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Briefly

1920s Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre

WINCHESTER – The WDMH Foundation's 1920s Murder Mystery is on Sat., Feb 12. The event has a 1920s theme. Starting with a cocktail hour, the main meal will be a delicious plated dinner including stuffed chicken and ham roast, by Traiteur La Bonne Bouffe Catering and a live auction by Brandon Scheepers, music by Ice - No Slice, theatre production by Murder on the Funny Side Theatre Productions.

Tickets are available online at allevents.in and can also be purchased at the WDMH Foundation (contact Justine at 613-774-2422 x 6172 or by emailing jplummer@wdmh.on.ca).

Healthy Hike in Warwick

BERWICK – South Nation Conservation is hosting a Healthy Hike at the Warwick Forest Conservation Area in Berwick on Sat., Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free hot chocolate, snowshoe rentals, live music, bilingual Story Walk, treats, and family fun. Event located at 15755 County Road 9.

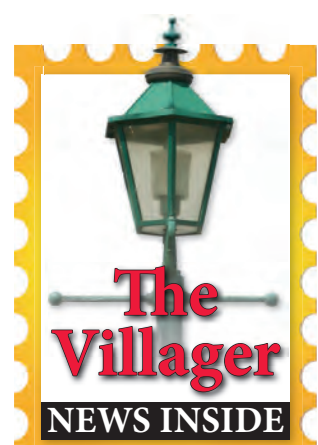
Snowmobile Rally

MOUNTAIN – The Mountain Trail Blazers Snowmobile Rally is planned for Sat., Feb. 12. Registration is from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be an all-day breakfast, a hot dog roast and campfire. For more information call: Heather 613-989-6145 or John 613-989-5477.

Crysler Winter Carnival

CRYSLER – See page 9 for a look at what is going on at the Chrysler Winter Carnival Pandemic Version TAKE 2. The fun event is planned for Feb. 18 to Feb. 20.

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PM40050631R8905 Volume 129, Number 31 Chesterville, Ontario Thursday, February 10, 2022 Single Copy \$1.00 (HST included)



Family fun at the Moose Creek Winter Carnival

It was carnival weekend in Moose Creek, with lots of family friendly events on Feb. 5 and 6. From the left: Violet Rochette and Samantha Delhey are shown near the bountiful gift baskets which were won by Sarah Nuttall and raised over one thousand dollars for the new Moose Creek Hall construction project. See story on page 6.

Thompson Goddard Photo

The Record's Carol Goddard receives Ontario Volunteer Service Award

Sandy Casselman
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – The Chesterville Record's Carol Goddard is a recipient of this year's Ontario Volunteer Services Award.

The virtual ceremony was held Feb. 8. Ontario Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism Parm Gill was one of the webinar presenters. He was joined by Canadian Mental Health Association volunteer coordinator Aleena Needham, and by Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries regional development advisor Joël Gauthier.

Goddard was nominated by the St. Lawrence Branch of the United Empire Loyalists Association of Canada (UELAC) of which she's been an active member for roughly 20 years. She's served on the executive in a variety

Continued on page 3

Rural Education Symposium

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – On Feb. 3, the United Counties of Stormont Dundas and Glengarry hosted a virtual Rural Education Symposium that highlighted several important issues facing rural education in Ontario.

During the lengthy event, speakers included Doug Reycraft from the Community Schools Alliance, Marcus Ryan of the Rural Education Task Force from the Thames Valley District School Board. Dr. Paul Bennett spoke on the importance of schools in rural communities. South Dundas Deputy Mayor Kirsten Gardner and South Glengarry Deputy Mayor Stephanie Jaworski provided information on the challenges facing rural students in SDG.

SDG warden Carma Williams welcomed people to the event, commenting how it is hoped the symposium will provide a "greater appreciation of the challenges facing rural schools in our province." Williams continued, in 2019, the United Counties of SDG identified one of the four strategic priorities being the importance of rural education and subsequently hired Horizon Education Consultants to provide a report identifying the challenges facing students in our area.

Gardner and Jaworski spoke on three case studies in SDG, examining schools in North Glengarry, South Stormont, and South Dundas. Some of the issues raised during their presentation included substandard access to internet, the effect of

Continued on page 3




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February is HEART MONTH



The risk factors and symptoms of heart failure

Did you know that approximately 600,000 Canadians live with heart failure? This February, in honour of Heart Month, the Heart and Stroke Foundation is focusing its efforts on raising awareness about this condition. Here's what you should know.

Risk factors

Heart failure is a condition that develops after the heart becomes damaged or weakened. The term doesn't mean the heart has failed or

stopped working. Rather, it refers to a heart that works inefficiently and doesn't pump blood as well as it should.

This condition often affects people with high blood pressure or who've had a heart attack. However, several other conditions and lifestyle habits are linked to heart failure, including:

- Heart valve disease
- Myocarditis

- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Obesity
- High cholesterol
- Diabetes

In addition, individuals who are 65 and older have an increased risk of being diagnosed with heart failure because aging can weaken and stiffen the heart.

Symptoms

The most common signs of heart failure include:

- Difficulty breathing, especially when lying down

- Rapid weight gain (two kilograms or more in less than a week)
- Bloating or a feeling of fullness
- Severe fatigue
- Changes in appetite
- Swelling in the abdomen, feet, ankles, legs and lower spine
- Increased urge to urinate overnight

Visit your doctor right away if you experience any of these symptoms. For more information, visit heartandstroke.ca.

Be heart smart!



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North Dundas sets water and sewer rates

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

WINCHESTER – The water and sewer rates for Winchester and Chesterville have increased to keep up with the Consumer Price Index.

The North Dundas council agreed to set their water and sewer rates for 2022 at their Feb. 8 meeting.

The rate increase is based on the township of North Dundas' Drinking Water and Wastewater Study that was completed by Ken Sharratt of Sharratt Water Management Ltd. in July 2020. The proposed bylaw was brought to council and the public on Jan. 18 for feedback, and the Feb. 8 meeting was back for the third and final reading of the bylaw.

The director of Public Works, Khurram Tunio told council in his report about the bylaw that no comments have been received from the public after the first and second reading of this bylaw.

Water consumption in the villages of Winchester and Chesterville is measured by cubic water meters.

A cubic water meter is the equivalent

and has a mass of 1000 kg, or one tonne.

The following is a list of fixed fees to be charged for each cubic meter based on the size of the pipe being used. The average house pipe size is one inch. This fee is only charged once each year and then there is an actual monthly fee for the amount of water used which is \$1.20 per cubic meter.

Meter size fixed annual fee:

- 0.60 inches \$116.97
- 0.75 inches \$116.97
- 1.0 inches \$162.36
- 1.5 inches \$208.75
- 2.0 inches \$336.32
- 2.5 inches \$811.32
- 3.0 inches \$1,276.71
- 4.0 inches \$1,623.63
- 6.0 inches \$2,436.45

According to the report presented by Public Works, the sewer charges for Parmalat, that returns 10,000 cubic meters to the sewer system each year will be billed \$20,040 per year for unmetered sewage.

In Canada it has been estimated that the average family of four uses about 329 L of water, the average

Quebecer uses 400 L of water per person, and, according to the Ville de Montréal, the average Montrealer uses 225 L of water per person.

Miscellaneous charges in the bylaw include:

- i) Water and/or Sewer Connection Application \$5600
- ii) Miscellaneous sale of water to individuals or companies not connected to the water system \$5.10 per cubic meter
- iii) Account Setup Charge \$9.20+HST
- iv) Manual Water Read Charge \$25.50+HST
- v) Data Logger Download Charge \$25.50+HST
- vi) Collection Charge (24 hour shut off notice) \$6.88+HST
- vii) Disconnection Charge \$40.80+HST
- viii) Reconnection Charge \$40.80+HST
- ix) NSF Charge \$25.50+HST
- x) Water/Sewer Customer Deposit \$205

Rural Education

Continued from the front

French Immersion on school population and the cost of bussing. When describing schools in Alexandria, Jaworski mentioned it is not unusual for a minimum of four school buses to travel on each rural road due to each school board using separate school buses for transportation.

Jaworski noted that in the case of South Stormont, the importance of French immersion instruction as relating to school population growth or decline. Longue Sault Public School saw an increase in student population after the introduction of French Immersion. However, Rothwell Osnabruck Elementary, a Core English school, there was a significant impact on school population.

In the case of South Dundas, Gardner mentioned Iroquois Public School is designated as the French Immersion School, with Morrisburg Public School the Core School. She provided viewers with a pie chart that demonstrated that 78 students from

Morrisburg attend Iroquois Public School for French Immersion and commented four classrooms at MPS are used for the provision of day care services which are categorized as "empty school spaces". Gardner noted the success of rural elementary contributes significantly to the success of secondary schools in rural communities.

Some of the challenges facing rural schools included substandard internet access, which is becoming more important due to online learning as well as long bus rides affecting both economic and social wellness. Both Gardner and Jaworski mentioned collaboration between all school boards to enhance the quality of education in the united counties.

Following this presentation, Doug Reycraft of the Community Schools Alliance provided information on the social and economic impacts of school closures. He commented that students should have the opportunity to be educated in their community, with the school often serving as a hub in the community.

School closure in rural areas can result in people not choosing to move to the

community or leave it altogether; something that Reycraft mentions doesn't happen to the same degree in urban communities.

Reycraft explained it is important to base decisions on education infrastructure and look at how changes affect the students and the community. It is difficult to find research that proves the negative impact on the community of rural school closures, to which he added the effects often happen over an extended period. The CSA hired Human Environment Analysis Lab to objectively research the "connection between a community's viability and vitality and the presence or absence of a school within the community." The report indicated how closing a school in a single school community has several effects including a reduction in social and economic growth, indicating how schools do serve an important purpose.

The Thames Valley District School Board in southwestern Ontario was created in 1998 with rural, suburban, and urban communities. Marcus Ryan, from the Rural Education Task Force, explained the RETF was initiated by TVDSB trustees with the goal of providing

information to them on understanding the role of rural schools. They were tasked with consulting with parents, students, community, or municipal leaders to identify unique challenges and opportunity. Ryan explained that schools in rural areas provide access to a variety of services and events which in urban areas are provided outside the school.

He is hopeful that similar task forces may be set up across the province to help provide more information to those in elected offices. The report will be provided to the school board in October 2022, with Ryan mentioning four themes being touched upon: the community importance of school, equality of programming opportunities, considering the needs of rural communities in decision making and making funding more understandable for the public.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Paul Bennett, director of Schoolhouse Institute; he has extensive knowledge of rural schools and their importance to the community. He provided information on the role of rural schools, as well as providing information on dealing with the

Carol Goddard

Continued from the front

of roles. She's also organized meetings and a couple of events.

The Ontario Volunteer Services Awards recognize volunteers who have been committed to an organization through dedicated service for an extended period. While adult nominees must have a minimum of five years logged with an organization, youth – those 24 years old or younger – need only two.

Organizations must be at least five years old before they can nominate volunteers for the award. Each organization is permitted to nominate nine volunteers. Adult nominees must be living residents of Ontario who actively volunteer in the province. They must not have received payment for their work or performed those services as part of their regular business or professional duties. In addition, the nominee must be active beyond simple membership in the organization.

Goddard said she was surprised and, although it's not why she volunteers, she's very happy to be nominated for the award. She joined UELAC because she is a Loyalist descendant.

While Ontario Volunteer Services Awards' recipients are usually presented with a personalized certificate and lapel pin acknowledging their years of service during a recognition ceremony, this year's recipients will receive their certificates and pins by mail, as the ceremony is to be held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

accommodation review process. He discussed the central role of schools in rural communities as community hubs, which he suggests is a fundamental approach to school reviews.

Rural schools were described by Bennett as being the heart of a rural community. He suggests that the small schools provide stronger reciprocal relationships between students and staff, and smaller schools are cheaper to run in the long-term. He

described situations where community members are invited into the school to contribute to student learning, and in turn, student learning activities contributing to the community.

The symposium provided a significant amount of information for those interested in ensuring the revitalization of local communities and recognizing the important role rural schools' play in this process.

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EDITORIAL & Opinion

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Letter

Dear Editor,

A wake-up call to the Canadian government. Fourteen years ago my youngest daughter, a wife, mother of two young children died at the age of 40 being diagnosed with cancer. Having found evidence in her breast and consulted her doctor and since 40 year olds were not given mammograms as a rule, she wasn't sent for a mammogram test. Six months later at age 41 she was given the word that she had cancer in four areas of her body. In 2022 no change has been made by the Canadian government to the ruling when many young women are dying under the age of 40 for the lack of mammograms. How long before hospitals have the best detection equipment available for mammograms; all cancer operations on hold. Also another ruling waiting for too long is the wage increase made over too many years to give people in the front line of the healthcare system a 10 per cent raise in pay, which is still 1 per cent raise yearly and yet the Canadian government is willing to call them heroes being stressed to the limit, overworked, with long hours and lack of needed help. Wake-up Canadian government!

Donna Wilson

Editorial

Community partnerships make the world go round

A healthy community is a nice thing to have and to live in.

The opening of the skate shack in Iroquois on Sun., Feb. 6 was a wonderful example of what happens when the local municipal government partners with several private groups to get something done for their community.

The outdoor hockey rink in Haldane Park in Iroquois is etched in the memory of most of its citizens.

More older residents than not, can tell you stories about when they were little ones, playing hockey or skating on the outdoor rink in the park.

The rink is part of so many memories, that keeping it operational has been high on the list of many, hence the number of volunteers that work on the rink every winter so that everyone can have fun.

Judging by the number

of hockey players and their parents who were at the rink on Sunday to enjoy the afternoon as well as the new skate shack, the rink is still a central focus for the Iroquois' community.

The rink always had a building where children could put their skates on and warm up, but time had made the former skate building look like it was now past its prime – and it was.

A conversation between Ron Swank of Swank Construction and South Dundas Mayor Stephen Byvelds resulted in the beginning of an idea to replace the older skate shack.

Before you knew it, ten local contractors and builders had signed up to help build a new skate shack.

Add to that, the army of community volunteers who make the rink happen every winter and the result was predetermined.

The efforts of an entire community helped to put together a great plan to ensure their community rink and skating shack remained a part of every child's memory in Iroquois.

Getting projects like this done seems to be easy when everyone pitches in.

So many rural villages in Eastern Ontario enjoy the same kind of partnerships between municipal employees and private operator in the community and consequently rural Ontario has many community projects that have come and gone because of this unique relationship.

Throughout all of SD&G you can find community projects from cenotaphs to community gardens to outdoor hockey rinks that have been undertaken and completed by community members with some help from their

local council.

It's comforting to know that despite what is going on around them in terms of political upheaval or social issues, community members are still able to rally around the idea of helping one another whenever they want something done.

That same cooperation extends to all organizations from the local Rotary Club to the Village Historical Society, and that is something I think we all want to keep happening.

From fundraising for hospital equipment, to building a new skate shack, to coming out at six in the morning to flood a community hockey rink, you cannot thank your fellow volunteers enough.

It would seem, that sharing and caring in any community is the rule not the exception.

Joseph Morin

Nomination process begins for SDSG PC Association

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

CORNWALL – With the retirement of Conservative MPP Jim McDonell the process of finding someone to take on his role and seat in Stormont Dundas South Glengary riding has begun.

The candidate that will come out of the nomination process, and will run for McDonell's seat has not been decided as yet and the time for members of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party to declare himself or herself a candidate for the job will be closing in the weeks to come.

To date there are two residents who have put themselves up for the position.

They are: in alphabetical order by last name, Andrew Guindon and Nolan Quinn.

Volunteering to chair the committee overseeing the nomination and association's election process is MP Eric Duncan.

He said, "I am actually volunteering as the Chair of the Stormont Dundas South Glengary PC Association's nomination committee to lead the process to find a new PC candidate locally. I am neutral in my role, and my job is to work with our committee to interview prospective candidates and organize the nomination process and upcoming vote."

The party invites residents of the riding to show their support for their preferred candidate by signing up for an SDSG PC Association membership.

It's easy to do and the association offers several different levels of membership starting at just \$10 a year. Once you are a member you are entitled to cast a vote when the time comes to select a new candidate. To obtain an association membership please go to www.OntarioPC.ca/Join

"There is no cut off date for membership sales or a nomination vote date set at this time. We hope to announce in the coming weeks," said Duncan.

To find out more information about the two candidates declared so far go to their respective websites, with bio and contact information for each. They are:

www.AndrewGuindon.ca and www.NolanQuinn.ca

Let the love of learning flourish in our communities

I have often commented that our family businesses were education and electricity.

My dad, a couple of brothers, some nephews and great nephews are local electricians providing quality work since the 1940s.

When you look at the field of education, well that is a legacy from both sides of the family, with teachers and trustees galore on both sides of my family tree.

As a youngster, I had numerous opportunities to listen to discussions between my mom and dad, a teacher, and a trustee respectively. These discussions generally boiled down to ensuring students in our rural area had similar opportunities in education to the students in urban areas.

I was a spectator to many changes in the Ontario educational system: the introduction of "new math" which I still have a bit of difficulty understanding, the closing of one-room schoolhouses with students moving to the schools in local small communities, and I have seen the effects of school closures both in local rural and urban areas, with my children being directly affected in their high school years.

This past week, I had the opportunity to attend the Symposium

on Rural Education hosted by the United Counties of SDG. I listened as speakers talked about the importance of rural schools to the communities they serve and the effects of school closures on those communities.

Speakers discussed how in rural communities; the local school is a community hub providing to people services that in urban areas are provided in other venues. These benefits include access to social, medical, and economic opportunities. Information on the effects of school closures in rural areas were discussed, with note being made that often these effects are felt over a span of several years.

Also of note was the increased bussing time, which rural students of all ages experience, with multiple buses travelling on rural roads to pick up students attending schools from different school boards. The long bus rides in rural areas often have an effect on students working in jobs both on and off the farm.

The importance of local stakeholders in the community to the educational process and students being able, through class projects provide something special to their community.

Prior to the pandemic, schools were able to have community visitors speak to students about their community and the world beyond. In many cases the foundation of a sense of community pride begins in the classrooms of rural schools.

In my case, I remember quite well Anna Smith Marcellus coming to our class and speaking about the history of Chesterville, Cub meetings in the gym at Chesterville Public School and a board of trustees seeking to ensure our school prospered.

I am quite sure that this symposium has provided information on ways to enhance the educational opportunities of our students. There are indeed obstacles which must be overcome moving forward, which include ensuring an equitable access to high-speed internet and having discussions with community stakeholders and of course funding models. Obstacles to student learning in rural areas need to be overcome because the failure to do so could be devastating for generations to come. Collaboration and communication between parties involved in education is required to ensure the future viability of the rural communities and the people who call them home.

Carol Goddard



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New rink shack at Haldane Park in Iroquois

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

IROQUOIS – In Iroquois, the new outdoor rink, rink shack at Haldane Park officially opened on Sun., Feb. 6.

The popular local park and rink have been a longstanding community feature in Iroquois.

The old rink shack needed to be replaced.

The challenge was who would pay for a new shack during a time of austerity when it comes to financial commitments from municipalities. This was not a South Dundas issue but one shared in municipalities throughout Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry.

In the end, a partnership between the South Dundas and various private interests in the community got the job done.

South Dundas Mayor Steven Byvelde explained a little bit of the history behind the skate shack.

“A number of years ago we had an old building here that was built in seaway times.”

He said it did the job it was intended to but over time it naturally aged and needed repairs.



The new ice shack at Haldane Park in Iroquois opened on Sun., Feb. 6. In this photo are the various people who contributed their time, materials, and skills to the rink shack project. Left to right are: South Dundas Coun. Archie Mellan, Bill Ewing, Coun. Don Lewis, Mayor Steven Byvelde, Ron Swank, Jamie Thompson, Devin Swank and Jesse Swank.

Morin Photo



The Lions Winter Classic was fun for everyone. Here the group of players that enjoyed a day of hockey at Haldane Park gather for a fun photo.

Courtesy Photo



Warming up before the Winter Classic was Nolan Tyo, coming in on goalie Nash Dempsey.

Morin Photo

“I met with Ron Swank and his family over another issue and Ron mentioned that he would like to put a project together to rebuild the rink shack here.”

“It was a great idea,” said Byvelde, “I brought it to council and council agreed to allow him to spearhead the project along with numerous contributors. From my point of view, it was a good community project.”

Ron Swank of Swank Construction Ltd. has been an avid supporter of projects in his community.

“He thought this was a great project for Swank Construction to take on,” said Swank.

“I grew up in this town and my family spent numerous hours on this rink as a kid and now my children have grown up and my grandchildren play on this rink.”

He said it was special to be able to give something back to their community.

Swank remembered that the moment he knew he

was going to move forward with the project he called on Jamie Thompson of Thompson Timber Mart.

Without hesitation Jamie said, “I am all in, whatever you need just let me know,” said Swank.

“From there I went and approached some other businesses outside the area.”

Swank was joined by Thompson Timber Mart, Lloyd McMillan

Equipment, Bill’s Towing & Recovery, Cornwall Roof Truss, Rick McKee Painting, Merkley Energy Solutions, Gentek Windows, Stonegate Architectural Services and Locke’s Rentals & Welding and South Dundas staff.

The construction took about two months from beginning to end.

After the opening of the ice shack the day’s other big event got underway; the South Dundas Lions 2022 Winter Classic featuring U-9 players.

It’s carnival time!

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

MOOSE CREEK – It was carnival weekend in Moose Creek, with lots of family friendly events on Feb. 5 and 6.

The two-day carnival, organized by the Moose Creek Recreational Association, provided the opportunity to enjoy some outdoor winter fun. Participants were able to enjoy some “maple taffy, hot chocolate, snow sculptures, scavenger hunt and snow painting for the kids,” with the opportunity to enjoy a Beavertail adding to the enjoyment of the carnival.

Over at the ice rink, the Beaver Swamp Hockey tournament, organized by Richard Bellefeuille, provided some exciting entertainment throughout the carnival. The hockey tournament will provide \$5,900 to the CHEO Foundation.

In addition to the activities in Moose Creek, on Sunday, the carnival featured a euchre tournament held at A Taste of Health located on the outskirts of Moose



From the left: Cecile Cuernier, Lina Arcand and Jeannette Scott are patiently waiting for the Moose Creek Winter Carnival’s euchre tournament held at A Taste of Health on Feb. 6. Organizers were pleased with the turnout for the event.

Thompson Goddard Photo

Creek. Working with the Moose Creek Recreation Association, A Taste of Health organized a draw for gift baskets, with a selection of products including maple syrup, gift certificates and beverages. Delhey Electric facilitated the draw with Sarah Nuttall winning the prize baskets and \$1,170 dollars raised for the new Moose Creek Hall construction project.

“Fixing it up was no longer the right way to go,” he said.

The municipality looked at several options of what to do and how they would do it; cost was an issue.



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South Dundas Fire and Emergency Services receives funding for training

Sandy Casselman
Record Staff

MORRISBURG – “This funding program has allowed the South Dundas Fire and Emergency Services (SDFES) to purchase a variety of training manuals to help assist in the ongoing education of our firefighters,” SDFES fire chief Cameron Morehouse said.

SDFES was one of 50 fire departments in Ontario that received a portion of this year’s \$250,000 funding from Enbridge Gas through the Safe Community Project Assist program. The program was

launched in 2012 with the fire marshal’s Public Fire Safety Council, and since then 244 grants have been dispersed. The program supplements exiting training for Ontario volunteer and composite fire departments in communities where Enbridge operates.

“At Enbridge Gas, safety is our priority,” Enbridge Gas Eastern Region Operations and Gazifere operations director Jean-Benoit Trahan said. “We’re proud to support Ontario firefighters who share our commitment to keeping our communities safe.”

Funds are to be used to



South Dundas Fire and Emergency Services (SDFES) fire chief Cameron Morehouse (left) is pictured alongside SDFES assistant coordinator Chris Paulino showcasing the purchases made possible through the Safe Community Project Assist program funding received from Enbridge Gas. South Dundas was one of 50 Ontario fire departments to receive a portion of this year’s \$250,000 funding. Courtesy Photo

purchase educational materials for firefighters to enhance life-saving techniques. SDFES has three fire stations in the Municipality of South Dundas with more than 60 firefighters serving the department for emergencies, public education, and community programs.

“The proper training can be the difference in dangerous situations,” Morehouse said. “By supporting our firefighters, we can protect our citizens.”

Are you getting your best return?



When it comes to taxes, every scenario is different. Getting the most for you and your family is priority.

Tax deductions are used to reduce your income before any credits are used. Tax deductions are amounts you subtract from your total income to make your taxable income lower. An example is self-employed business expenses.

Tax credits are amounts that reduce the tax you pay on your taxable income. Some credits are refundable, and some are not. Non-refundable tax credits reduce your tax payable to zero but do not increase your refund below that.

Refundable tax credits will allow you to increase your refund. When the total of these amounts are more than the taxes due, these credits will give you a refund. An example of a refundable credit is the GST/HST credit.

GST/HST credit: This credit is a refundable tax credit available to families to assist low to modest income Canadians to offset the tax they pay on consumer goods and services.

Ontario Trillium Benefit (OTB): This is a refundable credit to assist low-income families in paying for energy costs, sales tax, and property tax. It combines three tax credits into one payment. Eligibility is determined by your previous years’ income.

Charitable Tax Credit: When you donate to a charity you can receive a tax benefit. This is available to anyone who donates to a registered charity.

Work from home expenses: This credit was introduced in 2020 and has been increased to \$500 for the 2021 year. This flat rate amount can be claimed if you worked from home during the year. If your employer provides you with the new T2200s “Declaration of conditions of employment for working at home due to COVID-19,” it will outline what expenses you can claim against your income.

Canada Workers Benefit: a refundable tax credit available for low-income individuals in the workforce. To be eligible, you have to earn no less than \$3,000 to a maximum of \$42,197.

Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP): Contributing to your RRSP reduces your net income. If you received CRB during 2021 and your income is over \$38,000 you will have to repay a portion or all your benefits. Purchasing RRSP’s can reduce your income below the \$38,000 and allow you to keep your benefits.

Climate Action Incentive (CAI): The CAI helps to offset the fuel charge for the cost of your gas or heating bills. You are allowed one credit per household. In the previous years you would have seen this amount added to your refund when you filed your tax return. For 2021, the government will be issuing quarterly payments like the GST/HST payments.

Watch for the next issue of tax knowledge. Happy tax filing!



Empty Bowls luncheon cancelled until 2023

Jim Millard

Community Food Share

WILLIAMSBURG – The annual Empty Bowls luncheon scheduled for Sat., Feb. 12 and sponsored by Community Food Share has been postponed again for 2022; a victim of the COVID pandemic. Last

held in 2020, just prior to the start of the pandemic, the event provides participants a warm bowl of soup in a hand-fashioned bowl they can take home. The bowls, provided by several area artisans are each one-of-a-kind ensuring that tickets are always

snapped up early. The event has been re-scheduled for Feb. 11, 2023, again at the Williamsburg Christian Reform Church.

The postponement is one of many disappointments for the local charity that provides emergency food supplies for several hundred

clients in Dundas and Stormont counties. The good news is that despite all fundraising activities having been cancelled during the past two years, Community Food Share is still able to meet the needs of its clients; that is thanks to the overwhelming generosity of our community and support from federal, provincial,

and local governments. That assistance has enabled Community Food Share to provide enough healthy, nutritious food for a family, for a period of seven to nine days, compared to the previous five to seven days' supply. After offering curbside pick-up of food by clients during the pandemic, plans are being made for a

gradual return later this year to the client-choice model that had been in place for several years. For more information about Community Food Share, check our website or Facebook page.

For additional information, please contact Jane Schoones at 613-898-0781.

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Crysler Winter Carnival

PANDEMIC VERSION TAKE 2

FEBRUARY 18 - 20, 2022

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

North vs South Friendly Competition

ATTENTION ALL CRYSLER RESIDENTS! Get ready for our North vs South Contest. Throughout the carnival, you will have a chance to accumulate points for your side of town. North is blue and South is red. Even though the Nation River divides our town, we are still united by our community. Come out and enjoy the festivities' pandemic edition!

Winter Carnival Kick off challenges - Join our Chrysler Winter Carnival North vs South Challenge 2022 (Pandemic Edition TAKE 2) Facebook page to share all your pictures. If you do not have a Facebook account send your picture to cryslerwc@gmail.com, we will gladly post them for you. For all other information join our Chrysler Community Centre Facebook page.

Friday challenge - Decorate your house with the colour of your side of town and tell us why your side is the best! The South side of the Nation River is RED, North side is BLUE. (50 pts.)

4 p.m. Tony's Rockathon in Community Centres. Chrysler Firefighters host Tony's Rockathon in memory of Tony Briere begins at 4 p.m. Participants will rock for 24 hours to raise money for ODR.

7 - 8 p.m. Facebook KAHOOT family trivia night. Join the Carnival team on the Chrysler Community Centre Facebook page for a night of trivia on Kahoot!

7 - 9 p.m. Rock n' skate at the ODR (proof of vaccination with QR code)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH

Between 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Winterland Family Challenges. Join the Carnival team at John Chrysler Park for the Family Challenges to win points for your side of town! Dress according to the weather as all activities are outdoors.

1 - 4 p.m. GAMES TO GO TRUCK - VIDEO GAMES' CHALLENGES

1 - 3 p.m. Snowshoes in the Trail

Free hot chocolate and buy hot dogs and our hot pastry treat - "a bonhomme bum".

Other Online Challenges on our Chrysler Winter Carnival North vs South Challenge 2022:

Tik Tok dance (20 pts.)

Use one of the following songs: Blue team: Blue by Eiffel65 or Out of the blue by Aaron Prichett. Red team: 99 red balloons by Neva or Seeing Red by Dustin Lynch.

JOHN CRYSLER PARK

6 - 8 p.m. Music and Fireworks (7 p.m.)

8 - 11 p.m. Caribou party. MUSIC under the Gazebo- bonfire.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH

Take out spaghetti dinner. We cannot end our Winter Carnival without having our traditional spaghetti dinner. You will need to pre-order by calling 613-987-2466 or filling out the form on the Chrysler Community Centre Facebook page. Deadline February 15, 8 p.m. (Electronic transfers for payments). You can pick up your pre-ordered, pre-paid meal from 3 - 5 p.m. at the community center kitchen door. \$25 for a meal for two people. All details on our Facebook page.

6 p.m. Announcement of winners of challenges and 50-50 Draw will take place at 6 p.m. on our Facebook page -Facebook live. 50-50 tickets sales at Home Hardware or the Old General Store.

More info on our pages on FACEBOOK Chrysler Community Centre page and Chrysler Winter Carnival North vs South Challenge 2022 (Pandemic Edition TAKE 2).

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COMING EVENTS

MOUNTAIN TRAIL BLAZERS SNOWMOBILE RALLY, FEB. 12, 2022

Registration from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. All day breakfast, hot dog roast. Need to be back at the club house by 4 p.m. to qualify for prizes. For more information call Heather 613-989-6145 or John 613-989-5477.

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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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CROSSWORD PUZZLE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 10, 2022

- CLUES ACROSS**
- One point east of due south
 - City in Maine
 - Inquire too closely
 - Make dirty
 - Small Greek island
 - Bitterly regret
 - Millisecond
 - __ the ante
 - Without value
 - Eurasian ryegrass
 - Authentic
 - Having a mournful quality
 - Not out
 - Salvador __, Spanish artist
 - Cargo (abbr.)
 - This (Spanish)
 - Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
 - Slang for trucks with trailers
 - Helps you hear
 - Steer a boat
 - British School
 - Genus of olive
 - Computer term (abbr.)
 - Horse gear
 - Give off
 - A type of salt
 - Exposing human vice or folly to ridicule
 - One who watches birds
 - Sailboat
 - A major division of geological time
 - Sodium
 - American state
 - Soak in water
 - Thin decorative covering of fine wood
 - Affirmative

- CLUES DOWN**
- One of the four seasons
 - Its sultan is famous
 - A lens for correcting defective vision in one eye
 - College degree
 - Soldiers need it
 - Japanese car manufacturer
 - A way to address
 - Obstruct
 - Atomic number 45
 - Ill-mannered
 - Opaque gem
 - Indicates before
 - Remove
 - Populous Argentine city
 - More cunning
 - Rich dessert
 - Payment (abbr.)
 - Footwear
 - Famed Alabama city
 - Sheep's cry
 - Arrogance
 - Clergical vestment
 - Serving no practical purpose
 - An evening party
 - Print errors
 - Not good
 - Egyptian Sun god
 - Industrial German city
 - Scottish island
 - Early multimedia
 - Atomic number 18

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.

Balloon Babes

INGLESIDE – In October 2020, Katie Kelly-Hope started Balloon Babes after hearing the owners of Loonies and Balloonies in Cornwall were retiring and the store was closing.

Currently located just outside Ingleside, Kelly-Hope explained Balloon Babes offers helium balloon bouquets, balloon garlands, arches and personalized “balloon art called marquees.” She is in the process of building up her specialty balloon stock, despite having over one hundred different balloon shapes. Kelly-Hope mentioned this is an ongoing process and she will often order additional balloons when making a specialty order for a customer.

One of the reasons she began her company was so families would have “the option of not leaving their homes,” so she offers delivery between Ingleside and Cornwall as well as customers being able to pick up their orders in Ingleside.

Balloon Babes began in Cornwall, but “once we started ‘blowing up’, we had to relocate to a bigger space. When they found their new home in the Ingleside area, they had the area to put together bigger balloon builds. She noted the community has been incredibly supportive to the young company, saying she “couldn’t ask for a better group of people.”

SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight



Balloon Babes’ owner Katie Kelly-Hope is shown in front of the photo booth she created last summer.

Courtesy Photo

“The first time we had any obstacle which many businesses have faced during the Covid-19 pandemic, but cancellations was with the current round of shutdowns,” said Kelly-Hope of an noted she is looking forward to when

things open and people can begin to celebrate special events once again.

When asked about one of her favourite parts of the job, she mentioned it was the smiles from people who were either picking up or having balloons delivered. “The smiles – the excitement from the kids who see their balloons coming to the door, the family members in retirement homes getting get well gifts or birthday, she mentioned her happiness in being able to spread some joy in people’s lives.

Kelly-Hope commented one of her favourite activities is being able to give back to the community. She created a photo booth for the Arts in the Park event in Cornwall which featured a hot air balloon. She also created a giant pumpkin for a Halloween event at the Newington Wesleyan Church and participated in the Christmas Parade in Ingleside this year.

Looking to the future, she is hoping to “add a bit more to Balloon Babes then just balloons” and is looking to make party décor a bit easier for her client, however this is still in the planning stages. For more information, please visit either her Facebook page or www.BalloonBabes.biz.

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.

Fat Les’s headed for Chesterville

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – Les Winters, owner of the Fat Les’s franchise found throughout Eastern Ontario, including in Brockville, has purchased the former Doyle’s Pub and Eatery in Chesterville.

Doyle’s closed its doors on Oct. 31, 2021.

Winter and his partner in the Chesterville location, Jamie Scharf plans to bring the village his own brand of a great place and meal for everyone to enjoy. Scharf owns the Fat Les’s location

in Finch.

The new place to eat in Chesterville is planned to open in early April.

The former Doyle’s Pub and Eatery will be repainted in Fat Les’s colours.

Winters said the negotiating with Doyle’s began this past September.

“It will be run just like my restaurants elsewhere,” said Winters,” it will have the same menu as well as an expanded menu similar to the one I have in Brockville.

Winters’ plan is to have a place for families to come and get something to eat and for those who want alcohol with their meal, there will be beer and wine.

He shied away from having a bar atmosphere.

“It will have a typical Fat Les’s menu: fish and chips nights and wing nights as well as a variety of vegan and gluten free items and pizza. We will be putting a pizza oven in.”

There are two sides to the building. Winters said the one side will be for the restaurant, but he is not



35 Main St N, Chesterville, ON K0C 1H0

This photo is a mock-up of what the former Doyle’s Pub and Eatery in Chesterville will look like.

Courtesy Photo

sure what he will do with the side that was formally for baked goods and desserts.

“We have hired a full-time baker and she does fabulous stuff, so we are thinking about doing a bakery or maybe an ice cream parlour.”

A full-time manager has been hired and many of the questions regarding what the new location will look like will be ironed out in the weeks to come.

Winters stressed that he did not want his new business to threaten any other existing food outlet in Chesterville. He said he wanted to offer the kinds of food that other restaurants do not have.

“I want every other type of restaurant to survive. I do not want to hurt anybody.”

Winters has grown his business to 15 different locations including his mobile chip wagons.

“This will, be my first indoor setting with lots of seating. It’s a bit more of a challenge.”

He mentioned that he liked his menu to be progressive with a good number of vegan items on it. He said he sells a great deal of beef but also a good amount of vegan food.

“I sell quite a few veggie burgers in Winchester.”

The plan is to open-up the newest Fat Les’s in early April of this year.

South Stormont to update economic development plan

Sandy Casselman
Record Staff

LONG SAULT – The township of South Stormont’s politicians have given staff the greenlight to move forward with updating the municipality’s Economic Development Plan.

“From all of the development that we have going on, in addition to the fact that our existing economic development plans are outdated, we need to do an update and have a plan to move forward in terms of not necessarily how we’re going to address the huge development opportunities that are already on the doorstep, in which we have seen plans and understand what they are proposing, but in fact, the ancillary development that will come after that, and how the municipality intends to address, and what the municipality would like to see, with respect to that development and how we want to move forward,” chief administrative officer (CAO) Debi said.

The decision was made during the township’s Jan. 26 council meeting. Council approved LucasSwitzer’s recommendation without discussion.

“This economic development plan and economic development strategy will be somewhat different than what we’ve had historically,” the CAO said. “I’ve outlined

in the report, for council’s information, some of the items that we believe are important in terms of consideration for the future plan and we will be developing an RFP (request for proposal), which once the results are in from the RFP, we will be coming back to council with an update.”

The mayor noted that he was on council when the 2006 economic development plan was created. He said it was an in-depth process and that it’s hard to believe that was done in 2006, adding that “time is flying too fast.” LucasSwitzer’s report includes an overview of the municipality’s economic development plan history, beginning in 2006, and including the updates in 2013 and 2016.

“Building on the work outlined in the previous plans and the work completed to date, a new economic development strategy or plan will provide a roadmap to assist in undertaking the activities and initiatives that support vibrancy, resilience, and a sustainable economy,” she said. “One of the key initiatives for economic development in 2022 is to undertake an economic development strategy for the upcoming three-to-five-year period, taking into account the development underway and the areas where improvements are required.”

Dreaming of spring

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – As the days begin to get longer and the weather warmer, many people begin to plan their summer gardens. The stores have flower and vegetable seeds on display, seed catalogues begin to arrive in the mail and social media provides information on gardening.

Farm & Food Care Ontario through their Farm & Food Care Garden Club, provide an opportunity for vegetable garden enthusiasts to “gather and share their challenges and triumphs throughout the 2022 garden season.” Club members will be able to receive helpful advice, connect with industry experts and fellow gardeners.

They recently announced on social media the 2022 Garden-in-a Box program has begun. People can purchase either a Garden Plot Pack or a Patio Pack. The Patio Pack is designed for the container, planter, or small plot gardener, with a selection of seeds including herbs, lettuce, and tomatoes as well as garden tools and resources. The Garden Plot Pack includes a selection of vegetables that can be grown in a 4x10’ plot, but adaptable to either a larger or smaller space.

More information is available on Farm & Food Care Ontario’s website or Facebook page.

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PRAC supports proposal to keep Embrun Train Station

Sandy Casselman
Villager Staff

EMBRUN – The township of Russell's Train Station Committee recently presented the municipality's Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) with suggestions that could save the facility, while also turning it into a vital part of the community.

"Our goal is the same as it was in the first presentation we did in November," Train Station committee president Israel Michaud said. "We want to transform the train station into something that we can be proud of, that we can display with dignity and respect."

The virtual meeting was held Jan. 31 and included a slide presentation by Michaud and Train Station Committee member Hélène Grandmaître. Presented in both official languages, the presentation detailed the changes that have been made to the proposal since the committee's last presentation in November 2021. PRAC members voted in favour of supporting the Train Station Committee's request to keep the station, proceed with phase one, and to transfer 2021 train station funds to 2022 for use in phase one.

"Since the last presentation, we've done additional consultations with potential suppliers and business partners. We've also had a look at the streetscape consultant report and found synergy with our proposition for the train station; so, things like the incorporation of destination points, the wayfinding signage for the recreational trail," Michaud said. "We incorporated feedback that we received in November from you guys to adjust our proposal. We've

adjusted the first phase on keeping the station and embellishing, and we've included a more robust financial roadmap."

Michaud said the committee has received a \$1,000 donation, as well as several support letters from the community. He said the group is very pleased with the community response, adding that almost everyone they've spoken to has been willing to help in some way.

The proposal was broken down into two phases. In phase one, the plan is to keep the station, do repairs, and highlight the exterior. The group provided a cost breakdown for this phase amounting to roughly \$11,555. Phase two focuses on structural repairs and interior use with an estimated price tag of roughly \$57,200. Following phase two repairs, the committee noted several potential uses, such as an Embrun Museum, local farmers' market, tourist centre, or possibly a revenue-generating commercial project.

"I think the first stage sounds like it's very doable," Coun. Mike Tarnowski said. "But one of the things that us at council are going to have to worry about is, what do we do with that building? I know in your PowerPoint you've proposed a few ideas that are there, but I just wanted to know if there was anything more concrete."

The Train Station Committee asked PRAC to recommend approval of the proposal to the township's council. The request to council included confirmation that the train station can remain in Embrun, that the budget allocated to the train station in 2021 remain allocated to the project, and that council provide 50 per cent of the

proposed first phase expenses to support the effort this spring.

"I'm 100 per cent in supporting to keep it and having some work done on it," Coun. André Brisson said, noting that he would move some of the phase one plans to phase two.

By the end of the discussion, PRAC members agreed to approve phase one, as it's seen as low risk. They suggested the Train Station Committee take the time to create and come back with a more structured idea, including how to make the idea happen. It was also noted that should the building be turned into a museum, there would need to be volunteers to run the facility.

"I'll read what I think could work here," Tarnowski said. "That the committee receives the presentation and recommends to council the following: one, that council agree to keep the train station in our municipality; two, that the 2021 funds put aside for the train station be transferred to 2022; and three, that council approve phase one of the proposed plan and that township funds come from the newly transferred funds."

PRAC committee members voted unanimously in favour of this recommendation, as read by Tarnowski. A copy of the slide presentation can be found in the PRAC agenda. Those interested in viewing the meeting can find the link on the municipality's calendar page for that event. The roughly two-hour meeting included discussions on pandemic updates, capital projects for 2022, recreation complex updates, Camille Piché Community Centre, Jonathan Pitre Park, encroachment report, and more.

Russell council extends urban hen pilot project

Sandy Casselman
Villager Staff

EMBRUN – Township of Russell politicians have approved the extension of the municipality's Urban Hen Pilot Project for another two years.

The decision was made during council's Feb. 7 meeting, where director of planning, building, and economic development Dominique Tremblay recommended that politicians approve the proposed extension until Sept. 30, 2023, and that they approve the proposed amendments to the project, which includes repealing the original bylaw and replacing it with a new one. The new bylaw would include a permit application fee of \$50 for each application, which is expected to cover the costs for enforcement and planning staff.

"There has been an increased level of service from the planning department in regard to this pilot project," Tremblay said. "This service includes answering an increased number of inquiries, analyzing the impact of the existing policies, reviewing building applications, conducting site inspections, and answering any complaints or concerns that arise from having hens within the designated villages."

Without the pilot project, hens would only be permitted on properties zoned as agricultural or rural-residential. The pilot project bylaw permits hens on residential properties that meet eligibility criteria. The idea behind the project is to encourage food security and local food sustainability.

"It's pretty standard, we're looking to extend the pilot project, obviously there has been limited participation," Mayor Pierre Leroux said.

Thirty-two applicants have received permits for urban hens in the Embrun and Russell areas. Tremblay's report notes that there is room for six more applicants each in both Embrun and Russell, and three more applicants each in both Marionville and Limoges. She said a two-year extension is needed to further analyze the impact of urban hens on mid-sized lots located within the village boundaries.

"Even with a high interest in the pilot project, the impact of the pandemic has limited individuals to the resources needed to obtain the permit at a reasonable time frame," Tremblay said. "Many individuals argued that one year is not a reasonable timeframe to access mature hens, the material for the enclosure, and obtain the permit. With the pandemic and the one-year timeframe, many individuals did not want to pursue the pilot project with the uncertainty that council may not approve the pilot project long-term."

The report can be found in the Feb. 7 council agenda package, which is available on Russell's website. Information on the history of the project, as well as the project parameters and how to get involved can also be found on the municipal website (russell.ca/en/services/backyard-hens.aspx).

SNC, Ducks Unlimited Canada celebrate World Wetlands Day with commitment to restoration

World Wetlands Day is celebrated every Feb. 2 to encourage global policy objectives around wetlands and to raise awareness about the value wetlands contribute to our lives.

Wetlands, which can be referred to as swamps, bogs, fens, or marshes, are an important interface between land and water. They contribute to our quality of life and survival by playing several important roles in the environment:

- Reduces flooding by absorbing and storing excess water
- Minimizes drought impact by holding and slowly releasing water back to the surrounding areas
- Provides thousands of species of plants and animals with food, water, and shelter
- Captures phosphorus that cause harmful algae blooms
- Traps sediments and reinforces soil to help prevent erosion
- Offers recreational opportunities such as hiking, wildlife viewing, hunting,



Courtesy Photo

fishing, and canoeing.

Wetland restoration is vital to the health of South Nation Conservation's (SNC) 4,441 square-kilometre watershed and its communities. That's why SNC is thrilled to partner with Ducks Unlimited Canada (DUC), Canada's wetland conservation leader, to mitigate loss by strategically restoring and creating wetlands across Eastern Ontario.

"Wetlands contribute to our quality of life and survival by playing a number of important roles in the environment," explained Michelle Cavanagh, SNC stewardship lead. "With support from DUC, we are able to enhance and protect

wetlands throughout our watershed that are so vital to our wellbeing - improved water quality and quantity and valuable wildlife habitat."

"Ducks Unlimited Canada is inviting everyone to celebrate World Wetlands Day by putting on their boots and jacket and taking a stroll in nature. Wetlands are one of Ontario's best kept winter secrets. These incredible ecosystems are the hardest-working habitats in every season, and we're proud to partner with the Government of Canada and South Nation Conservation to restore more wetland habitat in Eastern Ontario," said Lynette Mader, DUC's manager of provincial

operations for Ontario.

Some SNC/DUC partnership projects include converting a failed spruce plantation into a 10-acre wetland with a diversity of habitats; creating small headwater wetland features to re-wet the landscape; and working with landowners to create or restore wetlands on their properties.

Partnerships with DUC and Environment and Climate Change Canada in 2022 are also helping SNC to acquire more ecologically significant lands, like wetlands. SNC owns 13,000 acres of land in Eastern Ontario through partial purchases and donations through SNC's Land Securement Program.

RHS Report

By Janel Therkelsen
Student Reporter

Hello readers!



It's been just over one full week of the new system at school and it's so good to be back! I have a locker again, I get to walk the halls (gotta get my steps in for my Fitbit, lol), and I get to interact with a lot more of my favourite T-Wolf teachers and fellow students! As for one of my unpopular opinions, the semester system encourages students to be a lot more active because we have to go from our lockers to four different classes which aren't conveniently located right beside each other. Personally, I have some classes upstairs and others downstairs, then my locker is upstairs. That can be a lot of walking, if in between each class I have to go to my locker to retrieve my stuff for my next class.

Anywho, school feels great again! There is this immediate uplifting feeling in the air of freedom. Given that this should be my last semester of high school, it's a bittersweet time to begin with. But we as students get up more, we're talking more, and now learning more since we are now in a normal semester again. I hope this progress stays because we've lost too much school already.

Well, there you have it- a Grade 12 student's perspective on this semester change, which I think is an enlightening way of relating to the local students of the area.

Thanks for reading and have a great day!