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NORTH SIMCOE Springwater NEWS

SERVING SPRINGWATER, TINY TOWNSHIP, MIDLAND, AND PENETANGUISHENE

Edition 699 | March 13, 2025

Customer # 0003684814 / Publication/Admail # 0040027838

Celebrate the sweetest time of the year at an Ontario sugarbush April 5-6, 2025

Submitted by OMSPA, Mar. 11, 2025

Ontario's maple syrup season is in full swing, and there's no better way to experience it than at Maple Weekend. Hosted by the Ontario Maple Syrup Producers' Association (OMSPA), this free, family-friendly event takes place April 5 and 6 in 2025, inviting visitors to sugarbushes across the province to celebrate the tradition, taste, and craftsmanship behind Ontario's liquid gold.

In 2024 Ontario maple producers harvested a staggering 607,000 gallons of syrup, an increase of 20 per cent over 2023 production. Maple Weekend is the perfect time to taste the new crop of Ontario syrup when it's only days from tree to bottle.

During Maple Weekend, visitors are invited to experience the Canadian spring tradition of a visit to the local sugarbush to meet the producer and see firsthand how Canada's first farm crop of the year is made. Whether you're indulging in pancake breakfasts, sugar-making demonstrations, taffy on snow, sleigh rides, or scenic trail adventures, there's something for everyone to enjoy.

"The annual trip to a sugarbush is a quintessential Canadian experience," said Leann

Thompson, Chair of the OMSPA Maple Weekend working group. "Every year, participating producers go all out to give visitors an authentic, hands-on look at how maple syrup is made, from tree to table."

Since its launch in 2015, Maple Weekend has grown into a traditional spring event for families, drawing thousands of visitors to sugarbushes across the province. Each year the event continues to grow, with 75 maple producers participating across multiple OMSPA locals in 2025, including:

- Algoma & District
- Algonquin District
- Eastern
- Grey-Bruce & District
- Haliburton-Kawartha
- Lanark & District
- Ottawa Valley District
- Quinte & District
- Simcoe & District
- Southwestern
- Waterloo-Wellington

"With participating sugarbushes all across Ontario, you won't have to travel far to experience Maple Weekend," Thompson added. "Whether you visit one sugarbush or make a day of exploring

multiple locations, each producer offers their own unique activities and maple treats."

Maple Weekend runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on both April 5 and 6, 2025, offering visitors the chance to watch sap being collected and boiled into fresh maple syrup, enjoy maple-inspired treats, including taffy on snow and pancakes drenched in syrup, learn about traditional and modern syrup-making techniques, and explore scenic sugarbush trails and take part in family-friendly activities.

A full list of participating Maple Weekend sugarbushes, along with details on their specials and activities, is available at www.mapleweekend.ca. Use the interactive map to plan your visit and discover the sweetest spots near you!

About OMSPA

The Ontario Maple Syrup Producers' Association (OMSPA) represents over 600 maple syrup producers across the province. As the official voice of Ontario's sugar makers, OMSPA is dedicated to supporting high-quality production, education, and advocacy in the maple industry.

With 11 local chapters across Ontario's maple-

producing regions, OMSPA members are committed to preserving Canada's rich maple syrup heritage and bringing top-quality maple products to consumers.




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Oh Canada, We are Strong

Mar. 11, 2025 - We are true north strong! So let's be patriotic with our wallets. The centre spread of this paper, with the 'Canada Strong' could be in everyone's front windows to showcase our pride. The centre spread highlights some tools that can help you shop Canadian in order to save our country from the effects of a tariff war. This one is for Doug Rawson of Rawsons Meat and Deli in Penetanguishene. Doug thought a poppie should be the only thing on the centre spread for Remembrance day so that people could paste it in their windows with pride and honour. Great idea! If you have not shopped there then I encourage you to try it. The prices are very good and the quality is superior. Canadian store, Canadian products with local meat. I thought a Canada Flag would be a good centre spread for Canada Day and I am planning on that. So I am starting a new tradition with this paper. I thought we needed this now with our neighbours being so greedy. I can hardly wait for Canada Day this year!

ADVERTISERS:

I am starting a new Canadian products section of the paper.

Please reach out and let me know if you want to be in this section. You will need to prove that you are Canada locally sourced and locally owned. Not an easy task.

Canadian culture, politics, statutory holidays, traditions, locally grown foods are some examples of how we differ from USA. This next sentence is another example.

In my **neighbourhood**, the **theatre** is running a local **programme** about the **behaviour** of a narcissistic **councillor**, so I put on my **favourite woollen toque**, grabbed my driver's **licence**, and headed to the **centre** while enjoying the **colour** of the fall maple leaves.

So Canadians, stay strong and true to our business' that are greatly affected by the raised tariffs. I am proud to say this paper is 100% Canadian.

News Publishers Call on Canada Post CEO to Support Local News

By Paul Deegan, Mar 10, 2025

For many Canadian community news publishers, Canada Post is really the only game in town when it comes to distributing their newspapers to readers. This is especially true in more rural and remote communities. A year ago, Canada Post decided that community newspapers with commercial inserts – like Canadian Tire or grocery store flyers – were no longer exempt from Canada Post's Consumers' Choice program, which allows Canadians to opt out of receiving 'junk mail'.

Like advertisements on the pages of a newspaper, commercial inserts pay for the news content our journalists produce. This abrupt U-turn from Canada Post's long-standing policy was made without proper stakeholder consultation or economic/social impact analysis.

Clearly, community newspapers with commercial inserts are not 'junk mail'. The decision is having a demonstrable and devastating impact on community newspaper revenue. By way of example, recently, the East Central Alberta Review announced that it was shuttering after faithfully serving the community for 114 years.

Joyce Webster, who started off as a receptionist and typesetter and eventually became the publisher and owner, devoted 44 years of her life to the paper. In a recent column, she cited Canada Post as one of the contributing factors. She wrote, "I could write a book on how Canada Post (who we depend on to deliver our time-sensitive product) treats their newspaper customers since they became our 'competitor'! Newspapers are all about bringing market information to the public and yet their policy of not permitting "advertising" (our bread

and butter) flyers into our total market coverage newspapers effectively removed \$24,000 annual revenue from the Review bottom line when they changed their policy in 2024. That's just one of many policies. Add poor delivery policy, newspaper bundles ending up in post office recycling bins, even in garbage dumpsters, and postal strikes."

In addition to harming community newspaper publishers like Joyce, Canada Post is hurting local small businesses, like local grocery and hardware store franchisees, who keep their customers informed about sales and Canadian made products through commercial inserts. With the price of many goods, especially food, remaining elevated – coupled with the Trump tariff threats – Canadians are very conscious about both price and country of origin these days.

On behalf of the Alberta Weekly Newspapers Association, BC & Yukon Community News Media Association, Hebdom Québec, Manitoba Community Newspapers Association, National Ethnic Press and Media Council of Canada, News Media Canada, Ontario Community Newspapers Association, and Saskatchewan Weekly Newspapers Association, we are calling on Canada Post CEO Doug Ettinger to reverse this decision that is harming community newspapers, our readers, and our advertisers and their customers.

Newspapers keep Canadians informed, connected, and engaged. Canada Post shouldn't be hampering their ability to earn scarce advertising revenue, which pays for vital local news content.

Paul Deegan is president and chief executive officer of News Media Canada.

It Takes a Village

By Coun. Matt Garwood, Mar. 10, 2025

The saying "it takes a village" proved true for our community over the past few weeks. Amid what feels like an unending winter, we are once again reminded of the strength, resilience, and unity that defines our municipality. County and Township roads in the northern part of Springwater have been closed multiple times this winter due to weather, with numerous vehicles stranded or involved in accidents, leaving travelers unable to return home.

In the midst of this, the warming centre at the Elmvale Community Hall became a gathering place, offering a safe and comforting space during a storm. The generosity of Springwater residents is truly unmatched—whether it was donating pillows, blankets, fresh-baked treats, hot meals, or simply volunteering a few hours at the centre, we witnessed firsthand how our community always comes together in times of need.

A heartfelt thank you to Springwater Fire and Emergency Services, Springwater Public Works, County of Simcoe, and the OPP for working tirelessly to rescue stranded families, clear paths to homes, and keep us safe throughout this winter season.

If you lent items to the warming centre, please reach out to me directly at matt.garwood@springwater.ca to arrange pickup or delivery.

Thank you, Elmvale, for your unwavering kindness.

The Chickadee Contest

There were 11 chickadees in the paper. Many people guessed 11 and a random draw took place.

Thank you all for joining in on the fun and I hope to see you all at the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre's Sweetwater Festival on March 22 and 23.

Congratulations to Alex Shiels of Midland and Wios Braden & Tyler Awrey of Hillsdale for the win of Sweetwater Festival tickets.



BIA Meeting
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THE NEXT PAPER WILL BE ON **MARCH 27, 2025**



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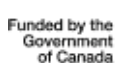
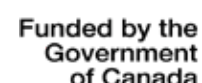


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Proud Elmvale Lions Help with Two Midland Causes

By Murray Truax

Mar 28, 2025- The Elmvale Lions are very proud to donate \$2000 to Community Reach for a new van. Seen here are lions Tim Crowe, Jim Elliott, Eileen Elliott and Murry Truax. Cindy Hastings E.D. and Rich Ignas are accepting on behalf of Community Reach. Cindy stated that: Community Reach is so grateful to the Elmvale Lions Club for coming to our rescue once again to help purchase a new van. Demand on accessible transportation service continues to grow. We have a lot of residents counting on us to get them to medical appointments, shopping and activities that help them prevent social isolation. Replacing our older van with a newer, more reliable vehicle means we can serve more people and ensure we can fulfill our commitments to our clients. If you would like to help with this worthwhile project please contact Cindy at 705-528-6999



Rachel Horgan Represents Elmvale Legion at Legion Zone Competition

By Francis Horgan, Mar. 5, 2025

Legion District's intermediate public speaking was on March 2, 2025. 1st place Rachel Horgan, 2nd Hudson Smith, 3rd Everson Faye. Rachel will represent our district at the Legion Zones on March 22, 2025 in Aurora.



Mar 1, 2025- The Elmvale Lions are very proud to donate to The Georgian Bay Food Network to help pay for new refrigeration units. Seen here are Lions Murry Truax, Eileen Elliott, Jim Elliott and Tim Crowe. Accepting on behalf of GBFN is Alex Hamelin E.D. Alex stated how pleased she was to accept this cheque for \$2500 towards the cost of their \$10,000 refrigeration units. She thanks all the service clubs and community individuals who continue to support this much needed food resource for our citizens who require help with food insecurity. Alex stated that they now serve over 1650 families. These new refrigeration units will help them ensure a constant supply of fresh produce to promote healthy nourishment. If you wish to help with this worthwhile project, please call Alex at 705-812-6500 or email at admin@gbfn.org

Springwater Sports Heritage Receives Support from North Simcoe Springwater News

By Larry Simpson, SSH, Mar. 7, 2025

Springwater Sports Heritage (SSH) is thrilled to announce that our local community newspaper, North Simcoe Springwater News (NSSN), has generously agreed to support the management costs of SSH's social media activity. This partnership reflects NSSN's ongoing commitment to fostering community connections and celebrating local heritage.

SSH has greatly benefited from Brenda Stanley's outstanding "Heart of Business" approach to managing our social media presence. With NSSN's additional backing, SSH is poised to amplify its messaging and heritage content even further. Linda Belcourt, of NSSN, has been a steadfast

supporter of SSH through her newspaper, and her new involvement adds an exciting dimension to spreading SSH's vision and our engagement with the community.

This collaboration not only provides much-needed financial support but also allows SSH to strengthen its role as an archive of outstanding sports achievements. The enhanced social media presence enables more timely interactions and dynamic two-way communication, bringing SSH closer to the heart of the community it celebrates.

SSH extends its heartfelt gratitude to NSSN and the community for their continued support and belief in preserving our shared sports heritage.

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Resident calls proposed rental units in Midhurst 'entirely unwelcome'

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Mar 07, 2025

A developer's plan to convert 80 single-home lots into 18 blocks containing two or three fourplex units per block in the Midhurst Heights subdivision has received a less-than-enthusiastic reception from some local residents.

During a public meeting at the Springwater Township Administration Centre on Wednesday night, prior to the council meeting, a half-dozen or so residents opposed a proposal that would see an additional 80 residential units created, moving the total residential unit count for Midhurst Heights from 1,551 to 1,631.

Ten blocks of fourplexes are proposed for the northeast corner of the property on White Cedar Parkway, and another eight are planned for the middle of the development, at the intersection of Jack Pine and White Cedar parkways. The entire development area is bound by Gill Road on the west, Russell Road on the east, Doran Road to the south and a new, yet-to-be-built county road to the north.

According to the township's bylaws, fourplex dwellings are a permitted residential use in this area.

"This whole development is entirely unwelcome," said Jim Edwards, who lives on Idlewood Drive. "I haven't met a single person that I've spoken to who has any interest in this whole thing continuing.

"You're not going to find anybody in Midhurst who lives here who's going to support this," he added.

Those comments were echoed by a resident identified as Williamson, who lives on Spence Avenue in Midhurst. Their first name wasn't audible during the public meeting, but their opinion was.

"We don't need these rentals, let alone the entire development," she said. "It's time to fight against these fourplexes and these rentals."

She said she's concerned about the effects the rental units would have on the community.

The woman also said she's kept an eye on a development in Midhurst Valley that features rental units in its mix of housing options and she's not impressed.

"You have constant turnover and less upkeep," she said. "That is what we can expect from this development, especially with the rental properties.

"That's not the Midhurst we know, that's not the

Midhurst we want."

According to Kory Chisholm, partner at MacNaughton Hermson Britton Clarkson Planning Limited, (MHBC), Williamson's concerns have already been addressed.

He said a professional management company will be hired to ensure the rental properties are maintained with the same level of care that any homeowner would dedicate to their property.

"Just like in a typical apartment building, it's managed by a one-owner entity that manages the leasing, maintenance of the property and the maintenance of the building," Chisholm said. "There would be professional lawn maintenance, snow removal — typical building maintenance."

Derrick Wills, who lives on Neretva Street in Midhurst, wanted to know why the developers were including rental units in a subdivision that's almost entirely devoted to single-family homes.

Chisholm explained that the development was approved 11 years ago and, since that time, housing markets and needs have changed dramatically across the province.

"In subdivisions that were built 10 years ago, you typically saw larger lots," he said. "Now, with housing affordability and prices, not just at this site

but in all subdivisions I'm working on throughout Simcoe County and Barrie, we're seeing smaller single-detached dwellings, smaller townhouses.

"We're trying to assist with that affordability," Chisholm added.

According to Chisholm, his client, Clarose GP Inc., has been analyzing the market and has discovered a demand for a rental-type product, but a rental-type product beyond the traditional apartment building.

The fourplexes that are planned for Midhurst Heights will offer renters a variety of configurations that will include their own garage and their own backyard.

"As market conditions change, there are mechanisms in place so you can adjust plans to adapt to those," Chisholm said.

According to Doug Herron, Springwater's interim chief administrative officer, construction at the site may begin in late 2025 or early 2026.

All comments from Wednesday night's public meeting will be included in a report that will be prepared for township council's consideration.

As the Midhurst Heights subdivision was granted approval by the Ontario Municipal Board (now the Ontario Land Tribunal), final approval will be subject to a decision by the OLT.



Tiny acquires 8.3 acres of public-owned waterfront in Sawlog Bay

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Mar 07, 2025

Excitement was written on council faces Friday morning as Tiny Township announced the land acquisition of 8.26 acres in Sawlog Bay, resulting in over 207 metres of publicly owned waterfront along Georgian Bay.

The cost to purchase the two lots at the most northern tip of north Simcoe, known as Block B and Block C of Registered Plan 1371, were \$4.5 million for Block B, with a donation of Block C to the municipality for a \$538,000 tax receipt by Municipal Investments Ltd — also known as the Axler family.

"We haven't finalized it, but the dedication will be in the name of (Joseph Axler and) the Axler family," Mayor Dave Evans told MidlandToday following a special meeting of council.

Joseph Axler had been a prominent developer in the Sawlog Bay area, and with his passing last year the family continued discussions to have Tiny Township take ownership of the lands they held so dear.

"Municipal Investments and the Axler family have had the property on the market multiple times over the years," CAO Robert Lamb said. "Other developers could have paid a lot more for it and then went through the opportunity to develop. In the end, with our conversations with Mrs. Axler

after Mr. Axler passed away, they recognized that having the benefit of the municipality taking ownership of it, it helps to cement the legacy.

"Mrs. (Ruth) Axler said to me on multiple occasions," Lamb continued, "that her husband of a very long time — because they were both in their nineties — 'fell in love with Georgian Bay before he fell in love with me' was her quote to me."

His comment sparked large laughter from the council members in attendance; absent was Coun. Kelly Helowka due to technical difficulties in attending the meeting.

Added Lamb: "What was in primary importance in my conversations with Mrs. Axler was that his love of Georgian Bay in the development — he was the developer who developed a lot of the subdivisions in that area — were recognized hopefully in perpetuity."

Evans agreed that the aim of council would be for the beach to be formally open to the public this year, "once the deal has closed next month formally, and the financing is in place."

The waterfront was also described as semi-dynamic beach, but Evans noted further surveys had yet to be completed on the property and would become "something we'll be looking at immediately" to set up.

Lamb also stated that the unique aspect to the acquisition was due to rarity in a municipality

purchasing waterfront, and furthermore dedicating "that waterfront forever to our residents — and then recover some, if not all and potentially more of the revenue we put out to acquire that waterfront."

"This is a unique opportunity that, even if in the end we broke even, we've now acquired 207 metres at a break-even proposition for the municipality," Lamb said.

Coun. Steffen Walma said it was exciting to acquire "such a big piece on the north end", and that the land acquisition also tied into a recent council direction to accept beach property through various lots across the township known as the (surveyor John) Goessman lots, increasing beach access.

Deputy Mayor Sean Miskimins called the land acquisition "a great strategic investment" on behalf of residents, with most attention usually focused on the southwestern shores of the municipality.

"We are paying attention," said Miskimins, "and when these opportunities do present themselves it's imperative that we — not just this council but councils going forward — really look at their own strategy and say: 'Is this the right investment of taxpayer funds in order to make a difference, not just for today but for generations to come?' That is something that was accomplished today by this council."

Further information on the 207 metre waterfront acquisition, including map of the location, can be found on the Township of Tiny website.

Archives of council meetings are available to view on the Township's YouTube channel.

North Simcoe Rotaract Hosts Thrilling Cardboard Toboggan Races at Sand Pit Hill



By Kevin Cascagnette, Vice President, North Simcoe Rotaract, March 27, 2025

PENETANGUISHENE, ON – The North Simcoe Rotaract Club brought high-energy winter fun to the community on Sunday, February 23, 2025, with the annual Cardboard Toboggan Races at Sand Pit Hill on Lorne Avenue. Originally scheduled as part of the 77th Annual Winterama, the event was postponed by a week due to weather—but that didn't stop an incredible turnout.

With 33 toboggans hitting the hill and a crowd of enthusiastic spectators cheering them on, racers of all ages competed for a variety of fun awards, including:

- Grand Champion: The Valentine Crew (Valentine Family)
- Creativity Award Team Flower Power (Jacobs Family)
- Best Wipeout Team Whittmore (Whittmore Family)
- Team Spirit Team Cheeze U L8ER

(Nagel-Desjardins Family)

- Bravest Tobogganer Team Unicorn (Ribout Family)
- Most Loaded Toboggan Team Tuboggan (Kenney-Dick Family)
- Exceptional Construction Team Transport Le Caron (Ethan McLeod, Jaxson Moss, Isa Switzer, and Lawson Leroux)

Generously sponsored by Minds Alive Toy Store, the event also featured hot chocolate from Sunday Restoration, keeping participants and spectators warm throughout the action-packed afternoon.

"Once again, we were dazzled by the creativity, ingenuity, enthusiasm, and joy displayed by this wonderful community," said Parise LeClerc, chair of the event. "The Cardboard Toboggan Races are only as good as the people who help make them happen!"

The Cardboard Toboggan Races continues to be a community favourite, proving that a little cardboard and a lot of imagination can go a long way. North Simcoe Rotaract thanks all participants, sponsors, and spectators for making this event a huge success.

About North Simcoe Rotaract

North Simcoe Rotaract is a service club of young professionals dedicated to community service, leadership, and making a difference in the North Simcoe area. They meet bi-weekly on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings.



SENIOR TINY TIMES

Canadian Red Cross Friendly Calls Program
Jennifer Gray, Township of Tiny Volunteer Senior Column Writer

Do you know someone who lives alone or who would benefit from a regular telephone check-in? Sometimes, a little conversation with someone can make a big difference.

The Red Cross's Friendly Calls is a phone-based program that matches people over the age of 18 with trained volunteers who connect with them regularly for a friendly chat, provide emotional support, encourage healthy coping strategies, and suggest well-being resources and community connections to other existing services.

The program aims to enhance social connectedness and well-being, with a focus on reaching older adults, Indigenous peoples, and anyone who may benefit from increased access to regular emotional support, social interaction, and community connections.

The Friendly Calls program is open to anyone in Canada over the age of 18 who could benefit from greater connection, or may have limited social and family links, and can receive regular support over the phone for encouragement and the power of feeling heard.

The program is safe, accessible and free for everyone. Currently, phone calls are being conducted in English and French, with potential to offer additional languages in select locations as the program grows.

The program is currently seeking volunteers. Friendly Calls volunteers do not need specialized skills or experience to join as all necessary training is provided by the Canadian Red Cross. This training and ongoing support from experts ensures that volunteers feel confident and prepared to make a positive impact in their community. Working from the comfort of their home, they can provide kindness and compassion with only a few hours of their time each week. The frequency and length of phone calls is tailored to suit a

participant's individual needs. Generally, phone calls occur on a weekly basis and can last anywhere from 20 to 60 minutes. For some people, congenial social interaction can make a big difference. As a Friendly Calls volunteer, you can have a lasting, positive impact on the life of someone who needs connection with another person.

If you feel that a loved one could benefit from the Friendly Calls program, we encourage you to help them sign up, either directly or by referring them yourself online or on the phone.

Anyone can sign up or learn more by calling 1-833-979-9779 toll-free from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. local time on weekdays. Information can also be found online at www.redcross.ca/friendlycalls

The information in this article is provided as a public service by the Township of Tiny Senior's Advisory Committee. We invite and welcome your feedback and suggestions on how we can make Senior Tiny Times a valuable information resource for our Seniors.

Website: www.tiny.ca/seniors

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WATERSIDE RETIREMENT LODGE FRIDAY SENIOR STANDINGS @ ELMVALE CURLING CLUB

	RECORD	POINTS
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TEAM MURPHY	5-2-2	32.5
TEAM HUTH	6-3-0	31.5
TEAM TOWNES	6-3-0	30.5
TEAM MADORE	4-3-2	28.0
TEAM McCLUNG	4-5-1	25.5
TEAM DON	4-5-0	25.0
TEAM MARSHALL	3-5-1	25.0
TEAM JOHNSTONE/BELCOURT	3-4-2	24.0
TEAM ALLEN	1-6-2	22.5
TEAM SCOTT	3-6-0	21.5

Tariffs 'a real threat' to Midland automotive manufacturing: mayor

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Mar 05, 2025

Midland council approved a symbolic motion at the recent council meeting as "more than just a signal to the community that we're not 'head in the sand' syndrome," said Mayor Bill Gordon, anticipating that U.S. tariffs would impact procurement for the municipality and its residents.

The motion, looking at municipal procurement updates, was approved days prior to time-questionable tariffs from the U.S. government which were implemented this week against Canadian goods; retaliatory tariffs were announced on Tuesday against the U.S.

Gordon had crafted the motion with assistance from municipal procurement staff, reflecting comments he had made on his personal website into a more formal item at the council meeting.

In essence, the lengthy motion requested town staff to prepare a report when tariffs were implemented which addressed economic impacts, alternative and mitigation strategies, and council recommendations.

Coun. Catherine MacDonald pointed out that such duties were already within the realm of town staff and asked why a report was required. Gordon replied that "without this direction, this is more symbolic", but opted to change the wording of the motion to await a time when tariffs would arrive.

"The question remains from a small municipality: what role do we play along from just going along for the ride?" said Gordon in the meeting. "Is our wagon literally hitched and we have no options, or, should we be preparing for the worst – hoping for the best but planning for the worst?"

In speaking with MidlandToday following the meeting, Gordon stated that the U.S. tariffs held particular volatility for the businesses and residents of Midland.

"From a manufacturing perspective, it's a real threat," said Gordon. "Most of our manufacturing is tied intimately into the automotive supply chain."

He shared that he had attended a discussion with members of the Ontario Auto Mayors caucus last week along with Minister of Innovation, Science

and Industry François-Philippe Champagne.

"All automotive manufacturing in Canada and the U.S. will end within two days; like, it'll just stop," predicted Gordon, "because there's no parts – they just can't continue."

"I look at the impact in a small urban municipality like Midland: that could mean mass layoffs; it could signal the exit of some of these manufacturers from Canada. None of this happens overnight, but it's a cascade effect."

Gordon added that whereas many procurement items would be scrutinized, some could not be delayed such as the \$30 million Housing Enabling Water System Fund received from the province last year for usage within a short timeframe.

The procurement report motion is available in the council agenda on the town of Midland website.

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

Blended increase of 8.6% approved for Penetanguishene water rates

By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Feb 24, 2025

Rates for those on Penetanguishene's water and wastewater system will increase by a blended 8.6 per cent as of Jan. 1 of this year once ratified by council, but the amount was found to be lower than averages locally and provincially.

Penetanguishene ratepayers paid 10 per cent lower for water and wastewater costs compared to peer municipalities in 2024, and 6 per cent lower than the average across 120 Ontario municipalities, according to consultants.

At the recent committee of the whole meeting, a presentation by president Jim Bruzzese of BMA Management Consulting Inc. provided council members with a look at the water and wastewater long range financial plan for the town, as per regulations under the Safe Water Drinking Act.

"The town has taken a proactive and integrated

approach (to renew drinking water licences); they've prepared a 10-year financial plan although only six years is required," said Bruzzese. "Also included is a wastewater financial plan which is not a requirement under the Act, however, it has been conducted."

The report noted that for every 180 cubic metres per year of total volume, the Penetanguishene residential impact in 2024 was \$1,234; peer municipalities surveyed averaged \$1,369 in that time frame, and 120 municipalities across Ontario averaged \$1,311 in 2024.

To increase from \$1,234 to the average residential customer rate in 2025 of \$1,340 would mean an annual increase of \$106.00 or 8.6 per cent; a blended rate calculated from 7.5 per cent for water rates and 9.2 per cent for wastewater rates.

The purpose of the report was to plan for long-term contributions as per the town's asset management plan toward the capital program and reserve balance. A suggested increase in line with a rough 8.6 per cent was projected toward 2029 within the report, followed by a lowered estimate of a 5.6 per cent increase from 2030 to 2034.

Not all were happy with the suggested rate increase. Coun. Bill Waters shared an anecdote of a resident saying they were leaving the town due to high taxes; Mayor Doug Rawson acknowledged Waters'

comments but noted that the town needed to be mindful of what it provided.

"One of the things we provide is safe drinking water; and I don't want to jeopardize our system, our assets, what we do – to save \$106 per resident per year," said Rawson. "I would be comfortable with \$106, I'd be comfortable with \$126."

Coun. Bonita Desroches stated that governments wanting to please taxpayers over years "don't do any favours by procrastinating and putting off tough decisions" through low taxes and tax cuts. She added that a "what if" scenario would benefit from having saved up in advance.

Coun. George Vadeboncoeur noted that since municipal staff regularly reviewed rates for increases every few years, that an amendment could be that such review would occur in 2027 before approval of 2028 increases.

Deputy Mayor Dan La Rose pointed out that the 8.6 per cent increase was still below the peer average of 10 per cent and agreed with Vadeboncoeur that a shorter review time frame could be beneficial, noting that funding applications for municipal infrastructure could also play a role if successful.

Decisions of the committee of the whole are anticipated to appear for discussion and potential ratification at an upcoming regular meeting of council.

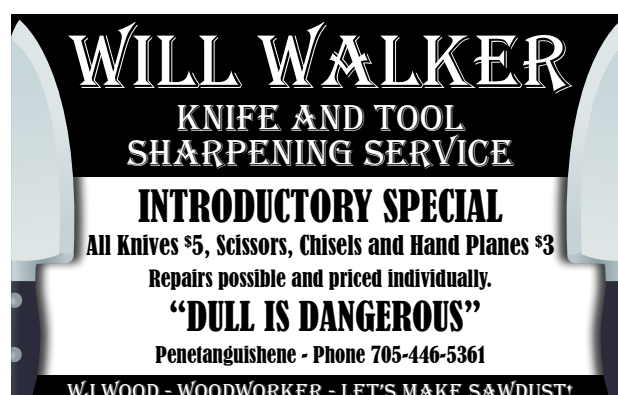
The 2025 water and wastewater rate study report, including long range financial plan, can be located on the agenda page of the Town of Penetanguishene website.

Meetings of Penetanguishene council are held on the second Wednesday of each month, and can be watched live on Rogers TV cable 53 when available, or on the Rogers TV website.

Archives of council meetings are located on the Town of Penetanguishene YouTube channel.



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www.springwaterlibrary.on.ca

NEW HOURS

The Springwater Public Library Elmvale and Midhurst branches are now open Monday mornings at 10 a.m.

Volunteer Income Tax Program

In person, phone appointments and drop off processing of taxes are available for those within the tax brackets of: \$35,000 for one person, \$45,000 for two people, up to \$50,000 for a family of four. In person appointments are available in March and April at the Elmvale Branch, please call us to book your in person or phone appointment at (705) 322-1482. If you are using the drop off method of tax processing (starts Monday February 24), please ensure your documents are in a sealed envelope labelled with your address, phone number and email address. This program operates in collaboration with the Canada Revenue Agency. In person 30 minute appointments are available in March and April.

Magic Card Club

Ages 9-13 join us for fun filled mornings learning how to play magic cards and build a deck. Saturdays starting March 1, 10:30am at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

Drop-In Paper Chicken Craft

Celebrate the Spring season with a fun paper craft! This drop-in craft will be available while supplies last and offered during our open hours. Thursday March 20, starting at 10am at Elmvale and Midhurst Branches. Cost: Free. No registration required.

DIY Welcome Mat

Spring is just around the corner (really! It is!) Time to freshen up your front door! Come join us to make a beautiful personalized coir doormat in this two part program series taking place at the Midhurst Branch. Part 1: Tuesday March 18 - Design your Mat. Part 2: Tuesday March 25 - Make your Mat (this session is only for those who attend part 1) Cost: \$20 per participant (for both sessions). Registration required.

Friends of Springwater Library Annual General Meeting

The annual general meeting of the Friends of Springwater Library is taking place Monday March 24, 5:30pm at Elmvale Branch. This meeting is open to both members and the general public who are interested in this group and the amazing work they do to support the library. No registration required.

Canadian Music Concert Event

Celebrate Canada with us! Wear your Canadian outfit and hear some of your favourite Canadian songs at this special concert event performed by local musicians, The Young and TheRestofUs. Wednesday March 26, 2pm at Midhurst Branch. Cost: FREE. Registration required.

DIY Bullet Journal Workshop

Tweens/Teens can sign up for this workshop. Bullet journaling can be used to express yourself and organize your life in a creative way. Customize your own bullet journal today! Each participant will receive their own rainbow pen and bullet journal. Thursday March 27, 5:30pm at Midhurst Branch. Cost: \$5. Registration required.

Make Your Own Bookmark

Using the Canva program and our Sublimation printer create your own design to make a custom bookmark. Thursday March 27, 6pm at Elmvale Branch. Cost: \$2 per bookmark.

Storytime at the Library

Join Miss Amanda for Storytime in the library! Sing songs, listen to some stories and take home a free craft! Elmvale Branch weekly on Tuesdays 10:30am. See you there! No registration required.

News & Events at the Penetanguishene Public Library

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

Penetanguishene Public Library Book Club

Meetings every first Thursday of the month excluding July and August.

Our April meeting will be held April 3rd at 4:00 at the Penetanguishene Public Library.

Technology Session – Cloud Library

Want to become more familiar with an app that is free to use and gives you access to thousands of

books? Sign up for our tech session on how to use

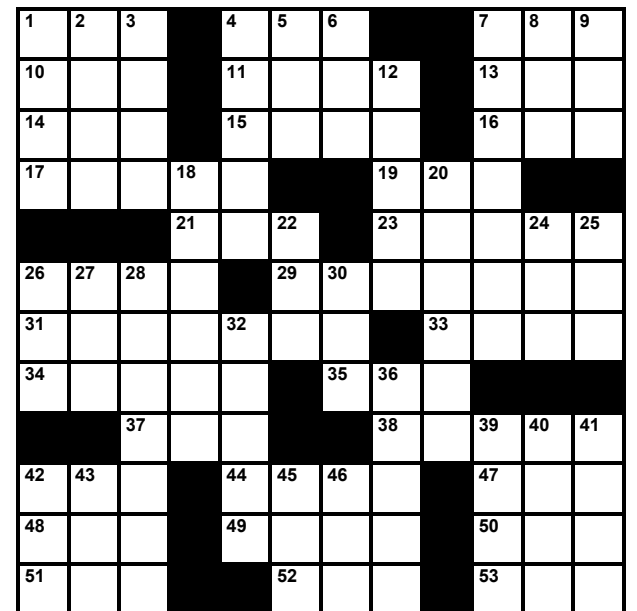
Cloud Library.

When : Mon Mar 17th, 10am-11am

Trip to Alaska

Janet and Paul Ryan will talk about their cruise to Alaska and share their experience, places to see, how to prepare the trip.

When : Fri Mar 28th 1pm-2pm



Across

- 1 Stomach muscles
- 4 Be nosy
- 7 Game pieces
- 10 For
- 11 Tints
- 13 Way back when
- 14 The “p” of m.p.h.
- 15 “I’m ___ you!”
- 16 Mean
- 17 Hard work
- 19 Beachgoer’s top, sometimes
- 21 I’ve ___ a secret
- 23 Weird
- 26 Way off
- 29 Making money
- 31 Entrance
- 33 Distinctive flavor
- 34 Come in
- 35 Greek letter
- 37 “___ Me,” Withers hit
- 38 Church official
- 42 It’s baked in a tandoor
- 44 Reunion group
- 47 First family member
- 48 Be behind
- 49 Travel packages
- 50 Electric ___
- 51 Anger color
- 52 Woods’ spot
- 53 Humorously sarcastic

Down

- 1 Droid downloads
- 2 Suds
- 3 Mad
- 4 Snapshot
- 5 Campaign
- 6 “Are we there ___?”
- 7 Quinine usually cures it
- 8 Star quality, perhaps
- 9 Without delay
- 12 Not even tipsy
- 18 Matches
- 20 Leased home
- 22 Social
- 24 Overnight lodging
- 25 Hatchable oval
- 26 ___ before beauty
- 27 Devotee
- 28 Brought into harmony
- 30 Parliamentarian’s call
- 32 Jalopy
- 36 It may be perfect
- 39 Monopoly card
- 40 ___ Ready battery
- 41 Depend
- 42 Common conjunction
- 43 Astonishment
- 45 Set fire to
- 46 Packed away

MIDHURST PHARMACY



Let's Talk About...

Pharmacy Awareness Month

With Pharmacist Owners Jenna Lougheed and Carolyn Glover

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Annie's Journal by Annie Warner Donnelly

Mar. 10, 2025 - Hello Everyone. In 2017, David Johnston and Tom Jenkins published a book called "Ingenious – How Canadian Innovators Made the World". This column includes stories from its pages. "Elijah McCoy's automatic lubricating cup for oiling the steam engines of locomotives and ships was invented in 1872 and became a boon to railroaders

throughout the world. The device supplied lubricating oil to the cylinders, bearings and axle box mountings of locomotives automatically. This method boosted productivity enabling locomotives to run faster and more profitably ... Over the years, McCoy refined his signature device and created new ones, ending up with fifty patents related to his lubricating devices ... McCoy was the son of slaves who escaped to Canada via the Underground Railroad and settled in Colchester, Ontario, near Windsor." p12

"Canada's greatest contribution to the design of modern machines is the roller bearing. Created by George Thomas of Digby County, Nova Scotia in 1879, the bearing reduces, if not eliminates, the friction generated by the contact of moving machine parts with stationary ones. The device does so by housing rollers or ball bearings within a rolled cage. Today, roller bearings are more important than ever. They are small, yet critical components of a variety of devices – from bicycles and cars to farm equipment

and industrial machinery." p12

"Theodore Witte didn't merely find fresh bread and tasty desserts at his local bakery. The Chilliwack, British Columbia, inventor gained inspiration. Watching a baker wield a cake-decorating gun to ornament a sweet treat, Theodore took the idea and applied it to develop what he called a puttying tool. His 1894 creation is what we know today as a caulking gun." p16

From the book, "One Thousand and One Reasons for Being Proud to be a Canadian", we learn that 'the first library in the Western Hemisphere was founded by Marc Lescarbot in 1606 in Port Royal, Nova Scotia, (p1) and Norman Breakey of Toronto, Ontario, invented the paint roller in 1940. (p65)

May God help us continue to be ingenious, and may He keep our land, glorious and free just like our national anthem says. Amen

Legion presents a gift of \$6,500

By Legion Ont. Prov., Command, Mar. 4, 2025

Representatives from the Royal Canadian Legion, Ontario Provincial Command Branches and Ladies' Auxiliary Charitable Foundation visited the Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation to present a gift of \$6,500.

The donation will be invested toward the purchase of a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine for the Midland hospital. Bringing MRI services to GBGH will mean better access to this vital diagnostic technology for thousands of individuals in North Simcoe every year.

From left: Mary Lefaive, president, Ladies' Auxiliary Charitable Foundation; David Sampson, president, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 68 Penetanguishene; Robyn Blanchet, community giving officer & Victoria Evans, Sr. Key Relationships Officer, GBGH Foundation; Pat White, 1st vice-president & sargeant at arms poppy, Royal Canadian Legion Branch 68 Penetanguishene.



Pancakes and fun on tap at Sweetwater Harvest Festival

Submitted by Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre, Mar 10, 2025

MIDLAND, ON: The highly anticipated Sweetwater Harvest Festival is back! Hosted by the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre in partnership with Sainte-Marie among the Hurons, this action-packed, maple syrup-filled weekend is set to be the sweetest event of the season!

Join us on March 22-23, 2025, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. to celebrate the return of spring with maple-filled fun for the whole family. From sugar shack demonstrations to artisan booths, make and take crafts to maple taffy on ice, there's something for everyone!

Pancakes are also making their Sweetwater Harvest Festival comeback, and they include the real maple syrup we all crave. Restaurant Sainte-Marie will be serving up this iconic breakfast throughout the event, ensuring you get your syrup fix from start to finish.

"The Sweetwater Harvest Festival is a sweet celebration of our local heritage and the arrival of spring," says Eric Water, Executive Director of Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre. "Nothing beats the smell of Bannock cooking over an open fire, the taste of maple taffy rolled on snow, and seeing families creating memories together outdoors."

This is the third year Wye Marsh and Sainte-Marie among the Hurons have worked together to host this festival experience. The neighbouring organizations, located off Highway 12 in Midland, are long-time collaborators, joining forces to offer educational programs and outdoor experiences year-round.

"We're thrilled to be partnering with Wye Marsh again to host this event," says Will Baird, General Manager of Huronia Historical Parks. "It's a fantastic way to get outdoors, have some fun, and explore our shared heritage."

Exciting activities await at Wye Marsh:

- Maple taffy on ice: Get your hands sticky with this sweet treat made from fresh maple syrup poured over snow!
- Sugar shack demonstrations: Meet the Sap Suckers, the Wye Marsh team of volunteers dedicated to the age-old process of turning sap into liquid gold.



- Roasting Bannock: Try your hand at cooking this delicious traditional bread over an open fire.
 - Birds of prey: Meet majestic birds up close and learn from experts.
 - Kids zone: Make and take crafts and check out animal pelts and other nature artifacts.
 - Métis stories and jigging: Enjoy a cultural experience that will get your feet tapping!
- Historical adventures at Sainte-Marie among the Hurons:
- Sweetwater Arts and Crafts Market: Shop from over 20 talented artisans for unique, locally made goods.
 - Scavenger hunts and games: Indoor and outdoor hunts will keep you exploring all day long.
 - Cornbread in the cookhouse: Taste a traditional treat made on-site.
 - Historical fun: Try on historical clothing, play traditional First Nations games, and take part in hands-on crafts.
 - Teas and stories in the longhouse: Warm up with historic tea samples, then listen to Indigenous stories.
- Get your tickets early for extra savings:
Save \$6 per ticket when you purchase your tickets by March 18, and avoid long lines by booking online at WyeMarsh.com/Sweetwater. But don't worry—tickets will still be available at the gate.
A sweet thanks to our sponsors!



A big thank you to Team Jordan Real Estate, S Charlebois Haulage and Excavation Ltd, Barber & Haskill, Windlee Farms, Telequip, Bounce Radio, Pure Country, Springwater News, Charles Morden Construction Inc., Big101.1 and Fresh Radio 93.1, whose support has helped make this amazing event possible.



Striking the Right Chord



Submitted by Waypoint Centre for Mental Health, Feb. 26, 2025

Music therapy plays important role in Waypoint care

With World Music Therapy Day coming up on March 1, no one at Waypoint is better suited than Kelly Lefaive to sing the praises of music in health care.

“I use music strategies to support people in reaching their health-related goals,” explained Lefaive, the hospital’s Music Therapist. “I run groups and also offer individual services, and I work in all units here at Waypoint, as well as at the HERO Centre.”

Music therapy is more than just entertainment — it is a powerful tool for healing. Lefaive tailors her

approach to each individual’s comfort level.

“I try to have the person be as involved as possible in the creation of music. This could mean playing instruments, singing or writing songs,” she said. “In some cases, if people are a little less comfortable expressing themselves through an instrument or their voice, it may be about simply listening.”

From the very first session, she works with clients to identify their health goals and determine how music can support them. Lefaive noted there’s a growing body of research around the different ways music can affect patients.

“It impacts our brain chemistry. Music engagement allows for improvement in mood, lower stress, and better connection with others,” she said. “But on a basic level, people relate to music. When I meet someone in a hospital setting, I’m not saying, ‘Oh, what’s wrong?’ or ‘What brought you here?’ I’m asking them about what role music has played in their life. If we can find this common ground, that’s where the therapeutic relationship starts to build.”

This approach is especially valuable for patients reluctant to participate in other types of therapy or group settings. Through music, they find a comfortable and expressive outlet.

“I find it really special and feel very honoured when people share their own original music with me and then we start working on it together and collaborating,” Lefaive said. “With some people, we’ve gotten to the point of actually recording them singing and playing.”

Lefaive’s passion for music therapy is deeply rooted in her personal history. Coming from a musical family, she has been performing and touring with her family band, Ariko, since childhood. Music has always been a part of her identity as a person, but also her cultural identity as a francophone because their playlist includes so much traditional French Canadian music.

Her journey into this unique profession began at

Wilfrid Laurier University, where she studied music therapy and psychotherapy. After completing a nine-month student placement at Waypoint in 2021, Lefaive transitioned into a full-time role in 2022, thanks to the support of her manager, John Rodnick. Since then, she has continued to bring harmony and healing to patients through her work.

-30-

Photo: Kelly Lefaive, a Music Therapist at Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care, is an enthusiastic proponent of using music to help patients reach their health-related goals.

About Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care
Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care is a 315-bed academic and teaching hospital that provides specialized mental health, addiction and geriatric care. Located on the shores of Georgian Bay, we serve some of the most complex and disadvantaged individuals in Ontario and are the sole provider of high-secure forensic mental health services in the province.

Waypoint’s 1,300+ staff improve lives and bring hope to people with mental illness and substance use issues. The care we deliver on site, in the community and through partnerships is informed by our innovative practices and — importantly — patient voices. We are sponsored by the Catholic Health Sponsors of Ontario. Each patient’s journey is unique, and we support their recovery with compassion, dignity and inclusivity.

Waypoint staff are internationally recognized for their leadership and research, which they approach with professionalism and humility. This dedication deepens understanding of mental health and addiction, and helps to build a better future for patients, their families and care partners, staff, the community and the health care system

Contact: Travis Mealing, Communications Officer, 705-333-2552, tmealing@waypointcentre.ca

Foundation celebrates as \$4M fundraising goal achieved

Submitted by GBGH

March 5, 2025 – The Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation has completed the \$4-million fundraising campaign for a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine. After the hospital received approval of the operational funding for an MRI in early 2023, the Foundation began working with the community to provide the capital funding needed to make this important project a reality.

By December 2024, more than \$3-million had been raised, but it was a special matching gift from FDC Foundation that provided the final \$1-million impact. The private family foundation, based in Mississauga,

matched all donations to the MRI Fund up to a total of \$550,000.

“The support from the community for the MRI project has been truly inspiring, with more than 1,800 individuals, businesses and organizations making a donation,” says Nicole Kraftscik, CEO, GBGH Foundation. “We are incredibly grateful for every single gift, and especially to FDC Foundation for helping us achieve the goal in time for the completion of the new MRI suite later this month.”


Construction of the new MRI suite began in June 2024, and is expected to be completed by the end of March 2025. The addition to the hospital is a

2,500 square foot space that connects to the existing diagnostic imaging department, and incorporates the MRI, control area, separate waiting room, radiology office and staff breakroom.

“Our community is in desperate need of MRI services, with nearly 4,000 individuals having to travel to Barrie, Orillia and beyond each year,” says Mathew Lawson, president & CEO, GBGH. “That is why we have been pushing so hard to have the MRI up and running as quickly as possible. Adding this program at GBGH is going to reduce wait times across the region, and provide our patients with care close to home.”

Referrals from physicians for MRI services are already being accepted at GBGH (by fax and email), in anticipation of the opening of the department at the end of March. More information can be found on the GBGH website: <https://gbgh.on.ca/programs-and-services/diagnostic-imaging/>

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By Brian Keyes,

The Wilsons - A Founding Family

Mar 9, 2025 - In 1878 William & Sarah Wilson bought a 100 acre farm at west half Lot 3 Concession 7 Vespra Township fronting on the Golf Course Road. The land was cleared using oxen and they built a barn and house. They raised a family of nine children on this Wilson homestead so it is no wonder that today the Anten Mills area is “a lovin’ with Wilsons” as a good Irishman would say. The Wilson home was a place where the community gathered often with music featuring violins and the piano. One of their son’s Alexander, farmed next door and became Reeve of Vespra Township. His daughter Luella married Lawrence Scott whom we will meet in future editions. The youngest son, Edward Wilson took over the home farm in 1901.

Directly behind the Wilson Farm, James & Margaret (nee Binnie) Muir farmed after arriving from Scotland in 1873. Margaret came to be known as ‘Granny’ Muir. Her services as the local mid-wife were often needed in those early years delivering babies in Anten Mills. They had a large family and their daughter Margaret married Edward Wilson. This forever connected the Wilson-Muir-Binnie families resulting in a tradition of a family reunion that continues each year and has done so for the last 66 years without a miss! Edward and Margaret’s only son Lorne with his wife Dorothy took over the family farm in 1949.

Lorne Wilson was known locally as Laddie Wilson. The Scottish wing of the family referred to him as ‘the Lad’ and it stuck! Laddie ran a mixed farm with

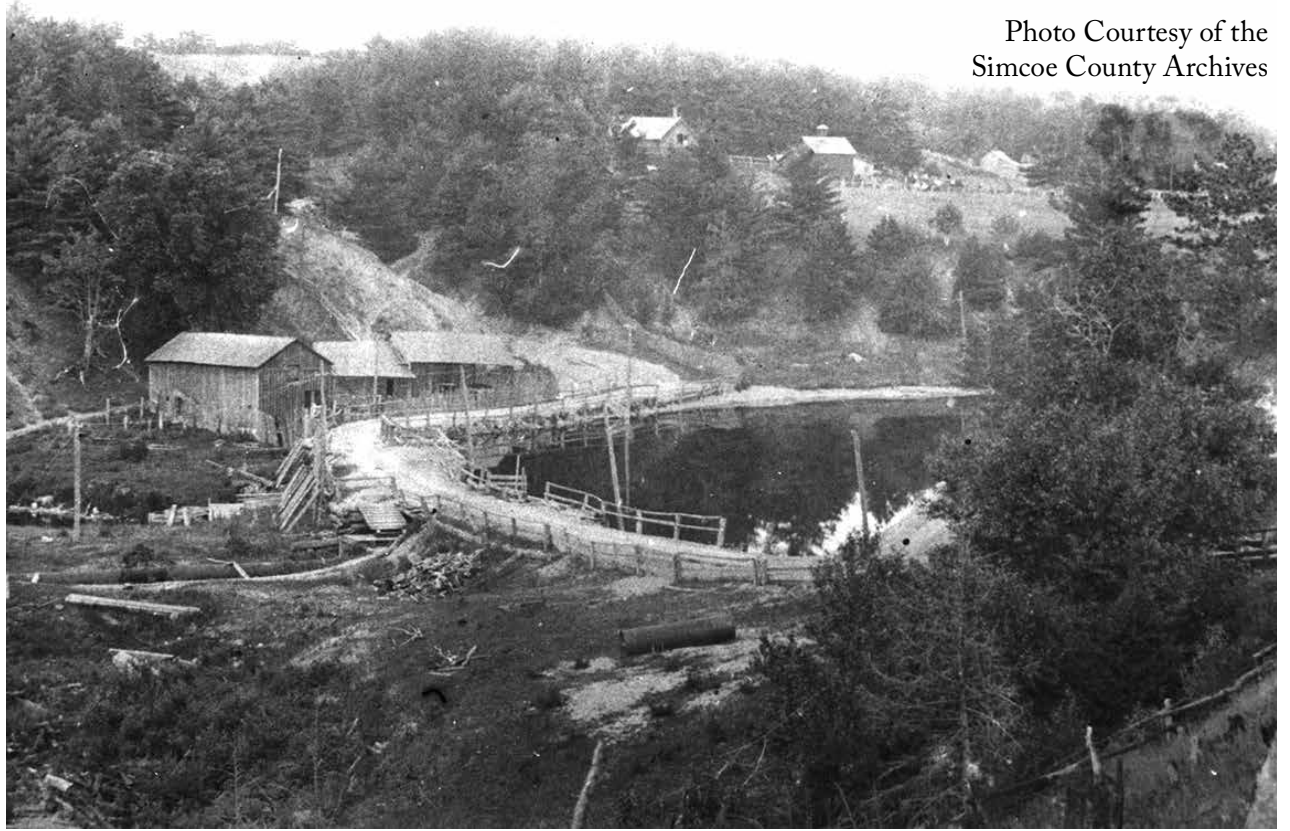


Photo Courtesy of the Simcoe County Archives

livestock & field crops. He recognized that some of his land was better suited for growing Christmas Trees. He and Dorothy had a growing family of 5 boys which supplied a ready workforce to prune & harvest the trees. Laddie sold Christmas trees in lots in Toronto at Jane/Lawrence plus in Barrie at both the Canadian Tire and Georgian Mall parking lots. Laddie served as school trustee for SS# 11/14 and Laddie/Dorothy taught Sunday School at the Anten Mills United Church. Laddie was on the inaugural executive of the Anten Mills Community Centre as chair of the Recreation Committee. Their first project was to build our first outdoor rink.

The Wilson’s farmhouse burned in 1970 and the family received tremendous support from family and friends rebuilding in just 2 years with lumber from the family farm.

On January 1, 1994 Springwater Township was created from Vespra Twp., Flos Twp. and the Villages of Elmvale and Hillsdale. To avoid duplications (two 7th Concession Roads), the 7th concession road of the



former Vespra Twp was named to honour the Wilson family as Wilson Drive. Wilson Drive bisects the old Vespra Township like a spine running north/south almost 12 Kms from Horseshoe Valley Rd to Sunnidale Rd near Barrie. This is a fitting tribute to the members of the Wilson Family from the past and today, many of whom still have Wilson Drive as their address.

In more recent years as the village grew the Adam’s subdivision added new streets. To honour a man who made an enormous contribution to this community, one of the streets was named Laddie Lane to recognize Lorne (Laddie) Wilson. We are forever grateful to this pioneer family.

ANTEN MILLS by Dennis Gannon

Mar 9, 2025 - The month of March certainly came in like a Lion with a mix of wild weather. Mild Spring like weather followed by blustery winds with blowing snow made it interesting for anyone attempting to travel. The mild temperatures have ended the outdoor rink season a bit earlier than hoped but this year was certainly one of the best that we have seen in a number of years. Thanks to those who made it possible, it was greatly appreciated by the community.

With Winter starting to fade away our thoughts turn to Spring. Spring Equinox is one week from today, next Thursday, March 20 at 5:01 AM.

If you are a late owl, and if the sky is clear tonight, March 13, you might want to go outside and check the sky. Starting at 11:57 PM, there will be a total lunar eclipse of the moon. This is called the Blood or Red Moon as the moon will look red. The maximum eclipse occurs just around 3 AM. If this doesn’t fit into your schedule, don’t be concerned as there will be a partial solar eclipse on March 29

Spring also brings Easter which is on April 20. One of the great traditions in our community on the Easter weekend is the Rabbit Run through the village followed by the Easter Egg Hunt. Held on the Saturday morning, April 19, the run and eggstravaganza have many from the community join in the fun. The morning also sees how generous they can be as donations for the Elmvale and District Food Bank are collected. As always these events do not occur without the involvement of our community members. Volunteers will be required and potential sponsors as well. More details will be announced soon on the Anten Mills Community Facebook page and here in this article. In the meantime now is the time to mark it on your calendar as it is an event that you won’t want to miss.

In 1875 the first school was constructed in our community. That building served the students who attended until 1892 when the school, our current

community centre, was opened. The school operated until 1972 when it became the Anten Mills Community Centre. With the construction of the school, Anten Mills became a community. To celebrate this milestone a celebration is currently being planned for Saturday, September 13. The committee is working diligently to ensure that this will be an event to remember. Brian Keyes is contributing historical information in the articles he is writing and can be found on this page. Brian is also in charge of creating the historical display which will be displayed on that day. He is looking for photographs, memorabilia, items or other materials that can be borrowed for the day. You can reach out to Brian by email, keyesguy1@gmail.com if there is anything you can contribute or want to discuss with him.

Anten Mills has an exclusive chapter of the “R” club. Members have contributed sometimes decades before they get to join. Their contribution to society has been greatly appreciated in whatever way they have contributed. Recently Greg Nell joined the club. He is now a full fledged member and joins his wife Bonnie who joined a bit earlier. Welcome Greg to the club and we wish you well as you move forward into the next chapter of your life.

March 17 is St. Patrick’s Day. It’s a day celebrated around the globe and is a provincial holiday in Newfoundland and Labrador. Green is worn or consumed almost everywhere that can be seen. In honour of the occasion it is appropriate to sign off with the Irish blessing. May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

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

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Jo Knows Nutrition by Joanne Nijhuis

Mar 10, 2025

Let's face it—Caesar salad is delicious, but the traditional version can be high in saturated fat and sodium. The good news? You don't have to sacrifice flavour with this lightened-up Caesar salad that delivers bold, garlicky goodness with heart-healthy fats and simple wholesome ingredients. Make it a complete meal with a handful of wholegrain croutons and some protein whether from lean meat, poultry, fish or vegetarian.

DID YOU KNOW?

Garlic isn't just a kitchen staple—it's a nutritional powerhouse! Used for centuries in cooking and natural medicine, this flavourful bulb offers so much more than a delicious kick to your tastebuds. Garlic has been linked with improved blood pressure and cholesterol levels, both of which are important for a healthy heart. Garlic also supports gut health and contains natural anti-inflammatory compounds that are beneficial to health and well-being.

INGREDIENTS

- 6 cups (180g) romaine lettuce, chopped
- ½ cup (125 ml) extra virgin olive oil

CAESAR SALAD REVAMPED A LIGHTER TAKE THAT'S BIG ON FLAVOUR



- 2-3 tablespoons (30-45 ml) lemon juice
- 1 tablespoon (15ml) white wine, rice or white vinegar
- 1 teaspoon (5ml) Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons (30 ml) grated Parmesan cheese or nutritional yeast
- 3-4 garlic cloves, finely minced or grated
- 1 teaspoon (5ml) Worcestershire sauce
- ½ teaspoon (2.5 ml) sea salt, optional
- ½ tsp (2.5 ml) freshly ground black pepper
- 2 slices whole-grain bread, cubed (for croutons)
- Optional - Cooked chicken, turkey, egg, fish, tempeh, edamame (immature soybeans) or chickpeas
- Garnish with freshly grated parmesan cheese, optional

INSTRUCTIONS

1. To prepare the croutons, preheat the oven to 375°F (190°C). Toss the whole-grain bread cubes with 1 tablespoon (15ml) olive oil and a pinch of

black pepper and salt, if using. Bake on an oven-safe tray for 10-12 minutes until golden brown. Set aside

2. For the dressing, whisk together in a small bowl the remaining olive oil, lemon juice, vinegar, Dijon mustard, Parmesan cheese or nutritional yeast, garlic, Worcestershire sauce, salt (optional), and pepper.

3. To assemble the salad, toss the chopped lettuce and croutons with the dressing and top with a protein of choice. Garnish with freshly grated parmesan cheese, if using. Serve immediately.

ENJOY!

Joanne Nijhuis MSc, RD is a consulting, media and culinary dietitian in Simcoe Grey Bruce on a mission to entertain and educate through her love of food. In addition to recipe development and writing for several publications, Joanne offers cooking demos/classes and individual counselling. For more information, email Joanne at jo.knows.nutrition@outlook.com

Midland bridge player, Josef Rabolt, celebrates 100!

Submitted by Vern Beacock, Mar. 10, 2025

North Simcoe Bridge and Games Club celebrates the 100th birthday of their longtime bridge player, Josef Rabolt.

Josef, who has two children, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, was born in Kormend, Hungary. Josef together with his wife Isolde and their two children immigrated to Canada in June 1958.

He lived and worked in Toronto until May 1973, when they moved to the Waubashene/PortSevern area.


In 2003, Josef and his wife moved to Midland. Sadly, Isolde died in 2008. Josef is a remarkably independent, active and determined individual. He lives on his own and until last year still drove but only within the town. He has good health, good eyesight and an acute mind.

Throughout the decades, he has lawn bowled and played golf, achieving two holes-in-one. Bridge is his longtime favourite pastime and he continues to play duplicate bridge every Thursday afternoon with the North Simcoe Bridge and Games Club located at 1157 Hwy 93.

On Thursday March 6, 2025, this happy event will be marked with a light lunch and birthday cake followed by a fun afternoon of duplicate bridge at Brooklea Golf and Country Club, 8567 Hwy 93 from noon to 4 pm


North Simcoe Bridge and Games Club President Gail Chapman noted, "At 100, Josef trumps the rest of us!"





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By Brian Belcourt, North Simcoe
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This photo was taken at a Save-On Foods store in Winnipeg, submitted by Canadian Cool Foods

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STRONG

North Simcoe Springwater News Reporter, March 10, 2025

Consumers have been supporting the Buy Canadian movement to identify if the product was produced in Canada. The sources were used in producing the product. The product from a Canadian Company. The clarity in our labelling standard has left other consumers confused, resulting in hampered efforts. Innovative apps like Shop Canadian, Check Canadian, and others have emerged to help bridge the knowledge gap. These apps help consumers to easily identify Canadian products and businesses. The apps and websites that help identify Canadian content of a product, can also help consumers find alternatives.

There are helpful resources to consumers: One app is named, "Buy Beaver". It was created by two people from Edmonton. It uses a bar code scanner to identify Canadian content in a product. Another app created by Calgary mother-son app designing team uses a bar code scanner to determine if the product is Canadian. If not, the app can provide a list of alternative products.

There is another app that uses bar code to scan the product to determine its origin. There is a website with resources about Canadian products that is crucial for many reasons. It boosts the local economy, provides environmental benefits, and enhances our health. It builds stronger community connections. Supporting local farmers ensures that your money stays in the community, helps job creation and supports families. It encourages sustainable farming practices and ensures that locally grown food is fresher and packed

with more nutrients. Building closer connections with farmers brings people together. It fosters a sense of community and trust. Knowing where your food comes from empowers you to make better choices for your family and the planet.

The North Simcoe area is very fortunate to have many farmer markets and stores that offer local grown products. Google Maps produced this list of local farm producers:

- Barrie Hill Farms
- Nicholyn Farms
- Harris Farms
- Birchs Farm
- Valley Farm Market
- Fosters Family Farm
- Farm to Door
- Browns Farms
- Johnson's Farmers Market
- Southern Georgian Bay Farmers Market
- Elmvale Farmers Market
- Wasaga Beach Farmers Market

The agriculture and agri-food sector is an economic powerhouse, supplying approximately 2.3 million jobs and contributing \$143.8 billion (7.4%) to Canada's GDP, and its continued competitiveness and sustainability are vital to a prosperous future for generations to come.

Why is it important to grow food locally in Canada?

Economic impact: Opting for local stores supports the economy and acknowledges the efforts of Canadian farmers and producers. Small-scale farmers usually earn less than large conglomerates. By eating locally, you directly support your community, helping to reinvest money within the regional economy.

Let's be Canada true north strong with our choices. Stand on guard with your wallets!



As Canada faces the greatest threat to our sovereignty since WWII, the effects of Donald Trump's threats are already being felt by most Canadians. As a proud Canadian-owned and operated company, we want to do our part to support Canadians. As a family we have decided to absorb all immediate increases in our costs due to the Trump-tariffs for the rest of the year to maintain our prices. We are actively looking internationally for alternative suppliers of ingredients that are unavailable within Canada. We will continue to reinforce Canadian-first policies within our operations, because together we are stronger. We will never be the 51st state!

– Ashley Chapman, Chief Operating Officer

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Mar. 10, 2025

Dear Neighbour,

Last week, President Donald Trump imposed massive 25% tariffs on Canada's exports.

Conservatives condemn these unjust and unjustified tariffs on Canada's economy.

Canada is the United States' closest neighbour, greatest ally, and best friend. We share the longest undefended border and fought alongside

Americans in two world wars, Korea, and Afghanistan, where 158 of our brave men and women died helping the U.S. avenge the 9/11 attacks. There is no justification whatsoever for this treatment.

Our message is clear: Canada will fight back. We will defend our people and our economy, and we will put Canada First.

Conservatives are calling on the Liberal government to recall Parliament immediately to pass a Canada First Plan that will:

- Retaliate with dollar-for-dollar tariffs carefully aimed at maximizing impact on American companies while minimizing impact on Canadian consumers. That means targeting U.S. products that we can make ourselves, buy elsewhere or do without.

- Put all the tariff revenues into help for affected workers and businesses. Government should not keep a dime of the new revenue.

- Pass a massive emergency Bring It Home Tax Cut to bolster the economy, stop inflation and save

and create jobs.

- Immediately scrap the Liberal anti-resource law C-69 and greenlight LNG plans, pipelines, mines, factories, and port expansions to overseas markets.

- Bring in truly free trade within Canada by knocking down interprovincial barriers to help replace lost north-south trade with east-west trade and to make us self-reliant.

- Rebuild our military and take back control of our borders.

We will protect our economy, defend our sovereignty, bring home production and paycheques and never back down. We will put Canada First—now and always.

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

Sincerely,

Doug Shipley

Member of Parliament

Barrie-Springwater-Oro-Medonte

Ontario Applies 25 Per Cent Surcharge on Electricity Exports to United States



Surcharge part of initial retaliatory measures that will remain in place until U.S. tariffs are removed for good

By Premier's Office, March 10, 2025

TORONTO — Effective today, the Ontario government has applied a 25 per cent surcharge on all electricity exports to the United States as part of the province's initial suite of retaliatory measures to U.S. tariffs on Canada. This surcharge will affect 1.5 million homes and businesses in Michigan, Minnesota and New York, costing up to \$400,000 every day the surcharge remains in place.

"President Trump's tariffs are a disaster for the

U.S. economy. They're making life more expensive for American families and businesses," said Premier Doug Ford. "Until the threat of tariffs is gone for good, Ontario won't back down. We'll stand strong, use every tool in our toolkit and do whatever it takes to protect Ontario."

Starting today, new market rules are in effect that require any generator selling electricity to the U.S. to add a 25 per cent surcharge valued at \$10 per megawatt-hour (Mwh) to the cost of power. At this level, the surcharge will generate revenue of \$300,000 to \$400,000 per day, which will be used to support Ontario workers, families and businesses.

The government will use every tool at its disposal to protect Ontario workers and families from President Trump's tariffs, including increasing this surcharge at any time or, if the U.S. escalates, cutting off electricity exports to the U.S. completely.

"For decades, Ontario has powered American homes, factories, offices and jobs, and we will not stand by as our vital electricity exports are taken for granted," said Stephen Lecce, Minister of Energy and Electrification. "In a time where prices

are going up for families in America, Canada and the United States should be working together to strengthen our trade and investment relationships to ensure a prosperous future for both sides of the border."

The new surcharge is in addition to the Government of Canada imposing an initial round of \$30 billion in retaliatory tariffs. In Ontario, LCBO, the largest buyer of alcohol in the world, has removed all United States products from its shelves, costing American producers \$1 billion in lost revenue. Ontario has also banned U.S. companies from participating in an estimated \$30 billion worth of annual government procurement.

Quick Facts

- Ontario currently exports electricity generated across the province directly to Michigan, New York and Minnesota.

- Between 2021 and 2023, Ontario exported 14.6, 14.2 and 12.0 terawatt hours of electricity to the United States.

- Ontario has 26 transmission connections with neighbouring jurisdictions: 11 with Quebec, three with Manitoba, one with Minnesota, four with Michigan and seven with New York.

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Angels With Backpacks

By Helmut Paddags, Mar 10, 2025

Volunteers from 'Angels With Backpacks' hosted the annual Pancake Supper at the Georgian Shores Seniors Club in Balm Beach on Shrove Tuesday. The Angels took this opportunity to show their appreciation to the club for the ongoing support for us to assemble survival backpacks for homeless people throughout this community. All the items on the table cost about \$150 and fit into the backpack.

For more information about Angels With Backpacks, please contact Helen at: angelswbackpacks@gmail.com



Can You Offer Our Artists a Temporary Home?

Submitted by Drayton Theatre

Feb. 2, 2025 - It takes a village to raise the curtain on Drayton Entertainment's productions, and that includes the community of Artist Housing Partners who play host to hundreds of performers and crew members every year. Teams of on-stage and behind-the-scenes professionals come from across the province – and beyond – to bring each season to life. And they couldn't do it without a welcoming place to call their temporary home.

The housing crisis affects everyone, and we're looking for bedrooms, apartments, basement or in-law suites, and houses to rent close to our theatres that will be a welcoming, temporary home for actors and creatives.

Becoming a housing partner with Drayton Entertainment is a great way to support the arts in your community.

Benefits of being an Artist Housing Partner:

- Unique and rewarding way to support the arts in your community
- Opportunity to connect with performers, musicians, directors, stage managers, and production crew
- Exclusive complementary tickets to see your artist(s) perform on stage
- Acknowledgement of your support on our website
- Contribute to your local tourism and community's economy

What we're looking for:

- Vacant furnished bedrooms, private apartments, basement or in-law suites, or vacant cottages close to one of our theatres
- Various lengths of stay depending on your venue's performance schedule
- Housing Rate of \$120 - \$150 per week, to help offset the increased cost of utilities

If you or someone you know is able to open up their home for even a short-term stay of a couple of weeks, it can make a big difference.

For more information or to sign up, please contact our Artistic Administrative Assistant, Stephanie at stephanie@draytonentertainment.com or call 519-621-5511 ext. 229.



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Day Trips: (Price includes meal, admission ticket & HST)

Tues., April 29 – Butterflies & Blooms – a Spring Day Trip

Includes: admission to the Niagara Butterfly Conservatory, lunch at the "Pillar & Post Hotel" in Niagara-on-the-Lake followed by free time on Main Street. A visit to the Watering Can Flower Market in Vineland will complete our day.



Cost: \$164.00

Wed., May 14 - La Vida Loca with the TSO Pops at Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto

Includes: table service lunch at "The Old Mill" followed by orchestra level seating for the 2:00p.m. performance. **Cost:** \$238.00

Thurs., May 29 - St. Jacobs Day Tour

Includes: a visit to the Market & Outlet Mall, lunch on your own at the Market, free time in the Village with stops at The Poultry Place & Picard Peanuts. An early evening dinner at "Anna Mae's Restaurant & Bakery" completes our day. **Cost:** \$118.00

Thurs., June 5 - Annie at Stratford Festival

Includes: lunch at "Anna Mae's Restaurant & Bakery" followed by the 2:00p.m. performance, orchestra level seating at the Festival Theatre. **Cost:** \$233.00

Sun., June 8 - Cirque du Soleil – OVO & Sunday Brunch at the Historic Old Mill, Toronto

Includes: Buffet Brunch followed by seating under The Big Top for 1:00p.m. performance. **Cost:** \$282.00

Thurs., June 19 – Shake Baby Shake, direct from Chicago at the Walters Music Venue

Includes: buffet lunch at "Quehl's Restaurant" in Tavistock, followed by the entertainment program at the Walters Music Venue near Bright, Ontario. **Cost:** \$184.00

Tues., July 22 – Blue Jays vs New York Yankees -7:07p.m. game

Includes: tickets in section 232 rows 5 to 11, parking at the Rogers Centre & motor coach transportation to the game. (No Meals) **Cost:** \$186.00

Sun., September 14 - Blue Jays vs Baltimore Orioles -1:37p.m. game

Includes: tickets in section 134, rows 26 to 29, parking at the Rogers Centre & motor coach transportation to the game. (No Meals) **Cost:** \$190.00

Overnight Tours

Contact the office for complete itineraries

May 6 to 9 - A European Inspired Southwestern Ontario Quilting Tour

May 20 to 22 - Springtime in Ottawa staying at the Fairmont Le Chateau Montebello



June 13 to 23 - Newfoundland – In the pursuit of Icebergs & National Park Beauty



August 21 to September 5 - Scotland featuring Highlands, Islands and Cities including the Edinburgh Tattoo

September 4 to 15 - Newfoundland - Experience the Geography & Culture

September 15 to 18 - Join us as we explore the Eastern Townships & the Three Pines Tour

September 23 to October 6 - Maritime Sampler - The Hidden Gems of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia

Departure Points include: Barrie, Bradford, Orillia, Alliston, Stayner & Wasaga Beach upon request



Call for a copy of our 2025 Tour Information



Bearbells

by
Leslie Noonan

February 25, 2025

The snow has finally stopped. That means it is time for a road trip, windows open, arm out the window, music pumping, and weird looks from the passing cars. Yep, this menopausal woman is out and about, feeling that the plus 3 temperatures are positively balmy. Georgian Bay is a solid white expanse, that is until Meaford where the bay is open water with occasional micro floes drifting by. I continued until Owen Sound, and the well known Inglis Falls. There is paid parking here, though I suspect people stop and jump out to capture the falls and jump back into their cars. They are missing out on a great area for hiking, snowshoeing and fat biking.

As soon as you step out of your car you can hear the roar of the waterfall. This is an 18-meter falls, which my photos do no justice for. The falls have a cap of heavy ice, and the water cascades under this ice to slam into the cold rocks below. I spent some time in reverence to this natural formation, before heading out to the many trails that crisscross this area. I chose the yellow trail, a short 2.9 km trail that follows the river and then heads into a mixed forest of cedar and elm. The weak winter sun struggled to shine through the thin grey clouds while off in the distance the occasional crow let out a loud caw, and nearby the chick-a-dee-dee call of a curious chickadee. The temperature was finally warming up, and the snow was soft and treacherous. Any step off the packed down trail resulted in a thigh high step into soft and wet snow. Eventually that wintery sun made a bright appearance, and with blue skies the snow became even softer, and drips of wet water let loose from the overhead branches. I am a woman of a certain age, and I run hot in the coldest



of weather. This hot sun shining down, had me removing my mitts and placing them over the handles of my poles. Next my hat came off, tucked into my pocket. Whew, still too hot, and the jacket is wrapped around my waist. Good lord, the only thing left to do is to lie naked in the snow, steam rising around me, as I sink several feet through the snow to the ground below. Ok, maybe that last comment is just a bit of an exaggeration, but I would have loved to do this to cool off. Instead, I will just have to contend with a pair of steamed up sunglasses and a red and sweaty face.

This conservation area was the site of a former grist mill, in use from 1843 until 1932 when it burned down. I admit that I had no idea what a grist mill is, and a quick google search informed me that it is essentially a building that grinds the corn and grains into flour. All



that now remains is the original stone family home. This is a great place for families, with washrooms and picnic area for use in the warmer weather. The 7.4 kilometers of trails are well maintained and marked, as well as providing access to the Bruce Trail. I headed home with that warm sun providing an easy drive, that is until the clouds closed in overhead, the snowbanks got bigger, and there it is, the ever-present falling snow. I must be back in Simcoe County!

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KINGS ELIMINATE OTTERS IN BACK-AND-FORTH QUARTER-FINAL PLAY-OFF ROUND



**Game 1 – Feb. 21
Player of the Game
Camron Hutchinson**

**Game 2 – Feb. 23,
Game 5 – March 1
Player of the Game
Cole Rumbolt**

**Game 3 – Feb. 26
Player of the Game
Riley Thayer**

**Game 4 – Feb. 28
Player of the Game
Landon Simec**

**Game 6 – March 2
Player of the Game
Tanner Thayer**

**Game 7 – March 5
Player of the Game
Carter Wilson**

Submitted by Jamie Robillard, Mar 9, 2025
The Penetang Kings eliminated the Huntsville Otters 4 games to 3 in their Provincial Junior Hockey League Carruthers Division quarterfinals play-off round as Carter Wilson scored the overtime winner in game 7 on Wednesday March 5th at the Penetanguishene Memorial Community Centre.

In what can be best described as a back-and-forth play-off battle between two closely matched squads, the Kings came out on top of Game 7 with a 5-4 overtime win. Wilson scored four goals in the game and was named the player of the game for his efforts. Penetang led by scores of 3-0 and 4-2 before the Otters tied the game 4-4 early in the third period. Also scoring for Penetang was Tanner Thayer with one goal and three assists. Landon Simec made 35 stops in the Penetang goal, many spectacular in nature to allow the game to get to overtime before Wilson on an offensive rush beat Huntsville netminder Darlan Willis on the short side with a rising shot just under the crossbar. Willis turned aside 36 Penetang shots.

With the win the Kings advance to the league semi-finals where they will face the regular-season champion Alliston Hornets.

After game seven Kings General Manager, Kyle Burns stated "it is rewarding to see this young team we have battle through the ups and downs of play-off hockey and especially against a tough Otters team. You must give full credit to them on a well-played series that truly either team could have won. It's been fun to watch our team grow as a group and as individuals and we look forward to continuing our journey against a very good Alliston hockey club."

Earlier in the series Penetang won game one, lost game two, came out on top in game three then lost both games four and five. Facing elimination, the Kings went into game six in Huntsville and won by a 5-3 score.

In game one on Friday February 21 the Kings got past the Otters by a narrow 4-3 margin. Max Geere, Noah Saye, Cole Rumbolt and Camron Hutchinson scored for Penetang. Hutchinson was selected as the Kings player of the game. Simec made 29 saves in the Kings goal, while Willis turned aside 29 short for the Otters.

In game two on Sunday February 23 in Huntsville the Otters turned the tables on the Kings with a 4-2

victory. Hutchinson and Rumbolt scored the Penetang goals, while netminder Simec made 31 saves. Rumbolt was named the Kings player of the game. Willis in the Huntsville nets stole the game for the Otters making 40 saves.

Back on home ice for game three on Wednesday February 26th the Kings prevailed with a 7-3 win as Ashton Kirwin scored two goals to lead the offense, Matthew Laframboise, Harrison Holroyd, Hutchinson, Saye and Rumbolt added single tallies for the Kings. Riley Thayer was named the Kings player of the game for his strong two-way play and his three assists. Simec recorded 32 saves in the win while Penetang fired 43 shots at Otters goaltenders Willis and Michael Purkhart.

Willis recorded the shut-out in games four for the Otters as they topped the Kings by a 2-0 score in Huntsville on Friday February 28th. Penetang could not beat Willis with a total of 34 shots while Kings netminder Simec turned aside 31 shots in the Penetang nets. Simec received the Kings player of the game honours. With the Huntsville win the series was tied at two games a piece and was now down to a best 2 out of 3 series.

In game five in Penetang on Saturday March 1st, the Otters scored the go-ahead goal midway through the third period and hung on for a close 5-4 win. Penetang got single goals from Rumbolt, Tanner Thayer, Laframboise and Wilson. Simec faced a total of 35 shots in the Penetang goal, while Willis saw 31 shots fired this was. Rumbolt was named the Kings player of the game.

Facing elimination in game six on Sunday March 2nd in Huntsville the Kings played a strong game winning 5-3 with Tanner Thayer scoring twice and single goals from Geere, Rumbolt and Wilson. Thayer with his two goals and one assist performance was named the Kings player of the game. Penetang's offence was clicking in this game as they managed 48 shots on the Otter's goalie Willis. Simec made 37 saves in the Kings net.

Notes: To show just how close the series was the Kings managed to outscore the Otters by just three goals (27 to 24).

Before game seven the Carruthers Division handed out two individual awards to Kings players, defenseman Max Geere as Rookie of the Year and Landon Simec as

the Division's Goalie of the Year.

In the other divisional quarterfinals, the Alliston Hornets swept the Muskoka Bears 4 game to 0, the Orillia Terrier also swept the Midland Flyers in four games and the Stayner Siskins got past the Innisfil Spartans 4 games to 1.

VS Alliston in League Semi-Finals

The King now faces Alliston in the league semi-finals with game one in the series having been played on Friday March 7th in Alliston with Penetang dropping a close 3-2 decision to the Hornets. Penetang goals were scored by Carter Wilson and Ashton Kirwin. Simec made 51 saves in goal for the Kings.

Game two is scheduled for Penetang on Monday March 10th at 8:00 pm followed by game three in Alliston on Wednesday March 12th at 7:30 pm and game four back in Penetang on Friday March 14th at 8:00 pm. If game five is required, it will be played on Saturday March 15th at 7:30 pm in Alliston. Game 6 on Sunday March 16th in Penetang at 8:00 pm and game seven in Alliston on Monday March 17th are both if necessary.



Max Geere and Landon Simec Receive their Awards



Landon Simec Standing Tall

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				6				5	
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Community Events - Ongoing

SENIOR CLUBS

Askennonia Seniors Centre

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

Bay Shore Seniors' Club

2000 Tiny Beaches Road S., Woodland Beach
Call 705-361-1331 or info@bayshoreseniors.ca

Georgian Shores Seniors Club

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

MONDAY

Midland Jam

Mondays 6:30-10 pm Free, Bring food bank item,
1st come, first 15 minute play
Midland Cultural Centre, 333 King St, Midland

Elmvale Seniors Drop In

Monday's
10 am - 12 noon
Elmvale Library. Call Lynn for info, 705.322.3309

Bid Euchre

Elmvale Community Hall 1 pm - 4 pm
Every Monday.
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
Fun Fit Circuit, 9:15-10:15am
Coffee Break, 10:30-12pm
Intro to Line Dancing- Baby Steps, 10:35-11am
Walking Club, 11 am-12pm

TUESDAY

Elmvale Legion

Tuesdays at 1 pm
Table Shuffleboard, Cost \$1

Palace Tavern Elmvale BINGO

Every Tuesday night
Midland Rotary proceeds 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Barrie Rotary proceeds 8 pm to 9:30 pm

Bay Shore Seniors Club

Billiards/Pool 10:00 – 12:00 p.m.
Indoor Pickleball 1:00 - 2:30 pm
Bid-Euchre – 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

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

Badminton, 1pm-3pm
1:30 Circle of Friends, 1:30pm-2:30pm

WEDNESDAY

Bay Shore Seniors Club

LifeStyles - 9:00 - 10:30 am
Bridge – 12:30 – 4:00 p.m.
Access Art - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m
Indoor Pickleball - 4:00 - 6:00 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

Step Class, 9 am-10am
Chair Yoga, 9:30am-10:30am
Cribbage, 10am-11am
Men's Shed, 10am-12pm
Walking Club, 11am-12pm
Creative Crafting, 1pm-3pm

THURSDAY

Jam Night Elmvale Palace

Thursdays at 9 am-1am

13 Queen St. W, Elmvale , 705-322-1741

Probus Club of Simcoe North

Meetings monthly 2nd Thurs. 10 a.m
For women & men in retirement or semi-retirement.
Penetang Legion, 2 Poyntz St.
Mary Grise 705-526-6349 marygrise0@gmail.com

Coffee Party

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

Bay Shore Seniors' Club

Choir 10-11:30 am
Book Club (4th Thurs) 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Darts 2:00 - 4:00 pm
2000 Tiny Beaches Road S., Woodland Beach
Call 705-361-1331 or info@bayshoreseniors.ca

Georgian Shores Seniors Club

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

Let's Do Lunch \$5:

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

Connecting Together - Fellowship with Others

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

Wasaga Beach Parkinson's Support Group

1st Thursday of each month 12:30-2:00 p.m.
Wasaga Beach Public Library meeting room
All persons living with Parkinson's Disease and their care partners are welcome. For more info. contact Dwight (705) 795-6952 or Phil at Bender.philip@gmail.com

FRIDAY

Bay Shore Seniors' Club

VON Smart Exercise (FREE) 9:30 - 10:30 am
Woodcarving 10:00 - 3:00 pm
Billiards/Pool 10:00 - 12:00 pm
Indoor Pickleball 10:30 - 12:00 pm/ 3:30 - 5:00 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
Drumming Alive, 9am-10am
Pickleball, 9am-11:30am
Chair Yoga, 9am-10am
Badminton, 9:30am-11:30am
Game Club, 10am-11am
Tabata, 9am-10am
Card Making, 1pm-3pm

SATURDAY

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)

SUNDAY

Bay Shore Seniors' Club

Indoor Pickleball 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Good Vibes

First Sunday 2-5 from 2 to 5 p.m.
An open-mic music event. For winter months,
relocated to Hackney Horse Bed & Breakfast, 3276
Penetanguishene Rd. near Craighurst. \$5 donation,
tea, coffee & baking at a small extra cost.

MONDAY to FRIDAY

S.M.A.R.T Exercise Program with V.O.N.

Mon 9:30-10:30am
1724 Mosley St - Hall 1A Recplex gym
Wed & Fri 1:00 - 2:00 pm 44 River Road West
Re/Max Room (Stars Arena)

Low Impact Gentle Fitness Program

VON SMART Program
Adults 55+ FREE
Mon. 9am @ Springwater Room (arena)
Wed. 9am @ Elmvale Community Hall

Fri. 11am @ Elmvale Community hall

Also available – pole walking at Heritage Park on Wednesdays 9:15am

Times and locations all subject to change.
Bring good support (running) shoes and water
Call 705-355-2200 to register or walk ins

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 Gail Chapman @ 705-361-9222 or
northsimcoebridge@gmail.com.

Ganaraka Hiking Club-Wasaga Beach

Wed hikes 09:15-09:30am at various locations,
year round. Also a casual hike, same time. Winter
can be snowshoes. Weekly, hikes **Sunday 1:30pm**
from a park near Foodland, WB. Weekly, Monday
morning bike tours from various locations. Seasonal.
Please contact Lorraine for info. 416-606-5081. Or
lorvanvlymen@gmail.com

Special Events - One Time

Adventures in Time Travel

March Break at the Museum

Mar. 10-16 from 10am - 4pm
Travel back in time at Sainte-Marie among the
Hurons! \$12.00 per person

Bounce Bonanza

March 12 to 15th 10 am to 5 pm
Bradford Greenhouses Garden Gallery
4346 County Rd 90, Springwater
Inflatable fun for the whole family!

St. Patrick's Day Pub, Bay Shore Seniors Club

March 15, 2025 from 1 - 4 pm
Cost \$20.00 Includes lunch
Chili or Pulled Pork with Salad/Dessert
Music by D.J. Marty Carlisle.
Call to reserve 705 361-1331

Trivia Fun-Fun

March 19, 2025 7 pm

Elmvale Legion, 7 John St. Elmvale
Reserve a table for 6 people as a tteam or come
individually and you will be placed on a team.
Cost \$5

Sweetwater Harvest Festival - Wye Marsh

Wildlife Centre

March 22 & 23, 2025

Escape to a time when maple syrup was made over
an open fire, Experience our history and explore
nature at its best. www.wyemarsh.com

MCC PRESENTS: Danny Michel

March 21st at 7:30pm

Canadian musician Danny Michel is a musical
adventurer blending folk, rock & world influences
with infectious energy! midlandculturalcentre.com

MCC PRESENTS: James Keelaghan

March 23rd at 8:00pm

JUNO-winning singer-songwriter known for
his poetic storytelling and powerful ballads.
midlandculturalcentre.com

Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival

April 5-6, 2025, 8:30-4:30pm

Tiffin Conservation Area, 8195 8th Line, Utopia
Admission includes a pancake and sausage
breakfast with fresh maple syrup. Visitors can also
learn traditional and modern methods of making
maple syrup, interact with exotic animals, watch
dog agility demonstrations, and ride a tractor
wagon through the forest. See cadets, live music,
meet-and-greets with firefighters, paramedics,
conservation officers, and much more! \$20 for
adults, \$15 for children between 3-12 and free
for children 2 and under. Groups of four for \$65.
Visitors can also build their own bird box for \$10.
705-424-1479

Rabbit Run and Easter Egg Hunt

Sat. April 19, 2025 10am start

More Details to follow.

Georgian Bay Quilters Guild Quilt Show

April 26 to April 27 10am - 4pm

Penetanguishene Arena, 61 Maria St. Wheelchair
Accessible, Cost: \$8.00 per person
Website: www.gbqg.ca

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Call Francis 705-322-1741

to check availability

MEETING



E.D.G.E. March Meeting

Soil Prep & Plant Veggies

Isaac Fortune from Springwater Garden Centre

Wednesday, March 26, 7:00 p.m.

Elmvale Legion, upstairs

Please Lug A Mug

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for Auction Dates & Details



Sharewear All Seasons Fashion Show

April 5 at the Elmvale Community Hall from 2-3:30.

Tickets at the ECC or Sharewear and the Elmvale Library. Tickets are \$10.

Free desserts and door prizes.

AUCTION NOTICES



Upcoming Auctions

- Lisenchuk Moving Auction - Hanover (Mar 9 - 13)
- The Estate of William Ennis Auction - Guelph (Mar 9 - 13)
- Sears Moving Sale - Oro-Medonte (Mar 16 - 20)
- Pot of Gold Coin & Jewellery - Guelph (Mar 16 - 20)
- Turnkey Fishing Business - Guelph (Mar 16 - 27)
- Curl for a Cause - Aboyne Rural Hospice - (Mar 22)
- Spring Awakens Multi-Consignor - Guelph (Mar 23 - 28)

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THANK YOU

I would like to thank everyone for all the phone calls, visits and all the food that has come into our house. Every morsel has been enjoyed and Bob also wants to thank everyone that made meals for him to heat up so that he did not have to make it. I've been home after one month in hospital. I was glad to get home. Who would think a broken hip would take so long? Thanks again, Sandy Coe.

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2025 Registration is Now Open

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www.pmmhbl.ca

email: pmmhbl@hotmail.com

phone: **705-717-1632**

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Cheezers Co-ed Soccer Registration

Registration for soccer for ages 3 - 15 yrs old is at the Springwater Library, Elmvale:

10:30 am - 1 pm
March 29 (Open to ALL)
Limited spaces available
\$50 per player

Starting Thursday May 8 at 6:30 pm

Call **Doug Tinney 705-322-3239** for more information or email: elmvalesoccer@gmail.com.
The soccer play time is at 6:30 pm

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200 Years of Midhurst

by Greg Barker, Mar 5, 2025

The Midhurst Community Recreation Association, in December, formally recognized the year 2025 as the 200th anniversary of the founding of Midhurst.

There had been indigenous settlements in the Midhurst area well before 1825. The Huron (or Wendat) people, for some time, occupied what is today North Simcoe. Archaeological remains of several Huron villages have been found in and near Midhurst. These villages, however, were not permanent. The Hurons typically occupied a site for about ten to 15 years before moving on to a new location.

In the mid-1600s, the Iroquois (from south of Lake Ontario) invaded the Huron territory. Hurons who weren't either killed or abducted by the Iroquois, fled far away. Nobody is then known to have again settled in Midhurst until the 1800s.

Vespra township (roughly the south half of today's Springwater) was largely surveyed in 1820. The surveyors identified a promising mill site on Willow Creek.

In April 1825, the government of Upper Canada issued to George Oliver, Thomas Mair and John Mair a "location ticket" for Lot 12 in Concession 4 of Vespra. This Lot, which included the mill site, comprised 200 acres in the midst of a vast forest.

The location ticket allowed the three men to settle

on Lot 12 and to eventually receive title to the property upon satisfying various conditions. The most significant condition was that they build a grist mill (for grinding grain into flour) and operate it for at least seven years. In an era of smaller and simpler government, this was a technique to incentivize individuals to provide needed infrastructure.

Oliver and the Mair brothers began in 1825 by building a sawmill on Willow Creek. This provided lumber for building the grist mill and other structures such as dwellings and sheds. The grist mill in turn – the first one north of Holland Landing – was reportedly up and running by about 1827.

In the following years, Oliver's Mills, as the bustling place was known, attracted other people and enterprises. These included more mills, a whisky distillery, a soap factory, a wheelwright, a blacksmith, a general store, the township hall, churches, and a school. A post office opened in 1862 under the name of Midhurst (after a town in Sussex, England), and soon the whole community was known by that name. Midhurst even became, in 1888, the site of the region's first electricity-generating plant.

Midhurst has continued to evolve. By the late-1800s, as water-powered mills became increasingly obsolete, many of Midhurst's industrial and commercial operations were disappearing. Midhurst then became a small service centre and social hub for the surrounding farmlands. For several decades starting in the early-1920s, it was also an important tree nursery centre, supporting Ontario's reforestation programs. For about the past six decades or so, it has more and more developed into a suburban residential district.

Today, Midhurst remains a proud and thriving community – and it all started 200 years ago with George Oliver and the Mair brothers!

North Simcoe Springwater News Found in Manual Antonio, Costa Rica.



On March 1, 2025 Editor Linda Belcourt and Reporter Brian Belcourt are found holding the North Simcoe Springwater News.

Report from Wyevale Community

Submitted by Karen Moreau, Mar 9, 2025

Wyevale Softball: Registration is open for softball. If you wish to register, go to the web site for further information.

Tiny Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt: Good Friday April 18th, 2025 Wyevale Park. Registration is from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Bring your own basket and a donation for the food bank.

Bible study: every Wednesday at 2 pm in the church basement. We are studying the book of revelations.

Youth Group: Students from Grade 2 to 8 are

welcome from 7 to 9 pm. A donation of a toonie to cover snack costs would be welcomed. Contact Pat 705-543-9043 for more information.

Wyevale United Church Sunday morning worship schedule: March 16th 2025, Rev. Bonnie Kelly, March 23rd. Rev. Cathleen Greidanus. Service is a 10:00 a.m. All are welcome.

Registration for summer activities: Parks and Recreation activity guide available April 3, 2025, on the portal www.tiny.ca/playportal.

Sympathy to all those who have lost a loved one in the last little while.

If you have anything you would like to report in the article, please contact me. Moreau1949@rogers.com

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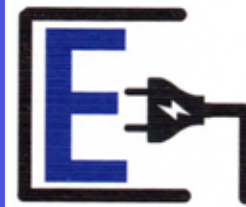
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North Simcoe Springwater News

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Springwater's parks and recreation master plan in limbo

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Mar 08, 2025

Springwater's parks and recreation master plan will remain an orphaned idea for at least a few more weeks after township council refused to adopt it Wednesday night.

Coun. Danielle Alexander recommended the plan be deferred because she was concerned with one of the 93 recommendations that the plan contained — dissolving the township's community recreation associations (CRAs).

Identified as a long-term objective — to be completed in seven years or more — the plan recommends, as staffing resources allow, the township phase out the individual CRAs and centralize the control to the township to streamline operations, funding and support objectivity.

The plan also recommends that the transitioning from individual CRAs to full municipal control should be supported by the creation of one community recreation advisory committee with representation from each of the existing CRAs, if feasible.

"While there are many great recommendations in the plan, the one that personally concerns me the most, and the one that I have received concern about the most, is the end goal of dissolving the CRAs and having the township take over that recreation piece," Alexander said.

"CRAs are volunteers, perhaps our biggest group of volunteers, throughout this township who have worked tirelessly over decades," she added. "To me, the events we hold through the CRAs is what makes our community so unique. An event in Phelpston is going to be different from an event in Midhurst."

How this could affect local events remains to be seen. "If we get to the point where those are dissolved then we are going to have very standardized events and I think that takes away from what Springwater can offer," Alexander said.

The councillor recommended township staff host a meeting/workshop with the township's CRAs to gain their feedback and incorporate that feedback in the plan before council adopts it.

According to township staff, that's already been done. While Briana Dean, manager of parks and recreation for the township, couldn't remember the exact timeline, she told council that all of the CRAs were invited to a workshop hosted by the parks and recreation master



plan consultants.

"I believe there was representation from all of the CRAs," Dean told council. "I don't think the Elmvale CRA was active at the time. Additionally, we hosted a number of open houses, workshops and an online survey."

During his presentation of the draft of the parks and recreation master plan during a special session of council two weeks ago, on Feb. 19, plan author Jon Hack, who's the director of Sierra Planning and Management, told council his firm contacted 63 community groups and more than half of them responded.

"It's notoriously difficult to get everyone to respond," Hack told council during the Feb. 19 presentation. "Of course, the usual sort of refrain, and I say it just tongue-in-cheek, is we try our best to get outreach to people and then, when we do that, there's always someone who says, 'I didn't know about it.'"

He added that his planning team had individual meetings with the township's CRAs.

Coun. Matt Garwood struggled with the deferral.

"I think what we have in front of us is multiple years worth of work, a significant investment by the taxpayer, by this council and especially our staff and the consultant," he said. "I would hate to push it along, understanding the significant importance of recreation, parks and facilities within our municipality."

"At the end of the day, (recreation, parks and facilities) director (Dean) Collver, I believe, did answer it. Most of, if not all of these recommendations, would require council direction and approval to proceed regardless," Garwood added.

Township council voted unanimously to defer until staff conduct a workshop with all of the township's CRAs on the draft 2025 parks and recreation master plan.

Hey Dads!

Have you won anything yet? It's that time of year all across Canada! I bought a coffee the other day and...rolled up the rim! My 11-year-old son, Justice, was with me at the time. I think our daddy duty is to let our kids roll up those rims. Justice was keen to start rolling. Such mystery. Such intrigue! Such excitement...unless those heart-breaking words appear, "Please play again".

Justice would not be forlorn because he knew there were many more rims to be rolled. He went to watch his cousins play hockey at the nice, big community center the other day. One of the cousins, Eagle-Eye, spotted an un-rolled rim in a garbage can. Eagle-Eye was unable to resist the temptation of an unrolled rim and quickly snatched the cup from its resting place. Did he care that someone else's lips had been all over that rim? No way! Let the rolling begin! He tore off the lid, threw it back in the trash and began to unroll the slimy, cream-coloured paper. This free bonus roll would open up a whole new world of opportunity to the small gang of cousins gathered at the arena that day. Eagle-Eye hit the jackpot with that wonderful phrase in both English and French proclaiming to the world, "WIN/GAGNEZ | COFFEE/CAFE". The cousins celebrated.

Suddenly it hit them. If Eagle-Eye found one unrolled rim abandoned in the trash, how many other orphaned rims were lying forgotten and discarded around the arena? The opportunities were endless. Without asking for permission or advice from their parents the gang scattered at a frenzied pace targeting every trash can in sight. At one point Eagle-Eye said something like, "The one tough thing about this mission is trying hard not to be embarrassed by people watching you." He later

found a secret room at the community center and suggested that the gang drag the garbage cans into the secret room before scouring them for unrolled rims. I don't believe this part of the plan ever materialized.

The rest of the search yielded no more results but a few days later the cousins were to meet up again when they visited Grandpa in the hospital. Their luck was about to change. A volunteer had brought cartons of free coffee to the hospital that afternoon and the garbage bins were overflowing with unrolled rims! The gang strategically searched each floor of the hospital, the lobbies, and even the parking lot for the treasure of all treasures, free coffee and donuts (and maybe a vehicle, cash or an ATV!) Eagle-Eye and the crew all walked away with prizes that day as they scooped up five free coffees, a free donut and a bonus McDonald's peel sticker to scan for prizes. No cousins in the search party left empty-handed!

When the kids came and told us of their winnings we were happy for them...and somewhat concerned. I commented to another dad that I wasn't sure hospital trash was the best thing to search through. Then I realized the gang had helped themselves to the free latex gloves in the boxes on walls all over the hospital. Safety first, I guess.

Dad, I hope you get some winnings from your rims this year and I hope you don't have to search through the trash to do it. Time flies! Make every moment count! Especially the unrolling ones!

Jason Weening sometimes buys hot drinks for his 10 kids and one wife. Buy his new book about the injuries and adventures of dadhood at HEYDADS.ca.




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OBITUARIES



REYNOLDS, Camilla Bernadette (nee Moran)

In Loving memory of Bernadette Reynolds, December 29, 1933 – February 15, 2025.

It is with much sadness that we share that Bernie passed away at her home in Toronto, Ontario on Saturday February 15, 2025.

She was surrounded by a strong community of supportive neighbours, friends, caregivers and family who honoured her wish to live out her final days in her home in the East York community she loved and knew so well. Her family extends profound gratitude for all of the love and support this community offered her to keep her safe and comfortable in her home. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the VHA PSW's and Buddy Services Caregivers who supported our mother in this final phase of her life.

Bernie was 91 and was born in Phelpston, Ontario Youngest sister to Margaret Belcourt, Mary Stone, Joan Kennedy, Jack Moran, Eugene Moran, Gerard Moran and Patrick Moran. All who predeceased her.

Bernie was the dear Mother of Sharon Reynolds, Anne Nasello (Mike Nasello), Michael Reynolds (Kathy Reynolds), Lorraine Reynolds (Johnny Graham).

Bernie had many fond memories of time spent with her grandchildren Chantelle Macey, Victoria Petersen, Michael Nasello, Christopher Reynolds, Craig Nelson, and Kyle Nelson.

She was also an adoring Great Grandmother to Harriet Macey, and Gwen Macey.

Bernie was known for her kindness, generosity, and quick wit that was the foundation for many joyous kitchen parties and sometimes dances!!

She was a keen card player and enjoyed many euchre games at her kitchen table with friends and family. She often touted that her greatest accomplishment in life was her children and the extended family she enjoyed throughout her life.

Bernie will be laid to rest alongside her parents, siblings, and other relatives at St. Patrick's cemetery in Phelpston, Ontario on May 24, 2025.

In lieu of flowers, a donation in Bernie's memory to Covenant House in Toronto would be her wish.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Lynn-Stone Funeral Home. Messages to the family may be left at <http://www.lynnstonefuneralhome.com>.



PRIEST, Margaret (nee Swinton)

February 22, 1932 - February 21, 2025 - It is with great sadness that the family of Margaret Priest announce her passing on February 21st at the age of 92 at Grove Park Nursing Home in Barrie. With sadness in


loss comes peace, knowing that Margaret is in the arms of her husband, Howard Clair Priest, and her sons Howard (Alice) and Louis (Geraldine) Priest. Margaret will be lovingly remembered by her daughter, Constance Huggins, her grandchildren, Jennifer (Guillermo) Carpio-Priest, Jim (Kelly) Priest, Natalie Priest, Chantal Keeting, Katlynn (Tony) Malatesta, Corey Huggins, Matthew (Sadie) Priest, Adam Priest, and Andrew Priest, and by her 9 great-grandchildren. Margaret will also be missed by many cousins, nephews, nieces, and friends, with special mention to her nephew, Bruce (Anna) Nelson, who was a constant source of adventure and friendship.

Born in Stayner, Ontario to Louis and Pearl (nee Innis) Swinton as the youngest of nine sisters, Margaret enjoyed the special distinction of being "daddy's little girl." Margaret and Clair raised their family on their farm in Minesing. A proud homemaker who whipped-up holiday-sized meals each day for her family and the farmhands, Margaret's cooking was loved by all and never skimped on the salt or butter. The only rival to Margaret's abilities in the kitchen was her unofficial position as a professional shopper. She has the fabulous wardrobe to prove it. A faithful parishioner of St. Peter's Anglican Church in Minesing, a Florida snowbird, and a traveller, Margaret enjoyed these moments to the fullest, and always did so in song. After spending over 70 years on the ninth line, her final years were spent at Blue Mountain Manor and Grove Park Nursing Home. A very grateful thank you to the wonderful staff at Grove Park Home for their love and kindness to Margaret in her time of need and care.

Friends and family were received at ADAMS FUNERAL HOME, 445 St. Vincent St. Barrie on Friday, March 7, 2025 from 12 to 4 pm with light refreshments. Interment at Minesing Union Cemetery and a small family gathering on the farm will be held in the spring. Memorial donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.


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

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OBITUARIES



BLOMBERG, Ann Louise
December 27, 1959 – February 28, 2025

Ann Louise Blomberg passed away peacefully at Georgian Bay General Hospital in Midland surrounded by the love and support of her family on February 28, 2025, after battling cancer for two years.

Ann is lovingly remembered by her husband Owen Harries, her two children Gregory (Kate) and Gillian (Thomas), sister Patricia (Darryl), brother Andrew (Sandra), and her mother Sara Blomberg. She was predeceased by her father, Ryk (Richard) Blomberg.

Ann graduated from Queen's University with a Bachelor of Nursing degree in 1982. She worked in Edmonton as an RN in 1982 but soon realized that she was ready for another challenge. She attended McMaster Medical School 1983 – 1986 and completed Family Practice internship and residency at McMaster University 1986 – 1988. She worked at Waypoint Centre for Mental Health from 1988 until retirement in May 2022. She specialized in Geriatric Psychiatry and Dual Diagnosis (Developmentally Delayed)

Ann's proudest accomplishment was raising Greg and Gillian, which was in her words, "a humbling experience." As a mother she encouraged sports and music and a love of the outdoors.

She loved being in nature and endeavoured to go outdoors as often as she could. Her favourite place was Awenda Provincial Park where she has fond memories of camping with friends, and hiking and cross-country skiing with Nancy Hargrave.

She was an accomplished classical pianist. She took up piano lessons again in her fifties to learn different genres of music such as jazz and Latin. To overcome performance anxiety, she performed in recitals and the Midland Music Festival.

Ann had a strong Christian faith. She was loved and supported by her Friends in Faith and Knox Church Midland family. Her verse to live by was, "I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me," Philippians 4:13.

She loved to travel and to learn the history of new places. She was especially close to Mary and Stephen Barber with whom she and Owen went on many ski trips as well as trips to Italy, France, Costa Rica, and Vancouver Island for her retirement.

She would like to thank the many friends and family who brought food for her and Owen, drove her to appointments, prayed, sent flowers, and cleaned the house. You know who you are!

The family would like to thank Dr Sara Rask of the Hudson Regional Cancer Program for her excellent collaborative care, Dr Laura Macrae, and Palliative Nurse Kirsten Holland.

Please join us to celebrate and share memories of Ann on Friday, March 7 at the visitations: 1-2 pm (family members), 2-4 pm (public) or 6-8 pm (public) at Nicholls Funeral Home, 330 Midland Ave, Midland. There will be a service to celebrate Ann's life on Saturday, March 8 at 11 am in the chapel at Nicholls Funeral Home, followed by a reception. Those unable to attend in person may view the service via livestream or later via recording.

The family requests that any donations be given to one of the following organizations that were important to Ann: The Canadian Cancer Society, Knox Presbyterian Church Midland, the Hudson Regional Cancer Centre in Barrie, and Georgian Bay General Hospital in Midland.

ORR, George Franklin "Frank"

Passed away at the Georgian Bay General Hospital in Midland on Wednesday, March 5, 2025. Frank Orr of Elmvale in his 82nd year. Beloved husband of the late Doreen Orr (nee Peacock). Loved father of Kevin Orr and Tammy Orr. Dear grandfather of Dalton Orr. Frank is survived by his sisters, Marilyn Pompeo (Armand) and Joyce Schaly (Ari).

A visitation will be held at the Lynn-Stone Funeral Home in Elmvale from 6-8 pm on Wednesday, March 12, 2025. A funeral service will be held in the chapel on Thursday, March 13 at 1 pm.

Spring interment at West Oro Baptist Cemetery.

Memorial donations in Frank's memory may be made to the Georgian Bay General Hospital or the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

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



TURNER, Lloyd Noel

(Lloyd) Noel Turner passed away peacefully on the morning of February 28, 2025 at Georgian Bay General Hospital after a long battle with mental illness and a short battle with Cancer. Noel was in his 66th year. He is the beloved son of Florence

Isabel Turner (ne Currie) and Lloyd Everett Turner (predeceased). Noel is survived by Paul (Emily) Turner, Jeff (Karen) Turner and Patricia (Bob) Hurst. Noel had 8 nieces and nephews who he loved very much, Carla, Alanna, Jenna, Sarah, Jessica, Victoria, Brandon and Bobby. He is also survived by great nieces and nephews, Jase, Jacob, Emerson, Elliott, Abigail, Grayson and Bennett.

Noel worked for many years as a welder in various shops in the area. He also worked on the dairy farm most of his life.

Interment at Allenwood Cemetery. There will be a Graveside service in the Spring.

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

HIRING



Solly Family Dentistry is looking to welcome a **new Full Time Dental Receptionist** to our team. We are looking for someone who is energetic and detail oriented with excellent communication skills. Your responsibilities will include managing duties of front desk operations, scheduling appointments, and maintaining patient records. Knowledge of *Tracker* dental software is an asset. For more information, please contact Kari @ kari.sfd.elmvale@gmail.com.

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ALDERSON, Marshall & Larry

We are saddened to announce the passing of Marshall Alderson, age 69, on November 21, 2024, and his older brother Larry Alderson, age 74, on February 14, 2025. Both brothers fought lengthy illnesses.

Survived by brother Ron (Anne), and stepbrother Ernie (Donna). Predeceased by parents Bertha and Norm, and sisters Julia, Nancy, and Betty.

Cremation has taken place. A private interment will occur in the spring.

90th BIRTHDAY PARTY

The family of **Myrtle Jamieson**

invite you to celebrate her **90th birthday on March 29 2025** from **1:30 pm – 4 pm** at the Elmvale Presbyterian Church, 22 Queen St E, Elmvale.

Best wishes only.

Refreshments and appetizers will be served.

Arbor Memorial
Legal Will Guide

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Seniors Community **OUTREACH**

Helping Seniors Age Well at Home

Information, Services, Programs
and Events for Seniors

Stay Active - Stay Connected!



Genealogy & Old Newspapers

Linda Corupe will guide participants through finding genealogical information in old newspapers. This presentation includes a discussion of the different types of newspapers available to the researcher, what can be found in each, their evolution in our province, and how to access them.

Visit www.midlandlibrary.com or call (705) 526-4216 to register.

How To Use Your Digital Device



Join Gateway Centre for Learning on the 4th Thursday of every month for a 30 minute session with an instructor to learn how to use your digital device. To book a session, contact Jennifer Ellis by calling (705) 209-5699 or emailing ed@gatewaycentreforlearning.ca



Joys of Singing Choir

9 weeks
April 2nd to May 28th
11am to 12pm
\$120 per person

A new weekly singing class for those who sing just for the sheer joy of it.

Register at Askennonia Senior Centre located at 527 Len Self Blvd in Midland.

Coffee and Connect

6 Weeks—Tuesdays, April 8 to May 6, 2025
Time: 9:30am to 11:30am

Location: Wyebridge Community Centre

Staying connected has never been more important! This free program helps older adults gain confidence with technology through hands-on learning. Bring your own tech device, use free WiFi, have refreshments and enjoy meeting others from the community. We also provide loaner iPads along with technology support.



Tiny



Dinner & Dance

FEATURING:
Live Music By



DYLAN LOCK

SATURDAY, April 26

TICKETS - \$30 For Members

- \$35 for non-Members

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM

DINNER AT 6:30 PM

MUSIC & DANCING : 7:30pm - 10:30pm

Midland Legion—Spring Fling Dinner & Dance Saturday April 26, 2025

Doors open at 6pm and dinner is served at 6:30pm
Tickets available at the Legion.

TAY TOWNSHIP

Programs for Seniors

They have programs like Seniors Zumba, Chair Yoga and more that can help keep you active safely!

See all the programs and register:

www.tay.ca/living-here/seniors/



Spousal Loss Program

Bi-Weekly Tuesdays from 4pm to 6pm

Hospice Huronia is starting a new group program.

Join them for dinner and conversation at

Hospice Huronia to socialize and find support after the loss of the spouse.

Registration required.

Please call (705) 549-1034 to register and learn more.

Askennonia Senior Centre presents:

A Lunch and Learn with Diabetes Canada

Wednesday March 26th

Make sure to pick up your free ticket at Askennonia before Friday March 21st or call (705) 526-7609



MEN'S SHED

Meeting on Wednesdays at 10 am!

Meet up with your fellow men on Wednesdays at 10 am to 12 pm in the Multipurpose rm.

Come play cards/darts and have a coffee!

Askennonia Senior Centre Men's Shed program is looking for members. Are you looking for a chance to play darts or cards and socialize? This is the program for you! Men's Shed is hosted on Wednesdays at 10am.



Community

REACH

WE ♥ OUR VOLUNTEERS

Would you like to join a team of amazing volunteers making a difference in our North Simcoe community? Community Reach is looking for Volunteer Drivers. This is a rewarding opportunity to improve the quality of life for residents experiencing barriers to transportation. Our drivers take clients to medical appointments, shopping, and social engagements within North Simcoe and to out-of-area medical appointments. Our volunteers tell us when they are available and where they are comfortable driving. Drivers are compensated for mileage.

Give us a call or send us an email to learn more about volunteering with Community Reach: (705) 528-6999 or admin@communityreach.ca

To find out more about Community Reach, check out our website at www.communityreach.ca.

Funding for this project is provided by the Ministry of Employment and Social Services to help seniors age well at home.

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