



Godrich Sun

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Council suggests changes to proposed plan for downtown core

KATHLEEN SMITH
Editor

The downtown infrastructure project options provided to Council involved the replacement of the current infrastructure as well as an enhanced option.

The estimated total cost for each option is \$8,220,775 and \$10,323,614 respectively.

At the April 29 Goderich Council meeting, Deputy Mayor Leah Noel stressed that cost is an issue, even though the infrastructure must be replaced.

This is a project that will go ahead, but the cost is what remains up for debate.

“I’m prepared to put a motion on the floor that we send the draft plan back to the task force to reconsider the enhanced option, because right now, it’s more expensive than we can reasonably proceed with,” admitted Noel.

Much of the infrastructure of downtown Goderich is nearly 100 years old and Town Council and Staff have been advised that work is required before something major happens.

As a result, in conjunction with the 2023 Strategic Master Plan, a task force was put together to create a report with B.M. Ross and GSP Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture from Kitchener on the needs, designs and cost of upgrading the downtown core.

CONTINUE TO PAGE 6



EXCELLENCE AWARDS (CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)
Kyuss Lawrence (student), Gryffin Langis (student), Siobhan Kleuskens (student), Tamara Crocker (Educational Assistant), and EIPE rep Bridget Hayden and Principal Jenalyn Ignor.

GDCI students and staff win Excellence in Education awards

The Excellence in Public Education Awards recognize the efforts of people who make the schools better places to learn and work.

Whether it is the student who has enriched the atmosphere of the school, the teacher or support staff member who has encouraged excellence through their contributions to the school, or the community member, the goal is to recognize their contributions.

Three students and one staff member from GDCI were recognized at the award ceremony: Siobhan Kleuskens, Gryffin Langis, Kyuss Lawrence, and Tamara Crocker.

Siobhan Kleuskens:

Siobhan Kleuskens is an outstanding leader at GDCI. Through her academics, Kleuskens has proven herself to be highly responsible, self-motivated, and mature.

On the honour roll each year, she shows great interest in learning.

Kleuskens is an active member of the GDCI community. She participates in several extracurricular sports teams including cross-country, basketball, swimming, and track and field. She has won several MVP awards and multiple Athlete of the Year awards.

Additionally, Kleuskens has won several firsts at WOSSA track and field, and two firsts at WOSSA swimming. Representing the school at OFSAA in both sports, she has a Canadian Ranking in Triple Jump and a Top 6 finish in the 50-metre freestyle swimming race.

Kleuskens track and field accomplishments earned her a special recognition award from the Town of Goderich Council.

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Goderich recognizes doctors on National Doctor's Day

Twenty-eight doctors in Huron Health System serving Alexandra Marine & General Hospital (AMGH) are honoured as we celebrate National Doctors' Day on May 1.

In any small town, there are a finite number of health care professionals holding a town's medical services together. That's why it is so refreshing and rejuvenating to see all the appreciation from our community on Doctor's Day.

The drawings from the students at St Mary's Goderich Catholic School covered the walls and brought many smiles to staff and physicians.

Students had notes that read as "Thank

you to all the doctors that worked towards making this hospital and community a better place. Thank you – you are amazing". God can't be everywhere, so he sends doctors.

Goderich Mayor Trevor Bazinet said their hard work and dedication are an inspiration to us all.

"Thank you for making a difference in your community," Bazinet said.

"We appreciate the sacrifices you make every day to help others. Thank you for your compassion and care for all your patients."

Gateway's Physician Recruitment Lead

Gwen Devereaux said this community is fortunate to have such a great medical team. The doctors are providing outstanding care, and the frontline healthcare workers are heroes to the community.

Dr. Shannon Natuik Chief of Staff, Huron Health System Goderich site, said all healthcare employees, including the team of doctors in Goderich, have continued to go above and beyond in providing service to the hospital and its patients.

"The response and support received back from the community on this day of physician recognition is greatly appreciated," added Natuik.

The Doctors were treated with an excellent lunch, a thank you from the hospital, Smile Cookies from AMGH Foundation and each doctor took home a beautiful gift donated by the Town of Goderich. Perfect thank you gifts to show our appreciation.

"Many thanks to all the physicians at AMGH who have demonstrated tremendous commitment and dedication to our patients," said Jimmy Trieu, President, and CEO Huron Health System.

"This is a small token of appreciation for all their hard work during these very challenging times."



A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION

Mayor Trevor Bazinet visited with doctors at AMGH.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)



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TOWN OF GODERICH STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN COMMUNITY TOWNHALL INFORMATION SESSION

An opportunity for Goderich Council to provide the community with a progress report on the implementation of the 2023-2027 Strategic Action Plan and for the public to offer feedback.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22 7- 8:30PM

GODERICH MEMORIAL ARENA

Hosted and facilitated by:
Huron Chamber of Commerce

huronchamber.ca/townhall

GDCI students and staff win Excellence in Education awards

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

As a member of the student leadership team, Kleuskens has volunteered for school events, including the bottle drive, Christmas craft shows, the Friendship Games, food drives, Grade 9 orientation days, plus many others.

Within the community, she was a personal assistant for the Goderich Skating Club, and has participated in many community events and parades as a competitive dancer.

She regularly helps the younger dancers at recitals and parades.

Gryffin Langis:

Gryffin Langis has maintained an incredible academic record, and he has also actively engaged in creating a supportive academic environment within GDCI.

His presence on the honour roll each year and his proactive involvement supporting struggling students in the Learning Commons highlight his commitment to academic excellence both for himself and others.

Langis' key role in planning GDCI's Welcome to Grade 8 night exemplifies his dedication to encouraging students to actively participate in their education.

His leadership skills have been prominently displayed in his involvement in events such as the Science Olympics, Envirothon, and GDCI Orientation days.

Langis collaborates well with others, uses his strong problem-solving skills, and applies his learning to yield positive outcomes for many.

As the only student leading a team in

lifeguarding at the YMCA and teaching the bronze medallion course, Langis serves as a mentor to young, aspiring lifeguards.

Further, this showcases his proficiency in aquatic skills as well as his dedication to teaching, learning, and valuing the safety and well-being of the community.

Langis' active involvement in coaching soccer, basketball, and floor hockey teams further emphasizes his commitment to community service, and contributing positively to the development of young athletes.

He has been consistently awarded Athlete of the Year, receiving individual awards for community involvement in grades 10 and 11, and has earned well over 80 community service hours in Goderich.

One of Langis' outstanding achievements is his involvement with the school mental health team, where he focuses on creating opportunities for student well-being.

His collaboration with another student leader to secure a \$1,200 grant for mental health and awareness initiatives demonstrates not only his leadership skills, but also a deep sense of social responsibility.

Kyuss Lawrence:

Kyuss Lawrence is an excellent example of what excellence in education means.

He excels academically, takes risks, participates in many different extracurricular activities, and takes a leadership role at GDCI.

Lawrence is a reliable, conscientious, personable, and intelligent addition to ev-

ery activity.

On the Science Olympics team, he quietly leads by example and inspires others to do their best.

During the GDCI Food Drive, he was entrusted with younger students who needed leadership and support, and during Grade 6 day activities, he used his science skills to inspire future students.

Lawrence also helped with the GDCI Vikings Valhalla Day, encouraging younger students.

He was instrumental in the success of GDCI's Envirothon team last year. He motivated others, excelled at his designated topic, and was an important part of the team's presentation – all of which earned the team a spot at the provincial level.

Lawrence also attended an ecological research trip to Peru with other GDCI students over March Break, participating in bird, mammal, fish, and vegetation surveys to add to the data that supports conservation efforts there.

Finally, Lawrence is a GDCI mental health liaison. He volunteers during his spare time to support students, runs tutoring and study groups, volunteers at Kintail on the road, and has a part time job.

He researched the Materials Olympics at McMaster University, registered GDCI for the event, and then led his team to victory, earning \$1,000 for GDCI in the process.

The staff at GDCI is inspired by this young man who is appreciated by all for his guidance, kindness, sense of humour, and intelligence.

Tamara Crocker:

Tamara Crocker is an invaluable staff member at GDCI and has been an Educational Assistant (EA) with Avon Maitland District School Board (AMDSB) since 2003.

She is utterly devoted to the high needs students she serves and has worked diligently to educate herself and her fellow staff members about how to best meet the needs of exceptional students.

Crocker's care, compassion, and commitment inspire others and help create a positive environment for all at GDCI.

In addition, Crocker has been very engaged both at GDCI and in the community. She volunteers her time working with the Drama Club and runs the weekly meetings of the GDCI Hats and Mats group. In that group the students make knitwear and woven milk bag mats for distribution by the Goderich Community group.

Crocker also coordinates volunteers to come into the school from the community to work with the students.

She is involved with other aspects of the Community Hats and mats group, including assisting with media awareness, and the group's connections with various service agencies and schools in the area.

In addition, the group makes washable feminine hygiene kits for girls, which are shipped to different countries via Dr. Simone, Canadian Food for Children.

Crocker's concern for others is why she is a wonderful asset to the GDCI community.

Aurora Borealis in the Goderich skies

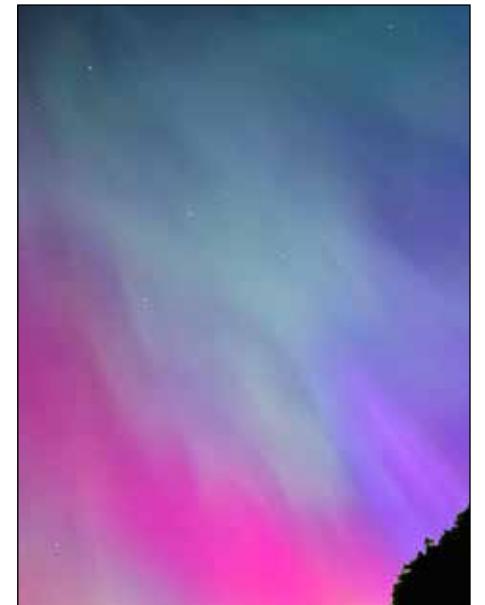
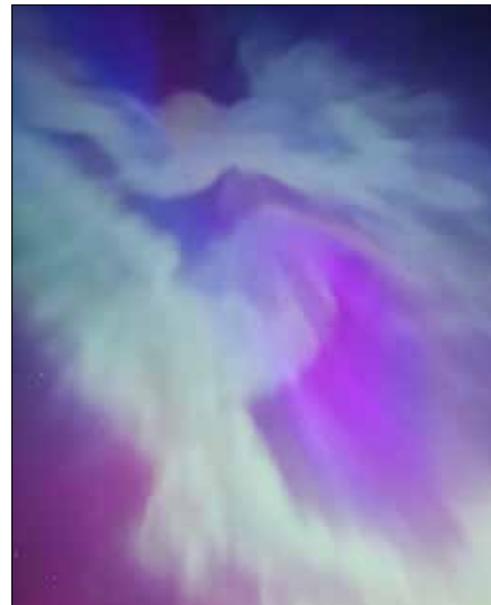
An aurora, also commonly known as the northern lights, is a natural light display in Earth's sky. They display dynamic patterns of brilliant lights that appear as curtains, rays, spirals, or flickers covering the entire sky.

The recent jaw-dropping northern lights display was due to a massive solar flare

from the sun. The sun flung wave after wave of charged solar particles toward Earth.

Those particles slammed into Earth's magnetic field, triggering what space weather scientists called a level G5 geomagnetic storm.

(KATHLEEN SMITH PHOTO)



Harbour Hill celebrates 10 years in Goderich

Residents and distinguished guests were treated to beautiful weather to celebrate Harbour Hill's 10th anniversary in Goderich earlier in May.

Staff, residents, Harbour Hill's CEO and President, and dignitaries were present for the celebration.

There was food, live music, and tours of the facility, to produce a lively, friendly, and celebratory atmosphere.

Goderich Mayor Trevor Bazinet, Goderich Councillor Liz Petrie, and Huron-Bruce MPP Lisa Thompson were special guests.

Bazinet called Harbour Hill another beautiful space for people to live, play, and still enjoy everything the Town of Goderich has to offer.

"Ten years – amazing. You look at this facility here, and they have expanded on

the original blueprint," Bazinet stated.

"It shows the importance of this facility here and how much it is needed in our community."

Bazinet attended Harbour Hill a few months ago and was part of a discussion with the residents.

"Just because you're in a facility, doesn't mean you're not part of this community," said Bazinet.

Bazinet stressed that Goderich is a community for everyone.

CEO and President Kevin Pigeon also spoke at the anniversary event.

"I can't speak enough about how truly unique Harbour Hill truly is," said Pigeon.

"I thank you very much for all of the support we receive from the greater Goderich community, and all the support we receive within the building."



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)



10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Above: Mayor Trevor Bazinet and CEO and President Kevin Pigeon (left).

Right: Residents and community members gathered earlier in May for the 10th anniversary celebration of Harbour Hill in Goderich.

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Publisher

Stewart Grant • stew@granthaven.com

Editor

Kathleen Smith • kate@goderichsun.com

Graphic Design / Sales Inquiries

Sarah Cairns • info@goderichsun.com

Business Development

Heather Dunbar • heather@granthaven.com

Billing Administrator

Cindy Boakes • boakescindy1576@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant

Wendy Lamond • wendylamond74@gmail.com

Contributors

Annette Gerdis, Tanya MacIntyre, David Yates,
Paul Knowles, Nancy Abra

36 Water St. St. Marys, ON, PO Box 2310 N4X 1A2
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Winning together for wellness

Split the Pot Lottery is back, and bigger and better than before with larger early reward prizes, and more hospital partners.

From May 9 until June 20, this collaborative fundraising effort supports 58 participating hospitals across Ontario and offers players 34 chances to win a minimum of \$600,000 in prizes.

There are 21 chances to win early bird prizes totaling \$100,000 and 13 chances to win a split of the grant prize payout totaling a guaranteed minimum of \$500,000.

The most recent grand prize draw in March saw the grant prize payout climb of \$1,077,915.

Split the Pot Lottery gives players the chance to win big and empowers them to choose how their support helps advance hospital health care.

By participating in the largest partnered fundraising initiative in Ontario, they have the power to make a big impact, con-

tributing to vital healthcare initiatives in their communities and across the province.

To give players more chances to win, the grand prize payout will continue to be divided among 13 winners, and there will be 21 chances for players to win a total of \$100,000 in early bird prizes.

Ontario patients win big too. A portion of proceeds from every ticket purchased goes directly to partnering hospitals through their foundations.

Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased by visiting splitthepot.ca

All tickets purchased before 11:59 a.m. on Thursday, May 16 will be eligible for all five early bird draws, plus the grand prize draws.

- Alexandra Marine and General Hospital (AMGH) Foundation is one of the partnering hospitals



Goderich Sun

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8. Newspapers should be locally-owned and operated

Goderich business community gathers at annual Mayor's Luncheon

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

On May 9 notable business owners, residents, and dignitaries attended the sold out 2024 Goderich Mayor's Luncheon at the iconic Beach Street Station.

Mayor Trevor Bazinet made his inaugural appearance and speech at the annual luncheon.

Bazinet, known for his dedication to and passion for the Goderich community, shared his journey to local politics, as well as his insights and plans for the future of the town.

Before his speech commenced, Bazinet paid tribute to former mayor, the late Myles Murdock.

"He was a mentor to me, and I wouldn't be standing here today if it wasn't for Myles," lamented Bazinet.

"He had a love and passion for this community like no other."

Stating that he is one small part of six other members of council, which works well together as a team, Bazinet paid tribute to the work council is doing together to enhance the town.

Recently, six members of council attended the Good Roads Conference, which had concurrent sessions.

In response to some social media public criticism that six members of council attended, and taxpayers' money went to paying for their stay at the conference, Bazinet said



(KATHLEEN SMITH PHOTO)

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Mayor Trevor Bazinet attended his first Mayor's Luncheon on May 9 at Beach Street Station.

council went as a team to invest in Goderich.

With majority of council at the conference, the team split up to attend each concurrent session, bringing information together in the end.

"We are going to these conferences for good reasons," added Bazinet.

"It's a good investment."

In addition to praising the volunteers and youth in this community and sharing his passion for continuing to make Goderich inclusive for everyone, Bazinet stressed how important the infrastructure project of the downtown core is.

"We have to do this, the infrastructure is over 100 years old," Bazinet explained.

"We are going to create something wonderful for the town to have for the next 70 years before it needs to be done again.

There's an opportunity to create a space that is welcoming and accessible for everyone."

Bazinet stressed that the current plans for the project are conceptual. Nothing has been decided upon yet, but the project will go ahead as it is necessary to replace the aging infrastructure.

"It's a smart investment for us to make as a council, to dive into this project and create something beautiful," he added, noting that council wants the project complete in time for the town's bicentennial in 2027.

"We want to celebrate it with a beautiful, new downtown."

The Mayor's Luncheon celebrates nearly 150 years of partnership between the Huron Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Goderich, tracing roots as far back as 1875 when the chamber was part of the Goderich

Board of Trade.

"This event provides a platform for the mayor of the day to review the past year's achievements and outline a vision for the future, directly addressing our local business leaders," said Colin Carmichael, President of the Huron Chamber of Commerce.

"It's a key opportunity to foster dialogue and planning shared progress in our community."

The luncheon is not just an event, but rather a tradition that embodies the spirit of Goderich, fostering dialogue, collaboration, and growth.

It was an opportunity to engage with community leaders and fellow citizens, united in a passion for the prosperity and well-being of the town.

In line with Goderich's commitment to inclusivity and innovation, Bazinet was accompanied by two distinguished guest speakers – Julie Sawchuk and Raj Mohabeer – who did not disappoint.

Sawchuk, an internationally acclaimed authority on accessibility, brought her wealth of knowledge and experience to enlighten the community on creating more inclusive environments.

Mohabeer, a leader in urban design, offered his expertise on shaping spaces that enhance community life and sustainability.

There was a total of 110 in attendance.

No date is set for next year, but the chamber aims for early May 2025.

Program Code of Practice drafted for Goderich

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

The Town of Goderich received grant funding for 2023-2025 to establish a Closed Captioning Television (CCTV) Program in the community.

The Town received a grant in the sum of \$47,000 for 50 per cent of the costs of the CCTV Program.

The remained of the costs for the program were previously allocated from the Police Services Reserve.

As a result, a CCTV Program Code of Practice has been drafted with respect to the installation, monitoring, and usage of CCTV cameras in Goderich.

Included in the Code of Practice is a Data Sharing Agreement with the OPP, which grants the police access to the CCTV data for the purpose of viewing, using, operating, and retaining data from the cameras installed in the town.

The Code of Practice sets out ways in which the CCTV system can be used and by whom. Unlike the town's camera at the waterfront that provides livestreaming for public viewing, the CCTV cameras will not be livestreamed.

"The Code of Practice sets out who is able to obtain video footage and review it, how the CCTV camera locations will be determined, and how the information may be stored and used," Michaela Johnston, CEMC, Accessibility and Health and Safety Manager explained.

The Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario has produced Guidelines for the Use of Video Surveillance, which the Town's Code of Practice abides by.

Privacy issues are addressed in the Guidelines as well as in the Code of Practice.

According to Johnston, the Town of Goderich has set out rules in accordance with the Guidelines and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) to ensure special care is taken in using the

technology.

"Cameras will not live-stream for public viewing," stressed Johnston.

"Cameras do not monitor private property or places where the public expect privacy. All recordings are destroyed if not required for an investigation."

The cameras will be recording footage at Rotary Cove and the Main Beach, specifically the road and parking lot areas.

This footage will be used by the Town of Goderich or police to investigate crimes and anti-social behaviour. Some cameras will be installed with analytics that provides licence plate recognition.

The goals of the Goderich CCTV Program are to contribute to the safe environment, to assist as one of the components of downtown revitalization, and to improve the ability of the OPP to respond to crime and anti-social behaviour.

"As with any technology, the use of CCTV programs is not intended to replace police work. Instead, it is meant to enhance it by offering an extra set of 'eyes' so to speak," explained Johnston.

"By simply having a visible security system in place, people are less likely to attempt to commit a crime in the area."

The Goderich CCTV Program aims to deter crimes and anti-social behaviour, while increasing the perception of safety and improving police reaction to crime.

As part of the CCTV Program, a public education campaign has been prepared to bring awareness to the community and visitors surrounding the presence of CCTV cameras.

Signage has also been prepared and will be posted in areas where the CCTV cameras provide coverage, as this is a requirement for any CCTV camera system.

Cameras are expected to be installed in late May to early June this year.

More information can be found on the town's website.

NOTICE to GRADUATES of GODERICH DISTRICT COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

The AVM J.A. Sully and Goderich Royal Canadian Legion Branch 109 (Lancaster) SCHOLARSHIP

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 109 Goderich invites you to apply for the above named scholarship if

- you are a GDCl graduate with high standing and
- have completed one full academic year at a Canadian university in Medicine, Dentistry or Engineering, or
- have completed two years in any Honours course at a Canadian university as an undergraduate.

Application forms may be obtained in person at the Goderich Legion or by contacting the Guidance Office at GDCl. The scholarship has a value of \$1000 and the deadline to submit your application is July 31, 2024. Completed applications can be dropped off or mailed to the Goderich Legion, Attention: Scholarship Committee Chair, 56 Kingston St, Goderich, ON N7A 3K4.

Note: If closed, phone the Legion at 524-9282 to arrange a date and time to pick up or drop off your application.

Council suggests changes to proposed plan for downtown core

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

During the planning process, B.M. Ross and GSP looked at two different cost scenarios. One was to replace what makes the downtown currently, and the other was to upgrade everything to the new designs.

"I think there is value in keeping the sidewalk face open so other uses can emerge," expressed Councillor John Thompson, who suggested to put in less trees, and possibly remove the boxed, concrete gardens from the design.

"These sorts of adjustments could allow us to keep to the spirit of the original, preferred design with a focus on pedestrian safety, comfort, and enjoyment."

According to GSP there are many elements, which would come into play for the total cost of this revitalization of the downtown core infrastructure.

Below ground there would be work done on electrical ducts, sewers and watermain, road and sidewalk base, soil cells and structural soils, and irrigation.

Above groundwork would include street lighting, roadway and parking, sidewalks and boulevards, intersections, and landscaping including planters, plantings, and trees.

"I ask that they [task force] come back with a revised enhanced design that includes more sidewalk space, perhaps less trees, less or no concrete planters, and to lessen ongoing operational costs," added Noel.

Council received a presentation and conceptual drawing outlining two options for the Downtown Square project at the Council session of April 8.

The options were the result of extensive community consultation. This involved a week-long charette.

The two options provided were a replacement of what there is, and a preferred upgrade. At the April 8 meeting Council requested a financial strategy for the two options presented.

Funding of the project options involves transfers from the Water Expansion and

Pollution Control Reserve Funds to support the linear underground infrastructure replacement and capital grants. This is to support the roadway, streetlight, and sidewalk portions of the project.

The use of these reserve funds is consistent with normal road construction funding practices and the purpose of the two reserve funds, according to Town of Goderich staff.

"I think we are moving in the right direction here," said Mayor Trevor Bazinet.

"We don't want to do this project, but we have to do this project. The infrastructure underneath the pavement that you cannot see is 103 years old. So, this council has decided it will be the council that does it."

Additionally, Goderich receives annual capital grants from other levels of government that are to be used to financially assist infrastructure projects.

These two grants are Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF) and Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF). These grants allow the funds to be used for such projects.

The proposed funding strategy includes an annual allocation to be funded by taxation, which would be slightly higher than recent allocations, but not outside of historic levels.

A proposed contribution of \$56,000 by the BIA has been included in this strategy. This still requires input and discussion with the BIA.

A relatively small amount of taxation support is proposed as well as the suggested contribution from the BIA. This contribution has not yet been discussed with the BIA, but the project would provide a benefit to properties and businesses in that area.

There are costs associated with the project such as plantings, seat walls, irrigation, and streetscape, that are not eligible under the OCIF and CCBF grants. This would require an alternate funding source.

Reserve Fund borrowing is proposed

to support the increased investment of the Enhanced Option. Any reserve fund borrowings would have an impact on annual tax levy via repayment over a determined period.

According to the report to council, the enhanced option would require a significant level of borrowings. Debt repayment and interest costs would be funded through taxation over the term of the loan.

The conceptual design introduces some maintenance challenges related to winter maintenance, drainage, and additional plantings that require an estimated increase in annual staffing costs of approximately \$131,124.

Staff are confident the detailed design can address the maintenance concerns while preserving the design's vision.

It was suggested that potential grant funding sources should be actively investigated to assist with the project funding.

"When it comes back, it's a concept we could consider. Doesn't mean we have to go with it. We might come back and say we like the first one and it's worth the extra dollars to invest," said Councillor Randy Carroll.

"We are financially prudent, and we have done a good job, previous council. We can't take credit for it, but we can take credit for continuing it."

Active pursuit of available grant funding should be a priority to mitigate internal funding requirements to support the project costs.

Additionally, Council may consider reducing the Town's gardens and flower beds in other locations to balance the additional maintenance requirements in the downtown core.

"A conceptual drawing is a like a draft drawing. You can tweak it, you can pull things, and that's where we are right now," explained Bazinet.

"We are asking for some tweaks to be made, come back with a new drawing and it will come back to the task force,

hopefully with more public consultation, and then a recommendation would be made to council for consideration."

Councillor Allison Segeren spoke on the importance of keeping in mind that this space, the downtown core, should be one of the main spaces that council spends money on. It is the centre of town, and it is where people gather socially and economically.

Council has not made a final decision on the conceptual designs proposed for the project.

"Part of the conversation is about balancing, but I'm not afraid of the idea of more money or more time being spent from a maintenance or cost perspective," added Segeren.

"No one would renovate their house with a singular plan and not ask other people who live in their house for their opinion. There is still time for people to send in their feedback, or ask questions, or comment on the process."

Direction from council was to provide another conceptual drawing with changes to the existing drawing, in hopes to lower some cost.

Council made a motion to send the draft plan back to the task force to reconsider the enhanced option. Council further requested that the task force revise the enhanced design and come back with more sidewalk space, less trees, less or no concrete planters, and less need for ongoing operational costs.

In closing, Bazinet made clear that the Downtown Task Force meetings are open to the public, just like any other committee of council. It is also available on video stream, or to watch the recorded video following the meeting, on the Town of Goderich website.

The Downtown Task Force received two separate conceptual options that will now be presented to council at the May 21 meeting.

This is an ongoing story. Updates will appear when new information is released.

Public Health reminds residents to prepare for emergencies

The week of May 5 to May 11 was Emergency Preparedness Week in Canada and this year's provincial theme was 'Plan for Every Season'.

Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH) reminds residents that everyone has a part to play in preparing for emergencies.

"Every household is encouraged to have an emergency plan," said Dale Lyttle, Public Health Inspector.

"Taking action to ensure you and your family are prepared for emergency situations throughout the year can help lessen the impact and stress of these events."

By taking a few simple steps, individuals and families can be better prepared to face a range of emergencies, anytime and

anywhere.

It's important to know the risk. Although the consequences of various disasters can be similar, knowing the risks that may be relevant to the community and region can help people be better prepared.

The types of emergencies that may occur in Huron Perth include extreme heat, floods, severe storms, tornadoes, and infectious disease.

It is also important to plan, as it will help you know what to do in case of emergency. Think about the unique needs of your household, such as young children, older adults, and individuals with medical conditions.

Also consider your pets. Keep the plan

in an easy to find place, for example, with your emergency kit.

For an emergency kit, put together basic supplies, including bottled water, non-perishable food, hygiene items, a flashlight, radio, first aid kit, and cash.

During an emergency, you may be without power or tap water.

Public health reminds residents to be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for at least 73 hours. Everyone in the household should know where the kit is stored.

Typically, public education has been focused on Emergency Preparedness Week each May, but for the last two years the Town of Goderich has promoted it during

other events and information sessions throughout the year.

In June there is a proposed one-hour presentation and discussion for seniors held at the MacKay Centre. Date is yet to be determined.

Throughout the month of June, the Town of Goderich has also proposed emergency preparedness events in the schools, discussing fire safety during information sessions.

In the month of August, a one-hour presentation and discussion has been proposed to be held at the Goderich Town Hall to discuss community security and safety.

Visit Ontario.ca/BePrepared and www.getprepared.ca for more resources.

McHappy Day in Goderich raises over \$7,000 for Ronald McDonald House

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

McHappy Day on May 8 in Goderich was a huge success and was the best McHappy Day to date, on the 30th anniversary of the fundraiser.

Residents in Goderich supported the RMHC through McHappy Day purchases, raising \$7,736 for Ronald McDonald House (RMH).

Any item purchased supported RMH and families with sick children across Canada.

A portion of the proceeds from any menu item help support this program.

Ten per cent of all orders went towards the Ronald McDonald House.

Individuals were also welcome to donate \$2, \$5, or \$10 to get a McHappy Day Heart at the local franchise in Goderich.

"Goderich has always been a great community that supports the local businesses and their charities," admitted Justin Reid, Owner/Operator of Goderich McDonalds.

"It's been amazing to be apart of this community for almost 20 years now. We've got a very supportive community."

According to Reid, there are many families from this area who are currently using the Ronald McDonald house.

In fact, Huron and Bruce counties are the two counties that use the RMH-SWO house the most.

"Not that that is a good thing, as you ever want to have to use the house, but this is what it's there for," Reid said.

"To keep families close, in a time of need."

The Goderich McDonalds had lots of activities and events inside the restaurant for kids and parents to participate in, and the Mayor of Goderich, Trevor Bazinet come out to volunteer.

"I want to say a special thank you to all of those people who came out, took time out of their busy schedules, and volunteered to help out on McHappy Day," added Reid.

"It takes everyone to do their part to



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

McHAPPY AT DRIVE-THRU

McHappy Day in Goderich raised over \$7,000. (L-R): Trevor Bazinet, Mayor of Goderich, Rochelle Cortez, McHappy Day Coordinator for Goderich, Hasan Yousef, McDonald's Field Service, and Justin Reid, Owner/Operator of Goderich McDonalds.

make these events successful, and it was so great to see the community come together and support RMHC."

Over the past 30 McHappy Day events, proceeds have helped RMHC and other local children's charities support families with over \$92.5 million raised to date.

"Across Canada, the impact of McHappy Day is felt every day by families who rely on RMHC to stay close to their sick child during the most unexpected and challenging time in their lives," said Kate Horton, RMHC Canada's President and CEO.

"While the impact of our national mission is far-reaching, the need for RMHC is great and growing."

Last year, McHappy Day raised over

\$7.5 million across Canada in support of RMHC and local children's charities.

In 2022, McDonald's Canada set a goal to donate over \$70 million to RMHC by 2026. This would help significantly grow the number of bedrooms for families across Canada over the next 10 years, from 554 bedrooms currently, to more than 860.

In Canada, 65 per cent of Canadians live outside a city with a children's hospital.

When a child from a rural community gets sick and needs to be hospitalized, families often must travel hundreds of kilometres for the treatment and to support their child.

At Ronald McDonald Houses and Family Rooms (RMHC), families are given a

caring place to stay close while their child is treated.

With bedrooms, kitchens, quiet spaces to be together, and a loving and supportive atmosphere, RMHC becomes a home away from home.

The first RMHC in Canada was opened in 1981, and since then 450,000 families have been supported by RMHC's programs.

There are 16 Ronald McDonald Houses across Canada, and they provide families with a home to stay while their child is treated.

Franchisees and its guests across Canada support the Ronald McDonald House Charities in different ways, including McHappy Days.

A tradition founded in 1977, the first Wednesday in May each year, McDonald's restaurants across Canada host McHappy Days to support RMHC.

RMHC programs are more than a place to stay. They give families the support and resources they need like meals, mental health, and wellness programming, and sibling support.

Next year McHappy Day will take place on May 14.



McHAPPY AT DRIVE-THRU
Mayor Trevor Bazinet worked the drive-thru at McDonald's on Suncoast on May 8.

Suspension orders issued to students with incomplete immunization records

Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH) issued 1,557 suspension orders to elementary and secondary students whose immunization records are incomplete.

Under the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA), students may be suspended from school starting on May 23 if their records are not updated by that time.

Initially there were more than 1,500 incomplete records. Nearly 70 per cent of those records have been updated since January when HPPH began sending notifications to parents and legal guardians.

"We thank parents for their cooperation thus far and we continue to work

with families to resolve the remaining school suspensions," said Karen Bergein-Payette, Manager of Immunizations at HPPH.

"We urge families who receive a suspension order to act quickly to ensure immunization records are updated before May 23."

Parents who receive a suspension order are asked to do one of the following:

- If your child is up to date on their immunizations, go to www.hpph.ca/icon to report the required information online, or call HPPH 1-888-221-2133 ext. 3558.
- If your child is not up to date on their

immunizations, contact your healthcare provider. If you do not have a healthcare provider, contact HPPH to book an appointment at a catch-up immunization clinic. Appointments can be booked online at www.hpph.ca/catchup or by calling HPPH

- If your child has a valid exemption due to medical reasons, conscience, or religious beliefs, or you wish to obtain an exemption, visit www.hpph.ca/exemption and follow the required steps. The suspension order also provides instructions on how to obtain a valid exemption.

A suspension order will be cancelled

(rescinded) if parents update their child's record with HPPH before the suspension date.

The Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) requires elementary and secondary school students to be immunized against certain diseases to attend school, or to have a valid exemption.

The purpose of the Act is to protect the health of children against these preventable diseases. It is the responsibility of parents and legal guardians to provide proof of their child's immunizations, or to provide a valid exemption, to public health.

Coalition against gravel mining seeks support

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

The Reform Gravel Mining Coalition (RGMC) is a coalition of Ontario residents' groups that help communities defend against the impacts of gravel mining.

The RGMC advocates for legislative and regulatory reforms.

Currently there are 4,000 subscribers to the RGMC.

One of the 12 member groups is Friends of Ball's Bridge and Little Lakes, based out of Huron County.

The coalition is calling on the Ontario government to safeguard lives and the environment by introducing an immediate moratorium on new mining application approvals.

Gravel mining can cause serious negative impacts on communities and the environment, including air pollution, loss of species habitat, noise pollution, water, and loss of farmland.

According to a report by the RGMC to Goderich Council on April 29, the aggregate industry provides the raw materials for cement production, highway construction, and urban sprawl. These all contribute to greenhouse gas emissions in Ontario.

Gravel and sand are non-renewable resources, and the RGMC stated that there needs to be a transition to alternative materials and lower consumption to meet climate goals.

According to the report, gravel mining consumes an average of 5,000 acres of land in Ontario each year.

Licenses for gravel extraction have increased from 183,000 acres in 1992 to 333,000 acres in 2020.

In Huron County, the Maitland Valley Watershed is already suffering negative

impacts of over 50 sand and gravel pits.

Gravel mining can permanently change the existing natural environment and causes other negative impacts to the surrounding area and community.

A moratorium on new approvals would provide an opportunity to update gravel mining industry policies and regulations to reflect current societal expectations and meet the national and international requirements addressing climate change.

In December 2023 the Auditor General of Ontario published the Value-for-Money Audit of the Management of Aggregate Resources.

Some main findings from the audit revealed that the industry self-reporting is failing, and that there is no guarantee of rehabilitation of pits and quarries.

The Auditor General's report on gravel mining in Ontario stated that the most recent study of aggregate supply and demand indicates a significant oversupply.

"Violations are widespread in the aggregate industry," the report stated.

"The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is failing to enforce aggregate regulations."

The Auditor found that three quarters of aggregate inspectors checked less than five per cent of the operations in their district. Up to 64 per cent of aggregate companies are violating regulations.

According to the report to council by RGMC, there is no need for new gravel mining approvals currently.

The government authorizes companies to be allowed to extract at least 13 times more aggregate than the province uses every year.

On average, 157.4 million tonnes of gravel were extracted annually over the past 10 years in Ontario. Two point zero five billion tonnes of gravel extraction are allowed each year from the 5,000-plus licensed gravel mining sites in Ontario.

It is important to note that 800-plus sites, approximately 15 per cent, are permitted to extract unlimited tonnages each year.

"The Auditor General reveals the true face of Ford's open for business approach," said David Jeffrey, member of the RGMC Steering Committee.

"The province has given the industry a free hand to operate as it please, leading

to a 'gravel rush' that benefits big corporations at the expense of communities, municipalities, and our quality of life in Ontario."

The Auditor's report was highly critical of the government's role in aggregate mining and its failure to protect residents and municipalities from the negative impacts of gravel mining.

It provided 18 recommendations for action for reform to the industry.

Within Huron County, the Ball's Bridge and Little Lakes Road area is an environmental treasure offering year-round recreation for the public.

It is a unique ecosystem where people come to hike, swim, skate, cross country ski, fish, canoe and kayak, picnic, spend time with family, take photos, have weddings, and generally unwind from the hustle and bustle of daily life.

At its centre is the historic Ball's Bridge, a heritage site saved from demolition by citizens in 2005.

At its flank are the three Little Lakes, home to wildlife, while encircling the entire area is the Maitland (Menesetung) River.

Yet the Friends of Ball's Bridge and the RGMC stress that there is a threat to the area.

Although this area is zoned AG1 and NE, it was long ago designated 'secondary extractive' even though the entire area is an ecologically sensitive area within the loop of the river.

In 2021 an application to mine the Little Lakes property was made by V.B. Sand Gravel.

If the application is approved, V.B. Sand Gravel will extract aggregates below the Maitland River water line. This would result in a large lake being left.

The experience of the area would be irreplaceably altered by noise and dust.

The area has a complex ecosystem of trees, plants, animals, bugs, birds, frogs, worms, and fungus, all working together to sustain this habitat and enable it to flourish.

According to Friends of Ball's Bridge, these gravel pits destroy the interconnected ecosystem of wetlands, river valley, and woodlands.

"If V.B. Sand and Gravel mines below the water table, drinking water quality, and water quality in the river itself could be deleteriously affected including river creatures such as fish, turtles, beavers, muskrat, and snakes," the report stated.

"The consequences are dire. Once destroyed, this rare and precious place will never recover. It cannot be restored. This

is forever. We owe it to ourselves, our children, and the future to save this green and generative place for generations of all living things."

Doug Tripp representing the coalition spoke at the April 29 council meeting in Goderich.

"The gravel mining industry in Ontario describes their business as benign. It's anything but. There are numerous impacts of gravel mining on communities, wildlife, and habitat," expressed Tripp.

"We've been advocating for about two years now for the imposition of a moratorium on new gravel mining approvals until the industry is reformed to address the impacts."

Twenty municipal councils in Ontario endorse the call for a moratorium.

Among the reasons for reform relates to the impact that gravel mining has on climate change.

"There are negative impacts, among them, the impact on grasslands, wetlands, forest, and wildlife habitat. There is a risk to local groundwater here in Goderich," added Tripp.

In Huron County, the Maitland Valley watershed is already suffering the cumulative, negative impacts of over 50 sand and gravel pits, according to the coalition.

Tripp stressed that the coalition is asking for a pause. It is not asking to eliminate aggregate extraction forever. It's a pause to allow time for an unbiased review or assessment of the industry and bring about reforms to make it sustainable.

Council was asked to join the list of municipalities supporting this move for a moratorium.

"I think the report does make a convincing case about the issue of aggregate mining and its negative impacts," Councillor Allison Segeren stated at the April 29 meeting.

"We don't have a gravel mine here in Goderich, so for the sake of the public, maybe you could provide advice for folks interested in this issue and what they might be able to do to get involved."

Goderich Council also suggested that the coalition take their points to the provincial leaders, including those in the area such as Lisa Thompson, MPP of Huron-Bruce.

According to Tripp, those interested in joining the coalition or learning more about the issue, they can head to the RGMC website that has information and links to resources. Individuals can also get in touch with Friends of Balls Bridge and Little Lakes.

<https://www.reformgravelmining.ca>
<https://www.littlelakesroad.org>



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Jane's Walk in Goderich explores its rich history



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)

JANE'S WALK INTO HISTORY

A group photo from Saturday, May 4 at the location of the Great Storm of 1913 Memorial statue. It was the most violent storm that ever hit the Great Lakes and lasted three days. The worst day was on November 9, 1913, in Lake Huron when eight ships sank, claiming 190 lives.

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Jane's Walk Huron 2024 invited the community to explore Huron County's rich heritage through 24 guided walks across 11 communities.

The walks took place on May 4 and May 5 as part of the global Jane's Walk Festival.

The walks are inspired by Jane Jacobs (1915-2006), an American Canadian writer, urbanist, and activist who championed a community-based approach to city-building.

Jane's Walks are free events that encourage people to discover unseen aspects of their communities and to use walking to connect with neighbours.

There were four themes in the Goderich walk.

One of the themes was affordable hous-

ing developments. Participants walked around the neighbourhood to learn about past and present housing developments, with a focus on affordable housing and non-market housing.

Those who participated learned more about how affordable housing is and has been funded, built, and managed, and the challenges and opportunities for future projects.

There was a theme of heritage conservation districts of the downtown core, and the rich history that the octagon of downtown has.

Another theme was an architectural walking tour around all eight sides of the Square, exploring the historic styles of the commercial block buildings.

Another walk was all about the west side of Goderich, and notable homes and notable families.

Robert Morris guided the west side walk

that brought in over 100 people during the weekend. The walk began and ended at Park House, and along the route Morris discussed 25 different locations.

Morris' daughter Sarah is the Jane's Walk coordinator for Windsor, and he was inspired by what she has done over the years.

Morris is a criminal lawyer and former Crown Attorney who lives in a beautiful historic home built in 1877. The west side home has had four judges live there.

"Goderich has so much history," said Morris.

"My talk was about notable homes and notable families."

There were 24 guided Jane Walks in 11 different communities, three of which were in Goderich. These walks take place in at least 27 other countries.

"The purpose of my walk and talk was to go back in time and tell people about

some of the fascinating people, historic homes, and important events that occurred back then," added Morris.

During the walk Morris discussed the founding of Goderich in 1827 and took the walkers by several historic sites. Morris started at The Park House, the oldest building in Goderich built around 1839, and took them past other notable spots such as the lighthouse, the Lewis cottages along the lake bank, and the judges' house.

"The people on the tour were genuinely surprised and amazed to hear some of the information conveyed on the walk," explained Morris.

"Jane's Walks give people a new appreciation of what has gone on before."

Morris was impressed with the interest that people showed on the walk, and he would like to do it again next year, perhaps focusing on the north side of town.



Above: The Goderich Lighthouse was built in 1847. The light from the lighthouse can be seen for 21 miles.

Top right: The Judges House at 85 Essex Street. Morris discussed the home's history and connection to the two famous cases, Melady and Truscott.

Right: The Hutchinson House was built around 1855. Extensive renovations have restored it to its original splendour. The home was gutted to its studs. The owners built three townhouses on the east side lot to complement the Georgian house. The townhouses are the first net zero homes in Goderich and the solar panels provide all their heat and hydro needs.



RTO celebrates 50 years

District 9 Retired Teachers recently celebrated 50 years as an organization on Tuesday, May 8 at Mitchell Golf and Country Club.

The organization, which now comprises not only teachers but also education workers and college professionals, as well as working educators, has over 1,100 members in the Huron-Perth District.

The audience was regaled with amusing stories and anecdotes by several past executive members of the organization: Mary Moffatt, Clare French, David McClure, Bruce Whitmore, and George Wicke, who at 90, was the oldest member in attendance and kept the audience in stitches.

George Wicke was honoured to cut the 50th anniversary cake for the occasion.

All of the members attending received a complimentary 50th anniversary history book compiled for the occasion.

During the event President Willi Laurie took the members through a time warp, and revisited 1974, the founding year of the organization. Laurie took members through memories of Watergate, the OPEC oil crisis, Barbara Streisand, flower children, the Beachcombers, and Vietnam.

Laurie also recognized the many mem-



RTO District 9 President Willi Laurie presents Linda Willis of Change Her World with a cheque for \$1,000. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)

bers in attendance who were over 80 years age, those who had at one time been on the executive of the organization. These 11 members had performed as past presidents, and two members – Carol McDonnell and Jane Cousineau – who worked on

RTO Provincial Committees.

President Laurie also recognized those who had been past award recipients for their exemplary contributions to the District or the Provincial organizations.

Also in attendance were Cathy Hugill, Gloria Reibling, and Bruce Whitmore, who received 25-year membership certificates and Shirley Kaufman, Lillian Logtenberg, Mary Moffatt, and Inge Wraith, who received 30-year membership certificates.

The final piece of the celebration was a wonderful meal served by the Mitchell

Golf and Country Club and music by the Irish Cowboys.

During the spring general meeting a District 9 donation was made to the Stratford-based organization Change Her World, which has built a school and library in Malawi, where young girls are educated and trained.

Some past graduates of this school are now university-educated nurses and teachers.

Also, during the meeting, it was announced that Brooke Currie, granddaughter of member Doug Currie, had been awarded the \$3,000 scholarship sponsored by RTOERO.

Brooke is continuing with nursing studies and plans to work towards being a nurse practitioner. She is particularly interested in geriatric work, and was recently on a study tour to Scandinavia to investigate the geriatric care system there.

RTOERO District 9 Huron-Perth at 50 is an active and vibrant organization. The umbrella organization has become a national one with over 84,000 members across Canada, and provides pensions, health insurance and social outlets for those members.

It is also a major player that works with many organizations dedicated to health, seniors' issues, and the environment, and advocates with the government at every level.

In May, RTOERO hosts its first International Summit on Aging in Toronto.



Ninety-year-old George Wicke, the most senior member in attendance, cuts the anniversary cake as RTO District 9 celebrates 50 years in Huron-Perth.



Mary Moffatt (from Clinton area), Shirley Kaufman, Lillian Logtenberg (from Goderich area), and Inge Wraith were honoured by RTO District 9 for 30 years as members.



Current President Willi Laurie and Past Presidents of RTO District 9 gather around the anniversary cake to celebrate 50 years. (L-R): Lorne Rideout, Willi Laurie, Jane Cousineau, Ray Switzer, Mary Moffatt, Annie Dozois, John Mann, and Bruce Whitmore. (Back row, L-R): Doug Bundy, Clare French, Gary Jewitt, Joe Hogan, and David McClure.

 **Goderich Sun**

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Gateway Lecture Series: A snapshot of early settlement experiences

The Syrian conflict caused thousands of people to be displaced, many of whom travelled internationally to escape.

By 2019, Canada welcomed and resettled 54,560 Syrian refugees, some of which came to settle in the rural areas of Southwestern, Ontario.

On Tuesday, May 7 from 12- 1 p.m. ET via ZOOM, Season 4, Episode 10 of Gateway Centre of Excellence in Rural Health (CERH)'s Virtual Lecture Series will feature a conversation on the experiences of Syrian refugee families. More broadly, the lecture will cover the health and wellbeing of migrants that come into rural communities.

The lecture entitled "A Snapshot of Early Settlement Experiences: Connections to Healthy Communities" will be led by Dr. Rana Telfah from the University of Guelph.

She will be sharing her doctoral research in Rural Studies. Her research explores Syrian fami-



DR. RAY SILVIUS

lies' early settlement experiences in different-sized Southwestern Ontario communities as it relates to housing, employment, health, and education.

Dr. Rana moved with her family to Canada in 2012 after having previous working experience in non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Jordan.

By 2016, she had completed a Master of Science in Rural Plan-



DR. WAYNE CALWELL

ning and Development at the University of Guelph. This academic pursuit has since led to her accomplishing her doctorate at the same institution.

Panelists for this lecture include Dr. Ray Silvius (PhD), an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, at The University of Winnipeg, and Mark Nonkes (MBA, MLIS), Local Immigration Partnership



MARK NONKES

Manager at the County of Huron.

Each brings a unique perspective, delving into the political economy of refugees, immigrants and migration in Canadian society, and current statistics for Huron County as it relates to housing, employment, and healthcare respectively.

This lecture will be moderated by Dr. Wayne Calwell, Professor Emeritus from the School of En-



DR. RANA TELFAH

vironmental Design and Rural Development, Guelph University.

Audiences for the lecture are invited to ask questions throughout the online presentation. The Gateway CERH welcomes everyone to engage with this material.

If you wish to attend this lecture, visit, and register on the Gateway CERH website at: <https://www.gatewayruralhealth.ca/lectureseries>

RCAF celebrates 100 years from the heart of Huron County

The town of Vanastra, formerly the RCAF Station Clinton, celebrates the Royal Canadian Air Force 100th Anniversary: 1924-2024.

What began on April 1, 1924, with Blue Lights on Canadian Military installations across the country, and around the world continues with the Air Force Day events on Saturday, June 8, 2024.

For one day the RCAF Clinton Mini-Museum will be held at the location that was the former A.V.M. Hugh Campbell School. Now the Fellowship Hall, Vanastra Christian Church, the location for the event will be at Front Rd. and 7th Ave.

The 1941 construction of the only highly top-secret Radar and Communications School was the beginning for RAF, then RCAF, then CFB Station Clinton.

The wartime training included British, Canadian, and American personnel in the timeliest undertaking, working to help save Britain and eventually Europe.

RCAF Clinton was the only base in Canada without a runway, and it became the largest base with the population of up to 3,000 training personnel and students.

This was considered the "university" of the latest training and equipment in flight electronics, and some of that equipment will be here for all to see on June 8.

The Secrets of Radar Museum began in the old Sergeants Mess but moved to London 21 years ago. Now, for one day, an RCAF Veteran honorary curator and support staff will be bringing back pieces of Radio & Communications School history. There are so many stories to tell.

The Huron County Museum will show artifacts from their local military collections. Huron had four major military installations established through the 1900s.

The Huron County Historical Society will be releas-

ing the 2024 Historical Notes, featuring stories of RCAF Clinton gleaned from diaries and scrapbooks of an actual resident of the PMQ's then and now.

From the words and photos of the personnel on base in the 1950s, the opening of the number one School of Food Service (first in Canada) will be on display.

Local historian David Yates will have the revised edition of "That Freedom May Survive" available.

Bonnie Sitter of "Onion Skins and Peach Fuzz: The Farmerettes" will be on hand to discuss the play of the same title running at the Blyth Festival Theatre, August 14 to September 7.

The "Streamliners RCAF Swing Dance Band 1941 to 1946" play will be running at the Goderich Livery Theatre, October 16 to 27.

This play is based on the story of two airmen from Clinton (Jake Perdue and Phil Sparling) and one from Goderich (Billy Carter), who became the founders of the best frontline entertainment band in Europe. It is based on Andy Sparling's book "Dance Through the Darkness". There will be a sneak preview (details to come) from cast and crew.

The Vanastra Heritage Trail as presented by Huron East Tours and Trails will be in guidebook format, with optional means to follow the streets of the old base, now commercial and industrial park.

This is also the Annual Village of Vanastra Yard Sale Day, with a popular food truck at the ball diamond and recreation centre.

More participants and displays are coming forward each week.

Join us to share your family stories; call or e-mail Pamela Stanley: 519-482-9914, or stanley_pam@hotmail.com

Weekend Quiz

1. What is the U.S federal minimum wage?
2. What percentage of Earth is land?
3. Anthropology is the study of what?
4. May the 4th celebrates which movie franchise?
5. How long is a marathon?
6. How long did the Han Dynasty rule China?
7. When was the American Revolutionary War?
8. How many points does it take to bowl a perfect game?
9. What color is Garfield the cat?
10. Are cocoa beans a fruit or a vegetable?

This week's answers are found on pg. 26

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Inaugural Children's Market in Goderich a success

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

The Petteplace family is passionate about creating opportunities for children to pursue their interests, learn more about themselves and learn skills that will benefit them for a lifetime.

In November 2023 Team Petteplace hosted a Children's Business Market in Clinton. After attending the market this year in Clinton, Mayor Trevor Bazinet spoke with Team Petteplace to bring the market to Goderich.

On May 4 the Team Petteplace Children's Business Market debuted in Goderich with 24 young entrepreneurs between the ages of 6-14 showcasing their unique businesses.

From natural beauty products, to fishing lures, home-baked dog treats to homemade chocolates, the market displayed the creativity and ingenuity of local youth.

The two-hour market had all four levels of government represented to offer words of encouragement and wisdom to the children.

Twenty-four young entrepreneurs gained experience writing a business plan and were given the opportunity to practice making eye contact and talking to members of the community.

At the market Team Petteplace awarded \$500 across four different categories because of the incredible sponsors who invested in local youth.

Sponsors included Community Futures Huron, Huron County Economic Development, Compass Minerals, Unifor 16-O, Experience Camping RV Sales and Service, and Fisher Glass and Mirror.

On top of that, over 300 people from the community showed up to offer encouragement and appreciation for all the young entrepreneurs' work.

"Our goal from day one has been to provide opportunities for youth to be equipped, encouraged, inspired, and supported," wrote Team Petteplace on Face-



CHILDREN'S MARKET

Pictured with Stacey and Jared Petteplace are Eva and Maura from Clouds of Sugar were awarded the 2024 Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

book.

"In Goderich, they were most definitely supported by their incredible community."

Darby from Pebble Play was awarded Most Impressive Presentation.

Alexa from The Hometown Harpist was awarded Best Entrepreneurial Spirit.

Audrey from Little Bark Bakers was awarded Greatest Business Potential.

Eva and Maura from Clouds of Sugar were awarded the 2024 Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

The market's aim is to provide an environment for young entrepreneurs to know they have infinite potential, and help these young individuals feel confident in moving forward with their passions and interests.

Mayor Trevor Bazinet who attended the inaugural market in Goderich in early May, had attended previous years in Central Huron.

Bazinet approached Jared and Stacey Petteplace to ask them if they would be willing to do the same event in Goderich.

"They kindly invited me to their home

for lunch and everything proceeded from there," explained Bazinet.

"I can't thank both enough; it was a wonderful event that was well attended."

Bazinet has already asked Team Petteplace to return to Goderich next year.

"Engaging the youth is so important, and providing them a stage, you should everyone how talented they are," added Bazinet.

"The youth are our future, and they deserve an opportunity to showcase their talents."

The Team Petteplace Children's Business Market is a two-hour, cash-only market showcasing businesses created by children in the area. The market is open to the public with the goal being to equip and inspire young entrepreneurs within a safe and encouraging environment.

In 2017 Stacey Petteplace and her husband were both college professors, and as they looked to have children eventually, they desired to create a more flexible lifestyle.

Team Petteplace dove into the entrepre-

neurial lifestyle and in 2018, had their first child.

"The tremendous amount of growth and confidence it instilled in us was something we knew we wanted to pass along to our son," admitted Stacey.

"When we thought more about it, we realized how valuable it could be to expose more children in our community to the entrepreneurial world."

Team Petteplace began the market in 2022 to help equip and inspire a new generation of entrepreneurs.

They recognized that there is a spark lit when children are given real-world learning experiences, especially when in a supportive and encouraging environment.

The first Children's Business Market was planned for April 2020 but had to be put on hold. According to Team Petteplace, the first market ended up being in Clinton in November 2022 and was so successful they doubled the event space for the 2023 market.

The November 2023 market was filled up with 30 child-run businesses and had 400 people through the doors during the two-hour market.

As the children work through creating a business plan, bringing their business to life, and showcasing their business to the public, Team Petteplace believes the kids are given a fun and exciting way of gaining valuable life skills. These include critical thinking, problem solving, financial literacy, communication, time management, perseverance, and resiliency.

"When we look at the incredible businesses the participants made, the ways in which they handled themselves and their tasks during the market, and the way they were supported by their community, we believe the Goderich market was a terrific success," added Petteplace.

As a result of the successful event, Team Petteplace plans on making it an annual market in Goderich and aims to have the next one in April 2025. Exact date and location are to be announced.



Audrey from Little Bark Bakers was awarded Greatest Business Potential



Alexa from The Hometown Harpist was awarded Best Entrepreneurial Spirit.



Darby from Pebble Play was awarded Most Impressive Presentation

Bayfield Lions Club ready to serve the community

Breakfast lovers should brace themselves, as the Bayfield Lions Club is back with their aprons and spatulas, and ready to serve you the beloved 55th Annual Community Breakfast.

On Sunday, May 19 from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Lions members will serve the community with a gastronomic extravaganza at the iconic Bayfield Community Centre.

This legendary tradition is etched into the very fabric of the Bayfield community.

This year the Lions Club will flip the tradition on its head and say goodbye to fried eggs and hello to the fluffiest, most indulgent scrambled eggs this side of Ontario.

Over 55 years the volunteers have cracked more eggs than can count to serve up breakfast to the community. An estimated 40,000 eggs have been used.

But it is not just about the food. Every bite supports the club's mission to support local heroes like the Clinton and Goderich hospitals, the Women's Shelter, Huron Hospice, the Bayfield Food Bank, and Lions camps for individuals with special needs.

Breakfast lovers' generosity directly transforms lives and uplifts spirits.

Behind every great event is an unsung hero. A round of applause to Sandy, the unstoppable force behind the scenes at the Bayfield Community Centre. Her dedication and support pave the way for unforgettable moments and lifelong memories at every community centre event the Lions Club coordinates with Sandy.

Mark your calendars for the morning of May 19. Cash or debit payable at the door. Children under three dine for free.

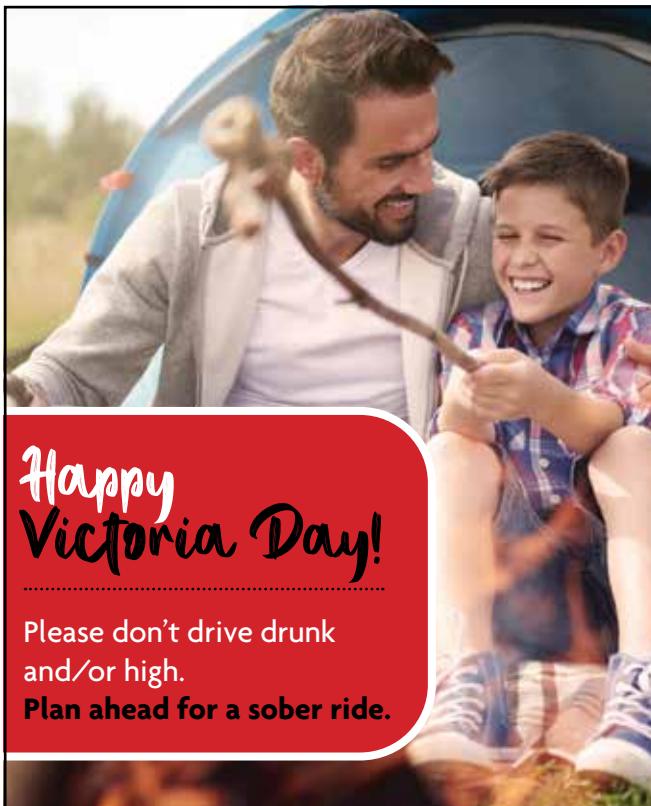
For just \$14 you can indulge in an 800-calorie feast fit for champions with eggs, sausage, toast, coffee, juice, and of course pancakes topped with the finest maple syrup courtesy of Westlake Maple.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

55TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

Volunteers ready to serve. (L-R): Tony Van Bakel, Jack Pal, Gulpreet Mann, Bill Rowat, Robert Tremain, Karen Scott, Rolly Scott, and Doug VanderHaar.



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Huron Hurricanes Aquatic Club compete in two more meets in April

The junior, intermediate, and the advanced swimmers from the Huron Hurricanes Aquatic Club (HHAC) attended the Brantford Aquatic Club Long Course Invitational Meet in late April.

The HHAC swimmers took a total combined time of 539.83 seconds off during the entire weekend of competing.

The top achievements for the weekend included:

- Henry A**
 - 5th place in 50m Free 34.05
 - 4th place in 100m Free 1:14.31
 - 1st place in 200m Free 2:42.16
 - 1st place in 400m Free 5:41.83
 - 1st place in 100m Back: 1:23.26
 - 3rd place in 200m IM: 3:10.10
- Kyler C**
 - 8th place in 100m Back: 1:15.44
- Stella B**
 - 4th place in 100m Fly: 1:25.48
 - 3rd place in 200m Fly: 3:26.32
- Isla B**
 - 5th place in 50m Fly: 43.70
 - 8th place in 100m Fly: 1:45.11

- Abygail C**
 - 7th place in 100m Free: 1:17.93
 - 3rd place in 200m Free: 2:44.39
 - 4th place in 100m Back: 1:30.66
 - 3rd place in 100m Fly: 1:31.83
- Sofia K**
 - 4th place in 50m Breast: 40.72
 - 6th place in 200m Breast: 3:13.53
 - 7th place in 400m IM: 6:22.20
- Reegan R**
 - 7th place in 100m Fly: 1:16.65
 - 6th place in 200m Fly: 3:07.97
 - 6th place in 400m IM: 6:20.03

A huge congratulations goes to all 12 swimmer that competed in the relays.

Two of the swimmers also qualified for more events at the Western Regional Long Course Championships that are taking place in Windsor on May 31 to June 2.

Henry A. qualified for the 400m Free and the 200m IM, and Abygail C. qualified for the 100m Fly.

At the end of April, HHAC's novice program attended their first meet in Port Elgin, competing at the Breakers TOPP Performance Devo Challenge.

For more of the swimmers, it was their first time competing.

Congratulations to all swimmers and coaches for all their hard work.




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SETTING CLUB RECORDS
Novice HHAC swimmers at their first meet in Port Elgin.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Zero Gravity Dance Company wins at Dance Canada Cup

Recently the Goderich-based Zero Gravity Dance Company (ZGDC) competed at a Dance Canada competition in Guelph.

The company won at both the pre-competitive and the senior levels, at which is called the Dance Canada Cup.

“In the pre-competitive level, students will dance between two to five hours a week,” added ZGDC.

“They perform at three dance competitions as well as a competitive showcase and two recitals with their group routines.”

To qualify for the most recent dance competition, students audition to be placed on the competitive teams.

Competitions are chosen by the studio owner and director at the beginning of the competitive season.

Typically, at competitions, there are anywhere from 8-15 other studios competing.

“We are extremely proud and excited to share that both the pre-competitive level and competitive level took the overalls making ZGDC the top studio,” stated ZGDC.

The dance company opened in July 2017, and has grown out of two locations within Goderich and is now located at one site on Anglesea Street.

Zero Gravity’s competitive level consists of both pre-competitive and competitive teams, and two years ago ZGDC also introduced a recreational show team.

“We offer these students the chance to go a step further in their recreational dance classes,” said a representative of ZGDC.

“Our show team performs in our competitive showcase and two dance recitals as well as one local competition. This enables the dancer to get a feel for the competitive experience.”

Zero Gravity has dedicated certified dance instructors who help mould a dancer to perform their best.

Instructors not only teach the technical side of dance we also teach conditioning and strength, giving dancers the endurance needed to perform at the top level.

Competitive teachers include Shauntell Schwartz, Ella Iza, Debra Jones, and Melody Mulligan.

ZGDC has seven show team members, 24 members on the pre-competitive team, and 18 members on the competitive team.

“Our competitive students dance for over seven hours per week,” explained a representative from ZGDC.

“The competitive team attends five competitions, two dance recitals, and our competitive showcase as well as being invited to various in-town events.”

ZGDC is proud to say their team has won numerous awards at each competition this year, recognized choreography awards and special showstoppers along with Top Studio.



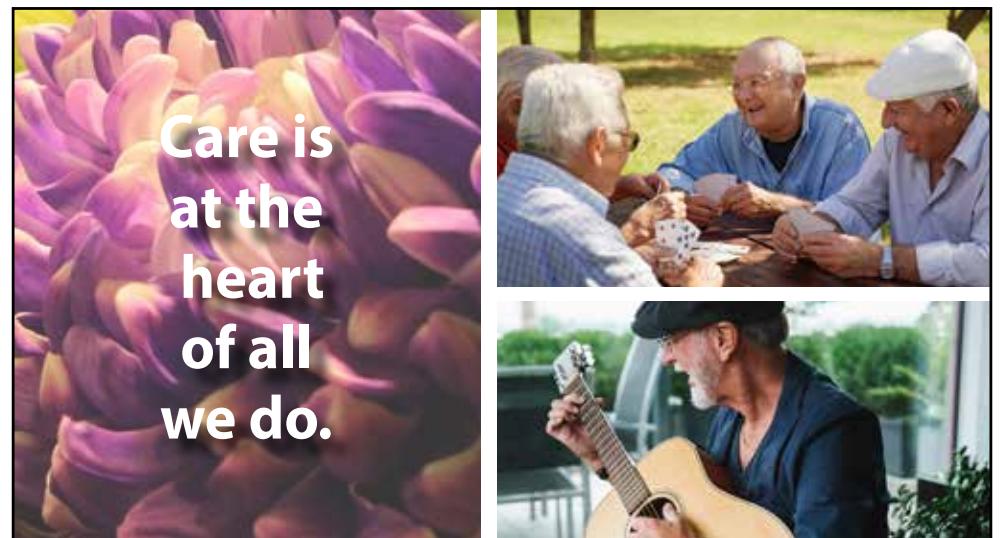
HOLDING THE HARDWARE

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)

Zero Gravity Dance Company won at both the pre-competitive and the senior levels, at which is called the Dance Canada Cup.



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Seahawks ready to soar in '24

DAN RIDSDALE

Sun Contributor

Early May will see the ball diamonds at Bannister Park and John O'Keefe Field busy with the youth of our community beginning their outdoor practices with their respective teams in the Goderich Girls Program.

It is during this early part of the season when every kid dreams of an amazing game winning hit, or a game saving catch.

The Girls Fastball Program continues to grow as the 2024 season will see a U9, two U13, two U15, and the U21s with three of the U21 players entering their final graduating season in the Huron Perth Fastball League.

Unlike winter sports like hockey and ringette, the girls ball season is a very condensed schedule that essentially is just over two months. This time period is packed with practices, games, tournaments, and league championships.

Additionally, and most importantly, there is a U7 Timbit Girls Development Program, which helps beginner Seahawks to begin learning the FUNdamentals of softball.

The Timbits Program is once per week skill development that begins in late May and runs for eight to 10 weeks.

This year's Timbits will be a smaller version, but there is always room for any interested young girls to join.

The big showcase for the Seahawk program is the July 19-21 third annual Lions Centennial Girls Fastball Tournament. Teams from across southwestern Ontario will travel to Goderich to participate.

Go Seahawks!



Legion 

Branch 109
Goderich

NOTICE OF ITINERARY VISIT

Rebecca Hyndman
Provincial Service Officer
London Service Bureau
Will be visiting Branch No. 109 Goderich
On Friday May 31st
Date At approximately 10:00 A.M.

Anyone wishing information, advice or assistance, regarding:

1. Disability Benefit Applications, Reassessments, Reviews, and Appeals
2. Referrals for Entitled Veterans to Treatment Benefits, VIP, and Special Awards
3. Information and Assistance with Rehabilitation and Vocational Assistance Applications
4. Applications for Benevolent Funds
5. War Veterans Allowance Applications
6. Information and Assistance for Widows

Are requested to contact the Branch Service Officer or Secretary of the local Branch to arrange an interview.

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Emmi Coups (#18) of GDCI looks to make a pass in the offensive zone to teammate Lainey Cox during their soccer game against St. Marys on May 7.



Emmi Coups (#18), and Shyanne MacDonald (#12) congratulate Sabrina McIlwaine (#8) on her goal against St. Marys during their senior girls' soccer game.

(STEWART GRANT PHOTOS)

Goderich and District Shuffleboard Club Results: April 23 – May 7

On April 23 the club had 39 members playing shuffleboard.

The club's lucky Domino's Pizza winner this week was Jim Gilchrist.

The three-game winners this week were Jim Gilchrist, John White, Bill Godfrey, and Dave Kelly.

Congratulations to all the winners.

On April 29 the club had 53 members who showed up for shuffleboard at Memorial Arena.

The Domino's Pizza winner on the day was Jim Gilchrist, once again – two weeks in a row.

The club's three-game winners this week were John White (two weeks in a row), Bobbie Moffat, Arnold Mitton, and Brian Pollock.

Congratulations to all the winners this week.

The club had 45 members who played on May 7.

The lucky Domino's Pizza winner was Beth Hodgins.

The club's three-game winners were Bruce Haselgrove, Ineke Namink, Frank Namink, and Eric Wheeler.

Congratulations to all the winners.

REMINDERS:

Ontario Shuffleboard Tournament held at Memorial Arena in Goderich takes place on Wednesday, June 26 and Thursday, June 27 from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., and Friday, June 28 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

ABC Tournament in Goderich at Memorial Arena is on September 12 from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m., and against from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.

Painting the lines at memorial arena will take place on May 22, and the Shuffleboard Club is looking for member volunteers to help.

Huron Hospice receives gold level music certification

Huron Hospice has received the coveted Gold Level Music Care Certification from the Room 217 Foundation, making it the first hospice in Canada to receive this recognition.

Room 217 resources offer instruction in music's thoughtful and intentional use in a person's care by designing ways to support residents and families that respect their autonomy, history, tastes, and physical, spiritual, social, and emotional needs.

"Music has always played an important role at Huron Hospice Bender House," said Deb Shelley, Volunteer Coordinator at Huron Hospice.

"Local musicians volunteer their time and talent to play at the hospice. Whether it is spiritual, folk, Celtic, or the lyrical sounds of a harp, we know music soothes

the soul."

With this certification, the hospice better understands music's importance for residents, families, volunteers, and staff.

Certification has allowed the hospice to make music an integral part of the care.

"It has been an exciting learning curve for us, and we are already seeing positive outcomes," added Shelley.

Certification took almost 12 months to complete, beginning with a 24-hour review of the soundscape, examining the sounds heard inside and outside Bender House and culminating in a research project focusing on the observation of music's impact on residents.

This project sparked further motivation to incorporate the intentional use of music in other aspects of hospice engagement in other settings.

The therapeutic value of music has been well-documented and based on the concept of whole-person care.

Music, particularly the gentleness of intentionally slower rhythms, is known to soothe turbulent, worried minds, and as a result, calms respiration and reduces rapid heart rates.

Music also provides opportunities for memories, person-to-person communication, and distraction from pain.

As a result of their training, the Bender House music care team, made up of both volunteers and staff members, has learned to build a collaborative approach to incorporating music-in-care.

Volunteer musicians and singers as soloists and in groups have broadened their understanding of the tremendous value of their music in the lives of those who hear

it – or sing along with it.

As part of the intake at Bender House, incoming residents and their families are asked what kind of music would enhance their stay.

"With certification, we expect to see decreased agitation, reduced isolation and ultimately improved well-being," Shelley added.

"Our staff and volunteers continue to grow in our understanding of the link between music and whole-person-care."

In 2018, Huron Hospice opened Bender House to provide higher end-of-life care. The hospice is a converted family home on 12 acres surrounded by agricultural fields and a woodlot.

Since 2018, 250 people and their families accessed the nursing care of Huron Hospice Bender House.

Music is alive and well at Seaforth Public School

Music Monday was celebrated with a passion at Seaforth Public School on Monday, May 6.

At this time every student in the school performed at least two times whether with their class, with the performance bands, with the choirs or with specialty music clubs such as the ukelele club, or rock band.

Both the noon hour performance and evening show were packed with parents, grandparents, and other supporters of music in the school, which is one of the few in the area to have a dedicated music teacher.

The school supports music education with a variety of music clubs as well as instrumental and choral programs.

Music Monday is market on the first Monday of May each year and was spearheaded by The Coalition for Music Education.

On this day every school across the country from east to west from sea to sea, sings a common theme song written for the occasion together at once.

This year's theme song was called 'We Are One' and was written by Connor Ross.

The Coalition for Music believes that music is key in learning and in life and it is their goal to see that all children have a quality program in music through their schools.



Mr. Hundey's Grade 7/8 class band entertains the crowd with 'Happy'. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)



The Seaforth Public School Primary Choir belts out 'Make Your Own Kind of Music' for Music Monday.



The Ukelele Club entertained with 'Best Day of My Life'. Students in the club range from Grade 1 to Intermediate.



The whole auditorium joined together to sing the Music Monday theme song 'We Are One' during their celebrations at Seaforth Public School.

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation offers student grant

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation (ABCF) is offering a \$1,000 Student Environmental Grant in 2024.

Since 2010 the foundation has presented this scholarship to 12 different students.

“We are honoured to provide this financial support to help a local student in their studies,” said Dave Frayne, ABCF Chair.

“We encourage eligible young people to apply.”

The \$1,000 student grant is awarded to a graduating secondary school student, or a student enrolled in university or college.

The student receiving the award is someone pursuing a post-secondary education in a course of study related to conservation and environment. For example, a course in biology, ecology, geography, forestry, fish and wildlife, agriculture, and outdoor education.

To be eligible, the student must be between the ages of 17 and 25 and have a permanent address within a member municipality of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) watershed area.

Those municipalities include Central Huron, Huron East, Bluewater, and South Huron.

Past winners of the Student Environment Grant include Ryan Finnie (2010), Raina Vingerhoeds (2011), Greg Urquhart (2012), Ryan Carlow (2013), Connor Devereaux (2014), Barb Alber (2015), Samantha Bycraft (2016), Marina Lather (2017), Ethan Quenneville (2018), Meghan Glavin (2019), Kristen McIntosh (2022), and Gwen Taylor (2023).

The application form and complete details are on the abca.ca website: <https://www.abca.ca/foundation/projects/>

The deadline to apply is Friday, May 31 at 4:30 p.m.

Police Reports

Police committed to traffic safety

Huron County OPP officers are getting ready for increased traffic in the county as the spring and summer months approach.

Officers participated in a province-wide Motorcycle Safety Awareness Week from May 1 until May 5.

The Huron County Detachment is committed to traffic safety including motorcycle safety awareness.

The beginning of May is when motorcycle riding season begins and is a good time for the OPP to remind motorists and motorcycle riders that safety is paramount.

The campaign promoted education and enhanced public safety on Ontario roadways.

The OPP conducts traffic enforcement every day of the year and remains committed to saving lives on Ontario roads, waterways, and trails.

The police offer tips for motorcycle operators: Take a professional training course; Wear an approved motorcycle helmet and fasten it properly; Wear highly visible clothing (especially at night) and make sure your headlight is functioning properly; Communicate with drivers in other vehicles by using proper signals, lane positions and brake lights; Keep an adequate space cushion when following, being followed, sharing your lane, overtaking vehicles, and when being overtaken; Slow down according to weather conditions; Scan ahead; Remain alert, keep hydrated and pace yourself; Limit the distance of your trip, take breaks as needed; Always ride sober.

All drivers must share the roadway and drive courteously and cautiously to avoid potentially dangerous incidents.

Huron County OPP encourages citizens to continue to report aggressive and unsafe drivers.

AMDSB and OPP partner to address hate crimes

On May 30 the Perth County OPP and the Avon Maitland District School Board (AMDSB) will come together to discuss hate and bias related incidents, and the widespread impact that these types of occurrences can have on a community.

Participants are welcome to attend the free event, which will be held at Listowel District Secondary School.

Two guest speakers – Jason Burt, the Human Rights and Equity Lead with AMDSB, and Tara Bolstad, Detective Sergeant with Perth OPP Major Crime Unit – will speak at the meeting.

Following their speeches, there will be time for questions and answers.

Community organizations will also be attending to provide resources to community members.

Organizations include Victim Services Huron Perth, Perth Mobile Crisis Response Team, Crime Stoppers of Huron and Perth, and the Huron Perth Centre.

Hate or bias crime is a broad legal term that encompasses a diversity of motives, perpetrators, victims, behaviours, and harms.

Research has identified individuals and groups that are at a particular risk of hate and bias crime victimization, including Indigenous peoples and those targeted because of race, religion, ethnicity, national orientation, sexual orientation, gender, disability, or an intersection of more than one of those identities.

Hate crimes may be directed at physical, symbolic targets (such as a place of worship), or at individuals or groups of people.

Hate and bias crimes affect not only individual victims, but also the larger community, and can have consequences that reach far beyond a specific incident.

They can cause trauma, fear, retaliation, and can foster community unrest.

These crimes send a message of rejection towards both the target of the crime, and their community.

“The impact of hate crime and hate or bias motivated incidents go far beyond a single victim and can cause members of the targeted community to be fearful,” said Inspector Wendy Burrow, Detachment Commander, Perth OPP.

“Everyone should be able to live free from fear within their communities. This presentation will provide information on how we can all take a positive approach to stand up against hate in our communities.”

Come learn how hate-motivated incidents are affecting our community, and how we can all stand up against hate.

Registration is preferred, but not required. Please visit www.eventbrite.ca and search for events from Perth County OPP.

The meeting is on May 30 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Listowel District Secondary School. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.



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Run Around the Square raises over \$20,000

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

On Sunday, May 12 runners took place in the Dave Mounsey Memorial Fund 'Run Around the Square' fundraiser marathon.

Runners could choose from a half marathon, a 5k run, and a 10k run around the Square. There was also a children's category.

According to the Dave Mounsey Memorial Fund this was the most successful Run Around the Square, with 380 runners participating, and bringing in a profit of over \$20,000.

According to Patrick Armstrong, Executive Director of the Dave Mounsey Memorial Fund, this is the most successful run to date.

The Dave Mounsey Memorial Fund is dedicated to the donation of life-saving defibrillators to public buildings in the name of fallen Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS, and Military members who have died in the line of duty.

The run donation of a defibrillator this year is in memory of Wingham native, Lt. Bessie Maud Hanna (1884-1921).

To date, the Dave Mounsey Memorial Fund has donated 180 defibrillators, which have saved six lives so far.

The Dave Mounsey Memorial Fund was created in October 2009 by OPP Constable Patrick Armstrong, along with the help and input of the Fund's first board.

The creation of the Fund was to donate and promote the use of life-saving defibrillators, which are donated to public access buildings and placed in the name of fallen members.

On October 25, 2009, the first defibrillator was donated by the Fund to the Blyth Theatre in the name of Dave Mounsey.

The Fund aims to continue the charity and community-based work that defined Dave Mounsey's life of uniformed service.

Steve and Mary's on the Square and Zehrs Goderich donated to the breakfast bar for the runners this year.

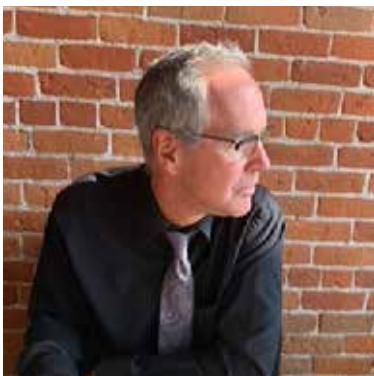


READY... SET... GO...

Three-hundred and eighty runners took part in the Run Around the Square, raising over \$20,000.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

UNTIL SOON. LIVE WELL: BREAKING IT DOWN AGAIN



STUART LENDER

Sun Contributor

The pathway of a life, the life of any person, is simply a way to find themselves. No one has succeeded. Not completely. It's never fully attainable. Just when we think we know and have settled into the pocket of our most comfortable skin – change is there on the horizon – and we are watching its strange advance.

We might distract ourselves, but it approaches.

If you are like me and have reflected upon the various upheavals of your life (certainly you've had them, or you wouldn't be living at all), you might be able to clearly mark them out on the timeline – the traumas, the great changes. I'm grateful that while I have experienced several setbacks, almost all have proven themselves to hold greater lessons than the hurt they caused. And though the sky, alas, is never cleared of clouds for all the days of our lives, "setbacks" sometimes are simply resets.

After all, where is the starting line? Upon birth we enter the woods, and humankind finds itself in need of others to survive far longer than any species of which we're aware. Yet years later we are told to create the life we want, as unique as we

are, but within the boundaries of propriety and the examples of acceptance, so that none of us feel threatened. What do we choose as our guides? Whom do we follow? For some, is there a choice at all?

Some of us floundered. Some of us braced ourselves valiantly against the gale. But all of us looked forward and took a step. The early years, in whatever circumstances we found ourselves, were either lacking, sufficient or abundant – in love, money, family relationships, friendships, opportunity, education – and fate was blowing in the wind weaving its way through our days as it still and ever does. Underlying it all, roots were growing, personalities, preciously malleable and re-shaped, that led us down pathways unfamiliar until they became familiar within the cloud of time and then changed

once more.

And that all illusive starting line of our own childbirth, of which we remember nothing, and the place where we began to grope after the vague and uncertain aspects of some future potential, are as a dream to us now from this perspective – as is the ever-distant sense of some new world beyond this one when we "end." We hope. We pray. We allow ourselves the fall back into ourselves, while each day we reset, by the moon and by the sun.

We fill ourselves up in so many ways. We carry everything sweet, everything bitter – and empty ourselves in hate or in love or in some associated characteristic. And this is what we do. This is what we have done.

And this is what we are – holy vessels of emotion – in which

I am the days that pass within me. I am the conductor. There is nothing outside of me that should have the power to dictate my response to it. And I choose love for myself, because if I don't, I cannot function. And I begin to see the secret of this – that the more I choose it, the more I become it, the more I challenge the darkness I create... until I become a human amongst humans, closer to myself, nearer to others, who search themselves and their worlds as I do, looking for who they really are. And when this is realized; then and only then, can I and they, reach out, embrace, and talk.

Stuart is a celebrant and the manager of Rutherford Cremation & Funeral Services. It is his privilege to serve, dispel myths, and give information concerning his field of compassionate service.

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GDCI team places first in Huron-Perth Envirothon competition

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

A team of five GDCI students – Justin, Kyuss, Gryffin, Jacob, and Hannah – won first place in the Huron-Perth Envirothon competition.

As a result, this team of environmentally minded students is now heading to provincials at University of Waterloo from May 26 until May 29.

GDCI got first place as they were the highest scoring team on their tests, as well as their presentation. Overall, they received a 90 per cent on their work.

Student teams are also graded on their ability to develop and pitch a solution to an environmental issue with limited time and resources. The combined scores from the testing and presentation components determine ranking at the regional event.

Student teams participate in regional events, and 30 teams from across Ontario compete at the provincial event. Only one team will represent Ontario at the Virtual National Conservation Foundation (NCF)-Envirothon Championships.

Envirothon is a high school team competition focused on the environment with five different topics that teams study for.

Envirothon is focused on four core topics: Forestry, Soils, Aquatics, and Wildlife.

Teams of five participate in an in-person workshop where experts from their team focus on a workshop based on their topic.

Envirothon took place on April 30 at Morrison Dam Conservation Area with the following experts: Aquatics – Rosalind Chang, ABCA Healthy Watersheds Technician; Soils – Ross Wilson and Brooklyn



FIRST PLACE FINISH

Five GDCI students – Justin, Kyuss, Gryffin, Jacob, and Hannah – won first place in the Huron-Perth Envirothon competition. As a result, this team of environmentally minded students is now heading to provincials at University of Waterloo from May 26 until May 29.

Rau, ABCA Stewardship Technicians; Wildlife – Julie Stellingwerf; and Forestry – Amy Lejcar, Into the Woods Landscape Architecture and Arboriculture.

Students are challenged to showcase their environmental knowledge for a chance to advance to the provincial competition.

“The goal of Envirothon is to engage our high school students in the environment and give them hands on practical in field experience,” said Cassie Greidanus, Conservation Education Coordinator, Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority.

“It’s important to get students to think about the environment in such a constructive way because in a few years they will be the generation working in this field and making the decisions about restoration and be caretakers of this land.”

Study guides are made available for students to prepare for their local events and the competition.

Envirothon also explores a current environmental issue each year, related back to the four core topics.

The current issue was biodiversity in a changing climate.

Biodiversity, the collection of all life on Earth, is all around. This includes diverse ecosystems, ecological processes, species, and genes.

However, global biodiversity is rapidly declining due to climate change and other anthropogenic causes.

Biodiversity in a changing climate was the topic of the year, and students received an amazing experience to listen to a presentation by Madeline Morrison, University of Toronto Master of Science Candidate studying Pugnose Shiners in the Old Ausable Channel in Grand Bend.

Envirothon aims to increase students’ awareness of the natural balance and complexity of environmental ecosystems.

According to Greidanus, getting students into nature is the best way to develop empathy towards Mother Earth and to build a connection with the natural environment.

“Without this connect, there becomes a large disregard for our environment, and as stewards of this land, we need to ensure we are treating it with respect,” added Greidanus.

It also aims to increase students’ understanding of basic science concepts in the four topic areas.

Students worked as a team to write four tests (forestry, soils, aquatics, wildlife), and then to also do a presentation to a panel of judges about biodiversity in a changing climate.

The students had to complete the workshop, as well as study for the tests.

On test day, they had to complete four tests, each work 30 marks, and they were

only given about 25 minutes to write the tests.

Then the students had to prepare for their presentation about ecological restoration of a farmland.

Forests Ontario is the leading charity focused on the management and delivery of high-quality tree planting programs, interactive forest education resources and awareness, and dedicated to making forests greener.

With planting partners, Forests Ontario has successfully planted approximately 43 million trees to date, and enhanced, maintained, and created more than 1,000 hectares of grassland habitat.

Forests Ontario is the lead agency of the Ontario Envirothon, which is a unique, environmentally themed academic competition that immerses students in hands-on learning and discovery.

Through this program, Forests Ontario offers budding environmental leaders a chance to explore education and career paths in the natural sciences and network with potential mentors.

Envirothon provides students with hands-on experience with forests, soils, wildlife, and aquatic ecosystems, while team-based activities are designed to develop critical thinking, problem solving, teamwork, leadership, and communication skills.

According to Forests Ontario, effective management of natural resources, conservation efforts, and climate change mitigation are necessary to enhance the resilience of nature.

Envirothon uses field testing to develop critical thinking, problem solving, teamwork and communication skills.

In addition to a series of timed, written tests, teams of students are challenged to develop and pitch a solution to an environmental issue, which is graded by a panel of volunteers with expertise in environmental sciences, project planning, governance, education, or community engagement.

According to Allison Hands, Education Manager, Forests Ontario, the GDCI team earned first place by demonstrating a strong knowledge of environmental science concepts, teamwork, public speaking, and critical thinking.

“More than a competition, the Ontario Envirothon builds a network of aspiring environmental professionals, and green leaders, who will tackle growing environmental issues,” said Hands.

“Envirothon calls on high school students to build environmental awareness and leadership through practical, hands-on experiences, enabling them to make informed, responsible decisions that benefit the earth and society at large.”

Judges this year at the Envirothon competition were Derry Wallis, Huron County Climate Change and Energy Specialist, John Thompson, Goderich Councillor, Emily Dearing, Friends of Hullett Event Coordinator, and Donna Taylor, Huron Stewardship Council.

Visit <https://forestsontario.ca> for more information.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

THANK YOU

The 532 Maitland Air Cadet Squadron want to thank the Maple Leaf Chapter IODE Goderich for their continued sponsorship. Your sponsorship will assist in the continued education of our cadets.

We want to commend you on the great work and support you provide for your community.

A project to spruce up entrance of Clinton Cemetery

In what has taken just over a decade to complete, Jean Jardine's project to spruce up the entrance of the Clinton Cemetery is complete.

Donating the entrance gate, stones, dirt, shrubs, and flowers to spruce up the entrance, Jardine spent around \$50,000 in just over a decade, to complete this project.

"It was all covered in weeds," said Jardine.

"I wanted it more welcoming and for people to see a nice entrance when they are entering the cemetery."

Jardine who was raised in Londesborough, and lived in St. Marys with her husband, moved to Clinton to be closer to her parents when she and her husband retired.

Her husband, and her parents are all buried at the Clinton Cemetery, and Jardine said she visits at least once or twice a week to water and caretake around their graves. It was recently she noticed the entrance needed some care.

Jardine hired others to help with the project, to install the gate and help with moving the stones into place. Her and a friend worked on the flower beds.



(KATHLEEN SMITH PHOTO)

WELCOMING ENTRANCE

The newly renovated gate to the Clinton Cemetery, generously donated by Jean Jardine.

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ADVERTISE LOCAL

Relocation of the dog park proposed

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

A report to council on April 29 proposed the relocation of the current, temporary dog part to 438 Parsons Court.

This relocation will provide a larger, more environmentally friendly sustainable area for the dog park. It would be integrated into the existing trail network of the Maitland Woods, while preserving the wooded area of the property.

According to the report by Sean Thomas, Director of Community Services, Infrastructure and Operations, the existing dog park is unfavourably situated next to the wastewater treatment plant.

The proposed new location encompasses a partially wooded area adjacent to Maitland Woods, providing an ideal setting for a permanent dog park.

The new park would be nearly double the size as the existing one on Sunset Drive, and also allow dog walkers access to the trails.

Moving the dog park also aligns with the discussions surrounding the extension

of Warren Street as a result of the housing development.

According to the report, the Estate of Doris Stanworth bequeathed \$10,000 in 2020, specifically for use at the dog park, which can be used towards development of the new site.

Staff consider this dog park relocation to be done as part of the 2025 budget, and if approved, implemented in 2025.

Approval at this stage, allows for planning and budgeting to proceed.

As for funding the relocation of the dog park, part of the cost can be offset by the \$10,000 from Stanworth. If applicable, additional costs will be evaluated and proposed under separate report to Council.

The motion for council was to concur with the proposal.

"This is something we are looking at happening in 2025," explained Mayor Trevor Bazinet.

"I want to thank Sean Thomas for his work behind the scenes looking for another location for our dog park that has been called a temporary dog park for about 18 years."

Celebration of Life

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'Don't look Ethel': The 'streaker' fad in Huron

DAVID YATES

Sun Contributor

It has been 50 years since the 'Streaker' fad reached its peak on April 2, 1974, when 34 year old James Opel trotted nude across the stage during a live broadcast of the Academy Awards ceremony.

Just as the debonair English actor, David Niven, was introducing Elizabeth Taylor. Unflummoxed, Niven reacted with a wry smile and said, "the only laugh that man will ever get in his life is by stripping off and showing his shortcomings?"

The Academy Award run was the high point of the fad but, it was too late, Huron County had already been exposed to the streaker fad.

In mid-March 1974, a Blyth Standard reporter described a streaking incident in Blyth when an unnamed man, on a bet, stripped off his clothing and ran from the Memorial Hall across the street to the Queen's Hotel and back.

Unfortunately for the streaker, his 'adventure' did not end there. Someone hid his clothes and so the streaker "had to extend his streak several blocks to his home," according to the Blyth Standard. The reporter, who seemed to have intimate knowledge of the streaker's identity quipped "lucky, he didn't live in Auburn."

In Goderich that same week, a pair of streakers made a sudden appearance that same week. The Signal Star laid bare the streaking exploits of a miner wearing nothing but his safety equipment (boots, belt, and hard hat) who ran through the mine shaft at 1,700 feet (perhaps setting a record for the lowest level streak in history). Despite the best efforts of three co-workers, the streaker was neither caught nor identified.

Another incident at the Dominion Roads Machinery Company when a naked male 'ran happily' through the plant causing only a minor disturbance. As with all other Huron incidents, recognition of the nude offenders was impossible as witnesses failed to identify faces.

Another reported streaker at the Bedford Hotel was dismissed as only a 'slight light' streaker who only 'momentarily' dropped his drawers. One eyewitness claimed that the Bedford streak was merely "an up and downer, and not a Full Monty type strip and streak so the incident barely counted.

Considering the cold of the March

weather, the streakers were a confident lot not afraid of risking the ridicule of showing their assets to the public.

Clinton News Record editor, Jim Fitzgerald, has the distinction of capturing a streaking incident on film. Fitzgerald snapped the backside of another unnamed streaker who ran from the Clinton Hotel into a waiting taxicab.

Fitzgerald's is the only known photo of a streaker in full stride from the rear. In the years since, the identity of the unknown streaker has been hotly debated online but, today, it would be hard to conclusively identify him.

After the Academy Awards, no event was immune from the streaker fad. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hamilton, of 181 Blake Street, were quietly celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary at the Maitland Golf and Country Club when a streaker made an impromptu run through the celebration. No mention was made of the Hamilton party's reaction.

The streaker trend tried to gain a bit of respectability. An advertisement appeared in the Signal-Star for a "Hire-a-Streaker Service". The new small business promised to take off their clothes "and will streak at weddings, church events, Academy Awards and other social happenings." Hire-a-Streaker also offered discounts for charitable organizations.

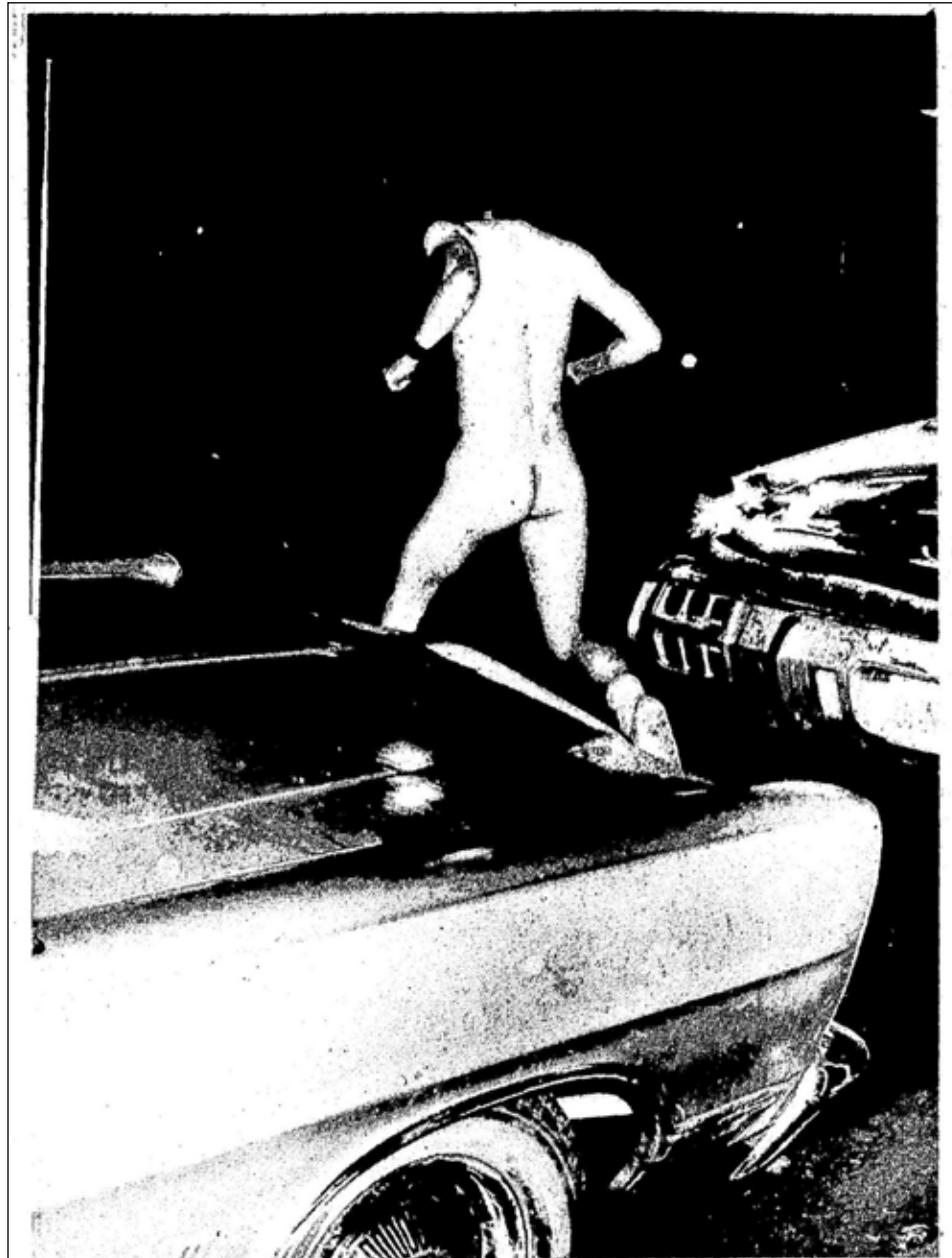
Bill Findlay, of the Wingham Advance Times, attributed the streaker trend to alcohol and young people who took bets at parties and dances "to shed their clothes" and dash through a crowded room which was a reasonable assumption.

All reported streaking incidents involved young males (there is not a single reported incident of a female streaker in Huron County which, undoubtedly, would have received far more media attention had there been one).

The excitement over streaking incidents soon petered out as law enforcement caught increasing numbers of bare devils. In Clinton, police nabbed a young man streaking through the town's main intersection.

In April, a 19-year-old streaker from St. Thomas was apprehended after he startled a St. Joseph woman when she answered a knock on the door. The OPP promptly charged the 19-year-old with indecent exposure, trespassing, car theft and the theft of a fishing boat.

In July, when the Zurich Citizen News reported that a streaker made a mid-



Streaker

visits town

Streaking came to Clinton last Friday night as an unidentified man wearing nothing but a pair of socks streaked through the Clinton Hotel and out into a waiting car. The News-Record photographer caught the man in this pose just after he had left the hotel and was crossing the street in below freezing temperatures. (News-Record photo)

(AMY ZOETHOUT, HURON COUNTY MUSEUM PHOTO)

SHIELD YOUR EYES

Jim Fitzgerald's Clinton News-Record photo of a Clinton Streaker in full flight.

night jog down Bayfield's Main Street, it was the last mention of a streaking incident in the local press.

Certainly, there were far more incidents of streaking in Huron County than the local media reported but one thing was certain. By early summer, once the streaker fad was laid bare, it passed and became

something of a bore for the staid good citizens of Huron County.

After 50 years, the only cultural relic of the streaking fad is Ray Steven's "The Streak" of which the most identifiable line is "Don't Look, Ethel!..... In fact, the shortness of the streaker fad became just a small part of our cultural history.

 **Goderich Sun**

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Peavey Mart
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Pick Up Locations

Getting back to our gardens: Top books for all skill levels



AVERY BAKER-GREAVES

Sun Contributor

With the warmer weather upon us, we know that we're itching to get back out in our gardens.

Here are some fantastic "go-to" books for those like-minded garden enthusiasts. Don't be intimidated if you're just starting

out, these books are for all skill levels.

A Garden for the Rusty-patched Bumblebee: Creating Habitat for Native Pollinators (Ontario and Great Lakes Edition) by Lorraine Johnson: This is your go-to resource for how you can best support and protect pollinators in your backyard. According to the authors, you'll learn how to "cultivate patches of pollinator paradise!"

The Gardener's Guide to Native Plants of the Southern Great Lakes Region by Rick Gray: Our very own Fincher's recently hosted author Rick Gray for a book signing featuring this very book. In addition to providing information about 150 species of native plants, The Gardener's Guide to Native Plants

also provides you with photos to help you easily identify each one.

Grow Now: How We Can Save Our Health, Communities, and Planet-one Garden at A Time by Emily Murphy: Author Emily Murphy walks you through how you can foster biodiversity and improve soil health through regenerative gardening (including, but not limited to, 'no-dig' gardening, composting and mulching, and planting edible perennials).

100 Plants to Feed the Birds: Turn your Home Garden into A Healthy Bird Habitat by Laura Erickson: This book will help you better understand how you can support our feathered friends year-round by providing them with trees to shelter in and

plants they can eat.

Grow More Food: A Vegetable Gardener's Guide to Getting the Biggest Harvest Possible from A Space of Any Size by Colin McCrate and Brad Halm: Authors Colin McCrate and Brad Halm explain how you can make your backyard garden as efficient and successful as possible. Learn how to gauge your crop's health, how to store your harvest, when to plant, and more.

Visit our online catalogue to place holds on any of these gardening resources and more: huron.bibliocommons.com

Want to learn more about gardening? Join us for a day of green-thumb camaraderie at the first-ever Community Seed Swap being hosted at the Hu-

ron County Library's Goderich Branch on Saturday, May 11. Drop in between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. to peruse our Seed Library, pick up seeds for your garden, donate some of your own seeds to the collection, and gather valuable gardening resources.

The Goderich and District Horticultural Society will be on hand from 1-4 p.m. to showcase their mission and offer insights on how to get involved. Don't miss this opportunity to cultivate connections and cultivate your garden skills.

For full programming details or to learn more about the Library's Seed Library, visit: huroncountylibrary.ca

Avery Baker-Greaves is a Branch Assistant at Huron County Library in Goderich

Eight factors that contribute to better mental health



TANYA MACINTYRE,
RED ROOF RECOVERY

Sun Contributor

Over the years, multi-billion-dollar industries were created to serve this illusive and subjective thing called happiness.

We're told that happiness is the goal and we're inundated with messages telling us to buy something or take something to look better or feel better, because looking better and feeling better apparently leads to happiness.

Duke University conducted a study on happiness that revealed

some interesting points. Happiness is, generally, a temporary experience that's dependent on circumstances and situations.

For example, we might be happy when we're having an ice-cream cone, but not so happy if the scoop falls off the cone.

The Duke University study came up with Eight Factors of Happiness and I prefer to call them factors of contentment because they encourage us to foster effective skills to cope with the challenges of life in a healthy way.

The eight factors are:

1. Nursing a grudge can be a contributing factor to depression. Our mental health can be better served when we can accept an apology never received and forgive someone who isn't sorry.

2. Pre-occupation with past failures and mistakes can lead to depression. Your mental health can be better served when you stay in the present moment and

be thankful for every breath you take.

3. Ruminating on things you can't change is a waste of time and energy. Focus on what you can change and control.

4. During stressful times it's tempting to become withdrawn and reclusive. Stay involved and active every day.

5. Everyone is dealing with life's sorrow and misfortune. Refuse to indulge in self-pity when life hands you a raw deal.

6. All you need is love. How many songs have been written to express this sentiment? Cultivate love in your life and stop keeping the company of people who don't cultivate love in their lives.

7. There's a gap between expectation and ability. That gap can sometimes equal feelings of inadequacy. Keep your expectations realistic and stop exposing yourself to images and messages that are unattainable.

8. Self-centered, egotistical people score lowest in any test

that measures happiness. We are conditioned to be better - look better, perform better, wear better clothes, make more money, win-win-win at any cost. It's exhausting to feed the ego. Instead, stay focused on self-care to counteract traits of egoism. Focus on love, compassion, humour, and loyalty in your life.

And always remember the benefits of having Unconditional Acceptance for yourself.

Just by the fact that you're alive, you can acknowledge that there's no valid reason why you can't fully accept yourself.

The complexity of 'self' can't be evaluated. There's a tremendous emotional advantage to accepting yourself. Unconditional self-acceptance is NOT an excuse for self-serving, inconsiderate behaviour.

Living in a social group, you accept that your acts have consequences. Regardless of what you do, however, you remain a unique, complex, fallible hu-

man who's in a constant state of change.

You can also acknowledge that - for these reasons of uniqueness, complexity, and change - you cannot validly rate your totality, personhood, or "self."

Traits and behaviours can be evaluated, measured, and improved, using the approach of "what's within my control?"

Read more about the benefits of Unconditional Acceptance here:

<https://redroofrecovery.com/addiction-recovery-resources/>
Tanya MacIntyre is a certified CBT Practitioner, Mental Health Professional, and owner/operator of Red Roof Recovery.

DISCLAIMER: *This content is not intended to constitute, or be a substitute for, medical diagnosis or treatment. Never disregard advice from your doctor, or delay in seeking it, because of something you have watched, read, or heard from anyone at Red Roof Recovery.*



LOCAL MATTERS.



Remember that time when **Amazon** sponsored your church fundraiser?

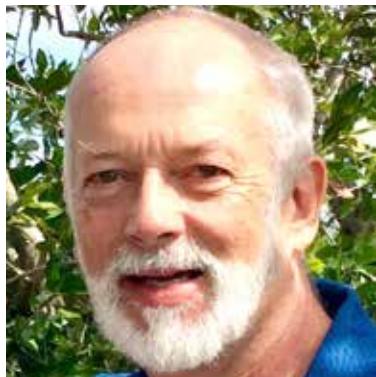


Remember when **Facebook** bought a case of Girl Guide cookies to support your daughter?



Remember when **Google** provided free pizza to your child's soccer team when they won the championship?

OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Working to tell the truth at Mount Vernon



PAUL KNOWLES

Sun Contributor

It's a stereotype, but one that contains a fair amount of truth; Canadians and Americans are very different from one another. I feel that distance has increased over the course of my lifetime, although that may or not actually be the case.

At any rate, we certainly seem to deal with the problematic issues of our histories quite differently. Here in Canada, we have seen powerful pushback against putting historic figures on pedestals. In the U.S., the misdeeds of historic American heroes have often been swept under the carpet.

Or maybe less than I thought.

So, when we were invited to visit Mount Vernon, I agreed with some considerable trepidation. Mount Vernon was the home of George Washington, hero of the American Revolution and the first President of the United States. He was also a lifelong slave owner. So, which Washington would we meet as we visited his estate in Virginia, only minutes from the United States capital that bears his name?

It turned out, both of them. And that openness to often ugly realities turned my skepticism into a



(PAUL KNOWLES PHOTOS)

The striking front view of George Washington's Mount Vernon home.

forthright recommendation that Canadians should, indeed, visit Mount Vernon. Go for the history, for the honest attempt to deal with a horrendous heritage, and for the sheer beauty of the place on the banks of the Potomac River.

The site is huge. You can walk as much as you want – though there is also a shuttle service from the lowest parts of the estate – near the wharf on the river, to the high ground where the house is situated. The highlight may be the house itself, which was occupied by George and Martha Washington for almost 45 years and contains authentic and often original furniture. But there are many outbuildings, some housing farm animals and some with interpreters like the working blacksmith.

There are gardens, a demonstration farm, Washington's tomb and, close by, the Slave Memorial and Cemetery.

I say the house – accessible via scheduled tours – is the highlight but, in truth, the real high point for us was in a small outbuilding where a wonderful actor in costume and character as Martha Washington, regaled us with the story of the place, added an unending supply of personal anecdotes about her “husband” and confronted the terrible reality of being a slave owner.

She told us Washington had personally owned 123 enslaved people at the time of his death. Mount Vernon guides share the information that the phrase, “enslaved people,” has been adopted wherever possible in an effort to acknowledge their humanity. He reportedly treated them humanely and Washington's will freed all his slaves.

Martha honestly noted the irony in this – a man who had lived his entire life owning enslaved people finally set them free only after his death. In fact, they were

to remain in slavery until Martha died, but she freed them early on Jan. 1, 1801, just over a year after George Washington's passing. Martha died in 1802.

And the story is even more complicated because there were actually 317 enslaved men, women and children at Mount Vernon in 1799. Those not owned directly by George Washington were attached to Martha, but she did not own them. She was a widow when she married George, and the enslaved people remained the property of her husband's estate, managed by her, but leaving her no authority to free the slaves.

She appealed to her grandchildren to set them free, but they refused. George even tried to buy them from the estate, but that effort failed. The majority of Mount Vernon's enslaved people remained enslaved after both George and Martha were gone.

All of this is acknowledged at the Slave Memorial and Cemetery – to me, the most moving site

on the property.

Surprisingly, Mount Vernon is not a government-owned-and-operated place. In the mid-1800s, with the place falling into disrepair, it was purchased and restored by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, which continues to own the estate and receives no government funding.

This Ladies' Association made an historic decision in 1929. A marker was placed on the property in the location of the slave cemetery. It honoured an unknown number of enslaved people – certainly well over 100 – who were buried in the area in unmarked graves.

In 1983, the present memorial was added as “a lasting tribute to the memory of those individuals who lived and toiled in bondage here.”

The whole of Mount Vernon is fascinating. And yes, you learn a lot about the first president of the United States, the man who led the American forces to victory in the Revolutionary War. But you also learn so much about the issues that have caused deep divisions in that country, from then to now.

It's a place where there is at least a sincere attempt being made to tell the whole of the story. And it's also an entirely beautiful destination where visitors feel free to stroll, to relax on chairs on Washington's porch or on the nearby lawn, and enjoy the striking view of the Potomac River.

In short, it is very much worth a visit.

Paul Knowles is an author and travel writer, and President of the Travel Media Association of Canada. To contact Paul about travel, his books, or speaking engagements, email pknowles@golden.net.



An amazing actor who played Martha Washington, and offered deep insight into the lives and thoughts of the first President of the United States.



The Slave Memorial and Cemetery at Mount Vernon.

Riddles

Why was the music teacher not able to open his class room?
Because his keys were on the piano.

Why couldn't the shipmates play cards?
The captain was sitting on the deck

If a rooster laid a white egg and a brown egg, what kind of chicks would hatch?
None. Roosters don't lay eggs.

What did the vampire bring to the baseball field?
His bats

What kind of dog can jump higher than a skyscraper?
Any dog, skyscrapers can't jump.

What is black and white and read all over?
A newspaper.

What's the difference between a teacher and a train?
The teacher says throw out that gum and a train says chew, chew

What kind of witch lives at the beach?
A sandwich.

Why did the rooster cross the road?
Because he wasn't a chicken.

Why was the dog sitting next to the fire?
He was a hotdog

Sudoku

8	2				6	9		
7					1	4		
		4	3			2	5	
		3		5		7	9	
	4						1	3
		8				5		
					7			5
				9	2			
3	1						2	9

Solutions on page 26

Featured Pet



ZELDA

She is 7 years old, she is my spirit animal and a total sweetheart. She is the best companion. She is owned by Eric.



Nominate your Pet of the Month by emailing info@goderichsun.com

Word Search

SPRING FLOWERS

M	Y	D	K	H	G	X	J	A	F	Z	W	F	K	B	Q	J	K	P	W
Q	N	F	A	W	H	I	M	T	F	K	N	S	D	U	V	C	V	O	H
I	O	M	Q	E	N	J	E	E	Q	V	Z	U	E	Z	N	F	Q	R	N
N	E	R	P	H	B	Q	Y	L	T	X	D	O	F	Y	S	I	A	D	X
H	P	E	G	B	S	X	R	P	A	M	A	Y	Z	B	R	U	A	W	R
B	G	V	A	L	S	Z	J	Y	L	I	D	O	F	F	A	D	V	O	F
A	Y	T	F	E	U	Z	H	O	C	V	G	T	U	N	D	J	I	N	Z
D	A	Z	M	E	K	B	H	V	J	J	X	H	K	D	P	A	N	S	Y
Q	L	F	I	D	Q	A	E	K	D	C	V	B	L	O	S	S	O	M	S
T	C	R	P	I	F	X	A	L	M	J	Z	H	X	I	Z	C	O	M	S
H	D	C	Z	N	O	Q	R	W	L	R	A	N	U	N	C	U	L	U	S
U	C	E	P	G	R	O	T	V	W	N	W	H	T	K	C	Y	C	M	J
P	H	F	K	S	S	V	B	J	Z	V	Z	M	T	M	P	O	B	W	H
X	E	M	N	P	Y	N	D	Z	C	X	E	U	A	V	R	I	G	B	B
X	R	O	T	C	T	Z	P	X	G	A	F	G	Z	C	L	U	D	P	Y
P	R	G	U	D	H	P	X	F	I	E	N	N	J	O	Q	P	L	S	H
E	Y	K	L	O	I	L	V	U	O	O	D	Y	X	N	T	D	R	M	Q
Q	Z	U	I	S	A	V	P	G	L	R	J	U	U	V	Z	J	E	G	T
X	J	Y	P	T	C	A	L	I	L	O	T	D	B	K	D	U	K	F	I
W	A	H	T	N	I	C	A	Y	H	S	I	R	I	U	I	O	A	X	K

- Tulip
- Daffodil
- Hyacinth
- Cherry Blossom
- Lilac
- Iris
- Peony
- Crocus
- Daisy
- Forsythia
- Magnolia
- Pansy
- Ranunculus
- Bleeding Heart
- Snowdrop

CLASSIFIEDS

Email to inquire
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OBITUARY



ANNE MARIE CHRISTENSEN

Anne Marie Christensen passed away in the wee hours of April 28, 2024.

Born in Hamilton to Teresa Chisholm and Fred Crawford, she grew up in Goderich, where she married Don Hamilton (1933-2007) and they raised four children. Life for Anne included marriage to David Gornall (-1989), and then Erik Christensen (-2014) both of Clinton. Each time her family grew and her greatest joy was the grandchildren to cuddle.

Anne will be remembered in her community with her work at the Bluewater Psychiatric Centre in the upholstery department, later in Clinton at the Stroke Centre; and with her fun times with the Bluewater Creative Needle group, and through her travels with the local RV club, the Nomads.

She is survived by her children Rhea and Klaus Seeger, Christine and Randy (deceased) Charge, Richard Hamilton and Shirley Patterson, and Randy and Suzanne Hamilton; her grandchildren: Peter and Marilou Seeger, Sarah Seeger and Chris Clarke; Avril Anne and Andrew Hulbert; Dexter Hamilton; David Dawson, Michelle Hamilton; Dale Hamilton and Jesse Hamilton.

The Gornall family included Jan, (deceased), Ted, Paul, Wayne and Pam and their families.

The Christensen family included Bjarne (deceased) and Camille Christensen, Ove and Carol Christensen, Keld (deceased) and Karen Christensen, Henry Christensen (deceased), and Jane and Wayne Lyon. Grandchildren Allan Christensen and Paul Christensen; Justin and Kim Lyon, Brittany and Ryan McGarvey; Rory Christensen; and Kristine Christensen.

Anne will be missed by all her family including the numerous Great Grandchildren.

There will be a celebration of life on Anne's birthday, June 14, 2024 when she would have been 90 years old. Friends and family are invited to attend at Falconer Funeral Homes, Bluewater Chapel, 201 Suncoast Drive East, Goderich, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Memorial service will follow at 1:00 p.m. in the funeral home chapel.

Donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Society, or simply plant a native plant in her memory.

Messages of condolence for the Christensen family are welcome at www.falconerfuneralhomes.com.

SERVICES

Have you been affected by someone else's drinking? Al-Anon Family Groups could help YOU! Call for time and place. 1-800-706-9833 or App Available

FOR SALE

TREES: Shade trees, Fruit trees, Apple, Pears, Peaches, Plums, Sweet and Sour Cherries, Apricot, Nectarines, Blueberry, Haskopp, Black Chokeberry, Grapes etc. Lots of Spruce, Pine, Cedars for windbreaks and privacy hedges, Sizes 1 to 6+. Flowering shrubs and much more. Come check us out Mon-Sat 7:00am - 6:00pm Martin's Nursery 42661 Orangehill Road Wroxeter (1 concession north of Wroxeter on Belmore Line)



THANK YOU

The 532 Maitland Air Cadet Squadron would like to thank the citizens of Goderich for their generous support to the tag day on May 4th.

We especially want to thank the following local businesses for allowing the cadets to tag at their store. Canadian Tire, Food Basic, Giant Tiger, Home Hardware, Peavy, Rexall, Wal-Mart and Zehrs.

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COMING EVENTS

Email to inquire
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Community Prayer Meeting

Open to all church denominations in Goderich and area. Goal to pray for our communities and our families (discussion, questions are welcome) It is our desire that God be glorified in our prayers and discussions. It is our desire to better our community. Location: Goderich Library- meeting every Wednesday and Thursday at 6:30 pm and Friday at 3:00 pm For more Info please call/text Irena 416-333-2431 Please invite friends and family

Bingo at the Legion

On Sunday, May 19 and Sunday, May 26 at 12 p.m. Join the upstairs of the Legion when doors open at 12 p.m. Early bird game at 1:25 p.m. Canteen open. Last Sunday of every month is a \$1,000 jackpot.

Euchre at the Legion

On Tuesday, May 21 and Tuesday, May 28 at 7 p.m. Join the Tuesday night Euchre party at the Legion. Admission is \$5.

Goderich Jammers

On Wednesday, May 22 and Wednesday, May 29 at 7 p.m. Join other musicians and music enthusiasts at the Goderich Legion for a jam night.

IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's Goderich

On Saturday, May 25 from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. at GDCl. This is Huron Perth's largest awareness and fundraising event and calls on participants of all ages and abilities to take action, walk, honour, and help support people living with dementia.

BIA Farmer's Market OPENING

On Saturday, May 18 and Sunday, May 19 at Courthouse Square. Every Saturday and Sunday morning until October. From 8 a.m. until 2 p.m.

BIA Sunday Market OPENING

On Sunday, May 19 at Courthouse Square. Every Sunday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. until October.

HAVE A COMING EVENT COMING UP?

Let us know! Contact:
info@goderichsun.com or
call 519-655-2341

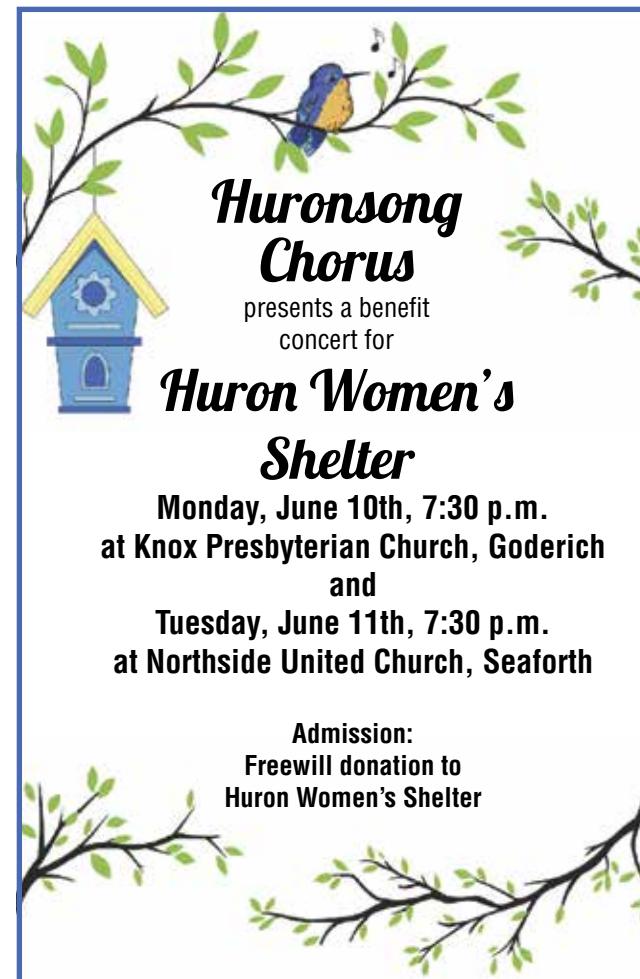


FRIDAY AFTERNOON CRIBBAGE
Starts at 2 pm
No experience needed
Just the need to have fun!



\$2

Prizes for the hands of 24 points and greater!
Sponsored by the LA and proceeds to the LA to Branch 109



Huronsong Chorus
presents a benefit concert for
Huron Women's Shelter
Monday, June 10th, 7:30 p.m.
at Knox Presbyterian Church, Goderich
and
Tuesday, June 11th, 7:30 p.m.
at Northside United Church, Seaforth

Admission:
Freewill donation to
Huron Women's Shelter

SUDOKU									QUIZ ANSWERS	
8	2	1	5	4	6	9	3	7	1.	\$7.25 USD
7	3	5	9	2	1	4	8	6	2.	29%
6	9	4	3	7	8	2	5	1	3.	Humanity
1	6	3	8	5	4	7	9	2	4.	Star Wars
5	4	2	7	6	9	8	1	3	5.	26.2 miles (42.2km)
9	7	8	2	1	3	5	6	4	6.	406 years
2	8	9	6	3	7	1	4	5	7.	1775-1783
4	5	6	1	9	2	3	7	8	8.	300 points
3	1	7	4	8	5	6	2	9	9.	Orange
									10.	Fruit

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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SHOP LOCAL

Sunsets of Goderich



The secret to happiness is having something to do. Kelly Hubert and Ben Hubert had a paddle near the pier.

(JUDY HUBERT PHOTO)

To submit photos of the sunset, email kate@goderichsun.com

We invite you to our community-focused Open House at Jokey North America!

Join us for an inside look at Goderich's local injection mold manufacturing facility. Take a guided tour and witness our innovative production processes, learn about our sustainability practices, and explore our latest products!

Meet our team, who will be on hand to answer questions and showcase our expertise.

Saturday, June 22nd, 2024

150 Mitchell Street, Goderich ON

10 am – 2 pm, tours will be given every 30 minutes.



Don't miss this exciting opportunity to visit our facility.

St. Marys Independent The Wilmot-Tavistock Gazette 

STRATFORD  

PUBLICATION DATES:

WOODSTOCK INGERSOLL ECHO: JUNE 7

ST. MARYS INDEPENDENT: JUNE 6

WILMOT-TAVISTOCK GAZETTE: JUNE 6

GODERICH SUN: JUNE 13

STRATFORD TIMES: JUNE 14

Introducing our Seniors Month feature, celebrating the remarkable seniors who enrich our communities during Ontario's Seniors Month in June. This annual nationwide celebration is more than just a tribute—it's a recognition of the invaluable contributions seniors make to the vibrancy of our community.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to align your brand with the spirit of Seniors Month and connect with a passionate audience eager to celebrate the seniors who have made a lasting impact. Reserve your space today!

Heather Dunbar - 226-261-1837 | heather@granthaven.com | www.granthaven.com

June is Seniors Month

Working for Seniors

ontario.ca/SeniorsMonth

Ontario 