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**Briefly**

**Dundas Manor reports one case of COVID-19**

A confirmed case of COVID-19 has been confirmed at the Dundas Manor in Winchester.

That case brings the total; number of cases in North Dundas to nine with three considered to be active cases.

Throughout the Eastern Ontario Health Unit region the number stands at 17. In the entire catchment the number is 198 with 11 deaths and 170 resolved cases.

There has been 40,158 test conducted in the health units area.

A Facebook post from the manor stated: "A staff member tested positive for COVID-19 during the regular, proactive testing earlier this week. The employee has only worked a few shifts recently. The Eastern Ontario Health Unit has declared an outbreak at Dundas Manor. An outbreak is declared when one staff or one resident has a positive test for the virus.

Out of an abundance of caution, all residents and staff are now being tested. The results will be available shortly. Dundas Manor is taking every infection control precaution to keep our residents and staff safe.

At this time, there will be no indoor or outdoor visits. We will continue to provide updates for residents, families, and our community."

**THE CHESTERVILLE RECORD**  
Serving Stormont and Dundas Counties since 1894



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**The Villager**  
NEWS INSIDE



**A short film capturing lost of memory and loved ones**

The short film, "On the Edge of Yesterday" was filmed in Chesterville at the home of Kirk Knapp who wrote, directed and produced the film for a weekly film festival in Ottawa. Left to right are the cast, Christine and Tyler Knapp and Patrick Mulligan. Courtesy photo

**Chesterville filmmaker enters short film challenge**

**Joseph Morin**  
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – Dundas County has no shortage of creative writers, musicians and filmmakers.

Kirk Knapp is one Chesterville resident who continues to work on his movie productions despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

He has entered his short film called, "On the Edge of Yesterday" into the Weekly Film Challenge in Ottawa.

His production company, called Big Block Productions created the short film in just one day.

"The festival is an online festival that runs weekly," said Knapp who wrote, produced and directed the film.

The winner of each preceding week chooses the theme for the following week. This is their 18th week running.

Participants have one week to produce a short film only a few minutes long.

**Continued on page 2**

**Rural school buses will have their own rules to follow**

**Tricia Surette**  
Record Staff

The Student Transportation of Eastern Ontario (STEO) on Aug. 17, 2020, released their COVID-19 Transportation Plan for the safe busing of students returning to school this fall. They have collaborated with the Ministry of Education, Public Health, the school boards and looked at other busing companies in the area to put together their plan.

Bus loads will be at or close to normal with two to three students per bench. STEO will make efforts to balance and distribute loads as evenly as possible where it can be done. They are hoping enough parents opt out of busing that it will make social distancing on the buses easier.

If parents choose to opt out of busing they are encouraged to fill out the surveys

provided by the school boards. They can also choose to opt back in but there could be delays in processing the requests depending on how many they receive.

For those who choose to opt out, students are encouraged to walk or roll to school. If parents must drive them, where it's possible and safe to do so, they are encouraged to drop their children off a block or so away and let them walk the remaining distance. This will ease the traffic around the drop-off zones at the schools.

Bus drivers will assign seating over the first week or so. Until then, students are asked to load back to front and disembark front to back, though the Kinder students will be allowed to sit closer to the front. Seats will be numbered and students must stay in their assigned seats. Family and school cohorts will be kept together where possible.

**Continued on page 5**



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# One foot in the present and another in the future

Carolyn Thompson Goddard  
Record Staff

**SOUTH DUNDAS** – Upper Canada Creamery (UCC) located in South Dundas celebrated their 5th anniversary on Aug. 15 of this year.

Owned and operated by Ellen and Josh Biemond, UCC produces a variety of dairy products including milk, yogurt, ice cream and cheese from the milk produced by their 45 dairy cows.

Information obtained from the website of Upper Canada Creamery explains that its story began in 1981 when the Biemond family immigrated to Canada and purchased a dairy farm in South Dundas.

The evolution of New Care Farms (NCF) includes a transition to certified organic dairy and cash crops, the building of an open concept barn following a fire, and after the purchase of NCF by brothers Rudi and Josh Biemond and the installation of a milk parlour. The plans for providing a source of local dairy products continued, with the establishment of UCC in 2015.

In 2020 there are several products produced at the creamery including yogurt, four flavours of cheese and curds, fluid milk, frozen yogurt and ice cream, but during a recent interview, Ellen explained when the creamery opened there was one size and one flavour of yogurt offered for sale. The dairy products are created onsite at UCC from milk produced by their herd of cows. She continued on how they keep the operation small, so they can shrink their food imprint, keep it local and provide quality of product over quantity.

Several times in the interview, both Josh and Ellen stressed the importance of the support provided by the local community to the success of their businesses. There was a deep sense of thankfulness for this support and they mentioned this includes those who visit the onsite storefront, the stores who provide UCC products for sale and the people who purchase them.

They also mentioned the collaborative effort with other local food producers in the creation of food products and working or mentoring the next generation of farmers. Josh



## A dream come true for Josh and Ellen Biemond

Upper Canada Creamery is located at 11575 Waddell Road, with a storefront, offices and processing area located in the handsome building pictured here.

Thompson Goddard photo

mentioned how young farmers have toured the site and commented the availability of support if they choose to develop a business such as Upper Canada Creamery.

He continued that the public are also able to tour the site enabling them to become more knowledgeable about the food they can purchase. Josh and Ellen both agreed it is important for people to know where and how their food is produced and what ingredients are contained in their food as well as knowing the producers themselves if possible.

The couple both spoke about the importance of dairy in the history of our area, mentioning visitors to UCC have often shared with Josh and Ellen the story of cheese factories and dairies located in the area, which they both enjoyed hearing. Josh mentioned that today, there are very few businesses such as UCC which process milk from their farm and process it into a finished dairy product.

When asked about the future, the couple commented that there are new products being contemplated and to keep an eye on their social media sites for announcements. As the interview concluded, Ellen and Josh both agreed their greatest business accomplishment was bringing their dream of producing their dairy products onsite with the assistance of a supportive family and community, an invaluable contribution to their success.

For more information please visit their Facebook page, website at [uppercanadacreamery.com](http://uppercanadacreamery.com) or their business located at 11575 Waddell Road located near Iroquois in South Dundas.



## Celebrating 5 years

Josh and Ellen Biemond take a moment to rest during their busy day at Upper Canada Creamery located near Iroquois in South Dundas. The antique cheese barrel and ice cream maker are part of the dairy heritage of many parts of this country, including Dundas County.

Thompson Goddard photo

## Chesterville filmmaker

Continued from the front

After submitting, people can vote online for their favourite.

“It’s just a way for filmmakers in the Ottawa area to stay involved after our industry [was] shut down due to Covid-19,” said Knapp.

A short movie running just over 4 minutes takes a team to put together.

The film looks at memory and loss and to do it Knapp enlisted the help of some of his industry friends.

The music was composed by Matthew Harper, a musician who sent his finished music for the film to Knapp from England where he lives.

There were three people in the cast: Tyler Knapp, Kirks brother, Patrick Mulligan and Christine Knapp.

The audio was looked after by Stephen Lorne while the boom operator was Timon Incze. Kirk looked after the camera work and Jennifer Knapp worked on the film as its production assistant.

The story begins with two men talking at a table while a child eats.

One man is asking the other if he can borrow his booster seat. “The booster seat reminded him of his daughter,” said Knapp. “That is why the booster seat was there.”

Knapp has been making short films and entering them in film festivals, when he has the time, since 2014.

He said he was

introduced to the Ottawa film industry where he worked as a production assistant and then on to set dressing for several years, but he never abandoned his filmmaking vision. Along the way he was involved in the production of a few Hallmark movies in Ottawa and was involved in the Mel Gibson movie “Fatman” here in Chesterville.

The pandemic caused an industry slowdown “Everything was put on hold,” said Knapp.

He said the film was a perfect opportunity to dust off his cinematic and production skills, getting ready for when the pandemic loosens its grip on movie making.

He said the festival is great for letting people know you are still active.

“A lot of the people I brought on were friends and people I have worked with before,” said Knapp.

All the editing was done at his home in Chesterville. He tried to keep his production crew as small as possible due to COVID-19 regulations.

With everyone’s help he was able to finish the film in one day.

Knapp trained at Algonquin College in television broadcasting.

You can view the film at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhFHgSJEq34&fbclid=IwAR2yhZPKPdCDboRwmqPNJHWz092CNen sqmRh1RU117jyoOem8V2KzmxU32c>.



# Seeds Canada vision stalled but idea survives

Joseph Morin  
Record Staff

OTTAWA – The recent attempt to amalgamate five of the country's top seed grower associations has failed – for now.

On Thurs. Aug. 27 a final vote was tallied from members of the Canadian Seed Growers Association (CSGA); Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA); Canadian Seed Institute (CSI); Commercial Seed Analysts Association of Canada (CSAAC); and the Canadian Plant Technology Agency (CPTA).

The expected unanimous decision to join the forces of these five groups into a new organization called Seeds Canada was stymied when CSGA voted against it.

The Canadian Seed Growers Association balked at the idea even though many of its members were enthusiastic but cautious about the consolidation.

A press release from the CSGA stated, "This result is disappointing, and the boards of each participating organization will now consider how to move forward. Without a

unanimous decision, the boards of each organization will reconvene to determine the next steps. An update on this matter is anticipated by the middle of September."

Past president of the CSGA Jonathan Nyborg said prior to the vote, "The Seed Synergy partners began discussions on a next generation seed system for Canada about five years ago."

According to the National Farmers Union the plan was flawed from the start. In an opinion piece on the NFU website they wrote the five groups collaborating under the name Seed Synergy involved in the potential merger based their vision on a white paper. The idea was to increase seed companies' revenues with new efficiencies. The NFU took the position that the union of the five organizations would result in a loss of control and revenue for farmers, public plant breeders and consumers.

The amalgamation if successful would bring the five organizations regulatory, service and

lobbying functions under a new governance structure.

Describing the reaction to the idea from various groups, Nyborg said, "The seed grower members of the CSGA are a diverse group and there have been a range of responses to the amalgamation proposal. Some members are supportive of the proposal as is, others support the proposal but would have liked to see more details, and others do not support amalgamation under any circumstances."

Among the concerns about the amalgamation was that policy and regulatory changes in the long term might leave smaller seed producers behind.

"I really don't see that happening," said Nyborg. "The Seeds Canada proposal is for a new, national organization that represents the interests of everybody in the seed sector value chain. Everyone becomes equal. One member, one vote. It is not in anybody's interest to squeeze smaller independent growers out."

The idea of a single group dictating regulations and policies that were not necessarily beneficial to all growers was not thought to be a problem by those in agreement with the amalgamation. The CSGA is responsible for developing standards and procedures for pedigreed seed crop production and for certifying seed crops that meet those standards. They also recognize plant breeders and certify Breeder and Select status seed.

"The CSGA has a long and proud tradition of working with government, both federal and provincial, and other stakeholders to ensure that its rules and requirements benefit Canadian agriculture. I am confident that this will continue in the future," said Nyborg.

In a letter to the Minister of Agriculture, Marie-Claude Bibeau, members of the Kingston Area Seed System Initiative (KASSI), a non-profit group founded by local farmers, backyard and market gardeners, and concerned community members asked the minister

to become involved the Seeds Canada project.

The letter stated, "We are very concerned about the proposal to amalgamate five seed organizations in Canada into one organization, Seeds Canada and the consequences of this amalgamation for the seed system in Canada. Whoever controls seed, controls food. That's why Canadians should be very concerned about the future of the Canadian seed system," the letter stated.

Andrew Dawson, a director with the Ontario Seed Growers Association, and a member of the Canadian Seed Growers Association, voted for the consolidation.

He said, "The proposal made a lot of sense and was something that was overdue. I can see several efficiencies coming from the merger of the five organizations."

He said, as a contract grower in the industry he felt he would not be overly affected by it. "However, I can see the value in it for the industry as a whole." He was aware that there were many concerns being shared by others but he felt they were unfounded due to an

overall lack of clear understanding. He also felt some voters were afraid of such radical change at this moment in time.

Some growers had a concern that they would lose their voice in the industry.

Nyborg felt that while such concerns were to be expected they were not the kind of future he envisioned.

He said, "Regulations should be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that they continue to achieve the results for which they are intended. The CSGA reviews and revises its requirements regularly and has recently completed a targeted three-year modernization initiative resulting in many changes."

The control over the industry is not so easily lost by growers, large and small.

"The Seeds Regulations, which are administered and enforced by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, have had relatively minor tweaks over the past 10 years but are in need of a thorough review – one of the reasons for the Seed Synergy Collaboration Project in the first place," said Nyborg.

Continued on page 6

## New business opening soon

Carolyn Thompson Goddard  
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE — In a few weeks, Josie Rennick, the owner of Over the Moon Photography, is planning to open a photography studio next door to Louis' Restaurant, in the Allan Moran block at the junction of King, Main and Water streets in Chesterville.

In a recent interview with *The Chesterville Record*, she explained she decided to open her studio in Chesterville because: "I like Chesterville, the people and I'm hoping that opening my studio will be beneficial to the community."

Rennick has over ten years photography experience and she started her business approximately two years ago. She has been featured in several magazines and her "wedding photo won the cover of Brides First Magazine through the Cornwall Seeker October 2018 issue." She was also nominated "in the top ten of the eastern region for the Ontario Wedding Awards," she commented how, though she didn't bring home a final prize she "was still proud to be part of the top ten."



Josie Rennick is bringing her photography business to Chesterville.  
Photo courtesy of Brittany Delmore Photography

## Only YOU Can Prevent Cooking Fires



Cooking left unattended is a leading cause of home fires in Ontario.

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Test them every month.



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- Always stay in the kitchen while cooking.** If you must leave, turn off the stove.
- Keep anything that burns—*oven mitts, cooking utensils, dish cloths, paper towels and pot holders*—a **safe distance from the stove**.
- Keep a **proper-fitting pot lid** near the stove when cooking. If a pot catches fire slide the lid over the pot and turn off the stove. Do not move the pot until it has cooled completely.
- Loose-fitting clothes can come into contact with stove burners and catch fire. **Wear short sleeves, tight sleeves or roll them up** when cooking.



For more information contact your **local fire department**.

North Dundas Fire Services  
636 St. Lawrence St., P.O. Box 489  
Winchester, ON K0C2K0



Office of the Fire Marshal and  
Emergency Management  
ontario.ca/firemarshal



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## COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program for small business: applications began August 31

The Government of Ontario is making \$8 million available to support small business and registered charities who are struggling to pay their energy bills as a result of COVID-19.

The COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program for Small Business (CEAP-SB) provides a one time, on-bill credit to eligible small business and registered charity customers to help them catch up on their energy bills and resume regular payments.

To apply for CEAP funding, customers should contact their energy provider. Electricity and natural gas utilities and unit sub-meter providers (USMPs) will begin accepting applications for CEAP-SB on August 31, 2020, delivering the program in accordance with rules laid out by the OEB. CEAP-SB funding is limited, with utilities and USMPs expected to process applications in the order in which they are received. Please note, submitting an application does not guarantee funding.

For more information, including eligibility requirements and on-bill credit amounts, visit [oeb.ca/ceap](http://oeb.ca/ceap).

## The primary goals of the Regional Incentives Program are to:

Encourage redevelopment and investment in existing building stock within the County to support employment, reduce the number of vacant buildings, and increase the assessment base;

Promote active recreation, tourism, and the continued development or enhancement of the trail network;

Stimulate investment in the agricultural sector by funding diverse, on-farm expansions and agri-tourism and increase the amount of tourist accommodation available within the County and enhance and expand existing establishments. Learn more at

<https://business.sdgcountries.ca/local-business/stay-discover-grow>

## Local rural hospitals collaborate to study transitions in care

'Transitions in care' happen as patients move from one setting to the next. Transitions are times when patients can fall through the cracks and experience setbacks that can result in unnecessary readmissions and complications. A new multi-site evaluation and quality improvement study is hoping to change that.

An alliance of three rural hospitals in Ontario - Winchester District Memorial Hospital (WDMH), Kemptonville District Hospital (KDH), and Arnprior Regional Health (ARH) - have received a \$196,000 grant to evaluate and improve transitions in care for elderly patients leaving the hospital to go home. The TiC Evaluations Rural Network Study, which will be conducted over the next two years, will gather real-world information and find solutions for hospitals and their patients.

## Farms need foreign workers and they need us

Tricia Surette  
Recorder Staff

MANOTICK – Covid-19 has highlighted many challenges in the farming industry including mental health issues and high debt loads. One of the more contentious issues is foreign workers.

The Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program (SAWP) has been bringing foreign workers in from Mexico or participating Caribbean countries for 54 years. For farmers, foreign workers are a valuable asset to their operations. Without them, crops would rot in the fields and operations would grind to a halt.

When Covid-19 shut everything down in March, the government closed the borders and initially decided that all foreign workers had to stay home. That decision was quickly reversed, but new rules were implemented including a 14-day quarantine upon arrival, as well as new rules for retrofitting existing bunk houses to meet social distancing guidelines.

Dean Beckstead of Smyth's Orchards in Dundela, Ontario, had to make extensive changes to his bunk house to meet the new rules.

"With the new rules and regulations that Service Canada brings in," said Beckstead, "we've always



Carmen Mitchell, co-owner of SunTech Greenhouses Ltd in Manotick stands amongst the rows of tomatoes. The foreign workers are hired to look after these plants from planting, pruning and harvesting. Surette photo

been okayed for 17 workers for our bedding, our sinks and toilets and showers but now, the new rules and regulations - can't use bunk beds, then we had plywood dividers down the center between the beds and now that doesn't fly anymore. One man per bed, bed has to be 6 feet a part. The extra regulations have cost us a pile of money. Money out of our pockets."

On July 31, 2020, the government pledged an additional 58.6 million dollars to help farmers with the extra costs associated with the new regulations. Farmers can receive up to \$1,500 per foreign worker to cover the costs of paying them while quarantined and

the costs of upgrading living accommodations to meet the new social distancing requirements.

Despite all the effort farmers have put in to care for their workers and meet all the new Covid-19 regulations, there is still a lot of negative press and misunderstanding around the use of foreign workers on farms. Unfortunately, a few bad situations in southern Ontario has not helped improve the perceptions of the general public.

"You get the one incident in Ontario," said Beckstead, "and they bring in more rules and regulations because of one situation. Where was he keeping the

distance and keeping the locals and workers apart?"

Wade into the comment section of almost any article on the subject, especially on major news sites, and the comments include everything from "just hire local" to 'farmers are taking advantage of these workers', and 'end foreign worker programs, they are tantamount to slavery'.

It is also not unusual for people to be completely disconnected from where the food in their grocery stores comes from or how it gets there.

"When all this Covid stuff started, people were mad that they were going to let off-shore labour come back into the country," said Beckstead. "Some lady posted on Facebook, 'well it doesn't matter if they come in or not, we just go to the grocery store to buy our food.'"

Foreign farm workers are some of the most protected workers in Canada, according to Ken Forth, chair of the labour section of the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association and a broccoli farmer in Hamilton. As long as the foreign workers are working, they have full health benefits and workers compensation benefits. They are covered from the time they board the plane until they safely return home.

Continued on page 9

## The Road Home

### The most cherished moments are the ones in front of you

by Carolyn Thompson Goddard

This Spring I planted a COVID 19 victory garden and fall has certainly arrived in my garden plot out back.

I was out the other night as it was cool enough for me to stick my nose out of my air conditioned living room and was amazed to see my pumpkin has totally ripened, the lettuce had grown almost as tall as my tomato plants and my two cucumbers were ready to pick.

This reminded me that fall is just around the corner and summer is on the way out.

What a summer it has been this year. I am uncertain as to what people will remember about the summer of 2020 as there were no local fairs to visit, few community events to attend and even Canada Day was pretty subdued this year.

That said, it was a pretty good summer here in my neck of the woods. There was plenty of work to do in my victory garden out back and in the front keeping my herb,

flower and weed plants watered kept me busy even during the drought experienced. When it was too hot to go outside, there were books to read, music to listen to and television to watch. A couple of times Geoffrey popped in for a quick visit while now and again my son Graeme and my grandson Winston would make the trip out from Ottawa for a visit.

We would visit outside while Winston had fun running around the yard, tending to my garden or playing a game or two of lawn golf.

Naomi, who lives a bit closer, would often pop in with my granddaughter Zoey for a visit and a treat or two. Zoey and I were able to get in a couple rounds of mini-golf at Archies followed by an ice cream and McDonald's lunch.

I picked up a couple of larger sized water guns at a dollar store which led to a few hours of fun as Zoey and Winston would spray water on Grandma with them.

I suspect the highlight of the summer was when Zoey's "family"

birthday party was held in my backyard. Zoey and her parents, Winston and his parents and my son Geoffrey were all in the backyard for the occasion.

The young ones had fun with the water guns, bubble makers and water slip n' side, while the adults had a chance to chat and swap stories before they joined into the water fun with the youngsters.

While everyone munched on pizza, sipped water or visited I looked around the back yard and realized this was probably one of the best birthday parties I had ever hosted or attended. Those whom I love most in the world were in my backyard, enjoying pizza, birthday cake and their time together.

I think when I look back on the summer of 2020 while the memories of the COVID concerns will be there, it will also remind me of the necessity to get off the roller coaster of activity and appreciate those most important things - family, fun and food.



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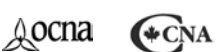
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## Seaway Surge Baseball Club looks ahead after successful summer season

KEMPTVILLE – After a spring and early summer of uncertainty, the Seaway Surge Baseball Club wraps up their abbreviated summer season this week in the National Capital Ontario Baseball Association (NCOBA).

The Seaway Surge fielded 9 teams from 9U to 18U this year, with the shortened season beginning in late July. Our players and coaches were very excited to return to the field, even with the extra precautions taken during the pandemic. Regular hand sanitizing, wiping of equipment, and social distancing became the regular routine at the diamond, but that did not stop the Surge teams from having fun and providing strong competition throughout all age groups in NCOBA. “The pandemic has challenged everyone to make adjustments, and baseball is no different”, said Surge President Tim Hamilton. “We are very proud of all our



Courtesy photo

coaches and players, and thank our parents for being on board with the changes and contributing to a successful season.”

With the summer season almost complete, the Surge are looking ahead to their fall programs, and tryouts for our 2021 summer season teams. Information for fall ball will be posted online shortly, and

summer 2021 team tryouts are going ahead beginning the weekend of September 11, 2020. Registration is open online for all age groups with a \$25 tryout fee.

Our programs can not be successful without the contributions of our coaches. The Seaway Surge are looking to fill future coaching vacancies for the

2021 summer season at the 9U and 18U age groups. If you’re interested in developing players in the fastest growing baseball program in eastern Ontario, please visit our website for contact information.

For more information on the Seaway Surge Baseball Club, please visit our website: <http://www.seawaysurge.com>

## Rural school buses

Continued from the front

Students from grades four to 12 are mandated to wear masks and students kindergarten to grade three are highly encouraged to wear masks. There will be exemptions provided for breathing and cognitive difficulties or for those who cannot apply or remove their masks by themselves.

Students are also highly encouraged to carry hand sanitizer and to use it before and after they get on and off the bus. As well, they are encouraged to thoroughly wash their hands before leaving the house.

While students are waiting for the bus, they are to keep their distance from others and when the bus arrives, students are encouraged to line up, keeping a two meter distance between each other, and only allowing one person on the stairs at a time.

Bus drivers will be wearing masks, either goggles or a face shield, and when they have to interact with students, they will also wear a paper gown and gloves. This may be scary for some children so parents should speak to their children before they get on the bus for the first time.

At all times, students should greet their drivers with a smile as they are a "crucial part of an amazing frontline service team who go to great lengths to keep our children safe", according to STEO's Transportation Plan.

Between runs, the driver will disinfect high use surfaces such as handrails and seats. And twice a day, following each shift, the bus will get an enhanced cleaning of all areas that could potentially carry the virus, i.e. window sills, driver controls, etc.

For drivers transporting students in wheelchairs, they will be provided with full PPE; masks, goggles or face shields, paper gowns and gloves, or they can choose to use sanitizer before and after securing the students.

For vans, any parents or staff having to enter the van to help secure a student, will have to wear a mask and while

they can clean seats or surfaces down with disinfectant wipes, they cannot use sprays. Vans will be kept to a maximum of five children, and they will try to keep family and school cohorts together.

Should a driver get sick, Public Health will be notified and through contact tracing and a "predetermined criteria", they will decide what measures should be taken, which could include 14 days of isolation.

Parents are expected to go over the checklist that will be provided by Public Health, before sending their children to school each morning, but should a child exhibit symptoms at the bus stop or on the bus, parents will be called. If they can't be reached, the student will be isolated on the bus as best as possible and parents will have to pick them up from school.

If a child gets sick at school, they will not be allowed back on the bus. Parents will have to pick up their child from school and Public Health will be notified to determine through contact tracing what the next steps will be.

"The plan has as its driving force the health and well-being of students, bus drivers and the community", according to the Transportation Plan.

But the plan continues to be subjected to any new mandates from the Ministry of Education and/or Public Health. They also welcome any feedback from parents through their main line, 855-925-0022 or email, [transportation@steo.ca](mailto:transportation@steo.ca). More information and a full copy of the report can be found on their website, [www.steo.ca](http://www.steo.ca).



### – Grave Side Service – Mary Elizabeth Cooke (Betty)

Loving wife of the late Ray Cooke, mother to Terry Elizabeth Wilkie, Larry & John Cooke & Heather Erwin & their spouses. Loving grandmother of 11 and GG to 12. Loved by many nieces, nephews and friends, will be missed by all.

Grave side service will be held at Maple Ridge Cemetery, 12820-12898 County Rd. 43, Winchester, ON K0C 2K0 on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 1 p.m. Donations requested to Nor-Dun Senior Support Centre, Winchester or the Alzheimer Society. Arrangement entrusted to Marsden and McLaughlin Funeral Home in Iroquois.



### Obituary Maureen Corrick

At the Ottawa Civic Hospital with her family by her side on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, Maureen Corrick of Chesterville, age 66. Loving mother of Carolyn Hutt (Mike) of Chesterville, Lindsay Smirle (Steve Patoine) of Orleans and Wayne Smirle (Mimi) of Manotick. Maureen will be fondly remembered by her grandchildren Aaliyah and Aiden Hutt, Emmree, Ryann and Cruz Patoine and Lincoln Smirle. Sister of Carol Haley, Steve Corrick, Debora Long, Larry Corrick, Lynn Chauvin and Doris DeBoer. Predeceased by her parents Frank and Ida Corrick (nee Rundle). Also survived by nieces and nephews. Due to the Coronavirus restrictions a private family celebration of Maureen's life will be held. Donations to the Brain Aneurysm Foundation of Canada would be gratefully acknowledged by the family. If you are making your donation online or by cheque directly to the charity, please include the following note with your gift "please notify the family". Online condolences may be made at [marsdenmclaughlin.com](http://marsdenmclaughlin.com).

# Church DIRECTORY

Your Guide to Local Houses of Worship

**The United Church of Canada  
CHRIST CHURCH UNITED**

5 Casselman St., Chesterville  
Pastor: Debbie Poirier 613-850-2725  
**PLEASE NOTE:** Church building currently closed.  
Re-opening to be announced.

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
AVONMORE-FINCH-MARTINTOWN  
ST. JAMES - CHALMERS - ST. ANDREW'S**

PASTORAL CHARGE Minister: Rev. Lois Gaudet BBA, BTH, MDIV  
Contact : Tel: 613-346-1648 Email: [revlgaudet@gmail.com](mailto:revlgaudet@gmail.com)  
*Worship services are not being held until further notice.*

**ST. LUKE'S - KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - FINCH**

MINISTER: Rev. Dr. Cheryl Gaver  
613-918-0506 Email: [cgaver@cogeco.ca](mailto:cgaver@cogeco.ca) Church: 613-984-2201  
Website: [www.finch-avonmore-presbyterian.ca](http://www.finch-avonmore-presbyterian.ca)  
**Sunday, September 6, 2020**  
*11 a.m. – Worship Service & Sunday School  
Everyone Welcome!*

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - Morewood  
ST. ANDREW'S - Chesterville  
ST. PAUL'S - Winchester**

Rev. Bruce Kemp, B.A. S.T.M. 613-267-0928  
**Sunday, September 6, 2020**  
Chesterville - 9 a.m. Winchester - 10 a.m. Morewood - 11:15 a.m.  
*Everyone Welcome!*  
COME EXPECTING – LEAVE REJOICING

**NATIONSIDE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**

Rev. Edwin Valles  
Email: [ebvalles@hotmail.com](mailto:ebvalles@hotmail.com) Office: 613-448-2272  
IDP Group Inc., 171 Main St. North, Chesterville  
**Please note:** No Sunday and Wednesday meetings during the pandemic  
**Please join us on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. for our online service on Facebook: Nationside Pentecostal Church**  
[www.nationside.org](http://www.nationside.org)  
*Affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada*

**HARMONY COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
*Evangelical Missionary Church*

12010 Ormond Rd. & Hwy. 31 613-774-5170 [www.harmony-church.org](http://www.harmony-church.org)  
Senior Pastor: Rev. Daniel L. Wallace  
**Sunday, September 6, 2020**  
**We are beginning to 'reopen' for services by reservation only** as space and seating will be limited in compliance of the COVID-19 restrictions.  
**OR** join us via our youtube channel for our live stream at 10:30 a.m. [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoPy\\_DABzz4REc-A76-EvrA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoPy_DABzz4REc-A76-EvrA)  
*No Sunday School or Nursery provided at this time*  
**NOTE:** Registration to attend is required to our Sunday morning service. Please call the church office to reserve your spot.

**ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**

139 Castor St., Russell, ON Parish Office: 613-445-3226  
Presiding: Rev. Anne Quick  
[infostmarysrussell@rogers.com](mailto:infostmarysrussell@rogers.com) Website: [www.stmarysrussell.ca](http://www.stmarysrussell.ca)  
**Please join our virtual service, Sundays at 10 a.m.**  
If you would like to join our service via Zoom  
email: [infostmarysrussell@rogers.com](mailto:infostmarysrussell@rogers.com) for the link.  
*St. Mary's Church is engaged in actively sharing God's unconditional grace and love.*

**WINCHESTER BAPTIST CHURCH**

486 Main St., Winchester  
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**ST. MARY OF THE PRESENTATION  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Administration Priest: Fr. Charles Enyinnia  
Parish Secretary: Patricia Guy - 613-448-3262



# Premier Doug Ford drops by Stanley's



## Welcome to Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm

Premier Doug Ford stopped by Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm on Aug. 27 to roll some bread dough with farm staff and visit with Earl Stanley. The afternoon visit included a chat with Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson, Councillor George Darouze and Carleton MPP Goldie Ghamari. There was a crowd of supporters on hand to welcome the premier.

Morin photo



## Having a taste of local food

Premier Ford had some fun along with a visit to supporters at Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm. Here he has just finished rolling some dough, getting it ready for baking and is tasting some bread that had been baked earlier from the dough. Left to right are: Earl Stanley, Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson, Premier Ford, MPP Goldie Ghamari, Councillor George Darouze, Calvin Delaney and Scott Hurrell farm staff.

Morin photo



## Taking issues right to the top

The premier's visit was a casual one, however he found time to listen to the concerns of Osgoode high school student Devin Morrison on the left. The two talked about the province's COVID-19 back to school strategy and issues surrounding on-line learning.

Morin photo

# Confirmed human case of West Nile Virus in EOHU Region

CORNWALL – Last week the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) is confirming the summer's first human case of West Nile virus in the region. To date, there have been no pools of mosquitoes in the EOHU territory that have tested positive for the disease, however the positive human case indicates that it is present in the local mosquito population.

"This first human case of the summer shows that West Nile virus remains a concern in our area," says Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, medical officer of health at the EOHU. "Residents should be aware and take the necessary precautions to protect themselves and their families."

West Nile virus is spread to humans by the bite of an infected mosquito. For most people, the risk of illness from West Nile virus is low, however, it can cause serious illness in others.

Residents can take precautions against mosquitoes and therefore against the virus by taking the following steps:

- Use federally registered personal insect repellents, such as those containing DEET or icaridin. Use a light coating on exposed skin. Follow label instructions for proper application;
- Wear light-coloured clothing, long sleeves, pants and socks when outside;
- Avoid being outside at dusk and dawn, as mosquitoes are the most active at that time;
- Ensure that all containers in or around the yard like tires, pool covers, saucers for flowerpots, wading pools and children's toys are regularly emptied of standing water;
- Ensure that screens, windows and doors are fully sealed to prevent mosquitoes from entering the house.

For more information, visit the EOHU's website at [www.eohu.ca](http://www.eohu.ca) and click on the My Environment section, or call 613-933-1375 or 1-800-267-7120. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



## Happy Birthday to Jimmy's Restaurant

Jimmy and Vicky Dingwall, owners of Jimmy's Restaurant located on Dickinson Drive at the outskirts of Ingleside, are celebrating the restaurant's 15th anniversary on Sat., Sept. 5 at 11 a.m. The activities for the day include a birthday cake cutting and a draw for the grand prize. There will also be the opportunity to have some of the delicious food customers have enjoyed for 15 years.

Thompson Goddard photo

## Seeds Canada

Continued from page 3

He said the future of the Canadian seed industry must be determined by Canadians.

A concern about how Europe has fared regarding their seed industry, which is very different that its Canadian counterpart needs to be looked at from the point of view of the differences between Canada and Europe.

"So, it is very difficult to compare Europe with Canada which is why we need to develop systems and procedures designed in Canada by Canadians for Canadians," he said.

The seed industry in Canada is in good shape however Nyborg believes there is always room to improve.

He said, "I wouldn't say that seed growing is in trouble. However, there was increasing recognition amongst seed

growers and the seed trade that their futures and prosperity were linked together, so why not work together for the mutual benefit of all seed sector stakeholders," he added, "We have five separate national seed organizations, each with their own piece of the pie and little to no overlap in their mandates. Amalgamation should result in an organization that can serve its members, and clients for its seed regulatory services, in a more efficient and effective manner."

Despite the positive feelings by many CSGA members Cathy Christie chair of the KASSI board had a message to the minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food.

"The pandemic-inspired seed shortages this past spring remind us that we need to keep the seed supply in the hands of individual Canadians and farmers, through many local seed growers, and supported by publicly-owned seed research," she said.

**Savour the Senses**

Presented by

Lions Club of Russell

Experience Eastern Ontario's finest wines from the comfort of your own home. In this virtual wine tasting experience, you will explore your senses in a unique blind tasting, led by a professional sommelier.

September 26, 2020 | Zoom

#WineNot  
#WineandChill  
#SavourtheSenses

[deafblindontario.com](http://deafblindontario.com)



# Stay clear, stay safe, stay distanced this September long weekend

TORONTO – As cities and towns across the province are reopening their communities, Ontario Power Generation (OPG) wants to remind you to take extreme caution and exercise sound judgement this September long weekend when around water, especially around our hydroelectric stations and dams.

“Your safety is of the utmost importance to us at OPG. We ask that you take great care when enjoying yourselves in and around waterways this weekend,” said Mike Martelli, OPG’s president of Renewable Generation. “Whether you’re boating, swimming or fishing, conditions can change quickly and without warning.”

The waterways near OPG’s facilities are not a safe place for recreation. Before participating in any outdoor water recreational activity, OPG is advising the public to first

visit: [www.opg.com/watersafety](http://www.opg.com/watersafety).

Despite continued warnings, some people disregard our signs and barriers, putting themselves at risk. OPG works with the Ontario Provincial Police to enforce these warnings, and charges can - and have - been laid.

OPG operates 66 hydroelectric stations and 241 dams on 24 river systems throughout Ontario.

Activities on the water can be lots of fun when done safely. Enjoy the September long weekend, but remember to stay clear, stay safe and stay distanced.

OPG is the largest electricity generator in the province, providing almost half the power Ontarians rely on every day. It is also one of the most diverse generators in North America with nuclear, hydro, biomass, solar and gas assets.



Stay safe around OPG facilities this summer.

Courtesy photo

## “You’ve Been Flocked” program

Carolyn Thompson Goddard  
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE —For the past couple of years, flocks of flamingos are popping up in many locations throughout the Counties of Stormont and Glengarry.

SGJF vice president Sydney Carson explained the “You’ve Been Flocked” program began in 2019 with the purchase of 10 pink flamingos, which migrate from place to place. They are known to land in the front lawn of a home and are removed by SGJF members when the accompanying letter is

completed and returned to the organization.

The letter reveals that the flamingos are helping raise funds for the organization’s bursary program. While a donation to the bursary fund is not necessary to have the birds moved or relocated to another specified location in Stormont or Glengarry County, donations are gratefully appreciated by the SGJF. Carson mentioned the birds generally roost for about a week at a location, before moving on to spread a bit of joy for someone else.

Carson explained The Stormont-Glengarry Junior Farmers’ Bursary is

awarded to a Stormont-Glengarry graduating student who demonstrates the motto of the Junior Farmers’ Association of Ontario organization (JFAO) “Building leaders, building communities” and its mission statement of “To build future rural leaders, through self-help and community betterment.” The 2020 SGJF bursary winner was Haleigh-Jo tePlate. On the organization’s Facebook site, it is explained that more information on next year’s bursary will be available in the spring of 2021.



**Thumbs-up for Stormont-Glengarry Junior Farmers**

Stephanie Vogel gives a thumbs-up after the arrival of a flock of pink flamingos at her home. The “You’ve Been Flocked” program raises funds for the Stormont-Glengarry Junior Farmers’ Bursary.

Courtesy photo SGJF

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orchard for its opening day on Sat. Aug. 29.

**A tasty tradition continues**

Shawn and Lesley Fields have been coming to Mountain Orchards for 34 years. Visiting the popular apple orchard is a tradition for them. Despite the raining weather they were at the

Morin photo

**SUNSET COVE** RETIREMENT LIVING

Are you caring for an aging loved one?

Sunset Cove is a warm and friendly retirement residence nestled in the heart of Long Sault, Ontario. Just 10 minutes west of Cornwall, our quaint community is the perfect size to foster new relationships and enjoy the benefits of retirement living with other like-minded seniors. Our dedicated healthcare professionals are onsite and available 24 hours per day, for additional peace of mind and our friendly and considerate staff will make sure you have everything you need.

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**Move-in by October 31st and we will Cover your Moving Expenses!\***  
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**Sunset Cove Retirement Living 53 Long Sault Drive 613-534-2307**



# Take Back the Night – Naomi’s style

WINCHESTER – Naomi’s Family Resource Centre (NFRC) is pleased to announce a candlelight evening of music and speakers for this year’s Take Back the Night.

As soon as they heard that large-scale marches were cancelled due to Covid-19, the staff at NFRC began working toward organizing a Take Back the Night music and speaker event for North Dundas.

“It will be a candlelit night with music by various amazing local women performers such as headliner Mena Hardy, Ann Brady, Marleen Fawcett and Amanda Pollock. We are also inviting a speaker on human trafficking,” Amanda Million, the acting

shelter manager at NFRC said.”

Although North Dundas has not had a Take Back the Night event organized by NFRC before, they do receive calls for help from trafficked persons and have aided women escaping such horrific conditions.

Statistics Canada data shows that 90 per cent of sex trafficking victims are females between the ages of 18 and 24 – and sometimes as young as 13.

“Think about it, almost two-thirds of police-reported human trafficking cases in Canada occur in Ontario. Canada was among the first countries to ratify the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in

Persons, especially Women and Children”, stated Amanda, “We, as a nation, as a province, as a community need to recognize that anyone is at risk, so let’s educate ourselves and stand together on September 17th in 100 Club Park at the bandstand right in front of the Joel Steele Arena from 6 pm -9 pm”.

Take Back the Night is the earliest worldwide movement to stand against sexual violence, especially violence against women. Events began in the 1960’s in Belgium and England with protests about how women were not able to be safe walking down the street alone. In 1975, a crowd in Philadelphia held

a Take Back The Night event to protest the murder of a microbiologist walking near her home after work. These early events have grown into hundreds of events in communities of all sizes and locations and now we will have our first Take Back the Night event in Winchester.

“Covid19 isn’t stopping traffickers, so it is not stopping us!” said Deborah Thomson Executive Director of NFRC. Only 100 people can attend this outdoor event. You can reserve your spot through Naomi’s Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/NaomisNFRC) page or by

calling 343-585-2415 and speaking with Amanda.

The centre is a registered Charitable organization that provides a safe place for women and their children fleeing domestic violence, a 24-hour hot line and numerous services to assist women in need to return to a safe and independent life.

"We wanted to provide a platform for women in ag to connect with their community, find encouragement through guest speakers and build the skills they need to run their businesses and thrive in life."

IRIS MECK, CONFERENCE DIRECTOR

Virtual Conference  
November 24 & 25, 2020  
#AWCA2020

Advancing **Women**  
In Agriculture  
Conference

# SERVICE DIRECTORY

<h3>AUCTIONS</h3>  <p><b>PUBLIC AUTO &amp; EQUIPMENT AUCTION</b> Third Saturday of every month</p> <p><b>LIQUIDATION CENTRE</b> Open Monday to Saturday 9-5; Thursday 9-8</p> <p>Corner of County Roads 43 &amp; 31, WINCHESTER 613-774-2735 Fax: 613-774-5559 <a href="http://www.rideauauctions.com">www.rideauauctions.com</a></p>	<h3>EQUIPMENT</h3> <p><b>SALMON &amp; SONS</b></p> <p>Top Soil, Sand, Gravel, Hy-Hoe, Backhoe, Bulldozer, Dump Trucks</p> <p>LICENCED SEPTIC BED INSTALLATION</p> <p>R.R. 1 Chesterville</p> <p><b>613-448-3683    613-448-3101</b> <b>Roger                    Jay</b></p>	<h3>PET SERVICES</h3>  <p><b>Pets &amp; Home Services</b> Quality care for your pets &amp; home</p> <p><b>Colleen Petry</b></p> <p><b>Pet Sitting</b> <a href="http://www.petsandhomeservices.vpweb.ca">www.petsandhomeservices.vpweb.ca</a></p> <p><b>Serving Russell &amp; Embrun</b></p> <p>613-408-3480 • 613-445-3480 <a href="mailto:colleenpetry@gmail.com">colleenpetry@gmail.com</a> bonded and insured</p>	<h3>WATERPROOFING</h3>  <p><b>Wet Basements    Written Lifetime</b> <b>Fixed Permanently    Guarantee</b></p> <p><b>Michael Theriault</b> Licenced Waterproofing Professional Tel: 613-858-4696 <a href="mailto:michael.theriault@thecrackdoctor.ca">michael.theriault@thecrackdoctor.ca</a></p> <p>1823 Finch Winchester Boundary Rd. Chesterville, ON K0C 1H0 <a href="http://www.thecrackdoctor.ca">www.thecrackdoctor.ca</a></p>	
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# Farms need foreign workers

Continued from page 4

As part of the process of bringing in foreign workers, farmers have to show they've advertised locally first to fill the jobs but hiring local is another challenge farmers face and it has gotten worse with each passing season.

Canadians do not want to work 50 hours a week, rain or shine, harvesting produce for minimum wage. And those that do show up, rarely last.

"[Local workers] normally don't last," said Bob Mitchell, owner of SunTech Greenhouses Ltd. "We have tried during this current time and we got a bunch that came. The one that lasted the least, lasted two hours."

Most foreign workers are

treated quite well and many return year after year to the same farm, developing good relationships with their farm families and their communities.

Sara Mohedano Gomez has been coming to Canada to work for 13 years. She currently works at Suntech Greenhouses Ltd. in Manotick and this is her second year working there. In the past, she has worked on many different kinds of farms including peach,

pears, grapes, apricots and plums.

Her experience with local workers is that they are "no good". Canadians don't want to put in the long hours necessary to harvest crops, often with short windows for maximum freshness and quality. When their shift is done, they leave whether the job is completed or not. And most frustratingly for Gomez and her fellow foreign workers, if Canadians didn't like a job, they would leave it for "the Mexicans" to do.

While being away from home is hard, the money they make provides stability, healthcare and upward mobility for their families.

"They are the rich people in their country," said Mitchell, when talking about a trip to Mexico three years ago where he visited some of his workers.

Gomez first started coming to work in Canada because her daughter was born with a hip condition that required surgery, braces and other medical interventions. Without the

ability to come to Canada to work on the farms, Gomez would not have the money to pay for her daughter's care.

Now, her money pays for her mother's diabetes care.

Gomez has also been able to buy herself a plot of land on which she hopes to build a house. She currently has 2000 bricks with which to start building, and when completed she hopes to have a small store attached to her house where she will run a stationary business for the areas school children.

Gomez is an avid cyclist and she takes her bike and goes for long rides around Manotick. In her adventures, she has met many people and struck up many conversations despite her limited English. One day she biked as far as the local church and a family she met there insisted on putting her bike in the back of their vehicle and driving her home with a jar of homemade apple preserves pressed into her hands.

She has also been invited for Thanksgiving dinner.

Unfortunately, Covid-19 has kept most foreign workers confined to their

farms and many are missing the opportunity to socialize within their adopted communities.

Alejandro Hernandez-Hernandez also works at SunTech Greenhouses Ltd. This is his second year. In early August his wife gave birth to their first child, a son, and he is anxious to return home in October to meet him but the money he makes working in Canada will help him buy a house and start a cattle business.

While missing Mexico and their families is hard, they have adapted. According to Carmen Mitchell, co-owner of SunTech Greenhouses Ltd., the wives are often impatient for their husbands to leave.

For Canadian farms to continue functioning foreign workers are a necessity. Covid-19 has placed some added stress on the whole food system and highlighted Canada's dependency on these workers for better or for worse. At many farms though, they are treated like family and looked after very well.

## Great way to end the week

A visit with friends while enjoying a cold drink, a hot hamburger, cheeseburger, hot dog or perhaps all three, is a great way to end the work week. This past Friday, Steve Grubb president of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 434, served up a few of these meal-time favourites to hungry patrons at the Chesterville Legion. Grubb is shown here with a cheeseburger ready to enjoy!



Thompson Goddard photo

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**YARD SALE** - Sept. 5 and 6 from 8 a.m. to 12 noon. 559 Albert St., Winchester. 08

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**NOTICE** - Bo's Barber Shop in Morrisburg will be closed for a holiday from Mon., Sept. 14 to Sat., Sept. 19. Re-opening Mon., Sept. 21. Thank you, Bo. 10-4

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# National Trucking Week

Thank you to the 400,000 Canadian truckers keeping the country's freight moving.

**SEPTEMBER 6 - 12, 2020**

## Truckers on the frontline: why every Canadian ought to #ThankATrucker

September 6 to 12 is National Trucking Week and an opportunity for Canadians to thank our nation's truck drivers for their hard work. This year, in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis, our reliance on the trucking industry has become more apparent than ever.

### Canada's truckers keep on trucking

Semi-trucks transport 70 per cent of our consumer goods, and during the pandemic, both long-haul and short-haul drivers were deemed essential workers. Truckers were responsible for keeping our grocery stores stocked and delivering life-saving medical supplies throughout the country.

As frontline workers, they put their health at risk to keep supply chains open. In addition, many truckers found themselves working overtime and spending more time away from friends and family than usual. They also faced difficulties finding meals and accessing facilities on the road, due to

closures and new service policies among retailers and restaurants.

### Thank a trucker and offer them support

If ever there was a time to thank a trucker, it's now. Many Canadians have already done so by using the hashtags #ThankATrucker and #FeedATrucker online. Moreover, some restaurants and food trucks have been offering free meals to truck drivers.

In addition, several helpful online resources have been created. These include the Facebook group "Restaurants Serving Truckers in Western Canada" and the website mealsfortruckers.ca. The latter site features an interactive map showing truckers where they can access food and facilities.

If you haven't done so already, be sure to #ThankATrucker for their invaluable contribution during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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## Letter

# An open letter to parents from John McAllister, chair of the UCDB

### Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers and Staff,

As we approach the beginning of September, it is important that I take this opportunity to reach out to parents and students who are preparing for a return to school in a matter of days. I want to welcome all our students and staff back to this new school year and to let you know how excited we are to reconnect with you again!

As Chair of the Board, and as a parent and grandparent, I am delighted by the return of your children to another year of learning so that they can continue to realize their potential in our schools. This transition back to school is taking place while we all continue to take the necessary precautions and care to stay healthy during the pandemic. I know that you've heard through our social media channels and our most recent series of board meetings this summer, that all schools in the Upper Canada District School Board are investing in the necessary precautions that promote enhanced health and hygiene practices, when our staff and students are at school, for example: wearing masks/face coverings, hand hygiene and physical distancing. Of course, the

pandemic is a community-based issue and we want to ensure that our schools are doing their part to keep the community transmission rates of COVID-19 low and under control. Given these circumstances, we are also teaching our students about the responsibilities of active citizenship and what it means to live our lives responsibly and with an appreciation of the broader challenges around us.

Indeed, there is a need to appreciate the broader challenges around us resulting from the pandemic and this begins by acknowledging the stellar work of all of our UCDSB employees over the past five months. The efforts of our Director of Education, superintendents, teachers, school principals, vice-principals and support staff have made possible the return to a regular day school program in our schools this fall, beginning on Friday, September 11.

Their collective efforts to also deliver remote learning, in real-time, from April 2020 to June 2020 means we have a good start for delivering the choice of remote learning to students and families who feel this best serves their needs during the 2020-2021 school year. Nevertheless, we must all agree that this

year's school reopening is like no other in recent memory. As the Minister of Education remarked a few months ago, "[we] are in unprecedented times ... when schools reopen, we know that school may not look or feel the same." These are wise words, and our Board of Trustees and staff all ask for your continued patience, understanding, and support as we prepare for the first day of school and beyond.

Regrettably, parents may have received a communication this past weekend from one of our labour groups that served to diminish the accomplishments and exemplary work that our frontline employees have demonstrated over the last five months. Furthermore, their communication featured misleading and inaccurate information about how we are approaching program delivery for remote learning that fully attends to district guidelines for privacy and security in virtual environments.

I cannot fathom why the communication shared by the teachers' federation failed to acknowledge that the remote learning guidelines for privacy and security have been in place since May 2020. How

strange it was for the Board of Trustees to learn that the union's letter was circulated just mere hours after senior administration from the board had briefed our union presidents about the current approach for delivering remote learning in our school district. For those who care to know the facts, allow me to share the following:

Livestreaming will not be livestreaming resembling what is used in reality TV programs where multiple cameras are videoing participants. Rather, drawing on our past experiences from the last five months of teachers teaching synchronously, I can tell you that it will be quite the contrary. The current classroom model under development by staff for remote/synchronous will be more akin to the experience of staff using their notebook computer to run the Microsoft Teams platform video conferencing app, with the options for participants to be on video or not, the ability to ask questions using the chat feature, view documents, etc.

Teachers will be able to place their laptop computer camera to face in the direction of their choosing. Children that cannot be videoed would not be.

As well, teachers as licensed professionals, have an obligation to follow the professional advice of the Ontario College of Teachers including the use of electronic communications and video conferencing guidelines, which includes:

- understand their professional boundaries and responsibilities in the appropriate use of electronic communication;
- respect the privacy and confidentiality of student information and others in your school community;
- use employer-approved digital platforms and technology; and
- become familiar with each platform and its guidelines to ensure confidentiality and privacy.

In their efforts to address their duties and commitments to our students, I cannot accept that any of our local teachers — many of whom are our family members, neighbours and friends — would not understand their professional responsibilities to teach their students with the care, safety, and privacy in mind.

It is important to note that over 900 of our educators were involved in virtual professional learning sessions last week, which focused on eight different

topics including the use of our video-conferencing tools. This was well in advance of the scheduled professional development days for all school staff that starts on September 1. This speaks to our staff's deep commitment as learners, their professional interests to prepare for their duties, and to improve in their craft.

While our local labour executives have overlooked the opportunity to do so, I want to acknowledge how our frontline teachers are doing all they can to prepare and welcome children to the start of this new school year — whether in-person or online. Members of the Board of Trustees wish you to know that we are here to support your efforts to build on your program delivery experiences from last year.

Let's keep our attention on what matters most: the safe return and successful start of students in their school program this September and recognizing the exemplary work that our staff are doing right now to prepare for their arrival on September 11.

Sincerely,  
John McAllister,  
Chair, Upper Canada  
District School Board

## Sold-out audience at Stone Crop Acres

Carolyn Thompson Goddard  
Record Staff

**SOUTH DUNDAS** — North Dundas resident Marleen Fawcett and Mountain Breeze band performed to a sold-out audience at Stone Crop Acres during the evening of Sun., Aug. 30. This show was originally planned for Sun., Aug. 23 but was cancelled due to inclement weather.

During a pre-performance interview, Fawcett commented how the area is fortunate to have a venue such as Stone Crop Acres Winery and Vineyard (SCAWV) where live music can be heard. She drew on many genres of music during her performance, including country, classic hits and the blues.

Throughout the summer, there have been a series of evening concerts held at SCAWV and organized by Harmony Concerts (HC). Jan Fox of HC mentioned there are plans to hold matinee and evening concerts at the venue in the fall. She stressed that all COVID-19 precautions are to be followed to ensure the safety of all persons attending events at Stone Crop Acres Winery.

Special events are being planned for Halloween and Christmas, with Fawcett returning for a performance on Dec. 19.

Be sure to check out [www.stonecropacres.ca](http://www.stonecropacres.ca) or their Facebook page for more information on upcoming events.



Marleen Fawcett and Mountain Breeze are shown during a sound check before their early evening performance on Aug. 30 at Stone Crop Acres Vineyard and Winery. From the left: Front Row: Lead guitarist Greg Szepietowski, Marleen Fawcett, bass guitar Gil Charron. Back Row: Drummer Louis Lacelle.

Thompson Goddard photo

## EOHU reminds residents to continue taking precautions as fall approaches

As we enter back-to-school and approach fall, the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) is reminding residents to continue taking precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. While the situation is currently under control, there continues to be new cases throughout the health unit's region.

The EOHU is thankful for the public's positive response to the mandatory masking directive and encourages everyone to continue wearing masks when they enter enclosed public spaces. However, wearing a

mask is not a substitute for physical distancing and handwashing. Continuing to apply all these public health measures collectively will provide the maximum protection to our community.

"It remains as important as ever to continue practising good hand hygiene and, when possible, to keep a distance of at least 2 metres from other people when you're out in public," says Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, Medical Officer of Health at the EOHU. "As we approach cold and flu season, and the cooler weather that comes with it, these

measures will help keep the number of COVID-19 cases low."

Cases in schools a reflection of cases in the community

As students head back to class, maintaining our collective efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19 will be essential, as an increase of cases in the community will cause an increase in schools. "Simply put, if the number of cases outside the 4 walls of school starts to rise, then the number of cases inside the 4 walls of school will rise as well," explains Dr. Roumeliotis.

"The opposite is also true, as the two are closely linked and we know that children can unknowingly spread viruses within the community." Keeping this in mind, parents are being asked to keep their children at home when sick.

Information on proper mask use as well as other tips for protecting yourself and your loved ones against COVID-19 is available on the EOHU's website at [www.EOHU.ca/coronavirus](http://www.EOHU.ca/coronavirus) or the Government of Ontario's website at [covid-19.ontario.ca](http://covid-19.ontario.ca).



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## The UCPR and TPRT join Fields to Forks initiative to promote Prescott and Russell

L'ORIGINAL – The United Counties of Prescott and Russell (UCPR) and Tourism Prescott-Russell (TPRT) are excited to announce the launch this

week of a new partnership with Bell Media and CTV to promote agriculture and agri-tourism in the region.

This regional partnership came together under the

banner of “Fields to Forks,” a multimedia-integrated campaign celebrating the agriculture industry – a cornerstone of the economy in Prescott and Russell and a vital element across Eastern Ontario.

“Fields to Forks has allowed us to create wonderful partnerships with the industry, including the farmers, manufacturers and distributors who love what they do – and do it right here in our communities,” explained Mandi Fields, Associate Manager of Brand Partnerships with Bell Media, and creator of the Fields to Forks initiative.

The campaign, produced by Bell Media, will air on CTV Ottawa (television) and Pure Country 94 (radio) from August 24 to October 4, and will feature several bilingual agri-tourism businesses through a series of vignettes, in addition to a weekly feature story on CTV Morning Live, every Thursday.



Cameraman Erik Leece films Tara MacWhirter in her shop at Garden Path Homemade Soap. Courtesy photo

“Any initiatives to support our businesses, especially during these difficult times, is always a top priority,” added Pierre Leroux, Warden of the UCPR. “For that reason, bringing together the UCPR and TPRT for this campaign was an obvious choice, given the importance of agriculture and the incredible growth and development of agri-tourism farms and businesses across the region.”

Featured farms and businesses include Garden Path Homemade Soap, the Vankleek Hill Farmers Market, Ferme L'Artisan Farm, Vankleek Hill Vineyard, Vergers Villeneuve and Blueberry Farm, Ferme Avicole Laviolette, and Popsilos.

“We are simply thrilled about the opportunity to bring this widespread exposure to the incredible businesses operating right here in our region, and

encourage locals and visitors from inside and outside the region to spend time visiting and learning more about their operations,” noted Audrey Lizotte, President of the TPRT Board of Directors.

To learn more about the campaign and to view the videos, follow the UCPR and TPRT on Facebook and Instagram, and visit [www.fieldstoforks.ca](http://www.fieldstoforks.ca) or [ottawa.ctvnews.ca/community/fieldstoforks](http://ottawa.ctvnews.ca/community/fieldstoforks).



Teresa Bressan and Scott Lambert of VanKleek Hill pose for the camera. Courtesy photo

## PR Transpo public transit service returns

L'ORIGINAL – Following several months of shutdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the United Counties of Prescott and Russell (UCPR) is proud to officially restart, as of Monday, September 14, the PR Transpo intermunicipal transit service, serving all of the municipalities within Prescott and Russell.

PR Transpo will resume its regular service using the same routes and stops as prior to the pandemic. Two accessible buses, each with a maximum capacity of 19 passengers, will travel the 12 routes covering the entire region according to their regular schedules. Each of the 12 routes will have a morning and afternoon round-trip route, with some exceptions.

“Our priority is to restart the PR Transpo service in a way that ensures the safety of our riders, while maintaining the highest health standards,” explained Pierre Leroux, Warden of the UCPR Council.

“This restart is a new beginning and we are counting on the public’s participation to make this project a success.”

In this regard, the wearing of masks is mandatory at all times on PR Transpo buses. In addition, the bus cabins will be disinfected periodically and there will be a break to allow for the cleaning of common areas when passing through certain critical stops.

“We encourage all of our residents to try this unique, rural transportation service,” added Carole Lavigne, Director of Economic Development and Tourism for the UCPR. “As our local economy continues to reopen, the service can be used to go shopping, get to an appointment, or simply to enjoy the region’s many attractions.”

Users will be able to track the location of buses in real time, using the MYGeoTab application, available on both Android and Apple.

They can also contact customer service by phone or text message at 613-307-7813, toll-free at 1-844-957-0533, or by e-mail at

[prtranspo@prescott-russell.on.ca](mailto:prtranspo@prescott-russell.on.ca).

Schedules and stops are available at [www.PRTranspo.ca](http://www.PRTranspo.ca). Tickets are \$5 for an adult (18 to 64 years old), and \$4 for a student (5 to 17 years old) or senior (65 and over).



The PR Transpo intermunicipal transit service is back on the road. Courtesy photo

## Caprese Turkey Skillet Supper

*This salad comes to the skillet easily with turkey as the protein of choice. Light and full of flavour you can serve this on its own or alongside some pasta salad or rice.*

**Preparation Time: 15 minutes. Cooking Time: 8 minutes**  
Serves 4

### Ingredients

400 g Ontario Turkey Scaloppini, about 6 to 8 pieces\*  
3/4 tsp (4 mL) dried basil leaves  
1/2 tsp (2 mL) each salt and pepper  
2 tbsp (30 mL) extra virgin olive oil plus more for drizzling  
2 Ontario Tomatoes, sliced  
8 fresh Ontario Basil Leaves  
1 buffalo mozzarella or fresh mozzarella ball (4 oz/125 g), drained and sliced  
4 cups (1 L) Ontario Baby Arugula  
Balsamic glaze  
Toasted bread slices (optional)

### Instructions

Lay scaloppini out on cutting board and sprinkle both

sides with basil, salt and pepper.

Heat oil in large skillet and brown scaloppini on both sides, in batches if necessary. Reduce heat to low and top scaloppini with tomato, basil and mozzarella alternating. Cover and cook for 1 minute or until cheese melts slightly. Remove from heat.

Sprinkle arugula over platter and drizzle with more extra virgin olive oil and sprinkle lightly with salt. Top with scaloppini, drizzle with balsamic glaze and serve with toasted bread, if desired.

**\*TIP:** If you are unable to find turkey scaloppini in your local grocery store, you can purchase one boneless, skinless turkey breast (about 450 g), cut it into 6-8 pieces, place between parchment paper or saran wrap and then flatten them with a meat mallet (or rolling pin).



Recipe and Photography: Turkey Farmers of Ontario