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Briefly

Snowarama

NORTH & SOUTH DUNDAS – Check out this week’s *Record* for information about the Snowarama for Easter Seals Kids on page 9. The event is in memory of Debbie McHaffie-Strader and Jean MacDougal.

Lions Thrift Shop

The Lions Thrift Shop volunteers are all looking forward to welcoming back old and new customers. We opened our doors again Feb. 1 from 9:00 - 3:00 p.m. Masks will be mandatory and social distancing has to be observed. The shop asks that no donations be made until Feb. 7. They are looking forward to seeing customers back in the shop. Come in and take a look. We may just have what you’re looking for.

Crysler Winter Carnival

CRYSLER – See the *Record* next week for information about the Chrysler Winter Carnival ‘Take Two’ to be held from Feb. 18 to 20.


Chesterville Snow Days

CHESTERVILLE – The Chesterville Carnival Committee along with the Chesterville rotary Club is encouraging residents to go out in the snow and have some fun. February is Chesterville Snow Days.

The group is asking residents to take pictures of whatever snow fun they are getting up to, from making snow angels to building snowmen. Take a photo of your fun in the snow activity by Feb. 28 and send it to rotaryclubofchesterville@gmail.com or call 613-619-5960. This is not a competition-it’s all for fun.

THE CHESTERVILLE RECORD

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The Villager
NEWS INSIDE

PM40050631R8905 **Volume 129, Number 30 Chesterville, Ontario Thursday, February 3, 2022 Single Copy \$1.00 (HST included)**



Freedom Convoy swings through Chesterville

A last minute Freedom Convoy was organized on Tues., Feb. 1. The convoy of more than 50 semis, followed by another large group of cars, left Embrun at 12:30 p.m. and drove through St. Albert, Chrysler, Finch, Chesterville, Winchester, Morewood and Russell. The convoy was made up of some of the many trucks that were in Ottawa. The truckers wanted to show their appreciation for the support they have received from residents. A large number of well-wishers gathered in Chesterville to cheer the truckers on.

Morin Photo

North Dundas salary increase put on hold

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

WINCHESTER – The North Dundas council is working on its 2022 budget. Each municipal department has kicked off the budget planning with their individual wish list. Councillors will be going through each department list to ensure it is affordable and necessary. There will be several meetings in February when budget line items will be looked at.

Meanwhile, North Dundas staff have had their yearly salary increase put on hold at the Jan. 25 council meeting until councillors can look at its remuneration bylaw.

In 2012, the municipality passed a bylaw that streamlines yearly salary increases. Instead of having to negotiate any salary increase each January, every year, North Dundas staff would receive an increase tied to the inflation rate detailed in the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Continued on page 2

North Stormont approves Jen Sub Development Inc. zoning changes

Sandy Casselman
Record Staff

BERWICK – Township of North Stormont council voted in favour of rezoning lands owned by Jen Sub Development Inc., making it possible for the company to add semi-detached dwellings, multiple attached dwellings, and apartment blocks to its subdivision in Moose Creek.

The decision was made during the municipality’s regular Jan. 25 council meeting, which directly followed a roughly one-hour public meeting focused solely on the zoning request. With only three of the five council members present, it was Mayor Jim Wert, Deputy Mayor François Landry, and Coun. Randy Douglas who made the final decision.

The zoning meeting began with a slide presentation from United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry (SDG) planner Peter Young, outlining the history of the project, as well as the company’s current plans and requests. He noted that SDG had approved the most recent plan of subdivision application on Nov. 4, 2021.

“In the past, a lot of subdivisions were primarily single detached homes. You might see a few semis scattered here and there, but the direction from the province and at the county level as well, is that it’s not a one size fits all, and multiple options should be considered,” Young said. “That’s one of the points that we do bring up is that the [provincial] requirement is for a range of

Continued on page 3



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ND salary increase

Continued from the front

Traditionally, the increase has been between 1 and 2 per cent.

In 2021, the staff increase for North Dundas municipal employees was set at 1.7 per cent.

The bylaw basically dictates what each year's salary increase will be. This year, the inflation rate is 5.2 per cent and the bylaw automatically uses that number to set salaries for the municipality.

Angela Rutley, North Dundas CAO explained to the council, "Council passed a policy that made for the annual adjustment of salaries by the CPI. The policy has changed slightly but it has stayed in place since 2012. And we do this to eliminate the adverse effects on employee salary by fluctuations in the cost of living. So, each year in January, when the cost of living is released for the year ending December, which usually happens around Jan. 20, the salaries get adjusted by CPI; so, this ensures that employee's purchasing power is maintained the same and it also helps us keep pace with other municipal salaries in the area."

Deputy mayor Al Armstrong voiced his concern about the increase. He said municipal staff were second to none, but he had to think of the effect of such an increase on the taxpayer at the same time.

He felt that the current policy should be rescinded, and salary levels should be negotiated each year.

As far as this year's increase went, he felt that a 3 per cent increase was a fair one.

"Part of the selling part of this policy was that it only goes up 1 or 2 per cent each year. We don't need to be haggling over this all the time. We do it automatically. I think it's hard to take a 5 per cent increase. It is a hard number to give to our taxpayers. And these are the people that we need to represent, and with all due respect to our staff members, it is quite a slap to be putting 5.2 per cent in place," said Armstrong.

He mentioned that the United Counties of SD&G, this year went with 3 per cent.

He acknowledged that as a rule, events like an ice storm or pandemic are not normal events.

Armstrong felt the solution would be to aim for a 3 per cent increase instead of 5.2 per cent, "And secondly, I think the policy should be rescinded and we should be

negotiating these things every single year."

Mayor Fraser pointed out that the existence of a bylaw concerning any pay increase means that the bylaw would have to be changed.

Councillors Thompson, Annable, and Bergeron agreed that rescinding the current bylaw might be the way to go, however Coun. Bergeron suggested perhaps an

exception could be made for just this year.

In the end, the council decided to defer the decision and asked the CAO to bring more information about the different options available to the council regarding the bylaw.

No decision will be made about scrapping the existing bylaw until all the other available options have been explored.



On the way to Ottawa

Dairy farmer Dave Zollinger from Winchester led a convoy of vehicles to Ottawa on Sat., Jan. 29. The small group teamed up with larger Freedom Convoy later in the day.

Morin Photo

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KavoKerr announces closure of its Morrisburg plant

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

MORRISBURG – The Seaway has enjoyed a fast or feast type of existence regarding its manufacturing facilities. Over time, businesses have come and gone, notably the Caldwell Linen plant in Iroquois many years ago after having been operating in that town since 1923. And now the

KavoKerr dental manufacturing also called Beavers dental in Morrisburg has announced it will be leaving.

As the plant prepares to shift its manufacturing focus to an as yet undisclosed location, hundreds of its employees will find themselves out of work.

The plant has been

operating in Morrisburg for the past 75 years.

Eric Duncan, MP for SD&G said, “My thoughts are with the hundreds of employees and families impacted by the closure of Beaver Dental in Morrisburg. It has been a tough week for everyone impacted.

My team and I have been in contact with the

Municipality of South Dundas and management at the plant, to offer our support for assistance with EI, CPP or other federal benefits, while helping those who will be looking for new jobs in the coming months.”

A spokesperson for the plant cited the many challenges it faced over the past two years is the reason for the move.

The employees at the plant will be laid off in stages ending with closure of the plant in 2023.

A statement from the municipality of South Dundas stated: “South Dundas received confirmation from the corporate head office for KavoKerr, locally known as Beavers Dental, that the Morrisburg facility will be decommissioned in early 2023.

“This news has hit hard across South Dundas, especially for those directly affected who themselves or their family members work there. Industrial, well-paying jobs are an important part of the municipality’s economy,” says Mayor Steven Byvelds. “We will not let those affected go it alone and are working to support them

through various resources.”

“Losing one of our industrial employers is tough, but the Economic Development Office has already started to find ways to help the employees and will continue to do so,” says Rob Hunter, economic development officer. “And as always, we maintain our efforts to secure new businesses and support the current businesses in our community. We will

continue to grow and build for the future of South Dundas.”

Beavers Dental manufactures dental equipment for just about every aspect of the dental industry, and some have likened it to one of the largest manufactures of its type in the world.

They make everything from laboratory items for dentures to dental drills and dental equipment.

Jen Sub Development Inc.

Continued from the front

housing types and densities, and that even applies to smaller villages and hamlets. It is a feature in all of our communities to allow people of all different ages and household types to live in the rural areas.”

In addition to council members, residents were given opportunities to speak and to ask questions. The residents who spoke at the meeting were opposed to the changes, noting they’d been promised certain things by the developer when they purchased their properties, and they said the current plans contradict those promises. Residents Lynn Lewis, Frédéric Pépin, and Alain Mainville joined the Zoom meeting.

“I’m a fairly new resident, my husband and I,” Lewis said. “We moved into this subdivision a year and a half ago and we, like most of our neighbours, when we moved in here, we were under the assumption that we were moving into a single-family community. That is how it was presented to us by the developer, and that’s what we bought, having moved from a high-density neighbourhood. Had we known that this was going to be high density, we probably wouldn’t have bought here and, having canvassed my neighbours, I know that the majority of my neighbours feel the same way.”

Young said that the plan for the subdivision is laid out in such a way that only single detached homes would be backing onto the existing single detached homes. The higher density units would be further into the subdivision, separating them from the current single-family homes.

“I certainly think council recognizes the argument you’ve made here,” Wert said to Lewis. “But we do have to represent everybody in the municipality and it’s a challenge, there’s no question. But in my time on council, if I was to take a look at the biggest issue that’s facing our families right now, it’s access to affordable housing, as Deputy Mayor Landry has commented on, and plans like

this, although they may not meet everybody’s expectations, go a long way to settling some of those concerns.”

In addition to type of housing being built, residents also commented on the lack of committed park space. While the addition and location of a potential park was discussed, Young said it wasn’t part of the zoning request, as it is to be included later in the process.

“You’re voting on a project or rezoning and you’re going in blind, not knowing where a park zone is going to be here, not knowing if there’s going to be any bicycle path or any facility for children,” Pépin said. “How can council make a decision tonight on the rezoning without even knowing at the end of the day what this project is really going to look like?”

Young explained that the meeting was to determine the zoning. He said a park, which is one of the conditions, is not part of this layout. He said there will be several more opportunities to come for council to consider a park, as there are more approvals attached to the next phase of the project.

“So, if all the approvals for the zoning go forward, the next set of approvals for council to consider would be the next phase of the subdivision – the design, the layout, the actual roadway – so that would be doing a subdivision agreement,” Young said. “It would also include looking at the holding zone to make sure there’s enough capacity in water and sewer. Every phase that’s involved can also be modified. This project will be coming back to council many times.”

The proposed number of dwellings for the 42-acre parcel of land was listed. These included 35 single detached dwellings, 30 semi-detached dwellings (60 units), six townhouse style dwellings (24 units), and two apartment blocks with 90 units in total. Together this would equal 209 new units or homes. Young noted that this could change.

A recording of the meeting can be found on North Stormont’s Facebook page. The written report on the rezoning request can be found in the zoning meeting’s agenda package, which can be found on the municipal website.

Erin O’Toole out as Conservative leader

OTTAWA – The Conservative Caucus has voted today to select a new leader for their party, removing Erin O’Toole as their leader.

A statement from Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry MP Eric Duncan stated: “Today our Conservative Caucus made the decision to order a leadership race to select a new leader of the Conservative Party of Canada. I fully respect the decision and look forward to engaging our members in the months ahead. We need to focus on uniting our Caucus and Party, and to focus on defeating the Liberals in the next election.

It is a difficult role to serve as a political leader and I want to thank Erin O’Toole, his wife Rebecca, and their family for the efforts and sacrifices they have made the past 18 months. I am personally grateful for the opportunities Erin provided me to serve our team and the experiences I’ve been given.

I am proud to be your Conservative Member of Parliament, and I’m optimistic about the chance to move forward and tackle the many issues facing our country. Our country needs a change in national leadership, and I will work tirelessly to elect our next Conservative leader as Prime Minister of Canada.”

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Editorial

Mysteries upon mysteries

Life has many mysteries. From ancient cities lost in time to dessert sands to civilizations buried beneath the jungles of the planet. One mystery closer to home is my kitchen sink. Every winter my kitchen may or may not freeze up for a few hours. The pipe leading out from the sink to connect to the main pipe that runs underground into the septic tank has a joint where the kitchen plumbing marries up with the septic tank plumbing. There is one spot that seems to want to freeze up when it gets to be minus 26 or so, and when that happens I put a heater under the sink, and aim it at where the pipes are joined. I have always assumed that there was cold air coming in from somewhere through the ancient foundation, and like a blowtorch was focused on a few inches of pipe and that

is why it freezes from time to time. Rather than taking the whole house apart, I have resigned myself to just settling for the occasional freeze up and then fixing it with a heater. It only happens in the one pipe and the rest of the house is perfect as far as water not freezing. I decided a long time ago that the reason for the occasional frozen pipe was just one of those natural mysteries that could never be solved. Perhaps it was the minus temperatures or the way the direction of the wind blew on any particular day when the temperature was minus 30. I had even tried banking the snow around the affected part of the house, in an attempt to accidentally

create a wind block so that the freezing could not occur. It was never a big inconvenience more like a good tire that goes flat from time to time. Some things in life can only be accepted not changed. I had been hoping that climate change would occur in this part of the world sooner than later and would bring milder winters and warmer winds. But then Christmas came. One of my many presents was a flashlight headband kind of thing that was great for wearing when you needed your hands free for other things, like crawling under the kitchen sink. And so the occasion arrived when I had to check out a leaky faucet under the kitchen sink. I had all my tools lined up just in case I needed

them because as you are all aware, the older you get the less nimble you are when having any kind of plumbing adventure in the kitchen or the bathroom. I also had my new head light on which made a big difference. I fixed the faucet leak, which turned out to be nothing big at all, but then I looked further under the sink and thanks to the light, saw something I had never seen before. Where the kitchen sink pipe joins, the main pipe there is an old fitting that looks like a very weird angled pipe. The smaller pipe is only a few inches long and connects the septic tank pipe to the kitchen sink pipe. What was off about it was that it seemed to be upside down. That means whenever you drained the kitchen sink, the water would go

down the main pipe to leave the house, but when it hits the small connection pipe it ends up running backward and just sitting there. Naturally if there was a place where water will freeze, it will be in a vulnerable spot just like the one I was looking at. Who would have thought. I guess back in the day, whoever connected the two pipes had done a great job except for the fact that the connecting pipe was upside down. So another mystery solved and this is one I can fix thanks to a Christmas present and another kitchen sink adventure. Could the kind person who gave me the present that led me to solving an old kitchen mystery have known something I didn't, and why did they also give me a drill?

Joseph Morin

NDDHS Report
By Savannah Coleman
Student Council Communications
Going back to a semester system



We are officially done the first half of the 2021-2022 school year! It hasn't gone exactly how most of us had anticipated, but we pushed through it, being the wonderful ND team that we are! We are entering the beginning of a semester system on Wed., Feb. 2, with Tues., Feb. 1 being a PA Day. The semester will run with a five period, four class day system. Students will have their first class of the day for two hours, followed by a one-hour class, a 50-minute lunch, and two more one-hour classes. The daily schedule changes every day based on the order of classes; it will take some getting used to, but once everybody gets the hang of it, it will be a breeze. The order of classes is posted at every entrance of the school and is changed every morning for students to look at when they come into North Dundas. Students have received their timetable for the upcoming semester, as well as a schedule of the 'tumble' order that we will be following. North Dundas students and staff continue to keep their distance and follow the rules and guidelines that have been asked, to keep the spread at a minimum. As of right now, there are no extracurricular activities going on, but the student council are still planning spirit weeks and activities to participate in, as a way to keep a positive vibe throughout the school. An upcoming spirit week is Olympic week, where each class will be given a country or sport to represent and will have tasks to complete throughout the week – may the best team win! On behalf of the ND student council, we wish everybody a smooth start to their semester! We can do it!

A mental health story that ends with hope

Mental health was a hot topic last week with lots of people sharing their stories on social media. The Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario division, hosted two webinars concentrating on the importance of listening, sharing our stories, and hope. So here it goes, here is me sharing a bit of my mental health story. Well, more like a sentence or two from the "CliffsNotes" version. It's not possible to tell the whole story in just 600 words. I've been in therapy since I was a teenager. In retrospect, I probably needed it earlier than that, but that's not what happened. For the record, I'm still in therapy and probably will be for the foreseeable future. My mental health story includes extreme anxiety and depressive episodes as far back as I can remember. I've faced all sorts of traumatic situations throughout the years, here and there. I don't want this to be triggering, so I won't list them here or go into detail, but I will say that I've been diagnosed with post traumatic stress disorder more than once, for different traumas at different points in my life. Currently, I can't function without taking medication for both my depression and my anxiety. I've tried many times. I won't try again. It helps me get up everyday. It helps me remain "in the now" enough that I don't get lost inside my own thoughts,

which is a lot worse than it sounds. While medication is a helpful tool, it's not enough all on its own. The most important part of my mental health toolbox has always been the supportive network of people who have sat with me in silence or who have listened without judgement when I was finally ready to share. When I say people, I don't mean dozens of people, although there were a lot of different people who helped me. Some were even strangers and not just strangers who were professionals in the medical field but strangers in the waiting room, and sometimes, strangers in the street. Roughly 14 years ago, I had a moment with a stranger that I think may have been the turning point for me in terms of how I viewed the world. Prior to that, for the most part, I believed there were more bad people in the world than good. I thought I needed to protect myself and my family from the world and the people in it. I was on guard most of the time and I kept myself sheltered, only trusting one person completely, which, of course, eventually backfired. I met this stranger, a woman whose name I'm not sure I ever knew, when my ex-husband and I were in a waiting room for one of our post-breakup counselling sessions. I don't remember her exact words, or even if there were any words, but I remember how she made me feel. I was vibrating

and sobbing, and I felt like I couldn't breathe. (I may have been having a panic attack.) She asked if she could sit with me and hug me. I said 'yes', and she did. She didn't fix me or my situation, but she gave me something far better. She gave me the space I needed to just grieve without being judged. She didn't shame me for my very public display of grief, which included puffy eyes, a tear-stained face, and a runny nose. She showed me that I wasn't alone in the world just because I was getting a divorce and losing my best friend. She showed me true kindness, and with that came a spark of hope, enough to keep me holding on. To some, her actions may seem small – just a hug and the space to cry freely – but they had an enormous impact. Her kindness sparked hope in me, it sparked a renewed faith in the goodness of others. With renewed faith in people, staying in the world a little longer seemed a bit more doable. This is not my whole mental health story – that tale is much longer and much darker – but it conveys some essential truths. We're not alone. People are mostly good, even complete strangers, and those that listen without judgement are life savers. Most importantly, there's always hope, and all we really need to keep us going is just a spark.

Sandy Casselman

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New Sevita processing plant in Inkerman nears completion

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

Near the end of summer 2021, Sevita was in the middle of building their new facility at their Sandy Row location in Inkerman, Ont.

In August, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Vic Fedeli and SD&G MPP Jim McDonnell dropped by the Sevita processing plant to announce \$500,000 in funding for the seed and soybean processing company.

Since then, the company has been busy putting the finishing touches on its new building.

The \$5 million project will enable Sevita to process and package both seed and food-grade soybeans in the same plant.

The new plant is a single story building. The warehouse portion is 21,000 sq. ft. and the plant itself is 4,800 sq. ft.

General manager of the Inkerman facility, Sandy Hart said, "We started digging in April, early May. There was a house there that was the office. We have always had two plants here in Eastern Ontario, and that plant has always been our export facility. That plant will run December to April, May in seed and then it will run in production the rest of the year. It is a big change. We saw an opportunity to get twelve months out of it."

Bob Hart, vice president of operations, said, "We are waiting for one machine coming from Spain. It's supposed to arrive in Montreal on Feb. 14. It is an automatic bagger.

The plant is far more automated. It

is all computer controlled, so it can run by itself. It will not package by itself, but it can clean by itself. The packaging is very automated as well, but there will have to be people there while it is going on."

Hart explained that the new facility will have the capacity to do more and do it more efficiently.

"The plant it is replacing is an old plant. It has been good, but it is inefficient.

That site was a food grade facility and the seeds were done on Guy Road, so we will be shutting down the Guy Road facility," he said.

"It is putting all of our processing in Eastern Ontario all on one site, rather than two sites a few miles apart. It allows us to be more efficient with our labour with everyone on the one site."

Sevita has a similar site operating in Woodstock, Ontario.

Inside the building the plant is mostly there, processing equipment is pretty much in and installed. The packaging equipment will arrive this week.

A spokesperson for Sevita said the addition of the new processing facility will boost its seed business in this part of the province by 50 per cent. The expectation is that the new state-of-the-art plant will lower production costs as well as improve the quality of their product. Sevita will also be purchasing equipment that warms up the seeds, which will extend the seed processing and treating season. The ability to warm the seeds up is unique to Sevita and no other seed facility in Ontario can do this.

The company receives soybeans from about 200 farms in the region and sells about 85 per cent of its products to foreign countries.

In a press release about the funding Bob Hart said, "To become Canada's leading provider of food-grade soybeans to the world, Sevita International collaborates with local resources such as our local growers, other partners and our highly valued employees to develop, grow and provide the finest soybean varieties that supply the growing global demand for high quality Canadian soybean products."

Sevita develops different varieties of seed and farmers use these same seeds to grow soybeans, which are harvested and sent back to the Sevita processing plant and from there they are shipped around the world.

Over the past three years Sevita has upgraded its Sandy Row facility. The company has invested \$1.9 million in upgrades.

In the summer of 2016, Sevita installed two new receiving pits that can run at the same time. Each pit has the capacity to unload 150 tonnes per hour.

They changed the grain probe they used to a corn style, after customers were concerned that the compartment style probe was resulting in higher dockage levels.

In 2016, the plant was completely rebuilt and all of its equipment was upgraded. In the same year, they also installed a new colour sorter and a large aspiration unit for shipping bulk seed. The next big change will be the addition of its new processing plant.



In this photo the skeleton of the new processing facility at the Sandy Row Sevita location has been completed. This was back in August of 2021. Morin Photo



Construction of the new plant is just about finished as January comes to an end, with all of the processing equipment in place. Morin Photo

North Stormont appoints Mary McCuaig as deputy clerk

Sandy Casselman
Record Staff

BERWICK – Mary McCuaig has been appointed as deputy clerk for the township of North Stormont.

A bylaw making the appointment official was passed during the Jan. 25 council meeting. Chief administrative officer Craig Calder commented briefly, noting that the township's

hiring process had been followed.

"I was fortunate enough to have Mary available and as a part-time clerk, especially in this unique situation; we're moving into the election year and I need somebody very seasoned and experienced to assist me in that regard," he said. "So, I was very happy that she accepted the part-time

position and we'll be in a very strong position to move this township forward with Mary's help."

With three of its five members present, council

passed the bylaw without further discussion. Mayor Jim Wert, Deputy Mayor François Landry, and Coun. Randy Douglas were present.



- OBITUARY - Marlene Black

Passed away peacefully at the Winchester District Memorial Hospital on Friday, January 28, 2022, Marlene Black (nee Cross) of Chesterville, age 80. Beloved wife of the late Douglas Black. Loving mother of Kim McCaffery (Kevin) of Ottawa.

Dear sister of Nancy Edgerton (John) of Chesterville and David Cross of Chesterville. Dear sister-in-law of Barbara Casselman (Tom) of Napanee. Marlene will be fondly remembered by her grandsons Kyle, Logan and Conor. She was predeceased by her parents Willis and Helen Cross (nee Lewis), her brother Donald Cross and her sister-in-law Ann Cross. She is also survived by nieces and nephews.

A Memorial Service will be held at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church in Chesterville on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, at 11 a.m. A reception will follow in the church hall.

Interment of cremated remains will be at Grantley Cemetery. Donations to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church 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](https://www.marsdenmclaughlin.com).



- OBITUARY - McRae, Thelma

Peacefully at Maxville Manor on Sunday, January 23, 2022, age 100 years. Thelma Delores (Coleman) McRae formerly of Avonmore. Predeceased in 2016 by her husband of 74 years, Gordon Alexander McRae.

Loved mother of Gail Shaver (late Clayton), Linda McKercher (Donald), all of Finch, Terry

McRae (Annette) of Avonmore, and the late Gloria Croskery. Sadly missed by her grandchildren Vicky (Steve Tait), Wendy Shaver, Scott Shaver (Rebecca Pena), Cheryl McKercher, James McKercher (Claudia Ferrante), Erin (Doug Chefero), Robin McRae (Renee Legault), Patrick McRae, Kate McRae and Jenna McRae (Chelsea Raso), by great grandchildren Chase, Carter, Camden, Abigail, Sarah, Isabella, Lianna, Haylie, Hayden, Charlotte, Liam and Ethan, and by the many others whose lives she touched. Predeceased by granddaughter Angela Croskery, and siblings Lydia Jackson, David Coleman and Wilfred Coleman.

Details of the service In Celebration of Thelma McRae's Life will be announced at a later date. As expressions of sympathy, memorial donations to Maxville Manor Foundation or St. James United Church, Avonmore, would be appreciated by the family. Online condolences may be made at www.brownleefuneralhomes.com.

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Church DIRECTORY

Your Guide to Local Houses of Worship

ALL SERVICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

The United Church of Canada CHRIST CHURCH UNITED

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

February 6th, 2022 at 11 a.m.

Proof of double vaccination will be required to attend services. Masks will still be required as well.

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

Worship services are resuming on Sunday, Feb. 6th at 10 a.m. - Chalmers Finch with Rev. Lois. All COVID rules will be followed. Masks are mandatory.

ST. LUKE'S - KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - FINCH

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

February 6th, 2022 at 11 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.

NATIONSIDE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

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

Please join us for Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m. at the Nelson LaPrade Centre, 9 William St. (Covid-19 rules apply).

Services also 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-A7E-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

We're closed for in-person worship.

We're offering a 10:30 a.m. Zoom service for Morning Prayer. People are asked to phone the church or email infostmarysrussell@rogers.com, to receive the link for the service.

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

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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.

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On YouTube at St. Clare Anglican.

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613-443-7603 (peterdahlin52@gmail.com)

11 a.m. Sunday Worship

Nursery (parental supervision) is available. Covid-19 protocols are in place.



#Betty White Challenge taken up by local business

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

WINCHESTER – Local businesses like Watters Financial like to support what they love and the staff at Watters Financial in Winchester all love animals. After actress Betty White, an avid animal lover passed away on New Year's Eve, the staff at Watters Financial decided to take part in the #Betty White Challenge.

White had been involved in the American Humane Society for the past 60 years.

The Ottawa Humane Society took up the challenge.

Sherry Durocher, the marketing coordinator for Watters Financial said, "I saw the #Betty White Challenge was trending all over social media. Betty White was a huge animal lover and advocate for animal causes, so the challenge asked people to give just \$5 to their local animal shelter or rescue in her name on Jan. 17, the day which would have been her 100th Birthday.

When I saw this, I knew it would be something the team at Watters Financial would love to participate in and make a fun event out of it. We are huge animal lovers and even have our own furry office colleague, Wolfgang, who works right in the office with us."

The group had the idea of having a special cake made honouring Betty White.

I contacted Jody Beaudry at Frostings who has made a number of fabulous cakes for my family in the past and told her what we needed. She came up with the idea for the cake and created the amazing bust of Betty White."

Even though she had died a few weeks shy of her 100th birthday, the group at Watters wanted to celebrate it anyway with a birthday cake.

"We decorated, prepared Betty's favourite food (hot dogs, of course) and enjoyed the delicious cake. We chose the Big Sky Ranch Animal Sanctuary in Kemptonville to donate to," said Durocher.

"For the past number of years, we have participated in the National Cupcake Day in support of SPCAs and Humane Societies, which is usually held in the month of February. The idea is to bake cupcakes and sell them to raise money for the SPCA, but we would bake them, and deliver them to local offices, schools, etc. and we make a donation to the SPCA ourselves rather than sell them. It was a great way to spread the word about the

cause. For the past two years we have been unable to do that due to Covid, so when we heard about the #Betty White Challenge, we knew that would be a great thing to do and we could still support an animal cause."

Jody Beaudry has a cake baking business called Frostings in Embrun; she was more than happy to make the cake and take part in the challenge.

"I am the one that created the cake but I am not the one to take credit for coming up with the idea. It was all Trevor Watters Financial," she said.

"I do a lot of cakes for him and he asked me if I would mind doing a cake. It sounded like such a cool project," said Beaudry.

The cake also has a picture of their office dog Wolfgang.

Beaudry will take on just about any cake project. She likes to make cakes that will have a special meaning for the people that will get them.

"You have to love what you do and be artistic as well," said Beaudry.

"I enjoy painting and sculpting and creating, and so, I put it all into what I do. I make anything from sugar cookies to cupcakes to cakes. Anything and everything to do with any kind of celebration you are into," she said.

She explained that anyone can get a cake at the grocery store.

"They are wonderful, but I want to give you that 'wow' factor."

The #Betty White Challenge resulted in a social media trend that raised tens of thousands of dollars for the Ottawa Humane Society.



The staff at Watters Financial have fun while they support a great cause. In this photo, the group celebrated Betty White's birthday and take part in the #Betty White Challenge. Left to right are: Patricia Guy, Henriette Pemberton, Kyle Gregg, Sherry Durocher, Liz Sharpley, Libby Pelkey, Erika Hilton, Angela Cotton and, Wolfgang front and centre. Courtesy Photo



Wolfgang and the cake made by Jody Beaudry of Frostings in Embrun. Courtesy Photo

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Looking forward to 2022 in Stormont

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

STORMONT COUNTY – Stormont County 4-H held their AGM on Thurs., Jan. 27 via Zoom, with president Molly McDonald welcoming everyone to the meeting.

Cam Crogie, volunteer support coordinator, Region 1 and 2 for 4-H Ontario, provided an information update from this organization. Information on programming and pandemic precautions were presented by Crogie, followed by an informative slideshow on ensuring the safety of participants.

McDonald thanked the membership

for ensuring how, despite the pandemic restrictions, the association has been able to provide programming to 4-H members and expressed her hope in 2022 that there will be in-person events. Committee reports and election of the 2022 board of directors were held with Neil Robinson elected as president, Alyssa Waldroff 1st vice president, Jakob Vogel 2nd vice president, secretary Molly McDonald, treasurer Kristina Stewart, webmaster (4-H Ontario - Stormont) Barbara Ann Glaude, webmaster (Social - Facebook) Kayla Manley with Molly McDonald serving as past-president.

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A fond farewell and happy trails to long-term WDMH team member

WINCHESTER – When Cindy Mason started working at Winchester District Memorial Hospital (WDMH) on Jan. 10, 1986, there were no computers in the Admitting Department. When she retired 35.5 years later, the process to admit patients was fully automated.

This is just one of many changes Cindy has seen during her time at WDMH. She arrived as a coop student and was hired by administrator Bart Stel right after her four-month placement. Over three decades, Cindy worked in many departments including Admitting, X-Ray, and Emergency.

“Over the years, I’ve seen many changes and worked with many co-workers who have become my work family,” she explains.

Now, Cindy has embarked on her own journey, moving to PEI. “My dream for many years has been to move to PEI, and in September that dream came true,” she says. “I continue to keep in touch with many of my work family from WDMH through Facebook. I miss everyone and wish them much happiness in their journey in life.”

Best wishes Cindy and enjoy the east coast!



Cindy Mason says goodbye to WDMH. Courtesy Photo

South Dundas residents to see 2.82 per cent property tax rate increase

Sandy Casselman
Record Staff

MORRISBURG – “This is the final budget of this term of council. I know that we’ve worked hard on doing what is fair for the residents of South Dundas,” Mayor Steven Byvelde said.

Municipal politicians and staff spent roughly 14 hours in budget deliberations last month. The annual process began with a full day on Jan. 18, followed by a final day of financial planning on Jan. 20.

Council began with a staff suggestion of a 4.47 per cent tax rate increase but by the end of the second day of deliberations, they were able to shave a bit from that number to land at a 2.82 per cent tax rate increase. Prior to this, council and staff completed an all-day water and sewer budget session on Dec. 15, 2021.

“I believe this budget is fiscally responsible, as it invests in our infrastructure, invests in good asset management planning, and strengthens our

reserve and reserve funds for future expenditures,” chief administrative officer Shannon Geraghty said at the beginning of the Jan. 18 session. “I’m hopeful that council will see a tight budget that reflects good planning for now and in the future.”

The first day of budget talks, which ran for more than six hours, also included introductory comments and statements from each member of council, followed by an introduction to the process by deputy treasurer Shawn Mason. Mayor Steven Byvelde welcomed the new interim treasurer Lachlan McDonald, whose position was made official via a bylaw during the township’s Jan. 24 council meeting. He is expected to be in the position for roughly 14 months.

The Jan. 24 meeting also included the official passing of the budget via the bylaw. In Mason’s report, it was noted that the overall annual levy for 2022 is \$7,715,418,

the majority of which is aimed at operational costs. This is a 3.74 per cent increase from last year’s budget.

“In comparison to the residential tax rate from 2021 to 2022, ratepayers will see an increase of approximately \$30.79 or 2.82 per cent, for lower tier municipal purposes, on the average residential assessment of \$211,148,” Mason said. “The passing of the budget will allow staff to proceed with calculating the final tax rates for the municipality for the 2022 taxation year.”

To see the decisions being made during this year’s budget deliberations, visit the municipality’s YouTube page. There are links to each meeting’s agenda package on the municipal website (southdundas.com) that include written reports. Prior to budget deliberations, residents had the chance to share their comments via the township’s new communication platform, Speak Up South Dundas.

Get ready to bid!

Our Online Auction goes live on Feb. 7

Jane Adams
Special to the Record

While we can’t get together for the Murder Mystery Night, we can still gather online - and shop ‘til we drop! The WDMH Foundation is pleased to launch the WDMH Foundation - 1920s Murder Mystery Auction, starting on Feb. 7.

There is something for

everyone in the auction – from spa gift certificates, to artwork, to an axe-throwing party for six! Funds raised will be directed to the Foundation’s Family Care Fund – to support families just like yours.

“Thank you to our wonderful community volunteers who have spent several months gathering auction items. We are excited to feature them all online,” explains Justine Plummer, manager of direct mail and events. “And thank you to everyone who

has donated an item.”

The auction starts at 8 a.m. on Mon., Feb. 7 and runs until Mon., Feb. 14 at noon. Check out the auction site and get registered at www.32auctions.com/1920sMurderMysteryAuc2022.

“We’re just getting set-up. More items and descriptions are being added each day leading up to Feb. 7,” adds Justine.

Watch for more details on our Facebook page.

Happy shopping and thanks for your support!



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OVSGA pulls plug on this year's farmshow

OTTAWA – The Ottawa Valley Seed Growers Association (OVSGA) has announced the cancellation of the 2022 Ottawa Valley Farm Show.

Volunteers for the annual show decided that considering the uncertainty and challenges presented by pandemic regulations for exhibitors, the show would have to be cancelled for this year.

The original plan was to hold the farm show from March 15 to 17 this year.

A spokesperson for the show said, "We will be reaching out to all exhibitors and partners over the coming weeks to confirm details and opportunities for the 2023 Ottawa Valley Farm Show to be held March 14 to 16, 2023 at the EY Centre."

The show is celebrating its 95th year and the OVSGA will remain active in the agriculture community.

"Plans continue for March activities including the 2022 Ottawa Valley Championship Seed, Feed and Forage Show and Awards Presentations, local county seed shows and the 30th annual Prestigious Pedigreed Seed Auction with proceeds going to Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. Watch later in the year for OVSGA scholarship opportunities, the annual photo contest and special projects at IPM22."

For more information please visit ottawafarmshow.com.

Group effort keeps the ice clear

This group of Brinston residents are all volunteers who help to keep the outdoor rink at the Matilda Memorial Park open. For the past two winters, the rink has been made by laying a tarp across the entire rink area before water is added to make the ice. When frozen, the ice reaches a depth of up to five inches around its outer edges. The group is lead by the Matilda Recreation Committee.

Morin Photo



Monkland shows their support

Sat., Jan. 29 the parking lots on the corner of Hwy 138 and Hwy 43 were overflowing with people showing their support for the truckers who departed from Cornwall on route to Ottawa.

Vogel Photo

CDAS looks ahead

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – Chesterville and District Agricultural Society held their annual general meeting on Jan. 30 at 1 p.m. via Zoom. During her address to those in attendance, president Carol Johnson expressed the possibility of some type of event being held this year at the Chesterville Fairgrounds. In 2020 and 2021, the Chesterville Fair was cancelled because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The CDAS is planning to hire a fair board secretary, a homecraft secretary and a treasurer, with a call for applications being made once the job descriptions are reviewed by board members. The 2022 board of directors were elected at the AGM, with Carol Johnson and Ann Vanderlind serving as directors at large; Peter Vanderlind will be director of sponsorship; director for homecraft will be Kim Link; Nancy Balazs will serve as director of volunteers; Darren Cooper will be director of grounds and maintenance; Cheyanne Vanderlind will

continue as director of social media and Joshua Pyle will serve as director of information technology. Jacobe Sadler and Rylee Keeler will serve as associate directors for this year. Following the conclusion of the AGM, the newly elected board of directors held a meeting where the 2022 CDAS

executive were chosen. Carol Johnson will continue as president, with Ann Vanderlind continuing as vice president. Scott MacLean will serve as treasurer until a new person is hired for this position, with the secretary and homecraft secretary positions vacant.

For more information,

please visit chestervillefair.com or the Chesterville Fair Facebook page.

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JOHN KENNEDY

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You left me beautiful memories,
Your love is still my guide.
Although I cannot see you,
You're always at my side.
As he said, wherever you go,
I will follow and he does.

Love Jean, Jenna
XXOOXX





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AUCTIONS

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To be held at our facility, 15093 County Rd. 18 East of Osnabruk Center.

This auction will be an Online Timed Auction Sale with dates to be announced once consignments are finalized.

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30-1

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HELP WANTED - Looking for full-time & part-time help on a modern swine & cash crop farm. Located in Finch, ON. Please call Devon at 613-223-7167 for further details.

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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.

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AUCTIONS

ANTIQU & COLLECTABLE ONLINE CHARITY AUCTION

All proceeds going to support the Cornwall Salvation Army Food Bank

Auction opens online February 4th at 12 Noon & closes February 10th at 5:30 p.m. (soft close, staggered).

Auction Features: Over 300 lots of quality antiques and collectables including glass, china, gold and silver jewelry, large qty of vintage cameras and much, much more!

As a charity fundraiser auction - with all proceeds going to support the Salvation Army, this auction will proceed with no Buyers Premium (except applicable processing fees), or HST. Please note the one and only day of pickup, pickup location and the fact that there will be NO PREVIEW for this auction!

Pickup & Checkout: ONE DAY ONLY - Friday, February 11th 11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Please do not participate in this auction if unable to comply - there will be absolutely no exceptions).

Pickup to occur at 500 York Street Cornwall (Crest Community Center).

TERMS: All terms are as presented upon registering and on auction catalog.

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Crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1-58.

Puzzle solution grid with letters.

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.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 3, 2022

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. ___ de Mornay, actress
8. Surrenders
13. Omission
14. The white poplar
15. They become butterflies
19. Used to chop
20. Select
21. Volcanic craters
22. Consumer price index
23. Utilize
24. "True Blood" actress Paquin
25. Got up
26. Sank in
30. Retail
31. Giants
32. Most bald
33. Changes color

- 34. Unit of loudness
35. Undresses
38. Fathers
39. Learned skill
40. Remove qualification
44. Covered with frost
45. Speak up
46. Nowhere to be found
47. Part of surgery (abbr.)
48. Type of wrap
49. Church seating
50. Mathematical figure
51. College football conference
55. Turkish officer title
57. Organized body of knowledge
58. Smooth and glossy
59. Left

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Get back
2. Pass or go by
3. Having a sharp taste
4. Midway between east and southeast
5. Cairo Regional Airport
6. Peace officer
7. Brings to life
8. Automotive vehicles
9. One point south of due east
10. Football position
11. Goes by
12. Most attractive
16. Road divisions
17. Not the sea
18. Small, faint constellation
22. Cabbage
25. Least frequent
27. Change slightly
28. A country in NE Africa

- 29. Metric units of measure
30. More coherent
32. Make uninteresting
34. Nausea
35. Institution of Oceanography
36. Of little value
37. Hindu model of the ideal man
38. Biblical exclamation
40. You throw it at a board
41. Be about to happen
42. Brutal
43. Opened one's mouth widely
45. 19th letter of Greek alphabet
48. Saturate
51. The woman
52. Someone who is highly skilled
53. A way to launch an attack on
54. Where golfers begin
56. Atomic number 58

SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight

Local doggy care made easy

Living with a dog has endless rewards.

Your dog becomes part of your human family, recognizing thousands of years of an evolving dog-human relationship.

Often loving, a dog can be easier to love than another person and one of the thrills of living with any kind of dog is the affection they bring out in us.

For the Love of Dog is a dog boarding and walking business located in Crysler and is owned and operated by Nate Dumoulin and his wife Janet.

Our dogs go everywhere with us and from time to time we have to leave them behind for a short period.

Leaving your best friend and family member with someone else can be stressful unless you are very comfortable with the person and place where your dog will be staying while you are away.

Those rare moments are what help inspire Dumoulin to start up his home-based business.

The business offers a unique environment for a dog that needs to be left behind with a sitter for a day or two. There are no cages, and the dog spends its time in a home environment.

"I started it in April 2019," said Dumoulin.

His love of animals had always been a part of his life.

He said, "This was an opportunity to do what I liked best, and I wanted to provide an in-home solution for people with dogs."

He explained, "At the time when I started this, we had four dogs at home and anytime we wanted to travel or go away for a weekend, we could never find any place to leave our dogs in a home



The full-time residents of For the Love of Dog are, left to right: Kaylee (recently passed) Tilly, Granby is the little one, and Spaghetti is the big girl.

Courtesy Photo

setting. Back then, the closest place to leave our dogs was in Barrhaven. So, I thought why not start something up here."

He started up For the Love of Dog with simply offering to walk dogs for people.

"I started from the ground up by just walking dogs. Then Covid hit and we were shut down entirely and people did not want people in their homes, so I had to start to shift my business toward

something that was going to be more friendly for those people who did not want people in their home."

At that point, Dumoulin started up his doggy day care including overnight and full-time services.

"It is cage free. It is not a kennel setting. When a dog comes here for day care or for overnights, they are never locked up in a cage, ever. The dogs can sleep whenever they want even in bed with us. It is important for us to have a

place for our own dogs where they are comfortable, and I wanted to offer the same situation to others.

I would never want to go somewhere for a week to enjoy myself knowing that my dog was in a cage for that same time."

Overnight clients are restricted to a maximum of five dogs at one time.

"Usually there have been three dogs for overnights. For day care I cap myself at 10."

Dumoulin has split his back yard so that there is a fenced in area for the dogs to exercise and play in.

"People are happy with an environment where their dog is safe and gets to interact with other dogs during the day.

Dumoulin does interview with a prospective dog and its human partner.

"I do an interview before I take a customer on. I go to the person's home and meet their dog, or they come here and meet my dogs and play and run around a bit.

I look at what their dog is doing and look for any form of aggression from them.

It does not always work out."

He wants to see what their dog is like and if they feel comfortable being with him.

Looking after his clients enables him to love his work.

"If I get to hang out with dogs every day, I am in heaven."

You can connect with For the Love of Dog through their Facebook page, or you can book a spot on their web page at www.ftlod.ca.

For the Love of Dog is located at 25 Station Road in Crysler.

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.

Mountain Township Agricultural Society holds AGM

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

SOUTH MOUNTAIN – As the pandemic restrictions begin to shift toward a new kind of normal, the Mountain Township Agricultural Society, (MTAS) is ready to move forward with their plans for 2022.

The society held their annual general meeting on Mon., Jan. 31 at the Mountain Township Agricultural Hall in South Mountain.

The new president of the MTAS is Chloe Preston, she said planning for the next year of activities begins right after the current fair ends. "I am pretty excited," said Preston. "I am hoping we can have a real fair this year and there is a lot coming up for the society. We will have to wait and see how everything goes," she said.

Outgoing president of the society Dermid O'Farrell, who served in that position for the past three years said, "We have a strong nucleus of young people with great interest in the Mountain agricultural society, and we are about to



Pictured here are the directors for the MTAS. The group held their annual general meeting on Jan. 31 at the Mountain Township Agricultural Hall. Board of directors and volunteers of MTAS left to right, first row: Terry Foley, Julie Black, Paul Morgan, Carolyn Barkley, Anna Smail, Karen Lewin (kneeling), Kirk Douglas, Chloe Preston, Shaina Vandemheen, Taylor Ace, Randy Lueders, Frank Fata. Second Row: Dermid O'Farrell, Danny Johnstone, Teresa Palmer, Lise Thurler, Anne MacDonald, Brandon Scheepers, Dylan Barkley, Meghan MacPherson, Travis Drew, Alan Burns, Tyler Russell. Missing from the photo: Peggy Lewin, Peggy Malcolm, Donna Lee O'Farrell and Bob Williams.

Morin Photo

see a major shift in the age of the executive."

O'Farrell described the incoming president as very smart, very dedicated and a real team player.

O'Farrell gave a report of how 2021 went for the society and gave a brief rundown of its

accomplishments.

He said, "We hosted a 4-H dairy achievement day on Aug. 28. The fair was held on Aug. 20 to 22 and we had a tractor and truck pull and two Rodeo events. We also had showcase competitions for home crafts, junior home crafts,

culinary and floriculture. We were active on social media including Facebook and Instagram and continued the use of the hall under EOH new guidelines including an Alliance fundraising ticket dinner for our community, Lions Club meetings, NorDun seniors'

group takeout meals, society board of directors meetings and other events."

The MTAS sold one of their extra lots on the fairgrounds for residential housing and were active in obtaining grants even through COVID.

"[They] completed the

renovations to the information booth on the fairgrounds and raised the funds necessary to pave the agricultural parking lot. The parking lot was completed on Nov. 5, 2021."

MTAS supplied volunteers for the Richmond fair bar, and the society raised the funds to put new fencing around its horse ring, and they are dedicating it to honour Allison Fawcett, a longtime contributor and promoter of horses and cattle over many decades.

"We planted 27 new maple trees on the fairgrounds in 2020, as part of our longer term 100-tree initiative. We created the MTAS Legacy Project Plan and committee to renovate our buildings over several years, starting with the Lila Fawcett exhibit building on our grounds. We have begun to reach out to local business and community groups for support. We installed new water lines on the fairgrounds and had an electrical master plan of the grounds completed, and we also hosted the Parade of Lights. The 2021 South Mountain Fair was held from Aug. 19 to Aug. 22. The 2022 South Mountain Fair is scheduled for Aug. 18 to the 21.



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Russell County 4-H celebrates year end

Bonnie Bergeron

Secretary

Russell 4-H Association

RUSSELL – After another year of COVID restrictions affecting club offerings, Russell County 4-H Association proudly celebrated their year end at the Russell Youth Center, outdoors, in late November.

2021 gave us the opportunity to offer three 4-H Clubs including: Bread Making Club, led by Eileen Blenkarn and Wilma Baas;

Health & Fitness Club, led by Vicki Brisson & Jessica Gratton (both online clubs); and the Dairy Club, led by Darcy Newman, Bonnie Bergeron & Becky Miller, with youth leader Ceilidh Newman, (initially online but switched to in-person meetings by end of June) and a successful achievement day at the Navan Fairgrounds in late August.

Our awards celebration changed format as well, and we were able to meet outdoors at the Russell Youth Center where the members were able to gather up their year end packages, play a few games, and watch a year end video.

The following awards were presented this year to



our members:

First Year Member award: Sabrina Berger, Hudzen Miller-Gratton, Cali Olive, Emily Smygwy, Felix Tessier, and Zoe

Tessier

Twelve Projects Award: Ceilidh Newman and Hailey Smygwy

Eighteen Projects Award: Celina Hildbrand, Edward Larocque, and Anick Regimbald

Thirty Project Award: Rebecca Baas

Thirty-Six Project Award: Tanya Regimbald, Osianna Williams

Forty-Two Project Award: Melissa Brisson

Youth Leader Award: Ceilidh Newman & Osianna Williams

Most Enthusiastic Member Bread Making Club: Sabrina Berger

Most Enthusiastic Member Health & Fitness Club: Celina Hildbrand

Most Enthusiastic Member Dairy Club: Tanya Regimbald

Graduating Member Award: Melissa Brisson, Celina Hildbrand, Edward Larocque and William Baumgartner.

The Jack James Memorial Award for outstanding leadership was awarded to Tanya Regimbald of Sarsfield. Tanya is studying Agriculture in St. Hyacinthe and was also the most Enthusiastic Member of the Dairy Club this past year.

To date, she has completed 36 4-H projects.

Our 4-H Clubs could not be offered without the contributions of many volunteers: Wilma Baas, Eileen Blenkarn, Vicki Brisson, Julie Brisson, Jessica Gratton, Pegi Holtz, Lois James, Darcy Newman, Elizabeth O’Gorman-Smits, Wanda Williams and Bonnie Bergeron.

Our annual general meeting will be held by Zoom meeting on Feb 9, and we will know at that time which clubs will be offered during the upcoming months!



CMHA Ontario moves mental health conversation forward

Sandy Casselman
Villager Staff

CORNWALL – “I think the greatest gift you can give someone is to listen,” Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Ontario Division, chief executive officer Camille

Quenneville said. “We’re all so busy and we’re all so preoccupied with our own lives, and to stop and actually give someone attention, to hear them, is so incredibly important and particularly as it relates to someone telling their story

about their own mental health.”

Last week, as CMHA branches throughout the country participated in the twelfth annual Bell Let’s Talk Day in a variety of ways, Ontario’s CMHA branches chose to host two virtual events showcasing panels of individuals with lived experience. On Jan. 26, there was a one-hour morning session and a 1.5-hour evening session. Each session included an introduction, a discussion with panelists, and a viewer question-and-answer session. Links to resources were given in the Zoom chat window and sent to registrants via email after the event.

“Thank you all for joining us today and welcome to our provincial event to recognize Bell Let’s Talk Day. This campaign is dedicated to moving mental health forward in Canada. The

strategy is built on four pillars: anti-stigma, improving access to care, supporting world class research, and leading by example in workplace mental health, which is somewhere that we think we need to be having these conversations more and more,” CMHA Hamilton’s Jill Dennison said, introducing the morning session. “Let’s make a difference. Let’s have those conversations. Keep listening. Keep talking. Keep the conversations going. And we’d also like to encourage you to keep hope alive.”

The morning session included three panelists: Mitchell Roy, Phoenix Whittaker, and Lindsay Kirkland. The evening session included six panelists: David McGinty, Imam Tarek, Tvisha Ijner, Kaya Bartlewski, Chantal Petrella, and Delaney G.A. Drachenberg. Quenneville

acted as moderator for both webinars.

“We’re going to talk about three important things today, none of which gets the attention they deserve,” Quenneville said. “We’re going to talk about listening. We’re going to talk about talking and telling our story, and we’re going to talk about hope.”

Quenneville invited panelists to talk about their personal experiences by asking questions. For example, early in the conversation, she asked panelists to talk about a time when someone was there to listen to them. Through answering the moderator’s questions, panelists shared their mental health stories with each other and with the audience.

Both sessions are available for viewing on Facebook. While both were in English, CMHA Champlain East’s Angele

D’Alessio provided an introduction in French at the beginning of each webinar for Francophone viewers. The evening session was introduced by Kelley Curtis.

The list of resources sent to all webinar registrants included CMHA’s website (Ontario.cmha.ca), the BounceBack program (bouncebackontario.ca), ConnexOntario (1-866-531-2600 and/or connexontario.ca), and Crisis Services Canada (1-833-456-4566 and/or crisisservicescanada.ca). The ConnexOntario number is available 24/7 and offers support in more than 170 languages. The Crisis Services Ontario number is for those currently in crisis or having thoughts of suicide.

The 2022 Bell Let’s Talk Day campaign saw its largest support to date with roughly 164.3 million messages of support shared via social media. This year, the campaign created more than \$8.2 million in new mental health funding by Bell.

RHS Report

By Janel Therkelsen
Student Reporter



Good day to you all!

Today is officially the second day of the semester system change, and boy is it strange to be back! I personally haven’t functioned in this type of schedule since the middle of Grade 10. But here we are, two years later, going back to what we would consider a “normal” school environment.

Due to this schedule change, we have gone from two classes to four. Some people preferred the quadmester system because of only having the two classes at a time. Although the classes are long, it was way easier to manage schoolwork. I’ve already noticed a huge change in the pace of the day, and it’s only been one day. I would say I’m really qualified to give advice- after all, I have been in school for a crazy long time, and I will be graduating this year. However, my advice is to not stray too far behind in school work or lessons, as that will add even more of that kind of inescapable stress which literally no one needs right now. Another piece of advice: stay organized. Like ‘oh my God’, the amount of disorganization I’ve seen in my school life is tremendous. So yes, be organized so you know where to find specific stuff or so you know when certain projects and assignments are due. I wish everyone good luck with the new semester system.

I would also like to give a shout out to a really great friend of mine, Ilaria, an exchange student who unfortunately went back to her home town in Italy a couple of days ago. We will all miss you! I hope you loved it here in Canada!

Follow-up to the Township Building leased to Brasserie Étienne Brûlé

Office of the Mayor – January 25, 2022

Dear residents,

In my statement on the sale of the building currently leased to Brasserie Étienne Brûlé on Jan. 25, I stated, “even offering to trade the building for a portion of the approximate 100 acres of land owned by the tenant on St-Guillaume Road near our industrial park.”

Based on Mr. Ménard’s response in the article of *Le Droit* today (and after discussion with staff), I realize that I misunderstood what was precisely said between staff and Mr. Ménard. Council had discussed the possibility of a land trade, but this was not specifically part of discussions with Mr. Ménard.

Staff did discuss his commercial land; however, the approach was rather for the land to be collateral to

protect the interest of the taxpayer, should there have been issues with recouping lease payments. Mr. Ménard indicated he had no wish to discuss options regarding his land, so staff never presented the trade option. My intention of mentioning this in my initial statement was to show council’s willingness to use creative solutions during these difficult times of COVID-19.

I would like to publicly apologize to Mr. Ménard for my error. I am encouraged to see Mr. Ménard is open to the possibility of this type of creative solution, and staff will be reaching out to Mr. Ménard privately to continue discussions. Should this solution not be possible, I invite Mr. Ménard to discuss other suggestions with staff for council’s consideration.

Sincerely, Pierre Leroux, Mayor