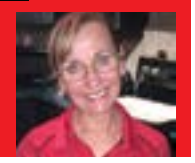
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Lest We Forget:
The Faces Behind Our Freedom

By Kari Belcourt / North Simcoe Springwater News

Every November, we put on a poppy, gather at cenotaphs, listen to the Last Post and observe two minutes of silence.

We remember the names carved into stone, the photographs of young men and women who left their homes and families, many never to return. We remember the battles fought overseas and the freedoms secured through extraordinary sacrifice.

But remembrance requires more than remembering who went to war. It means remembering the people behind the uniforms, the families who waited at home, the communities forever changed and the veterans who returned carrying burdens that could not always be seen.

Across Springwater, Tiny, Midland and Penetanguishene, generations of local residents have answered the call to serve. Their experiences span two world wars, international peacekeeping and more recent military service. Their stories are different, but each offers a glimpse into the human cost of serving something greater than oneself.

Their stories also remind us that not every casualty of war is buried overseas.

A sacrifice that followed him home

For Springwater's Bryson Kelly, the First World War did not end when he returned to Canada.

Kelly voluntarily enlisted and went overseas to serve his country. Like thousands of other young Canadians, he left behind the familiarity of home and entered a world that would change him forever.

During the war, he was exposed to mustard gas, suffering damage to his lungs that would affect his health for the remainder of his life.

He returned home badly shaken by his experiences. He married Winnie Marley, and together they had five children. But the consequences of his military service continued long after the fighting stopped.

According to his son, Mike "Ambrose" Kelly, there was no compensation provided to his mother following Bryson's death, leaving Winnie in a difficult financial position as she raised their children.

Bryson died in 1927 at just 29 years old, following repeated bouts of pneumonia and complications associated with his damaged lungs.

His story represents a part of military history that can easily be overlooked. We remember those who died in battle, but what about those whose bodies were permanently damaged by war? What about the families left to manage the consequences of injuries, illness and psychological trauma?

The First World War left countless soldiers with physical and emotional wounds that were poorly understood. Psychological injuries were often described as shell shock, long before post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) became widely recognized.

The terminology has changed, but the human cost has not.

For Bryson's family, the sacrifice continued through his declining health, his early death



and the challenges faced by those he left behind.

The liberation of Holland: A friendship that crossed an ocean

A generation later, another local story of service would leave a lasting impression thousands of kilometres from home.

Frank Graham of Midland was just 17 years old when he joined the Canadian Armed Forces during the Second World War.

After beginning his training with the militia in Toronto, Graham enlisted as soon as he was old enough. He was eventually sent overseas, serving in Africa, France, Sicily, Italy, Germany and Holland.

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By May 1945, Canadian troops were helping liberate Holland from four years of Nazi occupation.

For the Dutch people, the arrival of Canadian soldiers represented the return of freedom after years of hardship. The gratitude they felt would become a lifelong connection between Graham and the people of Holland.

Graham remained a member of the Midland Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 80, for 60 years and served as its president.

When he died at age 95, the community remembered not only his military record but the person he was. Former Midland Mayor Gord McKay described him as a genuine, friendly and caring individual who remained humble about his accomplishments.

His connection to Holland continued for decades. Residents of Markelo organized the Frank Graham Cycle Liberation Tour in 2013, 2015 and 2017, with participants travelling from Normandy's Juno Beach to Markelo to honour the Canadian soldiers who helped secure their freedom.

In September 2017, the community unveiled a tulip named in Graham's honour. The red flower, with a black centre resembling a poppy, became another symbol of gratitude that had endured long after the war.

A plaque was also presented at Midland's Veterans Waterfront Park, recognizing the lasting appreciation of the Dutch people for Graham and the Canadian soldiers who fought for their liberation.

His story demonstrates that military service can reach far beyond the individual wearing the uniform. Sometimes, the friendships and gratitude created through service continue across generations and oceans.

A different generation, the same commitment

Military service did not end with the Second World War. Canadians continued serving through international peacekeeping missions and changing global conflicts.

For Derek Quinn, the decision to enlist came when he was still a teenager.

Born in Timmins and raised in Schumacher, Quinn moved to Barrie with his family in 1969. He struggled to find his footing in school and was uncertain about what direction his life would take.

His father, a Second World War veteran who had served against the Japanese, had already provided an example of military service. At 16, influenced by his father's experiences, Quinn decided he wanted to join the military.

His first attempt at the recruiting examination did not go as planned. Nervous and unsure of himself, he failed. About two weeks later, he encountered a mobile recruiting centre at the old post office on Collier Street in Barrie. This time, he completed the examination and passed.

He was sworn in shortly before his 17th birthday and began recruit training at Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, in 1970.

"If it wasn't because of what he had done in his life, I don't know what I'd have done," Quinn recalled of his father's influence.

Quinn joined the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, serving with the Third Battalion. He qualified as an anti-tank gunner and became a member of the battalion band, combining his military responsibilities with his interest in music.

His service from 1970 to 1977 included training and exercises across Canada and the United States. In 1975, he travelled to Cyprus, spending seven months as part of Canada's peacekeeping presence.

For Quinn, the military provided direction, discipline and opportunities he believes he would never otherwise have had. But some of his most meaningful memories came from the friendships he developed along the way.

Many of those friends have since passed away, but the camaraderie formed through service remains with him.

Now retired, Quinn continues to wear his military vest with pride.

"It was the best move I ever made," he said.

His story offers another perspective on sacrifice. Not every veteran's experience is defined by combat. Some served through training, readiness and peacekeeping, while others were deployed into dangerous situations. All committed themselves to a life of service and responsibility.

The invisible weight of service

Military service creates a bond that can be difficult to explain to someone who has never experienced it. There is a shared understanding, a sense of brotherhood and friendships formed through common challenges.

But service also comes with demands that are not always visible to the public.

Military personnel can spend years moving between postings, attending training exercises and spending time away from home. Families make sacrifices alongside them. Children grow up moving between communities, spouses carry additional responsibilities and time apart becomes part of everyday life.

For generations, veterans returned home to communities that did not necessarily understand what they had experienced. Before PTSD became widely recognized, psychological injuries were often misunderstood or left unspoken. Veterans were expected to carry on, return to work and resume family life, sometimes without the support they needed.

Quinn spoke about his father's experiences during the Second World War and how the effects of years of fighting influenced family life.

It is a reminder that the consequences of military service do not always remain with the person who served. They can influence family relationships and shape the lives of children who grow up alongside those experiences.

Today's veterans face their own challenges, including physical injuries, psychological wounds and the difficult transition from military to civilian life.

Remembering them means recognizing that support must continue long after the uniform is put away.

A community's responsibility

Quinn has a message for younger generations: spend time with veterans and listen to their stories while the opportunity remains.

He has watched the number of Second World War and Korean War veterans decline over the years. The people who once gathered at Legion branches to share their experiences are becoming fewer.

It is not simply about learning dates, battles or military history. It is about understanding the people who experienced it.

The Royal Canadian Legion plays an important role in keeping those connections alive, providing a place where veterans and community members can gather, remember and support one another.

But the responsibility does not belong to the Legion alone. It belongs to all of us.

We can attend Remembrance Day ceremonies, wear a poppy and observe two minutes of silence. We can also make an effort to speak with veterans, learn about their experiences and recognize the challenges they may continue to face.

There is sometimes an assumption that military service is only about what happens overseas. But service also means years of training, relocation, separation from family, discipline and a commitment to remain ready when called upon.

These sacrifices deserve recognition, even when they are no longer visible.

Remembering what they fought for

Remembrance Day should never be about glorifying war. It should be about understanding its cost.

We can be proud of the courage shown by those who served while recognizing the tragedy of the circumstances that sent them to war. We can honour their service while acknowledging the lasting consequences of conflict.

Bryson Kelly's story reminds us that the consequences of war can follow a soldier home and leave a family struggling long after the fighting ends.

Frank Graham's story demonstrates how one person's service can create friendships and gratitude that endure across generations and oceans.

Derek Quinn's story shows how military service can provide direction, purpose, lifelong friendships and opportunities that shape an entire life.

Their experiences are different, but they share something important: each gave a part of their life to the service of others.

We often speak about what our veterans sacrificed: their independence, their time, their health, their family life and, for some, their lives.

But when they return to our communities, are we willing to make sacrifices of our own to support them?

Are we willing to listen when they want to talk, understand when they struggle and provide the compassion and support they deserve?

We cannot repay the sacrifices of those who never came home. But we can honour them by ensuring those who did are not left behind.

In communities like ours, remembrance is personal. The names on our cenotaphs belonged to people who walked the same roads, attended the same churches and grew up in the same communities we call home today.

They were neighbours, parents, grandparents, friends and family.

Behind every uniform was a human being. Behind every service record was a life, a family and a story worth remembering.

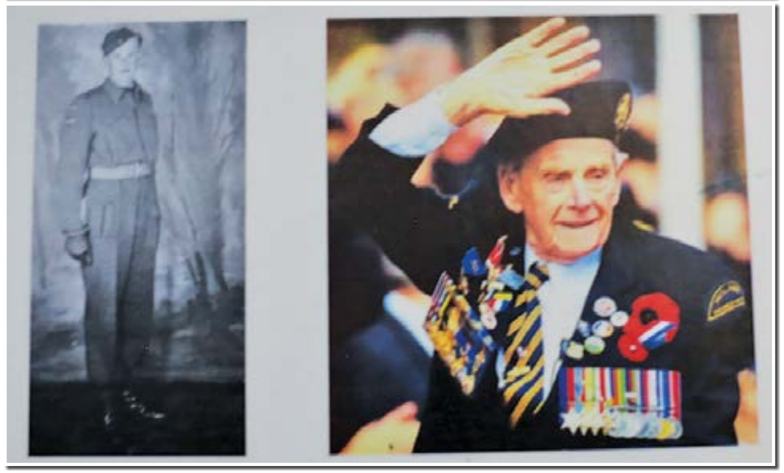
So this November 11, remember the names. Remember the families. Remember those who never came home, those who came home changed and those who spent years carrying the invisible weight of their service.

Lest we forget should never be an empty expression.

It should be a promise that we will remember, learn, support those who served and never take peace for granted.



In Memory of Frank Edward Graham



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Letter from the Editor

By Kari Belcourt

This is an absolute pleasure to write. The municipal campaigns are over, the dust has settled, and somehow we're all still here. Thank God, goodness, or whoever you pray to!

This edition is about strength, courage and ordinary people who continually show up for something greater than themselves, regardless of the sacrifice. It is about freedom, democracy, community and celebration.

Sometimes I don't feel I've given enough space in these pages to the people who deserve to have their stories told. It is truly a privilege and an honour to witness your work, your commitment and the sacrifices you make for the communities you love.

I started this edition trying to cover municipal politics, and I've been on a high ever since.

The Springwater election meeting is a moment I'll remember for the rest of my life. I'll undoubtedly cover it in greater detail in my memoir. The only other memory that comes close in energy was when my university won the annual Panda Game with a Hail Mary pass in the final seconds, sending students flooding onto the field.

That same electricity filled the room when Brad Thompson announced that all seven had gotten in.

As a reporter who was supposed to be taking pictures, I managed about 10 seconds of photography before being swept up by the crowd, almost like a beach ball at a music festival, into the embraces of a community. Some familiar faces, some complete strangers, but all sharing an incredible feeling of love, connection and celebration.

As I've probably said too many times by now, are you sick of hearing it yet? My goal is to honour my mother and her legacy, continuing the mission of community connection she dedicated herself to. I know that if there's a bar in heaven, my mother and Don Allen had the television tuned into that election and were celebrating just as hard, if not harder, than everyone here.

That moment represented something much bigger than an election result. It reflected the hopes of residents, businesses and organizations throughout Springwater for a different future. Credit belongs to the candidates who stepped forward, the volunteers, the community supporters, the thousands of kilometres collectively travelled and, ultimately, the voters who showed up. Yes, I'm talking about you.

Democracy is more than casting a ballot. It requires people willing to participate, question, challenge, volunteer, lead and sometimes stand up when doing so comes at a personal cost. You make me proud to serve this community.

The second part of this edition carries that same spirit through a very different lens.

Over the past week, I've been speaking with veterans and Legion members, listening to personal stories of service, sacrifice, loss and remembrance. I've barely scratched one per cent of what there is to learn, and my brain and heart are both struggling to process everything I've heard.

You are remarkable. This group of people is a living history exhibit. Together, you create a local picture of the experiences, sacrifices and mindsets behind service. Every conversation reveals another piece of history and another reminder of what people have given so that others could live with freedom and opportunity.

Perhaps this is where I owe you a little of my own story.

For those who knew me before this writing venture, you may remember a time when I was largely immobile and trying to understand what was happening to me. I live with complex post-traumatic stress disorder (C-PTSD) and Functional Neurological Disorder (FND), following years of personal trauma, domestic violence, loss, difficult experiences in long-term care and the challenges of rebuilding a life for my children and myself.

After a year and a half of mobility challenges, I finally received my FND diagnosis. The condition affects how the brain communicates with the body and can cause very real physical symptoms, including weakness, tremors and mobility difficulties. It has been a long road of learning, adapting and trying to understand a body that doesn't always cooperate.

Three days after my diagnosis, I found my mother unresponsive following a heart attack. Adrenaline took over, and I went into action. I sometimes think part of me is still running. I'm not entirely sure when I'll finally feel like I can catch my breath and go paralyzed again.

I carry questions about what I could have done differently, mourn the losses and often wonder what more I could have given. Perhaps that is why the conversations I've had this week have affected me so deeply.

There was a common theme running through so many of the stories. A question that seemed to sit beneath the words, whether spoken aloud or not: What more could we have given?

What more could you have given? Your time? Your health? Your families? Your youth? Your peace of mind? In some cases, your lives?

I want to tell you something. You gave everything you had. You showed up, you served, you sacrificed, and you carried things that many of us will never fully understand. You should be proud of that. You should never feel that what you gave wasn't enough.

Perhaps the question shouldn't be what more you could have given, but what more we can give back to you.

We can listen. We can remember. We can make room for your stories, support our veterans and their families, stand beside those who continue to carry the consequences of their service and make sure that remembrance extends beyond a ceremony or a wreath once a year.

You stood up for us. You protected the freedoms and opportunities we enjoy today. It is our turn to stand up for you.

That responsibility doesn't end with veterans. It carries into our communities, our municipal governments, our neighbourhoods and our everyday lives. Democracy and freedom are not simply things we inherit. They are things people have fought for, sacrificed for and continue to work to protect.

Whether through military service, public office, volunteering, caregiving, community advocacy or simply showing up when a neighbour needs help, the greater good is built by ordinary people willing to put something of themselves into it.

That is what I hope this edition captures.

This newspaper will always have space for those people. You inspire me, motivate me and remind me why this little newspaper matters.

Thank you for your service, your courage, your purpose and your commitment to the communities you love. Thank you to the readers who participate, ask questions, vote, volunteer and continue showing up for one another.

I may have started this edition trying to cover an election, but I've ended it with a much greater appreciation for the people behind the stories.

It is an honour to share these pages with you.



Local Community Welcomes Life4Kids Kenya Director on First Canadian Visit

By Kari Belcourt North Simcoe Springwater News

A world away from Kenya, a community of supporters right here in North Simcoe is helping change the lives of vulnerable children. This October, local residents had the opportunity to meet the woman leading that work when Jane Wasike, Executive Director of Life4Kids Children's Home in Nairobi, visited Simcoe County and Muskoka for the first time.

From October 6 to 19, Jane met with the individuals, families, churches and service clubs whose generosity helps keep the children's home running. Her visit was an opportunity to put faces to the names behind years of fundraising, sponsorship and support.

Jane's journey with Life4Kids began in 2011 when she volunteered at the home while completing her Bachelor of Arts in Social Work. After years of dedication, she became Executive Director in 2021.

Today, she oversees the care of boys who have been abandoned or forced to survive on the streets, ensuring they receive education, medical attention, emotional support and, most importantly, a safe place to call home.

Life4Kids provides 24-hour family-style care, nutritious meals, mentoring and spiritual guidance. As the boys grow older, the organization also supports them through university, college and skilled trades training.

Much of this work is made possible through local generosity. Life4Kids Canada contributes almost 80 per cent of the home's operating costs, with a significant portion of its fundraising coming from Central Ontario, particularly the Midland-Penetanguishene area.

"Life4Kids feels more like a family than a workplace," Jane shared. "While it can be challenging, the opportunity to care for and support traumatized children is deeply rewarding… It's a blessing to be part of a mission that transforms lives, one child at a time."

During her two-week stay, Jane participated in five public events, including two church services, spoke with Rotary Clubs in Midland, Barrie and Bracebridge, attended a local Lions Clubs Zone Meeting and visited 10 private homes for receptions hosted by supporters.

Beyond the busy schedule, she also had the chance to enjoy the region's fall beauty, visiting Muskoka and the Aspen Valley Wildlife Sanctuary, taking a boat ride on Georgian Bay and travelling to Niagara Falls and Toronto.

Reflecting on her experience, Jane described the welcome she received as deeply moving.

"This visit has been so much more than an opportunity to meet people; it has been a deeply moving experience of love, connection, encouragement, and renewed hope," she said.

She thanked everyone who made time to meet her, attended events, travelled to hear her speak and continued to believe in the Life4Kids mission.

"You have reminded me that this journey is not ours to walk alone," she shared.

With dozens of active sponsors and more than 500 followers, Life4Kids Canada demonstrates the impact a local community can have on lives around the world. Jane's visit offered North Simcoe supporters a meaningful opportunity to connect with the person leading the work they help make possible and see how their generosity is providing vulnerable boys in Kenya with care, education and hope for a brighter future.





Elmvale Legion

Elmvale Legion Branch 262 is pleased to announce Rick O'Neill as the winner of this year's Fall Fair raffle!

Rick took home the $500 cash prize with the winning ticket number 1586.

The Legion would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and supported the raffle. Your generosity helps the Branch continue its work supporting veterans, local initiatives, and the Elmvale community.




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CWI October Meeting



Craighurst Women's Institute met Tuesday evening. We opened in the usual way.. Then we called on our guest, Jane Voorheis, our newly acclaimed Ward 4 Counsellor, to tell us about herself , and her goals for her term in office. She introduced herself well, saying she lives Shanty Bay way, and has worked in the community a while, and wants to get to know the rest of her ward. Then she stirred up a hornets' nest when she said Community Safety was one of her main concerns. "Oh" cried most of the members, "That's our main worry in Craighurst too". There followed hair raising tales of speeding cars, gravel trucks going through the red lights at the corner with horns a-blaring, cars not stopping for school busses, more speeding cars. We didn't even get going on the concession roads. And when we look into our crystal W I Ball we see more and more traffic with the arrival of the Tim Horton's on the 93/ HV Rd corner, the 400 new homes of "Craighurst Crossing" all needing to drive somewhere, the expanded Foodland and strip mall coming on HV Road. Where are the County Road people with their far seeing plan to calm and direct the traffic? Where is the Township with its designs for sidewalks and safe road crossings? As we all know, gentle readers, the County does the road and the ditches, the township does the sidewalk.

Minutes of Sept meeting, treasurer's report next. The members that had gone on the Simcoe Area bus tour regaled us with the goings on, touring Banting's Home, visiting the Museum on the Boyne, and ending up at Creemore Springs you know what, having to get the new bought two four carried in a walker - don't ask!

Then the program for the meeting, the Craighurst Tweedsmuir History book. The keeper of the book explained its importance to local historians, and the many calls she gets from researchers asking small details about Craighurst of bygone days. Each member brought a picture of historic Craighurst, and shared it with all. The 1926 photo of Craighurst School was a hit. The map of Oro in 1870 was cool. The pictures of the car that ran into the train on 93 and derailed it were smashing. The CPR big steam engine as a backdrop to Ambrose's little steam engine picture was worth 1000 words. One saucy member said for her historic relic she brought her mother! Gales of laughter and the Mum's smirk followed. On that high note we closed the meeting. See you in November.

Coffee Party Donations

Centre Flos Women's Institute genuinely thanks our Community for their support of the 3 Coffee Parties held at Heritage Park during June, July & August. Your generosity allowed them to donate $250 EACH to the Elmvale Food Bank and the H.C.E.S. Breakfast program for students.





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The 2026 Elmvale Lions Club Truck Draw Winner

Congratulations to Cheyenne Connery-Marsden from Wasaga Beach who won the 2026 Elmvale Lions Club sold-out truck draw. Cheyenne took home a 2026 Ford Maverick XLT AWD Supercrew. Consolation prizes were awarded to George A. Graham from Scarborough ($500), Jack Jewell from Utopia ($300), and James O'Leary from Port Robinson ($200).

The draw took place on October 10, at the Elmvale Fall Fair. The winning ticket was pulled by this year's Senior Ambassador, Madison MacDonald.

Proceeds raised from ticket sales will support local organizations including Lion's Club Camp Dorset, Camp Huronda, Ontario, The Bob Rumball Camp of the Deaf, CNIB Lake Joe, Campfire Circle, Elmvale District High School, The Guesthouse Shelter, Shelter Now, and Community Reach. The Elmvale Lion's Club has also made a three-year, $50,000 commitment to the Georgian Bay General Hospital Foundation.

Tickets for the 2027 truck draw will be available in November. Please visit elmvalelions.ca for more information.





District A12 Lions "A Ball for All"

The 2025-2026 District Governor, Jim Bartley shared with District A12 Lions the promotion of lightweight noise making soccer balls for visually impaired children. As this district's Accessibility Chair, I connected with CNIB Lake Joe Camp, near MacTier, to see if the children who come to Camp could benefit from this and how many balls they might want. Sherri Helsdingen, Manager of Community Engagement at the Camp, replied that ideally, they would like to send a ball home with every child who attends in their summer programs. The request for 60 balls was sent to our district clubs, and the response exceeded my expectations as we raised enough funds to donate 100 sound emitting balls to the children at Camp. Area clubs who contributed included Elmvale Lions, Elmvale Lioness Lions, Victoria Harbour Lions, Penetanguishene Lions, Tiny Township Lions, and more. Each ball cost $50 Canadian and they were personalized to District A12 with our logo and the Lions International emblem.

The distribution took place at CNIB Lake Joe Camp Family Week, and it was heart warming to see the campers enjoying the balls right away. Children and families could bring the balls home, bringing accessible play to their backyards, schools, and communities. The CNIB staff shared with me that in Canada, approximately 145,000 children and youth under 15 are affected by sight loss, yet 70-80% do not participate in sports, and are excluded from physical education classes.

Lions believe that every person, regardless of physical or sensory challenges, deserves the opportunity to experience the joy of play, and District A12 Lions made this a reality for these young campers. I was very proud to champion this project to promote inclusivity and accessibility in sports.





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A MESSAGE FROM DOUG SHIPLEY



Every year, on November 11, we take the time to pause and honour the brave men and women who have fought to protect and uphold the freedoms we enjoy today. To show support for our veterans, I encourage you to wear a poppy, attend a Remembrance Day ceremony, or simply thank a veteran. It is our responsibility to make sure that their memory, service, and sacrifice are never forgotten.

If you wish to attend a service, the following ceremonies are among those taking place in the region:

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 262 (Elmvale) – Ceremony will begin at 10:45 am at the Elmvale Cenotaph

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 147 (Barrie) – Remembrance Day Parade and Ceremony, ceremony will begin at 10:00 am at the Barrie Cenotaph in Memorial Square

Springwater Park – Ceremony will begin at 10:45 am at the Springwater Provincial Park Cenotaph

Oro-Medonte Remembrance Day Service on Sunday, November 8 – Ceremony will begin at 11 am at the Old Town Hall Cenotaph

If you are unable to attend a ceremony on Remembrance Day, please pause at 11 am to observe two minutes of silence. Take the opportunity to reflect and remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms.

I offer my thanks to the men and women who have served and continue to serve Canada, at home and abroad, for their efforts and sacrifices to keep our country and our communities safe.

We will never be able to truly repay our veterans, but we will continue to remember, respect, and honour them for their dedication to our country, their service, and the sacrifices they have made.

Lest we forget.

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

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

To the Residents of Ward 4

A message from Councillor Anita Moore

As I bring my time as your Ward 4 Councillor to a close, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude to the residents of Springwater, particularly those in Ward 4, for the opportunity to serve this community over the past eight years.

It has been a privilege to represent you, listen to your concerns, advocate for your interests and be part of the many decisions that have helped shape our township. I have learned a great deal along the way, and I am grateful for the conversations, friendships, encouragement and support that have come with this role.

To everyone who supported my recent campaign, volunteered their time, contributed financially, displayed a sign, attended a community gathering or simply took the time to offer a kind word, thank you. Your generosity and confidence in me meant more than you know. While the outcome wasn't what we had hoped for, we were very close, and I am incredibly proud of the clean and fair campaign we ran.

As I move into this next chapter, I look forward to having more time for family, friends and the community activities and charity work that have always been important to me. I will also be considering the many new offers and opportunities that have come my way. I am not stepping away from community involvement; I am simply opening the door to new possibilities and roles that will be in keeping with my desire to help and support residents.

Thank you, Ward 4, and Springwater Township for eight meaningful years. It has truly been an honour to serve you.

With gratitude,
Anita Moore



Community Updates from Springwater

North Simcoe Springwater News has always been happy to provide members of Springwater Council with complimentary space to share community updates with residents, and we are pleased to continue offering that opportunity to the newly elected council.

We believe local newspapers play an important role in keeping residents informed and providing a platform for communication between elected representatives and the communities they serve. Not everyone follows municipal social media pages or regularly visits the Township's website, and print remains an important way to reach residents across Springwater.

This is an opportunity for councillors to share municipal updates, highlight community initiatives, provide information on upcoming projects or simply thank residents for their support.

Contributions are complimentary and considered community information, not paid advertising. Councillors are welcome to submit their own updates.

We look forward to continuing to work with council and providing residents with another avenue to stay informed about what's happening in their community.

SUBMISSIONS

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

Full name, phone number and address must be supplied.

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Community Update from Ward 2 Elected Councillour Greg Davidson

For over a decade, I was heavily involved in the sport of rowing. It is a small but tight community where it is not hard to meet some of our country's greatest amateur athletes who speak of seeing opportunity.

Despite its beauty, rowing places relentless demand upon the athlete and when the pressure is on, social dynamics in the boat can become frayed. It is hard work and almost no one is thanking you for it.

There are a lot of things that win races: years of proper coaching and training, enduring long periods without competition, cold mornings, terrible weather, failure and success no matter how small. But what really binds a crew together to create a win is teamwork, seeing opportunity and coaching. Through these things, people can join together and become more than individual parts.

I found a very similar environment in this campaign.

Hard work as an individual, although essential, was just not going to cut it on its own. Happily, many people came to me wanting to help. Their experience, their approach, their professionalism and their ability to see opportunity shone through in their words and their actions. I wanted to work for them and with them. Throughout the campaign, when the pressure was on, nerves held fast, we kept focused, we made a team. We made something more than individual parts.

And so did our opponents. In this campaign, as in rowing, it was an honour to be "on the course" with a capable, determined and experienced team who also saw opportunity in doing their best for our township. Your professionalism is recognized by all and I personally want to thank you for it.

Such endeavours do not happen without strain and this is where all candidates may openly recognize, and show appreciation for those who they rely upon the most. I cannot thank my partner and my children enough for supporting, discussing, working and ultimately enduring this campaign. Thank you for being all that you are and being there for me and each other in so many ways.

To the voters, thank you for being so kind at the door, for sharing your thoughts and your time and exercising your franchise. Thank you for your support. To all residents, your love and connection with the place we call home is inspiring. I ask that you reach out with opportunities and concerns in identifying things that will improve the quality of life in our communities.

Joining together is what makes our families, our communities, our businesses, our township and our lives meaningful. Through these things we experience both joy and hardship and we become more than individual parts, we become part of something greater. This opportunity is in front of us now.

With sincerity and gratitude, in appreciation, and in earnest,
Greg

Campaign Thank You



Community Update from Ward 1 Councillor Matt Garwood

This election was about more than one candidate or one position. It was about the kind of community we want Springwater to be and the reputation we choose to build. These municipal election results mark the beginning of a new chapter, and now it is our responsibility to make it count.

Results like these do not happen by accident. Candidates and their families put themselves forward, but no campaign succeeds alone. It takes a village. Every lawn sign, every kitchen-table conversation, every door opened, and every message of encouragement during the long days, you were part of this. Thank you.

To the residents of Elmvale and Orr Lake: thank you for your overwhelming trust in me to continue serving as your Ward 1 Councillor. This is a responsibility I never take for granted, and I am grateful for the opportunity to keep working for the community I proudly call home.

Now comes the part that matters most: the work.

We have a clear opportunity to make our communities safer, invest in the parks and gathering places that bring people together, create opportunities for local economic growth, improve access to primary care close to home, and be strong, responsible stewards of Orr Lake. Above all, we will do this work with respect and decency.

I am excited to work alongside people who are ready to show up, roll up their sleeves, and deliver results. What matters now is that we stay focused on the job and remember exactly who we are here to serve.

The next four years are an opportunity to rebuild trust and show residents what local government can accomplish when it puts people first.

Thank you, Elmvale and Orr Lake.

Serving you as your Councillor has been the honour of a lifetime.

Let's get back to work.

Councillor Matt Garwood



Community Update from Ward 4 Elected Councillour Christine Spellman

Thank you to Ward 4 for your overwhelming support in this Municipal election. It was a very special thing to be able to talk to so many of you about your hopes and concerns for our Township.

It's time to get to work. There is a lot to work on. Repeatedly, in my door-step conversations I heard about concerns about water, road safety, policing, taxes, developments, transit and access to recreation. On top of that, there were more individual concerns, specific to a property or by-law or procedures. I have copious notes. I am ready to get started as we are sworn in November 18.

For now, we remember. There are two Springwater specific Remembrance day observances. One at Springwater Park and one in Elmvale. I will be attending the Springwater Park event. I hope to see you there.

Community Update from Elected Ward 3 Councillour Wanda Chapmaw- Maw

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!



I want to take a moment to thank everyone who has supported me over the last six months. What a journey it has been! First, to Mark and Gracy, who took over the dishes, laundry and cleaning the floors while I was out campaigning — I couldn't have done it without you! To my family and friends, thank you for your encouragement and support every step of the way. To everyone who knocked on doors, dropped off campaign literature and drove me around the rural routes, I am so grateful. Your time, dedication and belief in me meant more than you know. And what a campaign it was! From a dog bite and plenty of dog licks, making sure cats didn't escape, to running for dear life from dogs who apparently wanted to eat me — there was never a dull moment! Along the way, I met so many amazing people. We talked about my role as Councillor, what happens behind the scenes in Council Chambers, and even the fact that some people knew my family name before they knew me. There is nothing quite like sitting at a stranger's kitchen table, sharing a conversation and getting to know one another. I was asked several times, "What are you selling?" My answer was always the same: "ME! I'm selling me!" One of the greatest parts of this journey has been the friendships made along the way. Some wonderful connections have come out of knocking on those doors, and I will truly treasure them. I can't wait to see what we can accomplish together over the next four years. There is so much to look forward to, and I am excited about what lies ahead! Once again, thank you for trusting me, believing in me and putting your faith in me. I am truly honoured and grateful for the opportunity to serve as your Ward 3 Councillor for the Township of Springwater. The journey was worth every minute. Thank you, everyone!

Retirement Living on the Bay

By Kari Belcourt / North Simcoe Springwater News

As our population grows older, many people begin to wonder what the next chapter of life will look like. While we cannot control how quickly the years pass, we can have a say in how we spend them. For some, retirement living offers an opportunity to enjoy greater comfort, companionship and peace of mind, without giving up the independence that makes a place feel like home.

For those curious about what that lifestyle might look like, Bayfield House Retirement Lodge in Penetanguishene is opening its doors to the community through a new weekly initiative called Walk-In Wednesdays.

Beginning October 7, visitors are welcome every Wednesday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., with no appointment necessary. Individuals and families can tour the Lodge, meet residents and staff, ask questions and experience the atmosphere firsthand, without any pressure or obligation to make a decision.

"We don't want anyone to feel put on the spot," explained Chantelle Granlund, Sales Coordinator at Bayfield House. "You might be exploring options for yourself, supporting a loved one or just curious about what life here looks like. There's great value in learning what's available, even if a move isn't something on the immediate horizon."

Granlund says that sometimes the biggest hurdle is simply walking through the door. People may have preconceived ideas about retirement living, but seeing the environment for themselves can open up possibilities they hadn't previously considered.

During a recent tour with Granlund, it quickly became apparent that Bayfield House offers much more than a place to live. The Lodge provides a welcoming, social environment where residents can maintain their independence while having assistance and support available around the clock.

Residents enjoy spacious, modern suites designed with comfort, accessibility and safety in mind. Many also offer beautiful views of the surrounding bay, creating an inviting place to enjoy a morning coffee or simply take in the scenery.

Daily life extends well beyond the privacy of individual suites. Meals are included and served in an upscale, restaurant-style dining environment, while a bar and several weekly happy hours provide opportunities for residents to gather and socialize.



The Lodge also features a gym, theatre, multiple common rooms and a calendar of planned activities. Outings are another part of the experience, with a dedicated bus providing opportunities to get out into the community. During our visit, residents were looking forward to a drive-through outing to the local Pumpkinferno attraction.

What stands out is the balance between support and independence. Residents are not confined behind locked doors and can maintain their own routines, knowing staff are available 24 hours a day should assistance be needed.

It's also important to understand the distinction between retirement living and long-term care. While long-term care provides around-the-clock nursing and personal care for people with more complex needs, retirement living generally provides private accommodation, hospitality services and varying levels of support for those who can maintain a degree of independence.

At Bayfield House, the focus is on creating an environment where residents can continue enjoying their interests, building relationships and making the most of their days, with support available when needed.

The Lodge has also undergone recent renovations, giving returning visitors an opportunity to discover refreshed spaces and updated surroundings.

Ultimately, retirement living is not simply about finding somewhere to move; it's about finding somewhere that supports the lifestyle you want to enjoy. From the hospitality and social opportunities to the comfortable suites and attentive staff, Bayfield House offers a setting where the next chapter can be shaped around the people who call it home.

As Granlund puts it, visitors don't need to have everything figured out before arriving. Sometimes the best place to start is with a conversation.

Walk-In Wednesdays take place every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Bayfield House Retirement Lodge, located at 5 Beck Boulevard in Penetanguishene. No appointment is necessary.

For more information or to arrange a personalized tour on another day, contact Chantelle Granlund at (705) 549-9259 or cgranlund@jarlette.com.

Learn to Curl at The Midland Curling Club

The Midland Curling Club is opening its doors to newcomers this season with its highly anticipated Learn-to-Curl program, designed to introduce residents to the popular winter sport in a fun, social atmosphere.

The upcoming program features a structured sequence of dates, a flat participation fee, and exclusive membership incentives for those looking to continue playing into the new year.

Accessible to Everyone

Organizers emphasize that curling is a sport for life and that this program is open to all ages and athletic abilities. No prior experience or specialized equipment is necessary to get started on the ice. To participate, all attendees need to bring are clean indoor running shoes and warm, layered clothing to stay comfortable in the rink environment.

Program Schedule and Details

The initiative kicks off later this month with two foundational instructional sessions followed by a special social event:

- Learn-to-Curl Instructional Sessions: Thursday, November 19 and Thursday, November 26, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.
- Jitney (Social Game): Thursday, December 3, from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Registration and Perks

The total cost to register for the program is $75 per participant.

Beyond learning the basics of sliding, sweeping, and strategy, participants will receive a valuable transition opportunity. Anyone who completes the program will be eligible for a special offer to join the Midland Curling Club full-time in January, allowing them to seamlessly transition into regular league play for the remainder of the curling season.

How to Get Involved

The program is tailored for beginners, emphasizing community connection alongside sport development. Interested individuals can secure their spot or learn more by reaching out directly to the club:

- Phone: 705-526-5631
- Website: midlandcurlingclub.com







Voters Speak in North Simcoe

By Kari Belcourt North Simcoe Springwater News

Voters across North Simcoe headed to the polls on October 26, deciding who would lead their communities for the next four years. While some municipalities experienced relatively straightforward elections, others saw contentious campaigns, questions about leadership and public spending, and significant changes to their municipal councils.

From Springwater's closely watched mayoral race to Tiny's debate over transparency and municipal spending, the 2026 municipal election gave residents an opportunity to voice their opinions on the direction of their communities.

Springwater: A contentious election and a decisive result

Few local elections attracted as much attention as Springwater's, where the previous council term was marked by controversy surrounding the Barrie boundary adjustment, municipal legal expenses and the use of Strong Mayor Powers.

The boundary adjustment, which resulted in Springwater losing significant territory to Barrie, became a central issue throughout the campaign. Legal expenses associated with the process reached hundreds of thousands of dollars, while disagreements over the municipality's response and the use of Strong Mayor Powers became increasingly prominent.

Mayoral candidates George Cabral and incumbent Jennifer Coughlin offered voters different perspectives on the municipality's future. Cabral focused heavily on Strong Mayor Powers, the loss of municipal lands and accountability surrounding the boundary adjustment. Coughlin emphasized her experience, research, community relationships and the importance of building a strong community.

When the ballots were counted, Coughlin secured another term with 3,535 votes to Cabral's 2,798.

The results also brought significant changes to council, with four members of the previous term not returning: Deputy Mayor Cabral, Ward 4 Councillor Anita Moore, Ward 2 Councillor Danielle Alexander and Ward 5 Councillor Phil Fisher.

All four had opposed aspects of the Barrie boundary adjustment, and several disagreements during the previous term, including a council decision to reduce the mayor's compensation, became part of the broader political debate.

Deputy Mayor-elect Liz Grummett received 3,287 votes, defeating incumbent Anita Moore, who received 2,934.

In the council races, Matt Garwood secured Ward 1 with 1,390 votes, Greg Davidson won Ward 2 with 506, Wanda Maw-Chapman won Ward 3 with 856, Christine Spellman won Ward 4 with 791 and Mike Campbell won Ward 5 with 697.

Election night at Springwater's announcement gathering reflected just how much emotion had built throughout the campaign. As former councillor Brad Thompson announced the results, declaring that "all seven got in," the room erupted into cheers. Attendees embraced one another in celebration as the results became clear.

For Coughlin, the result carried considerable weight after a term marked by legal disputes, political disagreements, public criticism and a contentious campaign.

"Thank you Springwater! We are overwhelmed with gratitude and excitement! Your vote and your support has shaped Springwater's future! From the bottom of my heart, thank you!" Coughlin shared following her victory.

Reflecting on what another term means to her, Coughlin emphasized the responsibility that comes with earning residents' confidence once again.

"First and foremost, gratitude. I am incredibly thankful to the residents of Springwater for placing their trust and confidence in me once again. I don't take that trust lightly, and I recognize the responsibility that comes with it. The opportunity to continue doing what I love, for the community I love, means more than I can put into words. My commitment is to honour that trust by continuing to show up, listen and work hard for all of Springwater," she said.

Looking ahead to the next four years, Coughlin said she hopes to see a council that works collaboratively, respects differing perspectives and makes thoughtful decisions together.

"We have important work ahead, and I'm excited about what we can accomplish when the focus remains on relative municipal business and community priorities," she said.

Describing what the election outcome means for Springwater, Coughlin called it "a new chapter."



"One focused on working together, protecting what makes Springwater special and preparing our community for the future. An opportunity for our residents to be represented by a Council they can be proud of."

Deputy Mayor-elect Grummett also expressed gratitude for the confidence residents had placed in her.

"Over the next four years, I want to see Springwater move forward while holding on to what makes our communities special. I grew up here, raised my family here and understand how much this community means to the people who call it home," she said.

Grummett highlighted growth, infrastructure and responsible spending as important issues facing the municipality, emphasizing the importance of working together and making decisions in the best interests of residents.

"I'm also proud to take on this role as a woman in municipal leadership. I hope it encourages more women and young people to get involved and know that their voices matter."

"For me, being Deputy Mayor isn't about a title. It's about being accessible, listening to people, asking tough questions and following through."

Springwater voters spoke loud and clear, they're looking for a council that works together for the future of Springwater.

Tiny: Change at the council table

In neighbouring Tiny Township, the election also reflected a community engaged in important discussions about municipal direction, spending and transparency.

The previous council's approval of a new administrative centre became a point of contention among residents, with questions surrounding the project's cost, financing and the level of transparency in the decision-making process.

Four candidates entered the mayoral race, with Dave Brunelle emerging victorious with 3,515 votes. David Kohler received 2,661, David Evans received 2,194 and Chuck Stradling received 455.

Karen Zulynyk won the Deputy Mayor position with 3,869 votes, defeating Sean Miskimins, who received 2,569, and Rob Panasiuk, who received 2,189.

The council results brought several new faces to the table. Don Anthony received 3,487 votes, Jessie Garland received 3,786 and Steffen Walma received 2,371, securing their positions alongside the other elected members.

Notably, Walma was the only member of the previous council to return for another term, making the new council a significant departure from the one residents had been accustomed to.

Tiny recorded the highest voter turnout among the municipalities in this regional roundup, with 8,889 ballots cast from 19,651 eligible voters, representing 45.23 per cent participation.

The new council will have an opportunity to address residents' concerns while navigating the administrative centre project, municipal finances, development pressures and the continued challenge of balancing growth with the community's rural character.

Midland: Gordon secures mayoral seat

In Midland, Bill Gordon received a decisive mandate from voters, securing the mayor's position with 4,006 votes compared to Ute Schmid-Jones, who received 895.

The Deputy Mayor race was considerably closer, with Beth Prost receiving 2,709 votes to Catherine E. MacDonald's 2,443.

A total of 5,400 votes were cast among 16,314 eligible voters, representing a turnout of 33.1 per cent.

The municipal council race featured 15 candidates competing for council seats. Blain Dusome received the highest number of votes with 2,643, followed closely by Cody Oschefski with 2,628 and Sheldon East with 2,622.

Bill Meridis received 2,464 votes, Jamie-Lee Ball received 2,401, Margaret Hamelin received 2,358, Jaz Patel received 2,135, Megan Marchildon received 1,965 and Tyler Downer received 1,944.

Penetanguishene: Rawson acclaimed as mayor

In Penetanguishene, Doug Rawson was acclaimed as Mayor, while voters determined the remaining municipal positions through the ballot.

Suzanne Marchand secured the Deputy Mayor position with 1,801 votes, defeating Dan La Rose, who received 1,069.

Jill St. Amant led the councillor race with 2,017 votes, followed by Douglas R. Leroux with 1,868, Bonita Desroches with 1,602, Daryl O'Shea with 1,523, George Vadeboncoeur with 1,385, Bill Waters with 1,261, Marie Richardson with 1,177 and Martin Prost with 1,131.

A total of 2,988 votes were cast among 9,113 eligible voters, representing a turnout of 32.8 per cent.

Of those ballots, 2,446 were submitted through internet and telephone voting, while 542 were cast using traditional ballots.

A new chapter for North Simcoe

The October 26 election results mark the beginning of another four-year municipal term across North Simcoe.

While each municipality faced its own challenges and local priorities, the results demonstrate the importance of public participation in municipal government. From questions about development and infrastructure to accountability, spending and the preservation of community character, voters have selected the people they believe will best represent their interests.

For Springwater and Tiny in particular, the results bring substantial changes to the council table following contentious terms. The incoming councils will have to work through the issues that divided residents and elected officials while setting priorities for the years ahead.

The campaign signs will come down, but the decisions made around council tables will continue to shape these communities long after election night.

Harvesters Keep Rolling with Two Wins in Three Games, Including Home Opener Victory!

TICKETS FOUND AT:

It's been an exciting couple of weeks for the Elmvale Harvesters, with three games, plenty of action, and a home opener that certainly lived up to the hype!

The Harvesters kicked off their road trip on Friday, October 23, taking on the Saugeen Shores Winterhawks. After finding themselves down early, Elmvale showed plenty of determination and battled their way back into the game. The comeback effort paid off as the Harvesters secured an exciting 8-6 victory.

The Will Marshall Insurance Brokers 3 Stars of the Game were first star Jacob Kelly, second star Devon Edmonds, and third star Noah Featherstonhaugh Gowe.

The team was back on the road Saturday, October 24, facing the Durham Thundercats. In a back-and-forth battle, the Harvesters came up just short, falling 6-5 in a hard-fought game. Despite the loss, there were some strong individual performances.

The Will Marshall Insurance Brokers 3 Stars of the Game were first star Ty Collins, second star Noah Featherstonhaugh Gowe, and third star Brad Kuepfer.

After two weeks on the road, it was finally time to bring the action home to the Silo! The Harvesters welcomed the Creemore Coyotes on Saturday, October 31, for their much-anticipated home opener. With a packed crowd in attendance, the evening featured an opening ceremony to officially kick off the season on home ice.

The Harvesters gave the hometown crowd plenty to cheer about, putting together a strong performance and earning a 7-4 victory over the Coyotes. It was a great night of hockey and an exciting way to welcome fans back for another season at the Silo. The Halloween spirit was also in full swing, with fans enjoying the festivities and plenty of candy throughout the evening!

Following the home opener, we also held the draw for our Fall Fair raffle prizes! Congratulations to our lucky winners: Jordan Fuller, who took home the cornhole boards; Nancy Sweeney, who won the game-worn warmup jersey; and Rob McClung, who walked away with the TV! Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets and supported the Harvesters through our Fall Fair raffle. Your continued support means a lot to our organization!

The Will Marshall Insurance Brokers 3 Stars of the Game were first star Jordan Fuller, second star Ty Collins, and third star Devin Shoreman.

With two wins in their last three outings, the Harvesters are building momentum as the season gets underway. A big thank you to everyone who packed the Silo for our home opener, along with our sponsors, volunteers, and supporters who continue to make Harvesters hockey possible.

The Harvesters are back at the Silo next Saturday, November 7, welcoming the Ripley Wolves for an 8:00 p.m. puck drop! We hope to see another great crowd in the stands as we look to keep the momentum going. Bring your friends, wear your Harvesters gear, and help us make some noise!

Go Harvs Go!









Kings Win 3 More Games and Hold Down 3rd Place







Submitted by Jamie Robillard

The Penetang Kings recorded three more wins over the past two weeks in the Provincial Junior Hockey League's Carruthers Division and sit in a tie with Stayner for third place. The Kings record now stands at 9 wins and 2 losses as they reach the quarter point of the regular season.

On Friday October 23 the Kings got past a strong Orillia Terriers club with a 6-4 victory on home ice. Penetang jumped out to a 3-0 first period lead on goals from Camron Hutchinson, Ryder Thomas and Logan Tucker who scored shorthanded. Cole Rumbolt scored for the Kings in the second stanza sandwiched between Orillia goals by Evan Glidden and William Muszynski. In the third period Orillia's Muszynski narrowed the margin to 4-3 before Blake Weicker fired home a Kings marker. Orillia scored again to make it a one goal contest as Jack Seney found the back of the net before Brody Coe sealed the deal for Penetang with an empty net goal. Kings' goaltender Landon Simec turned aside 22 of 26 shots while the Terriers Reid Thomas made 35 saves on 30 shots. The CompuSOLVE Kings Player of the game was winger Wyndam Brownlee who assisted on four ot the Kings goals.

On Saturday October 24 the Kings hit the road and traveled to Bracebridge to face the Muskoka Bears and came away with 5- 1 win at the Lumber Centre. Brendan Williams scored the lone first period goal for Penetang. In the second period Alex Sajan and Owen Fuller both netted single tallies for the Kings while Tyson Jennings managed to score the only Bears goal. In the third, Owen Clennett and Sajan scored goals to round out the Kings offence. The star of the game was the Bears netminder Luke Rockburne who turned aside 42 of the Kings 47 shots. Owen Moreau was steady again in the Penetang goal, allowing only one goal on 23 shots. The Kings CompuSOLVE player of the game was Clennett who played his usual efficient two-way game.

On Friday October 30 the Kings romped over the Huntsville Otters on home ice scoring six first period goals enroute to a 9-2 win. The game was less than four minutes old when it was delayed for 40 minutes due to a sheet of tempered glass that required a repair. When play resume the Kings offence went to work as Sajan, Brownlee, Hutchinson, Josh Hutton, Lucas Sibley and Williams scored single goals before Huntsville's Owen Rueck scored sending the teams to the first intermission with Penetang leading by a 6-1 margin. In the second period Rueck scored his second goal for the Otters before Brownlee scored his second of the night for Penetang. Third period goals by Thomas and Coe rounded out the Penetang scoring. Penetang pelted Otter's goaltender Ried Snyder with 37 shots while Simec made 17 saves in the Kings goal.

Notes: In a bit of a scheduling anomaly the Huntsville contest marked the fifth time this season out of 11 games that the Kings and Otters have clashed with the Kings recording victories in all five matchups.

The Kings travel to Stayner on Thursday November 5 to face the Siskins before returning home on Friday November 6 when they play host to the Midland Flyers at 8:00 pm.

They then play a busy weekend with three games in three nights Friday November 13 at home against the Alliston Hornets at 8:00 pm followed on Saturday November 14 with another home game when the Flyers are back in town for an 8:00 pm start. On Sunday November 15 the Kings travel to Innisfil for an afternoon tilt with the Spartans.

Penetang currently stands in a third-place tie with Stayner. Alliston continues the lead the Carruthers Division with 22 points followed by Orillia with 20 points and then the Kings and Siskins with 18 points, with Penetang having four games in hand on Stayner. The bottom half of the standings has Muskoka with 13 points, Midland 8 points, Innisfil 7 points and Huntsville 4 points.

The Kings leading scorers are forwards Brendan Williams with 20 points on 5 goals and 115 assists, Alex Sajan with 9 goals and 10 assists for 19 points and Brody Coe with 9 goals and 6 assists for 15 points. Defensemen Josh Hutton leads the blueline scoring with 14 points on 4 goals and 10 assists.

Both of the Kins goalies are off to good starts with Owen Moreau having recorded four wins in five starts and a 2.40 goals against average, while Landon Simec has five wins in his six game and a 2.67 goals against average.

November 5, 2026 Edition 740

LEST WE FORGET



2026

WHO DOES IT?

Elmvale BIA
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Elmvale Library Board Room
@ 5:30 PM
Everyone Welcome!

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Bearbells By Leslie Noonan



That last week of warm weather was perfect for a hike on the Blue Mountain. A small parking area on the north end of line 2 and highway 19 just outside of Collingwood provides a small, and free, parking area to connect with both the Bruce Trail and the Petun side trail. I headed south along the 2nd line, being very cautious about crossing the highway as it is quite busy. While dodging traffic I had a flashback to the Frogger game of my youth, though luckily, I made it across without any mishap. I continued south along the dirt road, up, and up, and up. The sun shone hot on my shoulders, trudging up that long hill, and before long I was "daintily perspiring". I finally reached the crest, and as I wiped the sheen from my brow, I find myself in another parking area, though this one requires payment, but would cut out that hot hill climb.

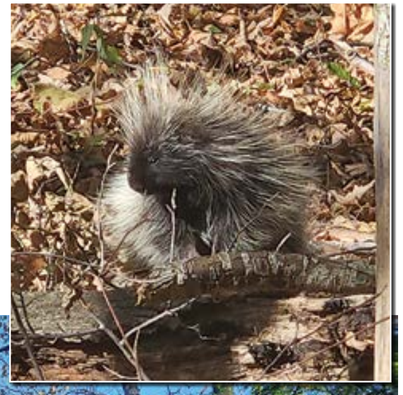
This is the Petun Conservation Area, named for the indigenous population that lived on the escarpment until the 1600's. These people were farmers, harvesting tobacco and corn, until smallpox wiped them out. The view here is spectacular, looking out and over Georgian Bay, the blue waters sparkling in the distance and the old grain elevator tiny in the distance. This is one of the highest points on the Niagara Escarpment, and it was worth every ounce of sweat to get here. Here begins the Black Ash Creek trail, a short trail that crosses a small creek and heads up even further on the escarpment. The easy-to-follow trail winds its way through forests of dense cedar, maples and oaks, then up a short but steep climb to the Bruce trail. I turned right at the intersection, and walked through a lovely forest, but soon found myself back out on the 2nd line. Back down the road I went, along sharp corners abutted by tall mounds of limestone festooned in green mosses. Before long I was back at the parking lot, and disappointed by the length of this hike, I headed back up the Black Ash Creek trail to the intersection and took the left-hand trail instead.

Much better. This section of the Bruce trail continued further up the escarpment, and the sides became steeper and higher. I scrambled over rocks and roots hidden by the fallen leaves, stopping to look down into a hardwood forest, the trees brown and leafless, with the forest floor a collage of reds, yellows and browns of fallen foliage. Every so often an old educational sign would appear, giving interested readers a small blurb about how Ontario farmers use environmental practices to protect the land. Hmm, I had yet to see a farm anywhere near this area, but I suppose this is a good place to get your message out, better than in a pile of manure.

I was enjoying the sun and the peace and quiet, as I had yet to see another person out here. It was in a small thicket of dense cedars that I began to hear sibilant whispering. I stopped and stilled my bare bells, hearing only the wind in the bare branches. I hesitantly continued, and there it is again, whispering and snickering very close by. The hackles on my neck stood up, as I slowly scanned the area around me. That is when I saw it, my phone lit up on my pocket. I had somehow connected to Facebook, and a silly reel of aliens telling jokes. Once my heartbeat returned to normal, and my phone was tucked away, I gave a laugh at the absurdity of the situation. Absurd that is, unless there really are aliens!

This section of the Bruce eventually turns south, while I headed north on the Petun side trail. I was looking forward to this downhill section, which includes a descent down one of the Oastler ski hills and a view out and over the Pretty River Valley. It is here that I passed several groups of women, out to get some serious exercise by hiking up these ski hills. These ladies were definitely not daintily perspiring, as sweat rolled down their faces and drenched their shirts. Kudos to you ladies. As for me, I had to do some backtracking to find the right trail that leads off the hill, as I briefly took a snowshoe trail instead. This section of trail is much less used, almost overgrown in some places with late season grasses. There is a small section of rocks and boulders to clamber through, as the trail lies at the base of the cliff I had just been on, before turning north through forests and next to fallow fields.

Out of my periphery, I caught a sudden movement of grey just a few feet to my left. A small porcupine was following his natural instinct to climb a tree to avoid danger. Unfortunately, the only tree close by was a sapling, just a few feet tall. Up he climbed until he reached the top, where he perched precariously, swaying from side to side, until with a snap, the sapling broke and down he went. He popped right back up from behind a rotting log and gave me a decidedly embarrassed look. After I had a good laugh at his expense, he huffed and waddled away into the underbrush. Still giggling, I continued to follow the trail through the forest until an old road easement, which ends back on highway 19 just east of where I had parked. A wonderful way to spend this beautiful fall day.





ANTEN MILLS
By Dennis Gannon

This year we could not have asked for a better month of October. With above normal temperatures, minimum rain and lots of sunshine, it was hard to think that we were in the season of autumn. From the weather specialists, it will likely be the middle of November before we have more seasonal weather which could mean that dreaded four letter word, snow. It's not too soon to think about getting your snow tires on as who knows what kind of winter we will have and when it will begin.

Halloween was celebrated in great fashion this year as well. Youngsters made their way through the village shouting that famous phrase "Trick or Treat" and received their reward. They were also lucky to see some amazing displays that families had created. This year was no question the best that we have seen with animated creatures, huge blow up's and creative ideas. There are reports however that we seem to be having a demographic shift as the number of children out was down in many of our neighborhoods.

Another successful kids Halloween party was held on October 25. There was pumpkin carving, crafts, dancing to name just a few of the activities. This was Max's first time organizing and leading the event and with the help of other community members they did a fantastic job. Thank you for your support and from my discussion with Max, he's prepared to take charge again next year and he already has ideas on how to make it more fun.

Next Wednesday is Remembrance Day. On November 11 we pause to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifices and those who served and continue to serve our country. At 11AM on November 11, we stop and observe 2 minutes of silence. It was on November 11,1918 at 11AM that German and Allied services signed the Armistice Agreement that ended the Great Conflict.

Locally we have the opportunity to do our part by attending one of the Remembrance Day ceremonies. There is one in Elmvale at the cenotaph by the library. In Barrie the cenotaph is located downtown and this is a large event. Both of these services are organized and held by the local legion branch. At Springwater Provincial Park, a group of local volunteers organize and hold a service of Remembrance at the cenotaph located within the park. There are a couple of unique features about this service that you may not be familiar with. First is that it is totally organized by volunteers from the community and it is not associated with a legion as most services are. It was following the closure of the park by the province and in association with the Beausoleil First Nations that volunteers were able to start a service. In years past there was a Vespra Legion branch but due to declining membership it closed. Next is that the cenotaph is the only one in a provincial park in Ontario. This cenotaph, built in 1929 under the direction of Methven A. Adamson who was Superintendent of the Forest Station as it was known then was in honour of the Vespra Boys of World War 1. Two locals, Harvey Spence and Robert Mills are reported to have handcrafted the stone cenotaph. The names of those who perished were not inscribed as on most cenotaphs. Instead on the front there is a limestone plaque with the inscription, " Lest We Forget, 1914 - 1918, In Memory of the Vespra Boys Who Died in the Great War" along with the Latin Inscription, "Dulce Et Decourm Est Pro Patria Morium" which translates means, "It is Sweet and Fitting to Die for One's Country." Following World War 2, staff in the park decided to recognize those who served during this war by creating a V for Victory display behind the cenotaph. It is reported to have been built following "V" Day, the official end of WW2 on May 8, 1945. This memorial is located behind the cenotaph and remains to this day as a permanent reminder of the sacrifice of those who fought for our country. The cenotaph itself is located in a quiet part of the park and its serene setting makes attending the service one that is very special and memorable. Springwater Park Remembrance Day service begins at 10:45. There is complimentary parking that day and all are welcome to join in the service.

Anten Mills likes to celebrate the Holiday Season with style. Every year now for many, the Anten Mills





Community Recreation Association kicks off the holidays with the Christmas in the Village celebration. This year the events will be the weekend of December 12 and 13. On the 12th it will be the Tree Lighting at the community centre. Once again the huge tree will be lit up along with the ground displays. Sunday, the 13 will see the return of the best and usually the last,Santa Claus parade in the area. While it is not huge like other places, it's a truly community event. Everyone is welcome to join in the parade and more details on both events will be announced soon both here in this space and on the Anten Mills Community Bulletin Facebook page. It's not too soon to start planning your entry.

A few weeks back it was noted that construction had begun on new homes in the First View project on Davis Way. A recent visit saw that more new homes were underway and that several have been moved into. If you are new to the community and reading this article welcome, we hope that you will find the community welcoming, supportive and we encourage you to join in the activities.

That's all for this week. You are encouraged to wear a poppy and if possible, attend one of the services on Remembrance Day. As always, THANKS for READING, BE WELL, STAY SAFE and SAY HI to YOUR NEIGHBORS!

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Jo Knows Nutrition
by Joanne Nijhuis

BASIL & SPINACH PESTO
A CLASSIC ITALIAN STAPLE WITH A TWIST!



If your kitchen windowsill or backyard garden is still overflowing with the last big burst of fresh herbs, it is time to put that harvest to work. Pesto is the ultimate way to capture that unbeatable, peppery flavour of fresh basil before it fades. While traditional recipes rely heavily on pricey pine nuts, this version is skipping the expensive, hard to find import and swapping in a handful of healthy almonds instead. Adding mild baby spinach leaves to the classic basil base not only stretches the recipe, but also keeps the colour stunningly vibrant green. Toss it over warm noodles, spread it over chicken or use it to elevate a weekend sandwich. So good!



Did You Know?

Basil belongs to the mint family and traces its roots back over 5000 years to the warm climates of India and Southeast Asia. Today, Canadian farmers and green-thumbed gardeners grow several distinct varieties, including classic Italian Genovese, spicy Thai basil, compact Greek basil and citrusy lemon basil. Tossing a handful of these fresh leaves into your meals provides a massive boost of vitamin K, essential for bone strength and healthy blood clotting. It also adds a healthy dose of antioxidants, vitamin A, iron and magnesium.

INGREDIENTS (8 Servings)

- 2 cups (500 ml) fresh basil leaves, packed
- 2 cups (500 ml) fresh baby spinach, packed
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) sliced or whole almonds, toasted
- 2 to 3 cloves garlic, smashed
- 1 tablespoon (15 ml) fresh lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon (2.5 ml) sea salt and black pepper, to taste
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) grated Parmesan cheese

INSTRUCTIONS

1. To toast the almonds, place the almonds in a dry skillet over medium-high heat. Toast for 3 to 5 minutes, shaking the pan often, until golden and fragrant. Remove from the heat and let cool.
2. In a food processor or blender, combine the basil, spinach, toasted almonds, garlic, lemon juice, salt, and pepper. Pulse 8 to 10 times until roughly chopped.
3. With the motor running on low, slowly drizzle in the extra-virgin olive oil until the mixture comes together into a smooth or slightly chunky paste.
4. Add the grated Parmesan cheese and pulse just 2 to 3 times to incorporate without over-blending.
5. Taste and add extra salt, pepper, or a squeeze of lemon juice, if needed.



ENJOY!

Per Serving: |Calories: 173 kcal | Carbohydrates: 2.0 g | Protein: 3.5 g | Fat: 13.8 g |Fibre: 0.8 g | Sodium: 247 mg |

Joanne Nijhuis, MSc is a Consulting, Media and Culinary Nutritionist in Simcoe Grey Bruce on a mission to entertain and educate through her love of food. In addition to recipe development and writing for several publications, Joanne is currently working on her first cookbook. For more information, email Joanne at jo.knows.nutrition@outlook.com.

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Building a Life for All Seasons
written by Annie Warner Donnelly



Building a Life for All Seasons
Written by Annie Warner Donnelly

Hello Everyone. These words may not be easily forgotten: "Dare to inspire tomorrow's history". Daily, "the actions, decisions and inspiration of those associated with the Canadian War Museum are driven by these words". This could be one reason the Museum is "one of the world's most respected for the study and understanding of armed conflict."

Adopting the Museum's cornerstone values can reduce conflict whether it's found on school playgrounds, in corporate boardrooms, or in our homes. "**Act with Integrity**; **Engage with Curiosity**; **Lead through Change**; **Collaborate with Purpose**" provide structure for our words and actions. These values can be the difference between peace and war. We see what's happening in our society where these values are missing.

"The National Youth Remembrance Contests, organized by the Legion National Foundation", enable students to demonstrate these values. Annually, "students across the country submit artwork, poetry, essays and videos". This year, the Museum is proud to exhibit Barrie resident Kaitlyn Hewitt's winning Senior Colour Poster. You can view it at https://www.warmuseum.ca/exhibitions/winners-national-youth-remembrance-contests-2026

Our country will "recognize Indigenous Veterans Day on Sunday, November 8. Established in 1994, we will honour the vital service and sacrifice of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis service members across Canada's military history."

Originally called Armistice Day in 1919, November 11, re-named Remembrance Day in 1931, provides us with the opportunity to honour all those who served, and continue to serve, as our nation's first line of defence.

This year, we can acknowledge the soldiers who recently died at CFB Wainwright and pray for those whose lives have been changed forever by the fire that occurred there. We can pray for the new National Security Strategy; that God will keep our land glorious and free; and that not one more person in the world will be wounded or die at the hands of war. Remembrance Day is a time to think of how our words and actions contribute to peace.

Special thanks to the Museum's website for some of the information I have provided here. May it soon exhibit the date that peace came to our world. However unlikely that seems, let's pray for it. Amen.

Hey Dads!

Hey Dads! Have you ever had a sleepless night? It's not fun! Maybe you were sick, had sick kids, or were stuck on a steel bench in a bus shelter in an airport parking lot because the airport you were flying out of closed from 1am-3am! You can probably guess which of these scenarios I found myself enjoying in the wee hours of Friday morning. If you think all airports are open 24/7, come along with me as we attend class at the school of hard knocks.

I had a 5am flight from Minot, North Dakota, which is about two hours from my house. Working that math backwards, I needed to be at the airport around 3am so I would have to leave my house by at least 1am. I was also teaching drum lessons until 9pm Thursday night so we couldn't leave earlier than that. Being a thoughtful and considerate husband, I figured if my patient wife drove me to the airport right after drum lessons at 9pm she could do the four-hour round trip and conveniently hop in her cozy bed by 1am for a long, refreshing, and complete night's sleep. I'd just snooze in a cozy airport chair for a few hours until my flight.

There was an international border to cross on the way to Minot which we passed through without incident. Although the border agent did mention something that caused some discomfort. He said, "That airport's closed at night." I wasn't convinced that the border agent was an expert in airport operating hours so I quickly dismissed his comment. Turns out the border agent was an expert in airport operating hours.

We arrived at the airport at 12:30am. Not a soul to be seen. Except for a security guard. I said goodbye to my wife and happily skipped through the airport doors. "Can I help you, sir?" Putting on my most optimistic smile I happily said, "Yes, I fly out at 5am so I was just going to sit in a chair until then." She smiled at me kindly with a hint of pity. "Sorry, sir. The airport is closed from 1am to 3am. But there is a bus shelter over there you can wait in if you like." I scanned the dark parking lot and could see the bus shelter lurking in the distance. I considered my options. I walked to the bus shelter. If there were any unsavoury characters around they were staying well hidden. Stretching out on a cold, steel bench with my daughter's hot pink neck pillow to comfort and warm me, I was grateful it was a "cozy" September night in North Dakota and not a deathly February one.

Believe it or not, I slept not a wink on that bus shelter bench in North Dakota. I tried for an hour or so and then began pacing around outside the airport wondering how long it would be until 3am. I was waiting at the door in joyful anticipation when the security guard opened it. Being the only one there, I was able to grab the most comfortable chair in the building where I promptly fell asleep. Thankfully, I woke up before my flight left and the rest is history. Time flies, dad! Make every moment count! Even the cold bus shelter bench ones.

Jason Weening usually sleeps at home with his 10 kids and 1 patient wife. Read more adventures in his book, "Yes, Dear…I'm Watching Them" on Amazon.

Minesing Moments

By Lorrie Norwood

Greetings, neighbours!

The elections are finally over, and it was encouraging to see so many candidates put in the time and effort to share their platforms and connect with residents. In the end, the people voted and made their voices heard. Congratulations to everyone who was successful in their respective areas.

As we move forward, I hope we see a cohesive council that works together while also being willing to challenge one another's ideas and perspectives. Healthy debate and differing opinions are an important part of good decision-making. Springwater is counting on you!

Halloween has also come and gone, and I have to say how impressed I was with the trick-or-treaters who came to my door. Every child was polite and thankful when receiving their treats. Well done! I will mention that I had my favour trick or treaters show up with their little song they sing me each year, it just isn't Halloween without them. There were some fantastic costumes, plenty of excitement, and lots of great energy. I hope everyone had a fun and safe evening.

With Remembrance Day approaching, a reminder that the annual ceremony will be held on November 11 at 10:45 a.m. at the Springwater Provincial Park Cenotaph. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Thomas at scott.thomas@ontario.ca.

Our community is saddened by the loss of one of our residents, Adrian Vandelaar. We extend our deepest and most heartfelt condolences to his beloved wife, Janet, their children Tayte, Chase and Jayda, and his stepdaughter Vaness (Brandon) Oevering. Our thoughts are with Adrian's family, friends and loved ones during this very difficult time.

Mark your calendars for the Minesing 7th Annual Tractor parade for Friday December 11th at 6:30 p.m. The evening will include the tree lighting at the Community Centre with hot chocolate music and then the parade will follow starting at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome and more details to come but this year we hope to gather as many donations towards the food bank as we can!

Finally, as I drive along Highway 26 each day, I can see preparations underway for the Festival of Lights at Springwater Park. The event has been very popular over the past several years, and I'm sure this year will be no exception. It's a wonderful opportunity to grab some hot chocolate, take a leisurely drive through the park, and enjoy the beautiful light displays.

There is lots happening in and around our community as we head into November. Keep a watch on our Facebook page

Until next time, stay safe, and, as always, take care of one another!

The McNamara Brothers contribution to the Great War

In weeks prior to the 1916-17 season, there were fears that the National Hockey Association and the Pacific Coast Hockey Association would suffer major talent losses as players enlisted to fight in the Great War. The organization of the 228th battalion, also known as the "Northern Fusiliers" was authorized on March 1, 1916. Three months later the 228th left North Bay, Ontario 950 men strong headed to Camp Borden for training.

The two Mcnamara brothers George and Howard [born in Penetang] had passed their examinations becoming full fledged Captains with the 228th battalion.

That August George approached the NHA President to see if he would admit the 228th battalion team for the upcoming hockey season. At a special meeting held in Montreal on September 30, 1916 President Emmett Quinn approved the battalions application.

Appointed as team captain was Howard Mcnamara accompanied by teammates, his brother George, Amos Arbour [Victoria harbour] and others formed the team.

The 228th battalion was a great advertisement for the military and they were highly popular. Rather than wearing normal hockey attire, they showed up in khaki uniforms with the emblem as the "Northern Fusiliers" on their sweaters. All the money made by the 228th team went back to the regimental fund.

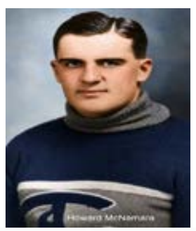
The 228th battalion started off strong winning its first 4 games. However, their season was cut short, it was February 1917 when the battalion was ordered to deploy overseas for Europe, forcing them to abruptly withdraw from the league. Because they left midway through the schedule, their remaining matches were defaulted or cancelled. They departed with a record of 6 wins and 4 losses.

The 228th Battalion was re-designated as the 6th Battalion of the Canadian Railway Troops because many of its members possessed valuable construction, mechanical experience.

After serving in the Great War, brothers Howard and George McNamara [famous as the "Dynamite Twins" defensive pairing] returned to civilian life and co-founded the McNamara Construction company.

Note: Both McNamara bothers pre-war action were recognized as Stanley Cup winners, George with Toronto and Howard with Montreal…further information can be found in the book on the McNamara Brothers…L. Waxy Gregoire PSHOF.





Toronto: Shipped Out and Drummed Out



The 228th Battalion Hockey Team
Bottom row (l to r): Amos Arbour, Archie Earchman, Donaldson, Art Duncan.
Top row (l to r): Leon Reade, Harry Meeking, Eddie Oatman, George McNamara, Howard McNamara, unidentified, unidentified, Goldie Prodigers.

Midland Public Library

IDEAS?
Do you have an idea for a new program? Please contact Faith, Manager of Programming and Engagement, at 705-526-4216 x. 3305 or fshergold@midlandlibrary.com.

HOURS
Monday & Friday: 10AM - 6PM
Tuesday - Thursday: 10AM - 8PM
Saturday: 10AM - 4PM
Sunday: Closed

Upcoming Closure Dates
Midland Public Library will be closed on the following days:
November 11 Remembrance Day
December 24 Christmas Eve
December 25 Christmas Day
December 26 Boxing Day
December 31 New Year's Eve

NOVEMBER

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
2 Teen Take & Make: Foam-Printed Greeting Cards Available Sensory Playtime 10-11:30AM	3	4 Storytime 10:30-11AM Homeschool Afternoons at the Library 2-3:30PM Teen Advisory Group 5-6PM	5 Midland Makers 6:30-7:45PM	6 Community-Led French Conversation Group 11AM-12PM Tech 1 on 1 1-4PM	7
9 Noirvember Film Screening 2PM	10 WW1 Battlefield Archaeology 6PM	11 CLOSED - Remembrance Day	12 Sing & Sign with Baby 10:30-11AM	13 Community-Led French Conversation Group 11AM-12PM Tech 1 on 1 1-4PM Tween Homeschool 2-3PM	14
16 Adult Take & Make: Winter Hand Salve Available Sensory Playtime 10-11:30AM Kinder Coders 4-4:45PM	17 Tween Tinker Tuesdays 5:30-6:30PM	18 Storytime 10:30-11AM Homeschool Afternoons at the Library 2-3:30PM Synthetic Personas & AI 6-7:30PM	19 Sing & Sign with Baby 10:30-11AM Genealogy Club 2-3PM Intro to Laser Cutting 6-7:45PM	20 P.A. Day Volunteer Party 10AM-12PM Pancakes and Pyjamas 10:15-11:15AM Community-Led French Conversation Group 11AM-12PM Tech 1 on 1 1-4PM Ornament Making for Kids 3-5PM Downtown Tree Lighting 5PM	21 Temps d'histoire 10h30
23 DIY Holiday Gift Bag 4-5PM	24 Mahjong Meetup 10AM-12PM Indigenous Crafting with Enaahtig Healing Lodge 2-4PM	25 Storytime 10:30-11AM Homeschool Afternoons at the Library 2-3:30PM B.Y.O.B. Club (Virtual) 7PM	26 Sing & Sign with Baby 10:30-11AM Exploring MPL's Online Resources 6-7PM	27 Community-Led French Conversation Group 11AM-12PM Tech 1 on 1 1-4PM DIY Holiday Gift Bag 4-5PM Tots and Bots 4-4:30PM	28
30 Sensory Playtime 10-11:30AM					

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Library Service Survey

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

Writers Circle

We write together, share first drafts in an encouraging environment, listen deeply to one another, and receive supportive feedback. Tap into your story and explore your voice in an environment of dignity, courage and respect. Beginners are welcome! Presented by a facilitator trained by the Writers Collective of Canada in partnership with the South Georgian Bay Community Health Centre.

Thursdays in November (5, 19 and 26) and Thursday December 3 from 1:30pm-3pm at Elmvale Branch. Cost: Free. Register by calling 705 422-1888 ext 5143 or at: Writer's Circle - South Georgian Bay Community Health Centre

Make a Charm Bracelet

Design a beautiful, personalized charm bracelet by choosing from a lovely selection of charms. Whether you're making a special treat for yourself or a heartfelt gift for someone you love, you'll create a unique piece to treasure! (These are adult-sized bracelets) Tuesday November 10, 5:30pm at Elmvale Branch. Cost: $10.00 Registration required.

Hospice Simcoe Seasons Centre: Understanding Grief

Open to all ages, this program provides an introduction to grief, how it can impact us emotionally, physically, socially, and spiritually, and why every grief journey is unique. Thursday November 12, 6pm-7:30pm at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

Online Resource Training

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

Crafternoon Tea Party

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

Ontario Bar Associations: Make a Will presentation

This month, we are participating in the Ontario Bar Association's Make a Will Month program. Special guest Robert Galloway of Dooley Lucenti LLP in Barrie will offer a presentation on wills and estate planning, followed by a question period. Saturday November 14, 1pm at Midhurst Branch. Cost: FREE. Registration is required.

ODSP

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



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Community Events Ongoing

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

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

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

MONDAY

Elmvale Seniors Drop In
Elmvale Library Lower Level
10 am - 12 noon
Call Lynn for info, 705.322.3309
Midland Jam
Free Admission, Show 7:00, Doors 6:30
Bid Euchre
Elmvale Community Hall 1 pm - 4 pm
Call Anne for details 705-322-1232
Georgian Shores Seniors Club
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
Seniors in Motion Fitness, 10:00 – 11:00 am
Hustle and Muscle, 11:30 – 12:30 pm
Bid Euchre, 1 – 3:30 pm
Askennonia Seniors Centre
Table Tennis, 9am-11am
Yoga, 9am-10am
Line Dancing Advancing, 9:15am-10:30
Fun Fit Circuit, 9:15am-10:15am
Coffee Break, 10:00am-12pm
Chair Pilates, 10:30am-11:30am
Intro to Line Dancing- Baby Steps, 10:30am-11am
Walking Club, 11am-12pm
Line Dancing Basic, 11am-12pm
Hand and Foot Card Game, 1pm-3:30pm
Writers Workshop, 1pm-3:30pm

Bay Shore Seniors Club
Kids Start at 1:00 pm
Adults Start at 7:30

TUESDAY

Askennonia Seniors Centre
Pickleball, 9am-12pm
Cardio Drums Alive, 9am-10am
Quilting, 9am-12pm
Watch Clinic, 10am-12pm
Photography Club, 10am-12pm first Tuesday of every month
Dart Club, 10am-12pm
Zumba Toning, 10:30-11:30
Circle of Friends, 1:30pm-2:30pm

Bay Shore Seniors Club
Table Shuffleboard
Tuesdays at 1 pm Cost $2
Elmvale Legion
7 John Street Elmvale
Penetanguishene Legion Lunch and/or Regular Euchre
luncheons 11:30am arrival. It fills up. Lunch served 12 pm.
Euchre
Tuesdays, 1 pm - 4 pm
$4, Drop-in, Legion #68, 2 Poyntz Street, Penetanguishene
Georgian Shores Seniors Club
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
Line Dancing, Prog. Beginners 9:30 – 11:00 am
Line Dancing, Easy Intermediate, 11:30 – 1:00 pm
Askennonia Seniors Centre
Pickleball, 9am-12pm (starting October 14)
Cardio Drums Alive, 9am-10am
Quilting, 9am-12pm
Photography Club, 10am-12pm first Tuesday of every month
Darts Club, 10am-12pm
Zumba Toning, 10:30-11:30
Badminton, 1pm-3pm
Circle of Friends, 1:30pm-2:30pm
Steelers Music Bingo
5:30-6:30 pm
Steelers Restaurant, 23 Queen Street West, Elmvale
Bay Shore Seniors Club
Pool/Billiards - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Indoor Pickleball - 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm
Crafts - 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Bid Euchre - 6:30 - 9:30 pm

WEDNESDAY

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

Bay Shore Seniors Club
Access Art - 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm
LifeStyles Exercise - 9:00 - 10:30 am
Line Dancing - Beginner 1:00 - 2:00 pm
Indoor Pickleball - 4:00 - 5:30 pm

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

Askennonia Seniors Centre
Table Tennis, 9am-11am
Tai Chi, 9am-10am
Step Class, 9am-10am
Line Dancing Advancing, 9:15am-10:30am
Chair Yoga, 9:15am-10:15am
Cribbage, 10am-12pm
Intro to Line Dancing- Baby Steps, 10:30am-11am
Chair Pilates, 10:30am-11:30am
Drumming Social, 10:30am-11:30am
Line Dancing Basic, 11am-12pm
Walking Club, 11am-12pm
Creative Crafting, 1pm-3pm
Bid Euchre, 1pm-3pm
Woodcarving, 1pm-3pm

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

Ganaraka Hiking Club-Wasaga Beach
Weekly hikes Wednesday at 9:30 am from various locations, year round. Both levels of hikes offered, intermediate and easy. Snowshoeing in winter. Please contact Lorraine at 416-606-5081 or lorvanvlymen@gmail.com for information.

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

THURSDAY

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

Euchre - 7 pm
Elmvale Legion

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

Bay Shore Seniors Club
Darts 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Cribbage - 6:30 - 9:00 pm

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

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

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

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

Wasaga Beach Parkinson's Support Group
1st Thursday of each month 12:30-2:00 p.m.
Wasaga Beach Public Library 544 River Rd W, Wasaga Beach

FRIDAY

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

Bay Shore Seniors' Club
Pool/Billiards - 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Wood Carving - 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
VON SMART Exercise - 9:30 - 10:15 am FREE
Indoor Pickleball - 10:30 - 12:00 pm and 4:00 - 5:30 pm
Shuffleboard - 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Georgian Shores Seniors Club
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
Table Tennis, 9:30-11:30 am
3rd Bingo & Lunch: 12 noon - 3:30 pm
TGIF social, 4:00 – 6:00 pm
Askennonia Seniors Centre
Knit'n Needles, 9am-12pm
Cardio Drums Alive, 9am-10am
Pickleball, 9am-11:30am
Badminton, 9:30am-11:30am
Qi Gong, 9am-10am
Tabata, 9am-10am
Chair Zumba, 11:10am-12pm
Card Making, 1pm-3pm
Musicians Jam Circle, 1pm-3pm

WEEKENDS

Elmvale Legion
Saturday at 5 pm
Meat Darts- $ 10.00 for 3 games
3 prizes per game and a meat draw prize after $1.00 a ticket ($25.00 value), 7 John Street Elmvale

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

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

MONDAY to FRIDAY

North Simcoe Bridge and Games Club
Brooklea Golf and Country Club
Mon. 12:45pm: Duplicate Bridge, Tues 6:45pm: Social Bridge, Wed., 12:45pm Duplicate Bridge, Thur. 12:45pm Duplicate Bridge, Fri. 12pm: Bid Euchre. Contact northsimcoebridge@gmail.com.
Barrie/Kempenfelt Probus Club
Social Club for retired seniors
Monthly Meetings: 10:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.
Third Thursday of every month
Royal Canadian Legion
410 St. Vincent Street

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

Special Events One Time

Elmvale Legion
Nov 7th - Remembrance Day Dinner
Nov 11th - Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Cenotaph
Nov 14th - Christmas Bazaar and Tea Room
Nov 15th - Grey Cup Party
Nov 17th - Trivia Night
Nov 21st - Bill Truax Memorial Euchre Tournament
Nov 27th - Dance with DJ Rob
Nov 29th- Singo Bingo
Tuesdays at 1 - Shuffleboard
Saturdays at 5 - Meat Darts

Barry James Payne, Emm Gryner & Luna Keller - Utopia Hall, Sunday, November 1st
Utopia Hall, 8396 6 Line, Essa, ON L0M 1T0

Probus Club of Simcoe North
Start: Nov. 12, 2026 - Jun. 18, 2027 10:00
Penetanguishene Legion
Seniors enjoy Fun & Fellowship monthly 2nd Thursday. Contact Mary 705.526.6349

Knights of Columbus Concert & Dance Featuring Multi-award winning Elvis Tribute Artist Terry Chisholm
Start: Nov. 14, 2026 7pm
St. Mary's Church 65 Amelia St. Barrie
Terry Chisholm is a great Elvis Tribute Artist, singing Elvis and other artists.

Fleurish Christmas Market
Nov. 15, 2026 10:00-4:00pm
Fleurish 1148 Snow Valley Rd
Shop local, enjoy live music, festive treats & more at Fleurish Christmas Market

Georgian Bay Coin & Stamp Club
Date: 3rd. Thursday of each month 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Prime Time Club location, (RecPlex) 1724 Mosley St.
Please come & join us. For more info:www.geobaycoinstampclub.com

Publication Dates 2026

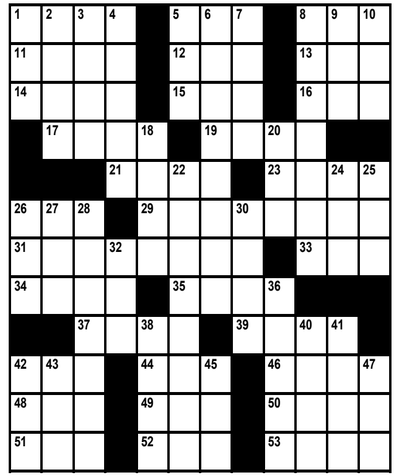
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Across

1 High-hatter
5 __ __ rule
8 Where Sugarloaf Mountain is
11 Henry VIII's sixth
12 "___ time"
13 Pole employee
14 Liberate
15 Hosp. procedure
16 Inherited
17 Chowder morsel
19 Oscar winner Paquin
21 Figure skater Thomas
23 Besides
26 When a plane is due in: Abbr.
29 Tiny details
31 North Atlantic food fish
33 Cobbler's tool
34 Resort town near Santa Barbara
35 Bond opponent
37 Swamp critter
39 Malt beverages
42 Brest friend
44 Tommy Lee's ex
46 Chemical suffixes
48 Las Vegas dancer accessory
49 Taunt
50 DVD predecessors
51 Switch positions
52 Rep's opposite
53 Enthusiasm

Down

1 Lotion letters
2 Undercover agent
3 Hurler Hershiser
4 Wheat or white
5 Intention
6 Kitchen gadget
7 A ___ apple
8 Emblems of royalty
9 1969 Peace Prize grp.
10 Frequently
18 Fast-spreading concept on the internet
20 Realize
22 Parrot's home
24 Grasped
25 Pickled delicacy
26 Rock music style
27 ___ Mahal
28 Mimosa family shrubs
30 Skeleton part
32 White wine aperitif
36 Martini ingredient
38 Newspaper piece
40 Abbr. on a business letter
41 Buona ____
42 ___ system (re: blood)
43 Back-to-work time: abbr.
45 "Ben-Hur" studio
47 Frequently used ID

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Seniors Country Property Downsizing Auction: Burford (Honda Gold Wing GL1200, tools & Le Creuset - Nov 15!)

Transition Auction for Jody & Paul Becker: Grand Bend (Former Becker Farm Equip. Owners - opens Nov 22!)

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SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2026
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2026

Elmvale Community Church

12 Queen St. E.

Saturday, November 7, 2026

9am – noon

Everyone Welcome!!

THANK YOU

Awesome family moments with Dale have become precious memories that we will forever hold dear in our hearts.Thank you for your prayers, thoughtfulness, love and kindness during these past few weeks. The overwhelming support from family, friends, neighbours and community has brought us comfort. We feel truly blessed and are deeply grateful.
With heartfelt thanks,
The Buchanan Family

North Simcoe Springwater
info@springwaternews.ca
705-790-1993

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OBIT SUBMISSIONS

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



Shirley Ann Stoddart (née Goode) July 1938 – October 2026

Predeceased by her beloved husband, Bill Stoddart, Shirley was the loving mother of Lana (Joanne), Don (Deb) and Kelly (Jeff); cherished Grandma to Scott (Katie), Rainee, Jazmin (Josh), Taylor (Shawna), Brooke and David (Dionne); and the greatest "GG" to Adeline, Lucy, Ace, Rosie, Jade, Axl and William.

Shirley was the last of 7 siblings, Bill (Ruby) Jack (Stella), Marion (Jack), Roy (Lorraine), June (Art), Bob (Margaret), Bud (Jean), brother-in-law George (Margaret). Shirley also loved to spend time with all 27 nieces and nephews.

Shirley was the matriarch of her family, influencing four generations with her strength, traditions and unwavering family values. A longtime resident of Orr Lake and Horseshoe Valley, she was devoted to her family, friends and community. She loved a good celebration and was often the life of the party—and quite possibly the last to leave! Shirley's legacy lives on in the family she cherished, the friendships she treasured and the wonderful memories she leaves behind.

A Celebration of a Wonderful Life

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Lynn-Stone Funeral Home. In keeping with Shirley's wishes, cremation has taken place.

Family and friends are warmly invited to celebrate Shirley's wonderful life on Friday, October 30, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at The Heights of Horseshoe, 1106 Horseshoe Valley Road West, Barrie, Ontario.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Shirley's memory may be made to Hospice Simcoe – Seasons Centre for Grieving Children, the Elmvale Food Bank or a charity of your choice.

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In Loving Memory of Emilia "Millie" Harding (née Sauvé) New Lowell, Ontario

It is with deep love and sadness that we announce the passing of Emilia "Millie" Harding, who passed away peacefully at home on October 20, 2026, at the age of 88, surrounded by her children.

Emilia loved her family deeply, cared for them unconditionally, and was always there when they needed her. Nothing meant more to her than her family. She leaves behind a lifetime of memories, laughter, and love that will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew her.

Millie was predeceased by her beloved husband, William "Bill" Harding; her special friend, Herman Lennox; and her siblings Pauline, Jeannine, Nora, Adam, and Albert.

She will be lovingly remembered by her five children:
Maxine Knox, her husband Blair, and their daughter Danielle Nobes.
Melodie Delong, her partner Larry, and her children Curtis Delong, Brant Delong, and Clayton Delong.
Merilee Harding and her children, John "Jay" Alford, Robyn Alford, and Laura Alford.
William "Bill" Harding, his wife Darlene, and his son Gary.
Darryl Harding, his wife Diana, and their children Nicole and Alysha.

Emilia was a proud grandmother and great-grandmother of 12, fondly known by her great-grandchildren as GG. Her family brought her immeasurable joy, and her love will continue through the many generations she leaves behind. She held a special place in her heart for her beloved great-granddaughter, McKayla, who passed away shortly after birth.

She leaves behind her surviving siblings Theresa, Archie, Aurel, and Lucille, who will cherish their memories of a lifetime shared together.

Later in life, Millie discovered a passion for travel and enjoyed exploring Canada with her special friend, Herman Lennox. These travels brought her new experiences and cherished memories that became a special part of her life.

Emilia enjoyed life's experiences and the time she spent with those she loved. Her warmth, strength, and devotion to family were the hallmarks of who she was. Though her family must now say goodbye, the love she gave so freely will never fade.

The family would like to extend heartfelt thanks to Saint Elizabeth Health Care, especially nurse Liz, for the compassionate care, kindness, and support provided to Emilia and her family. Your dedication and gentle presence made a difficult time a little easier, and we are deeply grateful.

At Emilia's wishes, she has been cremated.
Family and friends are invited to pay their respects at Adams Funeral Home, 445 St. Vincent Street, Barrie, Ontario, on Saturday, November 14, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Following the visitation, family and friends are welcome to gather at Emilia's home in New Lowell to share memories, stories, and time together in her honour.

Emilia's life was defined by the love she gave and the family she cherished. She will be dearly missed, forever remembered, and always loved.

Rest peacefully, Mom. Your love will remain with us always.

Messages of condolence may be forwarded to the family through adamsfuneralhome.ca

CROSSWORD

ANSWER

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11 P	A	R	R		12 I	T	S		13 E	L	F
14 F	R	E	E		15 M	R	I		16 G	O	T
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26 E	27 T	28 A		29 M	I	N	30 U	T	I	A	E
31 M	A	C	32 K	E	R	E	L		33 A	W	L
34 O	J	A	I		35 D	R	N	36 O			
		37 C	R	38 O	C		39 A	L	40 E	41 S	
42 A	43 M	I		44 P	A	45 M		46 I	N	E	47 S
48 B	O	A		49 E	G	G		50 V	C	R	S
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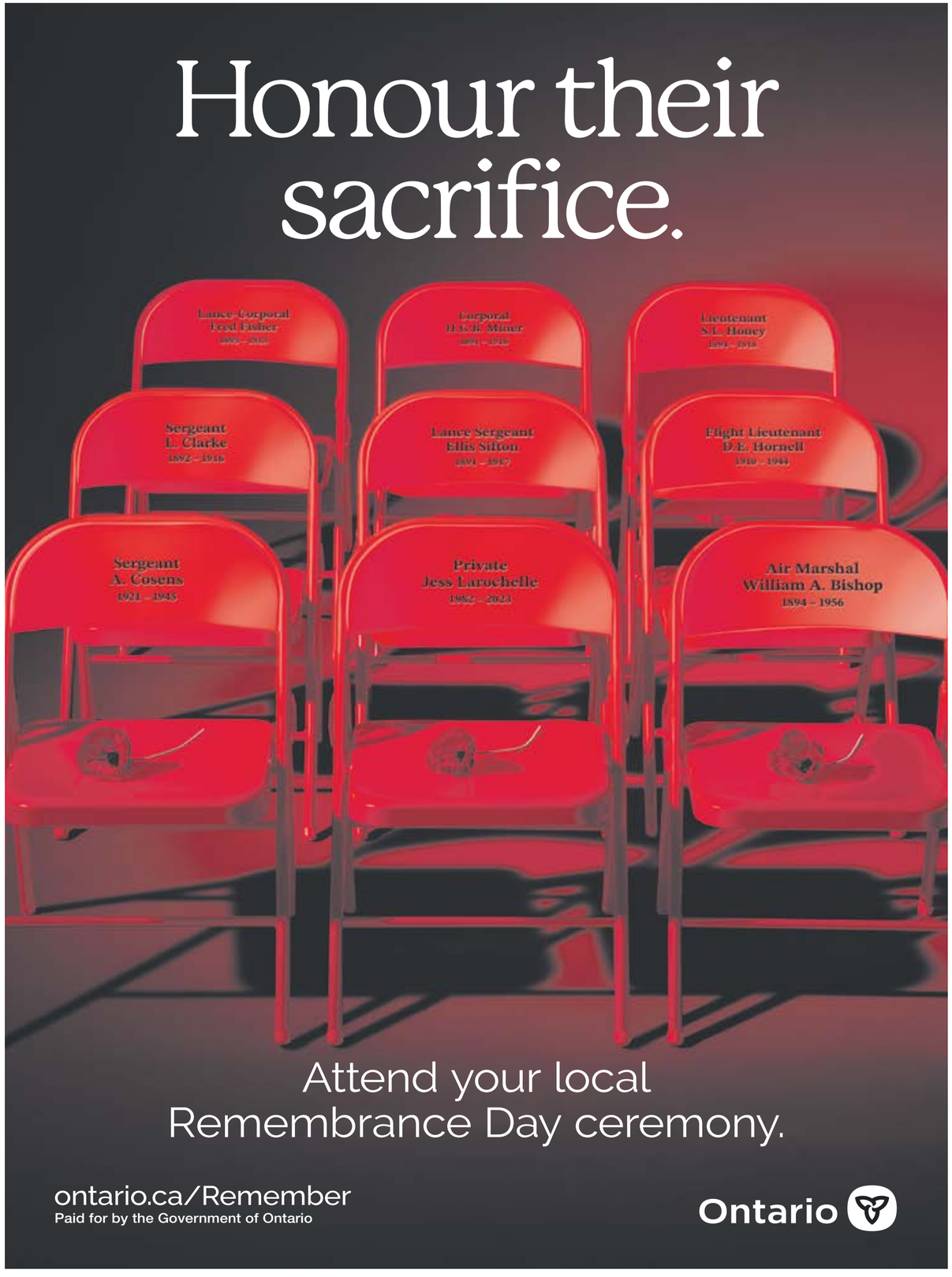
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Corporal H.G.R. Miner
1891 – 1918
Lieutenant S.L. Honey
1894 – 1918
Sergeant L. Clarke
1892 – 1916
Lance Sergeant Ellis Sifton
1891 – 1917
Flight Lieutenant D.E. Hornell
1910 – 1944
Sergeant A. Cosens
1921 – 1945
Private Jess Larochelle
1982 – 2024
Air Marshal William A. Bishop
1894 – 1956
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