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# Holiday Magic Floods Elmvale as Christmas Night Market Shines Brighter Than Ever






*By Matt Garwood, Nov 24, 2025*

The 2025 Elmvale Christmas Night Market wrapped up with a powerful display of community spirit, festive energy, and hometown pride. Thousands of visitors filled the streets, creating a lively atmosphere that highlighted everything special about Elmvale. Thanks to the Elmvale BIA, Elmvale Markets, local businesses, and the many guests who attended, the event shone brighter than ever.

One of the most memorable aspects was the community's support for the Elmvale & District Food Bank. Families, friends, and neighbours donated generously to help local households heading into the holiday season.

The Night Market also provided an important boost to the local economy. Businesses saw increased foot traffic, strong shop-local engagement, and an influx of new visitors discovering what makes Elmvale such a warm and vibrant destination. The dedicated volunteers and organizers behind the scenes brought the market to life, showing the impact of a shared community vision.

Beyond the lights and celebrations, the Elmvale Christmas Night Market continues to strengthen confidence among local businesses and invest in the future of Queen Street. It reinforces Springwater as a place full of opportunity, where ideas grow, businesses thrive, and community spirit runs deep.

With the excitement of 2025 still fresh, the community is already looking ahead. The next Elmvale Christmas Night Market will be held November 19 and 20, 2026, promising even more magic and momentum. And don't forget Elmvale Markets' other annual tradition, the Elmvale Farmers' Market, returning for another vibrant season in 2026.

Event organizers: The Tiny Art Shack, Studio 31, Covery Wellness Centre, Collective Makers Studio, The Lantern Lady, PL Fencing


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The opinions expressed in articles contributed by interested parties and through the 'Letters to the Editor' or 'Open Letters' do not necessarily reflect the opinion of this newspaper and/or the editor.

Please submit your letters to the Editor or open letters. Email: info@springwaternews.ca or drop off at office. Contact information is on the bottom of this page.

**Full name, phone number and address must be supplied.**

### Province, Not the Mayor, Exercises Provincial Constitutional Authority

I have read many positive and negative comments about the mayor on this issue. It was clear from the start that not negotiating was a poor judgment choice by Cabral, Alexander, Moore and Fisher. Their efforts to delay and avoid the issue and somehow exercise "Springwater's Sovereignty," had no constitutional basis. It was politicking at the expense of taxpayers in extra legal fees and investigations that went nowhere. Like hundreds of thousands more dollars.

The mayor did participate in the facilitation initiated by the province and did use her strong mayor powers with Thompson and Garwood to accept Barrie's proposal.

Mayor Alex Nutall says Barrie will move forward with the compensation package for Springwater. Not so for Oro-Medonte and Simcoe County who accepted the proposal but with many conditions.

They are now in a much weakened bargaining position because compensation is not in the legislation and Alex is under no obligation to offer anything.

Greg Davidson

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## THE SCOOP *By Linda Belcourt, Editor*

It feels especially good to share some good news this season. Christmas spirit is already flowing through our communities, helped along by the beautiful weather. The Elmvale Tree Lighting looked like something straight out of a Hallmark movie—just as magical as last year, when snow blanketed the ground and soft flakes drifted through the air.

Next up, the Township of Tiny will host its annual Tree Lighting Celebration on Friday, December 5, 2025, at Perkinsfield Park (43 County Road 6 South). Families and friends are invited to kick off the holiday season from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., with the official lighting taking place around 6:15 p.m.

Homer Barrett Park in Elmvale is set for long-awaited upgrades, including new washrooms—the improvement many residents have hoped for. (See editorial on page 5.)

As a young mom, I used to take my kids to Bishop Park, where no washrooms were available. I joked about teaching them "outdoor survival skills," but truthfully, it never felt right for a public park to keep its facilities locked. Twenty-five years ago, when I raised the issue, I was told there wasn't enough staff to keep them clean.

And there's more positive news: Bishop Park has \had its bridge returned. On December 2, 2025, Councillor Matt Garwood was on site to watch the restored bridge being carefully lowered into place by crane.

Garwood explained, "The bridge wasn't supposed to be returned until the spring, but working with the vendor and staff—and thanks to the cooperative weather—we were able to get it back in place for the winter season so folks could enjoy it. The bridge was first removed, then completely sandblasted and coated with a special paint that will last multiple decades. It won't chip, it won't rust, and it now includes a new chain and new bars added for safety. It's a welcomed addition back to the community."





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# Municipalities lend support, push back on military radar plan in Clearview

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Nov 22, 2025

**Neighbours helping neighbours.**

That's how Springwater Deputy Mayor George Cabral describes his township's support for Clearview's opposition to a Department of National Defence (DND) plan to build the Arctic Over the Horizon Radar (A-OTHR) receiving site on a parcel of land just west of Springwater's western border, about 30 kilometres west of Barrie.

"Springwater borders Clearview. We're neighbours, and neighbours should support one another," Cabral told BarrieToday. "I've also noticed that signs opposing the DND A-OTHR have already appeared, and continue to appear, on many properties within Springwater.

"Clearly, our residents are concerned and, as their representative, I felt it was appropriate to bring the matter before council for support," he added.

At its meeting earlier this week, Springwater council voted unanimously to support a resolution backing Clearview, which was tabled by Cabral and Coun. Matt Garwood.

In the preamble, Cabral said the impact of the DND's decision to locate the facility in Clearview would result in the loss of thousands of acres of prime agricultural land that has been in production for generations.

Cabral also said he hopes the minister responsible for the DND will exhaust all other options to relocate the facility in order to safeguard agriculture farmland.

1. Garwood wanted the letter to address three primary concerns:
2. Recognize the value of the agricultural land under consideration and the serious local impacts permanent conversion would cause to food security, farms and businesses in the surrounding area.
3. Prioritize alternative site options that avoid productive farmland.
4. Commit to a transparent, meaningful consultation with the affected municipalities, landowners, farmers, conservation authorities and Indigenous communities before irreversible steps are taken.

Cabral and Garwood found an ally in Mayor Jennifer Coughlin, who was born and raised in Clearview.

"This is causing quite the stir in Clearview and I have reached out to (Clearview Township) Mayor (Doug) Measures as well as our MP, (Terry) Dowdall, who's advocating heavily for them, to discuss this," Coughlin said. "I'm happy to be supporting our neighbours and their cause."

Earlier this year, on July 17, as part of Canada's $38.6-billion plan to modernize North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) over the next two decades, the DND announced the selection of the first transmit and receive sites for the A-OTHR project.

"The selection of the first two sites sets the foundation for further development and expansion, and is a major milestone toward reinforcing Canada's security and sovereignty in the Arctic," a news release stated. "The A-OTHR project is anticipated to reach initial operational capability by the end of 2029. It will ultimately require four sites to be fully operational: two transmit sites and two receive sites."




**Signs opposing a Department of National Defence radar facility in Clearview Township are also popping up in neighbouring Springwater Township as local residents learn more about the project. By Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter**

For a permanent transmit site, the DND acquired 163 hectares (403 acres) of vacant property in the northern part of Thistle Trail, just north of Bexley Township in the City of Kawartha Lakes.

In Simcoe County, the preliminary receive site consists of 288 hectares (712 acres) of agricultural land at 2225 Sideroad 15 and 16 in Clearview Township.

Springwater is not the only local municipality supporting Clearview. The Township of Essa, the Town of Innisfil and the Municipality of Grey Highlands have also stepped up.

In a letter dated Sept. 22, Essa council wrote to Clearview's mayor, expressing its full support of Clearview's position regarding the protection of valuable farmland.

"Agricultural lands are a vital resource not only for Clearview but for all of Simcoe County and beyond," said the letter, penned by Essa Mayor Sandie Macdonald. "These farmlands sustain our local economy, support our rural way of life and, most importantly, put food on everyone's table.

"Once these lands are lost, they cannot be replaced — and the long-term impact on food security and the rural character of our region would be irreversible," she added.

The letter noted Essa stands firmly alongside Clearview in advocating for the preservation of agricultural land and in calling for a balanced approach that protects national interests while respecting local communities and food-producing farmland.

The support means a lot to Clearview's mayor.

"We're very pleased that our concerns for our municipality have been heard by our neighbours and they've submitted their support for our community," Measures told BarrieToday during an interview Friday afternoon. "As an agricultural community, farmland is our No. 1 priority."

Preserving it is not easy, he acknowledged.

Clearview, like many municipalities in southern Ontario, is under pressure to build homes to realize the province's goal of 1.5 million new homes by 2031.

Measures noted residential developers have to follow a prescribed route that takes years.

With the proposed radar system being built by the federal government, it doesn't follow the same path.

"We are part of a democratic monarchy and so, as a result, the queen or king — the king, in this case — has clear authority to use and take land for the purpose of the country," Measures said. "They don't have to take a lot of time. They just need to secure the property."

According to Measures, the DND has secured one parcel of land in Clearview that is about 280 hectares (700 acres) in size. He said the department is looking for an additional 1,600 hectares (4,000 acres).

"There's probably about 2,000 acres of it that is going to be antennas because they'll have a big buffer area to keep people from getting into it," he said.

Taking 1,600 hectares of prime farmland out of production for this project will not only affect many generational farmers, but it will impact the township financially, said Measures. Businesses that support the agricultural industry will slowly disappear, their services and goods no longer needed in a township that isn't focused on agriculture, he added.

Measures said he's "floored" that the Canadian government hasn't found another location for the radar system, one that doesn't involve taking prime farmland out of production.

"They absolutely could find another location," he said. "It's right nearby and it's got 21,000 acres — Base Borden."

CFB Borden is located 25 kilometres southwest of Barrie, just outside of Angus in Essa Township.

According to the federal government, the local base is the largest training establishment in the Canadian Armed Forces and is home to a variety of other military and defence team organizations. On average, CFB Borden trains 20,000 military personnel annually. It also employs approximately 3,250 military members and 1,500 civilians.

The base is comprised of 8,500 hectares (21,000 acres) of land, including an approximately 2,800-hectare (6,000-acre) training area.

BarrieToday reached out to the DND for comment but did not receive a response prior to publication of this article.


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# City of Barrie welcomes proposed Provincial legislation supporting regional growth

(Barrie, ON) – Yesterday, the Province of Ontario introduced the Barrie-Oro-Medonte-Springwater Boundary Adjustment Act, 2025. If passed, the legislation would transfer lands from the Townships of Oro-Medonte and Springwater into the City of Barrie to support long-term housing, employment, and infrastructure growth.

"On behalf of the City of Barrie, I want to thank the Province of Ontario for taking this important step to support our region's economic future," said Mayor Alex Nuttall. "For too long, many Barrie residents have had to leave our community every day to find good-paying jobs. This proposed legislation gives us the land we need to change that. It will help attract new employers, expand our local job market, and create the kind of long-term, stable employment opportunities that allow families to build their lives right here at home. We look forward to continuing our strong relationship with the Province, the OPLDF, and our neighbouring municipalities to ensure a smooth transition and to deliver the economic opportunities families in this area deserve."

Barrie is one of the fastest-growing urban centres in Ontario and serves as a regional hub for health care, education, transportation, and employment. With the city nearing a shortage of developable land, the proposed boundary adjustment will help unlock up to 8,000 new homes, support business expansion, and position Barrie to accommodate long-term population and job growth.

Barrie has made significant investments over the past two decades in water, wastewater, and transportation infrastructure to support future growth. The proposed legislation would enable the City to efficiently use existing servicing capacity to advance housing and job-creating projects.

The City will continue to work closely with the Province, the Office of the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator (OPLDF), and neighbouring municipalities to support the transition for residents and businesses.

For more information, visit barrie.ca/BoundaryExpansion.

# Springwater mayor optimistic talks can continue with Barrie over boundary expansion

By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Nov 26, 2025

The mayor of Springwater is hopeful for further negotiations with Barrie's mayor after the provincial government moves ahead with boundary adjustment proposal.

Heading into a three o'clock meeting yesterday afternoon to receive an update on Barrie's boundary expansion proposal, Springwater Township Mayor Jennifer Coughlin was expecting the worst.

"Going into that meeting I thought I was going to hear 'congratulations, you got the same deal that Innisfil got, which was nothing," Coughlin said in an interview with BarrieToday early this morning.

"Yesterday, learning that there is still an opportunity to negotiate with the City of Barrie, that Barrie Mayor (Alex) Nuttall is still open to that, to me, it's a massive win," she added.

Coughlin said Nuttall was still looking to offer Springwater Township the compensation that was included in the framework agreement - $22,930,000 - and an additional payment of $850,000 spread over five years, related to economic development initiatives.

Yesterday, the Ontario government introduced the Barrie-Oro-Medonte-Springwater Boundary Adjustment Act, 2025 that will, if passed, transfer approximately 1,673 hectares (about 4,100 acres) of land located in the townships of Oro-Medonte and Springwater to the City of Barrie.

The provincial government introduced the legislation after the City of Barrie, the townships of Springwater and Oro-Medonte and the County of Simcoe failed to reach a full agreement.

Oro-Medonte and the County of Simcoe were the identified hold-outs.

BarrieToday reached out to both for more information.

We received the following prepared statement from Oro-Medonte Tuesday evening.

"The Township of Oro-Medonte has been an active and willing participant in the facilitation process over the past two years," the statement began. "Throughout this period, we successfully advanced the proposal with the City of Barrie, and achieved consensus on the terms of a boundary adjustment agreement.

"The Township recognizes that full agreement among all participants in the facilitation process was not reached, which was required for the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to endorse the proposal.

"As a result, the province of Ontario is now enacting legislation."

According to Kelly Oakley, director of Barrie's boundary adjustment team, Oro-Medonte's council voted to endorse the framework agreement, subject to Barrie agreeing to additional conditions.

"Barrie was not supportive of those conditions," Oakley said in an email to BarrieToday Wednesday.

"In addition, Oro-Medonte's council voted to request the province impose additional changes around the actual land to be included in the annexation, to put limitations on future land use of any lands that were moved into Barrie, and defer decision on employment lands."

How that affects Barrie's decision to offer Oro-Medonte compensation remains to be seen.

Simcoe County Warden Basil Clarke issued his own statement.

"The county, through public statements and council decisions, has made our position known," Clarke said. "While we acknowledge the intent of the process, and the decision of the Minister, we look forward to the province providing further support to address the entire region's needs for the future."

Yesterday's announcement was the latest development in Barrie's boundary expansion proposal, which first came to light in November of 2023, when Nuttall presented to the standing committee on heritage, infrastructure and cultural policy during a meeting in Barrie.

He provided the committee with an update on Barrie's housing targets and highlighted why the city requires additional employment land so more residents can have jobs closer to home.

According to Nuttall, Barrie is in dire need of land that would be suitable for large-scale manufacturing and industrial development. He said Barrie needs space to grow as a community and it needs space to bring in jobs from outside the region.

Nuttall said the city was eyeing industrial land outside its municipal borders for the purpose of job creation.



# Springwater council takes swing at $2.9M overhaul at Homer Barrett Park



Design image

***By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Nov 20, 2025***

While the logic of building a splash pad in Elmvale's Homer Barrett Park without accompanying washrooms was questioned a couple of times during last night's council meeting in Springwater Township, politicians addressed the oversight and promised to correct it.

With about $500,000 earmarked for the construction of washrooms and change rooms at the park in 2026, council unanimously supported the project and threw its weight behind a long-term vision for the park — one that would transform it into a veritable urban oasis.

"Overall, the final design strikes a balance between built features and natural elements," Mackenzie Fantini, a landscape architect with Shift Landscape Design, told council members during her presentation. "The pathways and gathering spaces are surrounded by meadows, trees and open lawn areas, creating a park that feels fluid and inviting and connected to nature.

"A place where people can gather, explore and truly enjoy," she added.

According to the design Fantini presented, the Centennial Avenue park will feature multiple shade structures, washrooms and change rooms, a sports court, multiple seating structures, a toddler play area, multiple rest spots, walking trails, naturalized meadows and improved drainage.

While it's an expensive endeavour, pegged at $2.9 million for the transformation, councillors agreed it would be worth the investment after seeing what it could become.

"The presentation was excellent. I found it to be very in-depth, the architecture of the structure was very nice and well thought out," Coun. Phil Fisher said. "But $2.9 million seems a bit striking. It seems like a lot of money to me."

Fisher wasn't convinced the project delivered the value he was looking for.

Dean Collver, the township's director of parks, recreation and facilities, addressed Fisher's concerns, telling him the design plan addresses long-term needs.

"The high level you're seeing is reflective of a complete transformation of the entire park," Collver said.

Acknowledging the priority — the washrooms and change rooms — Collver advised council that by doing the entire park design, township staff now have a better idea of what constitutes a "community" or "destination" park.

Collver said the plan was to complete the work in phases.

"We now have the basis to come back to council and say, 'this is the next step. Do you want to proceed or not?'"

Collver added the phased approach also allows township staff to look at other funding models, including grants or donor sources.

"We can implement it over whatever timeframe we want," he said. "Ultimately, it will be whatever council is comfortable with."

While Fantini noted phasing often results in higher overall costs due to factors such as remobilization, insurance, increase in material costs and other redundant expenses, she acknowledged it allows capital costs to be spread out over time.

In her presentation, she said there are three phases for the Homer Barrett Park project.

Phase one would cost $2.2 million and would include site mobilization, removals, amenity building (washrooms and change rooms), site grading, stormwater infrastructure, lighting and electrical works (one area light at sport court, one bollard light), asphalt parking lot, main area paving, a sports court, seating, waste receptacles, bike racks and tree planting.

Phase two would cost about $550,000 and would include site mobilization, remaining removals, site grading, lighting and electrical works (low pathway bollard lighting), asphalt pathways, limestone screenings pathways, flagstone connection paths, seating, habitat boxes, naturalized meadow seeding and tree planting.

Phase three is pegged at $400,000 and would include site grading, paving at the play area, shade shelter at play area, toddler play area, nature play circuit, seating, naturalized meadow seeding and tree planting.

Fisher wanted to know when work would begin and end.

While Collver said he hasn't talked with any vendors to ascertain a timeline, he did advise council that it was a priority project.

"Our intention will be to break ground this year," he said. "Completion? I honestly couldn't guarantee this year. We have to be very conscious of the use of the park and if we're disrupting it for construction purposes and taking it offline.

"It's a very high-demand facility, so that would play into when it's completed," Collver added.

Coun. Matt Garwood, who represents the Elmvale community on council, acknowledged the township should have built washrooms and change rooms when the splash pad was installed, but accepted the reality that there is only so much money to go around.

"We have an opportunity to correct that," he said. "We know residents from everywhere in Springwater and beyond are coming to the park because of the splash pad. I'm really excited about this project and I'm happy to endorse it."



# Facing apathetic electorate, Penetang council moves toward 3.6% municipal tax hike

***By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Nov 21, 2025***

Taxpayers in Penetanguishene could be looking at a 3.22% blended tax rate next year, once the speculated 3.56% municipal tax rate increase is combined with the county and education portions.

The calculations were arrived at the end of a recent three hour special committee of the whole meeting which presented the second draft 2026 budget, aiming for formal ratification on December 10.

At the start of the evening, Penetanguishene council members were presented with a proposed 4.7% (or nearly $665,000) net town tax impact, broken down to 3.1% for operating budget, 1.2% for capital and infrastructure levy, and 0.4% (or nearly $58,000) for policing.

Delegations were made by spokespersons from Community Reach (asking under $7,900, approved), the Guesthouse Shelter (asking $5,000, declined), and the Penetanguishene Curling Club (asking $1,500, approved).

Before getting to the draft budget discussion itself, council members chose: retaining playground equipment replacements ($145,000) for Charles Scott Park; approving an aerial fire truck replacement; approving two part-time to full-time facility management positions (at nearly $42,000 total); and defeating a $60,000 enhanced communications position.

A fire master plan update ($50,000), which had not received an update since 2014, was removed from the 2026 budget as the town waited for a new fire chief position to be filled.

Mayor Doug Rawson stated he was "disappointed to learn that we had a master plan and there's a number of… strategic items to do, and we did 40% of the items; 60% of the items were either not completed or they're in the middle of doing them."

The changes had lowered the proposed 2026 municipal tax rate to 4.57% (and 3.94% blended), with council ready to make further adjustments. Mayor Doug Rawson asked director of finance/treasurer Carrie Robillard if there were a way to lower that figure by 1% before concluding the meeting.

Robillard responded that a 0.4% utilization from the town's policing reserve and 0.6% from tax stabilization reserve would arrive at an approximate 3.56% municipal tax rate increase, which would roughly equate to a 3.22% blended tax rate increase – or $52.54 per $100,000 of current value assessment as per MPAC (Municipal Property Assessment Corporation) calculations.

However, should any additional taxation be made available due to capital adjustments, Robillard cautioned: "I would just increase the transfer to the (multi-use recreation centre) reserve; I wouldn't recommend reducing the capital-based taxation budget to move it over into operating, to reduce the tax rate that way."

Notably, one thread of conversation revolved around council lamentations that public engagement sessions for council meetings were rarely attended by members of the public.

"We could knock on every door and say: 'there's a council meeting tonight'; people are not going to possibly show up," said finance and corporate services meeting chair Coun. Suzanne Marchand.

"This is one of the important things – we're talking about budget and taxation – but we'll get lots of feedback after council meetings after we pass the budget of: 'wow, what were you thinking when you approved that?' Had you been here, you would've seen the really good discussion around these decisions."

The committee of the whole approved the direction for staff to amend the budget, with intent to formally ratify the budget at an upcoming meeting of council.

The 2026 second draft budget and other related presentations and matters for consideration 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, or on the Rogers TV website.

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

# 93 North & Big Chill Donate $1,740 to GBFN

***By Neil Lefaive, Nov 19, 2025***

On November 1st, 93 North and Big Chill held a charity dance at the Penetanguishene Legion. The wonderful event was well attended and as a result, the bands raised $1,740.00 which was donated to the Georgian Bay Food Network. The members of the bands thank the Legion for hosting the event, and the community for attending and generously donating to the cause. In the photo are Suzanne Carlson, Roger Lacroix and Neil Lefaive from 93 North, John Dunnings from Big Chill, and Alex Hamelin on behalf of the GBFN. Absent from the photo are 93 North members Greg Somers and Carl Rabinowitz, and Big Chill members, Darcy Campbell, Steve Lajbrook, Cole Rowen, Paul Robillard and Greg Somers.






# Tiny lobs to form pickleball working group after resident feedback



***By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Nov 21, 2025***

Pickleball has made yet another rally in a north Simcoe municipality, with Tiny Township looking to adopt a pickleball working group next year, intent on starting a community-led township club by 2027.

The recommendation was presented at a recent committee of the whole meeting where findings from a pickleball survey showed that of roughly 150 respondents, roughly 63 per cent supported the formation of a Tiny Pickleball Club with another 22 per cent indicating maybe to the question.

"It is one of the quickest growing recreational activities," said recreation and special events director Josh Pallas. "With the increasing participation comes requests for more court times, program and scheduling options."

Also within the survey, it was noted: over half the respondents played in township-run pickleball programs; nearly half played several times per week; and nearly all agreed that the sport fostered social connections in the community, especially among seniors and seasonal residents.

Staff proposed that a working group be established in 2026, aiming to create a formal, community-led club the next year.

Mayor Dave Evans said that it was an "incredible report," admitting he hadn't known there was so much to the sport; he praised Pallas for reaching out to the Wasaga Beach pickleball association for assistance in gathering data.

Tiny Township hosts pickleball at five current facilities: two outdoor courts at Parkside Park in Balm Beach; multi-use tennis and pickleball courts at Perkinsfield Park; similar courts at Emilio Place at Bluewater Beach; a seasonal outdoor surface at the Wyevale Community Rink; and indoor play during winter at the Wyebridge Community Centre.

Evans emphasized his view that an established club would only run the pickleball courts half the time at maximum.

He also compared the usage of township facilities and access to the club as being borne by those utilizing it rather than the general tax base. "There is a certain aspect of pay-per-use involved here too; no different than short-term rental people pay for the implementation and monitoring of their facilities and their bylaw.

"When we're building this, I think of hockey leagues… the town may run the rink but they don't own the association," said Evans.

Following Evans' comments, meeting chair Coun. Steffen Walma quipped: "Is there anyone else in the kitchen with (the mayor)?"

Most members of council were in favour of the option to implement the working group next year, but an exchange between parks and recreation committee council representative Dave Brunelle and the others resulted in council members agreeing that a representative from that committee would be a liaison with the established pickleball working group.

Upon formal ratification, anticipated at an upcoming regular meeting of council, staff were directed to post the draft pickleball strategy on the township website to gather public feedback, with a period to close on December 23. Following that, a formal pickleball strategy would be presented to council in the new year.

Pallas spoke to MidlandToday following the meeting regarding shared court usage between pickleball players and their new sport as compared to long-standing tennis players.

"The group of tennis players here in Tiny are prominent – a great group that are very respectful of court times – and from what I've witnessed there's little-to-no controversy between tennis and pickleball that exists here in Tiny right now," said Pallas.

"Scheduling is something that we've addressed through the strategic plan and that we would like to implement further to accommodate both groups to have equal access across the courts."

The pickleball survey, open house, and strategy report can be viewed on the agenda page on the Township of Tiny website.

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




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# Two donors offer 3X Impact for donations on Giving Tuesday

***By GBGH, Nov 25, 2025***

The Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation is raising funds for new stretchers this Giving Tuesday, and two donors are stepping up to triple the impact of every donation. Nick & Marina Boudouris (owners of OPA Catering, Pier 21 Restaurant & the World Famous Dock Lunch), along with another anonymous donor, have each pledged to match all donations, up to a total of $10,000, meaning every $1 donated will result in $3 toward the $30,000 fundraising goal.

Patients in hospital often spend a significant amount of time on a stretcher – in the emergency department, between tests and after surgery. These stretchers carry our patients through some of their most vulnerable moments, and replacing old stretchers is essential to provide safety, comfort, and care every step of the way.

"By making a donation this Giving Tuesday, you can help move care forward with three new stretchers for our hospital," says Robyn Kaczanowski, community giving officer, GBGH Foundation. "And, we are thrilled to partner with two generous families to triple the impact of every gift and make a difference for patients at GBGH."

Donations can be made through the GBGH Foundation website (GBGHF.ca/GivingTuesday), by calling 705-526-GIVE (4483) or visiting the Foundation office in the Captain's Cottage building in the parking lot at GBGH (1112 St. Andrew's Drive). Office hours are Monday-Friday, from 8am-4pm.

Giving Tuesday takes place this year on Tuesday, December 2nd. To learn more about the worldwide day of generosity, visit: https://www.givingtuesday.org/

# The Guesthouse Shelter requests community support




***By Rosemary Sykes, CEO , The Guesthouse Shelter , Nov 28, 2025***

The Board and staff at The Guesthouse Shelter would like to thank the Georgian Bay community for supporting our local homeless over the years. With education and counselling, our staff has been able to assist guests in acquiring jobs and permanent housing. But there is still a lot of work to be done.

Our mission, to provide food and shelter in a safe environment for those in need has become our mantra. We endeavor to end the epidemic of homelessness in our community.

We can provide food and shelter for 21 guests, 365 days of the year for less than $49 per guest, per night. The County of Simcoe has graciously offered to financially support a warming station where we will house an additional eight guests on a timed basis.

We have begun our annual appeal for donations as the cold and dampness of the winter season approaches. Most residents in our community are fortunate to have a warm, safe place to sleep with food in our cupboards. The homeless are not as lucky. Many unhoused individuals have no idea where they will sleep or where their next meal will come from.

We can't offer these free services to our guests without your help.

In addition to monetary donations, we are always in need of clothing donations. Many of our guests do not own proper winter wear. We are particularly in need to winter coats, hats, boots, gloves, socks etc.

Please consider us in your Christmas giving budget.

Donations can be made via Canada Helps or by contacting Rosemary Sykes at 705-527-4111 or rosemary@tghs.ca.

Your donations, in all forms, are greatly appreciated.




# Dental Mission Sees 500 Patients in 10 Days as Hurricane Melissa Sweeps Through

***By Roma Czech, Wyevale Independent Dental Hygienist, member of 1000 Smiles***

A group of 31 dental health care providers went to Turks and Caicos for 10 days to give much needed dental procedures to the people there...over 500 patients were seen....AND HURRICANE MELISSA dropped by too!







# North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre Renamed Bourgeois Community Centre

***By Town of Midland, Nov 28, 2025***

Bourgeois Auto Group partner to keep recreation affordable and strengthen community connections

For Immediate Release

(November 28, 2025, Midland ON) The Town of Midland and Bourgeois Auto Group are proud to announce a new community partnership that will see the North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre renamed the Bourgeois Community Centre. This 10-year naming rights agreement reflects a shared commitment to one of Midland's most valued community assets.

"For generations, our extended family has participated in activities across this facility—on the ice, in the gymnasium, and at community events," said Adam Bourgeois, President & Dealer Principal, Bourgeois Auto Group. "As we celebrate 80 years of business in Midland, supporting this facility through the public tender process felt like the right way to give back. This contribution is about gratitude and ensuring the centre remains a welcoming and vibrant space for everyone in North Simcoe."

As part of this announcement, the Town of Midland recognizes Bourgeois Auto Group's decades-long tradition of community support. Their community investments include multi-year support for Georgian Bay General Hospital Foundation, sponsorships for Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care, contributions to Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre, and programs that help families offset youth sports costs. Through initiatives like We Are the Villagers, Bourgeois Auto Group ensures children have access to after-school activities and athletics, reinforcing their commitment to health, wellness, and opportunity for all.

"This agreement is about more than a name. This partnership reflects Midland's commitment to building strong community connections while ensuring our recreational facilities remain vibrant, affordable, sustainable and accessible," said Mayor Bill Gordon. "Bourgeois Auto Group has a long history of supporting our town, and this investment in this sports and recreation asset will benefit residents and visitors for years to come."

This partnership was established through a competitive public process and aligns with the Town's Sponsorship, Advertising and Charitable Giving Policy, which ensures naming agreements reflect Midland's values, protect the Town's integrity, and enhance services for residents.

Under the agreement, Bourgeois Auto Group will contribute $30,000 annually, along with in-kind support for signage and branding updates throughout the facility. This investment will help offset operating costs and reduce pressure on user fees, ensuring the centre remains accessible and affordable for residents.

The Bourgeois Community Centre will remain Town-owned and Town-operated, and all plaques recognizing individuals and organizations who helped build the facility in 2004 will remain in place. Exterior signage and internal wayfinding updates reflecting the new name will be installed in early 2026.

Residents are invited to celebrate this exciting change and continue enjoying all that the Bourgeois Community Centre has to offer. For more information about the facility, visit midland.ca/BourgeoisCommunityCentre.




TRI-CULTURAL EXHIBITION

Quest Art School + Gallery is inviting artists to submit proposals for our Tri-Cultural Exhibition, a powerful celebration of Midland's living heritage, where three large-scale 2D works will tell the story of our region through Indigenous, French, and English perspectives.

From the Huron-Wendat and Anishinaabek peoples to French settlers and English builders, these intertwined histories have shaped our community, our landscape, and the ways we connect today. Now, we're looking for artists to bring those stories forward through their own contemporary lens.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

December 15th

Apply Tody!

QUEST ART SCHOOL +GALLERY

Ontario Trillium Foundation
Fondation Trillium de l'Ontario
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*This exhibition has been made possible through the generous support of an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grow Grant.*

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




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

We can assist with the following matters:

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- Canada Revenue Agency Inquiries
- Employment Insurance
- Canada Pension Plan and Canada Pension Plan Disability
- OAS and the Guaranteed Income Supplement
- Immigration Refugee Citizenship Canada inquiries
- Any other federal matters

How we can help is determined on a case-by-case basis, so the best thing to do is contact my office by telephone or email to discuss your specific situation. Then we can let you know what steps we might be able to take to assist you.

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

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

We look forward to hearing from you.

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

# Conservation authorities weigh pros, cons around sweeping merger plan

***By: Wayne Doyle, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: BarrieToday.com, Nov 18, 2025***

When it comes to the province's plan to amalgamate 36 conservation authorities into seven, those who manage those organizations are of two minds.

While there's a general sense of support if the planned amalgamation delivers services more efficiently and more economically, there's also great concern about how the plan would be rolled out and how it would impact the local municipalities the conservation authorities were created to protect.

"The goal of modernizing conservation authorities to better address today's challenges, and to create more consistency in permitting and technical expertise across the network, makes sense. And, if executed thoughtfully, it could lead to efficiencies and much more resilience across the province," Rob Baldwin, chief administrative officer at the Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority (LSRCA), told BarrieToday in an email.

The LSRCA's catchment area includes Barrie, Oro-Medonte, Innisfil, Bradford West Gwillimbury and Ramara, as well as other municipalities in the watershed in York and Durham regions.

"The government has said that no changes to day-to-day operations are being proposed, so I think that's reassuring and brings a level of confidence that services to municipalities won't be impacted," Baldwin added.

Jonathan Scott, chair of the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA), which includes Barrie, The Blue Mountains, Bradford, Collingwood, Clearview, Essa, Innisfil, Oro-Medonte, Springwater and Wasaga Beach, among other municipalities, says he agrees with some of the proposed changes.




"The government is right to want a conservation authority system that is more consistent, transparent and efficient to build more homes faster," said Scott, although he was concerned that such a drastic consolidation could wreak havoc if not properly managed.

Scott, who's also a Bradford councillor, will be in front of Springwater Township council on Wednesday evening pitching the organization's budget request for 2026, starting at 5 p.m.

He contends the government's amalgamation plan could risk creating a larger, more distant bureaucracy that's less accountable and less responsive to local needs.

"The strength of Ontario's current model lies in its local expertise — staff who understand the watersheds, municipalities, businesses and communities they serve," Scott told BarrieToday. "Losing that local connection could make the very housing and infrastructure approvals the province wants to speed up more cumbersome and less responsive to local assistance to move files forward.

"In other words, a bigger, less nimble, more distant bureaucracy could well have the opposite effect of the government's goal to speed up approvals for building homes and creating jobs," he added.

Scott's opinion might carry some additional weight as he's already heard municipal reaction to an amalgamation proposal earlier this year.

In January, Oro-Medonte Township Deputy Mayor Peter Lavoie introduced a motion to amalgamate the LSRCA and the NVCA.

The majority of member municipalities for both organizations rejected the idea out of hand.

A couple of months after Lavoie floated the idea, municipal councils in Bradford, The Blue Mountains and Wasaga Beach opposed the idea.

By the beginning of May, the idea was dead in the water.

In an email to BarrieToday at the time, Scott said every municipality that considered the amalgamation proposal had passed a resolution to oppose it.

"It is now a mathematical reality that if an amalgamation meeting were called, the resolution would not pass," Scott said in May. "We believe the question of an amalgamation of our two authorities is a closed matter given the clear municipal opposition."

Conservation authorities were created by the provincial government in 1946 in response to deforestation, and were strengthened to prevent repeats of the extreme flooding caused by Hurricane Hazel in 1954.

A conservation authority's main job is to monitor waterways for potential floods by regulating development near waterways and wetlands, in flood plains and along Great Lakes shorelines.

Today, 31 of the province's 36 conservation authorities are in southern Ontario where development is the most extensive.

Each authority was created to manage its own watershed — an area of land that drains all the streams and rainfall into a lake, bay or river.

The government's proposal is to create seven regional conservation authorities: Lake Erie, Huron-Superior, Western Lake Ontario, Central Lake Ontario, Eastern Lake Ontario, St. Lawrence and Northeastern Ontario.

According to Alexandru Cioban, spokesperson for the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the role of conservation authorities across the province would not change.

"To be clear, conservation authorities will continue to provide the same programs and services they deliver today," Cioban wrote in an email to BarrieToday. "This includes protecting people and property from natural hazards, safeguarding sources of drinking water and managing conservation lands, trails and other recreational and educational facilities.

"Their mandate, service areas and funding models will remain unchanged, and boards will continue to be municipally appointed," Cioban added.

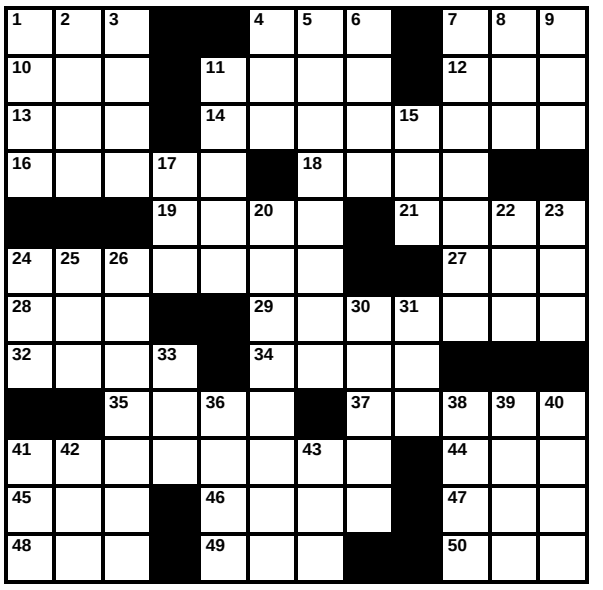
# Giving Tuesday: GBGH Donations Doubled

***By GBGH, Nov 25, 2025***

Nick & Marina Boudouris (owners of OPA Catering, Pier 21 Restaurant & the World Famous Dock Lunch), along with another anonymous donor, have each pledged to match every donation to the Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation on Giving Tuesday, offering to triple the impact of every dollar!

Donations can be made through the GBGH Foundation website (GBGHF.ca/GivingTuesday), by calling 705-526-GIVE (4483). Giving Tuesday takes place this year on Tuesday, December 2nd. Visit: https://www.givingtuesday.org/





**Across**

1 Car accessory
4 Select, with "for"
7 Hot springs
10 Time delay
11 Mark's successor
12 Relation
13 Edmond Fitzgerald cargo
14 Infinite time
16 Closet wood
18 Sea creature
19 BBQ meat cuts
21 Health option
24 Tableland
27 Type of tripper
28 Lamp liquid
29 Inventor
32 Fertilizer
34 Fly
35 Choir attire
37 Gift from one's parents
41 Wordly
44 Yes in the navy
45 Pee-__ Herman
46 Bad thing to blow
47 Fish catcher
48 Outdated
49 ___ and cheese
50 Pitches

**Down**

1 Legislative group
2 Pink
3 Matured
4 Kayoed
5 Deep-sea diver's worry
6 Split
7 Frying pan
8 Peach seed
9 ___ which way
11 Like a haunted house
15 Down time
17 Skill
20 Fermentation aids
22 Before now
23 Easter's beginning
24 Burst a bubble
25 Speak falsely
26 Fearful
30 Creature known for its keen vision
31 Do exist
33 Highest point
36 This and that
38 Grandmotherly nickname
39 Spotted
40 Tennis units
41 ___ timer
42 Conger, e.g.
43 Body part

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## NOTICE OF THE PASSING OF A DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAW BY THE TOWNSHIP OF TINY

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Township of Tiny passed Development Charge By-law No. 25-054 on the 19th day of November 2025, under Section 2 of the Development Charges Act, 1997 (the Act).

**AND TAKE NOTICE** that any person or organization may appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal under Section 14 of the Act, in respect of the Development Charges By-law, by filing with the Clerk of the Township of Tiny on or before **Monday, December 29th, 2025**, a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the By-law and the reasons supporting the objection. The appellant is advised to contact the Ontario Land Tribunal to access required forms and applicable fees. Appeals filed with the Office of the Clerk at 130 Balm Beach Rd W, Tiny, ON L0L 2J0, will be accepted on or before Monday, December 29th, 2025.

The charges in the by-law will apply to all new residential and non-residential development, subject to certain terms, conditions and limited exemptions as identified therein.

Township-wide development charges are levied against new development to pay for the increased capital costs related to the provision of such municipal services as: Police Services, Fire Protection, Parks and Recreation, Services Related to a Highway (Public Works, Roads and Related), and Development-Related Studies.

The development charges are calculated on a "per unit" basis for residential development and on a "square metre" basis for non-residential development. Schedule B of the By-law provides the new residential and non-residential development charge rates. The Township-wide charges apply to all lands located within the boundaries of the Township of Tiny.

| Service | Residential Charge By Unit Type (1) | | | | Non-Residential Charge per Square Metre |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Singles & Semis | Rows & Other Multiples | Apartments 2+ Bedrooms | Apartments Bachelor or 1 Bedroom | |
| Police Services | $29 | $24 | $22 | $15 | $0.33 |
| Fire Protection | $1,278 | $1,049 | $975 | $667 | $14.59 |
| Parks And Recreation | $3,095 | $2,542 | $2,361 | $1,616 | $0.00 |
| *Services Related to a Highway* | | | | | |
| Public Works and Fleet | $680 | $559 | $519 | $355 | $7.77 |
| Roads and Related | $4,653 | $3,821 | $3,550 | $2,429 | $53.14 |
| Development-Related Studies | $311 | $255 | $237 | $162 | $3.55 |
| **TOTAL CHARGE** | **$10,046** | **$8,250** | **$7,664** | **$5,244** | **$79.38** |
| (1) Based on Persons Per Unit Of: | 2.49 | 2.05 | 1.90 | 1.30 | |

The development charges imposed under By-law 25-054 are in effect as of the 19th day of November 2025. Copies of the complete Development Charges By-law are available for examination by appointment in the offices of the municipality located at 130 Balm Beach Rd W, Tiny, ON L0L 2J0, and on the Township website.

For further information, please contact Maryann Hunt, Director of Planning and Development, at mhunt@tiny.ca or (705) 526-4204.

Dated at the Township of Tiny December 4, 2025.
Maryann Hunt, MCIP RPP
Director of Planning & Development
The Corporation of the Township of Tiny

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# Stuffed Animals Fly as Harvesters Win Big on Sold-Out Teddy Bear Toss Night

***By Adrianna McGinnis, - Dec. 1, 2025***

Elmvale was buzzing on November 23 as a sold-out crowd packed the arena for the Harvesters' first-ever Teddy Bear Toss Night, and the home team rose to the occasion with an exciting 5–2 win over the Minto 81's.

The victory continued Elmvale's impressive momentum, their win streak reached five games, marking one of the hottest stretches of hockey the club has produced this season.

Fans didn't have to wait long for the moment they came for. Midway through the opening period, Ryan Young buried the historic first teddy-toss goal, sending more than 200 stuffed animals raining onto the ice. Volunteers quickly gathered the bears, which were donated to the CTV Toy Mountain in Barrie and will be distributed to local children in need this holiday season.

Energy stayed high throughout the night, with the upper-level Harvesters Meet & Greet drawing young fans eager to collect autographs, take photos, and get jerseys and merchandise signed. A special youth raffle also saw one lucky fan take home a $250 Sport Chek gift card.

The Will Marshall Insurance Brokers 3 Stars of the Game:

1st Star – Jacob Kelly
2nd Star – Noah Featherstonhaugh Gowe
3rd Star – Dave Pearce



Six days later, the Harvesters travelled to Creemore on November 29 looking to extend their streak to six. Despite a determined effort and a hard-fought push to force extra time, Elmvale fell 5–4 in overtime, bringing their five-game run to an end.

The Will Marshall Insurance Brokers 3 Stars of the Game:

1st Star – JD Falconer (Creemore)
2nd Star – Jordan Fuller
3rd Star – Andrew Best

Even with the overtime loss, the Harvesters collected a valuable point and closed out November showcasing strong depth, grit, and consistency, all signs of a team trending in the right direction as they head into December action.











## Elmvale Harvesters 2025–26 Schedule

### Home Games

**Sat. Dec. 6** @ 8:00 PM
*vs. Saugeen Winterhawks*
**Sat. Dec. 13** @ 8:00 PM
*vs. Creemore Coyotes*
**Sun. Dec. 21** @ 4:00 PM
*vs. Durham Thundercats*
**Sat. Jan. 3** @ 8:00 PM
*vs. Lucknow Lancers*
**Sun. Jan. 11** @ 4:30 PM
*vs. Minto 81's*
**Sat. Jan. 17** @ 8:00 PM
*vs. Georgian Bay Applekings*
**Sat. Jan. 31** @ 8:00 PM
*vs. Shelburne Muskies*

### Away Games

Sat. Dec. 20 @ 7:30 PM
at Creemore Coyotes
Sat. Jan. 10 @ 7:00 PM
at Ripley Wolves

Jam Night Tursday featuring Randy Ball and Pub Dogs and $5 Fireball Fridays







**Waterside Retirement Lodge Friday Senior Curling Standings**
**Elmvale Curling Club**

| | Wins | Loses | Ties | Points |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Team Lambie | 6 | 0 | 0 | 55 |
| Team Pullen | 4 | 1 | 1 | 42.5 |
| Team Don | 4 | 2 | 0 | 36.5 |
| Team Madore | 4 | 1 | 0 | 35.5 |
| Team Johnstone | 4 | 1 | 0 | 35 |
| Team Townes | 3 | 3 | 0 | 31.5 |
| Team Belcourt | 3 | 3 | 0 | 28.5 |
| Team Scott | 2 | 3 | 0 | 20.5 |
| Team Marshall | 1 | 3 | 1 | 17.5 |
| Team McClung | 1 | 5 | 0 | 16.5 |
| Team Allen | 1 | 4 | 0 | 14 |
| Team Huth | 1 | 5 | 0 | 14 |
| Team Murphy | 1 | 4 | 0 | 13 |

6 points for a win, 0.5 Points per end, 3 Points for a tie, 0.25 points for a blank end

# Kings Wins 3 of 4 to Move into a Tie for 3rd Place








***Submitted by Jamie Robillard, Dec 1, 2025***

They say that defense and goaltending wins championships, and if this is true the Penetang Kings are moving in the right direction after winning three of their last four Provincial Junior Hockey League Carruthers Division games and in doing so moving into a tie for third place in the league standings with the Orillia Terriers.

Over the four games played between November 21st and 29th the Kings received stellar netminding from both Owen Moreau and Landon Simec helping the Kings to post the second-best defensive record allowing only 49 goals in 20 games, only one more than the league leading Alliston Hornets.

On Friday November 21st at home the Kings got past the Muskoka Bears by a 4-2 score. Moreau turned aside 34 shots in the Penetang cage and was named the Canadoor Garage Door Kings player of game. The Penetang offence was led by Camron Hutchson and Carter Wilson with a goal and an assist each while Owen Fuller and Matthew Laframboise scored single markers. Both Caiden Pattenden and Lucas Dubois added a pair of assists.

On Saturday November 22nd Penetang travelled to Orillia to face the Terriers and dropped a 5-2 decision as Orillia scored three goals in the game's final four minutes for the win. The Kings took a 2-1 lead into the third period on goals by Wilson and Carson Thayer, but the Terriers tied the game at the 8:11 mark before exploding for the game's final three goals late in the contest. Simec held the Kings in the contest making 37 saves in the Penetang net and was named the Kings Canadoor Garage Door player of the game.

On Friday evening November 28th Moreau stopped all 36 shots fired his way as he earned his first shutout of the season as Penetang stopped the Innisfil Spartans 4-0 on home ice. Wyndam Brownlee, Lucas Dubois, Laframboise and Wilson scored one goal each for the Kings. Blake Weicker and Hutchinson each had two assists for the Kings while Fuller, Cole Rumbolt and Brownlee each had one.

Alliston was in town on Saturday November 29th, and the Kings narrowly stopped the Hornets by a 2-1 margin. In maybe their most exciting game so far this season the Kings and Hornets went into the third period tied at 0-0 before Laframboise tipped in a pass from Pattenden just 41 seconds into the third period to give Penetang the 1-0 lead. The score remained 1-0 until the Kings Hutchinson potted an empty net marker with just 1:54 remaining in the contest. But with just 59 seconds Alliston's Ben Smith narrowed the score to 2-1 with his goal breaking Simec's second shutout bid of the season. Simec who made 21 saves in the third period was named the Kings Canadoor Player of the Game.

Notes: As the season reaches the halfway point, Alliston continues to lead the division with 34 points in 21 games followed by Stayner with 32 points in 22 outings. Orillia with 26 points in 18 games and Penetang with 26 points in 20 games are tied for third place. Midland is in 5th place with 18 points in 21 games; Muskoka sits 6th with 14 points while Innisfil with 13 points and Huntsville with 11 points round out the standings.

The Kings scoring leaders are Camron Hutchinson with 15 goals and 18 assists for 33 points, Wyndam Brownlee with 10 goals and 18 helpers for 29 points and Cole Rumbolt with 9 goals and 13 assists for 22 points.

The Kings continue the regular season on Friday December 5th at home when they face off against the Huntsville Otters before travelling to Orillia on December 6th to meet the Terriers. On Wednesday December 10th the Kings play a rescheduled game in Alliston against the Hornets. Then they are home on Friday December 12th when they play host the Stayner Siskins followed a road game on Saturday December 13th in Bracebridge wear they meet the Muskoka Bears. In what is a busy December they face Orillia at home on December 19th and are back in Bracebridge on December 21 to face the Bears.

## HISTORY OF THE KINGS

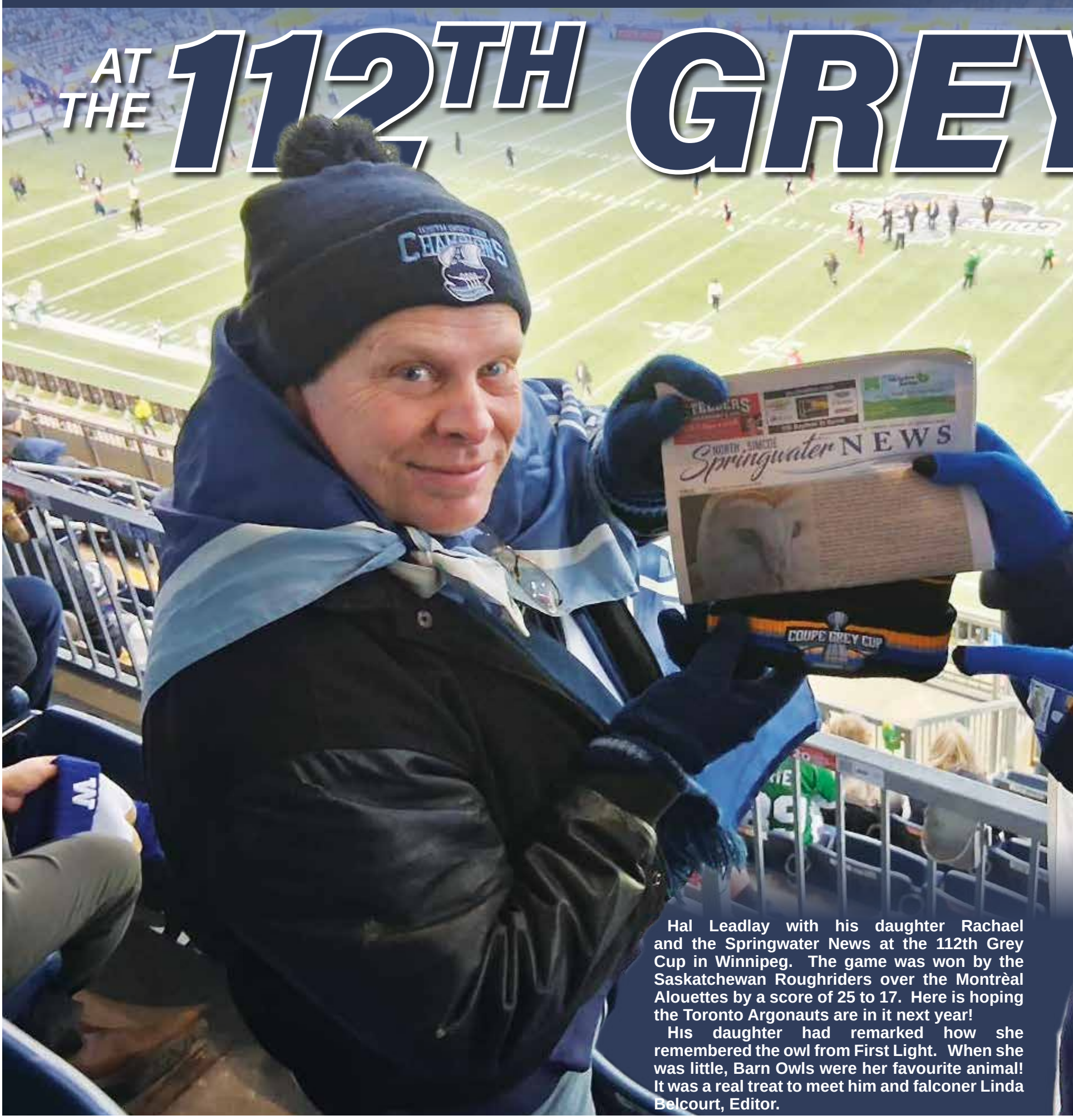
The Penetang Kings are a Junior "C" hockey team in Ontario, formed in 1977. They won their first Clarence Schmalz Cup provincial championship in the 1983-84 season, led by future NHL player Brian McReynolds. After a period with less success, the team won their second provincial title in 2005-06, defeating the Essex 73's in the finals. The team's history also includes a predecessor, the Penetang Hurons, which existed from 1973-1975.

## Penetang Kings 2025–26 Schedule

| Date | Visiting | Home | Venue | Time |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fri, Dec 5 | Huntsville | Penetang | Penetang Memorial CC | 8:00 pm |
| Sat, Dec 6 | Penetang | Orillia | West Orillia Sports Complex | 7:30 pm |
| Sun, Dec 7 | Penetang | Stayner | Stayner Memorial Arena | 1:30 pm |
| Fri, Dec 12 | Stayner | Penetang | Penetang Memorial CC | 8:00 pm |
| Sat, Dec 13 | Penetang | Muskoka | Muskoka Lumber Community Centre | 7:00 pm |
| Fri, Dec 19 | Orillia | Penetang | Penetang Memorial CC | 8:00 pm |
| Sun, Dec 21 | Penetang | Muskoka | Muskoka Lumber Community Centre | 2:00 pm |
| Fri, Jan 2 | Innisfil | Penetang- | Penetang Memorial CC | 8:00 pm |
| Sun, Jan 4 | Penetang | Huntsville- | Canada Summit Centre | 2:30 pm |
| Sat, Jan 10 | Midland- | Penetang- | Penetang Memorial CC | 8:00 pm |
| Fri, Jan 16 | Orillia | -Penetang- | Penetang Memorial CC | 8:00 pm |
| Sat, Jan 17 | Penetang- | Innisfil- | Innisfil Recreation Complex | 7:30 pm |
| Sun, Jan 18 | Penetang- | Midland- | North Simcoe SRC | 2:30 pm |

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# SPRINGWATER NEWS AT THE 112TH GREY




Hal Leadlay with his daughter Rachael and the Springwater News at the 112th Grey Cup in Winnipeg. The game was won by the Saskatchewan Roughriders over the Montrèal Alouettes by a score of 25 to 17. Here is hoping the Toronto Argonauts are in it next year!

His daughter had remarked how she remembered the owl from First Light. When she was little, Barn Owls were her favourite animal! It was a real treat to meet him and falconer Linda Belcourt, Editor.

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## Laughter and Legacy Highlight Bill Truax Memorial Victory




***By Linda Belcourt, Editor, Nov. 29, 2025***

Ed Valendars and Candice Avery captured top honours at the annual Bill Truax Memorial Tournament on Nov. 29, 2025, at the Elmvale Legion. Bill is fondly remembered as a warm-hearted, humorous, and community-minded man whose spirit lives on in the friends and family who cherished his company. The tournament was filled with laughter and lively camaraderie, a fitting tribute to the way Bill lived.

## Midland Curling Club Hosts Spirited Interclub Bonspiel




***By Midland Curling Club, Nov 24, 2025***

The Midland Curling Club Day League kicked off its Interclub bonspiel season with a lively event on Thursday, November 20, 2025. Sponsored by Chartwell Tiffen Retirement Residence, the bonspiel welcomed 42 enthusiastic curlers from the Midland, Penetang, Coldwater, and Elmvale Curling Clubs.

After a morning of friendly but competitive curling, participants enjoyed a delicious lunch catered by Feast Catering. The games were close, but the top honors went to the team of Peter Mulroy, Russ Madore, Dave Armstrong, Carol Hackney, and Hugh Loughborough.

A special shoutout goes to Joe, our inspiring 97-year-old curler, whose team finished a strong fourth. Joe's passion for the sport proves that curling truly is for all ages!

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# Bearbells By Leslie Noonan



Nov12, 2025

Late fall is always an uncertain time of year for hiking, and already this coming week looks to be one of rain and snow, so I was eager to get outside before the white stuff makes its appearance. There was a trail near Orillia that I was eager to try out that runs for seven kilometers through marsh and forest. I grabbed my coat and hat from the hall closet and pocketed the car keys in anticipation of lovely afternoon of hiking. As I opened the front door, the sound of small nails clicking on the floor had me turning to see the Mr. B staring at me with those big brown beagle eyes, tail hanging low and slowly wagging with hope. Now, I generally don't take the Mr. with me hiking, as he is sixteen years old and prefers to spend his time warm and cozy on his love seat dreaming of chasing an enticing scent through sunlight fields. The route I wanted to explore today would be much too long for him. I glanced down, ready to shoo him away, and this is when he took a tentative step towards me, those liquid eyes looking at me beseechingly. I released a sigh, as I could not reasonably be expected to ignore such an imploring creature. My hand reached up and removed his leash from the hook, and I was rewarded with the Mr. giving a little bounce as he began prancing around my legs. Ok, into the car, but where to go that would satisfy the both of us.

We headed east along highway 12 with no real destination in mind. The Mr. was content to sit in the front seat and admire the scenery, though he failed to offer up a suggestion for our walk. The heated seats came on, producing a contented sound from my traveling companion. Warm buns are always nice at this time of the year. By the time we had arrived in Coldwater, I thought it prudent to find a spot that we could explore and the nearby Uhthoff trail would have to do. We parked off Anderson line, pulling in as close to the ditch as possible. I moved to the passenger side to let the Mr. out and realized just how close I was to the ditch. I opened the door and the Mr. leaped out, large ears flying behind him. He sailed through the air and…. promptly disappeared. There at the bottom of that deep ditch was a disgruntled beagle looking back up at me with an indignant glare, as though I had done this to him on purpose. Stifling my laughter, I helped him back up on the shoulder of the road and onto the trail. The Mr.'s misfortunes were not over yet. A large and very solid metal gate blocks the exit from motorized




vehicles, with an opening for bikes and pedestrians. Now the Mr. is mostly blind and almost entirely deaf, using his remarkable nose to run from one spot to another. I went ahead through the gate until a resounding clang and a beagle yelp stopped me in my tracks. Sigh, the Mr. had run right at the metal gate chasing those enticing odors and was now giving me another baleful look.

The Mr. enjoyed the rest of our day, as we walked along the flat trail next to barren fields. His nose caught another intriguing odor, and he pulled toward a chain link fence. On the other side of that fence was a herd of brown and white cows, lounging in the cold fields. Except for a slow glance, the bovines seemed unconcerned about a panting beagle yearning to get closer. We continued, past barns, fields and wetlands. This trail was once part of the CP railroad, traveling from Port McNicoll to Orillia, making it flat and easy to walk, and letting my mind wander as the Mr. ran in zig zags in front of me. The sound of train whistle had me jumping and whirling, expecting to see some phantom train barrelling down on us. Once my heart rate settled down to a more manageable pace, I was able to enjoy the sounds of the train rattling down on the active tracks running parallel to our route. By this time the grey clouds were piling up on the horizon threatening rain. We turned back to reach our car just as the skies opened and the cold rain pounded down. I never did get out to that hiking spot I wanting to try, but it will still be there next week. As to the Mr., he will only be around for short time, and this walk means the world to him. Priorities.



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# ANTEN MILLS
## by Dennis Gannon




Nov 30, 2025

"Let it Snow, let it Snow, let it Snow." Those are part of the lyrics from a song written in July of 1945 and we hear every Holiday Season and last week we certainly felt it. While the weather outside wasn't quite frightful, we did get an early wallop of snow which made everything white and bright. With any luck not all the snow will melt before our Christmas in the Village which is next weekend on Saturday December 13 and Sunday December 14. It's going to be a great couple of days and a fantastic way to cap off our Anten Mills Celebrating 150 Years.

On Saturday the evening will begin at 5PM when our friends from Ski Snow Valley will bring their SnoTube Slide for the kids,young and old,to get to experience what snow tubing at the ski hill is all about. As it supper time, don't fear as hot dogs, potato chips, hot chocolate and cookies are going to be served. At the same time as this is going on there will be a Photo Booth setup to take those photos to cherish for years to come. As well and new this year there will be an opportunity to light up the pathway with your white bag creations. Markers and glow sticks will be available to decorate and place along the garden path and take home afterwards if you wish.

Around 6:30, the person everyone wants to see, Santa Claus will arrive. Our great volunteer firefighters will be bringing Santa on a fire truck and reports are that he can't wait to be in our community again this year. There will be the opportunity for photos with Santa and to check out the fire truck. Then at 7PM, Santa with the help of everyone will start the countdown as we turn the lights on, the big tree and the ground displays. With the tree glowing, the sky is going to be next as fireworks will end the evening.

This entire evening is one for the family and thanks to the volunteers, the Anten Mills Community Recreation Association and some generous donations, the evening is free of charge. The only ask is that you help us support the Elmvale and District Food Bank by bringing a kind donation to keep their shelves full for the winter.

Sunday, December 14 the 28th annual Santa Claus parade makes its return to the village. A beloved tradition, it is one not to be missed. Kicking off at 1PM, the parade starting at the intersection of Laddies Lane and Pinery, will make its way through the community. There will be street entrants, family members and local businesses bringing joy and holiday greetings to everyone. Like many traditions, this one is no different as people gather together on street corners, in driveways and along the street waiting for the star of the event, Santa Claus. Again this year, thanks to our volunteer firefighters who have been a part of the parade since it's beginning, they will be escorting Santa and Mrs.Claus on the route. Last year the parade route made a slight change and this year it will follow the same direction ending along the new section of Ghibb St. This was done for the safety of the parade participants and viewers as the traffic along Horseshoe Valley Road has drastically increased making it a challenge. At the end there will be hot chocolate waiting for everyone to enjoy along with seasonal greetings from our local dignitaries. If you are looking to donate a new unwrapped toy for the Simcoe County Paramedics Toy Drive, the opportunity to do so will be during the parade. Volunteers will be accepting them as they make their way through the parade . The parade route map will be posted on the Anten Mills Community Facebook page and the organizers request that if you are hosting a group anywhere along the route, that you have them park only on one side of the road as some of the floats are very large.

If you have the opportunity, why not take a stroll and perhaps a drive one evening and check out the great outdoor light displays in the community. Many families have created displays that are magical and worthy of the time to visit. Anten Mills has always been an area that has been on the list of the best outdoor displays in the area. A couple of areas that are exceptional are Binnie Drive and Horseshoe Valley Road so take some time and check them out.

That's all for this week. Looking forward to seeing everyone next weekend so until then, THANKS for READING, BE WELL and STAY SAFE!

# Greetings Minesing Moments Readers

***By Lorrie Norwood, Nov 24, 2025***

Fast approaching is the cold weather and snow that won't melt away until Spring. Are you ready for it? Have you got your snow tires on, your shovel at the ready for clearing paths? It may also be a great time to pack a few extra items in your car. As you know our winters are unpredictable and you may end up stranded on the side of the road. A few items that are good to have in your car are: Booster cables, first aid kit, blankets, mitts, hats, shovel, scraper, matches, emergency flares, bright/reflective clothing, candles, flashlight, bottled water and protein/granola bars, non-clumping cat litter, fix a flat, necessary medications. It may seem excessive but each of these items will certainly come in handy should you find yourself in a ditch or snow stayed on the side of the road.

Minesing Annual Tree Lighting will be held on Friday December 12th at 6:30. Come out and enjoy some hot chocolate and music at the Minesing Community Centre. Following the tree lighting we invite everyone to safely line the streets of the village at the Annual Christmas Tractor Parade starting at 7 p.m. The amazing work that our local farm families and neighbours have created to deck out their tractors and machinery is always such a great sight to see. A special request has been sent to the North Pole to see if Santa can send a few of his favourite elves to help collect food for the Food Bank during the parade and word has it that some of members of the Minesing Blues Baseball team will also be helping out to load up one of the Rowland Brothers moving trucks the Food Bank during the parade. Swampy has the parade on his calendar too so you may be able to see him and the jolly old elf Santa himself! All food and cash donations are appreciated and will be delivered to the Elmvale Food Bank to help those in our area. If there is anyone interested in entering a tractor, please reach out to Shannon Giffen prior to the 12th on Facebook. A very important request from the participants driving the machinery/tractors in the parade is that everyone watching the parade is to stay well off the roadway to allow plenty of room for the tractors. Also please be sure to park on the streets that are not part of the parade route or at the school.

Minesing has always had such great community involvement in everything that goes on in our area. Many hours of volunteering and elbow grease goes into events that take place. As you know, many hands make light work, so if you are looking to help out for upcoming events or have time to spare, the Minesing Recreation Committee can always use volunteers. The Minesing Community Page is a great place to reach out as the committee members run the page. Our Facebook page is also a great place to look into small businesses, upcoming events and items for sale. I've seen scrap metal collectors, lost and found pets/items, services offered or services being sought out. Be sure to check out the page as there is always lots to read.

On a sad note, we became aware of the passing of Jackson Thomas Parker (13 Mar 2022 – 15 Nov 2025). Jackson will be deeply missed by his parents, Christine Jackson (Tony) and Adam Parker (Carolyn) and by his sister Peyton Parker. A devastating heartbreak to the Parker/Jackson families and friends. Please know the Minesing Community sends our deepest condolences to you all and hope that fond memories of Jackson will help you through this most difficult time. Jackson left one last gift of love, his five gifts of organ donation brought hope and healing to four families, a legacy that mirrors the compassion he showed every day. They will gather to celebrate Jackson's life on Saturday December 20, at the Tiffin Centre for Conservation (8195 9th Line, Utopia, Ontario L0M 1T0) from 1-4 p.m. At 2:30 p.m. they invite anyone who would like to share a story or memory of Jackson, as these moments will bring comfort, a smile and help keep his spirit alive.

If anyone has any items to be entered into the Minesing Moments section, please forward them to my at LorrNor71@gmail.com.

Until next time, let's light up the village with Christmas lights and displays and get into the festive season. Take care.



2024 Parade (files of Springwater News)

## Our North Simcoe 4-H Team Stands Out at the Royal's TD Classic

***By Melanie Giffen, Nov 18, 2025***

The North Simcoe 4H club sent an eager team to the Royal Winter Fair to compete in the TD Classic 4H dairy show. Some of the calves were placed and went onto final heats. This year, our display placed top ten out of many clubs in attendance. This is a new accomplishment for North Simcoe and we are very proud. We would like to thank our many sponsors and chaperones Jackie McCallum and Owen Wright.



L to R - Grace Finch, Tyler Phillips, Emi Lange, Hayden Parnell, Keagan McCallum-Pinho, Scarlett McCallum-Pinho, Samantha Spring, Beth Robinson, Maeve Giffen and Abby Martin

## CWI Members Rise to the Occasion with Bread-Making and Local Advocacy

***By Sheila Craig, Nov 18, 2025***

Craighurst Women's Institute met early Tuesday, because we had some big business to attend to. Our member Siske led us in a bread baking class, a task that might daunt the average chef. But not Siske. She had the flour measured, the sugar and salt ready, the shortening cut, the instructions printed. She explained the finer points of mixing with a wooden spoon. And she brought her daughter as a resident expert. We twirled and kneaded and then rested. While the dough rose the CWI had the working meeting. Our efforts to have Oro's Cenotaph unlocked during weekends caught the Mayor's attention. We'll see how the Township fixes the problem. Also our request to have the speed limit lowered on Horseshoe Valley Road is on his radar so to speak. Then word came that the dough was calling, so we declared the meeting over and went back to punch it down, shape two loaves, pack up our kit and go home to our own ovens. There's nothing like a hands on session to learn fine points. We did have fun.





# Annie's Journal

***by Annie Warner Donnelly***



Dec. 1, 2025 - Hello Everyone. National Geographic is described as one of the largest nonprofit scientific and educational organizations. It's awarded more than 15,000 grants for scientific research, conservation, and exploration projects since its founding in 1888.

Its book titled, "An Uncommon History of Common Things" include these categories: Food & Drink; Seasons & Holidays; Ceremony & Customs; Symbols & Markings; Hearth & Home; Garments & Accessories; Medication & Potions; Toys & Games; and Tools & Innovation. I wondered which toys it included.

Remember the year people waited in long lines to purchase a Cabbage Patch Doll? Co-inventors Xavier Roberts and Debbie Morehead "have never referred to their soft, stuffed creations as dolls. Cabbage Patch Kids were each different, supposedly individuals with unique personalities, bolstered by 'birth certificates' for their 'adoptions'." The year was 1983.

What a contrast to 1959's popular doll! The teenage fashion Barbie doll was named after inventor Ruth Handler's daughter, Barbara. Handler based Barbie on a German doll, Bild Lilli, inspired by a comic strip about a young working woman … In 1961, Mattel brought out a boyfriend doll named Ken, after Handler's son."

The 1916 interlocking Lincoln Logs, "used in old fashioned cabin construction by generations of children, were the brainchild of John Lloyd Wright, son of architect Frank Lloyd Wright. He claimed to have been inspired watching the foundation-laying of the earthquake proof Imperial Hotel in Tokyo."

Did you ever walk a Slinky down a set of stairs? "Marine engineer Richard James was trying to create an anti-vibration mechanism for ship instruments in the early 1940s. He was using tension, or torsion, springs that would quickly counter the effects of waves at sea. One day he knocked over a delicate experimental spring and watched as it crept, its coils fountaining, down a stack of books, onto a table, then to the floor." James and his wife borrowed $500 to begin manufacturing Slinkys. From 1945 to 2009, more than 300 million Slinkys were sold. Slinky was inducted into the National Toy Hall of Fame in 2000.

Want to create something? We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. (Philippians 4:13) Amen.

# We can eliminate cervical cancer with the bulletproof HPV vaccine

***By SMDHU, Dec 2, 2025***

A new report from the Canadian Cancer Statistics Advisory Committee shows that cancer mortality rates are going down and this is great news. However, cervical cancer rates have stopped declining in Canada. More than 99 percent of all cervical cancers are caused by the human papillomavirus (HPV). A safe and effective HPV vaccine has been available through Ontario's School Immunization Program since 2007. This vaccine not only prevents cervical cancer but protects against several other cancers caused by HPV infection, such as oral, throat, anal and penile, types of cancer that many of us have seen affect people we know.

Unfortunately, in Simcoe Muskoka only about 63 percent of Grade 7 students receive this important cancer prevention vaccine, leaving more than 2,000 Grade 7 youth each year unprotected against several types of cancer that could impact them in the future.

Locally, the rate of cervical cancer for females aged 20 to 44 years is about 50 percent higher in Simcoe Muskoka than in Ontario. It is estimated that over 75 percent of Canadians will have an HPV infection at some point in their lifetime, as it is easily transmitted through skin-to-skin contact during sex. Condoms provide only partial protection against HPV infection. By contrast, HPV immunization offers lifelong, bulletproof protection against HPV—a fact supported by a 2024 study in Scotland that found zero cases of cervical cancer among young women fully vaccinated against HPV.

The Public Health Agency of Canada shares that the risk of cancer from HPV goes beyond cervical cancer as there are more than 100 types of HPV and it is one of the most common sexually transmitted infections (STI). Both men and women can get HPV which is responsible for 80 to 90 percent of anal cancers, 40 percent of vaginal and vulvar cancers, 40 to 50 percent of penile cancers, and 25 to 35 percent of mouth and throat cancers in Canada.

The HPV vaccine is 99 percent effective at preventing HPV infections, as well as the cancers and warts they can cause. In my clinical practice, I have seen young people devastated when they seek medical care for their genital warts. None of these patients had received the HPV vaccine and all of them wish they had.


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**Join the library or renew your membership for 2026**

Come to the library to get a card or renew your card for a chance to win!

December 1st to December 5th, 2025 for a chance to win a $50 gift card for Foodland or

Drop in to view our Library's Christmas trees and decorations December 8th to 13th for a chance to win a $25.00 card for Foodland.

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**Santa Storytime**

Santa is coming to the library! He'll share some stories, answer your questions, sing carols, and you can even tell him what you'd like for Christmas this year! Photos and videos are welcome. A take home Christmas craft will be provided. Saturday December 6, 10:30am at Elmvale Branch and 1:30pm at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

**12 Days of Holiday Fun**

Join us for 12 days of activities and crafts! Free! Drop In!

**Monday December 8:** Hot Chocolate Day,
**Tuesday December 9:** What's your elf name game and family photo backdrop available for pictures,
**Wednesday December 10:** reindeer picture frame craft
**Thursday December 11:** painted holiday ornaments
**Friday December 12:** holiday card making
**Saturday December 13:** Lego building challenge
**Monday December 15:** holiday scavenger hunt
**Tuesday December 16:** Beebot maze
**Wednesday December 17:** gingerbread decorating
**Thursday December 18:** winter crafts
**Friday December 19:** large community colouring page
**Saturday December 20:** holiday popcorn.

**Senior Social Coffee and Crafting**

Come to the library for a fun gathering of crafting and socializing! One morning a month we will have a simple craft activity set up in the branch along with light refreshments. This is an excellent opportunity for seniors in the community to connect for a fun morning of creativity! Friday December 12, 11am-12noon at Midhurst Branch. Cost: Free. Registration required.

**Holiday Hours**

**Wednesday December 24** Elmvale/Midhurst open 10am-1pm
**Thursday December 25** all branches closed
**Friday December 26** all branches closed
**Saturday December 27** Elmvale/Midhurst open 10am-4pm
**Wednesday December 31** Elmvale/Midhurst open 10am-1pm
**Thursday January 1** all branches closed
Regular branch hours resume Friday January 2, 2026.

# Nearly $100,000 raised from Georgian Bay Terry Fox event

***By: Derek Howard, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter, Source: MidlandToday.ca, Nov 25, 2025***

The numbers are in for the Heart of Georgian Bay Terry Fox Run tally from September, and nearly $100,000 was raised through donations from local businesses and participants.

Local event co-organizer Paul Crouch presented the results of this year's outing to Tiny Township council during a recent meeting, explaining the details and results which took place at Perkinsfield Park months prior under the 'Finish It' campaign slogan for 2025.

"There were over 500 runs across Canada on September 14th, of course this one being one of them," said Crouch. "We had 675 participants. We're nudging up to about $98,000 in revenue raised; it probably will get over $100,000 because it's a year-long thing, it's not just one day.

The Heart of Georgian Bay group has consistently performed well in fundraising over the years, with the North Simcoe area hovering near the top 10 rankings in Canada per capita for their efforts, made possible this year from the support of over 100 local businesses, over 80 volunteers, and help from a silent auction.

"All done on basically a zero-budget," said Crouch. "We don't have a budget, we're not allowed to spend money. Occasionally we have to purchase a few things, but we do it all with donations and the good will of the community.

Nationwide, over $990 million has been raised toward cancer research by the Terry Fox Foundation since 1980; Georgian Bay participants have donated over $2.8 million in that time. Through the annual events, roughly 94 per cent of funds go directly to research.

"It's just a wonderfully generous community who have, over the years that I've been involved, do incredible donations," said Crouch. "We are, I believe, 11th in Canada per capita as far as donations go, which is incredible considering the size of this community. I mean, we raise more money than Barrie and we're one-tenth the size, so it's pretty impressive."

Crouch added: "Head office is very proud of us because they're pretty amazed at what we can do up here considering the size of the area of the Georgian Bay group."

The presentation was partly to explain the results of the run, but also to make a request of Tiny council for continued support toward the 2026 run through access to Perkinsfield Park, the run route, and in-kind support through various municipal functions and requirements. Crouch also reiterated that there was a need for volunteers due to key members retiring from the role following this year's event.

The committee of the whole approved the request for next year's event to be supported with in-kind contributions as allocated in the 2026 operations budget accordingly, anticipated to be ratified at an upcoming meeting of council.

Council members Deputy Mayor Sean Miskimins and Coun. Kelly Helowka thanked Crouch and reiterated their support as road marshalls while Mayor Dave Evans expressed curiosity toward potential for an inter-municipal friendly rivalry which could be established between Tiny Township, Midland, Penetanguishene, and Tay Township.

The Heart of Georgian Bay Terry Fox Run results, and accompanying presentation slides, can be viewed on the agenda page on the Township of Tiny website.

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

North Simcoe Springwater News

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## Jo Knows Nutrition
*by Joanne Nijhuis*



# MARVELOUS MANDEL BREAD
## A TRADITIONAL COOKIE COUSIN OF ITALIAN BISCOTTI



Nov 30, 2025

Mandel bread or mandelbrot originated in European Jewish communities centuries ago. The word mandel translates to almond in German, Dutch and Yiddish, reflecting the type of nut traditionally added to this cookie dough. While mandel bread and biscotti share similarities-including their twice-baked signature crunch-there is a key difference. Mandel bread is made with oil instead of butter, which gives it a slightly softer texture and a more tender bite. It's worth noting that one batch of beloved mandel bread will not last nearly long enough, so make more. Double, triple or quadruple this recipe and gift it to friends and family during the holidays.

**Did You Know?**

Almonds are more than just a crunchy snack. Packed with vitamin E, magnesium, healthy fats and antioxidants, almonds and ground almond meal are welcome additions to both sweet and savoury dishes. Just a small handful can take the edge off of hunger between meals and almonds support heart health, brain function, steady blood sugar levels and skin health.

**INGREDIENTS (24 Pieces)**

- 2 cups (500 ml) all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon (2.5 ml) baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon (1.25 ml) salt
- 2 large eggs
- ¼ cup (63 ml) olive, avocado or coconut oil
- ½ cup (125 ml) granulated or packed brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon (5 ml) almond extract, optional
- ½ cup (125 ml) slivered or sliced almonds, toasted or untoasted
- ½ cup (125 ml) dark chocolate chips, optional
- 2 teaspoons (10 ml) orange zest, optional

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F (180 C). Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. In a bowl, sift together flour, baking powder and salt.
3. In another bowl, whisk together eggs, oil, sugar, vanilla extract, almond extract (optional) until smooth.
4. Fold the dry ingredients into the wet ingredients.
5. Stir in the almonds, and chocolate chips (optional) and/or orange zest (optional), if using.
6. With oiled hands, shape into a log, approximately 12 x 3 inches (30 x 7 cm).
7. First bake for 22-25 minutes and then, cool for 10-15 minutes.
8. Slice the log into ½ inch (1.5 cm) slices, place cut-side down and bake another 10-12 minutes, flipping halfway through.

**ENJOY!**

PER PIECE: |Calories: 105 kcal | Carbohydrates: 14 g | Protein: 2.5 g | Fat: 4.5 g |Fibre: 1 g | Sodium: 45 mg |

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

## Christmas Sweet Side in 20 minutes

***By Linda Belcourt, Editor, Dec 2, 2025***

On of my greatest joys at Christmas is making Christmas desserts. I have some time honoured recipes from my family. This one is the easiest. Buy your butterscotch chips early in December as they tend to run off the shelves in the grocery stores. The recipe came from my late Aunt Kay Dundas (Archer). She used coloured marshmallows but I use white ones. There is a similar chocolate log recipe that I pair with this if I am taking potluck. Happy baking!!

**Peanut Butter Marshmallow Roll**

**1/2 cup butter**
**1 cup peanut butter**
**1 bag butterscotch ships**
**1 bag mini-white (or coloured) marshmallows**

Melt butter, peanut butter and butterscotch chips on the stove on medium low in a medium sized pot. Let cool so marshmallows don't melt. Sir in marshmallows. I prefer to place waxed paper on a table surface and make the mixture into a log. You can also line a 9x 9 inch square pan with parchment paper and place the mixture in the pan for squares (or 8x8 for thicker squares). Cool in fridge for 2 hours. Cut squares or slice log into pieces. Store in fridge.

Other baking items I do is gingerbread, cherry cheese cake, Centennial squares and short bread. The best recipe is on the box of cornstarch.



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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

**Elmvale Seniors Drop In**
Elmvale Community Church
10 am - 12 noon
Call Lynn for info, 705.322.3309

**Midland Jam**
Free Admission, Show 7:00, Doors 6:30

**Bid Euchre**
**Elmvale Community Hall 1 pm - 4 pm**
Call Anne for details 705-322-1232

**Georgian Shores Seniors Club**
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
Seniors in Motion Fitness, 10:00 – 11:00 am
Hustle and Muscle, 11:30 – 12:30 pm
Bid Euchre, 1 – 3:30 pm

**Bay Shore Seniors Club**
Bingo - Starts July 30th
Adults Start at 7:30
Bay Shore Seniors Club

**Askennonia Seniors Centre**
Table Tennis, 9am-11am
Yoga, 9am-10am
Line Dancing Advanced, 9:15am-10:30
Fun Fit Circuit, 9:15-10:15am
Coffee Break, 10:00-12pm
Chair Pilates, 10:30am-11:30am
Intro to Line Dancing- Baby Steps, 10:30am-11am
Walking Club, 11am-12pm
Line Dancing Basic, 11am-12pm
Hand and Foot Card Game, 1pm-3pm
Writers Workshop, 1pm-3pm

### 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
13 Queen St W, Elmvale

**Penetanguishene Legion**
**Lunch and/or Regular Euchre**
luncheons 11:30am arrivial. It fills up. Lunch served 12 pm.
**Euchre**
**Tuesdays, 1 pm - 4 pm**
$4, Drop-in, Legion #68, 2 Poyntz Street, Penetanguishene

**Georgian Shores Seniors Club**
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
Line Dancing, Prog. Beginners 9:30 – 11:00 am
Line Dancing, Easy Intermediate, 11:30 – 1:00 pm

**Askennonia Seniors Centre**
Pickleball, 9am-12pm (starting October 14)
Cardio Drums Alive, 9am-10am
Quilting, 9am-12pm
Photography Club, 10am-12pm first Tuesday of every month
Darts Club, 10am-12pm
Zumba Toning, 10:30-11:30
Badminton, 1pm-3pm
Circle of Friends, 1:30pm-2:30pm

### WEDNESDAY

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

**Bay Shore Seniors Club**
**Pickleball** 12:45 pm
Access Art - 1:00 - 4:00 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**
Table Tennis, 9am-11am
Pickleball, 9am-11:30am (starting October 15)
Step Class, 9 am-10am
Line Dancing Advanced, 9:15am-10:30am
Chair Yoga, 9:15am-10:15am
Men's Shed, 10am-12pm
Cribbage, 10am-12pm
Intro to Line Dancing- Baby Steps, 10:30am-11am
Line Dancing Basic, 11am-12pm
Walking Club, 11am-12pm
Creative Crafting, 1pm-3pm
Bid Euchre, 1pm-3pm
Woodcarving, 1pm-3pm

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

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

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

### THURSDAY

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

**Askennonia Seniors Centre**
Zumba, 9am-10am
Pickleball, 9am-11:30am
Corn Hole, 10am-11am
Tai Chi, 10:15am-11am
Chair Pilates, 10:30am-11:30am
Writers Circle, 1pm-3pm
Uke and Guitar Jam, 1pm-3pm
Card Games, 1pm-3pm

**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

**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.
Dec. 4 Pot Luck at Wasaga Beach Community Presbyterian Church, 208 Mosley St. Jan meeting on Jan. 8 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

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

**Bay Shore Seniors' Club**
Woodcarving 10:00 - 3:00 pm

**Georgian Shores Seniors Club**
Billiards/Pool, 9:00 – 11 am
Table Tennis, 9:30-11:30 am
3rd Bingo & Lunch: 12 noon - 3:30 pm
TGIF social, 4:00 – 6:00 pm

**Askennonia Seniors Centre**
Knit'n Needles, 9am-12pm
Cardio Drums Alive, 9am-10am
Pickleball, 9am-11:30am
Badminton, 9:30am-11:30am
Tabata, 9am-10am
Chair Zumba, 11:10am-12pm
Card Making, 1pm-3pm
Musicians Jam Circle, 1pm-3pm

### WEEKENDS

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

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

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

### MONDAY to FRIDAY

**VON SMART Exercise Program**
Low impact gentle fitness classes
Adults 55+ FREE
Call 705-355-2200 for class locations and times

**North Simcoe Bridge and Games Club**
Brooklea Golf and Country Club
Mon. 12:45pm: Duplicate Bridge,
Tues 6:45pm: Social Bridge,
Wed., 12:45pm Duplicate Bridge,
Thur. 12:45pm Duplicate Bridge,
Fri. 12pm: Bid Euchre. Contact northsimcoebridge@gmail.com.

### MIDLAND CULTURE CENTRE

333 King St., Midland
705-433-2321
**Canadian Improv Showcase**
**Thurs Nov. 27,2025 from 8-10pm**

**A Merry Munsch-mas**
**Sat Nov. 29, 2025 from 9:30am-10:15am**

**BORN RUFFIANS**
**Dec 31, 2025 from 9pm -12:00am**

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

# Special Events One Time

**First Light at Sainte-Marie and Shrine**
**Nov. 27 to Dec. 14, Thurs-Sun, 5:30 to 9 pm**
More than 5,000 candles and lightscapes will illuminate the historic site, casting a warm glow across the reconstructed French Jesuit settlement. Martyrs' Shrine will be open throughout with its own Christmas light displays, décor and activities.

**Township of Tiny Holiday Festivities Tree Lighting Celebration**
**Dec. 5, 2025 from 5-6:30pm**
Snap a photo with Santa and his reindeer, enjoy hot cocoa by the fire, and join the festive countdown to the tree lighting. S'mores, music, and holiday cheer await!

**Hillsdale Light Up the Tree Celebration**
**Dec. 06, 2025 6-8pm**
Hillsdale Community Park, 4517 Penetanguishene Rd. , Hillsdale
Light Up the Tree and stay for free Wagon Rides, Hot Chocolate, Treats & Crafts!

**Simcoe County Branch Ontario Ancestors Show and Share**
**Dec. 06, 2025 10:30 to 11:30am**
Barrie & District Association Realtors Facility, 676 Veterans Drive, Barrie

**Elmvale Lions Santa Claus Parade**
**Dec 7, 2025 at 1pm HCES**
Theme, "All I want for Christmas."
www.elmvalelions.ca to sign up - look in scroll at top

**Jazz Cabaret**
**Dec. 11, 2025 at 7 pm**
Elmvale District High School, 25 Lawson Ave
Tickets will be sold in advance only, starting on November 16th at the school office or on school cash online for $15.

**Let's do Lunch and Bake Sale**
**Dec. 11, 2025 11-1pm**
Elmvale Presbyterian Church, 22 Queen St. E

**Sleigh Ride in the Village by Elmvale Lioness Lions**
**Dec. 12, 2025 6-9pm**
FREE Horse wagon rides, hotdogs and drink, facepainting, craft, toys, loot bags and Adult Market. Bring foodbank item.

**Minesing Annual Tree Lighting**
**Dec. 12th at 6:30pm**
**Annual Christmas Tractor Parade at 7 pm**
Minesing Community Centre

**Carol Sing**
**Dec. 17, 2025 7-8:30pm**
Elmvale Presbyterian Church, 22 Queen St. E
Join in singing your favourite carols and enjoy fellowship, cider and cookies

## Stay active this season with winter recreation and holiday programs

*By City of Barrie*

(Dec 1, 2025 - Barrie, ON) – Residents can register for City of Barrie winter recreation and culture programming starting Tuesday, December 9. Effective tomorrow, Tuesday, December 2, customers can browse programs at play.barrie.ca and save them to their "Wish List", to conveniently find desired programs when registration opens. Registration for non-residents starts December 16.

"The City's Recreation and Culture Team is offering a lineup of special holiday drop-in activities, workshops, winter break camps, and events. Our holiday programs are packed with cheer for all ages and abilities—perfect for enjoying the season, staying active, and having fun!" said Kevin Datema, Director of Recreation and Culture Services. "Embrace the winter magic and enjoy the amazing opportunities our city offers to help make your holidays happy and healthy."

The City is also offering the following special holiday programs throughout December:

- **12 Days of Fitmas Challenge:** From December 14–25 earn points by completing daily health-related tasks such as exercise, nutrition, or wellness habits. Pick up your Fitmas Challenge package on Monday, December 1, 2025, at front desks and fitness centres. Return the completed scorecard by January 4, 2026, to enter a draw for City of Barrie swag.
- **Winter Break Camps:** Kids aged 4–12 can enjoy sports, games and crafts over the holidays. One-day camps will be available at Peggy Hill Team Community Centre and East Bayfield Community Centre December 22, 23, 29, 30 and Jan 2, 2026.
- **Holiday activities:** Ornament & Card Making Class and Winter Wonderland program. For details visit play.barrie.ca.
- **Holiday Skating:** Create classic winter memories by lacing up at the East Bayfield Community Centre, Peggy Hill Team Community Centre and Allandale Recreation Centre. For details visit play.barrie.ca.

Those looking for holiday gift ideas can purchase a recreation gift card at Allandale, East Bayfield, Peggy Hill Team, and Parkview Community Centres. Cards can be used towards drop-ins, recPASS memberships, registered programs, and facility rentals.

The City also provides a fee assistance program, called recACCESS, that offers support to low-income families and individuals in Barrie by providing qualifying participants with a recPASS membership and youth subsidies that can be applied to the registration fee for qualifying programs and activities.

Register for recreation programming opportunities including Winter Break Camps and holiday activities at play.barrie.ca, or visit barrie.ca/RecDropins for the most current schedule of drop-in offerings.




## Cowboy Christmas Rides Into Wyevale for 2025 Santa Claus Parade

*By Donny Woods, Nov 19, 2025*

WYEVALE — The holiday season kicks off in festive style as the Wyevale Santa Claus Parade returns on Saturday, December 6, 2025, at 7 p.m. The beloved community event, organized by the Township of Tiny, Wyevale Parks and Rec Committee and its dedicated volunteers, will feature more than 30 participants, making it one of the largest parades the village has hosted in recent years.

This year's theme, "Cowboy Christmas," was selected by last year's parade champion, the Vandervoort family and friends. Spectators can expect a lively blend of western flair and holiday spirit throughout the floats and displays.

Participants will include walkers, riders on horseback and other animals, decorated trucks and cars, and traditional floats, promising a colourful and diverse procession for all ages. As always, the evening will conclude with the much-anticipated arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Claus, bringing festive cheer to the community.

Visitors from near and far are known to line the streets, with many families setting up driveway watch parties complete with warm fires as they enjoy the show.

Organizers encourage everyone attending to bring a non-perishable food item to support the Elmvale Food Bank. These donations will be collected by the Wyevale Volunteer Firefighters along the parade route.

Anyone interested in participating in this year's parade can contact Donny Woods at dwoods@factoryrecreation.com for more information.

Residents are encouraged to bundle up, arrive early, and enjoy one of Wyevale's most cherished holiday traditions.

## Jurassic Jump Inflatable Funzone + Dinosaur Interaction

Dec. 27, 2025 10:00 to Dec. 30, 2025 17:00
4346 County Rd 90. Springwater
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**JEWELERY** – Men's and women's of any type, quality or condition including costume jewelry, broken or working pocket and wrist watches, jewelry boxes.
**OLD ADVERTISING** – Including wood and metal signs, tin cans and posters for Pepsi, Coca Cola, tobacco and automotive gas and oil.
**FANCY TEACUPS** – Royal Albert china, Royal Doulton figurines, teapots, Blue Mountain and other decorative pottery, colored art glass/signed crystal.
**SILVER** – Individual coins (silver dollars) or coin collections, jewelry, watches, cutlery, tea sets, candle sticks, trophies and trays.
**MILITARY** – Medals, swords, bayonets, knives, helmets, uniforms, photographs, old military and other antique guns.
**COMIC BOOKS** – Toys, fountain pens, musical instruments, sporting items, duck decoys, record albums, old bottles/jars and lighters.
**FURNITURE** – Scandinavian style furniture made of teak and rosewood.
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## AUCTION NOTICES

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- Lighting Innovation & Design Dispersal Auction - Kitchener (Nov 30 - Dec 7)
- December Multi Consignor Auction - Guelph (Dec 7 -11)
- Auction for Carol McKinnell & The Late Ross McKinnell - Guelph (Dec 7 -11)
- Spring Boots Inventory Auction - Guelph (2026) **COMING SOON**
- Spiers Moving Auction - St. George (2026) **COMING SOON**

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**FREE and NEW TO YOU**

**Elmvale Community Church**
**27 Yonge St S, Elmvale**

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

**New Year Eve Party**

Dec 31, 2025 from 8pm to 1pm

**Elmvale Legion 7 John St, Elmvale**
Upstairs Hall. Tickets $25 available at bar.
Light snacks served.
**Booze bucket Draw**
If you would like to participate, please bring a bottle with a minimum $20 value. Your name will be in the draw and winner takes home the bucket.



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# Hey Dads!

Dec 1, 2025 - Do you appreciate a good steak or burger on the BBQ? I suspect you do. But do you appreciate where that steak or burger came from? Perhaps you do. Perhaps you do not. I thought I appreciated where it came from. But I've spent the last couple days really getting a thorough appreciation and education in my very own school of beef butchering. After watching a couple of YouTube videos class was in session for me and the kids down by the barn. How hard could it be?

If you read my most recent story you heard about our year-and-a-half-old steer who likes to jump fences. Well, we put a quick stop to his fence-jumping days. We've done some meat processing around our place before. Rabbits, ducks, chickens, pigs. But we learned that those are all teeny-tiny, itty-bitty animals compared to beefy bovine. Since we're not real farmers we don't have a real tractor, just one of the cute hobby-farm sorts that real farmers probably snicker at when they drive by taking up all the lanes of the road. But I'm not bitter.

Well, our little tractor couldn't quite get the steer off the ground. Kids were volunteering to jump on the back of the tractor as counter-weights. Some cement blocks did the job quite nicely. Now, a steer lying on the ground is quite large. A steer hanging beside you from a tractor bucket seems quite larger. We began with step 1. Watch a YouTube video. Those guys butchering an entire animal in 20 minutes sure make it look easy! 20 minutes later we were still trying to figure out what we were doing. Thankfully, most of the kids had watched the video with me so they were full of helpful hints being the butchering professionals that they are.

About two hours later we were ready to move the meat into the clean shop with the clean tables and the…low ceiling. Remember when I said the bucket wasn't high enough? Well now it was too high. Most real butchers would hang the meat in one piece. Would we do this? No! We would not! The ceiling was too low. The solution? Cut the meat into pieces. Humongous, gigantic, unable-to-move-with-one-person pieces of meat. No, really. One of the boys and I tried to move a piece and were shocked at how heavy it was. But we persevered, split the rear half into two quarters and got them both on the table. The tractor bucket and the ceiling were high enough to hang the smaller front half. We were done for the day.

If you think it's a good idea to arm half-a-dozen kids with knives to help you butcher a cow…well, you'll have to tune in next time to see how that went. Honestly, I was a little scared about this whole process. But we did it! Is there something you're a little scared to do? Give it a shot! Try fixing the car! Try fixing the appliance! Try butchering an animal! And bring your kids along for the educational ride. Time flies. Make every moment count! Even the not-quite-like-the-guys-on-YouTube moments.

Jason Weening learns how to do stuff with his 10 kids and one patient wife. It's almost Christmas! Grab his book, "Yes, Dear…I'm Watching Them," on Amazon.




# One of the Year's Best Meteor Shows Arrives December 13–14


Photo courtesy of Joe Bonner



***By Gary Boyle, The Backyard Astronomer, Nov 29, 2025***

The annual Geminid Meteor shower will be at its finest on the night of December 13 into the morning of the 14th. According to the International Meteor Organization (IMO), the maximum peak of possibly seeing 120 meteors per hour is predicted to occur around 3 am eastern, (2 am central, 1 am mountain and midnight western) on the morning of the 14.

A 23% waning crescent moon will rise late into the morning hours so no big interference this year. This is a weekend event. If cloudy Saturday night it is still visible on Sunday night, but the numbers will be reduced.

These are slow moving colourful meteors generated by the asteroid 3200 Phaethon and will be memorable to witness as they burn up in the atmosphere appearing in different directions of the sky. Some very bright fireballs could also be seen. Start looking around 7 pm local time but as the night moves on and the constellation Gemini rises higher over the next few hours, more meteors will be seen. The brilliant planet Jupiter is up in the northeast around 7 pm and out all night long along with the bright winter stars of Orion – the Hunter.

Best to travel out of town to darker wide-open skies to fully enjoy the show. Do not trespass on private property.

# Oak Bay Corn Roast Raises $2,052 for GBGH Foundation



***By GBGH, Nov 3, 2025***

A fun evening of community and connection at the 5th Annual Oak Bay Corn Roast raised $2,052 in support of the Georgian Bay General Hospital (GBGH) Foundation's We See You Campaign. Hosted by Larry and Liz Marshall, the event brought together neighbours and friends for food, fun, and fundraising — contributing to more than $7,500 raised over the past five years in support of local health care.

Special thanks to the McBride Riders for providing their tent, and to local children who hosted a bake sale, adding $170 to this year's total.




MIDHURST PHARMACY
Let's Talk About...

**Eczema**

With Pharmacist Owners
Jenna Lougheed and Carolyn Glover

Eczema is a non-contagious inflammatory skin condition that can present as severe itching, redness, oozing and scaly rashes. It commonly affects the thighs, lower legs, and arms.

Applying a moisturizing cream or lotion at least twice a day can help relieve dryness. If applied just after a bath or shower, these agents can more effectively lock in moisture. If regular use of moisturizers does not provide relief, products containing urea or lactic acid may be used, however be warned these products may sting if cuts or scrapes are present. For extremely itchy areas, steroid creams are useful and some mild steroids like hydrocortisone are now available without a prescription. Staying hydrated is also very important.

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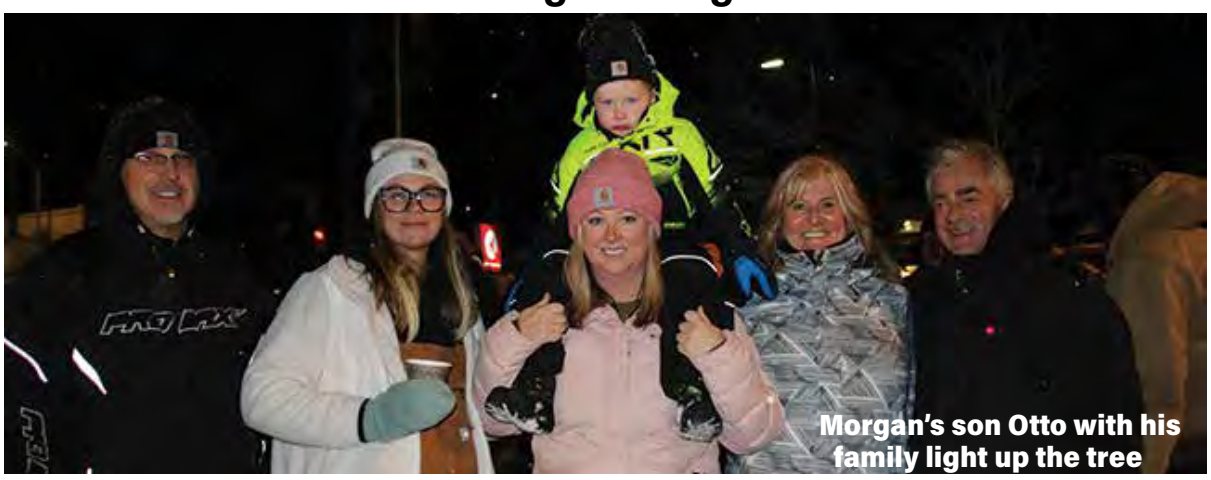
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# A Hallmark Moment in Elmvale: Tree Lighting Ceremony Honours Morgan "Mugs" Adams



Morgan's son Otto with his family light up the tree

*By Linda Belcourt, Editor, Nov 29, 2025*

On behalf of Maple Syrup Festival President Greg Davidson and the entire board, Dan Clement welcomed everyone to the Elmvale Tree Lighting Celebration on Friday November 28, 2025. The annual event continues to be a crowd favourite and a cherished way to kick off the Christmas season.

The audience offered warm applause to the EDHS students who provided musical entertainment under the direction of Jesse Muldoon.

Dan then invited Her Worship, Springwater Mayor Jennifer Coughlan, along with Ward 1 Councillor Matt Garwood, to bring greetings from the Township of Springwater. President Greg Davidson followed with greetings on behalf of the Maple Syrup Festival committee, and Trustee Liz Grummet also shared greetings on behalf of the SCDSB.

Many individuals and businesses help make this evening possible through their generosity—donating time, equipment, materials, and financial support.

This year's beautiful tree was donated by Joan Thompson of 21 Bertram Drive in Elmvale. Thank you, Joan!

Special thanks also go to the Christmas Tree Boys, led by Doug Kirton—Tim, Tom and Rusty McGinnis, Doug and Dan Tinney, Paul Archer, and Mark Columbus—who located the tree, cut it, transported it from Bertram Drive, and installed it for tonight's celebration.

Thank you to George Bagley of BMR Pro Elmvale and Wasaga Beach for supplying the boom truck used to transport and install the tree, and to BMR staff member Warren for operating it. Appreciation also goes to Peter Minnings for supplying the bucket truck, and to Matt Lalonde for operating it, installing the lights, and placing the Minty Star on top in memory of Doug Minty.

Thank you as well to Springwater Library staff member Katlyn for assisting with the children's crafts and providing the popcorn maker; to Tim Lalonde for the maple-flavoured cotton candy; and to the Flos Agricultural Society for the portable lighting.

A final thank you to all the Maple Syrup Festival board members for the many hours they volunteer each year.

The 58th Annual Elmvale Maple Syrup Festival will be held Saturday, April 25, 2026. Anyone interested in joining the committee is invited to speak with President Greg or any board member. Merry Christmas and all the best for 2026!

This year's tree lighting celebration was dedicated to the memory of a true gentleman taken far too soon—Morgan "Mugs" Adams. Morgan was a proud hometown boy, surrounded throughout his life by family and friends in Elmvale. He carried a distinctive tattoo of the Highway 92 and Highway 27 road signs—the very crossroads at the heart of our village, a place he loved deeply.

People gathered around the annual Christmas tree standing proudly at the four corners Morgan cherished. Present were Morgan's son Otto and his family; his wife Alannah; his sister Breanne; and his parents Wade and Kelly. Together, the family lit the tree with beautiful lights in his honour.

It was a touching tribute to Morgan, and to all who have offered kind words and support to his family during this difficult time. Morgan's family expressed how meaningful it was to see the tree standing tall and bright throughout the Christmas season—a symbol of love, community, and remembrance.

On behalf of Morgan's family, thank you all—and Merry Christmas.

***(Thanks to Dan Clements assistance with this article)***

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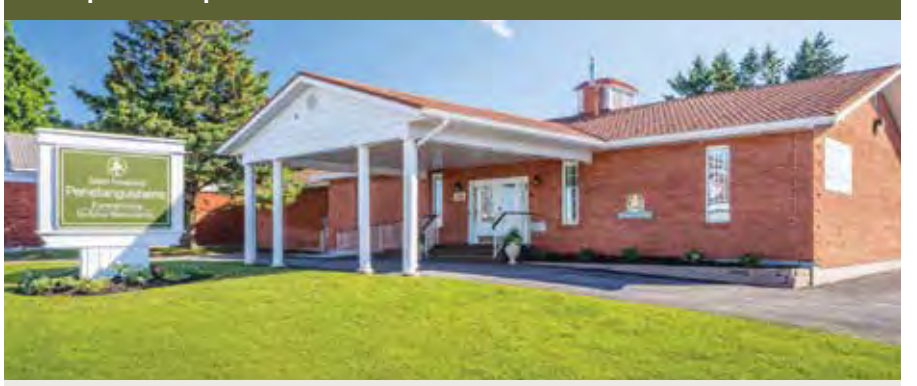
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## Elmvale: Tree Lighting Ceremony Memories



**Elmvale volunteers giving out refreshments. L-R: Mayor Jennifer Coughlin, Jan Drinkle, Counc Matt Garward, Ward 1, and Denise McLean. Inset is Tim Lalonde that supplied the cotton candy. This is what Christmas season is all about.**



**Children had a great time, as Christmas is for the kids!**






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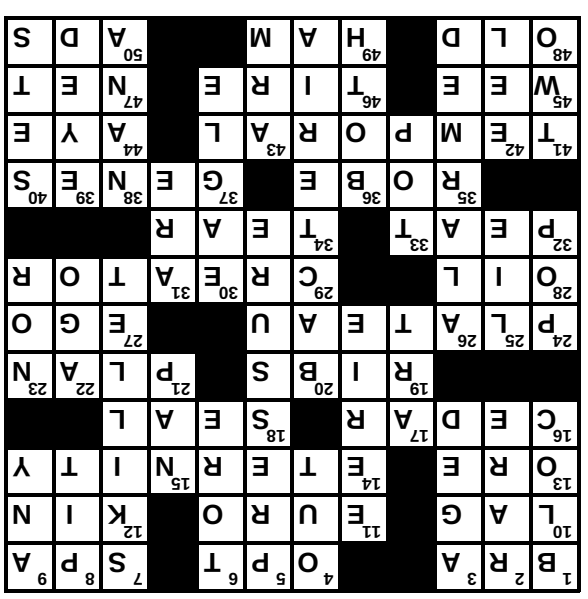
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# E.D.G.E. Merry Christmas

By Nancy Lockhart, Nov 25, 2025 - It's that time of year again. If you don't have one yet, you soon will. Everywhere you look, you see them. Little ones, medium ones and big ones (three to a pot). They come in the usual colour of red. But they also come in different colours: pale yellow, coral, white and variegated colours. If you haven't guessed by now, it's the traditional Christmas flower, the Poinsettia.

The poinsettia plant is forced to bloom, in time for Christmas. The "flower" part of the plant, are the tiny yellow circles or bracts. The colourful part of the plant are floral bracts or modified leaves. Place your poinsettia where it can get bright indirect light for at least six to eight hours. Water your plant when the soil surface feels dry to the touch. Take the plant out of its decorative sleeve and let the water drain from the pot. Wilting leaves and rotted roots are usually signs of over watering. Also if your house leans to the dry side in the winter, place the plant on a tray of pebbles and water, to increase humidity.

Do you throw out your poinsettia at the end of the holiday season? Poinsettias are actually long-living perennials. If you want to try getting your poinsettia to re-bloom next holiday season; check out the poinsettia articles on The Spruce website. There you will find detailed steps. I remember my grandma doing this. I tried once, didn't work for me.

On behalf of E.D.G.E. a thank you to all those who joined us for our monthly meetings this year. It was great seeing everyone. So here's wishing everybody a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Happy Hanukkah. And we'll see you next year in March.

## How to Get Poinsettias to Rebloom



***By Linda Belcourt, Editor Nov.***

**December to Early Spring**

Continue caring for your holiday poinsettia through winter.
Keep the soil evenly moist—but never soggy.
As spring approaches, slowly reduce watering so the soil dries out between waterings.
Watch the stems closely; if they start to shrivel, the plant is too dry.
Once the plant has adjusted (usually in a week or two), move it to a cool area such as a basement or heated garage. Aim for a temperature around 60°F (15°C).

**May**

By mid-May, it's time for some rejuvenation.
Cut all stems back to about four inches.
Repot into a slightly larger container with fresh potting soil.
Water well and place the plant in the brightest window you have. Keep indoor temperatures between 65–75°F (18–24°C).
Water whenever the top of the soil feels dry, and start fertilizing every two weeks once new growth begins.

**Summer**

When warm weather arrives, move the poinsettia outdoors.
Choose a partially shaded location.
Maintain your watering and fertilizing routine.
In early July, pinch back each stem by about one inch to encourage a fuller, sturdier plant.
By mid-August, new branches will have formed. Pinch back the new stems again, leaving 3–4 leaves per shoot. Then bring the plant back indoors to a bright window.

**October**

This is the most important stage. Poinsettias are short-day plants, meaning they need long periods of uninterrupted darkness to form buds.

**Starting October 1:**

Give the plant 12–14 hours of complete darkness each day—from 5 p.m. to 8 a.m.
Even the smallest amount of light (lamps, cracks under doors, etc.) can delay blooming.
Use a sturdy, opaque box or place the plant in a closet that you won't open at night.
During the day, return the plant to a sunny window and continue regular watering and fertilizing.
Remain consistent for at least 10 weeks.

**November and December**

In the last week of November, stop the darkness treatment.
Leave the plant in a bright window full-time.
Buds should be visible by now.
Stop fertilizing by mid-December, but continue watering as needed.
If everything has gone well, the colourful bracts will begin to show just in time for the holidays.


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| MONDAY | TIME |
|---|---|
| Table Tennis | 9-11 |
| Yoga | 9-10 |
| Tech Support * | 9-10:30 |
| Line Dancing Advanced * | 9:15-10:30 |
| Fun Fit Circuit | 9:15-10:15 |
| Coffee Break * | 10-12 |
| Chair Pilates | 10:30-11:30 |
| Intro to Line Dancing—Baby Steps * | 10:30-11 |
| Walking Club * | 11 |
| Line Dancing—Basic * | 11-12 |
| Hand & Foot Card Game * | 1 |
| Writer's Workshop * | 1 |
| Watercolour Lessons | 1 |
| Beginner Watercolour Lessons | 1 |

| TUESDAY | TIME |
|---|---|
| Pickleball | 9-12 |
| Cardio Drums Alive | 9-10 |
| Quilting * | 9-12 |
| Watch Clinic with Dietmar | 10-12 |
| Photography Club * | 10 |
| Dart Club* | 10-12 |
| Zumba Toning | 10:15-11:15 |
| Lunch Club | 12:15 |
| Badminton | 1-3 |
| Beginner Acoustic Guitar $140/session | 1 |
| Intermediate French* $25/Session | 1 |
| Circle of Friends Drop-In * | 1:30 |
| Book Club with Faith * | 2:30 |

| WEDNESDAY | TIME |
|---|---|
| Table Tennis | 9-11 |
| Pickleball | 9 |
| Tai Chi * | 9 |
| Step Class | 9 |
| Line Dancing Advanced * | 9:15-10:30 |
| Chair Yoga | 9:15-10:15 |
| Cribbage * | 10 |
| Intro to Line Dancing—Baby Steps* | 10:30-11 |
| Choir | 10:45 |
| Line Dance—Basic * | 11-12 |
| Walking Club * | 11 |
| Creative Crafting * | 1 |
| Bid Euchre * | 1-3 |
| Woodcarving * | 1-3 |
| Beg Convo Spanish $25/session **(FULL)** | 1 |

| THURSDAY | TIME |
|---|---|
| Zumba | 9-10 |
| Pickleball | 9-11:30 |
| Beginner Ukulele Lessons $140/session | 9 |
| Intermediate Ukulele $140/session | 10:15 |
| Walks at the Wye Marsh | 10 |
| Chair Pilates | 10:30 |
| Men's Shed * | 10 |
| Intermediate Acoustic Guitar Lessons $140/session | 11:30 |
| Writers' Circle * | 1 |
| Uke & Guitar Jam * | 1 |
| Card Games * | 1 |
| Watercolour Lesson | 1:30 |
| Acrylic Painting Lesson | 1:30 |
| Book Club with Jennifer * | 2:30 |

| FRIDAY | TIME |
|---|---|
| Knit 'n Needles * | 9-12 |
| Cardio Drums Alive | 9-10 |
| Pickleball—1 Gym | 9-11:30 |
| Badminton | 9:30-11:30 |
| Book Club | 10 |
| Tabata | 10:10 |
| Chair Zumba | 11:10 |
| Beg French w/Adele $25/session | 1 |
| Card Making | 1 |
| Musicians' Jam Circle * | 1 |

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