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Briefly

North Dundas Firefighters on display

CHESTERVILLE – If you want to see how your North Dundas firefighters train stop by the Chesterville Arena parking lot on Sat., April 23 all day. Firefighters from all four of the municipalities' fire stations will be on hand to train with a mobile live fire-training unit.

Spring into Summer event

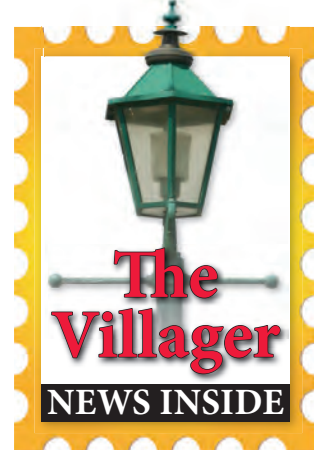
RUSSELL – Join the staff and customers of Beyond the House garden centre in Russell for a fundraiser for the Canada-Ukraine Foundation. They are holding an auction. The proceeds go directly to the displaced people of Ukraine, through local initiatives. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a silent auction beginning at 10 am. The live auction will begin at 1 pm. There will also be a barbecue hosted by "Junior and the Kid", coffee supplied by "Cana Palma Café". Free Sunflower plant with each purchase.

To donate an item to the auction, email: info@beyondthehouse.ca or call 613-445-5214.

Spring Euchre

INGLESIDE – The 50+ Community organization is holding a spring euchre beginning at 1 p.m. Sat., April 23 in St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church, 15 Memorial Square in Ingleside. Enjoy visiting with friends and playing cards while enjoying some sweets, tea and coffee for the \$5.00 admission fee. For more information please call 613-537-9542.

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PM40050631R8905 Volume 129, Number 41 Chesterville, Ontario Thursday, April 21, 2022 Single Copy \$1.00 (HST included)



Cinnamon Boulanger presented with North Dundas Mayor's Award

Cinnamon Boulanger was presented with the North Dundas Mayor's Award at the regular council meeting on April 18, for saving the life of a hockey teammate. Pictured here, left to right are: Vicki Van Hoof, Heather Cooke Erwin, Cinnamon Boulanger and Mayor Tony Fraser.

Morin Photo

South Dundas Chamber of Commerce sets focus on members

Sandy Casselman
 Record Staff

MORRISBURG – Following an annual general meeting that showed great results for last year, the South Dundas Chamber of Commerce is looking forward to an even better year this year.

"Our membership has grown," outgoing board president Cindy Ault Peters said. "Going forward, the new board will have lots of wonderful ideas, I'm sure. But we also have plans in place to continue our current work plus bring to life some ideas that were put on hold during the restrictions. The chamber will continue to support, advocate, and promote our members. Our mission is to help businesses grow and thrive."

Continued on page 3

Cinnamon Boulanger recognized with the North Dundas Mayor's Award

Joseph Morin
 Record Staff

WINCHESTER – Life is scattered with unexpected events.

If you are lucky the right people will be in the right place at the right time when you need them the most.

Heather Cooke Erwin loves her hockey and on Sun., March 13 she along with her KC's Lawn Maintenance hockey team of the Winchester and District Ladies Hockey League was playing a game at the Sam Ault Arena in Winchester.

Erwin was battling for the puck and slipped and fell. There was 14 minutes and 55 seconds left in the second period.

Her teammate, Cinnamon Boulanger

was quick to come to her aid.

The team's coach, Vicki Van Hoof described the moment, she said, "Cinnamon was on the ice and went straight to her aid. Once we were able to get her up, we took her to the change room and because of her history of seizures we informed her she would not be driving home and asked someone to sit with her to keep an eye on her."

Having looked after Erwin, the players returned to their game.

While Boulanger, a nurse, was getting ready to leave the arena after the game, Erwin was still in the change room and had collapsed and began to have a seizure. The players in the room were quick to respond.

Continued on page 2



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Cinnamon Boulanger

Continued from the front

Van Hoof said, "Michaela Morrow caught her and helped her down to the ground. The team shouted out to me to go and get Cinnamon while someone else was dialing 911. When Cinnamon, arrived she instructed us to get Heather onto her side and she slowly stopped seizing."

But then the unexpected happened.

Erwin does not remember much about what happened. She only remembers falling on the ice and hitting her tailbone and the back of her head. "I had no idea about

what was going on," she said.

Irwin had stopped breathing.

Boulanger remembers that normally after a game she is quick to go home but that day she stayed around the change room for an extra minute or two. She was in the change room opposite the one Erwin was in. "Vicki came and grabbed me. That's when I went into the room and realized that things were not right," said Boulanger.

"When she stopped seizing, I realized that she did not have a pulse and her lips were blue."

Being a nurse, Boulanger was trained to react quickly to a situation like this.

She immediately began doing CPR on Erwin.

Boulanger and Erwin have known each other their entire lives. Boulanger said doing CPR on someone she has been so close with was stressful.

"It was a lot of pressure."

"I did CPR for around a minute and she slowly began to come back after that and then the paramedics arrived, so I stopped."

The Mayor's Award was presented to Boulanger at the North Dundas council regular meeting on April 18 By North Dundas Mayor Tony Fraser.

The first ever Mayor's Award was presented to Paul Simms and his daughter Shannon Horsburgh in 2019, for saving the life of a neighbour after a tractor rollover.

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Pre-Easter visit by Easter Bunny

The Easter Bunny popped into the Royal Canadian Legion, Heather Branch 357 in Finch held on April 10. Guests enjoyed a full course breakfast, while having the opportunity to visit with friends and family and picking up a

sweet treat from the bake sale table. In the rear entrance room, there was the opportunity to visit with some real bunnies brought to the event by the Burns family of Finch. From the left, back row: Conner Burns, SDSG MP Erik Duncan, Legion president Susan Rainey, Hayley Hancock and Nolan Quinn. Front row: Aberdeen Burns, Easter bunny.

Thompson Goddard Photo



A near miss at Hope Springs

The Hope Springs United Church in Winchester Springs had a near miss last week as the strong winds that swept through the area snapped the top off of the tree to the left of the building. The tree ended up lying alongside the front of the church missing the front of the building and the hydro wires running above it.

Morin Photo

SD Chamber of Commerce

Continued from the front

Roughly 20 people attended the recent South Dundas Chamber of Commerce AGM. The in-person event was held April 7 at the Upper Canada Playhouse. Peters made her last speech as board president, reviewing the events of the past two years under the COVID-19 pandemic, and remarking on plans going forward in a post-Covid-restrictions' world.

"With the loss of major events for the chamber, and the community, our budget was certainly impacted. But we, like all of you, pivoted – and carried on," Peters said. "We continued to raise awareness of local businesses, promote shopping local, and support our members with resources and tools to get through the challenging times. We continued to advocate with various levels of government and worked with both the Ontario and Canadian Chambers of Commerce to ensure we had the information and funding opportunities to quickly share with our members. We were one of the first chambers to implement the Rapid Test Kit distribution, available to any business throughout

Eastern Ontario. That program was a tremendous amount of work to organize and maintain, but it was well-received by many businesses, and played a small part in keeping Covid numbers low in our region."

The South Dundas Chamber of Commerce's office manager, Tracy McMillan said the focus for the chamber is its business members. She said the chamber will focus on its mandate of businesses helping businesses.

"Plans are being made to return to in-person networking events, trade shows, and building a partnership with the North Dundas Chamber – with one of the biggest perks being a reduced price for our members to also join their chamber," Peters said. "We will be revamping our website, increasing our promotion of members on social media, and implementing a member-to-member discount program."

With the pandemic restrictions lifted, the Chamber is already planning its first back-to-in-person trade show event at the end of this month. The Spring Trade Show is set for April 29 and 30 at the Morrisburg Arena. At the time of writing, there were roughly 30 participants signed on to participate, McMillan said, adding that

the plan is to "keep it simple."

"I look forward to passing on the reins to a new, amazing team of directors, and seeing continued growth and opportunity for our members," Peters said.

The new board of directors includes Loralee Carruthers, Scott Hodgson, Barry Keicks, Kathy Moger, Randy North, Brad Parks, and Rhonda Van Beilen as directors. It also includes the following executive committee members: Jim Cooper (president), Anita Milne (vice president), Loretta Thomas (secretary), and Kaitlyn Geurkink (treasurer) with Peters acting as past president.

"We want to grow. We want to move. And I think what's going to be very important is everybody is going to have the chance to use their voice and put forward ideas of what the chamber can do," Cooper said, noting that he's already met with potential new members.

McMillan said the chamber exceeded its membership goals in 2021, going from 106 members to 120. She said the plan is to continue adding to the number and to continue exceeding the previous year's membership goals.

"The theme that I have put forward is a fresh start," Cooper said, noting that

he'll be meeting with the new executive for the first time this week.

Cooper said he has many ideas and he's looking forward to working with his board colleagues, as well as the community's businesses. With the focus being South Dundas business, Cooper said he's already begun visiting business owners in the municipality to find out what they like or don't like about the chamber, as well as to get their ideas for

moving forward. He said he intends to eventually meet with all chamber business owners in due time.

"We need a fresh start. We're going to start over on everything," he said. "It's going to be different than where it was before. There will be some things that we will continue to do that we've always done in the past, but there are going to be new ways of doing it, and that's a big part for me. I want to visit

every single member of the Chamber of Commerce and do a one-on-one with them."

To learn more about the South Dundas Chamber of Commerce, visit the website (southdundaschamber.ca) or follow via Facebook and Instagram. McMillan can be reached via email (manager@southdundaschamber.ca) or phone (613-543-3982). Her office hours are from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

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Form 1 must be signed by the candidate and must be filed either in person, virtually or by an agent in the office of the Clerk during regular business hours Monday through Friday beginning on **May 2, 2022**. Nominations will be accepted from **May 2, 2022** to the close of the Nomination period, ending at **2:00 p.m. on August 19, 2022** (Nomination Day).

The Completed Form 1 must be accompanied by the prescribed Endorsements of Nominations Form (Form 2) signed by at least 25 persons endorsing the nomination who are eligible to vote in an election for an office within the appropriate municipality and be accompanied by the prescribed filing fee of \$200.00 for Head of Council and \$100.00 for all other offices. The filing fee is payable by cash, debit, certified cheque or money order along with proof of identity and residence as prescribed in O. Reg. 304/13, as amended.

The deadline to withdraw from nominations is Friday, August 19, 2022 prior to 2:00 p.m.

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EDITORIAL & Opinion

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Editorial

Refusing to 'robot' my way through life

I've often thought of myself as odd or weird or "not quite right in the head." Okay, that last one is something my grandmother used to say, and possibly my dad, a time or two. I'm not entirely certain what they meant by it, but I think it came about because I saw the world differently. I also asked a lot of questions. A lot. Like, a LOT, a lot.

Today, like most days, I'm contemplating the differences in the ways that we think. Not me and my grandmother or me and my dad, but people in general. In

so many ways, we're very much the same. But still different.

Editorials are often written about some current event, taking a position one way or another. I've written those in the past but I'm finding they don't feel quite right anymore. It's not that I don't have opinions because, if you know me at all, you know that I do. Lots of them.

I guess it's the division I don't like. While I don't want to "hang" with anyone whose worldview is guided by hate, I no longer feel at ease speaking out against anyone. I'm not afraid to speak out, it's not that; it's more about becoming increasingly aware of what little we all know about the world, why we're here, how we came to be, and what our purpose might be in the overall picture of humankind. Deep thoughts? Always.

For the past year, I've been trying with absolute sincerity to see the "other side" of things. For example, I'm pro-vaccine, mostly because I really don't like being sick. It sucks. Initially, I was shocked, outraged, and completely stunned by the people who could, but would not get the vaccine. I couldn't see how they came to their conclusions. So, I tried to put myself in "their" shoes. I tried to see where "they" might be coming from, and you know what? I got it. I really did. But it didn't change my stance on vaccines. Instead, it changed the way I see me and "them."

To be clear, I'm not fond of the us versus them scenario because it's what divides us as a species. We break ourselves into groups and then subgroups and then subgroups of subgroups until we're so separated that we can't see our commonalities anymore. It's not healthy, and it's not a recipe for world peace.

What I'm getting, or what I believe today, is that we're all right and we're all wrong. Despite science, despite religion, despite everything, we can't possibly know the absolute truth about anything, not really. Take the "Freedom Convoy," for instance. While it was organized by people filled with hate, there were a lot of well-intentioned Canadians who participated because they believe their rights are being violated. And they may be right. (Yes, I really did just say that.)

We live in a society where we're groomed and moulded from birth to be the adults that society thinks we should be. We're taught the language, the moral compass, the laws, and so forth for existing in this society. While we may question this when we're young, many of us quickly learn to silence the questions and just "go along to get along" until one day, when we're in our middle or later years of life, we realize that things are possibly not quite right, and we find ourselves asking questions again. Like, "wait a minute, this doesn't make sense. Why is the world like this?"

Why do the poor often pay more in taxes than the rich? Why are government handouts to wealthy corporations considered okay, but handouts to people or families struggling to survive considered a financial drain on the country?

Why do actors or athletes make millions, while non-profit workers, nurses, caregivers, and educational assistants, for example, make barely enough to survive or just enough to survive but nothing else? Why does it look like we, at least in the first-world countries, worship fame, power, money, and appearances rather than knowledge, curiosity, creativity, and genuineness? Why do we continue to entrench ourselves in us versus them thinking? I could go on, but I've run out of word space for this column, so I need to wrap it up.

I'm "not quite right in the head" and I'm good with that; it means that I'm someone who questions the world, someone who stays open to new ideas and perspectives, someone who tries to find common ground with others. I may not be the free thinker or the rebel I've always wanted to be, but I'm not quite the robot that society intended me to be either. I think that's a win, and I will continue to strive to become less robotic day by day. I invite you to do the same. Let's become a society of free-thinking, open-hearted, love-focused individuals who recognize we're all in this together so we can start acting like it. So, we can start treating everyone like they're part of "our" family, one filled with individuals that we love and respect.

Sandy Casselman

Letter

Letter to the editor

As a registered practical nurse in Ontario, I find it alarming how little understanding of this role the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care seems to have. I have been an RPN working primarily in LTC for 14 years. The workload, expectations and appreciation for this role have changed drastically during this time. This was obvious before the pandemic exposed LTC's shortcomings to the world. I have always felt secure in my permanent full-time job. Lately I find myself questioning if the ultimate goal is phase out the RPN in Ontario? Recruitment is focused toward Personal Support Workers, even going so far as to offer subsidized training. One of the duties of RPNs is supervising PSWs, who will soon have received fast-tracked, subsidized education. This will be increasingly difficult as more and more RPNs leave LTC or nursing all together. It is clear that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care plans to add RN roles in the form of managerial positions. Nursing positions at any level will require fair compensation to retain quality staff. Wage enhancements for PSWs certainly start to address salary deficiencies. There is a misconception that even \$3 per hour does not bring a PSW salary anywhere close to that of an RPN. Although true in a hospital setting, this is absolutely not true in LTC. The wage difference between PSWs and RPNs is often about \$2 per hour, making a \$3 increase for PSWs very significant. Incentives that target one group but not others in facilities that have to work as a team to function (nursing, dietary, housekeeping, maintenance) really just create division in an already stressful environment. Registered practical nurses require a yearly licence and declaration that we are in fact working under this title. The problem for many is that it would be unethical to work as a PSW rather than as an RPN just to make more money. Many of the tasks performed by each role overlap in LTC. As a licensed professional, we have to ask ourselves, do we give up the licensed role for the more lucrative one, do we leave healthcare all together or do we stick it out and hope that someone will hear the cries of LTC RPNs?

Alison Knapman RPN, RPN delegate CUPE 1919

COVID chronicles

The last couple of years or so, almost seem like a dream, or perhaps for some a nightmare. COVID-19 has certainly changed the way we experience life and often our outlook on life. It has certainly changed the way in which I work as a reporter. I remember when the new reports began circulating about this new virus which was affecting thousands of people in China, and it seemed so far away from me here in Cornwall that to be honest I didn't pay much attention to it. When it started to begin circulating in other countries and then finally in Canada, it still seemed a bit distant.

I remember the last places I reported on before the shutdown began. One was an event in Avonmore and the other at a maple syrup producer, with my thoughts centred on chatting and note taking. I didn't realize then how this would be the final time I covered events

without face coverings and hand sanitizers in my photo bag and purse. I also didn't quite understand the changes which were going to happen to journalists of all news' outlets and the changes which occurred in society.

As the first "lockdown" restrictions began to loosen, in-person reporting returned, but at a much-reduced level for me. Prior to the summer of 2020, pandemic precautions necessitated information gathering to be mostly done by phone or email, but with the return of the warmer weather and outdoor events, in-person reporting resumed.

I have to admit there was a certain level of apprehension as I travelled to the first outdoor, in-person event to be covered. After a few months of not seeing many cars on the road, it was a bit scary seeing all the cars parked nearby and the people at the event. Initially pictures were taken from a bit of a distance, but I gathered a bit of courage and

made my way closer. Despite seeing all the provincial regulations being followed, I was still not able to make my way into the area.

Over the ensuing months, I became a bit more used to the "new" way of covering events and ensuring not only my safety but those I meet at them. I was so excited when my age group was included in the vaccination process and equally excited when I was able to order medical grade masks as the pandemic period continues.

It is so wonderful to see things opening and the events which I so enjoy covering return. When out and about, my N95 mask is still worn both to protect myself and those whom I encounter. Each person has their own timeline and comfort level regarding mask use. I know that at some point I will feel confident enough to put my mask away, joining my friends and family who have already arrived at that point.

Carol Thompson Goddard



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Acna **CNA**
Proudly printed in North Dundas.

Advertising Rates on Request
P.O. Box 368
Chesterville, Ont. K0C 1H0

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Telephone: (613) 448-2321
Fax: (613) 448-3260

Published Thursdays by Etcetera Publications (Chesterville) Inc.

Funded by the Government of Canada **Canada**

Single Copy \$1.00 HST Included.
Annual Subscription \$35.00 within 40 miles;
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“Service above self”

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – Since 1938 the Rotary Club of Chesterville has served its community in a multitude of ways. In years past, this club has sponsored community events, fundraising walks, the gazebo in the centre of the village as well as the clock tower adjacent to ScotiaBank and assisted the vulnerable here at home and around the world.



Some members of RCC gathered at the Rotary Gazebo on the waterfront in Chesterville for a group photo following the draw for winners in the Rotary sponsored 2022 Easter Egg hunt. From the left: Rotarians Betty Vanden Bosch, Robert Gilroy, Christine Cross-Barkley, Ruth Gilroy and Mike Cassell. Courtesy Photo

Rotarian Betty VandenBosch explained as “our club year runs July 1, 2022-2023 – thus the 85 years.”

She continued how the RCC was invited to send in a photo of the club banner to be used in a video for the Rotary District 7040

Conference May 4 to 7, which will be held in a hybrid format. She mentioned there are 65 Rotary Clubs in District 7040. A note of thanks was extended to local artist Ron Leclair for his assistance in making the numerical changes to the banner.

South Stormont’s Volunteer Appreciation Gala set to return

Sandy Casselman
Record Staff

LONG SAULT – With most pandemic restrictions lifted in Ontario, the township of South Stormont council has approved the return of the annual in-person Volunteer Appreciation Gala.

“This is something that I think we need to do,” Deputy Mayor David Smith said.

Smith raised the issue of bringing back the Volunteer Appreciation Gala during the April 13 council meeting, suggesting the event be held in August 2022. Smith’s council colleagues voted unanimously in favour of bringing back the in-person celebration late this summer.

“As I just said recently about the [Raisin River] canoe race, and Councillor [Cindy] Woods brought up the Hall of Fame, we’ve gone without these for a couple of years and I think it’s important that these things come back as soon as they can, if we can, and the Volunteer Appreciation Gala is something that I think we can do,” Smith said. “I know traditionally we have this in the month of April, which is volunteer [appreciation] month, however, last year, I believe we moved Canada Day to Sept. 4, so I guess it’s okay to move these ahead on another day because it’s important that we have them.”


Smith suggested the money budgeted for the 2020 gala, which was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, be used to fund the event this year. He also noted that there are two weekends where both the venue and the caterer are available. Smith has already reached out to those on the gala organizing committee to find out who is available to work on the event, listing several who he said are “anxious to get this thing going.”

“This is something that we can do,” Smith said. “It’s important that we have this event.”

Chief administrative officer Debi LucasSwitzer confirmed that the previous allocation for the event was \$10,500. She suggested increasing that to \$15,000 considering the recent hikes in food costs, and more. She also suggested that the township’s summer students could help as well.

“I think it’s very important that we acknowledge all the people that volunteer for this municipality in all different aspects,” Mayor Bryan McGillis said. “If it wasn’t for them there’d be a lot of things not happening, so I think it’s important that we do that and thank them. I’m in full support of this.”


With a unanimous vote in favour of bringing the in-person event back this summer, council directed the Volunteer Appreciation Committee to move forward with planning. It was also agreed that the funds, roughly \$15,000, are to come from the municipality’s Working Capital Reserve.




Church DIRECTORY

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Contact: Tel: 613-346-1648 Email: revlgaudet@gmail.com
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cgaver@cogeco.ca www.avonmorefinch-presbyterian.ca
April 24th, 2022 at 11 a.m.
Masks and social distancing in place.

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Sunday School Classes & Nursery have resumed.
Please contact the church office for information on mid-week meetings or any other questions.


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139 Castor St., Russell, ON Parish Office: 613-445-3226
Presiding: Rev. Anne Quick
infostmarysrussell@rogers.com Website: www.stmarysrussell.ca
We're back to an in-person service of Holy Eucharist at 9 a.m., followed by a Zoom service of Morning Prayer at 10:30 a.m. Register for the live service or to get the Zoom link at 613-445-3226 or infostmarysrussell@rogers.com.
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Nursery (parental supervision) is available. Covid-19 protocols are in place.

Celebration of Life



Frank Beckstead

Please join us for a Celebration of Life for Frank Beckstead on April 30, 2022 from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 434 in Chesterville.



Obituary

LILA TUPPER

Peacefully at the Brockville General Hospital on Monday, April 11, 2022, Lila Tupper (nee Robinson) of Chesterville, age 82. Beloved wife of the late Hubert Tupper. Dear mother-in-law of Mark Adams of Johnstown. Dear sister of Jean Gillard (late Bill) of Ingleside, Glen Robinson (Linda) of Chesterville and Ella Robinson (Bill Bond) of Chesterville. Dear sister-in-law of Carolyn Sulpher (late Norman) of Dunbar and Laurie Wells (late Donald) of Morrisburg. Lila will be fondly remembered by her granddaughters Melissa Adams of Brockville and Kelly Palmer (Brandon) of Brockville and her great-grandchildren Caleb, Kinsley, Lily, Kamal, Kahlil, Kadija and Dylan. She was predeceased by her daughter Judy Adams and her sister Grace Gillard (Donnie). She is also survived by nieces and nephews. A graveside funeral service was held at Grantley Cemetery on Tuesday, April 19 at 11 a.m. followed by a luncheon at the Dunbar Recreation Centre. Donations to the Alzheimer's Society would be gratefully acknowledged by the family. If you are making your donation online or by cheque directly to the charity, please include the following note with your gift "please notify the family". Online condolences may be made at marsdenmclaughlin.com.

Obituary



DAWNE KORTEWEG (nee McPhail)

Passed away suddenly in her home on April 10, 2022. Mamma Dawne to Dennis (Angie) Korteweg and Cheryl (Chris) Pichette, special Aunt to Kerri (Colin) Foster. Oma to Amber (Kevin) Arnold, Brittany Johnstone, Tyler, Patrick, Megan Korteweg, Trent and Truman Johnson. Great Oma to Kezia and Trinity. Predeceased by her husband Albert Korteweg, parents Helen Maloney and Leonard McPhail and by her brother Michael McPhail. Survived by her brother Alex McPhail and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Winchester Legion on May 21, 2022 between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Donations can be made to the Ottawa Cancer Society in lieu of flowers.
Special thank you to the EMS team.

Team Acres takes top U18 title

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – North Dundas High School students Emma and Ava Acres along with teammates second Liana Flanagan 17 of Embrun, and lead Mya Sharpe of Spencerville are honoured to represent Ontario in Oakville. Emma is a Grade 12 student, and her sister Ava is in Grade 9.

On April 3, the team won the U18 Provincial Curling Championship held in Kingston.

The team is based in Ottawa and is coached by Phil Mainville. Emma is the skip of the team and sister Ava is vice.

The final game that pushed the team into the top spot in the provincial championship was a 6 to 5 win in an extra end.

In a press release from the Upper Canada School Board Emma said, “We won a qualifier in December to get entry that made us one of the eight best U18 teams across Ontario.”

Team Acres competed

against the seven other qualifying teams in a round-robin play, which led them to the finals on Sunday.

The release stated: “Winning the provincial championship not only makes Team Acres the top team in Ontario, but also means they will represent their province at the National Curling Championships, set to take place May 1-7 in Oakville.”

“My sister and I are proud to be able to play against teams from across the country while wearing the Ontario crest on our backs,” says Emma.

“It’s very exciting and a dream come true for us,” adds Ava.

Emma and Ava have been curling together for eight years.

“I am incredibly proud of Emma and Ava for their big win over the weekend and looking forward to cheering them on in May,” says NDDHS principal Mike Deighton. “The two are great role models to have at North Dundas.”

For the two-sister curling

has always been something they enjoyed doing together.

“I have always played on a team with my sister. Our parents are very supportive and love curling even though they are not curlers themselves,” said Emma.

Curling is a special kind of sport with an added thrill of competition thrown in.

Emma said, “The sportsmanship and camaraderie is amazing and unlike other sports. Everyone encourages each other to do their best and that atmosphere is great. The support we have gotten from other curlers has been unreal.”

The April win was a dream come true for the team.

“Every competitive curler dreams to represent their province on a national stage and it was definitely a dream come true for me and my team.”

Practice makes perfect is a way of life for all curlers and Team Acres is no exception.

Emma said, “We are on

the ice at least five times a week. Any time we are out on the ice either playing, practicing, or volunteering helps us improve a lot.”

The secret to the team’s success apart from its high skill level is its attitude.

“There were definitely small moments of nerves during the competition but overall we had the mindset of playing one game at a time and not worrying about the overall outcome of the weekend or the other teams on the ice. I think it helped us stay relaxed and focused throughout the tournament,” said Emma.

She remembers how the last game of the round robin was a must win for the team.

“We lost control in the first half of the game and had to really focus on the last half. We bounced back with a score of five in the sixth end and ended up winning the game. Obviously in the final game as well we had to focus and play our strongest against a very tough Johnston team and pulled out the win in the extra end.”

Any team in any sport practices endlessly so that when they are competing, they will have everything come together at the right



Team Acres has taken the U18 Provincial Curling Championship. In this photo the team is in the Easter spirit. Left to right is Emma and Ava Acres, Liana Flanagan, and Mya Sharpe. Courtesy Photo

time and in the right way.

Emma was not surprised by their win because she knew firsthand what the team could do.

“I was not surprised. Maybe some other people were since this was our first big win, but I knew we had a great chance of winning as long as we stayed positive, focused and played our own game. We

have been so close for a long time now, so to finally put the pieces together and achieve this dream is very satisfying,” she said.

Team Acres has won the 2022 Ontario U-18 Women’s Provincial Curling Championship in Kingston on April 3. The team has two North Dundas High School students Emma and Ava Acres.



Getting all the fixings ready

The Mountain and District Lions’ Steak and Chicken BBQ does not happen all by itself. This group was inside the Agricultural Hall getting all the vegetables ready for the big dinner on Saturday. Left to right are: Sandy Shaver, Ally Martin, Sandra Weagant, Lori Unsworth, Tim Hass, Karin and Ted Cellen, Roxanne Backes, Jennifer Holmes, Ian Bufton and Dave Howard. Morin Photo



Ready to BBQ at the hall

The Mountain Township and District Lions Club held their annual spring, Steak/BBQ Chicken Dinner and show at the Mountain Township Agricultural Hall on Sat.,

April 9. This was the first opportunity the club had to hold their first of two annual steak dinners since the pandemic began. These Lions Club members cooked up 240 steaks, while inside the hall more volunteers got the rest of the meal ready. The evening featured music by Shadowz. Left to right are: Rob McMenemy, Bill Vermilyea, Nathan Lang, Tim Haas, Josh Cooper, Terry Triskle and Derek Rogers. Morin Photo

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First annual South Dundas Easter Parade and Festival ‘definitely a success’

Sandy Casselman
Record Staff

MORRISBURG – With the sun shining high in the sky, the first annual South Dundas Easter Parade and Festival was a hit with young and old alike.

“I was over the moon. In my opinion, it was definitely a success. I’m positive that it’s going to go ahead [annually] because it was very popular,” Geraldine Fitzsimmons, one of the organizers, said. “Dick and I always attended the Easter Parade in New York City and truly enjoyed it. So, we thought why not have a parade in South Dundas, and then when a group of ladies got together, it grew to an



From the young to the young at heart, there were lots of people waiting to see the first annual South Dundas Easter Parade pass by the Morrisburg Plaza on April 16. Casselman Photo

Easter Parade and Festival.”

For the most part, the

April 16 event was held in the Morrisburg Plaza. While the fashion show was held in the outdoor sitting area near Juli Fashion Essentials, most activities were held in a large closed-off portion of the plaza parking lot. In addition to a barbecue, there was also popcorn, and Beaver Tails available.

Tribeck Inflatables Party and Event Planning set up the Fun Zone, which included a rock-climbing wall, and live music featuring Hillbilly Highway was played from 1 to 4 p.m.

The event also included bicycle decorating and Easter bonnet competitions, but the kick off, and some may say the highlight of the event, was the Easter Parade itself. The parade, which started at 10:30 a.m., followed a pre-planned route from the Royal Canadian Legion’s Morrisburg branch, along Lakeshore Drive and over to Fifth Street, before circling the Morrisburg Plaza from the south side to the north. Parade watchers, who were stationed all along the route, were treated to candy and Easter Bunny hugs. The crowds of onlookers included young families, teens, and seniors.

Event organizers included community vol-

unteers Mary Bueley, and Fitzsimmons, as well as Juli Fashion Essentials owner Helen Derix, Marilyne Kelly of Marilyne’s Wigs ‘N’ Things, Cook’s Corner owner Kathy Moger, and Christyn Veinotte of the Red Door Realty Team. It was noted that the municipality provided the use of the plaza, as well as the necessary insurance, while the St. Lawrence Parks donated the use of their stage, and Ontario Power Generation donated books and bags for attending children, while Udder Comfort donated hand san-



The April 16 South Dundas Easter Parade featured the Easter Bunny, who passed out candy to the many children who were watching and waiting along the parade route. Waiting near the Morrisburg Waterfront, Luna and Austyn Merpaw, pictured here with their father Adam, were some of the first to see the Easter Bunny, as the parade started at the Morrisburg branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. Casselman Photo

itizer. The event was also made possible with support from several nearby businesses.

In addition to the organizers, there were volunteers who made a huge difference in how the day played out, Fitzsimmons said. She referred to two young women who donned

Easter Bunny costumes and made sure to hop-along, giving heartfelt greetings and hugs – and candy – to children, as well as two other young women who spent almost six hours in the cold wind making certain that every child looking to have their face painted went away happy.



A special visit with the Easter Bunny

The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 370 along with River Rat Treasures put on a fun and tasty Easter Bunny breakfast on Sun., April 10 at the Iroquois Legion. There was entertainment from Dr. Kaboom, live bunnies from Vanderlaand The Barnyard Zoo, a busy colouring station and the Easter Bunny in person. In this photo some children were a little cautious around the giant Easter Bunny. Harper McLaughlin kept her distance, but her sister Hinley had no problem at all visiting with the Easter Bunny.

Morin Photo

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Preserving public health care

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

CORNWALL – The Cornwall Health Coalition hosted a virtual Cornwall Health Care Privatization Summit on Sat., April 9. Louise Lanctot and Elaine MacDonald, co-chairs of the CHC, moderated the event which featured Natalie Mehra, Dr. Bernard Ho, Linda McQuaig, and Michael Hurley providing information on the health care system in Ontario.

In her opening remarks, MacDonald mentioned the purpose of the summit “to put the brakes on the transformation of public health care into a private for-profit system” by raising awareness of this to the public.

The first speaker of the summit was the executive director of the Ontario Health Coalition Natalie Mehra who MacDonald described as providing inspiration to Medicare defenders by her commitment and work in defending public health care. Mehra spoke on the condition of the long-term care homes during the pandemic.

Concerns in LTC were reported following the intervention and the report of the Canadian Armed Forces in Ontario long-term centres. In her opinion, the Ontario government did not follow through with ensuring those responsible for the lack of care during the pandemic were held accountable. Mehar commented staffing levels meant that LTC residents were often not able to receive even basic care and staff experienced difficulties accessing personal protection equipment. She noted that “staffing levels and long-term care are worse than they were at the beginning of the pandemic” despite government assurances that more staff would be hired for LTC.

She spoke on the plan to continue the privatization of health care in this province with “contracts for profit companies to do COVID testing who are charging people \$200 or more per test to get access to a PCR test in Ontario.” She discussed how vaccinations have been privatized, with “plans to privatize our hospital services,” and expressed concern over increased privatization of the health care system in Ontario. Mehra explained how this should be a key election issue in the upcoming provincial election, with the need for a public debate on this issue.

Emergency family and emergency physician as well as an advocate for public health care, Dr. Bernard Ho was the second speaker of the summit. He

is a member of the Canadian Doctors for Medicare, an organization “dedicated to strengthening and preserving Canada’s publicly funded health care system. He noted how there are several instances of outsourcing for delivery of health care services such as surgical procedures, COVID-19 vaccines and testing and other medical procedures and these are increasing with recent suggestions from the Ontario government that building or operating private hospitals may be allowed. He raised concerns that the privately run medical facilities may lead to more health care workers leaving the public health care system which could increase wait times for procedures.

Linda McQuaig, Canadian investigative reporter, and writer, spoke on the universality of the health care system in Canada. She described the fight to ensure the continuation of public health care as a “battle for the soul of Canada.” She noted that Tommy Douglas, the founder of Canadian Medicare, was voted the greatest Canadian. She continued how publicly funded health care ensures it is the person who is most in need of care moves to the front of the line, rather the one who has the most money. She mentioned how the provincial funding to health care is low, the inferior nature of private health care facilities when compared to public health care and the public health care system is more economical. McQuaig discussed the case of a doctor in British Columbia who runs a private clinic



Elaine MacDonald commented there are various locations throughout the area where signs can be picked up from, including Rainer Pethke. He can be emailed at rpethke@gmail.com. She also has signs available and can be contacted at 613-330-3117 or by email at elainemacdonald11@gmail.com. Courtesy Photo

and allows patients to pay extra to move to the head of the line. The case was heard in the BC Supreme Court, with the doctor losing, but the case will probably be appealed. She mentioned this doctor was in violation of the *Canada Health Act* as well as “violates every notion we have of equality.”

McQuaig concluded her presentation by discussing the formation of Connaught Labs. This company was formed by Dr. John Fitzgerald, who developed a low-cost effective treatment for diphtheria, and the University of Toronto which led to the development of treatments for several diseases with the goal to make them affordable to all. “It also became one of the world’s leading vaccine producers” before being sold in the 1980s by the Mulroney government to a French pharmaceutical company. She commented how the company wasn’t “willing to switch over to COVID vaccines during the pandemic, they were producing them somewhere else,” so Canadians had to wait for the vaccines produced in other countries.

enhance wealth for a relatively small number of people?”

Hurley’s voice became emotional when he described conditions for staff and residents in the for-profit long-term care facilities. He knew from experience of the conditions when doing safety inspections following the redeployment from hospitals of “our people.” He spoke of there being “really no infection control protocols,” residents being denied access to acute care and staff trying to do their best in difficult circumstances, “but being completely inadequately protected.” He expressed grave concern over the announcement by the Ford government concerning the establishment of private hospitals as well as “setting

up surgical centres, private colonoscopy and other operations.”

Following a question-and-answer period, MacDonald provided information on the upcoming campaign to strengthen public health care. She summarized that the action plan, currently underway, is able to provide people with the opportunity to request a sign for their lawn or window. She continued individuals can assist the CHC and is seeking to “make health care the biggest issue of conversation” between people. MacDonald suggested people should plan to attend candidate meetings in the upcoming election and asking candidates “for their position or the Party’s position on privatization.”

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HOW TO SHOW YOUR APPRECIATION FOR VOLUNTEERS

National Volunteer Week takes place this year from April 24 to 30. This annual campaign promotes volunteerism and celebrates the contributions of millions of Canadians who donate their time and energy to making their communities better places to live. This year's theme is Empathy in Action, which highlights how volunteering helps develop strong connections among people with diverse backgrounds and fosters genuine care toward others.

Volunteers are often mobilized by empathy, but their efforts are best sustained by demonstrations of appreciation. When volunteers feel recognized, they're more likely to remain connected to your cause and continue to give back. Here are some ways your organization can say thank you to its volunteers.

- **Create a video.** Collect footage of your organization's volunteers at work with a smartphone or other device. Then, string the clips together and incorporate some music into the mix. Once the video is edited, you can share it on social media or on your website.
- **Plan a social event.** Consider bringing the volunteers in your organization together with a social event. You could host a movie night, put together a meal or throw a party. Social events help encourage your volunteers to connect with each other, the cause and the organization.



- **Collect and share letters.** Ask the people your organization serves to write letters of thanks explaining how your volunteers make a difference in their lives. Collect all the letters and share them with your volunteers.

To learn more about National Volunteer Week, visit volunteer.ca.



With appreciation to all our volunteers!



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Roxane Villeneuve - Councillor

Thank you to all the volunteers! You are the heart of our communities.



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Thank you to our Volunteers! We couldn't do what we do without you.



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Nancy-Ann Gauthier - Fire Chief
Steve Tait - Deputy Chief - Station 1
Kevin Lapp - Deputy Chief - Station 2
Kerry Adams - Deputy Chief - Station 3
Nicholas Forgues - Station 4

Thank you to all our firefighters dedicated to saving lives and protecting properties.



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- from the Carefor Team

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Thank you Volunteers!
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Interested in volunteering?
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Our Volunteers are an essential part of our care team!



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Thank you to all the WDMH Volunteers!



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Minimum 25 words.
Additional words 32¢ each.

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AUCTION

ON-SITE LIVE AUCTION SALE

SAT., MAY 7 AT 10:30 A.M.

To be held on site at Part Lot 19 CON 3 (Guy Rd.) North Dundas.

REAL ESTATE – TRACTOR – SKIDSTEER – SMALL FARM MACHINERY – CATTLE HANDLING EQUIP – HAY AND MORE

REAL ESTATE: Consists of approx. 37.5 acres more or less (according to most recent deed), tile drained 30+ years ago, currently under hay without side perimeter fenced. Located on the property is a 40ft x 60ft CoverAll Type structure and a well-constructed approx. 24ft x approx. 72ft South facing barn w/ drilled well and electrical service. **Terms of Real Estate:** Real estate will be auctioned at 12:00 Noon and sold subject to a very reasonable minimum reserve of \$500,000 – purchaser will be required to surrender \$50,000 in the form of certified funds at time of auction made payable to the sellers' lawyer in trust – call auctioneer for sellers' lawyer details. Balance of sale proceeds due upon closing within 30 days or less. Potential purchaser shall be responsible for all his/her own legal, inspection, survey, or any other fees incurred upon closing. Purchasers must satisfy themselves as to size and condition of property prior to auction (property sold as is). Property to be sold as a lump sum not on a per acre basis.

Tractor, Skidsteer & More: JD 2130 Diesel Tractor w/ JD front end loader (nice!); Gehl R135 skidsteer (very nice – less than 800hrs. bought new on farm in Fall of 2016); Agrotrend single auger snowblower; Bushhog Rotary Cutter; 2 Flattop Hay Wagons; Set of chain harrows; Skidsteer mount Sq. Bale Spear; Qty of 3x3x6 bales of 1st cut hay (qty to be determined on sale day); 7ft x 12ft JBM heavy sq. bale feeder; 4.5ft x 4.5ft Hay feeder; Grain Feeder, 3 Stock Tanks; HD Cattle Squeeze; Approx. 8 Good steel gates; 1 Wire Gate; Mineral Feeder, Lick Tank; Oilier Brush; Creep Feeder; Set of Tire Chains to fit 2130 JD; Pressure Tank; 2 elec Construction Heaters; 2 Live Traps; Stihl Chainsaw; Expect 1 Wagon load of small farm related items.

Owner and auctioneer not responsible for loss or accident.

Props: Mr. & Mrs. Earle Johnston

Note: This little farm must be seen to be appreciated and would make an excellent addition to an ongoing farm operation or a great place for someone wanting to keep some horses or a small beef herd as Mr. Johnston had prior to retirement. This property is certainly priced right in today's real estate market – do not miss this opportunity!

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www.peterrossauction.ca
 41-1

COMING EVENTS

YE OLDE BARGAIN SHOPPE
 30 Mill Street (basement), Chesterville. Shoppe open weekly Wed. and Thurs. 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. We are also happy to accept donated goods again. Open the last Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. - 12 noon.
 41-1

FOR SALE

PUPPIES FOR SALE – Flat coated Retrievers, cross with Border Collie. \$1,500 each. Call 613-324-6762 for more information.
 42

WANTED

WANTED TO RENT – One bedroom apartment, in Chesterville, Long Sault, Ingleside, Morrisburg area. Or work on farm every other weekend in exchange for place to live, or reduced rent. Text at 613-330-5798. Paul.
 41

WANTED TO BUY – Single shot, bolt action, 22 Rimfire rifle. Call 613-537-2660.
 42

NOTICE

NOTICE – Stormont Agricultural Society 2022 GRASS TENDER available at www.stormontfair.ca.
 40-1

VOLUNTEER

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS...

To assist with the Community Food Share's Annual Fill-A-Bag Food Drive on May 7 and 14 dropping off grocery bags at homes throughout villages in Dundas and Stormont Counties. This food drive helps ensure that no person or family in our community goes hungry this summer. We are looking for teams of volunteers to assist us with distribution and pick up on an assigned route, starting at 1 p.m. on both days. May 7 distribution of empty grocery bags & May 14 the same volunteers return to pick up the bags of non-perishable food items that residents have left at the front of their homes. If you are available to assist both days, please contact our Team Leader at 613-898-0781 or email: admin@community-foodshare.ca
 41

VOLUNTEER

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

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED – Secretary needed, part-time. Barnhart Law Office in Winchester, 613-774-2808, barnhart@bellnet.ca
 41-4

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 21, 2022

- CLUES ACROSS**
- A woman of refinement
 - Body part
 - One who imitates
 - Tropical Asian starlings
 - A type of delivery
 - W. Australian capital
 - Many wombs
 - Wings
 - Expression of amusement
 - Brews
 - Mild yellow Dutch cheese
 - Mild expression
 - Solitary
 - Distance to top
 - The rebirth of a soul in a new body
- CLUES DOWN**
- Inspiration
 - Resembling wings
 - Form of Persian
 - Consumed
 - Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand
 - Sea eagle
 - Jaguarundis
 - Poker stake
 - Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
 - South American nation
 - A colorless, odorless gas
 - Disturbance
 - Artist's tool
 - Polish peninsula
 - Ottoman military leaders
 - Bird-like dinosaur
 - Drinking glass
 - Central Florida city
- Police who investigate police (abbr.)
 - Begrudged
 - Popular sports league
 - Autonomous republic of Russia
 - Double-headed drum
 - Type of light bulb
 - Czech River
 - Male servants (Span.)
 - Previously
 - Minor
 - Metrical foot
 - Days that follow Mondays
 - Small European viper
 - News shows have one

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.

Just Say Yes! Destinations help 'create memories that last a lifetime'

IROQUOIS – “Anyone that is planning a destination wedding, honeymoon, family getaway, business trip, vacation, or to cross a place off their travel bucket list, reach out to me,” Anita Milne, owner of Just Say Yes! Destinations, said.

Milne owns and operates the travel agency with once industry colleague and now business partner, Lisanne Roy Beauchamp. While Milne lives and works in Iroquois, Beauchamp works remotely from her home in North Bay.

“We met at a previous agency,” Milne said. “Our vision, ethics, and beliefs aligned. We both have a passion for travel and truly care about what is best for our clients.”

While the duo can service clients remotely, Just Say Yes! Destinations, formerly known as Dragonfly and Dreams, now has a storefront at 7 Plaza Drive in Iroquois. The travel agency shares the space with River Rat Treasures and Candy’s Hair Salon. Milne is in the office from Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. except for Wednesdays, when she closes at 3 p.m.

“Anyone in the Kingston, Ottawa, Cornwall, and St. Lawrence River area, I’m also happy to meet for a coffee or a glass of wine,” Milne said. “For those that live out of the area, I’m happy to connect over the phone, Zoom, or FaceTime at a date and time that works best for them. I have clients from the West Coast to the East Coast, so I’m happy to work with the difference in time zones. I’ve always made



Travelling for many is a great way to enjoy the world at its finest. Courtesy Photo

a point of keeping a flexible schedule to connect when it works best for my clients. This will not change.”

Milne has worked in the travel business for quite some time, but this new venture was born from a leap of faith taken during the heart of the pandemic.

“It was risky, but I was optimistic and remained positive that travel would come back,” Milne said.

Milne and Beauchamp have a new agency host, The Travel Agent Next Door.

She said the company’s ethics, and virtues “perfectly align” with those of Just Say Yes! Destinations.

“The clients’ needs are our first priority,” she said. “We are honest, caring, and want what is best for our clients.”

Just Say Yes! Destinations services all types of travel, but romantic getaways remain a specialty. Milne, who is now an officiant, enjoys planning honeymoons. She offers a honeymoon registry where 100 per cent of the funds contributed by

guests go toward the couple.

“I had 17 destination wedding groups that were cancelled in 2020, as a result of the pandemic. Some decided to postpone their destination wedding and many others decided to have a local ceremony. This is what motivated me to pivot and become an officiant,” she said. “For weddings, the officiant and honeymoon planner are generally two separate people; I can offer both. I love helping people create memories that last a lifetime.”

Just Say Yes! Destinations does more than just romance, however. The agency also organizes leisure and group travel, cruises, domestic travel within Canada, and more.

“I can send you wherever your heart desires,” Milne said. “I think more and more people are now seeing the benefits of having a travel agent. It doesn’t cost more. I offer the same prices that you see online, but the difference is that to me, you are a person. You can text me, message me, email me, or pick up the phone and call me. When you need advice navigating our new world, regulations, and restrictions, that’s what I’m here for. If something goes wrong or you need assistance, I’m available to assist and take over.”

For those unable or not looking to travel outside the province, Milne said she’s also working on arranging day trips to local events and venues. Whatever your travel needs, Just Say Yes! Destinations’ owners will do their best to make your dreams come true.

To learn more, visit the company’s website (justsayyesdestinations.ca). Milne can be reached by phone at her office (613-652-4891) or on her cell (613-340-5351).

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

Pin Tales

Stormont Ladies: Ladies’ High Single, Marin Middleton 276; Ladies’ High Triple, Marin Middleton 626. Team Standings: Marin 2466, Hilda 2446, Susan 2404, Pat 2363.

Monday Men’s: Men’s High Single, Marc Robinson 336; Men’s High Triple, Marc Robinson 760. Team Standings: Raiders 28.5, Alley Cats 27.5, East-Ont 24, Country Boys 21, Alley Rats 14, A-Team 11.

Tuesday Afternoon Mixed: Men’s High Single, Ron Robinson 202; Men’s High Triple, Ron Robinson 540; Ladies’ High Single, Sandra Bloom 186; Ladies’ High Triple, Deborah Patenaud 491. Team Standings: Hope 15, Charity 11, Love 10.

Defenders: Men’s High Single, Ron Parker 248; Men’s High Triple, Ron Parker 628; Ladies’ High Single, Susie Letourneau/Gwen Clarke 192; Ladies’ High Triple, Gwen Clarke 485. Team Standings: Gwen 22, Brian 21, Debbie

18, Ossie 17, Glendon 12.

Wednesday Ladies: Ladies’ High Single, Corinne Kirkwood 171; Ladies’ High Triple, Corinne Kirkwood 400. Team Standings: Mary 325, Dianna 307, Linda 287, Joanne 271, Lorna 242.

Finch Mixed: Men’s High Single, Bill Pynenburg 238; Men’s High Triple, Bill Pynenburg 533; Ladies’ High Single, Isabelle Bissonnette 209; Ladies’ High Triple, Isabelle Bissonnette 585. Team Standings: L.T.T.D 193, Billy’s Girl’s 180, F.I.S.T 173, B&S 142.

Thursday Seniors: Men’s High Single, Ross Bennett 168; Men’s High Triple, Ross Bennett 451; Ladies’ High Single, Janet Polowick 149; Ladies’ High Triple, Janet Polowick 439.

Avonmore Mixed: Men’s High Single, Mike Byvelds 288; Men’s High Triple, Mike Byvelds 741; Ladies’ High Single, Mary Osborne 190; Ladies’ High Triple, Mary

Osborne 500. Team Standings: Red 4531, Black 4367, Orange 4363, Blue 4272, Purple 424.

Youth Bowling Canada

YBC Peewees: Girl’s High Single, Isabelle Broomer 96; Girl’s High Double, Hailey Sadler 162; Boy’s High Single, Kaden Leach 112; Boy’s High Double, Kaden Leach 208.

YBC Bantams: Girl’s High Single, Robin Sanders 141; Girl’s High Double Robin Sanders 269; Boy’s High Single, Caleb Vanderveen 114; Boy’s High Double Caleb Vanderveen 224. Team Standings: Red Wings 2731, Jets 2705, Oilers 2631, Leafs 2623, Sharks 2617, Flames 2512.

YBC Juniors: Girl’s High Single, Caroline Sanders 203; Girl’s High Triple, Lindsay Burnett 535; Boy’s High Single, Alex Robinson 218; Boy’s High Triple, Alex Robinson 541. Team Standings: Sabers 4503, Senators 4437, Bruins 4416, Ducks 4265, Kings 4091.

Former Matilda Township residents hope to renovate their old town hall

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

BRINSTON – Residents in Brinston were not shy about wanting to keep the former Matilda Town Hall at the Matilda Memorial Park as a community hub.

The committee looking into how to preserve the building, held an information and community input meeting on April 12 at Matilda Hall.

The meeting had 28 residents attend, seven of them were part of the recreation committee.

“Of those, 18 left comments and only one said they did not support the renovation due to the high cost,” said committee member Shellie Spencer.

We also got one suggestion for a floor plan modification, which will be

presented as an option when we are finally able to meet with an architect and engineer.

This information will be presented to the committee at our next meeting for a vote to continue the project, or pause. I suspect the vote will be unanimous to continue, but I may be overly optimistic. I am very pleased with the support the community has shown in the past, and continues to show us.

South Dundas had suggested in years gone by that the building might be too expensive to renovate and there was the possibility that it would be demolished at some point. The Matilda Recreation Committee stepped in several years ago and voiced their desire to repurpose the building, and

since then the municipality has told them to go ahead and see what they could do.

The municipality has leased the building to the recreation committee, but there will be no cost to South Dundas to work on the building. The committee will be fundraising and looking for grants to raise the funds needed to renovate the building.

Committee member, Shellie Spencer said the committee received some great feedback. There are several different aspects the committee wants to take regarding the building.

The cost is an issue and justifying renovating the building was easy with the number of suggestions from the community quickly filling up the number of uses the building could have.

Before Covid, \$250,000 was the estimated amount needed to get the building in shape. That amount would have covered a complete renovation including a septic upgrade. The committee is now estimating higher costs thanks to Covid and the current increase in the costs of construction materials.

“I expect we will be closer to \$350,000 now when the project is finally completed, based on 30 - 35 per cent increases on just about everything,” said Spencer.

“The municipality has already told us they will tear the building down rather than spend money on it.”

The committee is hoping for funding from different sources. There could be funding from Energias de Portugal Renewable Funding

estimated at a potential 60 per cent. Local community and business members could account for another 20 per cent and the committee is hoping other donations, fundraising and private donations would account for 20 per cent of what they will need.

Some suggestions about how the building could be used include: usable space for course training such as CPR, WHMIS, Babysitting Course, Cooking Classes, various community events, the building could be utilized as a drop in centre or a community space for advocacy. Other suggestions were to use the building as a green food box pick-up centre and a place to host weekly community meals. The building could be used for Christmas children’s

parties, birthday parties, wedding showers, baby showers and family gatherings.

A renovated community building could also be used for a space for children’s playgroup, games night for residents, and movie nights not to mention the building could be a place to make crafts, club meetings, a location for community garage sales and as a local wifi hot spot.

Other ideas for events that could take place at the building were: ping pong, foosball, video games. Sports broadcasts and low cost rentals of the building for other groups including senior computer classes run by students, a homework club, a coffee night and trivia nights, a book club, 4-H type events and a senior exercise group.



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The Villager News

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The ultimate volunteer

Russell Fire Services took some time last week to celebrate four firefighters who have committed significant amounts of time to service in our community. Firefighters Matt Guertin and Jeremy McKenzie celebrated five years of service, and firefighters Guillaume Marion-Doré and Chris Thompson celebrated 10 years. We are incredibly lucky to have such hard-working and devoted responders on our team. Here's to many more years. Pictured are also fire chief Bruce Armstrong, Mayor Pierre Leroux, and interim chief administrative officer Richard Godin.

Courtesy Photo

Russell grapples with construction traffic concerns

Sandy Casselman
Villager Staff

EMBRUN - Last month, the township of Russell council directed staff to investigate potential solutions for resident complaints concerning construction traffic on Labelle Street.

During the April 4 council meeting, executive director of infrastructure services Jonathan Bourgon brought back a report outlining the reasons it's not possible to prohibit or to police construction traffic on Labelle Street. Bourgon's recommendation was to make Labelle Street the access point for the construction traffic heading to the new subdivision being built at the west end of that street.

"During a construction project, it is extremely difficult to control access to the site. In this case, the administration recommends using the shortest route, Labelle Street, in order to minimize the use of residential streets and proximity to school zones," Bourgon said in his report. "Obviously, the point of origin of the truck

will have a role to play on which route the truck will take. It is therefore impossible to have control over this situation."

While Bourgon recommended the continued use of Labelle Street, he also suggested that a mobile speed radar be installed during construction season as a reminder of the speed limit. Mayor Pierre Leroux asked if it would be possible to add bollards to the street to encourage slower traffic with the intent of creating a safer environment for residents.

"After construction, it was our plan to install those types of bollards on that street," Bourgon said. "If council gave us direction to proceed, it could be done sooner."

During the question period, one resident noted that with the new subdivision currently under construction and potential other subdivisions slated for construction in coming years, that there could be construction traffic on Labelle Street for "for the next 20 years." He asked if there is anything that can be done in addition to

what's been proposed to "calm" the traffic on that street.

While council approved Bourgon's recommendation,

they also directed him to proceed with erecting bollards on Labelle Street. Construction vehicles will be able to continue to use

the road but once the bollards are in place, they will be forced to slow down. The report, along with a map of the affected

area, can be found in the April 4 council agenda package, which is available on the municipality's website (Russell.ca).




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