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Briefly

Lockdown for Ontario as of 12:01 a.m. Boxing Day

On Dec. 21, Premier Ford announced a provincewide lockdown for Ontario as of Dec. 26, 12:01 a.m. for 28 days. Red or grey zone categories have the stricter measures; people can only leave their homes for essential services including pharmacies, grocery/convenience stores, hardware (curbside pickup only) stores, beer, wine and liquor stores and safety supply stores will remain open at 50 per cent capacity only. And, as always, until Dec. 26, people are asked to limit close contact to their immediate household. For those living alone they may join one household only, however social distancing should still be practiced.

Restaurants, bars and food/drink establishments will be open for takeout, delivery, and drive-thru only. Retail stores can only offer curbside pickup and delivery. Personal care industries are also closed as well as cinemas, bingo and casino halls, sports facilities and meeting or event spaces.

For schools, remote will be in place for Jan. 4 to Jan. 8, 2021; for elementary students in class learning will return on Jan. 11; for secondary school students, they will learn remotely up until Jan. 25 but resume classroom learning on that date; and, post-secondary institutions will be virtual learning except for coop programs.

For schools, please also visit your local school board website for up to date details of shut down.

THE CHESTERVILLE RECORD
 Serving Stormont and Dundas Counties since 1894



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Santa comes to Avonmore

Children of all ages were able to see Santa Claus as he was driven through the small North Stormont community of Avonmore in the early afternoon of Sat., Dec. 12. The half-hour-long drive through the community came about when Santa's sister, Auntie Claus visited Avonmore last January according to Santa's driver, Carrie Couturier. She continued that Auntie Claus asked Santa to make a pre-Christmas visit this year to brighten up the spirits of residents. After consulting with medical experts, it was determined that so long as the pandemic protocols were followed, everyone would be safe, and the decision was made for a quick trip here. Santa explained he is looking forward to the eggnog, cookies and treats he receives and wished everyone a Merry Christmas. From the left: Carrier Couturier and Santa Claus are shown at North Stormont Place at the end of the trip around Avonmore.

Thompson Goddard Photo

Busy meeting for South Dundas council

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
 Record Staff

MORRISBURG - A comprehensive report by Anna Balford and Pierrette Racine was presented to South Dundas council on the historic Forward House in Iroquois, during their Dec. 7 meeting. When South Dundas announced plans to demolish the Forward House in 2018, the Concerned Citizens of the municipality were able to halt the planned demolition, which resulted in the resurrection of the Historical Society of South Dundas (HSSD) and the formation of the Friends of the Forward House (FFH), a subcommittee of the HSSD. The goal of the FFH is to "promote the protection and enhancement of Forward House and surrounding property, as a community resource for South Dundas and an integral part of the Iroquois Waterfront Park."

Continued on page 5

North Dundas looks at ways to increase clean water capacity

Joseph Morin
 Record Staff

WINCHESTER - In any community, water and sewage, roads and infrastructure are fairly boring issues to think about until they are no longer working.

The North Dundas council heard what they suspected would be the case from a roads study and a report on the state of their sewage and water capacity.

The roads report more than suggested there was a great deal of work to be done on the 407 km of mixed surface type roads. The roads are not close to falling apart but a consistent and thoughtful plan to maintain them over the next 20 years is a must.

Water and sewage are a different matter.

While the township will have no issues with its waste system in Winchester and in Chesterville, it has only drinking water capacity for 350 more homes or units in the two villages.

The report by J.L. Richardson and Associates called the Water Capacity EA Study and Update Report stated:

"The township of North Dundas is serviced by a communal potable water supply system that generally consists of eight active groundwater wells, five pump houses with chlorine disinfection, two storage reservoirs, two elevated storage tanks and distribution system. While the system has been operating in accordance

Continued on page 3



Mike DEAN LOCAL GROCER

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Driving under the influence: **YOU HAVE EVERYTHING TO LOSE**



5 things you could lose as a result of impaired driving

Getting behind the wheel after consuming drugs or alcohol can have dire consequences. Here are five things you may lose as a result of this choice.

1. Your licence

One potential penalty for driving under the influence is that your licence may get revoked. In some regions, first-time offenders are prohibited from driving for a period ranging from several months to a year.

2. Your money

In addition to getting fined for the infraction, you'll need to pay for a lawyer. You can also expect to spend more on car insurance for many years to come. Additional expenses may be involved too. Depending on the circumstances, you may have to settle up with a victim or pay into a compensation fund. You may also need to pay for a breath alcohol ignition interlock device.

3. Your clean criminal record

If you're found guilty of driving under the influence, you'll end up with a criminal record, which could complicate many facets of your life, from landing a job to travelling.

4. Your job

If your job requires you to operate a vehicle (for example, if you're a trucker, delivery person or taxi driver) you may be forced to leave it. This may also be the case if your employer demands that you have a clean criminal record.

5. Your life

Impaired driving heightens your risk of being in an accident, and if you add poor road conditions to the equation, it could make matters worse. If you get into a car crash, you could be seriously injured or killed, or you could injure or kill your passengers or other road users.

If you plan to consume drugs or alcohol, make sure you have a safe way to get home. Call a taxi, hire an Uber or catch a ride with a friend.

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Yearly road maintenance is key

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

WINCHESTER – The North Dundas council is looking ahead.

A study about the condition of township roads was tabled at the Dec. 15 council meeting.

This was the first time the council was able to have a comprehensive look at all of the roads in the township and the relative condition of each one.

Armed with this information, the council can move forward with a ten-year plan for their roads.

The information also serves as a plan for looking for different funding opportunities.

The township of North Dundas maintains approximately 407 kms of urban and rural roads. The road network in North Dundas includes different kinds of roads with different surfaces.

The existing surfaces include gravel to hot mix

asphalt (paved), as follows: 137 km of gravel roads – 167 km of surface treated roads – 104 km of paved roads.

The study looked at the physical condition of all of the roads. The information was used to make a list of best and worst roads with an eye toward coming up with a prioritized list.

“This is the biggest one I have seen. It was the most all encompassing presentation I have seen in my time on council,” said Mayor Fraser.

The mayor said there have been other road studies in the past but none so detailed.

“It will provide us with lots of information to base our decisions on,” he said.

The report stated: “The township’s road infrastructure system spans a total of 407 km primarily within a rural setting, with small areas of urban and semi-urban development.

Two primary indicators of the relative health of a

road and if it needs some work are the structural adequacy rating and the PCI (hard-top roads only for this study).

The report suggested that the township’s experience with surface treated roads has been disappointing, with a service life of 3-4 years before major work is required.

Township roads should expect a newly surfaced road to stay in good condition for around seven years.

The report suggested that all surface treated roads be surfaced with hot mix pavement.

A conversion program is estimated to come in at around \$24.4-million.

The report stated resurfacing roads is one option, but then in addition to that, the township would have to have an effective and efficient maintenance program for these same roads.

There are some roads



that are in worse shape than others.

Establishing which road is looked after first is based on a road’s physical condition.

Roads designated as “now”, need to be looked at first.

The report stated: “It should be noted that a structural “now” need, does not explicitly mean that work must be undertaken on the road immediately (although this may be so in some cases).

A structural “now” need means that a significant portion of the road is showing distress of the roadbed and requires significant intervention i.e. reconstruction or major rehabilitation to renew its

service life. A structural “1-5” year need is expected to become a “now” need in the next five years, and a “6-10” year need is expected to become a “now” need in the next 10 years.”

The report stated: “keep the good roads good”; the fundamental principle being that it costs much less to maintain a good road than it does to let it fail and then reconstruct it.”

The one missing piece of data is the amount of traffic on any particular road.

“A road with higher traffic volumes and fair structural adequacy is given priority over a road with moderate traffic and

good structural adequacy.”

The total resurfacing program, (hot mix and gravel) is estimated at \$1,279,800 per year for the next 10 years.

That cost is not included in this year’s budget. The budget will need to be increased to account for the resurfacing of the designated roads.

In the long-term (10 – 15 years), these new HCB (paved) roads will need to be resurfaced as well, and the future resurfacing program is estimated at \$2,811,600.

Preservation techniques seal the surface, as to prevent water infiltration into the granular base would also have to be used to protect the roads.

Water expansion plans

Continued from the front

with all applicable legislation and is generally achieving all required water quality standards, it is anticipated that the township will not be able to meet potable water supply requirements as recommended by the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks within the next 20 year timeframe, should projected growth and associated water demand is realized. The township is therefore in need of a solution that will address water supply constraints and improve the redundancy and reliability in delivering treated water to the community over the next 20 years.”

The council believe they will be able to take on the challenge, and over the next three years prepare for any potential growth.

Mayor Tony Fraser said, “There are things we need to do down the road. We have to put in bigger lines, there are lots of things we need to do and it is just the matter of figuring out how we are going to do it.”

The report on the future of clean water in Winchester and Chesterville had recommendations.

Currently, the Drinking Water Supply System (DWSS) is comprised of eight active groundwater wells, five pump houses with chlorine disinfection, two storage reservoirs, two elevated storage tanks and approximately 41.5 km of distribution system piping. The DWSS is owned by the township of North Dundas (the township) and is currently operated by Ontario Clean Water Agency (OCWA).

The choices given to the council were:

1. Do nothing and accept that after 350 more homes are built in the township there will not be room for more;
2. Expand the groundwater supply system by adding two new wells;
3. Connect up to the South Dundas water system, basically drawing water from the St. Lawrence River and pumping it to Winchester and Chesterville;
4. Build a new surface water treatment plant;
5. A combination of alternative 2 and 3.

The council chose to go with combining choices 2 and 3.

Staff are already searching out properties in North Dundas that might be available to drill wells to increase the amount of water available to residents, assuming growth will see more than 350 new units come to the two villages in the next few years.

At the same time, North Dundas staff are

going to be talking to South Dundas about some kind of partnership.

Fraser said while the township could ignore the need for water upgrades, it would not be a smart thing to do.

The water situation in the two villages is fine, however looking ahead at new growth is a prudent step to take.

“We know that we need to have water. We are good for a number of years.” he said.

The mayor said he was comfortable with the waste water component of the township.

There is a great deal of capacity for

waste but the problem will be ensuring the waste can get to the waste lagoon. That may mean bigger pipelines taking waste from the villages to the waste water lagoon and updated pumping stations.

It is too early to speculate on what the eventual cost will be to make sure there is enough clean water for a growing Winchester and Chesterville.

Fraser said the cost at the moment is not known. He said the next step is to move the recommendations forward and then an idea of any costs would be easier to determine.



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EDITORIAL & Opinion

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Editorial

Perhaps a little more

What we were all afraid of happening is now a reality –locked down for Christmas.

As quoted by the Grinch “Maybe Christmas,” he thought, “doesn’t come from a store. Maybe Christmas... perhaps... means a little bit more!”

Yes, we have crowned Christmas as a celebration of get togethers, gifts and enjoying family. This year we will have to look past the date and look at the future of our families and their wellbeing. This year we will start new special events. I do not want to call this a new tradition, as some things have improved with this new reality, others have not; no contact with friends or relatives just reaching out through social media, online platforms or the good old-fashioned telephone call.

Each person will respond differently but keep in mind that we are all experiencing some type of effect, that you may not see on the outside, so take that extra second and be kind. People you are interacting with are there to help, but it is not on them when there is a shortage of supplies or deliveries that are taking longer than expected.

With a record number of people suffering from mental fatigue and stress, think of this as protecting the future of your loved ones. What can be a better gift than keeping them healthy and safe. Get togethers can be done at a later date.

Yes, the struggles will be there, the lack of hugs and kisses but for the greater good let’s end 2020 with a resolution to keep those family traditions in our memories and just allow this year to be a little different; life is not easy; we were never guaranteed it would be. Christmas is a time to rejoice and with health professionals urging us to stay put we would be remised not to do so.

Whether you agree or disagree with the government regulations and the health advisories, one thing I feel confident about is that each one of us would not in good conscience be happy to have spread this virus to a loved one; it may not be you or your immediate family member affected, but someone else near and dear to you. Anyone of us can have an underlying condition that we are not even aware of and this would be a heck of a way to find out about it.

This year has been filled with a number of rarities. Currently we are aware that Jupiter and Saturn are extremely close together causing them to look like a double planet for the first time since the middle ages. A spectacular “Christmas Star” is coming for this week.

A special Thank You to each and every one of you who continue to support local and stay strong during this time. It has been overwhelming to see the response to new events or to a revision of old events. Christmas is not cancelled, and neither is our hope. There is strength in numbers, and this community has definitely stepped up and taken on this challenge.

Stay strong, stay safe and Happy Holidays.

Linda Vogel

Virus versus science versus ability to change

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

The fact that we are in the slippery grip of a real pandemic makes writing about anything else very difficult.

Regardless of how much you might be tired of the whole thing, as soon as you step outside your door you are reminded of its existence.

Of course, there is a silver lining to all of this assuming you do not get it, and in the worst-case scenario, succumb to it.

People are talking about all of the different ways they have accommodated living differently than they ever have, and even listed all of the positive aspects of working from home, social distancing, and being reminded month after month, day after day that there is no short-term solution to banishing the COVID-19 virus from Canadian communities or at the very least hosing it down with a vaccine.

Other than the fear of getting COVID there are, believe it or not, some interesting new and not so new ways to deal with the new reality brought to us thanks to an aggressive

virus.

For the first time in a long time I am starting to pay attention to all of those philosophical ramblings that parade through my Facebook page.

The suggestions are all about accepting life as it is, staying calm in the face of so much negativity, and if that is not compelling enough how about using the pandemic to take a few minutes to find yourself.

All good stuff, and the pandemic seems to give all of us the permission to step back from the hamster wheel we have all been stuck on, catch our breath and look at our own mortality in a more realistic light.

The world will not come to a screeching, out of breath halt because of the pandemic but several thousands of us have already stepped off the planet thanks to COVID, and until we can put it in a bag tied off by science many more of us will be moving on.

That is a sobering thought for sure.

The situation is scary but it is also a reminder that we have always been at risk and how we live and

what we think is more important to us than ever.

Whether it is religion that we turn to or a bag of potato chips, there has never been a better time to commit yourself to healthier living and healthier thinking.

As usual, as humans we traditionally wait until something comes along to force us into action and the pandemic looks like it is just the thing to do that.

So the virus floats above us like a blanket waiting to settle, and we take action like never before.

Everyone in Canada seems to have invested a great deal in science and is willing to sacrifice a few creature comforts in order to slow down the virus.

The most potent weapon we have, saving a vaccine, is our attitude that we are all in this together and we trust what science has suggested we do to stay healthy.

So, the arrival of COVID may have woken up a sleeping ancient attitude we were all born with, which is, to look inward from time to time and agree to help one another through a difficult

time.

It’s nice to know humans have this built-in vaccine apparently hardwired into their brains that prevent the human race in general from self destructing.

It is a case of sharing the same reality and agreeing that a healthy respect for science goes a long way toward putting this virus in its place.

The situation is also a great one to look at how one solution will not solve all problems and that somewhere along the line one group or another may be left out.

When the government orders a lock down because of an advancing virus, not everyone out there will be happy with the results.

When all of the smaller retail stores close down, they do not get to have a safety net to catch them while their business drains away.

The great Canadian way, seems to be to make sacrifices at one end of the barn, then come up with pluses at the other end; all the while trying to share the pain as equally as possible.

The Road Home

By Carolyn Thompson Goddard

With the snow gently falling this morning, it is indeed starting to feel a bit more like Christmas, but in reality, the holiday season began a few weeks ago when I started my gift shopping. Truthfully, this was a bit early for me, but because of COVID-19 and the probability my Christmas was going to be different this year I figured an early start was best.

As the gifts for my children and grandchildren found their way to my “Christmas room” (as my spare bedroom became called), were wrapped and readied for pre-Christmas pickup the reality of a “different” holiday season this year become much more apparent.

There is an old saying that goes “the more things change, the more they remain the same” or something like that and perhaps this is true about 2020. Holiday celebrations since March have certainly changed for me.

For the first time in an awfully long time there was no family gatherings for Easter and Thanksgiving, our Thompson family reunion didn’t happen this summer and there won’t be a gathering with my children and grandchildren this Christmas.

What hasn’t changed since March is the great joy that is felt when hearing the voice of my grandson Winston and his dad on the phone, texting and talking with Geoff who lives in Kingston and the joy of a quick pop-in visit from Naomi and my granddaughter Zoey. I have still felt the happiness of shopping for Christmas presents, although I miss the craft shows where a selection of great gift ideas is always present.

Perhaps the memories of holidays past help to get through the many changes COVID-19 has unleashed on our world this year. Looking back, I see a younger version of myself waking up early on Christmas

morning in the house in Chesterville and busily waking my older brothers so the gift exchange could begin.

I see a teenager hearing the bells on Christmas morning a bit too loudly thanks to Christmas Eve celebrations. A young mother watching her toddler looking at a Christmas Tree with utter amazement and a few years later helping his younger brother and sister unwrap their presents.

There have been so many Christmas seasons I have enjoyed, being a May baby, I would count this year being my 64th, and each year despite the circumstances has been more wonderful.

There has been visiting with family, the giving of presents, feasting and something much more magical which I really can’t explain. This year will be different but there is hope that next year we will be able to join together around a table and enjoy a meal together with those we love.



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Avonmore Park Project update

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

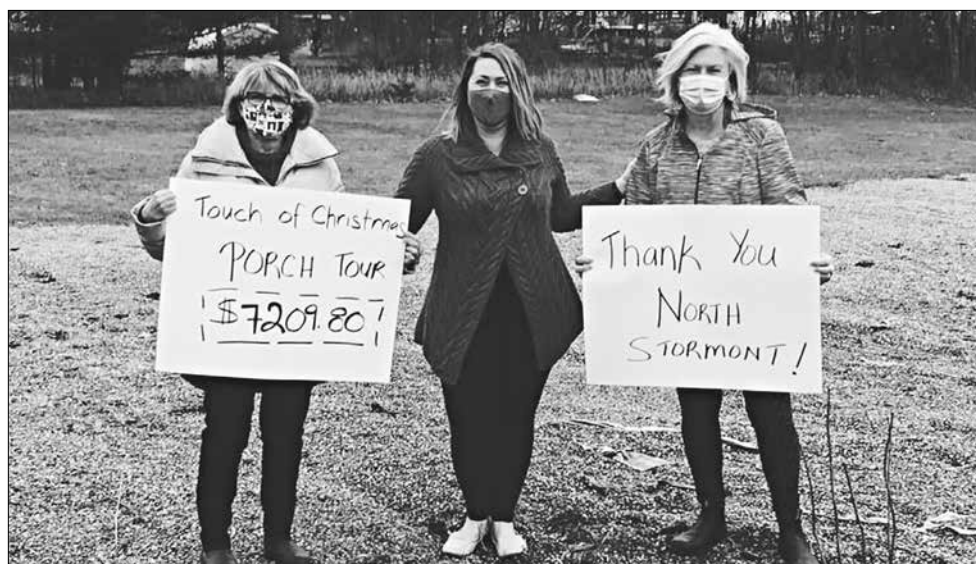
AVONMORE – The Avonmore Community and Athletic Association recently provided an update on the Avonmore Park Project, noting how “just under \$47,000 toward [their] \$160,000 goal has been reached.” While ACAA fundraising had been put on hold “to give [the] community and local businesses a chance to focus on the impacts of the pandemic,” the project has received support from “community members and businesses” including the recently successful “A Touch of Christmas Porch Tour,” which raised \$7,209.90 for the park project.

The update noted that some of the playground equipment would be installed in the spring of 2021, with the park committee working “to secure additional funding with the hope of raising enough money to install the entire playground in the spring.” Sophie Branchaud, vice president of the ACAA, explained that an order has been placed “to secure [the] playground swings and teeter totter, which would be installed in the spring.”

Branchaud continued that fundraising is underway to “secure our play structure and spinning climber” which will complete the playground, noting these “two pieces combined are about \$80,000 and [they’ll] need to raise another \$60,000 in order purchase those pieces.”

She is confident this goal can be reached with community support, “so that our kids will have a fantastic playground in 2021,” she commented.

Branchaud explained how the completion of the



The Touch of Christmas Porch Tour, recently held throughout North Stormont, raised over \$7,000 for the Avonmore Park Project. From the Left: Tour co-organizer Nancy Wert, ACAA vice president Sophie Branchaud and tour co-organizer Adelle Densham.

Courtesy Photo

playground is just one phase of the re-development of the park, noting that a concrete pad, pathway, benches and trees have to be installed. The committee is hopeful the entire park can be completed by the summer of 2023 with fundraising continuing through 2021 and 2022.

Donor recognition for sponsorship levels have been developed for those wishing

to be a part of the park’s re-development. There are six levels of sponsorship, ranging from Diamond Sponsor (for a donation of \$10,000) to Friend of the Park (for a donation of \$10). Branchaud said there is a “sponsorship brochure which outlines all of [the] sponsorship levels and what’s included at each level.” She continued how a brick

pathway planned for the park “will be paved with custom engraved bricks featuring the names and business logos of all [the] major sponsors.”

Park updates can be found at <http://avonmorepark.weebly.com> and those who would like to contribute to the park project can contact Branchaud at sophie@safedesigns.ca or at 613-315-7243.



Local artist and author’s new release

Looking for a last-minute Christmas gift? The newest book from local author and artist Carrie Keller has just been released. The book is called, *Second Chances and Unlikely Friends*. The story chronicles the adventures, and sometimes mis-adventures of a rabbit, chipmunk, squirrel and dove. Each of the four are fighting their own battles but when disaster strikes, the group of four discover being together can be a wonderful place to be. For more information on the book, please visit www.paintingstoorder.com or her Facebook page. In this photo, Keller is shown autographing one of her books during the Dec. 13 Christmas Pop Up Market at Simply Baked Catering in Winchester.

Thompson Goddard Photo

South Dundas council

Continued from the front

The report contained historical background on Carmen House and other parts of the history of Iroquois, before providing council with a plan for the renovation and revitalization of this house, which has stood empty since 2017. They noted how COVID-19 had hampered fundraising activities, therefore FFH have been busy researching the integration of the Forward House into the Iroquois Waterfront Park development, exploring grant possibilities, consulting with local contractors and developing timelines for restoration work.

Around the council table there seemed to be a consensus on the report itself with positive comments. Concerns regarding cost and the need for a contingency fund for unexpected expenses were raised with council; they ultimately agreed to keeping the heat on during the winter months and would revisit the

issue in the future.

Issues discussed and decisions made during the meeting included the need for new engineer reports for municipal drains, council authorizing staff to “submit a loan application through Infrastructure Ontario to finance the Morrisburg and Iroquois water tower rehabilitation project,” and approving the submission of an application to the Inclusive Community Grants Program for funding, for the Matilda Hall Barrier-Free Upgrades Project, and the decision to donate land for the 2021-2022 build by Habitat for Humanity. Council expressed surprise at the low number of Emily 911 signs in SD; they then supported a request to SDG county council that the deadline for an SDG grant of \$50, to offset the cost of Emily 911 signs be extended.

Council agreed to authorize the hiring of a drainage superintendent, building/planning technician and an admin HR coordinator. The recommendation to hire for these three full-time staff positions were as

a result of an organizational review. It was noted the three positions would reduce the need to hire outside consultants, with Coun. Archie Mellan commenting how in-house work is generally more cost effective.

A lengthy and detailed examination of a proposal for increases in rental and programming fees in South Dundas for 2021 was made. Danielle Watson, SD director of environmental services, examined fees in neighbouring municipalities in the preparation and proposed increases, providing a detailed report to council. Discussion centred around school use of facilities, youth sports, programming and rental fees for baseball diamonds. Council expressed their opinions on the various rate changes, with all noting the need to keep costs as low as possible, to ensure the engagement of young people. More information on this subject can be found in the Dec. 7 meeting agenda documents available on the municipality’s website.

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: We are re-opening our doors for Worship Services on Sun., Nov. 1st. You are encouraged to call the church office at 613-448-2532 to confirm attendance as seating is limited due to Covid-19 restrictions.

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

We are re-opening
December 24, December 27 and January 3
All three of our churches will be closed for worship.

Worship services will be held at 10 a.m. at Chalmers, Finch and at 11 a.m. in St. Andrew's, Martintown. All COVID restrictions will be in place and masks are required.

ST. LUKE'S - KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - FINCH

MINISTER: Rev. Dr. Cheryl Gaver 613-918-0506 Church: 613-984-2201
cgaver@cogeco.ca www.finch-avonmore-presbyterian.ca

There will be no church service on Sunday, December 27, 2020
11 a.m. - Worship Service Everyone Welcome!
All Covid restrictions are in place and masks are required.

VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE THURS., DEC. 24th AT 7:30 P.M.
If you would like to join our Christmas Eve Service via ZOOM email: cgaver@cogeco.ca for the link or check out our website.

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

Rev. Bruce Kemp, B.A. S.T.M. 613-267-0928

Sunday, December 27, 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 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
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
Senior Pastor: Rev. Daniel Wallace

Sunday Service at 10:30 a.m.
We are 'open' for services by reservation only, as space and seating is limited in compliance with 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_DABz4REc-A76-EvRA
No Sunday School or Nursery provided at this time

NOTE: Registration to attend is required for 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 Website: 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 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
Pastors Bud McKibbin and Mollie McKibbin

Join us Sundays at 11 a.m. for our virtual service
Church closed until further notice. Traditional Music - Centered Services

THE GATHERING HOUSE

CHESTERVILLE
Friendly, Caring, Accepting
Pastor Brian Barr 613-448-1758

Join us at www.thegatheringhouse.ca on Sunday mornings beginning at 10 a.m. for our weekly worship service

ST. MARY OF THE PRESENTATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

ST. CLARE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF NORTH DUNDAS

Rev. John Wilcox 613-774-2236
www.stclaresanglican.ca 2530 Falcone Lane, Winchester

Sunday Service of Eucharist at 10 a.m.
Covid-19 Protocol in place.

On Facebook at The Anglican Parish of North Dundas at St. Clare's.
On YouTube at St. Clare Anglican.

December 24th 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Please call 613-774-2236 to reserve seating.
December 25th 10 a.m. Adapted Holy Eucharist
December 27th online service only.





Manufacturing success for our community

Mr. Bougie's Grade 11/12 Manufacturing class have been busy building benches and garbage receptacles for the township of North Dundas. Meaghan Meerburg, director of Recreation and Culture, stopped by to thank the class last week. We are very proud of our continued community partnership with the North Dundas District High School - Upper Canada School Board. Together, we are providing our local youth with hands-on learning and skill development, which opens doors for employment opportunities. It also allows our students to contribute to the community where they live and take pride in seeing their hard work, enjoyed by all of us. Congratulations on a job well done gentleman! Keep-up the great work! A special thanks to Mr. Bougie for his incredible leadership and dedication to teaching our youth. Top left photo: from left to right, Mr. Bougie, Erich Koch, Brayden Thomas, Theo Konrad Williams, Anthony Weegar, Patrick Kelly, Zach Wareham, Tristan Billings, Jason Larmour, Julian Terry and Meaghan Meerburg. Absent from the photo were Mason Carr, Lucas Menard, Adam Ringer, and James Young.



Courtesy Photo

The Law Office of



Connie Lamble
B.A., LL.B.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR

222 Prescott Street
P.O. Box 1280
Kemptville, Ontario
K0G 1J0

613-258-0038
Fax: 613-258-0039
connie@lambale.ca
www.lambale.ca

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Winchester District Memorial Hospital

Best wishes for a happy & healthy holiday season from your health care team at Winchester District Memorial Hospital!

Stay safe!

www.wdmh.on.ca



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43 Plaza Drive, Iroquois
555 King Street West, Unit 102, Prescott



Sophie Cushing
B.S.Sc. BC-HIS
Tinnitus Care Provider

613-652-2281 | tihearing.com

Making Christmas happy for everyone

Carolyn Thompson
Goddard
Record Staff

NORTH DUNDAS – 2020 has been a difficult time for everyone, but for those who are in vulnerable situations, the holiday season seemed just a little bit more difficult this year. Thanks to the volunteers of the North Dundas Christmas Fund and those who made donations to the NDCF food boxes and gifts that were provided to those in need. NDCF chair Bob Weagant explained in a recent email to *The Chesterville Record* “45 hampers were distributed from South Mountain” and more in Winchester and Chesterville. He continued the food boxes and gifts were “resent to the Winchester area on Dec. 16, Chesterville and South Mountain areas on Dec. 17 and Dec. 18 respectively.

Weagant continued the NDCF also provided snowsuits to “children 13 years of age and younger in November when they were needed most.” Weagant thanked “Ken Boje and the staff of BMR in Winchester” for doing a “great job of inventorying and delivering the snowsuits.” On behalf of the NDCF committee he extended thanks to



The North Dundas Christmas Fund came to Chesterville last week after a stop in Winchester, and then finished the week off in South Mountain. There were 50 people registered in South Mountain, 80 in Chesterville and 70 in Winchester. In Chesterville, the Chesterville Legion Branch 434 was the pickup spot to receive food baskets and toys. Here, volunteers gather at the Legion’s Christmas tree. Left to right are: Isabelle Lalonde Chesterville Lions, Natasha Hodge North Dundas Christmas Fund, Sim Berkelaar Gathering House, Jordan Hodge Chesterville Lions and Carl Robinson Chesterville Lions Club.

Morin Photo

“members of the community, local Lions Clubs, churches, other service clubs, North Dundas Community Food

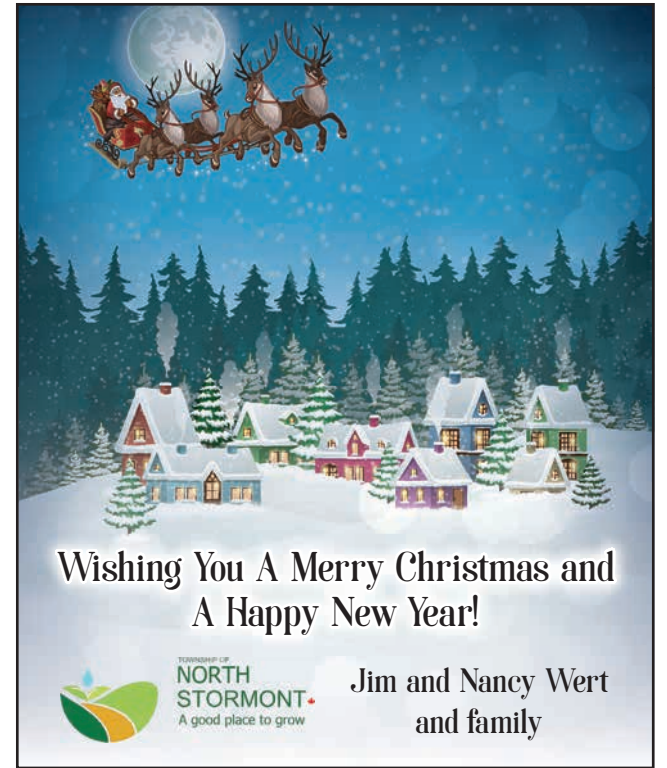
Share” and local branches of the Royal Canadian Legion for the support shown to the NDCF throughout the years.



Extending a helping hand at Christmas

Members of the Catholic Women’s League and Council 10416 of the Knights of Columbus are shown during a short lull in their Drive Thru Food Drive held on December 5. The food and funds collected during the November 21 and December 5 food drives will be used to create food hampers for local residents in need.

Thompson Goddard Photo



Wishing You A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!



Jim and Nancy Wert and family

Wishing you a warm & wonderful holiday season!

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- Supportive and assisted living packages available.

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Helping hands: Commitment Award Honorees announced

Jane Adams
Special to the Record

Every morning, physiotherapy aide Suzie Brown arrives early at work to prepare coffee. She also regularly brings in treats from home, including home grown produce. Then she gets to work supporting three physiotherapists and the patients we serve. "From her encouraging words during patient interactions on the phone, to the time she takes to actively listen and engage with in-patient concerns, Suzie's presence is truly uplifting, and she embodies the team player role," say her colleagues. At the heart of the pandemic operations and planning group, Dr. Crystal Doyle continues to work tirelessly to protect her department and all WDMH

staff from COVID-19. As chief of Emergency, she has shown leadership to ensure the safety of patients, staff, and the community. "Her collaborative approach and out-of-the-box thinking have resulted in new ideas for everything from personal protective equipment to ER follow-up clinics," explain her teammates.

It's one of the most-high traffic areas of the hospital, but our volunteers didn't hesitate to step up to serve as screeners at the front door. Other volunteers have helped to support administrative staff behind the scenes. We have been thrilled to welcome back a few of our amazing volunteers for these important roles at WDMH. "All of the volunteers have

always gone above and beyond living our Commitment Statement. But during the pandemic, they have really lived the one team approach to care," confirm WDMH staff. Thank you to Dave Black, Feras Balbous, Chris Spring, Bill Pollock, Madeline Bourbonnais, Chris Hudson, Marg Merkley, Anita McGuire, Joan Farlinger, Judy Little, Marilyn McCurdy, Fay McCurdy, Marie Steele, and Nancy Farley-Holmes.

Recently, Suzie Brown, Dr. Doyle, and our pandemic volunteers were presented with The WDMH Commitment Award. It shines a light on individuals or teams that demonstrate the values that result in compassionate excellence.

Congratulations to all



The latest Commitment Award recipients are (l-r): Volunteers Faye McCurdy, Judy Little, and Marilyn McCurdy; physiotherapy aide Suzie Brown; and Dr. Crystal Doyle, chief of Emergency. (Missing are volunteers Dave Black, Feras Balbous, Chris Spring, Bill Pollock, Madeline Bourbonnais, Chris Hudson, Marg Merkley, Anita McGuire, Joan Farlinger, Marie Steele, and Nancy Farley-Holmes.)

Courtesy Photo

the nominees!

If you would like to provide comments or

suggestions about hospital and CEO, WDMH at 613.774.1049 or by email at cboland@wdmh.on.ca.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

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

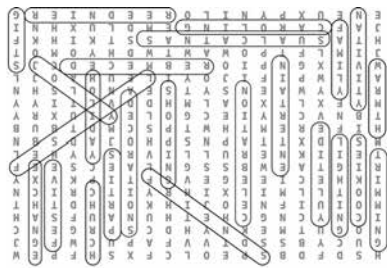
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WORDS

CAROLING
 CELEBRATION
 CHURCH
 COOKIES
 DECEMBER
 DECORATIONS
 ENTERTAIN
 EXCHANGE
 FAMILY
 FESTIVAL
 FESTIVE
 FRIENDS
 GIFTS
 HOLIDAY
 JOLLY
 LIGHTING
 NATIVITY
 PARTIES
 REINDEER
 SANTA CLAUS
 SHOPPING
 TRIMMING
 WARMTH
 YULETIDE

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

Winter Wonderland



Holiday Fun & Games

SD council holds its ground against COVID-19

MORRISBURG – Every municipality in Ontario has had to deal with effects of a COVID-19 world.

There is no way to escape the effect the virus has had on tourism, taxes, entertainment and life in general, however one aspect of municipal life has moved along basically unchanged and that is local council.

The South Dundas council has had to adjust to the new normal while still getting work in their community done.

South Dundas mayor, Steven Byvels has been patient while he waits for things to get better in his municipality.

The township chose to go easy on taxpayers this year, respecting the fact that many residents were going through a financial pinch as the result of temporary job losses or layoffs.

“We did what we had to do to make sure people survived through the year without being greedy. We

have not had a year-end collection,” said Byvels.

“Right now, I think we are doing ok; I know council was concerned during the height of everything to make sure people didn’t go broke trying pay us back. We did what we had to do.”

Following through on municipal initiatives has been difficult.

Byvels said, “It has been a challenge. It is hard to drive ahead when things are kind of a bit in neutral.”

Nevertheless, the municipality was able to complete a \$2.5 million project; they completely rebuilt Ontario Street in Morrisburg above and below the street.

“We got the Ontario Street project done. It was a lot of work.”

The next project on the horizon, virus or no virus, is the Streetscape project of redesigning the streets around Morrisburg’s main intersection and replacing the traffic lights with a traffic circle. This will be a

county project but Byvels believes the municipality will be involved.

The regular council meetings, because of the virus have found a home on Facebook. The meetings take place as usual but having them where everyone can see them is a bonus.

“We are doing it live, and then putting it on Facebook and on YouTube for somebody who wants to view it as good nighttime entertainment,” said Byvels.

The new format was to ensure all of their meetings were accessible and transparent.

“We did our best to make sure we were open and transparent. It was well received,” he said.

Community events in South Dundas as in all other municipalities had to be cancelled or reimagined.

“We just wrote them off,” said the mayor.

Their Christmas parade was cancelled.

“I think it is for the best. We have to keep the crowds down.”

The mayor’s concern is well founded. In this past week the municipality went from zero to five people infected with the virus.

“Christmas is a special event for a lot of people,” said Byvels.

“In the end, if nothing happens, we will be ok, it is unfortunate, but we will be ok.”

In general, the South Dundas council has been able to rise to the occasion.

“I am not going to say everything is roses at council, but I think council is working the best way they can,” said Byvels.

“South Dundas has been very well served by this council.”

The Chesterville Record will be CLOSED from December 24, 2020 at 12 Noon to January 3, 2021.

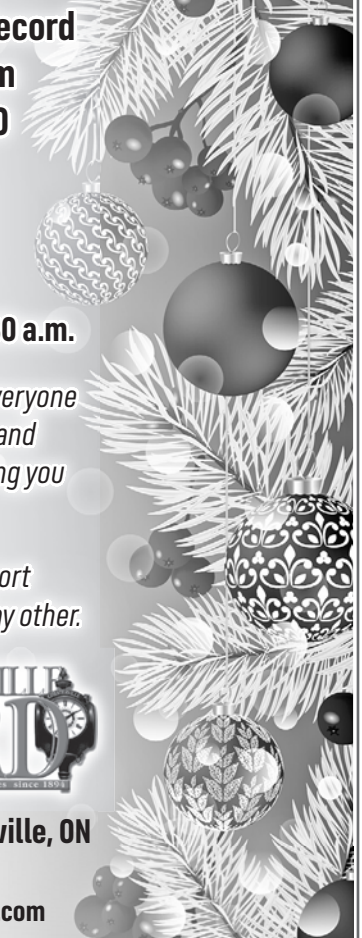
We will re-open on January 4, 2021 at 8:30 a.m.

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Thank you for your support through a year unlike any other.



1 Mill Street, Chesterville, ON
 613-448-2321
 www.chestervillerecord.com



Birth Announcement

REBEKAH NORMA ANNE SMALLDON

Blessed parents Robert and Kristen Smalldon, and proud big brother Robbie, are thrilled to announce the safe arrival of Rebekah Norma Anne Smalldon at the Winchester District Memorial Hospital on October 17, 2020 where she weighed 6 pounds, 9ozs.



The skills, kindness and patience of Dr. Patricia Toomey, Dr. Kheira Jolin-Dahel, Dr. Patricia Ann Moussette and Nurse Michelle eased our daughter’s arrival into the world and soothed our souls. Many thanks to all the staff at WMDH as well as those at the

CHEO NICU, who took such good care of mom and Bekah. Thank you so much for the excellent care you provided to our whole family...in the middle of a pandemic no less! You are all truly heroes.



Wishing You Joy & Wonder

Here’s hoping the magic of this holiday season brings out the kid in you!

Very Best Wishes to All!

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P.O. Box 489, 636 St. Lawrence St.,
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 Tel. 613-774-2105
 www.northdundas.com

Holiday Closures and Changes

The Boyne Road Landfill will be CLOSED Friday, December 25th, Monday, December 28th and Friday, January 1st.

Route changes are as follows:

Friday, December 25th regular pick up will be Thursday, December 24th.

Thursday, December 24th regular pick up will be Wednesday, December 23rd.

All other Routes remain unchanged.

Any questions contact:
 Doug Froats
 613 229 4233

Deadline: Friday at 4 P.M.
\$8.00 Plus HST
Minimum 25 words.
Additional words 32¢ each.

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“It takes a Louis’ Restaurant to feed a village”

CHESTERVILLE – Louis’ Restaurant has been a place to grab a bite to eat, visit with friends and family while enjoying the relaxed atmosphere. The business is also known as a strong supporter of local organizations and events such as the Winchester and District Memorial Hospital and the North Dundas Rockets.

Located at the corner of Main, King and Water streets, Louis’ Restaurant has been run by the Pavlounis family since 1978, when Elias (Louis) and Panagiota (Pitsa) Pavlounis purchased the business. Their son Dino, who with his mother operate the restaurant following the passing of Elias in 2015, explained in an email interview that his “parents took ownership of the restaurant on June 15, 1978,” changing the name to Louis Restaurant from Milano Restaurant at that time.

Dino explained he has been part of the Louis’ Restaurant team since he was eight, the year his family bought the restaurant.

“[I] probably thought I was working a lot harder than I actually was, but I was always there doing something,” said Dino. He mentioned that when his parents went on a two-month trip to Greece when he was 20, he was left in charge; and he remembers those two months as being “the longest two months of [his] life.” During the time they were gone, he commented how he thinks that “every fridge and every motor in the restaurant broke down.”

There have been two major renovations to the restaurant, one in 1980 when the small dining room was built and a further renovation in 2002. Dino mentioned how COVID-19 had stopped a planned “smaller renovation”

SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight



Dino Panagiota and his mother Pitsa carry on the tradition of family dining in Chesterville.

Goddard Photo

but hopes “it will get done sometime soon.” Some of the more recent changes include the introduction of a webpage for the restaurant as well as the innovation of using QR codes to order from your respective table.

He explained the construction of the webpage began during the first stage of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. The creation of the page came about because “people were calling wanting many items not on the physical take-out menu,” the webpage was a way for customers to have complete access to the restaurant’s full menu at home or by cell phone. He expressed how “Susan Marriner of Marriner Design did an amazing job” on the webpage.

When the restaurant was able to reopen with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, Dino mentioned how he “had customers that would come in and ask for [their] website because they didn’t want to touch a menu,” he then instituted “QR Codes at the tables and at the front entrance which could be accessed via the camera” on personal cell phones or access the menu on their website to remove the need of using a physical menu.

Other changes since the COVID-19 pandemic include “customers entering from the front door and exiting from the side door, so they don’t meet.” In addition, they have shut down the “first table at the entrance at peak times to

give customers a little more room as they wait for their takeout.”

Entering the establishment, one is greeted by friendly staff who escort you to your booth, and invariably enjoying a light meal are friends, waving a cheery welcome. It is this small-town atmosphere which Dino spoke to when asked what he enjoys most about running the restaurant.

He mentioned how in a small town like Chesterville you are able to get to know your customers, their stories and what they enjoy eating, commenting “You actually know them by what they eat before you learn their names.”

Louis’ Restaurant specialties include Greek Souvlaki, Chicken Parmigiana and Pizza. Louis’ Restaurant was proclaimed the “best pizza in North Dundas in the pizza competition organized by the North Dundas Fire Department.

When asked about his fondest memory of working in the restaurant, Dino commented it “would have to be when we actually had the president of Madagascar visit the restaurant a few years back. He came to eat, but his security detail literally took over the restaurant. It was like something you would see in a movie.”

Louis’ Restaurant continues to be a friendly place to grab a bite to eat and visit with friends, and a strong supporter of local events and organizations, as well as the Winchester & District Memorial Hospital and the North Dundas Rockets. As noted on their webpage, “It takes a Louis’ Restaurant to feed a village.”

For more information on Louis’ Restaurant please visit their website page at www.louisfamilyrestaurant.ca, their Facebook page or calling 613-448-2051.

If you would like to have a light shined on your business, please contact us at: news.chestervillerecord@gmail.com or call us at 613-448-2321.

Alexa Zummach – Inaugural receipt of South Stormont Youth Volunteer of the Year Award

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

LONG SAULT – South Stormont resident Alexa Zummach of Ingleside was awarded the 2019 South Stormont Youth Volunteer of the Year Award on Mon., Dec. 14.

In a press release from the Municipality of South Stormont on Dec. 17, it was noted how, although the annual township of South Stormont Volunteer Appreciation Gala was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, “the volunteer appreciation committee moved forward in recognizing the volunteer efforts of an exceptional young person in the community.”

Zummach has volunteered “for community events such as the Ingleside Firefighters Challenge/Block Party, Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life, Stephanie Grady Memorial Run, and the Avonmore Ladies Night.

Mention was made of her volunteering with “the local 4-H Club and the Stormont County Fair Board.



Prior to a South Stormont council meeting on Dec. 14, Ingleside resident Alexa Zummach (right) was presented with the 2019 South Stormont Youth Volunteer of the Year award by South Stormont mayor, Bryan McGillis (left).

South Stormont Courtesy Photo

In an email to *The Chesterville Record*, Zummach commented that it had been “a great surprise to be nominated as the first recipient of this award.

I had no idea I had been nominated” until hearing she was to be awarded with the 2019 South Stormont Youth Volunteer of the Year in March of this year. The pandemic had at first delayed the event and then resulted in the cancellation of the South Stormont Volunteer Appreciation

Gala, with the decision made to have a presentation at a council meeting this month.

Zummach mentioned that in addition to the framed certificate, she received a letter from the Canadian Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau as well as an Andre Pommier tabletop clock from the Municipality of South Stormont. She added “it felt great to know that my achievements and volunteer hours had been

recognized in my hometown.

South Stormont mayor, Bryan McGillis stated in the press release that South Stormont is “fortunate to have some incredible young people in our community.

He continued “The Youth Volunteer of the Year is an opportunity to recognize their efforts to improve our community” before noting “Ms. Zummach was the perfect selection as the award’s first recipient.”



Making plans for the future

A Bell Canada crew was busy last week laying fibre optic cable from one side of the bridge in Chesterville to the other. After the cable has been placed, the crew will return in the spring to repave and put the final touches to the construction.

Morin Photo

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The Villager News

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Outgoing UCPR warden Pierre Leroux recognizes several community members and organizations

L'ORIGINAL – As part of the last council meeting of 2020, Pierre Leroux, outgoing warden of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell (UCPR), took the opportunity this evening to recognize several important members and organizations within the Prescott and Russell community.

As a first order of business, Mr. Leroux presented cheques totalling \$6,000 to two organizations in the township of Russell, including the Club optimiste d'Embrun and the Russell Kin Club.

These funds were raised this year through donations toward the annual charitable events that had to be cancelled in 2020.

This year, also due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr. Leroux was unable to host the annual UCPR Warden's Banquet, an event at

which he would have presented the Warden's Award and the JP St. Pierre Award.

The JP St. Pierre Award, a high municipal distinction that aims to celebrate the exceptional contributions of an individual within the UCPR, was awarded this year to all the front-line and health care workers across the community of Prescott and Russell, for their invaluable and essential support and dedication during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This has been an exceptional year, with the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact on our health care system, our hospitals, our long-term care homes, and our day-to-day services such as education, childcare, and even our food supply," stated warden Leroux. "It is thanks to all these essential workers that we have been able to limit the impacts and the spread of this pandemic, and that we will

one day get through it, together."

As is also the year-end tradition, the Warden's Award is presented during the Banquet to recognize the dedicated work, outstanding contribution and professionalism of a municipal employee toward the community and their colleagues. This year, warden Leroux chose to present two awards, the first being to Marc-André Drouin, manager of Information Technology – Systems and Services. A much-appreciated colleague and an outstanding manager at the UCPR, Mr. Drouin has contributed to the implementation of several essential projects in collaboration with all of the counties' departments.

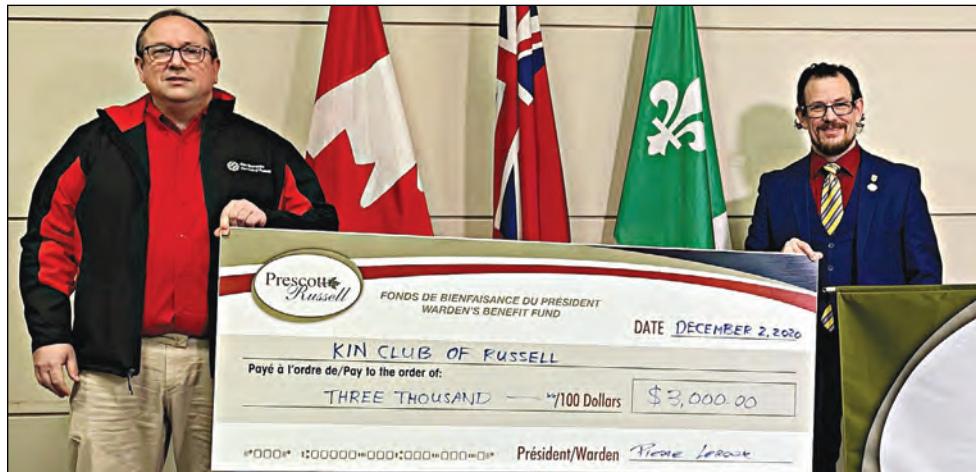
"Marc-André is a source of inspiration and a true leader within the management team, sincerely dedicated in everything he does.

He is proof that the success of a team is often ensured by those behind the scenes," explained warden Leroux. "Without the progress he has made over the past few years, the UCPR would not have been as well positioned and equipped to deal with the exceptional circumstances imposed on us in 2020."

The second Warden's Award for 2020 was bestowed upon the many front-line staff and the senior management of the Prescott and Russell Residence.

Now, more than ever, we realize the importance of these front-line staff, which include personal support workers, nurses, and doctors, in addition to maintenance, recreation, kitchen, laundry, and building management.

"Despite the recent outbreak that tragically affected our facility, we know that the men and women behind the gowns and the masks have worked – and continue to work – tirelessly, to support and care for our most vulnerable residents," concluded Mr. Leroux. "Thank you for being there for our residents – not only during this time of need, but every day."



Mayor of Russell and former warden of the United Counties of Prescott Russell presented two cheques totalling \$6,000 to two organizations in the township of Russell. Here on the left is Pat Hunter from the Russell Kin Club and on the right, Céline Côté from the Club optimiste d'Embrun receiving another cheque. Mayor Leroux presented both cheques. Courtesy Photo

Stéphane Sarrazin acclaimed as UCPR warden for 2021

L'ORIGINAL – Stéphane Sarrazin, mayor of the township of Alfred and Plantagenet, was elected by acclamation as the 2021 Warden of the United Counties of Prescott and Russell (UCPR).



Warden Sarrazin's nomination was proposed by Robert Kirby, mayor of the township of East Hawkesbury, and Guy Desjardins, mayor of the City of Clarence-Rockland.

During the traditional swearing-in ceremony held this evening in the county council chambers, Mr. Sarrazin thanked outgoing warden Pierre Leroux for representing the UCPR so well over the past 12 months.

"The year 2020 has been a different and challenging year for the entire world. Even more difficult for Mr. Leroux, who lost his father at the beginning of his mandate. A person of resilience and commitment, he overcame significant personal challenges," expressed warden Sarrazin.

Mr. Sarrazin then addressed his priorities for his year as warden, which remain essentially the same for 2021, including projects such as the construction of the new Prescott and Russell Residence as well as

Stéphane Sarrazin has been elected as the new 2021 Warden of the United Counties of Prescott Russell.

Courtesy Photo

economic development initiatives to help our businesses and farmers. In addition, the issue of our paramedics responding to calls outside of the UCPR remains a priority issue.

"I would also like to be present with our local organizations, maintain excellent relations with our federal member of Parliament, Mr. Francis Drouin, and continue our progress with the provincial government by improving our communications, opening up a direct line to various ministries, and above all, continuing our efforts on the issue of the widening of Route 17/174, which is close to all of our hearts," concluded Mr. Sarrazin, adding that it was a privilege and an honour to take on this role as the head of the regional council.

Christmas arrives in Metcalfe

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

METCALFE –The idea that nothing can stop the Christmas spirit is alive and well in Metcalfe, with a very successful Santa Claus parade held at the Metcalfe Fairgrounds on Sun., Dec. 13.

Elli Kapsalis of the Metcalfe Community Association described the event as "367 cars go through over 2 and a half hours," calculating that there were over a thousand people that enjoyed viewing the 22 registered floats. She continued how "cars were lined up and down the street for hours" with people mentioning to organizers that they waited for over an hour.

Kapsalis explained how the Santa Claus parade is a long-standing holiday tradition in the local community, "with the same local Santa and Mrs. Claus for 22 years." She continued how "This year, because of Covid, we



Elli Kapsalis of the Metcalfe Community Association commented how the toys and food collected by the Metcalfe young people and OTHS students "surpassed our wildest dreams!" Pictured here are some of the donations collected during the Drive Thru Santa Claus Parade held on Sun., Dec. 13.

Metcalfe Community Association Courtesy Photo

couldn't do a regular parade," with the Metcalfe Agricultural Society approaching the MCA with offers to help organize a Santa Claus parade at the fairgrounds.

"We had the best volunteers, representatives from all three levels of government, and such amazing community spirit," Kapsalis said. Treat bags were given to the children as they had been "put together using donations." She continued how Osgoode Township High School students and other community youth "gathered non-perishable foods for [the] local food bank," the Osgoode Emergency Food Cupboard, "as well as toys for Toy Mountain."

Merry Christmas from
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