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Briefly

Winchester Skating Club

WINCHESTER – Spring registration is now open. Out of the Finch arena the program will start April 4 to June 13. Parent and Tot, CanSkate, and PreStar will run once a week on Sunday mornings from 9-9:50 a.m., STARSkate will run twice a week on Wednesday and Sunday. Star 1-3 will be Wednesdays 6-7:05 p.m. and Sundays 10-10:55 a.m., Star 4+ will be Wednesdays 6:45-7:50 p.m. and Sundays 10:35-11:50 a.m. Contact the club at: winchesterskatingclub@live.ca.

Community grants

NORTH DUNDAS – Community groups/organizations are eligible for community grants.

Previous recipients have been awarded funds for promotional signage, decorations for community spaces, support for a new community program and purchase of special operating equipment to enhance services.

Five \$400 grants are available at each intake.

Applicants must submit a letter with information about their group:

Name of group; type of service provided in North Dundas; who is on executive team; how long you have been in operation; what the funds are being used for and how the funds will benefit the organization and impact on the community; a copy of applicant's finances.

Deadline is April 1. Contact Meaghan Meerburg, director of recreation and culture at 613-774-2105 ext. 236 or mmeerburg@northdundas.com for more information.

THE CHESTERVILLE RECORD

Serving Stormont and Dundas Counties since 1894

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Winchester couple is off to Africa

Vince Zandbelt and his wife Charlene pose with Vince's father's DKW motorcycle, which was the centerpiece for his fundraising campaign for Ride for Dad this past summer. Joining them is family member Calvin.

Morin Photo

Bike Night organizer wins top fundraising award

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

WINCHESTER—This year has been an unusual one for all of us including Winchester's Vince Zandbelt, the organizer of Bike Night in Winchester.

Bike Night is a great opportunity to fundraise for various local causes.

The pandemic caused Bike Night to be cancelled, so, Zandbelt decided to come up with Plan B.

He kicked off a fundraiser for Ride for Dad and because of his effort, won the big prize from the Ride for Dad group for top fundraiser. The prize is a 14-day African motorcycle trip courtesy of Renedian Adventures Global Motorcycle Expeditions.

He was surprised by the news.

"It was not on my bucket list. I never really thought about it. But when it comes up, I will be glad to put a check mark beside it," said Zandbelt.

Continued on page 2

North Dundas closes in on a reduction in tax rate

Joseph Morin
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

WINCHESTER – It's all over except for the shouting as North Dundas inches its way to the end of their 2021 annual budget calculations.

For the first time in over 20 years the North Dundas commercial and residential tax rate is going unbelievably backwards.

The budget has not been formally accepted yet by councillors, but their Wed., March 10 budget meeting was the one where they verbally finalized many budget considerations resulting in a decrease in last year's residential tax rate of 2.1 per cent.

That tax rate does not include the rate generated by the United Counties of SD&G portion or the Upper Canada School Board.

The final vote will take place at the March 23 council meeting, but between now and then it could change, however the municipality is not expecting it to.

Mayor Tony Fraser said, "There is a reduction in the levy, and a reduction in the tax rate; it's almost unheard of."

Fraser said the budget was a good one. "We are looking at doing roads. We have an aggressive road plan in front of us and this budget addresses the first part of that plan."

He said the municipality is also going to put in a trackless sidewalk machine for clearing snow off of sidewalks.

"This is a pandemic and it is one of the concerns that we all have. The times are difficult. The pressures on people are varied. There was a feeling of let's make sure we do the right thing," said Fraser.

Continued on page 3



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MacLeod promises huge financial relief for tourism sector

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

OTTAWA – Hundreds of millions of dollars have been promised to Ontario’s Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Sector minister Lisa MacLeod made the promise during a March 12 “Tele-Townhall” meeting, where she announced that this week, March 15 to March 19, was going to be a “big week” filled with important daily announcements.

She acknowledged the one-year anniversary of the COVID-19 lockdown, stating that this sector was the first hit, the hardest hit, and the one that will take the longest to recover. The Nepean MPP said she has been “very aggressive” in her work as the Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Minister pushing for supports to help sector businesses and organizations survive the pandemic.

While she was unable to provide any concrete information about re-opening, as this is in the hands of the health department, she said there is a five-year recovery plan in place. “I understand the frustration,” she said, adding that she hopes to have more to say in the next couple of weeks about when the re-opening will happen and how it will unfold. She said her team is “working around the clock” to prepare.

When asked about digital changes and how sector organizations could adapt, MacLeod said a website (Ontario.live) was created to help people get digital content. She said the long-game vision is to take the website and make sure the world knows what Ontario has to offer. MacLeod encouraged listeners to read the white paper (mtc.gov.on.ca/en/Reconnecting_Ontarians.pdf) for answers to the majority of questions.

Correction

In the March 11 issue of *The Chesterville Record*, in the article on the Monkland and District Recreation Centre (MDRC), the vice president of the MDRC was identified incorrectly as Mike Shea, his name is Matt Shea. We apologize for any confusion as a result of the error.

Hundreds of millions of dollars have been promised to Ontario’s Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Sector...stating that this sector was the first hit, the hardest hit, and the one that will take the longest to recover.

– Nepean MPP, Lisa MacLeod

She thanked all those in the Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, including her team, for how they have handled the pandemic, saying, “You’ve really made us proud.”

Fundraising award

Continued from the front

My wife Charlene is going to come with me. She is even more excited than I was when I told her.”

Zandbelt is all about volunteering in his community.

Earlier in the year, he found and restored the DKW 1965 motorcycle his father had owned as a young man in Holland. He presented it to him on his 90th birthday.

The mix of honouring his father’s youth, and the Ride for Dad campaign was a natural fit.

He took the bike around the countryside all summer long and asked individuals and groups who donated to Ride For Dad to pose for a picture standing with the bike. He later put all of the pictures together in a video created by Reid Zandbelt so that everyone could enjoy this amazing moment of community giving.

He travelled all over Dundas County even going into Ottawa to find more sponsors.

The contest was Canada wide and Zandbelt raised over the \$17,000 through the Ottawa Motorcycle Ride for Dad chapter.

Executive director of Ride for Dad Canada, Rob Taylor said, “Volunteer fundraisers have been the lifeblood of the Ride for Dad fight against prostate cancer for over 20 years. We are humbled by the incredible efforts undertaken by Vince and hundreds of



Ottawa Motorcycle Ride for Dad Ottawa Chapter co-chair Samantha Hastie presented Vince Vandbelt with his prize of an African motorcycle adventure courtesy of Renedian Global Adventures.

Courtesy Photo

volunteers across Canada during these very challenging times. Prostate cancer didn’t stop for COVID and neither did the Ride for Dad fight.”

Renedian Adventures has several motorcycle adventures. This particular one is called Two Oceans. Zandbelt will be joined by his wife Charlene, who like her husband is an avid motorcyclist.

The tour has a bit of everything that would make for the perfect motorcycle adventure.

There are mountain passes to drive over and through, ocean roads, incredible food and wonderful African hospitality. The tour is designed for flexibility, especially for couples. Activities include surfing, golf, spa days, wine tours, horse riding on the beach, world’s highest

bungee jumping, shark cage diving, yoga or shopping.

It came out of left field; I was not expecting that whatsoever.

“It’s going to be a heck of a trip,” said Zandbelt.

“I was thinking of getting a go-pro and mounting it on the bike or on my helmet, that way I can just turn it on and edit later, but I want to enjoy the trip too,” he said.

The adventure the couple is going on is called Ocean to Ocean Adventure. It goes from the Atlantic Ocean to the Indian Ocean.

“I have dived before. I think it is pretty safe. I might try that but I am not sure about the bungee jumping,” said Zandbelt.

The Winchester couple is waiting for Covid to settle down and hope to go on their trip next year.



As the consequences of COVID-19 affect our community and our world, the importance of our connection to reliable information, resources and one another is more evident than ever. As your local newspaper, we are committed to keeping you connected through local news, outbreak updates, stimulating features and community engagement as we make our way through these troubled times toward a brighter future together.

In order to deal with the recent COVID-19 restrictions, The Chesterville Record’s office will be closed to the public, but we are still working.

The Chesterville Record will continue to be published every Thursday.

To contact us call 613-448-2321, or use the following emails:

For advertising and/or subscriptions: ads@chestervillerecord.com
For classifieds: therecordclassifieds@gmail.com
For news: editor@etceterapublications.ca

Thank you for your patience and understanding during these unusual times.

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH DUNDAS NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING A PROPOSED ZONING BY LAW AMENDMENT PART LOT 36, CONCESSION 8 N 3260 WALLACE ROAD (FORMER GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF MATILDA)

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of South Dundas will hold a Public Meeting on the 12th day of April 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office, to consider a proposed Zoning By-Law Amendment under Section 34 of the *Planning Act*.

This Public Meeting is to allow the Public to comment on the request for the change of zoning for the property noted above. This Zoning By-law Amendment is to re-zone the property from Mineral Aggregate Pit to Rural to allow for limited residential development on the lot. It will also remove the Pit (MAP) Adjacent Special Exception for from the abutting Rural and Agricultural lands.

The By-law would change the zoning for the property noted above from Mineral Aggregate Pit (MAP) to Rural (RU). It would also re-zone the surrounding Rural Special Exception 26 (RU-26) lands to Rural (RU) and abutting Agricultural Special Exception 31 (A-31) lands to Agricultural (A).

The Key Plan identifies the location of approximately 10.7 hectares of affected land. This Zoning By law Amendment is related to a housekeeping Official Plan Amendment.

ANY PERSON may attend the Public Meeting via WebEx call and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Amendment.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at the Public Meeting or make written submissions to the Municipality of South Dundas before the By-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Council of the Municipality of South Dundas to the Local Planning Advisory Tribunal.

If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at the Public Meeting or make written submissions to the Municipality of South Dundas before the By-law is passed, the person or public body may not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the Local Planning Advisory Tribunal unless, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to do so.



For additional information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, please contact the Municipal Planning Consultant via email at planner@southdundas.com.

DATED at the Municipality of South Dundas this 18th day of March 2021.

Brenda M. Brunt, CMO
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk
Municipality of South Dundas
34 Ottawa Street, P.O. Box 740
Morrisburg ON K0C 1X0
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COVID-19 Vaccine appointment booking for individuals 80 years of age and older

CORNWALL – The Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) is pleased to announce that starting March 15, residents 80 years of age and older can book a COVID-19 vaccine appointment using Ontario’s online booking system. In accordance with the latest recommendations, those booking will be given

appointments for first and second doses, 16 weeks apart. In addition, the EOHU is launching an online pre-registration tool and asking all remaining individuals listed within the province’s Phase 1 priority populations, who have not yet been vaccinated or not yet booked an appointment,

to pre-register. Pre-registration facilitates booking appointments quickly and easily as vaccine supply increases and more appointments become available.

Provincial Online Booking System

On March 15 at 8 a.m., Ontario’s vaccine booking

system will launch and begin to accept vaccine bookings for individuals who will be turning 80 or older in 2021 (born in 1941 or earlier). Booking will be available at www.Ontario.ca/bookvaccine. Individuals who require assistance with booking can call the Provincial Vaccine Information Line at 1-888-999-6488.

vaccine clinics being held across the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry; the United Counties of Prescott-Russell; and the City of Cornwall. Alternate arrangements will be made for individuals who notify us of barriers preventing them from physically going to a clinic.

longer, depending on vaccine supply.

Ongoing Collaboration

The EOHU appreciates that there is keen interest in receiving the vaccine. At this time, however, only eligible individuals can schedule an appointment. We ask the public to please help us keep the online tools and phone lines available for those who are eligible to book an appointment. Cooperation from the public will go a long way to help ensure local vaccination clinics can operate efficiently and effectively.

It remains extremely important to continue following public health precautions – even if you have received the vaccine – until a large majority of residents in our region have been vaccinated.

For the latest updates about COVID-19 vaccines, including which population groups are eligible to receive it and how to access it, please regularly visit the Eastern Ontario Health Unit’s website at www.EOHU.ca/vaccines.

EOHU Pre-Registration Tool

Those who are not in the 80+ age group, but who are eligible for the vaccine based on the Phase 1 priority populations, must first pre-register by using the EOHU online pre-registration tool at www.EOHU.ca/register.

Once vaccine supply permits, those who have pre-registered will receive a code that will give them access to the provincial booking system.

Please note that pre-registration does not guarantee that you will get an appointment immediately. You may not get your appointment booking code for a week or

The booking system will screen for eligibility based on age using health card information. Appointments can be made by an individual or with the help of family or an informal caregiver (note: family/informal caregivers born after 1941 cannot book an appointment for themselves at this time, however, they may use the EOHU Pre-Registration tool to pre-register for an appointment).

If you have a family member or provide care to someone who was born in 1941 or before, please encourage them to get vaccinated. Vaccinations will be available ‘By appointment only’ at

Reduction in tax rate

Continued from the front

He said there are some projects the council could have done, but the overriding question was whether they should be done during a pandemic.

“We have given notice that we plan to pass the budget on the 23rd. My goal is that we do that,” he said.

It was a case of shaving away as much as they could from the budget. Councillors debated the merits of just about everything in their budget from proposed new staff for Public Works, a new salt dome to a portable generator for the South Mountain Agricultural Hall. Along the way they removed around \$607,000 from the budget.

North Dundas treasurer John Gareau has worked at the township for 20 years.

Mr. Gareau said he does not recall any prior year of the levy being reduced during his time at the township office.

The preliminarily draft budget was looked at from Dec. 8 to 15 and came in at \$7,091,126 representing an increase in the residential tax rate of 3.5 per cent if left as is.

That was an increase of \$303,269 from last year.

On Jan. 6, the council met again to discuss operational needs and the wish lists from all the municipalities’ department heads. The end result was a request by the council for managers to take a second look at their individual budgets.

Budget discussions reconvened on Feb. 9 and again on March 10 to look at the latest budget picture. This round table discussion with input from all council members, resulted in a proposed taxation levy of \$6,711,420 - which is \$76,437 less than the 2020 taxation requirement and results in a decrease in the residential tax rate of 2.1 per cent.

In 2020 that final amount needed through taxation was \$6,787,857.

Gareau said that most residents in North Dundas will not see an increase in the municipal portion of their 2021 tax bill.

“Due to the pandemic, the number of properties assessed by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) were greatly reduced. In addition, since 2020 represented the last year of the previous four-year phase-in of assessment growth, the assessment for 2021 is largely the same as it was for 2020,” he said.

From the treasurer’s perspective, Gareau believes this particular budget to be a very responsible one.

“In view of these unprecedented times in which we find ourselves, I believe it is a very socially and fiscally responsible budget. I believe it takes into account the needs of the ratepayers and inhabitants of North Dundas; no reductions were made to any areas that would put the health or safety of any of our residents at risk, and conversely a couple of large ticket items like the salt dome were deferred for this year,” he said.

Council officially approves SLMC lease agreement

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

MORRISBURG – Politicians passed a by-law making a revamped lease with the St. Lawrence Medical Clinic (SLMC) for space at the South Dundas Municipal Centre official.

During the March 8 council meeting, Municipality of South Dundas politicians approved two bylaws with respect to SLMC. One bylaw released them from the 2013 rental contract in Iroquois, while the other amended the organization’s 2011 lease in Morrisburg to reflect the amount still owing from the former Iroquois agreement.

The rent increased to \$5,364.97 plus HST per month following SLMC’s announcement in June 2019 of the Iroquois clinic’s closure due to operational costs. Despite notes of displeasure with how things played out with SLMC, council members agreed

“There’s really no hit to the taxpayers and I think it shows that we’re at least working with the doctors and trying to make the most of a bad situation.”

– Archie Mellan, South Dundas Councillor

unanimously to both bylaws, noting they were looking forward to moving on.

“It does sort of leave a little bit of a sour taste in your mouth, but, at the end of the day, we worked with the doctors,” Coun. Archie Mellan said. “There’s really no hit to the taxpayers and I think it shows that we’re at least working with the doctors and trying to make the most of a bad situation.”

The original Iroquois lease agreement included a stipulation protecting the municipality from taking on the cost of the debenture used to refurbish the building to clinic standards. With the new bylaw, a portion of the debenture is being covered by the Dundas County Archives,

which is housed in part of SLMC’s former Iroquois location, and the remaining portion has been added to SLMC’s monthly Morrisburg lease amount.

The lease in Morrisburg was originally \$3,750 plus HST per month, but since June 2019 SLMC has been paying an additional \$1,614.97 plus HST, which is set to cover their debt portion until October 31, 2033 when the debenture is expected to be paid in full.

“By the end of the 20-year period we will get all our money back,” Coun. Don Lewis said. “It’s time to move on. It’s going to take us a little longer to get our money, but we’re going to get it and that’s all that matters.”

THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH DUNDAS NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING A PROPOSED ZONING BY LAW AMENDMENT PART LOTS 8 AND 9, CONCESSION 7 3523 COONS ROAD (FORMER GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF MATILDA)

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of South Dundas will hold a Public Meeting on the 12th day of April 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office, to consider a proposed Zoning By-Law Amendment under Section 34 of the *Planning Act*.

This Public Meeting is to allow the Public to comment on the request for the change of zoning for the property noted above. This farm lot was subject to a consent application, which resulted in the severance of a surplus dwelling lot from a vacant farm parcel comprising the bulk of the property.

This Zoning By-law Amendment is needed to fulfill a condition of approval of the aforementioned consent application wherein no new permanent residential uses are to be allowed on the retained vacant farm parcel zoned Agricultural. This Zoning By-law Amendment is also needed to reduce the required minimum lot frontage for the severed parcel for a residential use from 45 metres to 8 metres.

This By-law would change the retained parcel from Agricultural to Agricultural Special Exception 8 (A-8) and the severed parcel from Agricultural to Agricultural Special Exception 70 (A-70).

This Amendment is related to the following Consent Application: B-102-20. The Key Plan identifies the location of approximately 49.7 hectares of affected land. This Zoning By law Amendment is not related to any Minor Variance, Official Plan Amendment, or Plan of Subdivision.

ANY PERSON may attend the Public Meeting via WebEx call and/or make written or verbal representation either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Amendment.

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For additional information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, please contact the Municipal Planning Consultant via email at planner@southdundas.com.

DATED at the Municipality of South Dundas this day 18th of March 2021.

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I did not see that coming

Joseph Morin

The other day I was looking at the damage to the railing of my small front porch by falling ice from the roof.

Every winter around this time when the temperatures warm up a bit, the ice that has accumulated on my roof decides where it will slide off next.

It is not always in the same place, and it is not usually

such a vicious assault on my kingdom.

For some reason this year, the ice build-up was directly above the new porch I made a few years ago. The amount of ice perched along the roofline was typical and looked to me like a few mild days would whittle the roof iceberg down to a manageable size.

Mother nature was pretty predictable where I live, and so far, nature and I get along just fine.

The porch had become my summer do-it-yourself project and was a marvel of construction. The marvel aspect came into play when I realized I did not always know what I was doing when it came to construction techniques, however I ended up with a porch that although small, thanks to county road restrictions, still looked and felt like a porch.

I should not have been surprised that the ice build up was my home's way of reminding me that it was the boss of things not me.

In any event it looked like this year the ice would fall (as is the annual tradition) but not on the porch; I was wrong.

With a sickening grating noise like two broken bones rubbing together and with a noise that I expect was heard in Iroquois and Winchester, all that ice came down.

It fell and sliced off part of a railing, and a light fixture. I was left with a glacier-sized slab of ice and the determination to circumvent this next year.

I began to do research on what to do about ice buildup on a typical tin roof. I already had more than enough home repairs to contemplate but the mound to the porch was a call to arms.

I discovered some interesting ideas on the internet such as using a roof rake. While a great idea this one was not practical as it would mean using a ladder, but I liked the idea of getting rid of a winter's worth of snow before it could turn into ice and attack my porch. I could install heat cables, improve attic insulation, chip and hammer the ice off, spray warm water, apply chemical deicer or install an ice dam

sock. All good ideas: cheaper than moving to the desert where snow on a roof is not an everyday issue.

One question I had apart from all the other ones was why the ice had fallen when and where it did in the first place. Why had the ice on my roof not just melted away like everything else over a period of time, becoming a smaller and even smaller, less dangerous piece of ice, that would be harmless if and when it slid off the roof?

For some reason this year, the ice build-up was directly above the new porch I made a few years ago. The amount of ice perched along the roofline was typical and looked to me like a few mild days would whittle the roof iceberg down to a manageable size . . . I should not have been surprised that the ice build up was my home's way of reminding me that it was the boss of things not me.

I spent some time standing in front of the house, alternating between staring at the wounded porch, the offending hunk of ice and the roof that had spawned it. I was not looking forward to another unexpected do-it-yourself project.

A neighbour walked by while I was standing there and stopped to chat, asking me if I had felt that earthquake. "It was pretty scary," he said. "It shook all of the ice off of my roof."

I looked at the neighbor, the porch, considered the hours I had spent researching roofs and ice, and the ice lying everywhere and realized Mother Nature had just upped her game.

NDDHS Report

By Jamie Wilson
Student Council Communications



Frontline Workers' Day

Last Friday, we had a Frontline Workers' Day to support all the frontline workers in our community who put their lives at risk to provide us with the goods and services we need for a functioning society. Students dressed up as frontline workers, and many made signs to show their support.

Thank you frontline workers, for your strength, courage, and dedication; we could not do this without you. This day went hand in hand with the National Day of Observance to honour the lives lost to Covid-19 last Thursday.

During a typical year, this week would be March Break. Since our spring break has now been moved to April 12, we decided to turn this week into a fun spirit week to keep morale up. Each day of the week has been a spirit day with a different theme. Monday was Movie and Music Day, where students wore clothes that showcased their favourite music, movie, or TV show. Next up was Twin Tuesday, then St. Patrick's Day on Wednesday, Throwback Thursday, and finally, Semi-Formal Friday. Student council has been counting each grade's participation for the days; the grade with the best score by the end of the week will be the winner.



NDDHS shares their appreciation to the frontline workers. Thank You! Courtesy Photo

To lie or not to lie

Joseph Morin

I guess the expression "fake news" will be with us for a while.

However, before we all get worked up over exactly what "fake news" is, we should try and figure out what it isn't.

It is not silly news, which is news that is written to make a silly point or illustrate a silly notion.

It is not news based on faulty information because the writer unfortunately was using information that was flawed but he or she did not realize it at the time.

It is also not an opinion piece that is all about a writer's biased opinion and all about the author's feelings about a set of facts.

Fake news is simply put, news or facts that are deliberately false and presented in such a way as to help the reader believe the facts in the story are true.

Basically most of us would recognize it as lying.

It's funny, if I lie to you about the performance of a car when I am telling you all about it, especially if I am trying to sell it to you, you will automatically take what I say with a grain of salt.

But if I say the same outlandish things in a beautiful colour brochure with all the bells and whistles that go along with great and persuasive advertising, the lying goes right past your ears and into your brain where it walks around in in a suit and tie and somehow become true facts in your head; fake news is like that.

In days gone by, before the internet overwhelmed just about every aspect of our life from what your dairy cow was thinking, to how you looked for a movie on your television or should I say media device, most of us communicated in real time face to face.

If I wrote out some fake news about a politician with a crayon on a piece of toilet paper most readers would realize what it was.

But these days you can disguise fake news by using a computer, an affordable software program and spell check and what you produce will pass

the smell test for being credible even when it is lies supported by the odd true fact.

In the past, individual readers trusted their source of information and swallowed it whole. Only a researcher or journalist had the time or patience to ferret out the facts, they did it for you.

These days, that habit of taking the easy way out and just believing what you read has led us all into a dangerous place.

There is no doubt that fact checking a story on your own can be a pain in the butt but it pays off.

The internet is great for checking on all kinds of things.

Very quickly you will discover which writers tend to exaggerate, lie, mislead, or consistently tell the truth.

It is in my opinion, not normal to tell a lie especially if it is about something that has far reaching implications, but it seems these days some media types try to outdo themselves twisting reality into a paper mâché rose.

The truth about anything is most likely to be pretty boring, but when the alternative becomes the norm we are truly lost.

Etcetera Publications (Chesterville) Inc.

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RRHC decision goes to CRB

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

LONG SAULT—A Key Information Report (KIR) on the planned demolition of the Raisin River Heritage Centre (RRHC) was presented to the South Stormont council during the March 10 council meeting by the director of corporate services/clerk Lorian Harbers. The RRHC is located in St. Andrews West, and has served the community in various ways since its construction in 1909.

In her verbal report to council, Harbers explained how in the January 13 council meeting it was decided to advise the public of a "Notice of Intention to Repeal Bylaw No 3418." Bylaw 3418, passed in 1978 by the pre-amalgamation municipal council, designates the Raisin River Heritage Centre of "historical value and interest".

Harbers noted how "Pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act, the Notice was served to the Ontario Heritage Trust and published in local media, circulated through township social media and posted on the township's website."

This was the first step in the planned demolition of the RRHC which has served the community as a Roman Catholic convent and boarding school between 1909 and 1976 when the sisters left. Subsequently the former township purchased the building as well as five feet "of land around the perimeter of the building that is landlocked from the roadway by the property owned by the Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario (CDSBEO)." It has been used as a location of the SDG Public Library, a storage facility and an archive museum of the Cornwall Township Historical Society which was formed in 1977.

In her report, Harbers noted how the "difficult decision came as a result of considerable time spent weighing options and public opinion." The question of the demolition of the RRHC has been investigated and debated for several years, with the cost of the rehabilitation of this historic building overshadowing structural and other concerns associated with this building. There have been numerous consultations with the public, the Cornwall Township Historical Society

and other stakeholders as well as persons in the construction industry with the result being the decision of council to move ahead with the demolition of this building.

With the plan of five of the seven objections received by the township by the deadline of Feb. 19, planning to proceed, Harbers outlined the process by which the Conservation Review Board (CRB) will receive the required documents, which include "all relevant documents, reports, bylaw(s), minutes and an affidavit confirming aspects of notice provisions and legal ownership," from the township, "contact each of the parties and schedule a pre-hearing conference." Once these conversations have been held Harbers continued there may be "additional pre-hearing meetings" or "alternatively, a formal hearing will be called."

A report from the CRB will be provided to council 30 days following the conclusion of its work. She noted how the CRB report is a recommendation for council to consider, however it will be the decision of council to either "repeal the bylaw or withdraw the notice (not repeal)." Harbers expects a decision could be reached by the CRB by the fall.

Building community spirit

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

NEWINGTON—The Newington Community Exchange (NCE), located in the Newington Wesleyan Church (NWC), opened for the season on Sat., March 13, with coordinator Kristine



From the left: Kristine Brisson, Chantal Thomas and Isaiah Summers are shown browsing the available items on opening day at the Newington Community Exchange. Thompson Goddard Photo

Brisson commenting how there was a great turnout of people browsing the many items available. Brisson mentioned the items are donated by community members and are available to the public at no charge during the NCE open hours every second Saturday between 10 a.m.

and noon. The basement of the NWC provides shoppers with ample room to view the clothing, accessories, shoes, toys, and collectables.

The biweekly event is designed to strengthen and expand the local community by providing a safe,

COVID-19 compliant environment to view the donated goods and perhaps find that hidden treasure amongst the goods on display. Brisson wished to thank the community and the Newington Wesleyan Church for their support of

the NCE. For more information on how to donate to the NCE or become a volunteer, please contact Brisson at 613-209-1119. Be sure to visit their Facebook page at Newington Community Exchange.

Council awards \$1+million pumping station contract

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

MORRISBURG – At a cost of just over \$1 million, the Dutch Meadows Sanitary Pumping Station is expected to be completed by August 31 of this year.

David Brown Construction Ltd. was awarded the job during the March 8 Municipality of South Dundas council meeting in what director of environmental services Danielle Watson called a very competitive tender process. Coming in at \$1,027,453 before taxes, the successful tender includes the base work, the 25-kilowatt generator, and the by-pass and flow metering chamber. It was noted this is less than the engineer's January 2021 estimate of \$1,239,828.75.

"We find their tender submission to be complete. The tender also appears competitively priced and reflective of the scope of work. We therefore recommend the tender be awarded to David Brown Construction Ltd. and that all provisional items be included," EVB Engineering's Municipal Engineer François Lafleur said in a written statement.

Municipal politicians were told seven tenders had been submitted with David Brown Construction Ltd. coming in at the lowest. The highest submission was \$1,665,000. Council had committed to covering the cost of the pumping station in April 2019 when the estimated cost at the time



THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH DUNDAS

was \$84,746 before taxes. "I'm really glad there were competitive bids on this project. We're very fortunate we had some good competitive contractors out

there looking for this work," Mayor Steven Byvelds said. "I do believe this is something that will be good for South Dundas in the long run."

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Thank you from NDDHS

On Fri., Mar. 12 students at North Dundas District High School held a Frontline Worker Day. The students wanted to do something to show their support for all the workers who have gone to work each day, even when doing that put their health at risk. From medical staff to retail workers, so many people have worked to help those in the community that are dependent on them doing their jobs so that they can get on with their lives.

Courtesy Photos



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Municipality facilities get top to bottom once over

Joseph Morin
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

WINCHESTER – The North Dundas council is well on its way to confirming its 2021 budget.

Part of the budget deliberations process was hearing from all of the department heads for the municipality and discussing the many projects' managers felt should be put on the budget's to do list.

The director of recreation and culture, Meaghan Meerburg presented to council on March 10 her list of projects on the go. The council gave the green light to some and deferred others until more money or more information about them was available.

One of the bigger projects was fixing the ailing Winchester arena roof. While the roof is getting older and has a leak in the canopy section at the front of the building, it is structurally sound. If the existing leak is not addressed the roof will likely have other issues in the future.

"We are currently exploring three possible options for the arena portion of the building: those being repair, replacement (in sections), or installing a new roofing system over the existing one. A detailed structural analysis of the existing structure will be conducted to determine if it can support the added weight of the new roofing system," said Meerburg.

"The separate, flat roofing system over the main entrance canopy and second floor stairwells, will be assessed for possible repair or replacement, once the area is clear of snow and can be visually assessed."

Meerburg said, "Facility maintenance is a big job, it's also a big portion of the municipal budget. We are very lucky to have many



The Joel Steele Community Centre is due for some major roof work once all of the planning is completed. File Photo

different community facilities in the township, and part of that is maintaining them. We have replaced many of the roofs over the last few years, so we are in a good place and now it is time to focus on the arena."

The funds to deal with the Winchester arena roof are not part of this year's budget. The municipality has the funds required which have been estimated to be \$731,500

The two Mountain Memorial Park building roofs also have to be looked at according to Meerburg's report. The council agreed to replace the existing roofs of the buildings with metal ones.

The council agreed with Meerburg to purchase a Bannerman Ball Field-Infield Groomer to be used for their ball diamonds.

The groomer is an attachment for a tractor on a three-point hitch. It is used to level and prepare ball

fields for play. The machine cuts-up/breaks-up, rakes, levels, rolls, and brushes the infields and eliminates water puddles by breaking them up and leveling them. It prevents weed and grass growth in the infield.

The municipality does have a groomer it has used for over 20 years.

The existing groomer needs a fair bit of repair.

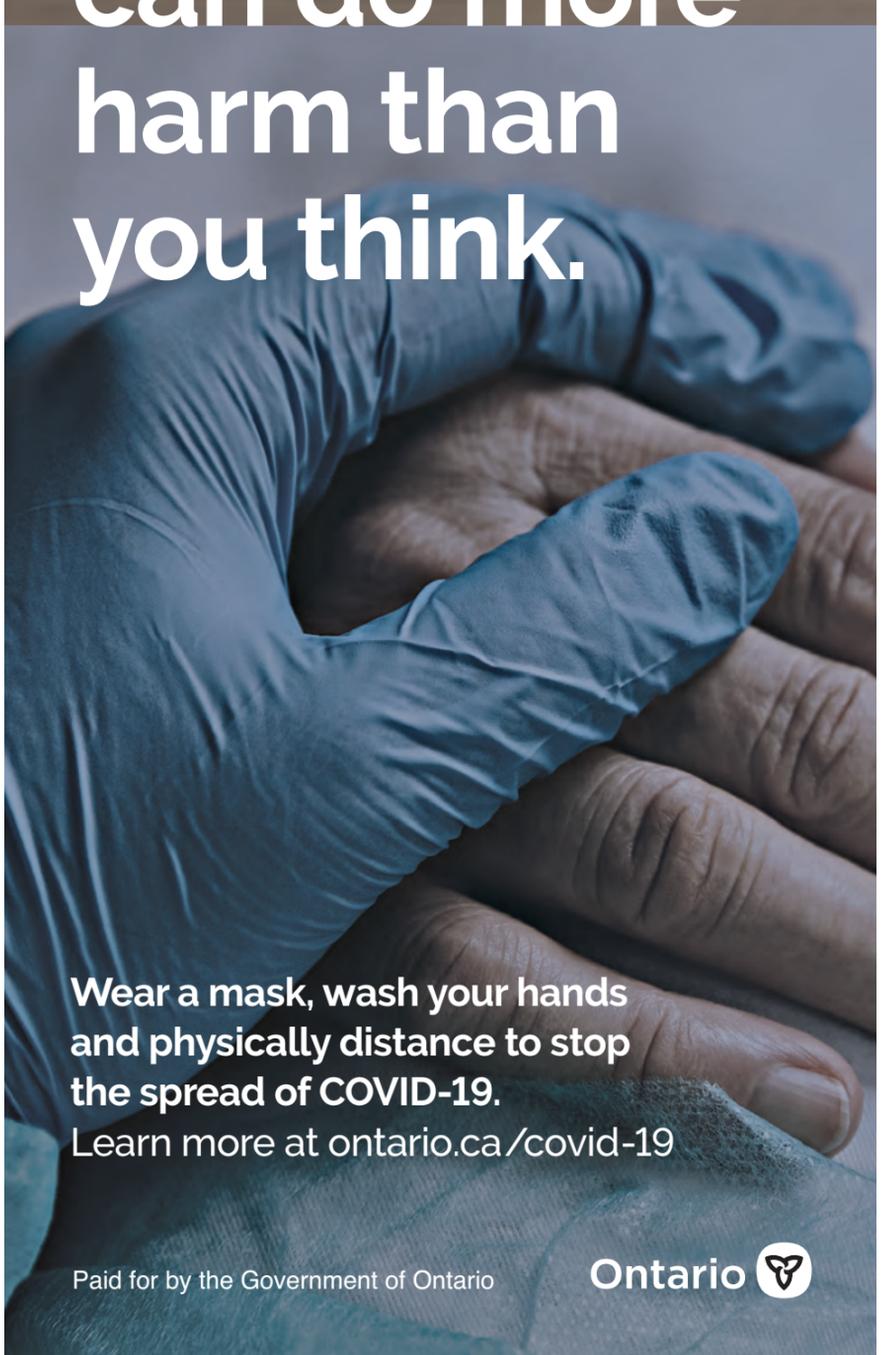
"Our infield groomer does not have a water tank on it, but it is highly recommended to have a groomer with a water tank so that the fields won't be so dusty, and the clay won't be so dry and hard," said Meerburg.

The replacement of the lights at the Chesterville ball field was given the green light, if funding is available. The municipality is hoping for funding from the Save On Energy incentive and the ICIP COVID-19 grant.

Continued on page 9



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Inspections should therefore be an integral part of your prevention plan. Indeed, by regularly conducting various checks, you'll be able to identify risks and take the necessary measures to eliminate hazards before an injury or accident occurs.

What to look for

A safety inspection involves an extensive checklist, and you'll need to examine all buildings, fields and equipment used on your property. Road safety, methods of working

and management practices should likewise be reviewed. Emergency preparedness and fire prevention are also key.

During any safety inspection, it's best to avoid dispersing your efforts. Instead, you should

concentrate on one stage of production, one type of equipment or one location at a time.

To learn more about farm safety, refer to the resources provided by the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association at casa-acsa.ca.

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North Stormont council officially removes monthly invoices' list

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

BERWICK – In a four-to-one recorded vote, township of North Stormont politicians officially approved staff's recommendation to exclude monthly invoice reports altogether.

The controversial topic came to its conclusion during the March 2 council meeting when Mayor Jim Wert, Deputy Mayor François Landry, and councillors Steve Densham and Randy Douglas voted in favour of removing the requirement for staff to complete and present a monthly invoice report. Opposed to the recommendation from the outset was Coun. Roxane Villeneuve who voted against the recommendation.

In a prepared statement, Villeneuve said the decision could create more work for staff, as residents have the right to request the information through the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA), which would require staff time to compile, prepare and present. If the monthly document is not made available to council, Villeneuve said she intends to request the information each month through FIPPA.

The staff recommendation was to eliminate the monthly report entirely. The report also included two other options: providing the monthly report to council members only, leaving it out of the agenda, or leaving things status quo with the monthly report in the agenda for all to see.

The report stated that North Glengarry and South Stormont do not provide an invoice list to council or the public, South Dundas' list is reviewed between the mayor and the CAO only, South Glengarry shares the invoice with council alone for information purposes, North Dundas is provided with a

monthly list of payments, and the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry (SDG) provides a high level monthly financial summary rather than an invoice list. Villeneuve said North Stormont should not be making the decision based on what neighbouring municipalities are doing.

CAO Craig Calder maintained there is already a high level of transparency and oversight for the finance department. He suggested the work involved in creating the list, which includes editing it to ensure privacy is maintained, is greater than the benefit of producing the document monthly. He also said there is a risk of human error where staff could miss redacting a person or business' personal information, causing legal issues for the municipality.

Densham agreed, listing all the ways North Stormont offers a transparent system with a high level of oversight. He said there is "no return of tangible value except to fix the curiosity of some" and that he trusts the ability and integrity of staff in fulfilling their specific roles.

"This is not the 1960s. We have professional staff in our financial office," Douglas said. "Too much time has been spent looking at the minutiae. It's a drain on staff time and morale."

Landry agreed with both Densham and Douglas' arguments. Calder, whose report referenced rules and regulations outlined in The Municipal Act, said he provided the best recommendations he could and that it was up to council to make the decision on what is best for the municipality.

"We use the term transparency; the debate here is really how much transparency is required and personally I think it's been reflected in the budget process in particular," Wert said. "We

are enjoying a level of professionalism in our administration now that is unprecedented, in my time at least, and I just feel it becomes redundant. So, I know its not going to be a popular decision, but in all honesty, I don't see its merit."

Municipality facilities

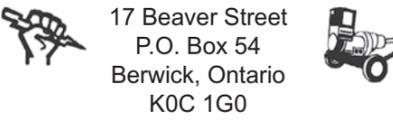
Continued from page 7

Resurfacing the Chesterville tennis courts is on the list of summer projects to be done and is something the council was anxious to do, however a decision was made to see how the new surface of the South Mountain tennis courts withstood the winter months before going ahead in Chesterville. The South Mountain tennis court surface was completely replaced last summer.

Meerburg said she was also waiting to hear if government funding was going to come through for the Chesterville tennis court project.

Meerburg's report to council stated: "The tennis court in Chesterville has many cracks, as well as an uneven playing surface. The replacement was planned to take place in 2020, but was deferred. The front section of fence, which meets the parking lot, has fence posts which are leaning into the courts. The front section also has many waves, as well as various locations where the chain link was noticeably repaired. The other three sides of fencing are in good condition. Full funding support is potentially available through the ICIP COVID-19 grant, as well as the Save On Energy program, should council wish to go ahead with this project."

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AUCTION

ONLINE TIMED FARM MACHINERY AUCTION FOR JERRY & MARY BOSMA

To be held on site at civic #21351 Con 4 Bainsville South Glengarry On. KOC 1E0

Auction Opens Wednesday, March 31st at 12 Noon and Closes Thursday, April 8th at 6:30 p.m. (Soft Close - Staggered)

Quality Farm Equip and Small Farm Related Items

Pickup will occur Friday, April 9th from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. & Saturday, April 10th from 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Preview: Saturday, April 3rd from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. or by appointment with owner (613-347-3884, or 613-861-1376).

Highline XL 78 Stone Picker (nice), H&S HD7+4 20ft Forage Box on Horst Model 275 Double Reach 14 Ton Running Gear (like new), Gehl 1620 20ft Forage Box on Horst Double Reach 14 Ton Running Gear (very nice), NH F62B Forage Blower, TSF Tandem Axle Silage Dump Trailer (20ftx8ftx7ft high, nice), 15ft Hyd. Dump Wagon w/ Independent Pump & Own Oil Reservoir on Horst Model 400 Double Reach Tandem Running Gear, Landoll 27ft Mulch Finisher, 6 Shank 3PTH Unverferth Sub Soiler/ Deep Ripper (nice), MF 329 3PTH 9ft Disk Mower (only used 1 season, very nice), Case IH 5100 Soybean Special 21 Run Graindrill dd & pw Markers (low acres, very nice), White 6100 6 Row Corn Planter Single Disc Fert. Trash Whippers HD Springs No Till Markers 3000 Monitor PTO Pump Dry Fert Extensions (very nice), Farm King 1061 Grain Auger, Hardi 500 Gal Crop Sprayer w/ 45ft Boom Manual Controls GPS (very nice), Turnco 15ft Sprocket Packer, 13ft Heavy Smooth Roller, JD 8300 23 Run Grain Drill w/ dd & pw & hyd. Markers, Claas Variant 280 Rnd. Baler w/ Rotocut Gage Wheels Light Package & Net Wrap, 2 8.5ft Lucknow Single Auger Snowblowers w/ Hyde Shoots, 2 Gehl 1470 TDC Rnd. Balers w/ Gathering Wheels, 3PTH Post Hole Auger, Case D310G Bulldozer (1962, runs nice), JD Running Gear, 2 16ftx17in Valmetal Feed Conveyors w/ Working Elec. Motors, Plastic market 12ft hyd. Fert/ Seed Auger w/ Gravity Box Attach., 12ft Steel hyd. Fert. Auger, Approx. 160ft of Mow Conveyor w/ Hangers Chain & 2 Elec Motors, 5ft 9in Skid Steer Bucket, 3PTH Fert. Spreader, 6ft Chain Harrow (brand new), 2 Pipe Hay Elevators w/ Working Elec. Motors (1 18ft, 1 24 ft), 2 Tombstone Feeders, 400-Gal Poly Tank, 150-Gal Poly Tank, 2 Calf Hutches, Qty. or Farm gates, Stock Tanks, 2 Used Tires on JD 8 Bolt Rims (445/ 50R 22.5) 2 Used Tires on 8 Bolt Rims (445/ 65R 22.5), 7ftx12ft Single Axle Bumper Hitch Trailer w/ 4ft Drop Down Rear Ramp & Side Loading Ramps (very nice), Set of 16.9-34 T Rail Screw on Duals, Set of 16inx38in T Rail Dual Rims (brand new), 4 Skid Steer Tires on NH Rims (used), 2 Port Sand Blasters, 2 New Deutz Light Up Signs, New Tractor Seat, & 15 Ford & NH Toy Tractors.

Full details to be included in HiBid catalog at www.peterrossauction.hibid.com

Everything will be sold as is where is and is subject to all terms listed on the auction catalog.

Props: Jerry & Mary Bosma AUCTION CONDUCTED BY: PETER ROSS AUCTION SERVICES LTD.

Ingleside, ON (613) 537-8862 Auctioneers Note: This is an extremely nice package of farm machinery that must be seen to be appreciated.

This auction is not to be missed! www.peterrossauction.ca 36-1

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED - Stormont Agricultural Society 2021 Tenders. Visit stormontfair.ca for details. 36-2

AUCTION

ONSITE ONLINE TIMED ESTATE AUCTION SALE FOR HARMONDALE FARMS

To be held on site at civic #21205 Crooked Rd. Dalkeith, ON K0B 1E0

Auction Opens Wednesday, March 17th at 12:00 Noon and Closes Wednesday, March 24th at 2 p.m. (Soft Close - Staggered)

Tractors - Machinery - Stable Equipment - Collection of Antique Tractors - Small Farm Related Items (Modern & Antique) - Large Assortment of Antiques & Many Other Items of Interest

Pickup will occur Friday, March 26th 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Saturday, March 27th 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. - NO PICKUP Thursday, March 25th. Preview: Monday, March 22nd 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. NO OTHER VISITS PERMITTED

Large qty of farm and outdoor antique and primitive items as well as some nice household antiques and collectables.

Full details to be included in HiBid catalog coming in early March. www.peterrossauction.hibid.com

Everything will be sold as is where is and is subject to all terms listed on the auction catalog.

Prop: To settle the Estate of the late Karen MacLeod of Harmondale Farms

Note: 2 p.m. CLOSING Wednesday, March 24th! AUCTION CONDUCTED BY PETER ROSS AUCTION SERVICES LTD.

Ingleside, ON (613) 537-8862 Auctioneers Note: All machinery has always been stored inside and has been very well cared for. Further, as is this a century plus farm having belonged to a couple who shared a passion for early farm and household antiques there is a great abundance of quality early farm items related to Canadian farming as far back as the 1800's up for auction. This is an auction not to be missed! www.peterrossauction.ca 36-1

AUCTION

ANNUAL SPRING MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT & TOOL AUCTION

To be held online April 2021 To be held at our facility, 15093 County Rd. 18 East of Osnabrock Center. This auction will be an Online Timed Auction Sale with Dates to Be Announced Once Consignments are Finalized.

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Note: Take advantage of the strong market and turn that unneeded and unused equipment and merchandise into cash! Consign early to take advantage of increased exposure and advertising to ensure your merchandise brings top dollar. Sell your equipment with us to reach a broader audience and benefit from a large following, many connections and a widespread advertising in the online marketplace with greater buyer reach than ever. Why show it to only a few buyers when you can show it to many!

To Consign Call: Peter or Helen Ross AUCTION CONDUCTED BY PETER ROSS AUCTION SERVICES LTD. Ingleside, ON (613) 537-8862 www.peterrossauction.ca 36-1

FOR SALE

FOR SALE - Potatoes Would you rather pay \$14 for 20lbs. or \$15 for 50lbs? White, red or yellow. Call 613-448-1206 or 613-794-5562. 36-1

FOR SALE - 2007 GM 3/4 ton, good box and body parts, no drive line. 2002 GM 4X4, runs good, short box, good for parts. \$1,200 each. Call 613-301-1747. 37

NOTICE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS IN THE ESTATE OF

Patricia Ellen Carruthers, deceased

All persons having claims against the Estate of Patricia Ellen Carruthers, late of the village of Chesterville, Province of Ontario, who died on or about the 12th day of December, 2020, are hereby notified to send full particulars of their claim to the undersigned solicitors, on or before the 12th day of April, 2021, after which date the Estate shall be distributed, having regard then, only to such claims as shall have been received.

DATED at Cornwall, Ontario this 9th day of March, 2021.

Carman Carruthers and Wendy MacNabb, Estate Trustees with a Will, by their Solicitors McDONALD, DUNCAN, DORE LLP Barristers & Solicitors 206 Pitt Street Cornwall, Ontario K6J 3P6 Attention: Andrew Guindon 613-938-2333 x 224 38

FOR RENT

FOR RENT - Chesterville, 18 Industrial Dr., 1,000 sq.ft., 3-year old apartment, 2 bedroom, central air, fireplace, 4 appliances, suited for seniors. April 1st occupancy, \$1,300 plus utilities. Contact crawfc@outlook.com. 36-2

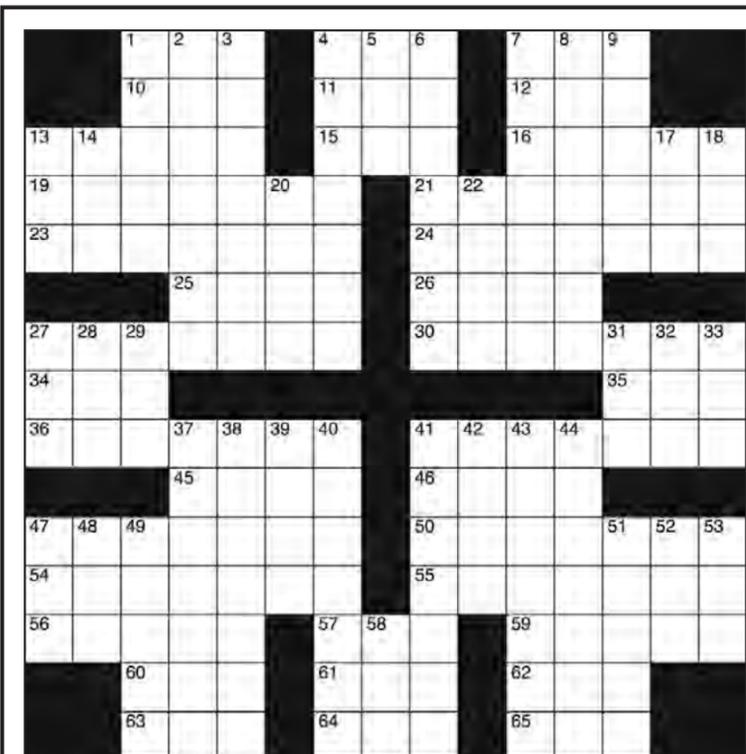
FOR RENT - Two bedroom apartment for rent in South Mountain. \$750 heat included. Hydro extra. Applicant must pass credit check and give references. Laundry facility in building. NO PETS. Parking available. Call 613-798-3257 or 613-989-2103. 35tfc

DUMPSTERS - For rent. Call 613-448-3471. tfc

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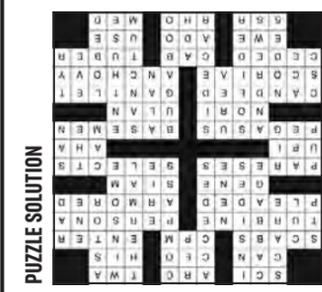
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 18, 2021

- CLUES ACROSS 1. _ fi; popular genre 4. Curved shape 7. Defunct airline 10. Beverage receptacle 11. Corporate bigwig 12. Belong to he 13. They cover cuts 15. Cost per mille 16. Walk into 19. Power-producing machine 21. Part of one's character perceived by others 23. Emotionally appealed to 24. Protected 25. Wrestling icon Okerlund 26. Thailand's former name 27. Muscle weaknesses 30. Chooses 34. American film studio 35. Expression of satisfaction 36. Mythical winged horse 41. Ballplayers 45. Edible seaweed 46. Chinese politician 47. Tested for fertility 50. Glove worn with medieval armor 54. Basaltic lavas 55. Small shoaling fish 56. Surrendered 57. Taxi 59. Potato part 60. Female sheep 61. Trouble or difficulty 62. Put into service 63. Soviet Socialist Republic 64. 17th letter of Greek alphabet 65. Type of student

- CLUES DOWN 1. Frighten 2. Partner to corned beef 3. Parts 4. Agrees to a demand 5. Elected official 6. Navigator's tool 7. Relating to heat 8. Attractive 9. Wealthy US merchant 13. Engine additive 14. A passage with access only at one end 17. Midway between northeast and east 18. Cool! 20. Brazilian NBAer 22. NW Pennsylvania city 27. Young dog 28. Mimic 29. Large truck 31. The NFL's Newton 32. One and only 33. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo 37. Julie __, actress 38. More nourishing 39. Compound 40. A small carrier attached to the side of a motorcycle 41. Object of fear or alarm 42. _ Ladd, actor 43. Sacred place 44. A way to express enjoyment 47. Trigonometric function 48. A team's best pitcher 49. Intersecting points 51. Roundish shaped 52. Adam's partner 53. God of battle (Scandinavian) 58. Human hormone



THE BENEFITS OF CROSSWORD PUZZLES Even though crossword puzzles have been entertaining and helping people pass the time for more than 100 years, the benefits of crosswords go beyond boredom-busting. Various studies have shown the positive effects crossword puzzles can have on a person's brain and capacity to learn. - Improve vocabulary - Strengthens memory - Improve socialization - Help relieve stress - May help prevent brain diseases Crossword puzzles can fill empty hours with an entertaining and educational activity. However, there are many other benefits to doing crossword puzzles that may surprise even the most ardent puzzle enthusiasts.

Giving people a reason to smile

MOREWOOD – Since 2018 the Lazy Beagle Cookie Co. of Morewood has been providing its customers with customized cookies, which proprietors Deborah and Lauchlin McInnis describe as “edible art,” a delight for the eyes and very tasty!

The company was named in memory of their family dog Lucy, a beagle mix who passed in 2015 and whom they miss terribly to this day. Lauchlin explained that Lucy, who the logo’s doodle is based on, “was quite the lazy girl; and like many beagles absolutely loved food, especially cookies.”

The idea for a cookie company grew out of Deborah’s work in mental health as a registered nurse and crisis intervenor; upon retiring, she decided to begin a second career designing and baking cookies to put a smile on people’s faces. For as Lauchlin commented “Everybody loves seeing a box being delivered to their door” and “receiving an unexpected gift from someone who just wants to say ‘You’re special to me.’”

Lauchlin explained how the entrepreneurial couple “take a lot of pride in the quality of [their] product,” explaining how the cookies are “Deborah’s visions on the canvas of a cookie,” with customers often commenting “they ‘look too good to eat’” upon receiving their order. He commented that orders range from cookies for Nurses Week at the Winchester & District Memorial Hospital to weddings, community events and some to celebrate “special people in our community who are doing great things everyday ... we’re just happy to bring a smile to somebody.” He continued how most of the business is for custom orders for events, however occasionally customers will call the company after seeing a design on their website. Around holidays, such as Valentine’s Day and Easter, Deborah will often design seasonal gift boxes of cookies which have proven quite popular with clients.

SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight



Owners of the Lazy Beagle Cookie Co., Deborah and Lauchlin McInnis of Morewood are pictured on their porch in front of their business sign which incorporates their beloved dog Lucy in their company’s logo.

Thompson Goddard Photo

When asked about the process followed, Lauchlin mentioned how after consulting “with the customer to find out specifics such as perhaps a favourite colour or whether it is an event that will be particularly memorable,” the decision as to the which cookie flavour, either “a sugar/shortbread and our signature flavour which is a honey ginger cookie,” the creative process begins. Deborah creates a custom design of the cookies, “old school with paper and a pencil,” followed by the

making and baking of the cookies themselves.

Lauchlin continued that the two cookie dough flavours are “both our own recipes” and incorporate the use of honey from Smirlholm Farms in Morewood which “give them an amazing flavour.” He describes how the icing for each order is made from scratch, with the colour

made, “thinned to various consistencies and placed in piping bags” which are used “for decorating different elements of the cookie.”

Several layers of icing are applied, with each layer needing to be dried before “another layer is piped.” He explained how features such as rosebuds are “hand made individually.” Some designs are freehand, where stencils are “used for select words or background patterns on the cookies.” Tawny Bryski-Wilson in Morewood, a custom stencil supplier, works with the cookie company on occasion to assist in replicating “the exact design or font [they] are looking for.”

A fond memory of starting their cookie company was in the creation of flyers and distributing them to local businesses. They received a call from a woman who had seen the flyer and ordered some cookies for her Mom. A few days later they received a phone call from the Mom thanking them “for the most beautiful gift she had every received.” Lauchlin explained how “that feeling is what keeps [their] oven on.” He then thanked everyone for the amazing support their company has received from the local community.

If you are looking for something unique and delicious when celebrating a special event, Lauchlin suggests visiting either their website at www.lazybeagle.ca, their Facebook page or call them at 613-501-3530. As the cookie creations take a considerable amount of time to plan and create, they suggest giving advanced notice when ordering if possible.

If you would like to have a light shined on your business, please contact us at: editor@etceterapublications.ca or call us at 613-448-2321.

Council denies committee requests

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

MORRISBURG – Municipality of South Dundas politicians are unwilling to put pressure on this year’s budget to accommodate late requests from the Matilda Memorial Recreation Committee (MMRC).

The March 8 council meeting discussion items included both a Feb. 24 letter outlining additional project requests for the Brinston-area park, and a report from staff concerning MMRC’s January 2021 request to take over the Matilda Memorial Park building.

“I know this is a hardworking committee, but we do have a process,” deputy mayor Kirsten Gardner said. “I’m not willing to put pressure on this year’s budget. No disrespect to this committee, but we have to have these submitted at the right times.”

Gardner, along with her council colleagues, agreed that whatever could be done without impact to the budget, such as the request to clean up the sliding hill, should be done. Those projects requiring municipal funds will have

to wait until next year, they said.

“Our budget is all done now,” Coun. Lloyd Wells said. “I’m good with the clean up but I think the rest will have to just be set aside. Not cancel, just postpone.”

CAO Shannon Geraghty said staff has several concerns about MMRC’s request to take over the Matilda Memorial Park building, which council deemed surplus in 2018. He said the proposal states the group will own and run the building, but if they fail or change their minds, it will come back to the municipality, which means South Dundas taxpayers would be on the hook for any incurred expenses. Also, he said the committee has not provided clarification on how the proposed programs will be run, leaving staff concerned the operational responsibilities and costs will fall back on the township.

A lengthy discussion ensued with council members trying to come up with potential solutions, but to no avail. Geraghty said that several provincially mandated actions will need to be taken to rehabilitate the

building, such as a septic inspection, professional reports and more, all of which are sure to increase the group’s estimated \$250,000 cost. chief building official Nicole Lowey said it would be more cost effective to demolish the building and replace it with a new one.

Gardner said there needs to be a clear policy when it comes to community groups taking over surplus buildings, allowing council to be consistent and fair when responding to similar requests. As for the long list of challenges connected to fixing the existing building, she suggested that Lowey meet with the committee to outline the issues and ensure they are aware of what the project will entail before they commit to it.

“Let them decide if its something they can take on,” Gardner said. “We support the access and wish them the best, but this is the reality of taking on that building.”

Each council member expressed admiration and respect for the group and its members along with a strong desire to find a solution, but with the many concerns listed, none would commit to

approving the proposal submitted in January.

“This community committee is an amazing example of initiative and passion and all that fun stuff,” Gardner said. “But in reality, it’s the committee’s project and its not in the municipality’s best interest to monitor them.”

Staff was advised to meet with MMRC members, outline the challenges associated with updating the building, and let the committee make their own decision. If they decide to move forward, MMRC will need to return to council with an updated proposal that includes a detailed plan addressing all concerns.

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Russell wades through environmental assessments

Sandy Casselman

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

EMBRUN – An Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the 417 Industrial Park has concluded while several others are about to begin for Route 300 intersections.

The EA report for the 417 Industrial Park was released on March 6. The 456-page report is available in its entirety on the township of Russell's website. Beginning March 19, notices of study commencement and second online public information centres will be available on the same webpage for Route 300 intersections with St-Guillaume Road and Limoges Road. The comment periods for Route 300 intersections with St-Pierre Road, St-Augustin Road, and St-Thomas Road have ended.

In an announcement from BT Engineering Inc.'s Steve Taylor and Russell's director of infrastructure Francois

Landry, project managers for the EA, it is noted that: "Between March 19, 2021 and April 2, 2021, there is an opportunity for interested persons to provide comments. Early identification of individual and group concerns greatly aids in addressing these concerns." Residents are invited to check out the webpage (russell.ca/town_hall/projects/Environmental_Assessment) and, if interested, join the study's mailing list.

As for the 417 Industrial Park report released last week, a Schedule 'B' Class EA for the drinking water and sanitary sewer servicing of the park, was prepared by WSP Canada, with four alternatives identified for each. WSP Canada recommended service from the existing Eadie Road feedermain for water servicing, and for wastewater servicing, trunk sewer from Industrial Park to New Castor SPS near the Embrun Reservoir. Both options could be financed by Russell and the City of

Ottawa or by Russell alone. The report states that "the City of Ottawa had deferred commitment to servicing the areas within their jurisdiction."

It was noted that the next step is a detailed design broken down into phases for each alternative. Among other things, the phases will require geotechnical and hydrogeological investigations, a Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, a potential zoning variance and property/easement acquisition, as well as coordination with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the South Nation Conservation Authority, and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry.

"Currently, council has approved to move forward with design for servicing the 417 Industrial Park," Russell Mayor Pierre Leroux said. "Once that is complete, we will have a clearer picture as to the financial costs and will be better positioned to initiate discussions with property owners. It will definitely come back to council."

Looking back, while moving forward

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Villager Staff

RUSSELL – Since the late 1980's the Russell Village and District Historical Society (RVDHS) has been ensuring the stories of the Municipality of Russell are preserved and promoted for residents and non-residents alike.

Harry Baker, chair of the Society, explained how Keith Boyd and Wendall Stanley worked together to form the Society, with the Keith M Boyd Museum opening in September 1989. Baker continued that Stanley wrote a comprehensive history of Russell Village entitled "From Swamp and Shanty" in 1987 with Boyd's artifacts, many provided by residents, forming the basis of the museum's collection. The RVDHS collection is housed at the Keith Boyd Museum, with artifacts and historical documents currently located in two buildings called The Church Museum and The Firehall Museum.

The Church Museum is a former Anglican Church with a long history of community use. It was built in 1856 and is described on the RVDHS website as the "oldest surviving public building in Russell Township." It was

eventually moved to its present location at 1150 Concession Street in the Village of Russell after being purchased by the township of Russell.

The building which houses the Fire Hall Museum served as the community Fire Station between 1971 and 2005. In 1953 the first building on the site, the original old Methodist Church which was moved there from Loucks Cemetery, was demolished after serving the community in a variety of ways since 1867. In 1971 the fire hall was constructed and in 2005 was acquired by the RVDHS for housing some of the larger artifacts such as milk wagon, a restored 1952 Maple Leaf Pumper Truck used in the community as well as a sports display, a general store and information on the New York Central Railway.

When asked, Baker explained the role of the RVDHS is to tell and promote the history of the people and the businesses of Russell Township. He continued the Society, as the only organized historical group in the municipality, is seeking greater collaboration with the communities to the east of Russell village such as

Embrun to preserve and promote the municipality's entire history.

Baker mentioned the Society is working with different organizations in the community including research to assist those who are investigating a different namesake for Russell, as well as establishing relationships and providing information on past Indigenous communities. The Society will also assist as needed in the consideration of a Heritage Conservation District by the township of Russell.

The Russell Kin Club is planning to construct a new "Welcome to Russell" sign using bricks made in Russell as its base. Baker explained one of the Society's projects is assisting in the acquisition and storing of these local bricks until they are needed. The bricks made in Russell were transported by rail to many locations including Ottawa, Montreal and into the US. Many were used in the construction of buildings in the Chesterville area where they were used in the construction of the original portion of Holy Trinity Anglican Church.

During the COVID-19 restrictions, Baker mentioned the Society has



The Keith M Boyd Museum provides Russell residents and visitors to the community the opportunity to learn about this history of this Eastern Ontario community. The Church Museum, pictured behind the museum sign, has served its community in various capacities since it was built in 1856.

Thompson Goddard Photo

been busy making heritage videos, which are available on YouTube by using the search term "Russell Historical Vignettes." The vignettes feature information on the history including segments on local doctors, dentists, and the New York Railway.

The Society, in collaboration with the township of Russell, have installed four historical plaques with two more planned for 2021. The program seeks to provide information on the history of the township with plaques of significant events, buildings, or property in the community. Going into the future, it is hoped that through the Historical

Plaque Program, residents and tourists alike will receive a sense of where the community began.

Four plaques, which include bilingual text and a photo, highlighting the Great Russell Fire in 1915, the Carscadden Bridge, St. Andrew's and St. Paul's United Church Cemetery and the Church Building Museum have already been installed. More detailed articles about each plaque can be found on the Township and Museum website. Baker explained two plaques telling the story of the Russell Brick Plant and the Russell Station of the New York Central Railway and the associated industrial complex are planned to be

unveiled in the fall.

It was clear from speaking with Baker, the deep affection and esteem he feels for the community he calls home. He proudly explained how Society volunteers have worked to ensure the stories of this rural community will be available to the public. People seeking genealogical information on their ancestors or for those wishing to learn about life in a rural community, a visit to the museum complex in Russell Village or listening to the vignettes on YouTube will provide a peek into the past and an opportunity to build a pathway to the future on the firm foundation of history.

Russell High School announces

Hello everyone!

It's another chilly week at RHS, although, we have just passed our midterm point for this quadmester- so that's exciting! Since quadmesters are still pretty new, I thought it would be a breath of fresh air to read about what the T-Wolves at RHS believe about our quadmester system!

After getting some of the students' opinions, I would say that the quadmester system is preferred for multiple reasons. Firstly, because students only have to focus on two classes instead of the usual four. Secondly, it's less of a workload-again because of only having the two classes. Lastly, its less stressful on the students to get everything done, get to everywhere they must be, etc. But there are always consequences or negatives to

every situation, and this is no exception. According to students, classes can seem long, which can cause them to feel unmotivated or lazy. They also say that they aren't learning as much as normal due to the class needing to be taught in half the time as usual- although the time in class is about the same.

It's more inconclusive for the teachers. They do share the same opinions as the students, but they have different responsibilities than we do. I can assume it's a bit more stressful for them because they have to decide the best way to cover the course material within a limited amount of time. Also, it's quite different planning for a 2 1/2 hour class instead of 60 minutes!

But overall, whatever system the school board or the school chooses, the staff and students will make the best of it. That's how we roll at RHS.

Have a good week!

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