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Briefly

Appointments only at COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics

SDG - Appointments are added to the Provincial Booking System as vaccines become available, and eligible clients looking to receive their first, second, or third doses of a COVID-19 vaccine should check the system often. Book at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/> or by calling 1-833-943-3900. Participating pharmacies and healthcare practitioners are also offering COVID-19 vaccination.

Blood donor clinic WINCHESTER

There will be a Blood Donation Clinic at the Joel Steele Community Centre, 577 Main St., Winchester on Thurs., Dec. 30 from 3:00-8:00 p.m. Book now at www.blood.ca or call 1-888-2-DONATE. The clinic is sponsored by the Dundas Co. Milk Producers Committee.

Girl Guides in North Dundas

CHESTERVILLE - The Girl Guide in North Dundas is reopening in Chesterville. They are hoping to start up on Thurs., Jan. 6, at 6:00 p.m. If anyone is interested in signing their daughter up for Sparks, Brownies or Guides, go to www.girlguides.ca to sign up. The girls will be "waitlisted" until January so the organization can provide a discount on membership. The Guides will be at the Nelson LaPrade Centre, Thursday evenings from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

THE CHESTERVILLE RECORD
Merry Christmas
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The Villager
 NEWS INSIDE

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Gingerbread house built by a committee

Students at North Dundas District High School had fun building gingerbread houses on Thurs., Dec. 16. This group of young men worked together to make theirs. Left to right are: Leaf Hogar, Lamoni Kambasaya, Josh Lafrance, Kemper Kettles, Dylan Carkner, Sam Hart, and Merik Dagleish.

Morin Photo

North Dundas facility fees stay the same

Joseph Morin
 Record Staff

WINCHESTER - The pandemic has had a negative effect on most aspects of life in North Dundas, but from time to time something positive comes out of the situation every community finds themselves in.

North Dundas had chosen to keep their facility rental fees the same in an attempt to help its community return to some kind of post-pandemic normal.

North Dundas has more than 30 municipally run facilities including outdoor recreational areas and parks.

The North Dundas director of recreation and culture, Meaghan Meerburg asked the council at their last meeting on Dec. 14 what they wanted to do about increasing the facility rental fees in the municipality.

Meerburg was trying to lock down the rental rates for 2022 and 2023.

Continued on page 2

House of Lazarus hopes for housing help this holiday season

Sandy Casselman
 Record Staff

MOUNTAIN - With the giving season upon us, some may be wondering how they can give back and make a difference in someone else's life, but they need to look no further than House of Lazarus (HOL).

A food bank and outreach mission, HOL has a long history of helping those in need. In addition to feeding roughly 550 people each month through its food bank, Take-out on the house service, and Operation Backpack, HOL provides affordable rental units for two families through its Places for People program.

"We will always do what we can to help everyone in need and are so thankful for the

support of our wonderful community," Linking Hands coordinator Kristina McDermott said.

The non-profit is currently looking for support for a few of its housing-related initiatives. Donations are needed to assist with Heat for the Holidays, Project Warmth, Handyman Heroes, Neighbours Helping Neighbours: Housing Supports program, and its Places for People project.

"We are in a housing crisis and the most vulnerable in our communities are suffering with nowhere to go, or are resorting to substandard housing, just to have a roof over their head. People are turning to HOL daily for help regarding the lack of housing

Continued on page 3



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ND facility fees

Continued from the front

The pandemic has caused facility operators to add the cost of screeners at each facility into the cost of running that facility. The council had to decide if they wanted to increase facility rental fees to cover the extra costs because of the pandemic or to continue as they have been doing; to have the municipality absorb the cost. The final decision was to continue to pay for the screening costs, and leave the rental fees where they are.

Mayor Fraser said, "These are different times. We are fortunate that our

facilities are back in operation, and are available to the public with some limitations of course."

Then the mayor said he wanted to make sure these community spaces were available to everyone especially as the community recovers from the pandemic.

Meerburg said, "Due to restrictions and closures that were put in place both by the province and the Eastern Ontario Health Unit (EOHU) as a result of COVID-19, our community halls have experienced a substantial decrease in the number of rentals over the period of 2020-2021."

The province, for now

has dialed back some of their restrictions and consequently some community groups are slowly reaching out to the municipality to rent space at its facilities.

"As hall rentals are just starting to increase again, it is recommended that the hall rental rates remain unchanged, in order to encourage our residents and guests to book our wonderful facilities," she said.

Meerburg explained that keeping the rental rates the same and along with improvements that have been made to the various facilities over the past year will help get the community back using them on a regular basis.

Seasonal feast

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

IROQUOIS—Over 200 tickets were sold for the Turkey Dinner for The Public hosted by Royal Canadian Legion Branch 370 in Iroquois. In keeping with the pandemic protocols, the dinner was take-out or delivery only with the Iroquois-Matilda Lions Club providing a delivery service for the event.

For twelve dollars, people were able to enjoy a complete turkey dinner with all the fixings including dessert, and upon entering the Legion there was no doubt something delicious had been cooking. As the dinner pick up began, the experienced kitchen crew ensured the dinners were distributed to customers in a safe and efficient manner.

"I would like to thank the people who have supported us in these trying times" said Legion president Darlene Riddell on behalf of the Iroquois Ladies Auxiliary and RCL Branch 370. Riddell later confirmed the Bingos at the Legion are cancelled until further notice due to Covid-19.



From the left: Barbara Froats receives her turkey dinner from Mary-Ann Markle. Thompson Goddard Photo

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Omicron virus triggers a return to restrictions

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

CORNWALL — Covid may seem to be less of an issue these days but its cousin the Omicron virus has taken its place.

Ontario health official along with Premier Ford announced on Fri., Dec. 17 that because Omicron is more easily transmitted, the province will have to return to more stringent restrictions to hopefully keep the new virus at bay. Officials are hoping that new restrictions along with a faster booster rollout will slow down the virus.

The new restriction came into effect on Sun., Dec. 19.

As a result of the announcement, organizations like the Upper Canada Minor Hockey League have cancelled their games for the

immediate future.

Premier Ford explained at his press conference, “We need to do everything we can to slow its spread as we continue to dramatically ramp up capacity to get as many booster shots into arms as possible. Doing so is the best way to safeguard our hospital and intensive care units.”

The latest pandemic modeling indicates this new variant with its increased transmissibility, left unchecked, it will put even more of a strain on the province’s hospital capacities than has already been experienced during the pandemic.

To counter the arrival of Omicron, the province has increased its restrictions notably when it comes to building capacity. The province is introducing a 50

per cent capacity limit for many indoor public situations.

The following settings affected are:

- Restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments and strip clubs;
- Personal care services;
- Personal physical fitness trainers;
- Retailers (including grocery stores and pharmacies);
- Shopping malls;
- Non-spectator areas of facilities used for sports and recreational fitness activities (i.e. gyms);
- Indoor recreational amenities;
- Indoor clubhouses at outdoor recreational amenities;
- Tour and guide services;
- Photography studios and services;
- Marinas and boating clubs;
- Facilities used for sports and

recreational fitness activities;

Entertainment facilities such as concert venues, theatres and cinemas;

- Racing venues;
- Meeting and event spaces;
- Studio audiences in commercial film and television production;
- Museums, galleries, aquariums, zoos, science centres, landmarks, historic sites, botanical gardens and similar attractions;
- Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments; and
- Fairs, rural exhibitions, and festivals.

These restrictions do not apply to a business or place being used for weddings, funerals or religious services, rite, or ceremony. Businesses or facilities will have to post a sign stating the capacity limits for their building or facility.

The new restriction does not

stop with larger venues. There will be restrictions on the number of people allowed to be seated at a table in a restaurant or bar, and any event space will be limited to just 10 people, and they have to remain seated.

People at concerts, theatres and cinemas will have to remain seated, and bars and restaurants and event venues that serve alcohol will have to close at 11 p.m. but take out and delivery can continue after 11 p.m.

Singing and dancing in restaurants will be restricted to performers and workers.

Getting food and a drink is off limits at indoor sporting events, concerts, theatres, bingo halls, and casinos as well as similar public venues.

Alcohol will not be available after 10 p.m. and you will not be able to drink alcohol after 11 p.m.

House of Lazarus

Continued from the front

in general, affordable housing, transitional housing, and emergency housing,” McDermott said. “Other common housing issues that arise daily are lack of heat, assistance with first or last month’s rent, heat and hydro arrears, and weather proofing (window kits).”

Heat for the Holidays is an annual program that provides a month’s worth of compressed wood logs for food bank clients with woodstoves or fireplaces, while Handyman Heroes is a program that runs all year, helping homeowners in need with urgent house repairs. Neighbours Helping Neighbours: Housing Supports helps with things like heat or hydro arrears, ensuring families have continued access to the utilities they need during the cold winter months. Places for People provides affordable housing with extra supports.

HOL is not government funded and relies on its social enterprise thrift stores, donations, and grants to keep its doors open and fund its many programs. A \$25 donation would cover the cost of three plastic window insulation kits, which are donated to food bank customers through the Project Warmth program. A \$75 donation will provide one week’s worth of compressed wood logs through the Heat for the Holidays program, while a month’s supply costs \$300. Both programs are delivered in partnership with Community Food Share and Winchester BMR.

“Being able to provide these housing programs is making a difference. Seeing the tears and hearing the words of gratitude, we know that our assistance is much appreciated. By donating to these programs, our community is giving people hope when

they need it most,” executive director Cathy Ashby said.

As part of the Linking Hands initiative’s Places for People project, HOL purchased a house in Dundas County earlier this year, which was then divided into two units and renovated. With this, HOL now provides affordable housing for two families, a one-on-one mentoring relationship, and a trust fund. Currently, there are no other affordable rentals for families or single non-seniors.

“We are pleased to be offering affordable rent for two families however we know that there is a great need to provide more. There are a lot of families living in substandard living conditions who are one circumstance away of being homeless,” Ashby said.

Participants are needed for HOL’s inaugural Catch the Ace fundraising initiative. Fifty per cent of the overall proceeds will go toward funding the Places for People program.

“On Nov. 18, we had our first Catch the Ace draw. The draw takes place weekly on Thursdays at 5 p.m. at HOL and can also be seen live on HOL’s Facebook page,” McDermott said. “Every week we draw one card from the drum. The person who is drawn instantly wins 20 per cent of the weekly sales. They then have a chance to win the progressive jackpot, which is 30 per cent of each week’s sales. The progressive jackpot continues to grow until the Ace of Spades is caught. The remaining 50 per cent of the weekly sales goes toward the Places for People program. We are going into week four, and our current progressive jackpot is at \$1240.50.”

Tickets are available at HOL’s Mountain and Ingleside locations. Tickets can also be purchased at Rick’s Gas Bar in South Mountain, Jac’s Boutique in Kemptville, Brinston General Store, Seaway Valley

Pharmacy in Winchester, Circle K in Iroquois, Barnfull O’ Goodies in Morrisburg, Winchester BMR, MacEwen’s in Morrisburg, and Rideau Auctions in Winchester.

To find out more about these and other HOL programs and projects, visit the mission’s website (hol.community) or follow HOL on

Facebook. To find out how you can donate, or participate in the Catch the Ace fundraiser, phone 613-989-3830, or email Ashby (cashby@houseoflazarus.com) or McDermott (kmcdermott@houseoflazarus.com). To donate directly to HOL, visit canadahelps.org/en/dn/65435.



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EDITORIAL & Opinion

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One shoe and then the other

We are living in strange times.

When you look at the pandemic and the changes in how we go about our lives, you have to wonder how it will all end.

In fact with new variants of the virus springing up and spreading across the land, the end may be further and further away than it was last week or even last Wednesday.

We are enjoying technological changes that can rightly be called a revolution with new inventions every day that are right out of a science fiction movie.

Lots of fascinating stuff to think about.

Then there are the medical and biological wonders we get to enjoy. It seems that the dream of being able to cure so many of the diseases, that up until now had no cure, may be possible thanks to advances in gene editing and gene therapy.

Those revolutionary and breathtaking

breakthroughs will not be here tomorrow morning but they will be here sooner than later eventually.

If all of these items were not enough to make your head spin there is one more; the weather. Our best friend, Mother Nature is not picking up the phone these days.

The recent mild weather is incredibly confusing.

It feels like spring but it is only December. It feels warm enough to do some gardening but it's a trick played on us all by the powers that be.

It's very nice but it cannot last.

My sense of a seasonal change, sharpened by countless generations of my kin living in the Canada of the four seasons is uncomfortable to say the least.

When I look outside and hear the furnace go on, all of my instincts scream it is time for winter, then I see all that green grass and I get dizzy. We have had mild Decembers before but

somehow this one seems different.

Down south in the United States, towns and villages have been decimated by unprecedented tornados while we only have to deal with hurtling winds and sunny skies.

The distribution of bad and good weather does not seem fair, and the worst we seem to suffer in Dundas County is a few broken trees and wet fields of harvested crops.

We are very lucky. Covid was the first shoe that dropped and the next one might be just as bad.

You can hide and protect yourself from a virus to a certain extent but there is nowhere to run when the weather turns on you.

Mother Nature seems to have been on a schedule that she did not think she needed to share with us.

Not only should we feel slighted but at the same time humbled and unavoidably afraid. I guess that is how unimportant we must be, that nature forgot to send us the memo that climate change was here to stay or for the non-believers, climate change as a temporary weather cycle was here to stay or at least here long enough to make itself feel at home.

There is not much we

can do about the weather other than to suffer it when it is too hot, cold, dry or wet.

As stated earlier Mother Nature is not taking our calls.

Maybe we should be texting or perhaps a strongly worded email will

get her attention.

The 2022 Old farmers Almanac predicts Ontario will have snow on the ground by Christmas. Hopefully it will snow just enough for Christmas to look and feel like Christmas and not enough for Christmas to feel like the

first few days of a returning ice age.

On the one hand some kind of normal will definitely return and on the bright side I bet the virus will hate the cold as much as some of us do.

That can't be bad.

Joseph Morin

Christmas Message 2021

I was recently with a friend of mine who shared a cartoon of a man struggling to carry a record player, a fax machine, a computer and a phone etc. The next caption shows the same guy with a tiny smart phone and the previous chaos was replaced with calm efficiency. We live in a country where that quiet evolution has always been a priority.

Nobody likes change, and the last two years has seen a lot of it, but all the changes, past and present are intended to support that same positive evolution. Our children and their children will inherit a better world, a better environment and a better standard of living.

Responding to COVID 19 has not been perfect, but doing nothing was not an option either. We will put this pandemic behind us just like other big hills we have climbed as a civilization. The post COVID world will look different as a result of the lessons we have learned. Governments and health units have done their very best to minimize the impact the world over and we should take this opportunity to recognize that effort because without it, life today would be very different and history would judge us harshly.

So please take the upcoming Christmas

season to recognize the countless people and organizations who contribute to those ongoing efforts for making things better.

Our community recreation associations are great examples of endless energy pushing in the right direction, imagine our many seasons without their contributions.

Our service clubs and their continual contribution of time and resources. Our many businesses who support so many causes even when challenged by COVID.

I drive County Rd 43 daily and churches like St. Bernard's Catholic Church, Finch, who clean miles of the road as part of their contribution need to be recognized. Our cemeteries are often maintained by volunteers who see the effort as part of their contribution. North Stormont's four fire departments that provide professional services is just a part of their contribution, they respond to many other needs and causes.

The examples of spirit, commitment and passion I have listed here is much stronger than any virus.

On behalf of the Township of North Stormont Council and our staff, I wish you a joyous Christmas season and a New Year that meets your every expectation.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Respectfully,

Jim Wert, Mayor, North Stormont

Mayor's Message

On behalf of the township of North Dundas staff, my fellow councillors and my family, I would like to extend best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.

Whether you live in the rural areas, the hamlets, the villages or any of our township's welcoming neighbourhoods - we are truly blessed to call North Dundas home. Please pause to think about those who will continue to work throughout the festive period: the emergency services, our hospital staff, care providers, volunteer firefighters and those involved in many other essential public services; and, as we've done throughout this year, let's look to help those less fortunate than ourselves and consider what we can do to support our neighbours and wider community.

Despite the challenges we've all faced, there are so many reasons to find hope and take inspiration. We have been brought closer to our communities and we share a renewed appreciation for the fantastic work of our volunteers.

For all North Dundas residents, Christmas and the holidays are a time for families, friends and loved ones to come together, reflect on cherished moments, make new memories, and look toward the promise of hope and opportunity embodied in a new year.

Finally, we must thank each other for the patience and perseverance that has been shown in dealing with the disruption to everyday life we've all experienced.

Until we usher in 2022, let me once again wish all residents a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Mayor Tony Fraser, Township of North Dundas

The Road Home

Carolyn Thompson Goddard

Whether you call him Père Noël, Father Christmas, St. Nicholas or Santa Claus, it is only a few more days until that Jolly Old Elf harnesses up the reindeer, loads his toy filled sack in the sleigh, calls for his elf assistant to join him and bids farewell to the North Pole as he begins his trip around the world.

Christmas in our home on King Street began as November turned into December. Mom would be busy buying gifts for all of us, what a list she must have had to fill, even with us only getting one or two gifts each. Aunt Annie, Mom's aunt and our great aunt, would have us each outline our hands on paper and cut it out. These cut outs served as templates for the mittens or gloves she would knit, which when combined with a box of peanut brittle was our gift from her. Luckily for my brother Dave, I didn't like peanut brittle for some reason and he usually got my box.

About half way through December Dad would send me down to Bigelow's Rexall Drug Store at the corner of King and Queen, with strict instructions as to what to get Mom for Christmas. After looking over the comic books and other interesting things in the store, I would

pick up a gift set of lavender bath products for her and scurry home to wrap it and hide it until Christmas.

Early on Christmas Eve, my brother Erik would take me as he went to Winchester to bring Aunt Annie down for Christmas. I remember being totally scared out of my wits upon hearing on the radio how NORAD had seen an unidentified flying object flying southward and it wasn't until Erik explained it was Santa and his reindeer that I relaxed a bit.

Christmas in our house included attending either a Christmas Eve or Christmas Day service at Holy Trinity Anglican. It was wonderful walking into the church and seeing the crèche, the Christmas tree as well as all the people who were smiling in anticipation of the birth of our Lord Jesus. I especially liked the midnight service when the minister would, at the stroke of midnight, stop and wish everyone Merry Christmas.

After church we were hurried home by our parents, able to open one gift and then off to bed. Being the youngest I was always up the earliest on Christmas Day and had the job of waking Mom, Dad and the boys up. There was no escaping me

on Christmas morning as resistance was futile and the gift unwrapping began. Too soon it was over, but the best part of the celebration was to begin a couple of hours later. That was when my married brothers arrived with their wives and families. The gathering of all of us together around the table was perhaps the best Christmas gift of all.

As time passed our immediate family grew too large to gather at Christmas and as my brothers became grandparents, their homes were the ones visited by their children and grandchildren. Now I am a grandmother and there was nothing more precious to me than having a Christmas celebration with my family. The pandemic has changed all of this, except for the memories which I have of Christmases in the near and far past. This helps me to remember that one day we will all be able to gather once again for this pandemic will pass and until then we must let memories of the happy times give us the strength to be resilient.

From my house to yours have a very Merry Christmas, a Happy Holiday and the belief that 2022 will be even better than 2021.



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Editor
Joseph Morin

Copy Editor
Edith Landreville

Reporters
Joseph Morin
Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Sandy Casselman

Ad Representative
Brenda Fawcett

Production Manager
Chantal Bouwers

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P.O. Box 368, 1 Mill Street
Chesterville, Ont. K0C 1H0

Advertising E-mail:
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adrussellvillager@gmail.com

News E-mail:
editor@etceterapublications.ca

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Fun in fundraising

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff



CHESTERVILLE – A Bunch of People, a not-for-profit organization, was formed by Amanda Burger following a Christmas Dinner Theatre in December of 2018. Since then, the organization has been holding events such as theatrical performances, writing competitions and earlier this year a car rally all in aid of local people in need of a helping hand.

As we sat in her comfortable sitting room adjacent to the kitchen, Burger explained in late 2018 she and a group of friends produced “a staged reading of How the Grinch Stole Christmas, with the three hundred dollars raised by the performance provided to a single Mom and her family. This led to the birth of the organization in early 2019.

She explained since her retirement that year, she has had the time available to organize ABOP, continue her volunteer work with Dundas County Players on projects and recently begin a successful career as an artist.

The name of the group came about when Burger was searching for a name for the group, and asked her husband Patrick ‘what am I supposed to call this? We’re just a bunch of people,’ and the name was born.”

When asked why the group was formed, she commented it arose from her desire to help people.

The goal of the organization is to “raise money for charity” by putting on shows and other events which showcase local

talent. The money raised by the shows and other events is provided to the House of Lazarus which provides it to families in need.

The board, which consists of president Amanda Burger; Suzanne Millaire vice president; Patrick Burger secretary treasurer and directors Harmony Koiter and Marie-Therese Robinson are a working board. She explained this as meaning that board directors bring their event ideas to a meeting and assume a leadership role in organizing the event.

Writing in 150 is an annual competition that began in 2019 with the opportunity to create in 150 minutes a complete piece of work. Competition divisions included poetry, a short play, song writing, fiction and nonfiction writing and the spoken word which were judged by local professionals. Burger continued “winners of that competition are published in a book by Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood Publishing.” She noted local musician Rick Ventrella has included all three songs he composed during the competition on his recently released CD.

While we listened to the tracks from Ventrella’s CD, Burger explained each of the ABOP executive and board of directors are responsible for organizing and running a fundraising event. She explained Patrick, a college English professor and secretary/treasurer of AGOP, thought this competition would provide the

opportunity for writers, musicians, and playwrights to compete locally.

Burger stressed the importance of having some fun while raising funds for those in need locally. She described a “Sing It Event” where participants “came together to learn a Queen song in three hours, in 3-part harmony, and to perform it the same day.” Funds have been raised by events such as dinners concerts, “a reading of Dave Cooks the Turkey” written by Stuart McLean,

beer tasting dinners and proceeds from The Victoria Street Café at the McCloskey Hotel last year.

In addition to a car rally/scavenger hunt, the brainchild of board member Suzanne Millaire, held earlier this year, Harmony Koiter, and Marie Therese Robinson recently collaborated on the successful True Stories event held at Winchester United. This event featured writers composing their own true story which was accompanied by ambient music. On Dec. 18, A Bunch of People will be performing A Canadian Made Christmas Story accompanied by Christmas music at the Old Town Hall in Winchester.

Mayor’s Christmas Message

The sleighbells are ringing in SDG, and after another challenging year, it is important to reflect on the successes we have seen throughout our community.

South Stormont, like much of the country, slowly transitioned into a reality that more closely resembled a traditional year than 2020, but we cannot gloss over the hardships that still affected our residents and business community.

Some of our favourite activities returned in 2021 as minor sports and summer events took place, social gatherings slowly became accepted again, and even though it was late, we were even able to celebrate Canada Day with an exciting firework display at the waterfront over the Labour Day Weekend.

Speaking of the waterfront, we have continued to have discussions with the St. Lawrence Parks Commission about possible land transfers or agreements to push our Waterfront Development Plan forward. The recommended plan is a long-term goal, but we expect to move forward with some exciting projects in 2022 to improve our waterfront for residents and visitors.

The township continues to thrive, with another banner year for residential and commercial development, and more planned for the future. We’re excited to be a coveted location for both new residents and new businesses. Welcoming and encouraging these developments is essential for our communities to flourish, and they will provide immeasurable economic and social spinoffs that will benefit all of us.

We finished the year off with the inaugural Santa Claus parade in Ingleside which saw 40 beautiful floats participate! We’re looking forward to building on this new tradition in 2022.

As we enter the final year of this term of council, I want to express my sincere appreciation for my colleagues around the council table, the staff of the township, and yourselves, the residents of South Stormont. Together, we work to create the best possible home for our residents, and without that support, we could not be successful.

On behalf of all council and staff, I want to wish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,
Mayor Bryan McGillis

Christmas Message

During the holiday season we welcome a time of joy and cheer. This season it also feels like a time for hope.

Our community has shown remarkable resiliency over the last year. Life in a pandemic continues to take a toll but we have been able to find innovative ways of connecting with loved ones.

Our community has made great strides in protecting each other from the COVID-19 virus with many getting vaccinated and continuing to follow the advice of our health care professionals. These actions have allowed us to safely connect with one another in-person and gives us hope for our future.

We have a lot to be grateful for, living in a country that has access to the vaccine and in an area that has avoided some of the challenges, like the fires and floods our countrymen have faced.

Remember those who have less than ourselves and give generously this season, be it a donation, your time, or even by spreading some holiday cheer through kindness.

I’m particularly grateful to our community and the many people who are working to make South Dundas an even better place. It has been a long road, but we are adapting and moving into this new future. Together we are strong and being able to safely come together in small gatherings of friends and family is what stands out most this year.

This holiday we remember to hold our loved ones close, share a smile with our neighbours and show kindness and patience in our community. That is what a South Dundas holiday season means to me, and I hope all of you as well.

On behalf of Council and Staff, we wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. May your season be safe and filled with warmth and merriment.

Mayor Steven Byvelds

In Memoriam

Linda Darlene Helmer Windsor
September 12, 1945 - December 29, 2016


Your earthly life ended at 8:45 p.m., room 515, at the Ottawa General Hospital.


With your husband holding one hand and our youngest son holding the other.

Heaven deemed a most loving and kindest angel.

May you rest in heavenly peace so we may celebrate with our heavenly family when we join you.

**Love now and forever,
Earl L. Windsor and Family**






Church DIRECTORY


Your Guide to Local Houses of Worship

ALL SERVICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO RECENT RESTRICTIONS PUT IN PLACE.

The United Church of Canada CHRIST CHURCH UNITED 

5 Casselman St., Chesterville
Pastor: Debbie Poirier 613-850-2725

PLEASE NOTE: Currently closed. Services will resume Sunday, January 9, 2022, COVID restrictions permitting.

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

Christmas Eve Service CANCELLED.
December 26th, 2021 & January 2nd, 2022 - No services in any of our churches. Masks and second vaccines are mandatory for those 17 and older.

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

December 26th, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.
Masks and social distancing in place.

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

Interim Moderator Rev. Samer Kandalaf 613-258-4136
St. Andrew's, Chesterville and Morewood Presbyterian Churches have reopened for in-person services.


There will be no service on December 26th, Boxing Day.

NATIONSIDE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH 

Pastor Scott Sayers
E-mail: Pastor.Scott@mail.com Office: 613-448-2272

Please note: No Sunday and Wednesday meetings during the pandemic.
Please join us for Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m. online on Facebook under "The Nation" Nationside Pentecostal Church.


Affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

HARMONY COMMUNITY CHURCH 

Evangelical Missionary Church
12010 Ormond Rd. & Hwy. 31 (North of Winchester)
Office phone: 613-774-5170 www.harmony-church.org
We are an air conditioned and handicap accessible building
Senior Pastor: Rev. Daniel Wallace

Weekly Services - Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
We are currently open for services at a 25% capacity. If you'd like to reserve your spot, please contact the church office. We are continuing to live stream our services on Youtube at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoPy_DABz4REc-A76-EvRA
Sunday School Classes & Nursery have resumed.

Please contact the church office for information on mid-week meetings or any other questions.

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

Services of Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Sunday morning, in the church.
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 in person or virtual service.
Church has reopened for in person services. Traditional Music - Centred Services.

CHESTERVILLE 

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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. Cyril Duru
Parish Secretary: Nancy Richer - 613-448-3262

ST. CLARE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF NORTH DUNDAS

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

Sunday Service of Eucharist, 10 A.M.
Covid-19 Protocol in place.

Christmas Service Times
December 24 at 4:30 p.m., December 24 at 7 p.m., December 25 at 10 a.m. and December 26 at 10 a.m.

ST. ANDREW'S AND ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH

38 Mill Street, Russell, ON 613-445-3111 www.russellunited.org
Minister: Rev. Peter Dahlin, B.A, M.Div, 613-443-7603 (peterdahlin52@gmail.com)

11 a.m. Sunday Worship

THIS YEAR THERE WILL NO CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE.
Nursery (parental supervision) is available. Covid-19 protocols are in place.



From our home to yours Christmas Recipes



Big Soft Ginger Cookies

Total time to make from preparation to cookie jar is 30 min. These cookies take 20 minutes to prepare and 10 minutes to bake. The following instructions will make 2 1/2 dozen cookies.

Ingredients

3/4 cup butter, softened
1 cup sugar
1 large egg, room temperature
1/4 cup molasses
2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons ground ginger
1 teaspoon baking soda
3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
1/4 teaspoon salt
Additional sugar to roll them in before baking if desired

Directions

• In a large bowl, cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in egg and molasses. Combine the flour, ginger, baking soda, cinnamon, cloves and salt; gradually add to the creamed mixture and mix well.

• Roll into 1 1/2 inch balls, and then roll in sugar. Place 2 inches apart on ungreased baking sheets. Bake at 350° F until puffy and lightly browned, 10-12 minutes. Remove to wire cooling racks to cool.

Joseph Morin



Christmas Pudding....

A family favourite for over
5 generations! Our Christmas dinner
wouldn't be complete without it.
Fussy ... but so worth it.

Ingredients

1 cup butter
1 cup molasses
1 cup milk
1 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp allspice
1/4 tsp nutmeg
2 1/2 cups flour
1 tsp baking soda
1/4 tsp cloves
1/2 tsp salt
1/4 tsp mace
1 cup raisins (mixed with a little flour)

Directions

• Cream butter and add molasses and milk. Sift in dry ingredients and stir well.

• Add floured raisins and put mixture in a buttered heat proof dish, filling it 2/3 full.

• Cover with wax paper or brown paper or parchment paper.

• Tie down with cotton cloth and steam for 3 hours on top of the stove.

• Place a rack under pan in steamer or kettle so that steam can get all around the pudding. If you don't have a rack you can use jar sealers, anything to keep pan raised up in steamer. Add boiling water until it comes halfway up the pan. Cover tightly. Adjust the heat to keep water boiling throughout steaming. Add more water as it boils away but make sure you add boiling water.

• Serve warm with sauce.

Ingredients for Sauce

1/2 cup butter
1 cup white sugar
1 egg yolk
1 tbsp vinegar
6 tbsp water

Directions for Sauce

Heat first 4 ingredients in double boiler. Add small amount of hot mixture to beaten egg yolk, return to double boiler for several minutes. Just before serving, fold in beaten egg white.

Jim Wert

Lamb Shanks Braised in Beer and Honey

Serves: 4

Preparation time: 30 minutes

Cooking time: 2 hours

Ingredients

3 tbsp Olive oil
4 Lamb shanks
Salt and pepper (to taste)
20 Pearled onions, peeled
2 Garlic cloves, crushed
1 tbsp Honey
1 Bottle pale ale (beer) (5 oz)
2 1/2 cups Water or chicken broth
1 Spring fresh thyme
1 Bay leaf
1/4 cup Cream (35%)

Directions

• Preheat oven to 325 F. In a deep frying pan, heat the olive oil at high. Salt and pepper the shanks, then brown them on all sides. Transfer to a broiler with all the ingredients except the cream, and cover with water or chicken broth. Bring to a boil, cover the broiler immediately with aluminum foil, and place it in oven for 2 hours, or until the meat pulls away easily from the bone. Strain the cooking broth and reduce it in a pan until it reaches the desired consistency. Then add the cream.

• Serve with mashed potatoes and

green vegetables. Use the shank meat in strips and the cooking broth to make a sauce to accompany your choice of pasta.

• You can also replace the pale ale with stout or porter. (However, if you do so, do not add either the honey or the cream.)

Colleen Acres



Delivering Our Very Best

We hope it's the type of
season that fills your
heart and home with hope,
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As we wrap up a most
eventful year, we are
especially grateful for
the trust and support of
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Our commitment to
quality reporting and
service to our readership
areas remains as strong
as ever, and we wish
everyone peace and
good health in 2022
and beyond.

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Peppermint Bark

It just isn't Christmas without Peppermint Bark! Layered white chocolate and dark chocolate are topped with crushed candy canes. This famous Christmas candy recipe is so easy to put together, it's a shame to buy it at the store. I will show you just how to make it, with tons of tips and tricks for making it perfect the first time!

Ingredients

- 12 ounces semi-sweet chocolate, OR name brand dark chocolate
- 1 teaspoon vegetable oil
- 1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract, not mint
- 12 ounces white chocolate, HIGH QUALITY *
- 1 teaspoon vegetable oil
- 3 candy canes, finely crushed, to stir into white chocolate
- 5-8 candy canes, coarsely crushed, to top bark

Instructions

1. Start by getting everything prepared and ready to go. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper or wax paper.
2. Finely crush 3 candy canes. You can do this in the food processor or in a Ziplock bag with a rolling pin. These candy canes are going to be stirred into the white chocolate, so you want to crush them pretty well.
3. Coarsely crush 5-8 candy canes in a Ziplock bag (a food processor will crush them too much). These are going to be sprinkled on top of the bark. Set aside.
4. A word about chocolate. Be sure to buy high quality



chocolate. Dark or semi-sweet is fine; I prefer dark. I like to use Ghirardelli, Guittard, or Nestlé. If you are using chocolate chips, use 12 ounces (2 cups). If you are using a bar of chocolate, roughly chop it.

5. Melt your chocolate. In a medium bowl, add 12 ounces dark or semi-sweet chocolate. Add 1 teaspoon vegetable oil. Heat for 30 seconds on high in the microwave and stir. Heat for another 30 seconds and stir. Continue after this in 15 second increments, stirring each time. When the chocolate is glossy and mostly smooth, but still has lumps, do not microwave again. Just keep stirring until the final hard pieces melt.

6. Add 1/2 teaspoon peppermint extract and stir well.
7. Pour the chocolate onto the prepared pan. Use an offset spatula to spread the chocolate into a large rectangle (about 11x15 inches). The larger your rectangle, the thinner your bark will be. I don't like super thick bark; I like it to be nice and thin (easier to bite into). Drop the pan on the counter a few times to get out all the air bubbles.

8. Set the pan of chocolate aside to set. You can put it in the fridge if you are in a hurry. Do not add the white chocolate layer until this layer has set.

9. A word about white chocolate. Check the ingredients. If it does not list "cocoa butter" then it is not white chocolate. Most white chocolate chips do not have cocoa butter. It's best to buy a bar. I like the Ghirardelli white chocolate bars.

10. Chop 12 ounces of high quality white chocolate.
11. In a new bowl (or clean and dry the other one very well), add the white chocolate. Add 1 teaspoon vegetable oil.

12. Microwave for 30 seconds and stir. Microwave another 30 seconds and stir. Microwave in 15 second increments until there are still a few lumps. Then stir until the lumps are gone. White chocolate seizes more easily than regular chocolate, so be careful!

13. Stir the finely crushed candy canes into the white chocolate. Pour the white chocolate over the top of the cooled dark chocolate. Use an offset spatula to spread almost all the way to the edge. The heat from the white chocolate might slightly melt the bottom layer, so be careful you don't smear them together.

14. Immediately sprinkle the coarse candy canes on top. Let the bark cool at room temperature or stick it in the fridge. It takes about 30 minutes to fully cool in the fridge.

15. Once hardened, use a sharp chef's knife to slice the bark into pieces. I don't like to break the pieces apart by hand. As satisfying as it feels to do this, the white chocolate tends to separate from the dark chocolate.

16. Enjoy! Keep in a sealed container at room temperature.

17. You can freeze the bark for up to 3 months if it is well sealed. You do run the risk of white spots ("bloom") showing up on your chocolate. Thaw in the refrigerator to avoid this (there will be less condensation that way).

Notes

*Make sure that your white chocolate lists cocoa butter high up on the ingredients list!

Kelsey Banks

Chocolate / Cranberry Shortbread Cookies

Yield – 24 cookies

Ingredients

- 1 cup (250g) unsalted butter softened
- ¾ cup (175 ml) icing sugar
- 1 tsp. (5 ml) pure vanilla extract
- 1 ½ cups (375 ml) All purpose flour
- ½ cup (125 ml) cornstarch
- ½ tsp. (2 ml) salt
- 1 bar (100 g) dark chocolate finely chopped (or ½ cup semi-sweet choc chips)
- ¼ cup finely chopped dried cranberries
- ¼ cup (50 ml) granulated sugar

Directions

1. Put butter, icing sugar and vanilla in stand mixer fitted with paddle attachment. Beat on medium-high speed 2-3 minutes or until creamy and light in colour. In separate bowl whisk together flour, cornstarch and salt; add half of flour mixture to butter mixture and beat on low speed just until combined. Add remaining flour mixture, beat just until combined. Mix in chocolate and cranberries.

2. Divide dough in half. Put each half on a piece of plastic wrap. Using plastic wrap, roll each into a tight log about 6 inches long. Chill at least 1 hour or until firm.

3. Preheat oven to 325F. Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.

4. Remove one log from refrigerator, unwrap and, using sharp knife, cut crosswise into 12 slices, each 1/2 inch thick. Dunk each slice into granulated sugar to coat all over. Place on prepared baking sheet.

5. Bake in centre of oven 16 to 18 minutes or until light golden at edges and baked through. Cool on sheets on rack.

6. Repeat with remaining dough.

Don Good



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Yummy Brownies

Years ago, when my children were holiday baking, it was a lot of fun with the three youngsters helping me make the dough, cut out cookies and test them when they were done baking. It's a bit quieter around my home these days but for the holidays I still enjoy making smaller batches of baked treats, with one of my favourites being brownies.

Back in the day, my holiday dessert tray would include a selection of fruit cake, cut-out and gingerbread cookies and of course brownies. For me, the use of cocoa instead of melting chocolate make this dessert even easier to create and bake. A few days ago, I whipped up a batch when my daughter and granddaughter were visiting, filling the house with a delicious smell and their stomachs with some delicious home baked brownies. My recipe follows those on cocoa tins, but there are many available on the internet. I like to make tiny changes here and there to customize the brownie to my liking.

Directions for the Best Ever Brownies

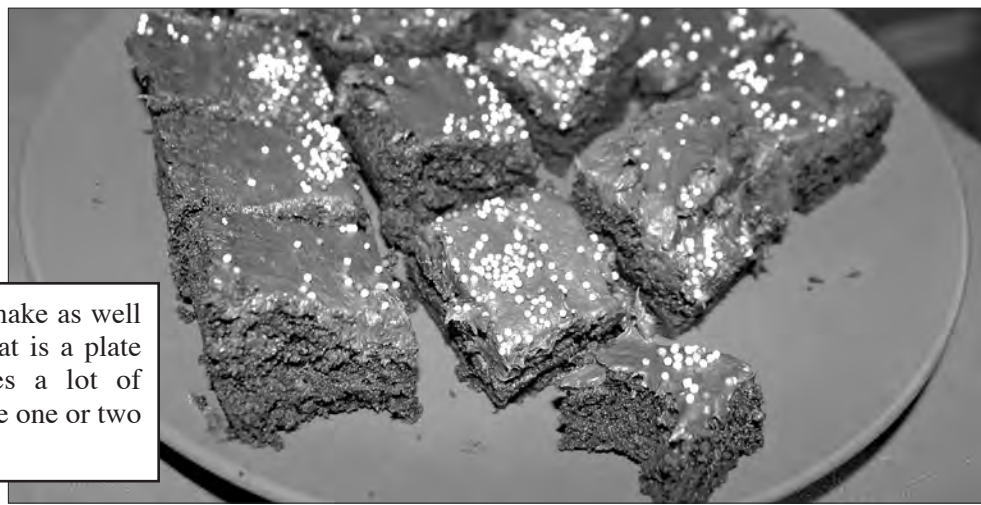
- Preheat oven to 350°F.
- Mix together one cup of melted butter, two cups of sugar, two tablespoons of vanilla or vanilla extract, three eggs, one cup of cocoa, one cup of flour and half a teaspoon of baking powder and salt to taste. If you want to add chopped nuts, chocolate chips or perhaps even sparkles, mix it into the batter.

• After mixing until moist, place the batter in a greased baking dish lined with wax or parchment paper and bake in the preheated oven for 30-35 minutes, checking towards the end of the baking period to ensure it doesn't over bake.

• After it has cooled you can frost it if desired and then cut into squares and store in an airtight container. Enjoy with a cup of hot chocolate, coffee, or tea or simply on its own.

Carolyn Thompson Goddard

My fast and easy-to-make as well as delicious-to-eat treat is a plate of brownies. It takes a lot of willpower to only have one or two of these tasty treats.



Crushing on Cinnamon Candy at Christmastime



Ever since I can remember, my paternal grandmother started preparing for Christmas several months in advance, baking and freezing an assortment of desserts, making fudge, caramel popcorn, pies, and, yes, cinnamon candy.

While it's excellent year-round, I always associate it with Christmas, so when I was asked to share a favourite recipe, this one popped into mind. With safety precautions respected, this recipe is quick and easy to make.

A short list of ingredients is needed. This recipe calls for two cups of sugar, two-thirds of a cup of light corn syrup, three-quarters of a cup of water, half to one whole teaspoon of cinnamon oil, red food colouring, and powdered sugar.

Begin by mixing the sugar, corn syrup, and water together in a pot or saucepan, stirring over medium heat until the sugar dissolves. A candy thermometer is needed and should be inserted at this point without touching the bottom of the pan. With the thermometer in place, bring the mixture to a boil without stirring.

Continue to cook the mixture but now begin stirring until the temperature reaches 260 degrees Fahrenheit. Then add food colouring at your discretion. At this point, stop stirring but continue to boil until the mixture hits 300 degrees Fahrenheit. Remove from heat.

Once the mixture has stopped boiling, add the cinnamon oil carefully, and stir. The addition of the flavouring will cause the mixture to steam, which could cause injury if not

careful. At this point, it's time to pour the syrup carefully onto a lightly greased and foil lined cookie sheet or into candy moulds designed for hot liquid. Do not refrigerate but be certain to cool the candy completely. If a cookie sheet has been used, break the candy into small pieces. If a candy mould has been used, pop the candies out. Once the candy is separated from the sheet or mould, lightly dust it in powdered sugar.

Sandy Casselman

Merry & Beautiful Wishes

May your holiday season be filled with all of the things that spark joy in your heart.

To our friend and neighbours all around town, warmest wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year ahead.

Thank you for shopping local.



Quick Irish Sweet Bread

The cool rainy or winter weather calls for a warm blanket, a cup of hot chocolate, and some quick Irish sweet bread. This is a simple and delicious breakfast or afternoon snack in front of the wood fire. The bread is light, moist, and tasty like a sweet muffin. In fact, you can make it as bread or muffins.

Directions

• Preheat the oven to 350°F and grease one large bread pan, or two small bread pans, or a muffin tray.

• Blend 2 cups of flour (I prefer half all purpose white flour and half sifted pastry flour) with 1 cup of brown sugar (I prefer demarara sugar for the richer taste), a half teaspoon of cinnamon powder, 1 tablespoon of baking powder, and a half teaspoon of salt (I prefer natural mineral salt for taste). As an option, add 1 half cup

of dried raisins or cranberries.

• Separately, beat by hand 1 large egg and blend in 1 cup of milk (3.5 percent milk for taste), one third cup of vegetable oil (I prefer the healthy organic coconut oil), and 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract.

• Combine the wet and dry ingredients until they are just mixed without over mixing. Pour the batter into the pans, filling about half way. As an option, sprinkle some more brown sugar or cinnamon on top of the batter. Let sit for about 30 minutes to allow the baking powder to react and cause the batter to rise somewhat.

• Bake in the pre-heated oven for about 40 minutes (small pans), 50-60 minutes (large pans), or 30 minutes for muffins, until a toothpick comes out dry.

Remove from the oven and allow to cool. Remove from the pans and enjoy.

Tom Manley

Babies of 2021

The Chesterville Record/Villager will be featuring the Babies of 2021 in the January 6th, 2021 edition.

If your child was born in 2021 or December 2020, and you would like to have him/her included in this keepsake edition, email the form below along with a clear picture to The Chesterville Record/Villager.

Your Baby's Name:

Date of Birth:

Mom and Dad's Name:

E-mail: ads@chestervillerecord.com or adsrussellvillager@gmail.com

Cost: \$30 (plus HST)





Arrive alive! STAY SOBER WHEN YOU DRIVE.



How to prevent impaired driving over the holidays

The number of impaired driving collisions dramatically increases over the holiday season. Here are a few tips to make sure neither you nor the people you care about get behind the wheel while under the influence.

Attending a party

If you're attending a holiday shindig, make sure to choose someone to be a designated driver. If this person ends up consuming drugs or alcohol, play it safe by calling a cab or

using a ridesharing service. You could also plan to rent a room at a nearby hotel or sleep over at a friend's house to avoid getting behind the wheel.

Hosting a party

If you're hosting a holiday party, there are a few precautions you can take to make sure your guests don't drive while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. For example, serve plenty of food and provide alcohol-free beverages throughout the

night. In addition, offer your spare bedroom or couch to anyone who wants to stay the night, or pre-arrange cab rides for those who need a lift.

Tips for the road

When driving home from a holiday shindig, keep an eye out for the following warning signs that another driver might be under the influence of drugs or alcohol:

- They're making wide, abrupt or illegal turns
- They have a slow or delayed reaction time to traffic lights and signs

- They're driving unreasonably fast, slow or at an inconsistent speed
- They're continuously weaving, swerving or drifting out of their lane

If you suspect you're driving behind an impaired driver, slow down, stay behind them and, when it's safe to do so, pull over and call 911.

Additionally, impaired driving accidents that result in fatalities are more likely to happen very late at night or early in the morning. Therefore, try to avoid being on the road between midnight and 3 a.m.

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COMING EVENTS

NEW CHESTERVILLE HISTORY BOOK

"Bridging the Centuries" is available to buy at ScotiaBank, Chesterville until December 31. 24-2

FREE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TURKEY DINNER

Dec. 25 at Winchester United Church. Takeout and limited in-house dining (proof of 2x vaccine required) from 12 noon to 2 p.m. ALL WELCOME! Reserve at 613-774-2512. 24-2

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 TWO (2) weeks. Call *The Record* at 613-448-2321 with your requests. tfc

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HOLIDAY HOURS

CLOSED AT 12 NOON ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2021

RE-OPENING: TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2022 AT 8:30 A.M.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us to all of you!

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 23, 2021

CLUES ACROSS

- Chinese Muslim group
- Alternative name
- Resounds
- Supporter
- Furnishes anew
- Beloved Hollywood alien
- Supervises flying
- Ballplayer's tool
- Coarse edible red seaweed
- Former CIA
- Basketball player
- Travel necessities
- Honey producer
- Military analysis (abbr.)
- Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- Mental sharpness and inventiveness
- Popular Easter meal
- Man (Spanish)
- __ de la __

- Counterweights
- Made a harsh, grating noise
- Monetary unit
- Commercials
- Cool!
- Partner to cheese
- Expression of creative skill
- Unit of angle
- Transported
- N. American people of Kansas
- Computer game character Max
- Moved swiftly
- Everyone has one
- Tin
- A mole is one
- Nocturnal hoofed animals
- Oppositional to
- Monetary units
- Not on time

CLUES DOWN

- Hogshead (abbr.)
- Misery resulting from affliction
- Defunct European group
- Line on a map
- Becomes less intense
- Back muscle
- Frosted
- Ethiopian town
- Midway between south and east
- Wipe from the record
- In a continuous way
- Breathe
- Cleaning device
- Male organ
- Tab on a key ring
- Criminals
- Taxi
- Cheer of encouragement
- World War II American escort carrier

- Polish river
- Current unit
- Life form
- Painful contractions
- Glowing
- Press against lightly
- Melancholic
- Something you can be under
- Of the mind
- E. Indian cereal grass
- Couple
- Sharpshoot
- A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- __ Blyton, children's author
- Human gene
- Data mining methodology (abbr.)
- Examines animals
- Mineral
- Cools your home

PUZZLE SOLUTION

THE BENEFITS OF CROSSWORD PUZZLES

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

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

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

Chesterville is home to Olympia Cannabis – a recreational cannabis dispensary

CHESTERVILLE – The North Dundas business community has been happy to welcome another new business into their midst with arrival of Olympia Cannabis in Chesterville at 3 King Street.

Olympia Cannabis is the second location for the store with the first being in Lanark County.

The research into cannabis products has resulted in a large menu of products and applications that go far beyond what many people expect. Olympia Cannabis is a perfect example of what happens when a good product backed by intense industry research and watched over by government regulations becomes part of a local economy, and excels as consumers come to understand the variety of cannabis products available to them.

Louis Antonakos, the owner of Olympia Cannabis is excited to be in Chesterville.

“The people in Chesterville has been really good. Many people have been coming in here wishing us well. They may not necessarily be interested in cannabis but they just want to say hello,” said Antonakos.

Since cannabis has become a legal product in 2018, education and research has been the key in informing consumers about what the cannabis industry is all about.

SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight



Louis Antonakos welcomes consumers to Olympia Cannabis, a recreational dispensary in Chesterville. Morin Photo

Antonakos said the choice of opening up in a smaller community was because many rural communities are not all that well served by retailers.

“I come from a small town. You have to focus on having positive customer service,” he said.

All of the staff at Olympia have been CannSell certified. The certification is the only training program that has been approved for legally authorized cannabis retailers in Ontario. Ontario law requires that all employees of cannabis retail stores, store managers, and cannabis retail licence holders must complete the CannSell certification before their first day of work.

Because Olympia Cannabis sells so

many different products with different applications educating their customers becomes a priority.

Understanding the difference between the different uses that cannabis has and picking the best one for you requires a knowledgeable sales staff.

Cannabis products have thrived in the market place.

“Our experience has been really positive,” said Antonakos.

Any concerns about cannabis and its recreational use were lessened by educating the public.

“There was quite a bit of focus on it during the consultative period,” said Antonakos.

“All of us across the country were quite aware of what the federal government was considering. Then it went to the province, and then to the municipality. I think the way the government rolled this out meant that people were well informed.”

He said that by the time stores like Olympia Cannabis were establishing themselves in communities, consumers understood what they were all about.

“It was a very public process. I do not think there were many people who were surprised to learn that there was a cannabis store coming to them.”

He said he has not experienced anything negative.

“People are doing their own research and using it for recreational purposes.”

Despite both being cannabinoids, the chemicals found in cannabis, CBD and THC interact with slightly different receptors in a person’s brain.

As a result, CBD is unlikely to get an individual high. On the other hand, THC produces the high people associate with using marijuana recreationally.

Medical marijuana that is CBD dominant has minimal THC. As a result, a person will not feel high when taking the medication.

Olympia has a host of cannabis products that include pre-rolled items at competitive prices to beverages, oils and capsules, topical products and edibles just to name a few.

You can visit their Chesterville location, browse through their products and get excellent advice and direction from their knowledgeable sales staff. You can also go online and order products that you can pick up at the store.

You can contact Olympia Cannabis at 613-436-4848 or visit their website at olympiacannabis.ca.

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.

Pin Tales

Stormont Ladies: Ladies’ High Single, Judy Rombough 240; Ladies’ High Triple, Marin Middleton 623. Team Standings: Hilda 132, Susan 121, Marin 117, Pat 110.

Monday Men’s: Men’s High Single, Mike Byvelds 302; Men’s High Triple, Frank Jerome 754; Men’s High Average, Jason Vanoers 236. Team Standings: A-Team 72.5, East-Ont 64.5, Alley Cats 64, Raiders 59, Aleey Rats 29, Country Boys 23.

Defenders: Men’s High Single, Glendon Moore 235; Men’s High Triple, Glendon Moore 629; Ladies’ High Single, Gwen Clark 223; Ladies’ High Triple, Debbie Linton 585. Team Standings: Ossie 115, Gwen 113.5, Brian 98, Debbie 95.5, Glendon 73.

Wednesday Ladies: Ladies’ High Single, Mary Osborne 191; Ladies’ High Triple, Lorna Armstrong 476. Team Standings: Mary 182, Janice 179, Dianna 174, Pat 153, Lorna 143.

Finch Mixed: Men’s High Single, Donovan StDenis 385; Men’s High Triple, Donovan StDenis 717; Men’s High Average Danny StPierre 207; Ladies’ High Single, Isabelle Bissonnette 276; Ladies’ High Triple, Isabelle

Bissonnette 778; Ladies’ High Average, Idabelle Bissonnette 205. Team Standings: L.T.D.D. 116, F.I.S.T. 100, Billy’s Girl’s 93, B&S 79.

Thursday Seniors: Men’s High Single, Bas Vanwinden 168; Men’s High Triple, Bas Vanwinden 433; Ladies’ High Single, Lucy Hendriks 162; Ladies’ High Triple, Lucy Hendriks 428.

Avonmore Mixed: Men’s High Single, Mike Byvelds 246; Men’s High Triple, Frank Jerome 690; Ladies’ High Single, Anita Byvelds 174; Ladies’ High Triple, Anita Byvelds 498. Team Standings: Red 102.5, Blue 97.5, Black 85, Orange 85, Purple 80.

Friday Seniors: Men’s High Single, Pierre Briere 286; Men’s High Triple, Pierre Briere 611; Ladies’ High Single, Rejeanne Lafebvre 227; Ladies’ High Triple, Rejeanne Lafebvre 659.

Williamsburg Mixed: Men’s High Single, George Byvelds 314; Men’s High Triple, George Byvelds 677; Ladies’ High Single, Leslie Vanbruinessen 225; Ladies’ High Triple, Leslie Vanbruinessen 639. Team Standings: John 144, George 142, Garry 140.5, Danny 133.5.

Winchester Odd Couples: Men’s High Single, Don Merkley 244; Men’s High Triple, Darryl Britton 664; Ladies’ High Single, Marin Middleton 245; Ladies’ High Triple, Marin Middleton 680. Team Standings: Mental Mishaps 107, The Balljoints 105, Team Nike 101, Golden Girls 92.

Youth Bowling Canada

YBC Peewees: Girl’s High Single, Isabelle Broomer 79; Girl’s High Double, Haliy Sadler 143; Boy’s High Single, Brandon Leach 51; Boy’s High Double, Brandon Leach 96.

YBC Bantams: Girl’s High Single, Madeline Vanbruinessen 157; Girl’s High Double, Robin Sanders 264; Boy’s High Double, Caleb Vanderveen 128; Boy’s High Double, Lucas Seguin 229. Team Standings: Jets 104.5, Leafs 77.5, Oilers 76.5, Red Wings 73.5, Flames 58.

YBC Juniors: Girl’s High Single, Annika Michaud 218; Girl’s High Triple, Annika Michaud 533; Boy’s High Single, Owen Vanwylick 219; Boy’s High Triple, Owen Vanwylick 536. Team Standings: Ducks 146, Kings 134, Sabers 132, Bruins 116, Senators 102.

Christmas Memories

When I was a child every Christmas eve, my family and I would go to my great aunt Alice’s place to have a visit and open our gifts from her.

After that we would take a drive all around Chesterville looking at all the beautiful Christmas lights before heading back home to get our pj’s on.

One Christmas Santa had stopped by had gave my brothers and myself some Christmas treats.

Merry Christmas and all the best in 2022.

Dora Stewart



Box 368, 1 Mill St.,
Chesterville, Ont.
K0C 1H0

The Villager News

E-MAIL:
editor@etceterapublications.ca

TEL: 613-448-2321

FAX: 613-448-3260

Christmas Greetings

Greetings fellow residents,

Thank you to The Chesterville Record/Villager for providing an outlet to pass along this holiday message. Since the beginning of this pandemic, many of us have faced challenges not always visible to the outside world. In this time of festive cheer, let us take a moment to remember all those less fortunate than us. Those whose struggle, to be seen, to be heard, sometimes the power of a smile can brighten up someone's day, and that is a power that we can all use (even with masks on).

The holidays are about love, joy, and happiness, not only for those who matter to us the most but even the strangers we cross on the street. Our community has always been known as a community that cares; let's show it more than ever. Donate to the food bank if you can help out your local social organizations; one small gesture can make all the difference in the world.

On behalf of the municipal council, staff, and myself, I wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year! May 2022 be a year of understanding, reconnecting and support.

Maire/Mayor Pierre Leroux



"Stuff a Cruiser" food drive results

On December 18 and 19, 2021, the Russell County Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Auxiliary members held a "Stuff a Cruiser" event to collect funds, food and other non-perishable items for those in need. Auxiliary officers were stationed at the Co-Op Your

Independent Grocer in Embrun, and Russell Foodland in Russell the following day. With the community's support and generosity the Russell County OPP was able to raise over \$6,000 in cash and hundreds of dollars in food donations. All donations went directly to the Good Neighbour's Food Bank in Embrun. Russell County OPP members would like to thank both Co-Op Your Independent Grocer and Russell Foodland for allowing them to collect donations outside their businesses. Without their support, the events could not have taken place. Thank you for helping us "Stuff a Cruiser"!

Courtesy Photo

KIDS' CORNER Christmas Edition

Learn. Play. Be amazed!

Amazing maze



For the up-and-coming artist



JUST kidding

Q: What's the difference between Santa Claus and a knight?

A: One slays a dragon, the other drags a sleigh!



JUST kidding

Q: What do you call an elf who wins the lottery?

A: Welfy!



JUST kidding

Q: Why are Christmas trees so bad at sewing?

A: They always drop their needles!

