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Briefly

PharmaChoice Seaway Valley gets ready for vaccine

WINCHESTER – As many Winchester residents have already heard through the media, certain pharmacies will soon be able to give out the COVID-19 vaccine. Seaway Valley PharmaChoice Winchester will be part of this group. The pharmacy is looking for volunteers to work with its staff to help make this efficient and safe for all. If you would like to volunteer your time, please call the pharmacy and ask for Liz. The number is 613-774-2633.

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ONTARIO – We are sold out! Your Garden-in-a-Box project is sold out. With each purchase, 15,000 meals to Ontarians in need were helped. If you did not get a chance to order your box, you can still garden along with us by joining our Farm & Food Care Garden Club on Facebook www.facebook.com/group/sffcogardenclub.

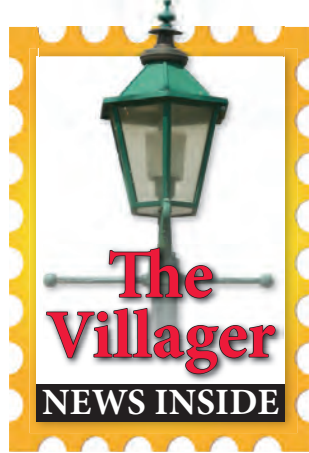
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CHESTERVILLE – To connect with someone in the editorial department use: editor@etceterapublications.ca to connect with Joseph Morin. To reach Chantal Bouwers in the production department use: production@etceterapublications.ca.



THE CHESTERVILLE RECORD

Serving Stormont and Dundas Counties since 1894



PM40050631R8905 **Volume 128, Number 39 Chesterville, Ontario Thursday, April 8, 2021 Single Copy \$1.00 (HST included)**



Easter Egg Hunt always fun for everyone

The recently held Easter Egg Hunt in Chesterville was sponsored by the Chesterville & District Rotary Club. Ron McMillan, was the winner of the Easter basket full of treats to help celebrate this spring festival. In the photo on the right: Colby Morazuk, left, and the Easter Bunny, join Shane Morazuk who won the second-place prize of \$75 donated by The Hair Loft. **See page 6 for the full story.** Courtesy Photos

Vaccine online registration now available

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

WINCHESTER – North Dundas residents have been patient while they wait for news of the arrival of a vaccine that hopefully will mark the turning point in the pandemic. On April 2 the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU), announced that it was a good time to book an appointment for the vaccine. Help is on the way. The vaccination process will be taking place at the Joel Steele Arena in Winchester and eventually will include local pharmacies. This time around, beginning on April 7, the invitation is for residents 60 years of age and up. The booking can be done online by going to www.Ontario.ca/bookvaccine. Individuals who require assistance with booking can call the Provincial Vaccine Information Line at 1-888-999-6488..

Continued on page 3

Serving our community for 75 years

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – On Wed., May 8, 1946, a meeting to establish a branch of the Royal Canadian Legion (RCL) was held in Chesterville and was presided over by the then Zone Commander Dr. A.J. Gardner; with RCL Branch 434 in Chesterville receiving their charter on July 30, 1946. Seventy-five years later, the Chesterville Legion continues to serve veterans and the local community by providing support and assistance as required. Charter members of RCL Branch 434 included troops who had recently returned from service during the Second World War; they included L.E. Alford, J.A. Morris, L.H. Doering, F. Curran, J.R. Fader, R.H. Fawcett, F. Perrault, L. Anderson, A. Harper, G. Sirvage, E. Barrett, R. Sirvage, J.G. Fleming, L. Racine, D. Curran, W. Harper and F.L. Beckstead. Lyle E. Alford was the first president of the Chesterville Legion, with J.A. Morris, who would later publish *The Chesterville Record*, served as the first secretary-treasurer. RCL Branch 434 president Steven Grubb provided information on the history of this important community organization, both in written form and during an interview with *The Chesterville Record*. He proudly mentioned how the local Legion has continued the legacy of its founders by maintaining a strong presence in Chesterville and ensuring the continued growth of the Branch. Grubb explained how the service to the community began early in its history when a skating rink was constructed at the corner of John Street and Francis Street and sold to the town in 1949 for one dollar.

Continued on page 3

WIN

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C - COMPASSION
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E - EXCELLENCE
R - RESILIENCE
S - SUPPORT

Today's teachers are working harder than ever to meet the needs of our communities' students. The challenges faced by educators throughout the COVID-19 pandemic have been numerous and complicated. From a virtually overnight transition from in-classroom to distance learning to helping kids cope with the social and academic challenges the pandemic has brought, their tireless efforts have had an immeasurable impact on young people across our communities.

We recognize their hard work, dedication, resourcefulness and resilience. To the incredible educators serving kids in our community and everywhere, thank you!



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Vaccine online registration

Continued from the front

Pre-registration allows for booking appointments quickly and easily as vaccine supply increases and more appointments become available.

In accordance with the latest recommendations, those booking will be given appointments for first and second doses, 16 weeks apart.

The system is able to screen applicants with the help of their health card number and their age so make sure to have your health card handy.

Appointments can be made by an individual or

with the help of family or an informal caregiver but family/informal caregivers born after 1961 should not book an appointment for themselves now, however, they may use the EOHU Pre-Registration tool to pre-register for an appointment.

If you have a family member or provide care to someone who was born in 1961 or before, please encourage them to get vaccinated.

Vaccinations will be available by appointment only at vaccine clinics being held across the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry; the United Counties of Prescott-Russell; and the City of Cornwall.



The Eastern Ontario Health Unit will be using larger municipal facilities like hockey rinks and community centers to administer vaccines as they become available. In this photo volunteers get ready to welcome registered people for their vaccinations.

Courtesy Photo

Alternate arrangements will be made for individuals who notify us of barriers preventing them from physically going to a clinic.

Those wishing to change the location of a booked appointment can follow the process they used to book

their original appointment and proceed to book a new series of appointments for their first and second dose.

This will automatically cancel their first booked series. Individuals will receive a confirmation email for their new booking

followed by a cancellation notice for the previous booking.

The vaccine delivery strategy features different age groups being approved for the vaccine.

At this time, however, only eligible individuals can

schedule an appointment. The EOHU is asking the public to help keep the online tools and phone lines available for those who are eligible to book an appointment.

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

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

Serving our community

Continued from the front

In 1955, Branch 434 bought back the rink property on John Street from the town and built the first Legion Hall. For many of the older residents, this building now home to Therien Jiu Jitsu, will bring memories of Saturday night dances with midnight barbecue dinners, wedding receptions and Wednesday night bingos. The Legion also served as a stepping off point for the annual Remembrance Day parades to the War Memorial on Victoria Street, which had been built by the Chesterville Legion under the presidency of Carl Merkley in 1957.

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Chesterville Legion was formed in the 1950s and was very active in assisting the Branch with service to both veterans and the local community. Information received from Grubb lists the Charter Members of the LA as Annie Johnston, Susie Cass, Nancy Henderson, Mildred Paul, Clara Barkley, Eileen McMillan and Vera Smith. On Nov. 24, 2000, members of the Ladies Auxiliary decided to close the organization shortly "after celebrating their 50th anniversary," with many former LA members still serving Branch 434 to this day.

Through the decades since the founding of RCL Branch 434 and the Ladies Auxiliary, some of the community organizations assisted include the Winchester & District Memorial Hospital, the Victorian Order of Nurses, The Christmas Cheer Fund, the CNIB, Heal-the-Children Fund, the Canadian Cancer Society. During the ice storm in January 1998, the Chesterville Legion served as an emergency shelter, but it became clear that a new hall would have to be built.

The present Legion hall opened on Nov. 26, 1999 and includes a large hall, kitchen, Members Room and administrative offices. In the early part of the new millennium, the Chesterville War Memorial was relocated to Veterans Memorial Park on Queen Street. A few years later with the assistance of former Legion president Vern Williamson, the Chesterville Legion erected a Memorial Wall to those who served in the Canadian Armed Forces from the local area and following this, the war memorial which had been located at Nation Valley School near Cass Bridge was relocated to the Veterans Memorial Park.

Prior to the closures associated with the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, the Legion hall was a centre for community events throughout the year and was always ready to lend a supporting hand to

community organizations. Throughout the continuing pandemic period, the Legion Hall has been able to support the community in several ways, while honouring the restriction designed to protect people from COVID-19; these include a fundraising drive-thru dinner in aid of the centennial commemorations of the Morewood War Cenotaph, providing a safe space for meetings and training to be held while following COVID-19 precautions, as well as to hold take-out fundraising meals for the Legion itself.

While Grubb acknowledged there have been changes to the services provided to its community, he pointed out that the Chesterville Legion will continue to provide the services needed by our Armed Forces' veterans and to work with other local organizations to strengthen our community. He commented how the "synergy of the organizations working together helps make our community strong."

He explained how during Legion Week,

Branch 434 would hold a Community Appreciation Night, which included refreshments, as it was an opportunity to show their appreciation for the work done by these organizations. Also, during Legion Week, the Branch holds a Volunteer Appreciation Night which acknowledges the work and service of members achieving milestone anniversaries.

During a recent Zone G3 meeting at the Chesterville Legion, Zone Commander Don Swerdfeger from RCL Branch 108 in Winchester commented how the Chesterville Legion has "battled through good and bad times" but the future looks promising for the Branch.

Like the community it serves, Swerdfeger offered his congratulations to the Branch. Grubb commented that plans are being formulated for celebrating the 75th anniversary of RCL Branch 434 in Chesterville, with more information made available in the future.



Zone Commander Don Swerdfeger is shown with Chesterville Legion president Stephen Grubb during a recent Zone G3 meeting. Swerdfeger offered his congratulations for the 75 years of service to the community provided by RCL Branch 434 in Chesterville.

Thompson Goddard Photo



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The Township of North Dundas is committed to providing quality goods and services that are accessible to all persons that we serve. Documents are available in various accessible formats upon request. Individuals are advised to contact the Township Office and the Township will work with the individuals to provide a format that meets their needs. Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Freedom of Information and *Protection of Privacy Act* and will be used for employment assessment purposes only.



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EDITORIAL & Opinion

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Editorial

Change is good

Growing up we lived on a main road but in a quiet rural area. My parents went out of their way to provide us with entertainment. We would get up every morning during the summer break and weed in the garden. This guaranteed us the opportunity to swim in the pool later. We lived too far away from our friends so we had to entertain ourselves. If you can imagine, our next door neighbours were long distance.

With both parents working my grandmother looked after the four of us during the summer break.

My dad loved his chickens. We always had a few in the back shed.

Yes, we farm now on a larger scale but with the changes imposed during COVID, I have been able to look back and bring some of those simpler things back into our hectic lives.

When my kids were younger they would love having laying hens and they also had the opportunity to have calves, horses, sheep and goats. I realize not everyone can have that type of childhood or even want that type of childhood but for us this gave us a reason to get up every morning with the anticipation of collecting those eggs or vegetables so that we could eat and later reap the benefit of having fun.

Well, my husband thinks I have just gone to the birds but at least I am making the most out of the crazy times we are in.

It can be hard to look past the negativity and stress in today's world but sometimes it does not have to cost a lot of money. The simple things can bring relief to our crazy schedules and stresses.

Look around at some of the local opportunities available. Try growing your own vegetables or herbs, or join me in the chicken coop. One thing is for sure - they produce much needed eggs for our consumption and they don't argue with me.

Linda Vogel

Picking up the pace against the virus

So - there you have it. A foot race of sorts between the speedy and clever coronavirus, COVID-19 and lumbering, slow moving humans, is on.

The latest news about another stay-at-home order in Ontario is a reflection of how this race is going between a tiny virus and the rest of us.

The finish line may be in sight and the virus is pulling out all of the stops including actually changing what it is in an attempt to get the better of us and beat out our vaccination programs.

As we get closer to achieving a win over the virus it seems to know what we are doing and speeds up its own progress.

Really it's the other way around.

The virus is moving along as efficiently as it can. Its speed and progress depends entirely on how easily it can infect its host. Without us to gas up on, it dies.

The province fears to a certain point we have not

been paying attention. We are dramatically outmatched by a virus that can and will take advantage of everything that characterizes humans and how we all behave.

It's is not unlike a weapon that attacks you whenever you breathe.

Very clever, but from nature's perspective very fair.

There have been arguably concerns and complaints about our strategy in combatting the virus.

Much has been made about the effect on small business from stay-at-home orders, and occupancy regulations. The big box stores have done well while every other smaller business for the most part has shriveled with a few exceptions.

Politics or science or both philosophies working together have been the rudder we are navigating by as we dodge the virus and long for a return for whatever normal is.

The most important

normal is that you are walking and talking.

The rest of it does not really matter.

In any foot race you have to be focused on what your body is doing. Is your heart conditioned enough to take the strain of all that running? Are your muscles recovering fast enough to keep up the pace, are your lungs efficient enough to make sure enough oxygen is getting to your heart so that it can drive everything else?

Your focus should not be on the colour of your running outfit or as in the case of the race with the virus where the loser might die, when you will be able to go to a hockey game.

Your focus should take into account that the virus has so many advantages over you that it normally would have no problem outpacing us and our game changing vaccine.

A scientist somewhere in Ontario must be whispering in the ears of government that the virus and our vaccine program are neck in neck as they come down the

Be content, that staying at home at the moment, is all that you have to do. Give the virus little or no fuel to use as it races along, and give yourself a competitive edge.

home stretch.

To be distracted now is to give the advantage to the virus and after all of the sacrifices that have been made, that would be a shame.

People have to realize what is at stake, and if we do not win this race there will be consequences.

Be content, that staying at home at the moment, is all that you have to do.

Give the virus little or no fuel to use as it races along and give yourself a competitive edge.

Joseph Morin

NDDHS Report

By Jamie Wilson
Student Council Communications



Easter Spirit Day

Last Thursday, we had a fun Easter Spirit Day! The day's purpose was to wear anything that represented Easter to you: pastel colours, bunny ears, etc. It was a great way to end the week before the long weekend.

This week is the last week of classes for the third quadmester. Students and teachers are wrapping up their courses and any projects left to be completed. The end of a class always adds extra stress to students. April is National Stress Awareness Month. Now is an excellent time to bring awareness to this stressful time of year. It is essential to find helpful coping mechanisms to destress, especially with Covid-19 and the new shutdown. Luckily, spring means the weather is getting nicer and more sunny days are to come. Step outside for some vitamin D; it is a tried-and-true method to increase happiness and lower stress. If you cannot go out, open your curtains, and crack open a window to let the sun and fresh air in while you are doing your work.

The Road Home

by Carolyn Thompson Goddard

There is nothing I quite enjoy so much as walking around bare foot. The feeling of freedom that being without shoes and socks is almost indescribable, especially after a long winter wearing boots and heavy socks.

It is nice to get out of my winter footwear and into a pair of runners which led to a semblance of foot freedom. Growing up I recall very well, the intense feeling of almost overwhelming joy when it was warm enough to take off my shoes and socks as I made my way home from school.

Mom never seemed to share my joy of walking in my bare feet. When I came through the front door with my feet sometimes wet from splashing puddles and leaving a trail of foot prints on her clean kitchen floor - let's just say she wasn't too happy. I suppose my one saving grace was that I removed both socks and shoes as I think she might have been even less understanding if I had left those white socks on and walked down the dirty sidewalk.

I could never really understand when I was young why she thought it was very important to wear shoes outside. Looking back, maybe it had

something to do with the fact that for many years I would come crying to our back door because I had stepped on a rusty old nail at least once a summer.

When this happened, Mom sat me down on a kitchen chair, put a piece of cotton around my foot to keep the blood from going all over the floor. There was this gigantic old metal pot, which I am sure was kept handy for times like this and after filling it with hot water gently lifted my bleeding foot into it to soak. After a few minutes, and probably a phone call to our family doctor, she would dry my foot, put a disinfectant on it, then a dressing and walked beside me as I hobbled across the backyard to the doctor's office.

Mrs. Justus would greet us at the door, then hustle me into the examining room where Dr. Howard would take a look at my foot, clean it, put a fresh bandage on it before turning to the white cabinet by the door and prepare a tetanus shot. Walking towards me with the needle in hand, he would calmly explain how rusty old nails carried a lot of germs and I needed the needle to protect me

from getting sick.

I would of course try to convince him that there was no needle needed and just when I thought I had succeeded he would change the subject, asking me the names of my brothers as he swabbed my arm with alcohol. Almost without thinking the names came out of my mouth ... "Steven, Erik, Doug" and then a loud OUCH as the needle was inserted into my arm. Before I had a chance to continue with Mike, Paul and David, he would put a bandage on my arm, tell me to keep my shoes on and Mom would come into the room accompanied by Mrs. Justus. When Mom asked if I felt strong enough to go to Sharkey's with her for an ice-cream, the tears would stop and almost magically my foot would feel so much better!

I never really did learn to keep shoes on my feet, despite having several such encounters with rusty nails. To this day, when the snow has melted, the days become longer and mud puddles are everywhere from spring rains, I dream about being able to walk barefoot in cool grass or on warm pavement and maybe even splash my toes in mud puddles.



Etcetera Publications (Chesterville) Inc.

Publisher
Etcetera Publications Inc.

Editor
Joseph Morin

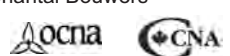
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Proudly printed in North Dundas.

Advertising Rates on Request
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Telephone: (613) 448-2321

Fax: (613) 448-3260

Published Thursdays by Etcetera Publications (Chesterville) Inc.

Funded by the Government of Canada | Canada

Single Copy \$1.00 HST Included.
Annual Subscription \$35.00 within 40 miles;
Outside 40 miles \$40.00; USA \$150.00.
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Tawgi students step up to help community

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

AVONMORE – The Tawgi Secondary School in Avonmore has some very clever and helpful ideas when it come to helping their community and learning skills at the same time.

The Agapè Centre food bank and soup kitchen has been working in the community since 1971 helping to ensure that no one should ever have to go hungry.

With that idea in mind the Agapè Centre has partnered with Tawgi to provide garden boxes for their clients to grow fresh vegetables.

The school's construction shop class lead by teacher Jamie Poulin has been making wooden garden boxes this spring for backyard gardeners or those without the space for a large garden to have a chance to enjoy some fresh homegrown vegetables they would otherwise miss out on.

The project has been so successful the Agapè Centre is considering making the project available to the whole Avonmore community and make a great fundraising event out of it.

Tawgi teacher Jamie Poulin is leading the way with his construction class.

"We are taking pallets apart to make garden boxes. "Agapè in Cornwall contacted me to ask if we were willing to make some garden boxes for them. They would provide the wood," he said.

The students are enjoying the work.

They get to work with a mitre saw and a drill and some counter sink bits to put the garden boxes together.

Poulin said his students drawn from his Grade 9 and senior class do not have a great deal of fun taking all of the pallets apart but they certainly enjoy building the garden boxes from the reclaimed wood.

He said, "So far we have made about 20 but by the end of next week we should have another 20 completed. They are 2 feet by 4 feet and 10 to 12 inches high

Basically whatever wood we could get out of the pallets determined how big they are."

The demand for the garden boxes has grown from an expected 50 to 175.

Poulin said if they can get the materials donated for the project next year they would certainly want to do it.

Lisa Duprau the executive director of the Agapè Centre is happy with the response of the project.

"It is for people who use our services here at the centre."

She explained, "If they express interest they are getting a box, the soil seed and plants. Everyone had to make sure they had space in their yard or approval from their landlord to make sure they would have enough space."



The Tawgi Secondary School is helping out their community with interesting and meaningful projects. Students from the school have taken on the task of building garden boxes for the Agapè Centre food bank and soup kitchen. They are building garden boxes for the centre from wood from pallets. In this photo some of the students pose beside a few of their finished garden boxes. Left to right are: Owen Mekker, Aaron Paul, Andrew Edwards and Tristan Colette. Courtesy Photo

The program has caught the attention of residents in the area. "We were anticipating maybe about 50 but we are up to 175," she said.

The goal of the program is to promote self-efficiency with clients, "and have some healthy options in their diet and ultimately save on grocery bills."

The centre partnered with Cornerstone Organics in Long Sault and they are providing some plants and seeds.

Each garden box includes the soil needed for the plants and seed for vegetables such as tomatoes, onions and cucumbers. At the beginning of the project the centre was getting pallets from the city of Cornwall, but that supply soon began to dwindle.

"We got pallets from the city and when we ran out of pallets we posted on Facebook if anyone had any extra, and then we were inundated with offers of pallets. It was absolutely wonderful," said Duprau.

The success of the project first with the centre's clients and from the general public has Duprau thinking about what to do next year.

"We may open it up to the community next year because we have had such a positive response from people in the community wanting to purchase one," she said.

Agapè Centre Clients would come first, but when that commitment has been met the public could get a box.

"Next year we may open it up to the community as a fundraiser," said Duprau.

DFA and council to share information

Joseph Morin
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

WINCHESTER – During the last municipal election cycle in 2018, candidate for North Dundas, Mayor Tony Fraser promoted the idea of a more effective relationship with the agricultural community.

At a minimum he wanted to have regular updates from agricultural leaders in Dundas County most notably the Dundas Federation of Agriculture (DFA).

In the past few years, the North Dundas council has had many challenges not the least of which is the pandemic, and some items the council had wanted to address, like agricultural updates have taken a back seat to the health crisis.

At their March 23 council meeting, an

opportunity came up for the council to invite DFA president Ryan Devries to make quarterly updates to them.

Both Jackie Pemberton Zone 11 director on the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) a past president of the DFA and Ryan Devries recently elected president of the DFA, made a presentation to council about agricultural matters; this moment was the perfect time to talk about providing regular updates.

Mayor Fraser said, during the 2018 campaign he had many interactions with DFA about different issues, including having a delegation that would update council on a regular basis about what they are doing.

"It is not a new idea," he said.

"It would be nice to be able to talk about what their issues are and what struggles and challenges the council has," he added.

"We need to get this level of comfort with each other so that we can have good discussions."

Ryan Devries, a dairy farmer was all for the idea of updating council.

"We have a meeting coming up so we will discuss it there. We have to keep communication open with our local government, our municipality."

I think we will both benefit from it," he said.

The updates would take

place four times a year or whenever the DFA requested to make a presentation to council.

Pemberton said, "I think it is a great idea. The OFA encourages the county federations to make those connections. The conversation does not

always have to be when there is an issue. It's just to raise awareness about what is going on," she said.

At the next DFA meeting, members will consider how to establish a regular council update and what form it would take.

Fraser said, "We have all wanted this over the past few years and we are now on track and I hope it will continue in this way."



- OBITUARY - SHARON WOOD

Peacefully at home surrounded by her family on Wednesday, March 31, 2021, Sharon Wood of Inkerman, age

63. Loving wife of Richard Parent. Loving mother of Sabrina Parent of Inkerman. Loving grandmother of Noah and Abraham Parent. Dear sister of Edward Wood (Tanya) of Gananoque, Jackie Wood of Kingston, Harold Wood of Kingston, Thelma Merkley of Kingston, Tracy Warren (David) of Belleville and Jimmy Merkley (Coralee) of Ottawa. Predeceased by her parents Jake and Joyce Wood (nee Lyon). Also survived by nieces and nephews. There will be no visitation or funeral service. Donations to the Canadian Cancer Society 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.

Thank You




The family of the late **Earle Merkley** wish to convey their thanks for the many condolences we received from family and friends.

A special thank you to Pastor Debbie Poirier for the superb service. We would also like to thank David Lapier of Marsden & McLaughlin who went above and beyond on his services.


God Bless you all!

Yvonne & Family




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Contact: Tel: 613-346-1648 Email: revlgaudet@gmail.com


Services will be held with Rev. Lois in Chalmers, Finch, 9:15 a.m. and at 11 a.m. in St. Andrew's UC, Martintown. Please spread the word as we revert to our regular worship times. (Subject to change).

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Some Easter fun in Chesterville

Carol Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – There is nothing quite like an egg hunt at Easter to bring some fun to the spring festival and this year, the Chesterville & District Rotary Club (CDRC) held a community wide Easter Egg Hunt. Participants were asked to put their name and

contact information into the prize barrel located at 54 Victoria Street in Chesterville. The Easter Bunny drew three names from the barrel on Sat., April 3. Ron McMillan was the winner of an Easter Basket, with second prize winner Shane Morazuk receiving \$75 and Isabell Gaudette receiving the \$50 third prize.

Rotarian Christine Cross-Barkley, president of the CDRC explained the specially designed Easter eggs were found at locations throughout the village including Ace Hardware, the Chesterville Gazebo, 54

Victoria Street, The Hair Loft, Chesterville Arena, Christ Church United, the Chesterville Post Office, Seaway Valley Pharmacy, Lannin's Garage, the Chesterville Dam, 262 Main Street North, Mike Dean's Super Food Store and VandenBosch Farms.

In a post event email, Barkley described the event as "just amazing," mentioning children were "hunting for eggs in the rain and snow on their bikes with backpacks," with some people participating in the Easter Egg Hunt just "for the fun of it." She continued how some of the

entries were quite creative with people cutting out and colouring Easter eggs with the answer put on the back, while someone else "took a picture of their answers with bunny figures and Easter backgrounds!"

A special thank you was extended to Karen Barkley of The Hair Loft "for donating \$75 cash for second prize and to an anonymous donor for donating \$50 cash for a third prize," with the CDRC thanking "the 81 participants in the Easter Egg Hunt" as well as those "who did the hunt just for an afternoon of fun!"

South Dundas urban areas remain chicken-free zones

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

MORRISBURG – Those Municipality of South Dundas residents living in villages or hamlets who hoped to produce their own eggs with backyard chickens, will have to continue trekking to the grocery store for the foreseeable future.

After several turns around the table during the March 29 "committee of the whole" meeting, politicians ultimately decided against allowing backyard chickens in urban settings within South Dundas, for now, at least. Although it was not part of municipal planning consultant Erin Reed's Key Information Report, council decided that staff should be taking a closer look at rural properties under 2.7 acres that run hobby farms.

In her report, Reed provided data, both positive and

negative, from municipalities that currently have backyard chicken bylaws. In doing so, she made it clear that the *Planning Act* allows municipalities to adopt bylaws that regulate the use of land, while the *Municipal Act* allows for the adoption of bylaws to regulate animal husbandry.

Opposed to urban backyard chickens, Coun. Lloyd Wells was the first to raise concerns about some of the small rural properties running hobby farms. He said the issue is with those property owners who seem to know little about farming, and who try to cram too many animals into a small space with no regard for their neighbours. He said that last year, a rural South Dundas resident came close to selling their property because of a neighbour's backyard chickens.

"Look at all facets of animal husbandry," Mayor Steven

Byvelts agreed. "There are places that it works well. Hobby farming is something that I think is going to grow in rural Ontario."

Following council's lead, the mayor advised Reed to forget about urban backyard chickens and to focus on updating terms for the rural and agricultural zones. He specifically asked for focus to be put on what types and what number of animals should be permitted according to property size and proximity to neighbours.

"They have some acreage, and they think they can do whatever, but it still has to be reasonable in relation to neighbours and setbacks," Byvelts said. "A balancing act between the two is what I'd like to see. Farming is a very worthwhile job and worthwhile hobby, but there's a lot more to it than just putting a couple of chickens in the backyard."



donation will help the program to continue to offer meals to people in the community who need the most support during these challenging times. Left to right are: Carefor Nor-Dun Seniors' Support Centre supervisor Carolyn Rooney, Liz Hamilton, Ramy Botorous, Sutinder Sandhar, Peggie Donaldson and Cathy Wilson. Courtesy Photo

Community support for Carefor Nor-Dun

The PharmaChoice Seaway Valley Pharmacy in Winchester presented the Carefor Nor-Dun Seniors' Support Centre with a cheque for \$1,500 on March 29. The funds will be used for the centre's Meal Delivery Program. The

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Easter Bunny visits Avonmore

**Carolyn Thompson
Goddard**
Record Staff

AVONMORE – The Easter Bunny, with some help from volunteers from the Avonmore Community Athletic Association (ACAA), made his way through the streets of Avonmore bringing some Easter cheer to residents of all ages during a “Hop n’ Drop” visit on Sat., April 3.

Poirier explained how the goal of the “Hop n’ Drop” was “for the Easter Bunny to make an appearance and deliver

candy to the children without anyone leaving their homes.” She continued how “a few volunteers from ACAA walked along,” safely delivering “100 bags of candy to children in Avonmore” as the Easter Bunny accompanied by Sparky the Dog and two fire trucks from Station 3 of the North Stormont Fire Services made his way through this community.

To add a bit of festive fun, the “ACAA ran an online Easter colouring and a “Spot the Bunny” contest” over Easter weekend.

Families were invited to take a photo of the Easter Bunny as he drove by and post it on the ACAA Facebook page. A winner will be randomly drawn to win a free ice cream cone from Rock’n Rhonda’s.

Poirier expressed “a big thank you to all volunteers who worked behind the scenes to make this event go smoothly” and which had brought “many smiles to everyone during the Hop n’ Drop,” and shown once again how over the past year “our community has grown closer and more involved to promote positivity during these unprecedented times.”



From the left: The Easter Bunny was joined by members of the Mainville family, Kerri, Alexis, Alyssa and Ben at North Stormont Place in Avonmore as preparations were completed for his journey around the community. Thompson Goddard Photo



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Township tackles telecommunications towers

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

MORRISBURG – The Municipality of South Dundas will soon have an updated Telecommunications Tower Policy in place to protect the township from situations similar to that of the controversial installation in Morrisburg between Strader Motor Sales and Tim Hortons.

Chief building official Nicole Lowey provided council with a key information report during the March 29 “committee of the whole” meeting, requesting updates to the current Telecommunications Tower Policy, which would eliminate the need for staff to come back to council for special approval. All of council agreed, noting it is important for residents to know that not only did the current council or staff not have anything to do with the controversial tower, but the municipality itself has limited control or say in such projects, as the final approval authority falls federally to Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED).

“I do think we need to be a little bit more thorough,” Mayor Steven Byvelds said, noting that the previous chief building official and the former mayor were the only two who knew about the telecommunications tower project in Morrisburg. “As much as we can’t have a lot to say, I think they’ll respect us if we have a policy. The siting of them, we should have a little bit of say in it [or] at least some advice about where it goes up in South Dundas.”

All of council agreed, noting the flack they have received for the tower they were not responsible for approving. While some noted the futility of enacting a policy when ISED can overrule it, others felt it important to do whatever possible within the municipality’s power to ensure future telecommunications towers are not erected in undesirable locations, such as the middle of town.

“I’m happy to see this,” Deputy Mayor Kirsten Gardner said. “You’re absolutely right that one tower has had quite a discussion and people thought we approved it. [There are] better places than some for

these. [We need to] give staff some tools to make sure things are done correctly and not so haphazardly.”

Although ISED is the final approval authority for these types of projects, South Dundas staff determined it was still possible to update the township’s 2006 policy to allow for a bit more control. Lowey recommended that instead of having a setback of three times the tower height from property lines, it should be three times the tower height from roadways and sensitive land uses, such as residential. She also recommended a fee increase from \$250 to at least \$1,000 to cover municipal costs associated with these projects.

“This report is a start,” Coun. Lloyd Wells said, noting that while the Morrisburg project had nothing to do with the current council, he would never have voted to approve it if it had come across the table.

Wells said he felt the \$1,000 fee was still too low and that it should be raised to somewhere between \$2,500 and \$5,000. He said he would like council and staff to have more authority about where these towers can be built and what sort of setbacks should be in place so that “nothing like this happens again.”

Councillor Don Lewis, who called the Morrisburg tower an “eyesore,” agreed with Wells, saying “if they want to put towers in our municipality, we make them pay.”

Councillor Archie Mellan questioned what say, if any, council could have in terms of setbacks if the ISED has the power to overrule them. He asked Lowey if the municipality could demand the removal of a tower if it is not being used. Lowey said that with the setbacks in this updated policy, if the same project were to come through the township now it would “definitely” not have been approved, but, yes, ISED could overrule that decision. She also said that towers not in use must be removed.

“I certainly hope they have enough respect for municipalities [that] they’d at least come and listen to us,” Byvelds said, noting that with the policy in place, “At least there’s an avenue to have that conversation. I’m certainly in favour of doing this and moving forward with it.”

Level 1 Commercial Vehicle and Equipment Apprenticeship program registration launches

KEMPTVILLE – The Upper Canada District School Board is officially opening registration for the Level 1 Commercial Vehicle and Equipment Apprenticeship Program.

Set to launch for

October 2021, this high-value training program will build on the existing adult education opportunities established by the UCDSB at the Kemptville Campus, primarily through the TR

Leger School of Adult, Alternative and Continuing Education, and address a growing local and provincial need for skilled trades workers.

The Level 1 Commercial Vehicle and Equipment Apprenticeship Program provides

individuals the opportunity to gain skills and knowledge through in-class learning and practical experiences specific to three motive power trades: Agricultural Equipment Technician, Heavy Duty Equipment Technician, and Truck and

Coach Technician.” This program is available to qualified students enrolled in the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program (OYAP) or individuals who are working toward completing their Ontario Secondary School

Diploma and interested in completing a co-op or enrolling in OYAP.

To learn more about the Level 1 Commercial Vehicle and Equipment Apprenticeship Program, or to apply, please visit the TR Leger School Website.

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How sweet it is!

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

NORTH DUNDAS – Over 200 people visited the first ever South Nation Conservation (SNC) Maple Weekend on March 27 at Oschmann Forest in North Dundas. The 2021 SNC Maple Weekend was limited to just one day, as inclement weather cancelled the March 28 event, with a province-wide circuit breaker COVID-19 shutdown cancelling the rescheduled event on April 3.

Kelsey Smith, SNC stewardship and outreach assistant II mentioned in a post event email to *The Chesterville Record* that visitors to the event were able to walk on the trails in the forest and enjoy some “free hot chocolate and maple candies.” She explained that SNC staff set up a table near the “original sugar shack” located close to a fire pit which allowed families to enjoy their “sweet treats” while physically distancing.

Smith commented that Oschmann Forest was chosen as the site for the SNC Maple Weekend for several reasons including how the forest is the “home of SNC’s Maple Syrup Education Program and where we collect our own maple sap.”

She mentioned there are 505 taps at Oschmann Forest, which the SNC collects maple sap from, with the sap “picked up by On the Bend Sugar Shack who uses it to boil down into the maple syrup products at their maple farm.”

While the April 3 event at Oschmann Forest was cancelled, Smith pointed out that SNC has shared “an educational video on the Oschmann Forest and the Maple Syrup process” on their Facebook page, which was made in partnership with the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board. She continued how the Maple Syrup Education Program is well attended, with often over 1,000 students taking part in it, but the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in students not being able to visit the forest. The video provides an opportunity to safely visit the Oschmann Forest and learn about its ecosystems as well as maple syrup production.

For those who wish to learn about the maple syrup process or enjoy some time in the great outdoors, Smith mentioned there is a 1.2 km trail at the Oschmann Forest which is maintained year-round with bilingual interpretive signs, with several other SNC trails remaining “open during the emergency shutdown which is currently in place.” In addition to trails at Oschmann Forest, people



SNC held their first Maple Weekend at Oschmann Forest on Sat., March 27. Kelsey Smith of SNC commented how “it was great to see everyone enjoy the forest, especially those who were visiting for the first time.” From the left: Past chair, SNC board of directors Bill Smirle, stewardship and outreach assistant II Kelsey Smith and SNC general manager Angela Coleman who are pictured at the treat table set up near the site of the “original sugar shack.”
Courtesy Photo

are able to visit Two Creeks Conservation Area, Robert Graham Conservation Area, Warwick Forest, Reveler Conservation Area, J. Henry Tweed Conservation and the W.E. Burton Conservation Area. Smith suggests checking the SNC website, located at www.nation.on.ca or their Facebook page for updates and information.

OPVG reviews challenges and successes in 2020

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

LONDON – The Ontario Processing Vegetable Growers (OPVG) board of directors held its annual general meeting (AGM) March 30 via Zoom.

“This year has been like no other,” OPVG board chair Dave Hope said, noting the many challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for updated policies to reflect the many changes caused by the virus.

The meeting kicked off with a recorded message from Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs Ernie Hardeman followed by a short speech from Amy Cronin, chair of the Ontario Farm Products Marketing Commission.

“The commission is committed to providing you and your board with the support you need,” Cronin said.

The 2021 OPVG board of directors includes newly elected representatives Neil Reimer, Chris Stewart, and Tom Keller, along with returning members Hope (chair), Mike Lenders (vice chair), Ron Van Damme (vice chair), Dan Froese, Ryan Leclair, and Carl Merrick. While the chair is appointed by the commission, the other eight positions are elected for two-year terms.

“We chose to be involved in a lot of activities to try to work together with other groups to find solutions to many challenges,” Hope said. “We worked with government to try to solve as many issues [as possible]. I’d have to say it was a fairly productive year for our organization.”

While adjustments were made to internal operating costs to achieve savings, Hope said, at the same time, OPVG was investing in relationships. He also said many of the board regulations and bylaws had

been updated to reflect new provincial requirements. Also, in compliance with Ontario regulations, OPVG staff conducted a human resource review.

Hope said OPVG had their first formal review meeting with the commission in five years, noting the organization’s representatives are building a stronger working relationship with the overseeing body. “One of the backbones of our industry is research and the board continues to fund research with your contributions as members,” Hope said, noting those funds are leveraged with outside funding and partnerships to ensure maximum benefit.

Next up, BDO Canada senior manager Allison Fuller reviewed OPVG’s 2020 financial statements, noting few differences in the overall findings. She said that for the most part, the financial statements are identical to previous years except for date changes.

“We ended up with a clean opinion again this year,” she said. “Overall, things ended up in pretty good shape from a financial

point of view.”

Following the financial report, lenders and Van Damme provided updates on 2020 negotiations, which included reports for green peas, green and wax beans, sweet corn, lima beans, cucumbers, onions, squash, tomatoes, and carrots. For example, the report noted there are 159 local producers who grew 14,700 acres of contracted green peas in 2020. The 2021 agreement reached was up 15.5 per cent plus enhancements to “late harvest and removal to double crop clause” estimated at a value of 5.5 per cent.

The remaining 2021 agreements mentioned include: green and wax beans up by 21.5 per cent; sweet corn up by 21 per cent plus a change to the late planting premium of \$5 per acre, per day; lima beans are up 20 per cent plus a late premium beginning June 25; cucumbers saw two agreements with Chatham and Eastern hand harvest up 2.5 per cent and machine harvest cucumbers up minimally; onions are up by roughly three per cent; and squash is up 5.5 per cent plus enhancements to late delivery

fees. For tomatoes and carrots, growers negotiate prices directly with the processor.

Hope provided an update on the 2021 budget, including a note that licence fees have been frozen at the 2020 levels. He said there is no deficit for 2021 and the budget has been adjusted to reflect COVID-19 challenges and changes in practices. Total revenue received in 2020 was \$1,216,875, while the total expenses were \$1,276,081.

“Growers share of that is a straight flow through to the board,” Hope said, noting that the board has some additional costs that are covered by the general fees.

Hope said one of OPVG’s greatest assets is its “extremely competent and dedicated” staff.

In 2020, OPVG funded \$202,136 in research. The three research projects listed were OTRI Funding (\$125,985), Vegetable Funded (\$36,050), and Cucumber Funded (\$40,101). More information on these research projects can be found on OPVG’s website. Hope also noted that OPVG has provided letters to growers looking for support for research projects.

The final portion of the online AGM, before non-members were asked to leave, included short videos of the three OPVG 2020 bursary recipients. Jessica Awrey won the Ken Epp

Bursary, Eric Goetheyn was awarded the Jim Whitson Bursary, and Katherine Teeter-Wood landed the Industry Award.

“Thank you to all our applicants,” Merrick, an OPVG director on the bursary committee, said. “Selecting our winners is always a challenge. I’d like to encourage anyone with someone studying in an agriculture field to apply.”

Before moving to a closed meeting, Van Damme thanked OPVG’s AGM event sponsors. These include AgGrade, Gintex, Belmont Farm Supply Inc., Oxbo, Belchim Crop Protection Canada, Andermatt Canada, Ruk Zwaan, RBC, Bayer, and Crites Seed Inc.



Happy 65th Anniversary
APRIL 10, 2021
John & Mien Herfkens

“Side by Side, year after year, love grows more precious and more dear.”

Sending you all our love and best wishes as you celebrate another year together.

LOVE YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS



Position:

PROGRAM ASSISTANT

Regular Part-time – 21 hours per week
Start: as soon as possible

Dundas County Hospice is looking for a caring, compassionate, professional individual to coordinate our Day Hospice program and perform other administrative tasks to support all of our programs. Looking for an outgoing person with strong community ties. Must be willing to do any required training and/or continuing education.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Recent experience/education in program coordination/administrative support considered an asset.
- Marketing/community engagement skills including social media and website development would be considered an asset.
- Knowledge of local community support services will be required.
- Data management experience/skills required.
- Self-motivation, time management, organizational and problem-solving skills a must.

DESCRIPTION

- Coordination of weekly Day Hospice Program in-person or by Zoom including follow-up with clients, arranging transportation, coordinating activities, volunteers and snack or meal.
- Admin support of Fundraising Committee and other Hospice programs including development of marketing materials, updates to social media and website.
- General office support including ordering supplies, answering phone and email, etc.

Please forward resumé by April 14, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. to:

Dundas County Hospice
4353 County Road 31, PO Box 278
Williamsburg, ON K0C 2H0
e-mail: info@dundascountyhospice.ca

Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.
Thank you for your interest.

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

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AUCTION

ONLINE TIMED ESTATE FARM AUCTION

To settle the estate of the late Stuart Clark

TRACTORS, MACHINERY, CATTLE CROWDING TUB WITH SCALES, SMALL FARM RELATED ITEMS & MORE

To be held on site at Civic #5756 Cty. Rd. 42 South Stormont K6H 7V3 (corner of South Branch Rd. & McConnell Ave.)

Auction Opens Thursday, April 15 at 12 Noon & Closes Thursday, April 22 at 6 p.m. (Soft Close; Staggered) Pick-Up: Will occur Sat., April 24 from 9:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. (one day only).

Preview: Friday, April 16 from 9:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. only. NO OTHER VISITS PERMITTED!

Tractors & Machinery: Case IH Farmall 80 4WD open station with L730 front end loader bought new on farm in 2010 (4540 hrs.), International 686 open station, International 656 open station (draw bar pto only), NH H7220 disc bind (nice), NH 648 silage special round baler (nice), Case 1220 early riser 6 row corn planter with dry fert, pto pump, (bought new on farm in 2013 sewed less than 1000 acres very nice). AC 2300 13 ft tandem hyd disc, NH 790 forage harvester with 2 row 824 corn head & 890W hay head. NH#27 forage blower, 2 Papec forage boxes, IH 720 4 furrow semi mount plow, International 560 manure spreader, 2 hay wagons, 12ft 3pth s-tine cultivator, 3pth post hole auger, 3pth wood splitter, IH 15 run grain drill on steel. Other Farm & Misc. Items: Q Catch 400 series portable crowding tub/head gate with drop down vet panels, digital scales (like new paid over 27,000.00). Jamesway stable cleaner with 14 ft stacker, 180ft cw chain (new 2 years ago). Burg stable cleaner unit approx. 180 ft cw chain, 3 18 ft ring drive ValMetal silo unloaders (silo unloaders and stable cleaners to be paid for at close of auction and to be removed by purchaser within 30 days). Gates, qty of rough lumber, qty of scrap iron, drill press, hyd shop press, various other small farm and shop modern and antique items too numerous to mention

For full listing, catalog, & terms go to www.peterrossauction.hibid.com.

Auction conducted by: PETER ROSS AUCTION SERVICES LTD.

Ingliside On 613-537-8862

Please read and understand all terms and conditions upon registering.

Items sold as is where is and upon registration all bidders have agreed to relevant terms, conditions, and dates of auction. If you are unable to comply with terms or timeframe, please do not participate in auction.

39-1

BRED COWS

Herd of Denis Pilon, St-Andre D'Avellin, PQ, 29 cows, Charolais, Black Angus, Red Angus & cross-bred, due for May & June, all vaccinated triangle 10, 1 P.B. Charolais bull to be sold.

THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2021

Around 3 P.M.

OTTAWA LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE

Greely, ON

Info: 613-821-2634

39-1

COMING EVENTS

IROQUOIS LEGION STEAK BBQ

Sat., April 17, starts at 4 p.m. Steak, salad, and dessert \$18 per person. Salad only \$8. Get your tickets...

CANCELLED

Only 100 tickets to sell. Mask is necessary! Self-distancing a must! Take-out available - eat inside or out!

40-3

FOR SALE

FOR SALE - Four Firestone summer tires for SUV, P-23560R17. Asking: \$100 (firm). Call 613-774-3568.

39

HELP WANTED

GENERAL LABOURERS NEEDED

Monday to Friday beginning late April. D&H Fencing - 1453 County Road 31, Winchester. Full-time (44 hrs. per week). Seasonal (April - December). General labourer / construction experience preferred. Outdoor work. Duties includes manual labour on fencing road crew and ability to lift 75lbs. Benefits: Group medical/dental and Group RSP. Please send resumé to dan@dhfencing.com or apply in person at above address (M-F 8-4).

39

FOR RENT

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

39

Advertising Pays

For your convenience, The Chesterville Record now has a secure DROP BOX located beside the entrance to our office at 1 Mill St., Chesterville.

FOR RENT

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

35fc

VOLUNTEER

VOLUNTEER NOW!

Organizations or individuals who have tasks which could be done by students looking for their volunteer hours, are welcome to advertise in this space free of charge for 2 weeks. Call The Record at 613-448-2321 with your requests.

35fc

THE CHESTERVILLE RECORD HAS NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES

To connect with the editorial department use, editor@etceterapublications.ca.

To reach the production department use, production@etceterapublications.ca.

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Garden Villa

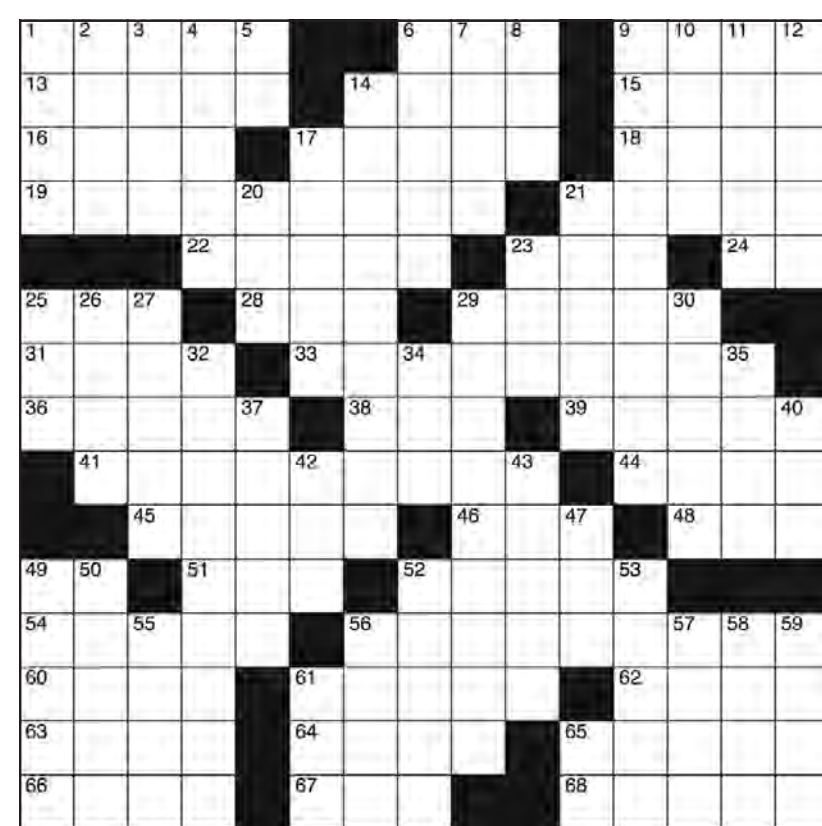
By Sussex Retirement Living
Managed by Better Retirement Living

Garden Villa Retirement Residence is looking to fill positions for the following:

- RPN - Part Time, various shifts
PSW - Part Time, various shifts
Weekend Receptionist - Part Time
Dining Room Server - Full Time, day shifts
Prep Cook - Part Time, day shifts
Activity Coordinator - Part Time, 2-3 days a week

Please send cover letter and resumé to information@gardenvilla.ca and indicate which opening you are interested in.

Thank you to all applicants. Only those selected for the interview process will be contacted.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 8, 2021

CLUES ACROSS

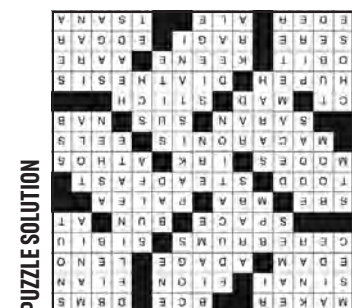
- 1. One who manufactures
6. Science degree
9. Database management system
13. Desert
14. Inventor Musk
15. Welsh valley
16. Round Dutch cheese
17. Saying
18. Comedian and TV host
19. Uppermost portions of the brain
21. City in Transylvania
22. Where astronauts go
23. Men's hairstyle
24. Indicates position
25. One point east of due south
28. Businessmen may have one
29. Grass part
31. Running back Gurley
33. Unwavering
36. Options
38. Annoy

- 39. Greek mountain
41. Pastas
44. Fishes
45. Wrap
46. Potentially a criminal (slang)
48. Seize
49. The Constitution State
51. Upset
52. 1991 men's Wimbledon champ
54. Central Chinese province
56. Predisposition
60. A notice of someone's death
61. One-time Kentucky Rep.
62. Swiss river
63. Dried-up
64. Finger millet
65. _ Allan Poe
66. German river
67. Brew
68. Kenyan river

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Millisecond
2. Acts as military assistant
3. Knot in a tree
4. Husband-and-wife industrial designers
5. The Ocean State
6. Point the finger at
7. Parts in a machine
8. Midway between northeast and east
9. Portray precisely
10. Blister
11. Mental illness
12. Nose of an animal
14. What students receive
17. Semitic peoples
20. Beats per minute
21. Family of drugs
23. Atrocious
25. Type of microscope (abbr.)
26. _ or bust
27. Icelandic poems
29. A citizen of Pakistan

- 30. Very pale
32. Metric linear unit
34. Sea eagle
35. Biblical judge of Israel
37. Isaac's mother (Bib.)
40. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
42. Cool!
43. Large hotel room
47. Type of boat (abbr.)
49. Picked
50. Type of hookah
52. Attack
53. Directs
55. Belgian WWII resistance fighter
56. Finished negotiation
57. Heroic tale
58. Middle Eastern country
59. Protein-rich liquids
61. Malaysian Isthmus
65. Spielberg's alien



THE BENEFITS OF CROSSWORD PUZZLES

Even though crossword puzzles have been entertaining and helping people pass the time for more than 100 years, the benefits of crosswords go beyond boredom-busting. Various studies have shown the positive effects crossword puzzles can have on a person's brain and capacity to learn.

- Improve vocabulary
Strengthen memory
Improve socialization
Help relieve stress
May help prevent brain diseases

Crossword puzzles can fill empty hours with an entertaining and educational activity. However, there are many other benefits to doing crossword puzzles that may surprise even the most ardent puzzle enthusiasts.

The Planted Arrow is growing along with Winchester

WINCHESTER – Winchester has its share of small businesses that contribute to the health of the overall North Dundas community in a positive and progressive way; The Planted Arrow is one of them.

The business has been operating in Winchester since 2015 and recently moved to their new location at 535 St. Lawrence St.

The popular florist shop is the creation of Kelly Windle and Stefan Kohut.

The couple purchased Durant's Flowers in 2015. They kept the name for a year and then decided to make their business truly their own by renaming it The Planted Arrow.

The name of their shop was derived from the names of their two children Arthur and Rowen and the notion that they were planting themselves in the Winchester community was more than just a sentiment.

"We remained as Durant for one year while we worked on the branding and the style and learning about our customer base.

The result is a business with a carefully selected product line that appeals to everyone.

"Our vision is to provide the community with high end beautiful flowers and giftware."

They offer garden style hand tied bouquets and modern arrangements as well as flowers, of course, for every occasion. The Planted Arrow features informative workshops and special events to be enjoyed along with creative and imaginative gifts to be had inside her shop. The flower shop also features a porch pop

SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight



Kelly Windle of The Planted Arrow flowers and gifts is standing by her front window enjoying the spring sunshine.

Morin Photo

up space for various businesses in the community.

This spring, they have planned a plant swap day for gardeners who want to chat about their gardens and trade plants, if so desired, for ones they did not already have. The swap event is planned for April 17.

"Another way to network with small businesses is to offer up our porch this year as a rental space. You can rent it on a weekly or daily basis."

Kelly has wanted to have a career in the world of flowers since she was a young girl.

"I have basically been a florist since the age of 14 year's old," said Kelly. She explained how she began her love affair with flowers at Ray's Flowers in Renfrew, Ontario where she lived.

"I really enjoyed being in a flower shop, and from there I graduated with honours in 2001 from Algonquin College in floral design."

She views The Planted Arrow as a family business. She works alongside her husband Stefan.

"It always has been a family business." Kelly's background has involved event

planning and production as well as working with the best florists in the business. Eventually she wanted her own business and settling in Winchester and setting up shop was a natural progression.

Her last move to the old home at 535 St. Lawrence St. is the perfect location for Kelly and Stefan to finally put down roots and expand their dream.

They moved there in 2019, just down the street from their original location.

In the middle of growing their business, the couple are busy with their family which has now expanded to three children and a business that resonates with the community they live in.

Kelly's vision of a successful small family business includes one that contributes to her community's well-being. She is currently planning her second Market Garden season. The outdoor event features vendors, a garden party atmosphere and an event that is as much a commercial event as a genuine community event. There are plans to expand the site to St. Paul's Presbyterian Church to include more vendors and create a reason for residents and visitors to walk down Main Street to the Planted Arrow and enjoy the Market Garden around the store.

"I think Winchester really needs this. It would be nice to see Winchester become a shopping destination."

Kelly said she is hoping to see the Winchester business community grow after the challenges of the pandemic.

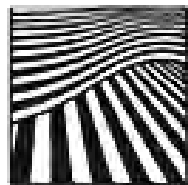
For more information about the Planted Arrow or to register for any of their workshops and events go to: www.theplantedarrow.com.

Their email is info@theplantedarrow.com and contact number 613-774-3825.

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

South Dundas to seek resident input on draft bylaw

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter



THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH DUNDAS

MORRISBURG – Residents of the Municipality of South Dundas should soon have an opportunity to comment on the short-term rental licensing draft bylaw.

During the March 29 "committee of the whole" meeting, council heard from chief building official Nicole Lowey, who presented a key information report on the draft bylaw and its accompanying licensing application and contracts. Almost every member of council had questions, including Coun. Archie Mellan who inquired about the licensing cost.

Lowey said that while

some other municipalities charge a \$1,000 one-time fee, she is recommending South Dundas charge a yearly fee of \$100 per bedroom, per year. This price would stay in effect for three years. She also noted that the licensing fee includes annual inspections for fire and building code safety.

"I like the renter agreement and the code of conduct," Mellan said.

Mayor Steven Byvelds agreed, noting that Lowey had done a good job of addressing many of the concerns previously raised

by South Dundas residents, as well as some that could arise in the future.

"I do like the renter's code. I think that's a good document to let people know what the expectations are. It makes them respect the neighbours," Byvelds said, noting that he liked the fact residents could make formal complaints, if needed, but for those who complain excessively without cause, there could be a fine.

Byvelds said he wants residents, and especially those residents who are already running short-term

rentals, to have a chance to see the draft bylaw and to make comments.

"They might see something that's not workable," he said. "For the most part, I think it's fair, but it's something new [and] something new should have public vetting so we get it right the first time."

Lowey said she would update the draft according to council comments and then make it public, so residents have an opportunity to review and comment before it becomes law. She said she will be posting the updated draft on social media and she will make hard copies available to those that prefer or need that option.



Happy Easter from Sunset Cove

Sunset Cove and Retirement Residence celebrated the Easter season with its residents with some Easter fun. Residents were invited to take part by holding little chicks and posing for photos with this great bunny cutout. In this photo Sunset Cove resident Sharon Breyer lends her face to this Easter bunny.

Courtesy Photo

COVID-19 impacts rural employment

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

GUELPH – The Royal Ontario Institute (ROI) recently shared a new Focus on Rural Ontario factsheet outlining the effects of COVID-19 on rural employment, including a significant gender employment gap.

The "COVID-19 Impact on Rural Employment: Ontario in the Canadian context up to February 2021" factsheet highlights the differences between the pandemic's effects on rural employment versus urban employment. In his ROI blogpost, Ray Bollman said the

release presents Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey data for the week of Feb. 14 to 20 of this year.

The interactive factsheet, which can be found on ROI's website (ruralontarioinstitute.ca/blog), states that there are roughly 9,000 fewer people employed in rural Ontario in February 2021 when compared to 2017-2019 averages. Despite this, Bollman said the pandemic's impact on employment in rural Ontario has been "generally" decreasing over time.

The factsheet also states that the employment gap for women living in rural Ontario has been higher than their

male counterparts every month since February 2020. Bollman said the sectors with the largest per cent employment gap in rural Ontario for February 2021 include information, culture, and recreation at 83 per cent; accommodation and food services at 33 per cent; and business, building and other support services at 26 per cent.

"The she-cession continues," Bollman said. "Within rural Ontario, the job gap for females is larger than the job gap for males in most months for most age groups. When rural females are compared to urban females, rural females had a larger job gap than urban females in September, October, and November 2020 and in January and February 2021."

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K0C 1H0

The Villager News

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FAX: 613-448-3260



First place: Chloé Lafleche



Second place: Rose Gingras



Third place: Etienne Quivet

The art of speaking

Students at La Croisée and La Rivière Castor schools participated in the Art of Speaking Competition hosted by the Club Optimiste d'Embrun. The theme this year was: Why choose optimism? Thank you for making your optimism radiate. There were three judges for the competition: Pascale Guimond, Colette Dupuis and Pauline Bard. First place went to Chloé Lafleche, second place was Rose Gingras and third place was awarded to Etienne Quivet. A special thank you to the teachers for their support of this competition and good luck to Chloé who will represent the club at the area level. The principal at La Rivière Castor made the presentations. The winners will now compete against other clubs in Eastern Ontario.

Courtesy Photos

Council postpones HCD decision until May 17

Sandy Casselman
Local Journalism Initiative
Reporter

EMBRUN – With a late-in-the-game petition filed by residents opposed to the Township of Russell's proposed Heritage Conservation District Plan (HCD), council ultimately decided to postpone the final decision until the upcoming May 17 council meeting.

The decision was made during the April 6 regular council session. The meeting's agenda included three items in connection with the HCD, one was a petition from several residents against the proposal, while the other two included a request from staff for the receipt and approval of the proposed plan, as well as a motion to pass a by-law designating the HCD and approving it as a second and third reading.

With lengthy discussions throughout the three-hour meeting, which included a question-and-answer session with residents, council ultimately decided to approve the HCD's second reading, but asked staff to once again mail letters to all homeowners within the affected area to be sure that everyone has had a fair opportunity to raise concerns or ask questions. Mayor Pierre Leroux made it clear this is not a referendum and council is not looking for a vote from residents. Residents are encouraged to read the full document, including previous questions and comments, before responding, and when they do respond, they are asked to cite concerns

related to specific points or sections in the document.

Director of Planning, Building and Economic Development Dominique Tremblay made it clear that once a by-law is passed it does not mean it is set in stone. The HCD is a living document and changes can be made after it is passed by way of amending by-laws.

There was significant discussion about the information circulating amongst residents about what the HCD is and how it affects property owners. For example, one resident was concerned he would not be permitted to put an in-ground pool in his backyard, but as Tremblay pointed out, this is not true. For the HCD, she said an in-ground pool would not be permitted in the front yard, where it would affect the overall feel of the heritage core.

Leroux said he would like to see more residents read through the document,

which can be found on the township website (russell.ca/town_hall/projects/heritage_conservation_district). It was noted that many questions and concerns that continue to be raised have already been addressed in the document.

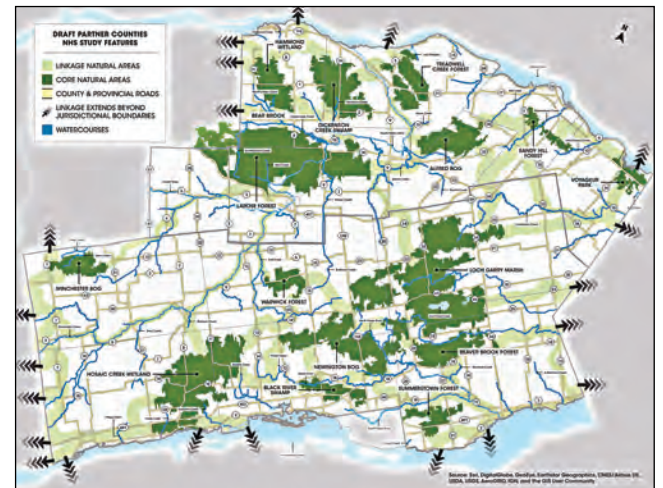
As for the petition letter included in the agenda package, Tremblay said there were 33 signatures, but some were people living at the same address, some were people living outside the proposed HCD area, and one was from someone in a different township. Only 10 came from homes within the HCD. There are roughly 170 homes outlined in the affected area.

The letter from concerned residents made it clear they are not in favour of the project. They "strongly" proposed that the municipality postpone the second reading until after taxpayers could be consulted in person.

"We understand that you believe the process has been

going on for five years," the letter stated. "Many of us, as residents within the proposed area only became aware of this in November 2020. The letter of February 19, 2021 indicated questions and answers would be available on the internet meeting but there was no opportunity for taxpayers to participate in the discussion, only members of council. In addition, as previously stated, not all residents have internet access or were available at that time slot. The letter of February 2021 stated, 'No decision is being made at this meeting.' In fact, a decision was made to table and approve the first reading."

In the report submitted by Planner Alix Jolicoeur and Tremblay it was noted that notice had been given to all affected property owners that the updated plan would be presented to council for second approval on April 6. A notice was sent by mail on March 19, while an email was sent on



March 25 to all those residents with their names on the project email list.

Leroux said staff and council are not able to say why someone has not seen information about the HCD. There were mailouts to all affected addresses. There were emails sent to everyone on the list. Notices and updates have been posted on social media. In-person sessions were held beginning in 2018 and, as the mayor pointed out, the information has been on the website for years.

"Staff has done their due diligence," Leroux said.

In the end, all agreed that there needs to be a definitive answer at some point one way or another. While some were ready to vote in favour of the HCD that evening, others wanted to give residents more time to comment before they made their decision. With that decided, council directed staff to create and mail a letter with all relevant HCD information, including a link to the webpage devoted to the project, email contacts for all council members, and a clear statement that a final decision will be made at the May 17 council meeting.

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