also enjoy the Northern Jewels Clogger followed by Gwyneth Covey and her band.

There truly is something for everyone.
Saturday From Heavy Horses to Horsepower
Saturday morning brings another great fair tradition with the Heavy Horse Pull.

At 11 a.m., be sure to line the main streets for the Mammoth Parade as it winds its way through town. Bring the family, find a good spot along the route and enjoy the spectacle that has become such a special part of our fair weekend.



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Throughout the day, there will be a walk-around magician, afternoon entertainment on the stage and plenty to see and do.

Beside the barn at the show ring, the Beef and Dairy Shows will continue, showcasing the dedication of our agricultural community.

Out on the track, the Modified Tractor Pull and Truck and Tractor Pull will bring plenty of horsepower and excitement Saturday afternoon.

And, of course, the Midway will be running all day. The fair is about much more than rides and entertainment.

Earlier this week, our Fair Ambassador Leadership Competition gave us the opportunity to recognize our Junior Ambassador, first and second runners-up, and our Senior Ambassador and first runner-up.

You will likely see our ambassadors throughout the fair weekend, so be sure to stop and say hello. They are wonderful representatives of our community and an important part of the future of the fair.

Be sure to take some time to visit the many vendors, both inside and outside, and don't forget to stop by the Domestic Science classes in the Curling Club. Take a peek at the incredible talent, creativity and hard work on display.

And proudly front and centre is our Junior Fair, where the accomplishments and creativity of our young people are showcased for everyone to enjoy.

These exhibits are a wonderful reminder that the future of our community is already being built by the children and young people who participate in our fair.

A Tradition Worth Celebrating
For 167 years, the Flos Agricultural Society has worked to preserve and celebrate the agricultural heritage that is such an important part of who we are.

None of this happens without an extraordinary group of volunteers and committee members.

The countless hours of planning, organizing, building, preparing, cleaning, fundraising and simply getting the job done are truly astounding. Year after year, our volunteers come together with a shared goal: to create a fair that our entire community can enjoy.

We are also incredibly grateful for the continued generosity of our sponsors. Their support allows us to keep these traditions alive and helps ensure that agriculture remains visible, celebrated and understood

by people of all ages and from all walks of life.

The fair is a celebration of where we have come from, who we are today and where we are going.

We honour our past, preserve the present and celebrate the future.

And perhaps that is what makes this time of year so special.

It is more than a fair.
It is the familiar sights and sounds.
It is the parade coming down the street.
It is the smell of fair food in the air.
It is children proudly showing their projects.

It is the tractors, horses, livestock, music and midway rides.
It is seeing neighbours you haven't seen in a while and meeting someone new.
It is generations coming together to share traditions that have been passed down for more than a century and a half.

And it is the wonderful reminder that a community is strongest when we come together.

So, on behalf of the Flos Agricultural Society, I warmly welcome our community — near and far — to come out and enjoy the 167th Elmvale Fall Fair.

Come celebrate our agricultural roots. Come enjoy the entertainment. Come support our exhibitors, volunteers, vendors and sponsors. Bring your family, bring your friends and, most importantly, bring your community spirit.

My sincere hope is that our country, our province and our township can continue to work harmoniously and in good spirit, with kindness and respect, to build communities where everyone feels included and accepted.

As we gather together this Thanksgiving weekend, may we remember just how fortunate we are to live in a community with such a strong tradition of giving, volunteering and coming together.

From my family to yours, I wish each and every one of you a fantastic Thanksgiving weekend at the Elmvale Fall Fair.

May you have peace, health and prosperity in your lives.

All the best,
Tanya King
2026 FAS President



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Wearing Their Community Pride: Our Village Turns Local Merchandise Into Community Support

By Kari Belcourt / North Simcoe Springwater News
What started with a simple idea for a T-shirt has grown into a community-minded initiative focused on giving back to Elmvale.

Launched in 2025, Our Village began when its founder Tyler Tkachyk went looking for something that represented the village and came up short. With local merchandise difficult to find at events such as the Elmvale Fall Fair and the Maple Syrup Festival, the idea was simple: make something of their own.

Friends soon expressed interest, and what began as a small merchandise project quickly became something bigger.

Rather than keeping the proceeds, the founder saw an opportunity to turn the idea into a way of supporting local causes. By November 1, 2025, the initiative was officially incorporated, and within its first two months, it had grown to include three different fundraisers.

"I don't need to profit from it," the Tyler explained during an interview with the North Simcoe Springwater News. "I think it'd be really cool to give that money back in some way, shape, or form."

The merchandise has become part of the appeal. Featuring a map of Elmvale alongside an established date, the logo gives residents a recognizable connection to the place they call home.

The founder said one of the most rewarding parts has been seeing people point to the map on a shirt and identify where they live in the village. That sense of local pride has helped the initiative grow beyond its original clothing offerings.

Early products included hoodies and other apparel, with collaborations involving Simcoe County-based business Whiskey Road. The merchandise has since expanded, with new products planned for the Fall Fair and additional Elmvale-themed items expected at the Christmas market.

The goal, however, extends beyond selling clothing. Proceeds are directed to specific community causes through individual fundraising initiatives. The founder



said support has already reached HCES, Elmvale Co-op Nursery School, EDHS and the local food bank. Proceeds from the Fall Fair fundraiser are intended for the Flos Agricultural Society.

The initiative is also working toward a community garden project, which is expected to get underway in the spring.

For Tyler, the motivation is rooted in a simple principle: contribute to the community and set an example for the next generation.

"It's something that we kind of preach to our kids daily: leadership and building our community that we live in," the founder said. "The best way to do that was for me to be the example."

That philosophy has shaped the initiative's approach to working with local businesses, supporting community organizations and encouraging residents to take part in village life.

Looking ahead, the founder has set a goal of reaching \$25,000 in donations to the community over the next year.

There are also plans to expand beyond fundraising, helping develop projects and make improvements that contribute to the village's future.

Residents can support the initiative by purchasing merchandise, sharing feedback, attending local events and volunteering with community organizations. The founder emphasized that getting involved does not have to mean joining one particular group or supporting one specific project.

The broader aim is to encourage people to participate in making their community a better place.

For a project that began with the search for a simple local T-shirt, the past year has brought an opportunity to connect community pride with practical support for the people and organizations that help Elmvale thrive.

And as the merchandise continues to evolve, the hope is that the idea behind it remains the same: wear the community proudly, support local efforts and find ways to give back.

October 9th & 10th



Celebrate Our Theme: Wonders of Ontario!
Welcome to the 164th Elmvale Fall Fair.

Kick Off Thanksgiving Weekend

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Midway	Baked Goods	Entertainment

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Elmvale Fall Fair, Hosted by Flos Agricultural Society, 14 George St., Elmvale, ON - elmvalefallfair.com



TICKETS
FOUND AT:



There's more than one way to be part of the Elmvale Harvesters this season! As the 2026-27 season gets underway, we're looking forward to not only seeing our fans back in the stands, but also getting the Harvesters out into the community. From cheering the team on at an away game to stopping by our booth at the Fall Fair, there are plenty of ways to show your Harvesters pride.

Want to experience an away game with a busload of fellow Harvesters fans? Join us on Saturday, October 17 as the Harvesters take on the Georgian Bay Applekings!

The Elmvale Harvesters Community Bus Trip will depart from the Elmvale Arena at 3:45 p.m., arriving at the Beaver Valley Community Centre at approximately 5:00 p.m. for the 5:30 p.m. game.

The best part? Game admission is included with your bus ticket!

Ticket Pricing:

- Adults: \$40 + taxes and fees
- Children 12 and under: \$32 + taxes and fees

Following the game, the bus will depart approximately 20 minutes after the final buzzer and is expected to arrive back at the Elmvale Arena around 9:00 p.m. This is a family-friendly community trip, and anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult aged 18 or older. The trip is presented by the Elmvale Recreation Community Association, with proceeds supporting

Harvesters Fans, We've Got You Covered!

the Elmvale Food Bank. Spots are limited, so don't wait to sign up! Scan the QR code included with this article for more information and to reserve your spot.

Find Us at the Fall Fair!

If you're heading to the Fall Fair, be sure to stop by the Elmvale Harvesters booth! We'll have our new Harvesters merchandise available, so it's a great opportunity to pick up some gear before the season gets into full swing. We'll also have lots of prizes up for grabs, so be sure to bring some cash and enter for your chance to win. And one prize in particular that you won't want to miss, a game-worn Harvesters jersey! Come say hello, check out the new merch, enter to win some great prizes and get into the Harvesters spirit while you're at the Fair.

Get Your Tickets!

The season is almost underway, and there are plenty of exciting games ahead at the Elmvale Arena. Season tickets and single-game tickets are available now. Scan the ticket QR code included with this article to find the schedule, purchase tickets and plan your next trip to the rink.

Whether you're watching from the stands in Elmvale or joining us on the road, we hope you'll be part of the Harvesters season!

Go Harvesters Go!



Submitted by Jamie Robillard

The Penetang Kings 2026-27 regular season play continued with two more wins in Provincial Junior Hockey League's Carruthers Division.

Penetang defeated the Stayner Siskins on Friday September 25 by a 6-2 score on home ice. The Kings outshot the Siskins by a 35 to 27 margin and controlled most of the game, exhibiting good puck movement and hard forechecking throughout the contest. Alex Sajjan got the Kings on the scoreboard just one minute after the opening faceoff with assists going to Carson Thayer and Max Geere. Stayner tied the score midway into the first period before Wyndam Brownlee, Camron Hutchinson and Cole Rumbolt scored second period markers giving the Kings a 4-2 lead at the end of the second stanza. Josh Hutton and Owen Clennett each scored single goals in the third period for the Kings. Owen Moreau made 25 saves in the Kings goal while Easton McArthur turned aside 29 shots for Stayner. The CompuSOLVE Kings Player of the game was defenseman Wyndam Brownlee.

On Friday October 2 the Kings continued their winning ways jumping out to an early 3-0 first period lead before hanging on to defeat the Midland Flyers by a 5-2 score at the Penetanguishene Memorial Community Centre. Hutchinson scored two early goals while Ryder Thomas notch the other marker for the Kings. Brendan Williams put the Kings up 4-0 early in the second period before Mark Coish scored for the Flyers. Brownlee scored for the Kings to restore their four-goal lead before the end of the second period. Beckham Reynolds netted the Flyers final goal in the third period.

The Kings' next game is on Friday October 9 when they travel to Huntsville to meet the Otters before returning home on Saturday October 10 at 8:00 pm when they face off against the Alliston Hornets.



Springwater Sports Heritage celebrates 2026 Hall of Fame inductees



Springwater's sporting history took centre stage on Friday, September 25, as Springwater Sports Heritage welcomed athletes, builders, community supporters, friends and families to its

impact on Springwater's sporting community.

Springwater Sports Heritage also extended its appreciation to the patrons and sponsors whose generosity helped make the annual celebration possible. Their continued support allows the organization to recognize local sporting excellence, preserve important stories and ensure the community's athletic achievements are remembered for generations to come.

This year's patrons included Currie Truck Centre, Sexton's Mechanical Ltd., Innovative Automation, Will Marshall Insurance Brokers Ltd., Powell Jones LLP, Geranium Homes, the Township of Springwater and North Simcoe Springwater News.

A special thank you was also extended to everyone

who attended and contributed to the evening's success.

Preserving Springwater's sporting history takes dedication, time and a genuine commitment to the community. Thank you to Springwater Sports Heritage, including Larry Simpson, Barb Maw, Brenda Stanley and everyone involved with the organization, for continuing to celebrate local achievements and preserve the stories that form an important part of Springwater's history.

Congratulations to all the 2026 inductees. Their accomplishments are now part of the community's sporting legacy, serving as a reminder of the talent, dedication and community spirit that have helped make Springwater proud.

2026 Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony at Barrie Country Club.

Set against a beautiful backdrop, the evening celebrated the outstanding achievements of local individuals and teams whose contributions have helped shape the community's rich sporting legacy.

This year's inductees were recognized across three categories: Athletes, Builders and Teams.

- Athletes
Lou Belcourt
Matthew Beleskey
Jaimie Clarke
Robert Conn
Graham McNabb
Builders
George Allen
Dave Drinkill
Kathy McCarroll
Teams
1983-84 Elmvale Moreau Farm Equipment Juvenile Championship Team
1986-87 Elmvale Hapamp Bantams Championship Team

Following dinner and an opportunity for attendees to reconnect and share memories, the formal presentations honoured each inductee's accomplishments and lasting



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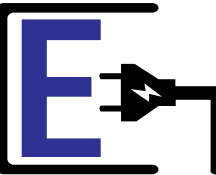
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~WELLS~
PUMP REPAIRS

Bearbells By Leslie Noonan



September 23/26
This had not been a good summer for me. Like many first responders and nurses, I witness things others hope to never see. As a mental health nurse, I hear stories from our patients about so many traumas and grief, about abuse and harm. I think about and ruminate about my own traumas. Like many first

responders, I feel that I am “stronger” mentally, and that all these things won’t affect me, until they do. Until we have seen and heard and borne witness to so much suffering that we break. Ironically, I never really bought into therapy, mindfulness and deep breathing, though I encouraged my patients to use these skills. Now I understand the need to talk to other professionals about the demons in our heads, and to use those coping skills to keep the panic attacks at bay. I am still not back at work, as I continue to work through my own therapy, and while I may have had the summer off, I was so far inside my own head that it was not safe for me to be doing the things I love. Now, at the end of the season, I am finally ready to head out and heal in nature, where I find the peace I so desperately need.

In early spring I had booked a backcountry kayak trip in the Massasauga. I had spent my life blissfully unconcerned about the dangerous of what I love to do. In fact, I used to be overconfident in my survival skills, and I am sure more than a little luck kept me from harm. Now, now I am a catastrophizer, and envision the worst things that can happen. I imagine not only bear encounters, but my tent catching fire, a capsized kayak, drowning in a teaspoon of water and scary people in clown masks stalking me through the backcountry. Thus, it was not with anticipation that I looked at this trip, but with panic, and I began to make excuses why I should not go. Though I knew if I caved, I risked never being able to go back to solo hiking, kayaking or camping, and all the activities that I love. I worked through these feelings with my therapy team, and yes, my brain is so broke that I require a team, though I strongly suspect that they tag team to avoid all my neurosis. They suggested that instead of a solo trip, that I should ask my son to come with me for support. Of course, now that means I worry not just about me, but about him getting chased by gangs of evil raccoons after his granola bar.

Despite my misgivings, we loaded up the gear and had my husband drive us north with the kayaks. The weather was perfect, sunny and warm, with the trees just starting to turn colors. Soft yellows and oranges mixed with the dark green of pines and spruce. The water was deep and dark, the surface a series of ripples and small waves from the strong easterly wind. We paddled hard, and within an hour we were at our site. The routine of setting up kept me from dwelling on those scary thoughts, but before long the camp was ready and there was nothing to do but enjoy the scenery. I expected the panic attacks to come back but was surprised to find that I felt calm and peaceful, the first time in months that I was not anxious. My son went out



to lounge on a sunny rock, while I took my camp chair down to the water to read. The flap of wings had me look up to see a low flying vulture, which had me concerned about what kind of odor I was giving off. Eventually I just closed my eyes and listened to the sound of the wind in the treetops, and the water lapping at the shore. No cars, no music, no people, just blessed solitude.

As the sun went down behind the trees, and our site was cast in cool shadows, I wandered off to explore. The ground was littered with pine needles, and mushrooms popped up from the detritus. Small wrens chirped and sang from the underbrush. Through the trees I could see a bright sunlight, and walked out onto a western shoreline, still bright in the setting sun. I went back and got my son, and we spent the next hour lounging on the huge granite boulders sliding into the still waters. Beside us a small marsh was thick with bullrushes and reeds. Fish occasional jumped from the waters to catch a bug, and frogs sunned in the shallow waters. I was so relaxed, that even the rustling sounds in the bushes didn’t bother me, and I remembered what I love about the backcountry. My son and I rarely spoke, just soaked up the last of the sun’s warmth, content with each others presence.

Back at the camp site, we started a fire and ate a small supper. As the fire crackled and bathed us in an orange glow, the sky darkened and the stars began to appear. The moon rose, bright as a lantern, illuminating the land and water. As the fire burned low, I turned into bed, leaving my son to enjoy his own solitude. I slept the best that I had in months, with no nightmarish figures chasing me in my sleep. I only woke once, to use the thunder box, but the growls and rumbles of what I swear was a very large cat had me reconsidering that idea, and I returned to the tent with a still full bladder to wait for the sun to come up. My son rose first, and I found him sitting on the rocks watching the sun rise over the lake. I left him undisturbed, to enjoy his own moment in nature, while I went in search of a cat free spot for my morning ablutions.

Doing this trip might have terrified me at first, but I am so glad to have pushed through the fear and anxiety. I am once again excited to be out in the bush, and I am already making plans for next summer. Fear serves a purpose, and that is to keep us safe from danger. However sometimes our fears and anxieties grow out of proportion to the dangers, and that can keep us from living our lives and finding joy. While I doubt I will ever enjoy meditating, as my brain just won’t shut up long enough, I will use the other skills I have learned. Skills that I can share with my patients, and an empathy that perhaps I did not have before my own experience with depression and anxiety. An empathy that I hope will make me a better mental health nurse.



ANTEN MILLS

By Dennis Gannon

Sunshine and blue skies were the order of the day for the annual Anten Mills Artisan Craft and Food Fair on Saturday, September 26. With the comfortable weather, shoppers showed up to check out the wares of the vendors who came and they weren’t disappointed. There was unique metal works, knitting, jewelry and preserves to name but a few of the items. Both vendors and shoppers were pleased with the day with many promising to return next year.

Breakfast was in order for those attending as well as a chili lunch. Combined they raised nearly \$900 which was donated to the Elmvale and District Food Bank which they greatly appreciated. Many thanks goes out to Roslyn who headed up the event, Stephanie and her team who looked after the delicious breakfast and Alden who took charge of the chili cookoff. Next year’s event will be on Saturday, September 25 so put it in your calendar now as you won’t want to miss it.

One of the highlights of the event was the unveiling of the new Anten Mills Community Recreation Association clothing line. Sporting a brand new logo thanks to former residents Lisa MacIntyre, the logo is reminiscent of the sports teams of our past and incorporates our longtime history. There are many items including hoodies, sweat pants and tops, t-shirts, ball hats and much more and they



come to you directly from the supplier. Each reasonably priced piece has a built in donation to the CRA and the events and needs of the community. You can check out what is available and order directly by going to the online store and website, antenmills.justadd10.com and place your order.

It’s almost the spooky season and what would Halloween be without a kids costume party. This year, Max is taking charge of the event and there will be lots for the young ones to do. There will be games and crafts along with pumpkin carving. Each child will receive their own pumpkin along with a treat bag. There is a 50 child limit and in order to ensure everyone is looked after, preregistration is required which you can find on the Anten Mills Community Bulletin Facebook page. There is no cost for this event but it is in support of the Elmvale and District Food Bank therefore admission is a donation to the food bank for each child coming. This time of the year is crucial for the food bank as the need becomes much greater so your generosity is greatly appreciated. In order to accommodate the very young children, the event will run from 11AM to 1PM on Sunday, October 25 so register now to avoid any disappointment.

Springwater firefighters were out collecting food for the food bank a few weeks back and the community gave graciously. Thank you to our volunteer Springwater firefighters for your support to this generous cause.

Since they opened in July, the Fry Guy has been a busy spot and welcomed by the community. If you haven’t got your fix of fries and were worried that you might miss out there is great news for you. Michael informed us that they will be open with regular hours until October 31 and then open on Thursday to Sunday for the month of November so get your fries while you can.

It is not too early to think about our annual Christmas in the Village which will occur the weekend of December 12. With the Santa Claus parade happening on the 13, it was suggested that perhaps this year there could be a theme and as it will be 12 days before Christmas, that it be the 12 days of Christmas. The parade is a great opportunity for some street involvement like we see from the residents on McLaughlin and if you have a business, why not let the community know by putting an entry in. More details will be shared in the coming weeks but let’s start getting started and get your friends and neighbours involved.

One of our most cherished abilities in our country is the ability to vote. It is an integral part of our democracy. As you drive down our roads and through our streets you will see numerous signs on display for the candidates looking to serve our community. Voter cards have been sent out and it is easy to vote. Please do your democratic process and cast your vote for the candidate you think will serve our community best.

We are fortunate to live in a great country and we are thankful for all the opportunities that we have. This weekend is Thanksgiving and a wonderful time to celebrate with our family and friends. Let’s celebrate and give thanks and remember all that we have. If you have a chance, the Elmvale Fall Fair is this weekend with the huge parade on Saturday. If you can take it in, do so.

That’s all for this week, as always THANKS for READING, BE WELL, STAY SAFE and SAY HI to YOUR NEIGHBOUR! HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

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Orr Lake Currents: Traditions at the AGM



Tradition returned to Orr Lake on September 26th, when the Orr Lake Ratepayers Association held its Annual General Meeting at Orr Lake Golf Club. This was our first AGM in a decade and our first hybrid meeting. About 30 members joined in person and another 5 virtually. It was a great way to cap off a busy membership campaign during which we paid visits to properties around the lake, distributed the Handy Guide to Navigating Orr Lake, and signed up more than 170 members. It’s great to think about what we can accomplish with this strong collective voice!

The purpose of an AGM is to show transparency in the undertakings of the Board of Directors and the finances, and to involve the membership in the decisions and activities of the association. And that we did. We also enjoyed the hospitality of the Orr Lake Golf Club and we are grateful to Jason Harris for continuing the tradition of hosting our AGM. Barb Spottiswood’s homemade cookies were a welcome addition to the meeting, and we hope a new tradition for the AGM!

In official business, the members approved three reports, Finance, Lake Steward and the Annual Report. These reports were circulated to members via email and social media prior to the meeting and are now public record. Our Treasurer, Phil Stafford, explained that prior to this summer’s membership drive, OLRA had limited monies, but we were able to cover the costs of printing the handbook and joining the Federation of Ontario Cottage Associations (FOCA). Our Lake Steward, Jim Strong, reported that he has been helping monitor water quality in the lake and sending data to both the

Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA) and FOCA. The Lake Steward is also helping SSEA roll out their Smart Water Watch program where residents can directly report sightings of blue green algae and other water quality issues at the lake.

Our president, Cheryl Hoffmann, provided a summary of OLRA activities over the last year. It’s an impressive start for our volunteer organization. Over the past year we were able to meet and build relationships with municipal council, the SSEA, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority, Watersheds Canada, the OPP and more. We raised awareness of the issues around Blue Green Algae blooms, joined the Adopt a Road programs for both South and North Orr Lake Rd, reactivated our social media accounts to encourage conversations in the community and published articles in the Springwater News. All of this, and so much more, was guided by our new motto, “Lake First, Community Always. This defined the Association as a conduit between lake users and authorities to raise awareness of what we can do for the health of Orr Lake.

It is also a tradition to invite municipal council members to join us at the AGM. Mayor Coughlin, who was unable to attend, sent a message from the Township of Springwater that set a positive tone for the meeting. In her greetings, the Mayor noted that OLRA provides a collective voice for “the unique characteristics of Orr Lake, the issues that matter... and the importance of preserving the natural environment and community character that make this area so special.” She also recognized the value of the association in providing an important connection between the Township and the residents and thanked us for our commitment to “bringing neighbours together, sharing information and advocating for the interests of local residents”.

Olena Volik, a Water Scientist at SSEA also joined us to talk about the role of SSEA in advising local municipalities on environmental policy initiatives and long-term planning. She gave us a report on the health of Orr Lake, based on SSEA monitoring of water quality, noting a trend in increasing sodium levels in the lake. She advised people to use less salt in the winter, especially on paved surfaces, to reduce the impact on the natural ecology of the lake. For reports, readers can go to the SSEA website and look for Monitoring Results.

Olena also talked about Blue Green Algae blooms and what the current research says about why they happen and what residents can do. She noted that one of the main factors contributing to algae blooms across Ontario is water temperature. OLRA has been encouraging the community to reduce the use of fertilizers, maintain septic systems and not dump grey

water or treated (hot tub) water into the lake. This can help us avoid blooms when the shallow waters of Orr Lake warm up. Creating a buffer of plants along the shoreline rather than mowing right to the lake or a creek helps to reduce the amounts of pollutants – salt, extra nutrients, chemicals – that get into the lake.

Olena answered questions about Zebra Mussels (they eat some algae but not Blue Green Algae and there is no known prescription to eradicate them), fish populations (that’s to take up with Min of Natural Resources) and also about water levels and how those correlate with water quality (something that is worth studying). Her expertise was very much appreciated, and she offered to follow up the conversations with members of the SSEA staff and other agencies that help monitor the health of Orr Lake.

When we opened the floor to members we got comments about fertilizer use, traffic problems, water levels and the dam, building codes, by-law enforcement, run-off and lake etiquette. One member raised a concern about light pollution and ways to encourage residents to reduce bright lights that disturb neighbours and wildlife. Another member asked about the density of the wild rice and other reeds in the lake and this opened a conversation about the law and what we are allowed to remove or would want to remove from the lake. These topics are all important, complex and worthy of our attention. We will follow up with relevant agencies and report back on the issues in future articles in this newspaper and on our social media. Stayed tuned!

The OLRA was established in 1954 to address the issues of living alongside Orr Lake. That tradition continues with the newly reactivated association. The following members have been elected as the 2026 Board of Directors: Nora Dixon, Jack Franzin, Brianna Freeland, Cheryl Hoffmann, Virginia Mino-Freeland, Chantal Rogers, Barb Spottiswood, Phil Stafford, Jim Strong, and Lisa Marie Strong. Please email us at orrlakeratepayers@gmail.com with your ideas and join us in our commitment to the stewardship of Orr Lake.

“Lake First, Community Always”.



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Jo Knows Nutrition
by Joanne Nijhuis



There is nothing quite like the intoxicating aroma of warm maple syrup and baked apples as the autumn chill settles over our doorsteps. For generations, the classic French Canadian “pouding chômeur” or “unemployed man’s pudding” has stood as the ultimate symbol of Quebecois comfort food, delivering a rich, self-saucing dessert that warms the soul. While the original version is just divine as it is made with real cream, this recipe surreptitiously reduces the saturated fat without losing a single drop of gooeey nostalgia. So easy to prepare and share, pouding chômeur is sure to become a friends and family favourite.

Did You Know?

Apples are one of the most popular fruits worldwide, and for good reason. A single medium apple provides about 4 grams of fibre, helping regulate digestion and support heart health. Apples are also a source of vitamin C, essential for immune function, and potassium, which contributes to healthy blood pressure. Beyond vitamins and minerals, apples are rich in antioxidant compounds that protect cells from damage and reduce inflammation. Whether eaten fresh or baked into a recipe, apples are a wholesome way to add both flavour and nutrition to your day.

INGREDIENTS (8 Servings)

4 medium apples of choice, peeled, cored and sliced

The Cake Batter

- 1 ½ cups (375 ml) all-purpose flour
- 1 ½ teaspoons (7.5 ml) baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon (1.25 ml) salt
- ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) ground cinnamon, optional
- ¼ cup (63 ml) unsweetened applesauce
- ¼ cup (63 ml) melted coconut oil or unsalted butter
- ⅓ cup (83 ml) real maple syrup
- ½ cup (125 ml) light coconut milk
- 1 large egg or chia egg [1 Tbsp (15 ml) chia seeds + 3 Tbsp (45ml) water, let sit for 10 minutes]
- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) vanilla extract

The Maple Sauce

- ¾ cup (188 ml) real maple syrup
- ¾ cup (188 ml) canned light coconut milk

FRENCH CANADIAN APPLE PUDDING
A QUEBEC TRADITION MEETS NUTRITION



- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) vanilla extract
- ¼ teaspoon (1.25 ml) salt

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Pre-heat the oven to 350 F (175 C). Lightly grease an 8x8 inch (20x20 cm) or 9x9 inch (23x23 cm) baking dish.
 2. Spread the sliced apples evenly across the bottom of the dish.
 3. To make the batter, mix the flour, baking powder, salt and cinnamon (if using) in one bowl. Combine the applesauce, coconut oil, maple syrup, coconut milk, egg or chia egg and vanilla extract in another bowl.
 4. Gently fold the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients until just combined.
 5. Spoon the batter over the sliced apples.
 6. To make the sauce, whisk together the remaining maple syrup, coconut milk, vanilla extract and the salt. Pour the sauce gently over the cake batter. Do not stir.
 7. Bake for 35 to 40 minutes until the cake top is golden and the maple sauce is bubbling at the edges.
 8. Let cool for 10 minutes to set before serving warm.
- ENJOY!



Per Serving: |Calories: 329 kcal | Carbohydrates: 58 g | Protein: 4 g | Fat: 11 g |Fibre: 4 g | Sodium: 181 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.

Building a Life for All Seasons
written by Annie Warner Donnelly



Hello Everyone. Let’s be thankful that we can stop striving to be good enough for God to love us because He already does. Studying God’s word and believing His promises help all of us deepen our relationship with Him. By following God’s will for our lives, we will thrive, in spite of the challenges we face; we have the opportunity to live in the perfect peace He offers. As we receive God’s love, He begins to heal those

places within us that have been wounded by events that occurred, and continue to occur, in our lives. Embracing His love provides many kinds of healing that lasts.

God’s faithfulness is built on the fact that He is love. We can learn how to faithfully foster loving, God-centred cooperation in the world around us. We can learn how to grasp the beauty and wonder and love that exists within God’s culture as He is revealing it to us. We can learn how to help ourselves, and others, move from striving to be accepted by God to thriving in Him. We can learn how to develop a culture of peace within the diversity of the multicultural environment in which we live. Respect for each other is an outcome of love. Compassion, forgiving and being forgiven, tolerance, gentleness, kindness – these are all outcomes of love.

Let’s be thankful that God’s plans are designed to give us a future and a hope in these troubled times. Let’s be thankful for the security of heaven and believe, by faith, that the heartbeat of our lives can truly be God’s love. Without a doubt, we can be thankful that God will not leave us nor forsake us; that He is always right here with us.

Let’s remember, “No one has ever seen God, but if we love one another, God remains in us and His love is made complete in us.” (1 John 4:12)

John 17:20-23 tells how Jesus prayed that we would believe how much God loves us.

As Thanksgiving 2026 approaches may God’s abiding love bless us all in ways we’ve never imagined. Thanks be to God! Amen



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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

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Senior Social
Create a one-of-a-kind book bag using the art of sublimation. No experience needed! Friday October 9, 11am at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

Elmvale Fall Fair
We will have a table at the fair on Saturday October 10 in the arena so be sure to stop by and say, "Hi!"

Thanksgiving Closure
Please note that all branches of Springwater Public Library will be closed Monday October 12 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. We will reopen to regular branch hours on Tuesday October 13.

Business Assistance
The North Simcoe Business Centre will be at the Elmvale branch monthly offering one-on-one coaching appointments, drop-in business conversations for quick questions and informal guidance. The third Wednesday of the month, Wednesday October 15, 10am-2pm at Elmvale Branch. Cost: Free. For more information visit: nsbcentre.com

Drop In Craft
The library will provide the supplies, you bring your creativity and make a simple Halloween themed craft: Mummies! Available starting Thursday October 15 at Elmvale and Midhurst branch while supplies last.

Thursday Murder Club
Inspired by Richard Osman's mystery book series, join Springwater Public Library for an afternoon two-part series of critical thinking and cold cases (not a real

cold case) as we attempt to determine who murdered our victim. Beverages and snacks provided. Thursday October 15 and 22, 2pm-3:30pm Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

Power of Intentions Workshop
Through guided reflection, simple practices, and supportive discussion, participants will leave feeling grounded, inspired and empowered to move forward with intention. This program is presented in partnership with the South Georgian Bay Health Team. Thursday October 22, 5:30pm-7pm at Elmvale Branch. Cost: Free. Register at (705) 422-1888 ext 5143 or online at: <https://www.southgeorgianbayhc.ca/program/115/>

Georgian Bay Reads
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. Elmvale Community Hall, 33 Queen St. West, on Saturday, October 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. for the next installment of this beloved event. Cost: Free. Registration required.

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.

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TINY TOWNSHIP ELECTION 2026

Candidates' Answers at a Glance

Eight questions were provided to candidates seeking the offices of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor. Responses have been condensed for space and readability while maintaining each candidate's stated position.

THE EIGHT QUESTIONS

1. Shoreline By-law — What is your position on the by-law currently before the OLT, and what would you do if elected?

2. Goessman Reserves — What is your position on the Township's acquisition of the Goessman lots and the ongoing court matter?

3. Administrative Centre — How should the new facility be used to provide the greatest value to residents?

4. Younger Residents — What could Tiny do to attract more residents in their 30s as year-round residents?

5. Changing Your Mind — Give an example of changing your position after hearing a different perspective. What did you learn?

6. Principal Residence — Is your Tiny property your principal residence, and how should Council consider the different interests of seasonal and full-time residents?

7. Seniors & Your Candidacy — Why should residents vote for you, and what would you do for long-term, full-time senior residents?

8. Wastewater & Septage — What is your long-term plan for wastewater/septage given Tiny's reliance on private septic systems?

MAYOR DAVID EVANS

About: Mayor since 2022 with more than 30 years of senior private-sector leadership. Focuses on financial stability, responsible planning and protecting Tiny's character.

1 | Shoreline: Supports the Dynamic Beach Management By-law and says environmental protection, property rights and long-term interests must be balanced.

2 | Goessman: Supports protecting public lands and rights where they legally exist and would respect the court process.

3 | Administrative Centre: Supports a functional, accessible, net-zero facility with community meetings, age-friendly programming, cultural activities and health partnerships.

4 | Younger Residents: Supports additional housing options, including secondary suites and multigenerational housing where infrastructure can support them, along with better internet, health, recreation and transportation.

5 | Changing Your Mind: Says public participation has changed how he approaches Council decision-making and reinforced the importance of listening.

6 | Residence: Lives in Tiny; says financial decisions should be based on Township-wide taxpayer value and long-term financial sustainability.

7 | Seniors: Points to his four-year record as Mayor and supports aging in place, transportation, recreation, social programming and improved access to primary care.

8 | Wastewater: Supports restoring reliable septage treatment capacity through Midland, improved septic oversight and exploring localized or communal systems where appropriate.

DAVE BRUNELLE

About: Sixth-generation Tiny resident from Lafontaine, indigenous, degree in Economics, over 40 years working in area including construction and hospitality, 35 years of coaching and volunteer experience.

1 | Shoreline: Supports the by-law's intent but would seek a 15-metre setback rather than the proposed 45 metres.

2 | Goessman: Wants a different approach to the long-standing dispute, involving public and affected stakeholders.

3 | Administrative Centre: Would seek opportunities to lease portions of the facility to reduce the tax burden.

4 | Younger Residents: Promote low taxes,

safe communities, natural heritage and a strong neighbourhood culture to keep Tiny attractive to younger families.

5 | Changing Your Mind: Changed his position on short-term rentals after hearing differing resident perspectives.

6 | Residence: Tiny is his principal and only residence.

7 | Seniors: Would improve communication about available services and explore a snow-windrow driveway-clearing program.

8 | Wastewater: Wants a long-term sewage solution and to extend the septic re-inspection intervals to 8–10 years.

DAVID KOHLER

About: Former senior private-sector executive who has led private and public companies. Describes himself as a non-politician focused on fiscal discipline and consensus building leadership.

1 | Shoreline: Supports protection but says the 45-metre approach is too broad; would review the rules using site-specific science and public input.

2 | Goessman: Questions the decision to proceed and would seek legal and practical options while limiting costs and increasing transparency.

3 | Administrative Centre: Wants a public plan for use, costs and operations, with flexible community uses and partnerships.

4 | Younger Residents: Would prioritize reliable high-speed internet to support remote workers and younger residents.

5 | Changing Your Mind: Says conversations with residents who felt unheard changed his decision to enter municipal politics.

6 | Residence: Tiny is his permanent home.

7 | Seniors: Supports fiscal accountability, aging in place, transportation, programming and access to information about available assistance.

8 | Wastewater: Supports better management of septage tipping programs. Preserving our water quality must be a top priority.

CHUCK STRADLING

About: Permanent Tiny resident since 2011 and founder of the Lafontaine Areas Homeowners Association (LASHA), which he led for 10 years. He chaired the Lafontaine Beach Master Plan Implementation Committee and later the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee. A former GO Transit Property Management executive and EVP of BOMA Toronto, Stradling says he brings more than 40 years of leadership and government experience, along with more than a decade monitoring Tiny Council.

1 | Shoreline: Supports protecting the shoreline but believes mediation could reduce impacts on property owners while achieving environmental goals. Says this could also reduce litigation costs and avoid the need for additional regulatory measures.

2 | Goessman: Says the reserves should have been left with the Province and that litigation should be curtailed given Tiny's financial situation. Wants the Township to determine the best long-term approach once its finances are more stable.

3 | Administrative Centre: Says the project is now difficult to reverse and the focus should be on reducing its financial impact. Would review the Township's organizational needs, determine excess space available for rental, investigate a potential sale-leaseback and explore government funding to repurpose the existing municipal building.

4 | Younger Residents: Says attracting young families is difficult because of housing, schools and daycare availability. Proposes planning conditions enabling at least 100 attainable/age-friendly housing opportunities, subject to market demand and approvals.

5 | Changing Your Mind: Cites short-term rentals. Initially supported stronger controls but concluded that a few bad actors should not determine policy for everyone. Would focus more on enforcing existing noise rules and reviewing the STR by-law.

6 | Residence: Permanent Tiny resident since 2011.

7 | Why Vote & Seniors: Says his leadership, municipal knowledge and community involvement make him qualified to guide Tiny through its financial challenges. Emphasizes strategic, calm and measured decision-making and says he has no hidden agenda.

8 | Wastewater & Septage: Would establish a Septage Task Force with a 12-month goal of developing a business case, identifying technology/location options, calculating costs and pursuing funding. His four-year goal is a permanent, environmentally responsible septage solution.

DEPUTY MAYOR ROB PANASIUK

About: Former Tiny councillor (2003–2006). His family roots in Tiny date to the 1880s. Has owned his Tiny home for 28 years and has lived full-time in Tiny since 2017. Lawyer and self-described data-driven problem solver.

1 | Shoreline: Would withdraw the current by-law and begin with community stewardship and education, followed by targeted rules where needed.

2 | Goessman: Would review the legal advice, costs and likelihood of success and consider a second legal opinion before proceeding.

3 | Administrative Centre: Questions the approximately \$32-million borrowing and says the building's costs, use and value should have been established beforehand.

4 | Younger Residents: Says Council should first establish whether attracting more people in their 30s is actually a problem requiring action.

5 | Changing Your Mind: Says he is "data driven, not opinion driven" and would change his position when the underlying information changes.

6 | Residence: Has lived in Tiny both seasonally and full-time, becoming a permanent resident in 2017.

7 | Seniors: Encourages everyone to vote and says Council must balance seniors' needs with those of families, businesses and farmers.

8 | Wastewater: Believes the current Midland arrangement is sufficient for the foreseeable future and says capacity should be considered alongside actual growth.

KAREN ZULYNIK — Candidate for Deputy Mayor

About: Founder of Stop the Build. Deeply involved in Tiny's governance since 2023, scrutinizing budgets and reports. Knocked on 6,000+ doors. I offer forensic fiscal oversight and dedicated taxpayer protection.

1 | Shoreline By-law: I will immediately de-escalate litigation, restore the original 15m setback, and scrap the punitive 45m expansion from GSC 178.

2 | Goessman Lots: This ongoing court battle is costing our taxpayers and the township heavily. It must be carefully reassessed in light of the severe financial commitments already enacted by the outgoing council.

3 | Admin Centre: With an unsecured \$28M borrowing facility at Prime + 2.0%, my focus is strict operational cost containment—not adding programs that duplicate existing community and seniors centers.

4 | Younger Residents: Controlled property taxes protect generational homes. I will leverage regional partnerships (Simcoe County, Route 93, North Simcoe CFDC) to connect residents with regional careers.

5 | Changing Mind: Supported regulated ORV (off road vehicles) road access after subject-matter experts (OFATV) presented clear safety, licensing, and trail protocols.

6 | Residence: Tiny Township is my principal residence.

7 | Seniors: Enforcing fiscal restraint on fixed incomes, partnering with regional transit and Wheels 4 Wheels for medical trips, and supporting active wellness programs.

8 | Wastewater: A multi-million-dollar Tiny plant is financially unfeasible (with "the build" costs). I support maintaining our Midland hauling partnership and pursuing provincial infrastructure grants for long-term transition.

SEAN MISKIMINS

TINY TOWNSHIP ELECTION 2026

Candidates' Answers at a Glance

About: Incumbent municipal and County councillor emphasizing practical decision-making, regional cooperation and Tiny's rural character.

1 | Shoreline: Supports reasonable shoreline rules and defending the current framework, with future review for unnecessary restrictions.

2 | Goessman: Supports protecting the lots for future public access while respecting the courts and reviewing legal and financial considerations.

3 | Administrative Centre: Wants the building to function as a community hub with municipal services, healthcare partnerships, recreation, seniors' programs and community events.

4 | Younger Residents: Supports a "Make Tiny Home" approach with attainable housing, smaller homes and additional residential units.

5 | Changing Your Mind: Changed his position on the Springwater/Oro-Medonte annexation after a facilitated process and additional information.

6 | Residence: Says both seasonal and full-time residents pay the same tax rate and services must work for everyone.

7 | Seniors: Supports the Age-Friendly Plan, transportation, housing, recreation, social connection and County-level advocacy.

8 | Wastewater: Supports a regional approach, continued septic inspections and future localized systems where appropriate.

COUNCILLOR STEFFEN WALMA

About: Seeking re-election after 12 years of municipal service, with a focus on community, future generations and long-term planning.

1 | Shoreline: Supports the protection framework and would defend it while remaining open to improvements.

2 | Goessman: 2) Supports adding secondary suites to shoreline residential, youth transportation and technology/co-working opportunities

3 | Administrative Centre: Supports the investment with a clear operating plan, community access, partnerships and annual reporting.

4 | Younger Residents: Supports secondary suites, youth transportation and technology/co-working opportunities.

5 | Changing Your Mind: Cites changes to beach parking, Sunday hunting and the administrative-centre design following resident input.

6 | Residence: Tiny has been his principal residence since 2012.

7 | Seniors: Supports affordable programming, healthcare, transportation, safer roads, aging in place and multigenerational housing.

8 | Wastewater: We secured \$3.6 million in grants to improve Midland treatment facility. Continue to work with Midland and neighbours, improve septic inspections and introduce communal systems where appropriate.

DON ANTHONY

About: Has lived in rural Tiny near Wyevale for 23 years. Business owner with an Economics degree and Turf Management diploma.

1 | Shoreline: Calls the current approach excessive and supports negotiating with residents while protecting dynamic beaches.

2 | Goessman: Supports a negotiated settlement rather than continued litigation.

3 | Administrative Centre: Wants long-term leases and revenue opportunities to help offset operating costs.

4 | Younger Residents: Says lower taxes and Tiny's rural lifestyle are the strongest incentives for young families.

5 | Changing Your Mind: Did not provide a specific example, but says he listens to all sides before making decisions.

6 | Residence: Tiny has been his principal residence for 23 years.

7 | Seniors: Supports stable taxes and focusing municipal resources on core responsibilities, including roads and infrastructure.

8 | Wastewater: Supports continuing neighbouring-municipality arrangements while reviewing septage policies and contracted inspections.

DAVID SPARROCK

About: Retired police officer with family ties to Tiny, emphasizing problem-solving, conflict resolution and community cooperation.

1 | Shoreline: Would repeal the current approach and conduct a broader review with beach associations, residents and experts.

2 | Goessman: Questions the acquisition and wants greater transparency, legal accountability and review of costs and history.

3 | Administrative Centre: Would review the space for potential leasing and medical, seniors' and community uses.

4 | Younger Residents: Supports working regionally to attract employment, including job fairs and commercial/light-industrial opportunities.

5 | Changing Your Mind: Changed his position on short-term rentals and says he would target problem properties rather than apply broad restrictions.

6 | Residence: His Tiny property is a cottage; says property taxes apply based on property value.

7 | Seniors: Supports regional transportation, senior committees and cooperation with Midland, Penetanguishene and the County.

8 | Wastewater: Calls it a critical issue and would review the facts, science and available long-term options.

JESSIE GARLAND

About: 40+ years of financial and insurance experience. B.A. 1982. Full time Tiny resident since 2020. Former president of Bluewater Dunes Ratepayers Corporation.

1 | Shoreline: I would amend the by-law from 45 M to 15 M from the 178 M highwater mark.

2 | Goessman: I cannot comment on an active court matter but I would review with legal counsel if elected.

3 | Administrative Centre: To mitigate the unknown costs of the debt and operating expenses of the centre, I would lease some of the space and promote exhibitions and markets.

4 | Younger Residents: I would reduce the long-term municipal tax burden and eliminate salary increases for Council.

5 | Changing your mind: I changed my mind about a proposed group home after I learned more about the youth who would reside there.

6 | Residence: Tiny is my principal and only residence.

7 | Seniors: My financial background helps me to understand the fiscal reality of seniors on fixed incomes and the need for transit such as Wheels 4 Wheels.

8 | Wastewater: I support the agreements with Midland and the approved septage field owners. Further study is needed before committing to a municipal

treatment plant.

STEPHEN McNAMARA

About: Family has lived in the Penetanguishene/Tiny area for more than a century. Full-time Tiny resident since 2001, campaigning on a "Back2Basics" platform.

1 | Shoreline: Would repeal the current by-law and return to a 15-metre approach.

2 | Goessman: Would repeal the acquisition by-law and return the property to the Province, ending taxpayer-funded litigation.

3 | Administrative Centre: Would review costs and contracts and look for opportunities to rent or repurpose excess space.

4 | Younger Residents: Says Tiny can attract families as a residential community for workers employed in surrounding municipalities.

5 | Changing Your Mind: Says his experience after the 2022 election changed his expectations about the direction of Council.

6 | Residence: Tiny is his principal residence.

7 | Seniors: Supports better transportation, accessible spaces, safer roads, recreation, wellness and diverse housing.

8 | Wastewater: Supports the Midland agreement and says he would review the available information and options.

RAY MILLAR

About: Ray Millar has called Wyevale home for 40 years. He has served Tiny as Councillor, Mayor and Fire Chief, sat on Simcoe County Council, and owned a design-build construction firm.

1 | Shoreline By-law: On a dynamic beach, 15 metres is not simply an alternative to the provincially derived 45-metre hazard area; Tiny must recognize the hazard but has more discretion over what it regulates within it.

2 | Goessman: Tiny should not have assumed the responsibility and expense of resolving a provincial title problem while our infrastructure deficit continued to grow.

3 | Administrative Centre: The next Council inherits the project and must obtain the greatest possible value from what taxpayers are now committed to owning.

4 | Younger residents: Review planning rules and remove unnecessary barriers to housing where servicing and environmental conditions permit.

5 | Decision-making: Listen to people whose judgment you value and who are willing to test your reasoning.

6 | Principal residence: Wyevale has been my permanent home for more than 40 years, where my wife and I raised our five children.

7 | Seniors: Control underlying municipal costs, protect dependable services and recognize the effect of taxation on people living on fixed incomes.

8 | Septage: Plan ahead and cooperate with existing regional treatment facilities rather than unnecessarily duplicate expensive infrastructure.

For more information about my background and positions, visit raymillar.ca.

ABOUT THESE RESPONSES

The candidate responses above have been condensed for newspaper/infographic presentation. They are intended to give residents a quick comparison of the positions expressed by candidates in response to the same eight questions. Statements and proposals remain those of the individual candidates.

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IN MEMORY



In loving memory of my
son, Samuel Desroches who
passed away 2 years ago on
Oct 7. Oct 8th would have
been his 30th birthday.
Happy Birthday in Heaven
Sam... you are always in
my heart!

In quiet air the free birds
fly,
Beyond the reach of the
air and sky.
No longer bound by
gravity's weight,
He soars ahead through Heaven's gate.
The echo of his laughter stays,
A gentle light through shadowed days.
Through spaces now feel wide and deep,
The brightest memories are ours to keep.
So look above when horizons clear,
And know his spirit still is near.
He rests in peace, his journey done,
Forever flying high, my precious son

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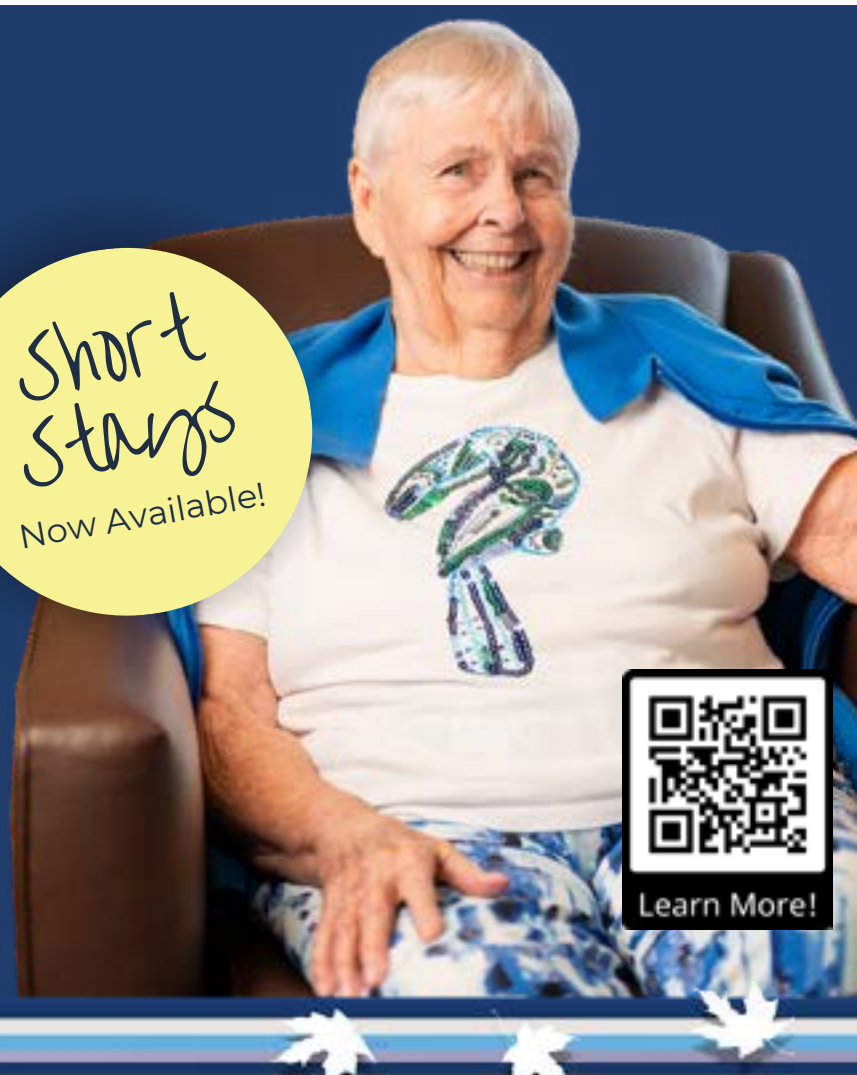
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OBITUARIES

BUCHANAN, DALE

With heavy hearts, the family announces the passing of Dale Buchanan, age 71, on September 25, 2026, at Sunnybrook Hospital. Dale will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 51 years, Ariel, children Steve (Lisa) and Brenda (Gord), and grandchildren Matthew and Daniel.

A lifelong farmer, Dale's heart was always on the farm. He loved the land, his cattle, his John Deere equipment and time at his "happy place," the cabin at the back of the farm. He spent many years serving Springwater Township as Roads Supervisor. Dale was a much-loved and respected Uncle Dale, and will be deeply missed by his family, friends, neighbors and all who knew him. A Celebration of Life will be held on the farm on October 7, 2026, anytime after 3:00 p.m. All are welcome. Please come as you are, casual and comfortable. **Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com**

TAYLOR, Arley

Arley passed peacefully at home on his family farm, surrounded by love and in the arms of his loving wife of 58 years, Jenny Taylor. He is predeceased by his parents, Hazel and William, his older brother, Orville, and his twin sister, Shirley, as well as his infant daughter, Elaine Gladys. He is survived by his wife, Jenny, his children, Catherine (Joe) and Lyle (aka Ted). His wishes were to be cremated, and in lieu of flowers or funeral donations, would be greatly appreciated to go to GBGH for their new cardiac stress test machinery. A Celebration of Life will be held at the farm at a later date. The family thanks all the staff at GBGH and your home care for their care and support. **Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com**

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Stevens: Jeffrey Alfred

Passed peacefully at home in Midland with his family by his side on Thursday September 24, 2026 in his 89th year. Jeff, loving husband to Rosemarie, will be sadly missed by his children Wayne (Colleen) and Julie Stevens (Mark), by his grandchildren Cole, Cori (Pablo), Luke (Haylie), and Dylan, and by his great grandchildren Rose, Theo, Mackenzie, and Braxton. Jeff is survived by his sister Maureen, and is predeceased by his sisters Shirley and Joyce. Jeff was a member of Askennonia Seniors Club and he loved singing and playing his guitar. Jeff worked as a mold maker with Weber Tool and Mold for 30 years, and after retirement he enjoyed puttering with antiques. Cremation has taken place. If desired, memorial donations may be made to Hospice Huronia - Tomkins House and will be received by Carson Funeral Homes – JH Lynn Chapel 290 First St. Midland (705)526-6551. **Online messages of condolence may be made at www.carsonfuneralhomes.com**

Arnold Lange

June 9, 1933 - June 26, 2026

Arnold Lange's celebration of life will be held at Sheba Shrine Club Barrie, Sunday October 11 from 2:00-4:00pm. The proud former owner of Springwater Golf Course and storied businessman invites you to have a drink with him. Please gather with us to honour his memory and share stories. Sheba Shrine Club 142 John St., Barrie, Ontario Online condolences can be made at www.imfunerals.com In Memoriam Funeral Services Inc. has been given the honour of serving the Lange Family.

KAUKOLA, Peter

Peter Kaukola passed away peacefully on Monday, September 28, 2026, in his 79th year. Born November 30, 1946 in Finland, Peter is survived by his loving wife, Heather Sewell, whose companionship, love, and devotion brought him great happiness throughout their years together. He will be deeply missed by his step-sons, Adam Sewell (Tracey McNamara) and Shane Sewell (Caly Sewell), and by his cherished grandsons, Tyler Sewell and Michael Sewell; and by his brothers, David Kaukola (Bonni-Lyn Anderson), Aulis Kaukola, and Ken Kaukola, and his sister Terttu Kaukola- Brien. Through their businesses in Elmvalle including the local community hotspot the Main Street Market Bazaar, and their passion for buying and selling antiques, Peter and Heather became well known and well loved by local residents. Peter will be remembered for his warmth, generosity, quick wit, and kind heart. He had a unique gift for making everyone feel welcome and valued. His memory will live on in the hearts of his family, friends, and all who were fortunate enough to know him. The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the compassionate staff at Chartwell-Tiffin, Sara Vista Long Term Care Centre and the dedicated healthcare teams at Georgian Bay General Hospital for the exceptional care, professionalism, kindness, and dignity they provided not only to Peter, but also to his family over the past few years. **Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com**

Oliver, Trudy Josina (nee Sinkeldam)

Passed away at the Villa Care LTC in Midland on Friday, September 25, 2026 at the age of 84 years. Beloved wife of Paul Michael Oliver for 53 years. Aunt Trudy will sadly be missed by all her nephews & nieces in Ontario and Newfoundland, all her 1st & 2nd cousins in the Netherlands and her many, many close friends here, there and everywhere! Trudy was a quiet person who loved cats, reading, knitting and 10 pin bowling. She also liked to travel a lot! Trudy and her family came to Canada in 1954 with her mom & dad and 3 brothers from Amsterdam, Holland. She worked as a secretary for many years and retired at 50. Then worked part-time for the Red Cross as a PSW. Trudy will be forever missed! In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Midland OSPCA or Georgian Bay General Hospital would be appreciated by the family. **Memorial condolences may be shared at www.leclaircremationcentre.com**

OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of Everett Marshall

Everett Marshall passed away peacefully on Tuesday, September 22, 2026, in his 97th year, in Elmvalle, surrounded by his loving family. Everett was predeceased by his beloved wife, Linda, and their daughter, Kristine. Everett will be deeply missed by his children: Kathy and Terry, Karen and Louie, Robert and Helen, Ronda and Bill, and Robin and Mike. He was a beloved Papa to Shelby and Fred, Marc, Dawn, Taidgh and Kaylie, Sydney, Kayla and Cody, Justin and Alexandria, and Aaron and Morgen; and a proud greatgrandfather to Dylan, Jake, Lincoln and Wesley. Everett was the heart of his family and will be remembered for his warmth, humour, kindness, and the special way he made everyone feel loved and important. His memory will be cherished by his family and all who knew him. The family extends their heartfelt thanks to the compassionate staff at Sara Vista for the exceptional care and kindness they provided to Dad. **Interment Monday, September 28, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. Wyevale Cemetery Celebration of Life Saturday, October 24, 2026, from 1:00–4:00 p.m. Bourgeois Community Centre — Seniors' Room Memorial donations may be made to a charity of your choice.** **Expressions of sympathy may be sent to www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com**

Christopher Allan Sickinger

Christopher Allan Sickinger passed away on September 17th, 2026 and with deep sadness, his friend and family are saying goodbye. We will miss you and love you always. We are remembering the laughter and happy times which is helping to overcome the tears. Chris is survived by his wife, Alex and his daughters Shelby (Ashton) and Julia. His granddaughters Brianna and Charlie. His immediate family Jon, Rick, Shauna, Matt and Morgan. His Dad, Peter and Diane. His life long friends, Linda, Mandy and Aaron. We will miss you, Chris. Rest in Peace.

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