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Briefly

Art on the Waterfront

CHESTERVILLE – This will be the 11th Edition of Art on the Waterfront in Chesterville.

This great summer event will be taking place June 3-4, 2023, in downtown Chesterville. The event features artwork, jewelry, crafts, and much more. It will also have demonstrations from local martial artists, dancers, performers, with a “Kids Zone” and live music on the south side main stage. Please note, due to bridge construction, a detour from County Road 43 to County Road 7 (Main Street) is planned through Chesterville during Art on the Waterfront.

Ride for Dad

WINCHESTER – The annual Ride for Dad leaves Ottawa Saturday morning, June 3 and ends up at the Sam Ault Arena in Winchester. The Ride for Dad was established in 2000 and its mission is to save men’s lives by funding prostate cancer research and raising awareness about the disease across Canada. To date, the Ride for Dad fight against prostate cancer has raised over \$37 million.

Bike Night returns

CHESTERVILLE – Winchester Bike Night returns on Thurs., June 8 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. Come to the Chesterville Arena to enjoy the music and food and of course the hundreds of motorcycles that fill Chesterville’s downtown core.

THE RECORD

SERVING STORMONT, DUNDAS AND RUSSELL COUNTIES

PM40050631R8905 Volume 129, Number 47 Chesterville, Ontario Thursday, June 1, 2023 Single Copy \$1.00 (HST included)



Women’s Institute holds annual district meeting

There was a great turnout at the Stormont-Dundas District Women’s Institute annual meeting held on Wed., May 24 at the Nelson Laprade Centre in Chesterville. The Women’s Institute (W.I.) has a history dating back to Feb. 19, 1897, when the first W.I. Branch was formed in Stoney Creek, and continues to work together for home and country. Front row: Wendy Hoople, Maryke DeJong, Dianne Moffat, Betty Wheeler, Lynne Gilmour and Doreen Henderson. Back row: SDSG MP Eric Duncan, North Stormont Mayor François Landry, United Counties SDG Warden and North Dundas Mayor Tony Fraser and SDSG MPP Nolan Quinn.

Thompson Goddard Photo

South Dundas fills vacant CAO position

Terry Tinkess
Record Staff

SOUTH DUNDAS – Municipality of South Dundas has officially welcomed a new CAO, and it is a name well known in Eastern Ontario.

Tim Mills began his new role as CAO with South Dundas on Mon., May 29, after resigning from his position with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) last week. Mills replaces the former CAO Shannon Geraghty, who moved to the position of CAO with Augusta Township at the end of April 2023.

Mills brings several years of senior level experience to the role, including serving as superintendent of schools with the Upper Canada District School Board (UCDSB). He was also CAO for the Township of South Glengarry between 2019 and 2023, before working briefly as executive director of the MCA.

Continued on page 3

North Dundas all-terrain vehicle by law repealed

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

WINCHESTER – All off-road vehicles, (ORV) enthusiasts got an early Christmas present last week when the North Dundas Council repealed its ORV bylaw at its May 16 council meeting.

The repealed bylaw regulated the operation of all ORVs and all-terrain vehicles, ATVs on municipal roads in North Dundas.

In 2015, the municipality created and passed a bylaw that regulated when and where these types of vehicles could operate.

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO)

has since Jan. 1, 2021, changed the way the province manages off-road vehicles (ORVs) as some are allowed on-road in some municipalities including North Dundas. The use of ORVs on highways is controlled under Section 191.8 of the *Highway Traffic Act* (HTA).

All ORVs that meet the requirements in Ontario Regulation 316/03 for ORVs permitted on-road, are allowed by default on municipal highways under the jurisdiction of municipalities listed in Ontario Regulation 8/03, which includes the Township of North Dundas, unless the municipality has a bylaw prohibiting or restricting the use of some or all such ORVs.

Continued on page 3



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All-terrain vehicle riders

Continued from the front
Here are some of the requirements from the Ontario Regulation 316/03 for On-Road Riding:

- Driver/Passenger Requirements:**
- Driver must be 16 years of age and hold a valid G2, M2 licence
 - Driver must carry the registration permit
 - No passengers under the age of 8
 - Driver and passengers must wear an approved, secured helmet
 - Driver and passengers must be seated and belted where provided
 - Passengers on 2-up ATVs must be able to reach and use the footrests

- Legal Requirements for ATVs/ORVs:**
- ATV/ORV must be registered, have a rear licence plate, and must be insured
 - ATVs cannot exceed the manufacturer's overloading warning label when travelling on-road
 - Side-by-sides and UTVs must not exceed the width and weight requirements of the manufacturer
 - They must be driven in the same direction of the traffic on the shoulder of the road with all lights on
 - If the shoulder is unsafe, impassable, or not wide enough so that all tires can be completely on the shoulder, then the travelled portion of the road may be used

- Speed regulations:**
- 20 km/h is the maximum speed an ORV can travel on roads with a posted speed limit of 50km/h or less.
 - 50 km/h is the maximum speed an ORV can travel on roads with a posted speed limit of more than 50 km/h.
- The Nation Valley All-Terrain



Winter or summer members of the NVATVC enjoy taking out their ATVs for adventure and fun out on the road. Courtesy Photo

Vehicle Club, (NVATVC) is a not-for-profit club that maintains and controls where trails are located within our township through the help of volunteers. It is also part of the Ontario Federation of All-Terrain Vehicle clubs.

With the current Bylaw No. 37-2015 in effect, ATVs can only operate on all secondary roads within the township save and except those secondary roads within the boundaries and confines of the villages, hamlets, and built-up settlement areas. The bylaw also restricts when vehicles can operate (daily), from one half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset. The bylaw also requires that it be reviewed annually.

By repealing the current ATV bylaw, the following will now be permitted:

Chief building official and supervisor of bylaw services, Jacob Forget explained that ORV owners that want to access the NVATVC trails, will now be able to leave directly from their homes that are located within the villages, hamlets, built-up settlement areas, as well as tourists who park their trailer within those areas to start their trip.

President of NVATVC John Garlough said in a press release, "As

members of NVATVC I ask that as you start riding through towns, that you obey the rules of the road as the community becomes accustomed to having ATVs in residential areas, as this still remains a privilege and not a right."

- The NVATVC will now be permitted to organize events within each of the villages.
- There is a direct economic benefit of ORV users to access main roads in villages to support local service providers.
- Support the growth of the membership base of the Nation Valley ATV Club which directly impacts local community organizations fundraising needs; in the previous years, a temporary exemption bylaw had to be obtained for those events.
- Develop and encourage ORVs tourists to explore our area.

"One of the main economic development drivers of our area is tourism, which must be encouraged at every opportunity, which will ultimately increase the township's tax base, which is in direct alignment with the counties of SDG regional incentive program as well as the township's Community Improvement Plan," said Forget.

Councillor Uhrig said, "I'm more than in support of repealing the bylaw, this has been a long time coming. The Nation Valley club's done some fabulous work in our community for many years, and this is such a small step we can take and support them and support all riders of ATVs. I'm more than in favour of supporting repealing the bylaw."

Some councillors expressed their concern about noise from the ATVs but decided they would wait and see what the reality of dropping the existing bylaw would bring in terms of added noise.

Naomi's House and OPP, partner to make a difference

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

WINCHESTER – Naomi's House in Winchester was recognized for its work in assisting victims of domestic violence and human trafficking.

SDSG MPP Nolan Quinn presented a plaque to the staff of Naomi's on Fri., May 26.

The partnership is between the Ontario Provincial Police in Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry and Naomi's House.

MPP Quinn said, "It is such an important resource in both North Dundas, Stormont Dundas, and South Glengarry. It is nice to know that this organization is partnering with OPP for the benefit of all of the residents of not only Naomi's House, but the whole region as well."

Renee Moores, executive director of Naomi's House said, "OPP Inspector Mark Hemmerick and his detachment has made vulnerable women a priority in the OPP's service delivery by increasing community safety initiatives and anti-human trafficking services. As a result, we have improved inter-agency communication and increased our ability to provide crisis shelter services. This is meaningful to Naomi's, as our residents benefit from the cohesion."

A two-year grant from the Solicitor General's Office is designed to help fund learning and awareness opportunities between the OPP and its partners.

Hemmerick who is also the SD&G detachment commander explained that the presentation marked the end of a two-year project from the Ministry of the Solicitor General for anti-human trafficking initiatives.

OPP Sergeant James Blanchette was also at the presentation of the plaque, and he said the OPP is delighted to work with agencies that support their efforts in community safety like Naomi's House.

Naomi's House is funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services for operations and by the generous donations from our community, all of which are 100 per cent directed to the residents at Naomi's House.

Manager of Naomi's House, Renee Moores said, "We operate a nine-bed emergency shelter, a 24/7 crisis line and transitional housing supports to departing residents."

If you, or someone you know, want to have a supportive talk, call Naomi's House 24/7 at 613-774-2838.

CAO position

Continued from the front

"I am looking forward to working with council and staff to assist with the exciting progress and development happening across the municipality," said Mills.


Mills said he is eager to collaborate with department directors to help them in meeting their goals, with a focus on strategic planning, infrastructure, emergency management, and furthering economic development. He is looking forward to seeing South Dundas continue to be a great place to live and flourish.

Tim Mills has been hired by the municipality of South Dundas to fill the CAO position left vacant with the departure of Shannon Geraghty, who left to fill the same role in Augusta Township. Courtesy Photo

"The council team is Tim Mills as our next thrilled with the hiring of CAO," said Mayor Jason



Broad. "Mills is a great fit with us as we continue to build the best staff for the residents of South Dundas. "The CAO position is extremely important in our municipality as they will be leading the organization. With Mills, we will have a seasoned leader with ample public service skills at the helm. Mills will be very visible and active in South Dundas as he plans to truly complement our attitude and culture shift and be a part of the community. Welcome to Team South Dundas CAO Mills!"



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Council of the Township of South Stormont declares the following as surplus and hereby gives notice of their intention to permanently close and sell the property to an adjoining landowner:

That part of the road allowance between Lots 6 and 7, Concession 6, geographic Township of Osnabruck (AKA Hoople Road), now Township of South Stormont, being part of PIN 60228-0076, approximately 1,400 metres in length and equates to approximately 4.15 acres more or less. The road allowance is located between Dixon Road and Hoople Seventh Road.

The road allowance is being sold to facilitate improved safety for farming operations for the landowner who owns the properties on either side of the road allowance. Should you wish to make a submission, either in favour of or in opposition to the proposal, please forward comments to the Deputy Clerk at PO Box 84, Long Sault, ON, K0C 1P0, or via email to ashley@southstormont.ca prior to June 7, 2023. Following consideration of comments received, Council will consider the necessary by-law on June 14, 2023, or on a subsequent meeting date.

Please contact the municipal office at 613-534-8889, Ext. 204 if you have any questions or require additional information.

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The circle is complete so let's draw another one

Well, well, well.

All good things come to an end, and I consider myself to be a good thing, and as such, my role as editor of *The Record* and *AgriNews* has come to an end.

Whenever you hear about good fortune you can think of me. I had retired from *Metroland* when I was 68.

Now years later I am retiring for a second time.

The first time I sat at the end of my couch, and watched as I started to melt away.

I had been a working journalist for 25 years and the only skills I had mastered were talking to people on the phone, playing with the alphabet and drinking coffee.

Quite by accident I snagged a part-time weekend job with *Winchester Press*.

Later as the press succumbed to modern day newspaper pressures, I was able to literally leap over to *The Record* which was still *The Chesterville Record* at the time.

One thing led to another and before I knew it the good

thing that just ended was just beginning.

Not everyone gets to end a career that began when small village papers were still putting their papers together by literally gluing each story and picture to a sheet of paper the size of the actual newspaper.

Mine began in Kemptville with *The Kemptville Advance*.

The finished broadsheet sized paper would be driven from Kemptville to Winchester every Tuesday night, where Brian (Bud) Raistrick would load the negatives of each page onto his press and away the paper would go.

Working at *The Record* along with its fantastic staff was a fitting way to come full circle.

Now everything is of course computerized except for the actual reporting and writing.

Imagine a horse pulling a plow, that's me years ago, but now I am a horse riding a tractor.

That's how far the newspaper industry has come when it comes to perfecting the process of putting a newspaper together.

In any event, the last few years with *The Record* have been exciting and bittersweet at the same time.

Each day, and edition, brought with it a reminder of how far the news' business has come, and how far it has yet to go. Regardless of what mainstream media has to say, the weekly newspaper is still a wonderful, and meaningful source of local news and community events.

Each week was a reminder about how every community has its share of good people helping their community grow

in a healthy way.

In Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry those people are everywhere.

These days it seems readers think newspapers magically appear each week.

The Record staff have their fingerprints on every advertisement, headline, photo and story.

If the public could only see the effort made each week to bring all of that information together and present it in a way that makes sense, they would not believe what they were seeing.

As I mentioned earlier, the horse is driving the tractor, but the sales staff, reporters, graphic artist, and owners are the engine that make the whole thing work as well as it does.

After these same people wrestle *The Record* through another week, they begin the task of assembling the *Eastern Ontario AgriNews*.

That's not unlike baking a cake then going back into the kitchen to bake a cake one hundred times the size of the one you just baked.

So, as much as I would like to pat myself on the back for coming this far and getting out alive, I have to thank the people I work with who built the chair I am sitting in, or if you prefer the tractor doing all of the actual work.

A special thanks of course goes out to all of the readers who take the time to spend a few minutes each week and month enjoying what *The Record* staff has worked so hard to put together.

I have enjoyed being part of the team that brings *The Record* and *AgriNews* to life each week and month.

Joseph Morin

TAGWI Report

By Brooke Donnelly
Student Reporter

A week with the Warriors



After a long weekend, our Warriors returned to school on Tuesday to a busy week. On Tuesday morning, two of our students participated in EOSSA tennis. Then, on Wednesday, our senior boys' soccer team took off to Glengarry for the playoffs. Finally, on Friday, Tagwi hosted the Upper Canada District School Board's first ever Horizons Leadership Conference.

Early Tuesday morning, Tagwi students Ava McNaughton and Danika Canham took off to Kingston for EOSSA tennis. The girls made it all the way to the semi-finals, where after a hard-fought match, they unfortunately lost.

On Wednesday afternoon, our senior boys' soccer team took off to Glengarry District High School to compete in the playoffs. They played the host school in the semi-finals. After a very close first half, Glengarry scored two unanswered goals, winning the game 2-0.

After many weeks of planning, the time finally came for Tagwi to host a Horizons Leadership Conference. This included keynotes from speakers Ian Tyson and Melanie Sodka, student-led activity sessions, and a pizza lunch. Four other schools from within the school board joined us for the day, Char-Lan, CCVS, Seaway and St. Lawrence. Thank you to everyone at the Canadian Student Leadership Association for helping to put this together and thank you to the staff and student leaders who stepped up to help run this event.

As always, student council and the school community is hard at work planning for the upcoming weeks. To stay up to date on what's happening, we recommend you check out Tagwi's Instagram page (@tagwiwarriors) and our student council Instagram page (@warriors.student.council).

Clearing the air on healthcare

For Stormont, Dundas, and South Glengarry:

There has been a lot of conversation around Bill 60 and fear around its passing into legislation. My office and I have been receiving many claims that our government is trying to create a system where patients will have to pay for treatments, which is untrue.

The past president of the Ontario Medical Association (OMA), Dr. Rose Zacharias recently referenced Bill 60: "The OMA is very encouraged by this next important step to reduce wait times. We support the government's action to move lower acuity surgeries out of hospitals, which in turn will free up hospital resources to focus on emergency, acute and complex cases, while relieving strain and capacity issues. The introduction of legislation to move from independent health facilities to integrated community health centres is the strongest signal yet of the government's intention to ensure the necessary safeguards are in place as part of this transformative

reform."

As stated above, one of Bill 60's purpose is to bring the approximately 700 Independent Health Facilities (IHF) across Ontario and integrate them into our existing health network which will mandate public accountability for these facilities. These facilities have been running in our province for decades. Kensington Eye Institute in the Toronto region, a not-for-profit Ambulatory Academic Centre of Excellence, would be an example of one such facility in place since 2006!

As it stands today, should you utilize an Independent Health Facility for a nonemergency surgery and you are wrongly up charged for a consultation or an unnecessary upgrade, you would have no oversight body to register a complaint. When Bill 60 is enacted, the patient in this situation has the right to register a formal complaint with the Patient Ombudsman. Bill 60 would also see a "Patient Bill of Rights" enacted.

The legislation requires the Bill of Rights to be clearly posted, and enforced upon, in these newly legislated Integrated Community Health Centres.

With Bill 60, we will see a thoughtful expansion of facilities that have already been working in Ontario, just now with more government oversight. The new facilities will be required to submit a detailed staffing model which includes consultation with other health system partners, including local hospitals.

Bill 60 would also allow for a more efficient delivery of nonemergency surgeries. Instead of using surgical wards that are broadly set up for any type of surgery, these facilities will be set up for a limited amount of specific surgeries. This will allow the time for sanitization and prep between surgeries to be greatly reduced, in turn reducing the surgical backlog. During committee hearings some doctors who presented had estimates of a 20 per cent increase in surgeries performed.

Our government has

been working extremely hard to address the shortage of nurses, physicians, and other healthcare professionals in our health system here in Ontario. We have expanded our medical school seats to graduate more doctors in Ontario. We have also put a focus on promoting healthcare as a career path for young Ontarians and have put in place a "Learn and Stay" grant, to not only encourage young people to enter the health field, but to commit that once they are graduated that they will stay in an understaffed region.

Being a Human Resources' graduate myself, I am encouraged to know that over 25,000 youth entered Health Care related post secondary studies this past fall in Ontario.

Our bold action will help reduce surgical backlogs that have been around long before COVID.

If you still have lingering questions, please feel free to reach out to my office. I would be happy to address any concerns around this, or any legislation in Ontario.

MPP Nolan Quinn

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Addressing men’s mental health: Where to turn for help

Terry Tinkess
Record Staff

Mental health issues affect men across all walks of life, and in Ontario, men are no exception. By acknowledging the importance of addressing men’s mental health concerns, it then becomes crucial to explore available resources and support systems that can help individuals navigate their mental well-being journey effectively.

In Ontario, men often face unique challenges when it comes to mental health due to societal expectations, stigma, and a tendency to downplay their

emotional struggles. This burden of silence can prevent men from seeking the help they need, aggravating their mental health issues. It is essential to break free from these barriers and create a supportive environment for men’s mental health.

Fortunately, Ontario offers a range of professional support services for men’s mental health. The first step is often to consult with a family physician who can provide guidance, referrals, and help develop a personalized treatment plan. Additionally, psychologists, psychiatrists, and therapists

specializing in men’s mental health can offer counselling, therapy, and other evidence-based interventions to address various mental health conditions.

One thing men need to understand is that they are not alone in this struggle. Ontario is home to several community organizations that focus on men’s mental health. These organizations aim to create safe spaces for men to discuss their mental health concerns and provide support through peer networks, group therapy sessions, and educational programs.

While these groups may vary from community to community, the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) is a good resource in discovering what is available near you. They have programs that might be helpful. For more information visit their website at <https://cmha-east.on.ca>.

These organizations each play a vital role in fostering a sense of community, reducing isolation, and encouraging open conversations around mental health.

For immediate assistance and confidential support, helplines and online resources are readily available in Ontario. Organizations like **C o n n e x O n t a r i o**, Good2Talk, and Crisis Text Line offer 24/7 helpline services, connecting men with trained professionals who can provide guidance, crisis intervention, and information on local resources.

As a preventative measure, bouncebackontario.ca is another option. This is a free cognitive behaviour program that is administered by phone. You can ask your doctor to refer you, or you can self-

refer. You will be assigned a one-on-one coach to help you deal with some of the challenges you may be facing, but it can also be used as a preventative program. It is mainly used to deal with anxiety, depression, and high stress.

Another option is wellnesstogether.ca which is designed to be used on demand. You get to choose what you need, when you need it. Services range from basic wellness information to one-on-one sessions with a counsellor, to community support. They are funded by the Government of Canada as well as many corporate sponsors.

Many workplaces in Ontario have recognized the significance of men’s mental health and are implementing programs and initiatives to support their employees. Employee assistance programs (EAPs) often provide confidential counselling services and mental health resources. Employers can also promote mental health awareness through training programs, workshops, and establishing a supportive work environment where employees feel comfortable discussing their mental health concerns.

Bottom line: help is out there. In Ontario, men’s mental health is a crucial issue that demands attention and action. By recognizing the challenges men face, raising awareness, and accessing the available resources, men can take proactive steps towards improving their mental well-being. Whether it’s seeking professional help, engaging with community organizations, or utilizing helplines and online resources, support is available to empower men on their mental health journey.

REFLECTIONS ON COMFORT & PEACE



Rev. Stephanie McWatt
St. Clare’s Anglican Church

Have you ever been out running on a hot day? Or chopping firewood under the blazing sun? Can you recall the pressing need for a drink of cold water – not warm, not hot – but ice-cold water? Can you imagine the sensation of that cold water hitting your mouth and sliding down your throat, and the relief it brings you in your extreme thirst?

In the lectionary reading of this past Sunday (John 7:37-39), Jesus invites all who are thirsty to come to Him, and then He also states that out of the believer’s heart shall flow rivers of living water. Living water, what is that? And what does it mean that it will flow from my (our) heart?

Living water is described elsewhere (John 4), as water that would result in one never feeling thirsty again. Those who believe in Jesus, are to be to those around us, living water – our actions are to be such that prevents them from being thirsty; from being in need.

How are we doing at that, Church? Do our actions solve problems, or do they ignore them (or worse, exacerbate them)? Do our words provide a balm of healing and comfort to those who hear them, or do they muddy the water of their souls?

Jesus calls us to be living waters – and indeed, as a community that endeavours to love and support each other this should be our aim, even if we are not sure where we stand on the Jesus issue. Can we imagine a community where everyone is clothed, fed, and safe every night? Where all are considered equal.

I exhort each of us today (or whenever you read this) to reflect on how we can be living waters to those in our circles. Can we perhaps purchase a bag of food for the foodbank? Donate the children’s too small clothes? Volunteer to cook meals for those in need? Visit the lonely? Invite someone over for dinner?

There are innumerable ways we can be living waters to those around us – limited only by our imagination and creativity. We at St. Clare’s would love to journey with you, we invite all of you – regardless of creed or belief to check us out on Sundays at 10 a.m.

Blessings, Rev Steph



Heaven Anniversary Linda Darlene Windsor Helmer

On June 4, 1966 our fondest wish came true. An angel decided she needed a soulmate, so at Trinity United in Chesterville, our dreams came true. You are now an angel in heaven, and your soulmate’s fondest vision is all of us being together again.

*Till we meet again, all our love
Earl L. Windsor*

- OBITUARY - Patricia Monast



Passed away peacefully at the Winchester District Memorial Hospital on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, Patricia Monast (nee McLaughlin) of Winchester, age 75. Loving wife of Peter Monast for 53 years. Loving mother of Monique St. Denis (Donovan) of Chrysler and Annette Hall (Brian) of Winchester. Dear sister of Gordon McLaughlin (Ann Cook) of Chesterville. Patricia will be fondly remembered by her grandchildren Ryan, Bayden, Mason, Jordon, Chase and her great-grandchildren Adalynn, Aubree and Jonah. She was predeceased by her parents John and Gladys McLaughlin (nee Manson) and her brother Robert McLaughlin. She is also survived by nieces and nephews. A Memorial Service will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion in Chesterville on Sunday, June 4 at 1 p.m., with a reception to follow. Donations to Winchester Hospital or the Canadian Cancer Society would be gratefully acknowledged by the family. Online condolences may be made at marsdenmclaughlin.com. 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”.

Church DIRECTORY

Your Guide to Local Houses of Worship

ALL SERVICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

The United Church of Canada CHRIST CHURCH UNITED

5 Casselman St., Chesterville
Pastor: Debbie Poirier 613-850-2725
June 4th, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA AVONMORE-FINCH-MARTINTOWN ST. JAMES - CHALMERS - ST. ANDREW'S

PASTORAL CHARGE Minister: Rev. Lois Gaudet BBA, BTh, MDIV
Contact: Tel: 613-346-1648 Email: revlgaudet@gmail.com

June 4th, 2023 - Chalmers Anniversary Service at 10 a.m. in Chalmers, Finch. No services in Avonmore and Martintown on this day.



ST. LUKE'S-KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (Finch) ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (Avonmore) ST. JAMES-ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (Gravel Hill)

INTERIM MODERATOR: Rev. Geoff Howard
Email: glhoward@sympatico.ca Phone: 613-652-6215
www.avonmorefinch-presbyterian.ca

June 4th, 2023 - Finch 9:30 a.m. and Avonmore 11 a.m. with Guest: Merle Marjerrison.



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

Interim Moderator Rev. Samer Kandalaf 613-258-4136

June 4th, 2023 - There will be a joint service at St. Paul's in Winchester. There will be no service in Morewood or Chesterville.

St. Andrew's, Chesterville and Morewood Presbyterian churches have reopened for in-person services.



NATIONSIDE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

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

Please join us for Sunday Services at 10:30 a.m. at the Nelson LaPrade Centre, 9 William St.

Services also online on Facebook under "The Nation" Nationside Pentecostal Church. Affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada



HARMONY COMMUNITY CHURCH Evangelical Missionary Church

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

Senior Pastor: Rev. Daniel Wallace

Weekly Services - Sunday at 10:30 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Wednesdays at 7 p.m. - Prayer Meeting

We are open and invite you to join us for services! We are continuing to live stream our Sunday morning services at Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoPy_DABzz4REc-A76-EvrA
Sunday School Classes & Nursery have resumed.

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

ST. MARY'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

139 Castor St., Russell, ON Parish Office: 613-445-3226
Presiding: Rev. Anne Quick
info@marysrussell.com Website: www.stmarysrussell.ca

We're back to two in-person services:

Holy Eucharist (Holy Communion) at 9 a.m. and at 10:30 a.m. The second service is usually Zoomed - you can email the church on Saturday evening to get the Zoom link.
St. Mary's Church is engaged in actively sharing God's unconditional grace and love.



WINCHESTER BAPTIST CHURCH

486 Main St., Winchester
Pastors Bud McKibbin and Mollie McKibbin

Join us Sundays at 11 a.m. for our in-person or virtual service.

Church has reopened for in-person services. Traditional Music - Centred Services.



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Join us at www.thegatheringhouse.ca on Sunday mornings beginning at 10 a.m. for our weekly worship service. Nursery and Sunday School classes have resumed.



ST. MARY OF THE PRESENTATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



ST. CLARE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH OF NORTH DUNDAS

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

Sunday Service of Eucharist, 10 A.M.

Visit us online for Sunday Service at our links below.

On Facebook at The Anglican Parish of North Dundas at St. Clare's.
On YouTube at St. Clare Anglican.

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

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

11 a.m. Sunday Worship

Nursery (parental supervision) is available.

NSPS purchased by the Township of North Stormont

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

BERWICK – North Stormont Mayor François Landry announced an agreement had been signed for the purchase of the former North Stormont Public School (NSPS) by the township from the Upper Canada District School Board as the May 23 regular council meeting began. North Stormont Public School had served the local community for several decades and was closed last June.

During his public statement, Landry mentioned how council had expressed an interest in purchasing the property and building when approached by UCDSB as the municipal office is at maximum capacity. He noted this will provide opportunities for growth, mentioning there may be space in the building for community services to work from.

"I'm very excited about the move of our municipal offices to our new building. Though the loss of the

North Stormont Public School was very unfortunate, I'm grateful for the opportunity to purchase this building," commented Landry in a recent email.

The purchase is scheduled to close in the very near future and includes both the school building and five acres of land. "I would like to thank all staff that took part in this process and also Mr. Ferguson and Mr. McAllister of the Upper Canada District School Board for their

collaboration in this transaction," said Landry, noting "The designs of new offices will begin in the coming months."

After mentioning the effect of a school closing on a small community, Deputy Mayor Steve Densham mentioned he sees the potential for a community hub at the new municipal building. “With the land remaining as public property, I’m hoping we will see recreation activities ramp up on the property again as well,” said Densham.

“Given the price we paid for the building, staff’s research into available grants, and as we consider our next steps for the existing building, this has proven to be a very low-cost venture for the value we will realize. This type of opportunity doesn’t happen every day and I’m extremely happy and proud that council decided to move forward with it,” commented Densham.

“This acquisition will be a win-win for the community. Not only are we able to help the wound of having our local school closed, but we are able to transform this space into a local service hub that will serve residents for years to come,” mentioned Coun. Adrian Bugelli in a recent email, noting it is an opportunity to create “an innovative Town Hall model that many larger communities are trying to emulate.”

Councillor Alison McDonald mentioned how “re-using a high quality community building to expand our services to residents is a good news story.” Coun. Charles Shane mentioned the school is in good shape, there is a potential for the township to grow in the accessible building with a large acreage that could be used for sports.

“Once the township takes possession on May 31, the first item that will be completed is a concept design. Renovations have yet to be determined and will be dependent on design variables and/or potential engineering design requirements,” commented North Stormont chief administrative officer/clerk Craig Calder. He continued how plans for the current township office are not finalized, with community use of the new location being investigated.

Many hands make light work

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – May 27 was a sunny, warm day, perfect to plant a vegetable garden. Members and their leaders from 1st North Dundas

Guides and Pathfinders, joined Christine Cross-Barkley to plant tomatoes and potatoes in the Faith Garden at Christ Church United in Chesterville.

"I am overwhelmed by the support

from the 1st Dundas Guides and Pathfinders,” commented Cross-Barkley, as she was working in the garden with her grandsons Eli and Raymond. Guider Stephanie McLean explained the group had helped with the fall cleaning of the garden, and noted that Christine had really appreciated the help, so they decided to return in the spring to help with the planting.

After planting some tomatoes, the volunteers gathered for a photo before returning to the garden plot to plant potatoes. From the left, front row: Katherine Savary, Mackenna Hall, River Roberts, Amelia Poll, Eli Cross, Raymond Cross and Alyvia Thompson. Back row: Pam Savary, Jenna Savary, Stephanie McLean, Violet Laviolette, Sophie McLean, Darci Stewart, Ellie Chambers and Jennifer Poll.

Thompson Goddard Photo



Morrisburg Legion & Women's Auxiliary
supports WDMH Auxiliary with \$2,000 donation

Jane Adams
Special to the Record

MORRISBURG – The Winchester District Memorial Hospital (WDMH) Auxiliary's recent 75th Anniversary Tea and Fashion Show had a wonderful twist – when the Morrisburg Royal Canadian Legion (RCL) Branch #48 and Women's Auxiliary presented a cheque for \$2,000 to support patient equipment purchases.

“The Morrisburg Legion and their Auxiliary have been very generous to us in the past and they continue to be,” noted Bev Beck, an auxiliary member who chaired the organizing committee for the event. “We are so grateful that we could host our event in their wonderful hall. This special gift was the icing on the cake!”

WDMH Auxiliary co-chair Elinor Jordan

agrees: "We so appreciate the Legion's support for our special day - from the hall to the food, to the donation. From the bottom of our hearts (and stomachs!), thank you!"

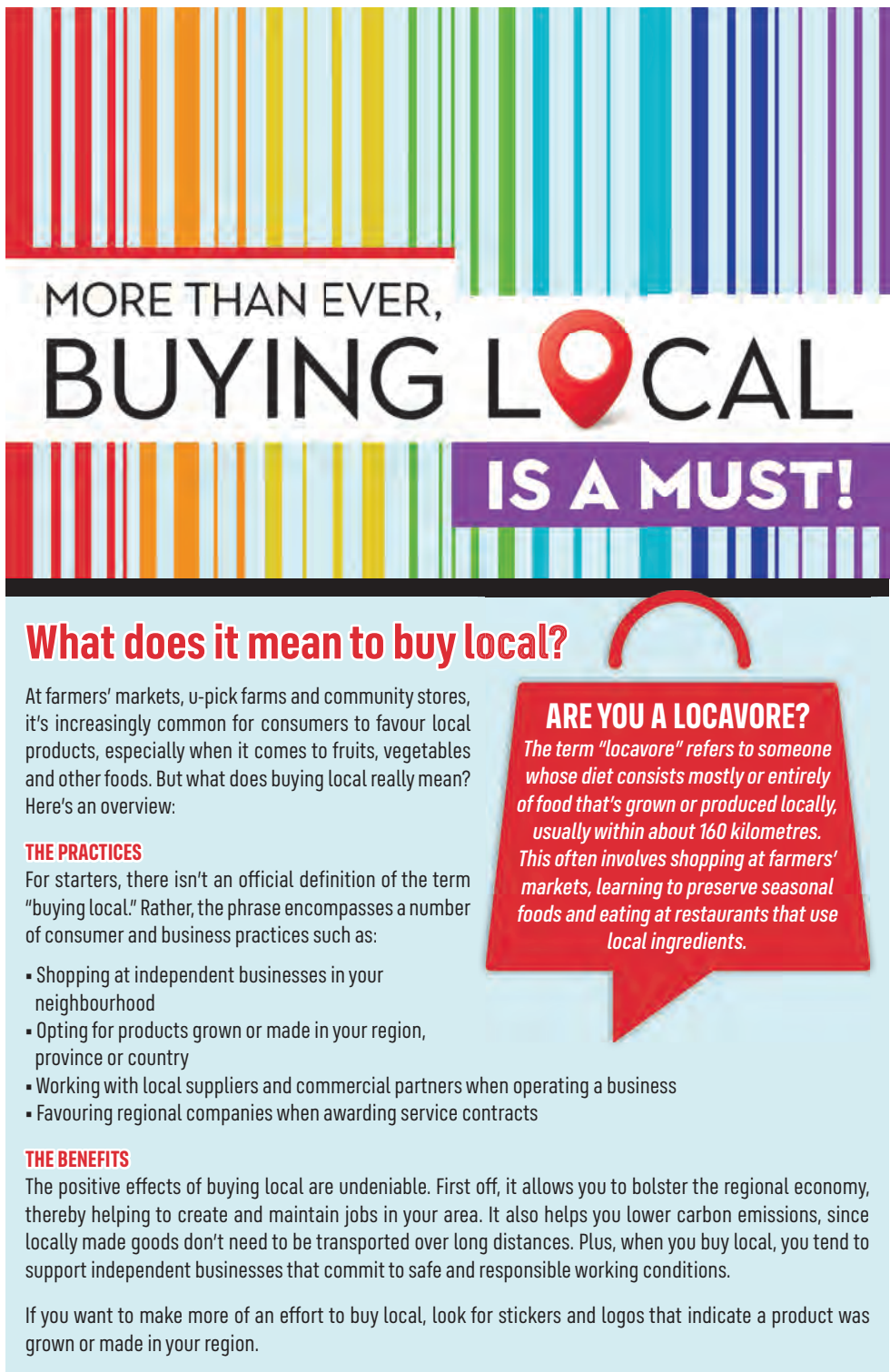
Legion president Donna Dillabough says they were pleased to donate: "The Legion is all about community and the hospital is a big part of it. If we didn't have Winchester Hospital, we'd be in big trouble."

Debbie Shaver, president of the RCL Ladies Auxiliary, agrees: "The hospital is our hospital, and a lot of people use it. It's important to support local causes."

If you would like to provide comments or suggestions about hospital services, please contact Cholly Boland, president and CEO, Winchester District Memorial Hospital at 613-774-1049 or by email at cboland@wdmh.on.ca.



WDMH Auxiliary member Bev Beck on the left accepts the cheque from Legion president Donna Dillabough (centre) and president of the RCL Ladies Auxiliary Debbie Shaver (right). Courtesy Photo



Developing leadership skills in students

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

NORTH STORMONT – There was an excited buzz in the halls at Tagwi Secondary School (TSS) as students from five Upper Canada District School Board (UCDSB) secondary schools gathered to attend the boards’ first Horizon Leadership Conference on May 26. Riley McMullen, program leader at Tagwi Secondary School, explained the conference was held in collaboration with the Canadian Student Leadership Association (CSLA).

“Super excited to be here! It’s a powerful program that allows students to make their own impact on their community,” commented Ashley Baer from the Canadian Student Leadership Association. More information on this association can be found on

their website located at: <https://www.studentleadership.ca>.

Tagwi students Nadya Levac and Mady Holmes served as MCs for the event which had approximately 140-150 students and staff from Char-Lan District High School (CDHS), Cornwall Collegiate and Vocation School (CCVS), Seaway District High School (SDHS), St. Lawrence Secondary School (SLSS), and Tagwi Secondary School (TSS).

The first speaker of the conference was Ian Tyson of Ian Tyson Presentations, who captured the attention of participants with stories of his life experiences and what he learned from them. He discussed how people make many choices, big or small, during a day, to find something to be grateful for each day and how student

leaders can make their school a safe and welcoming place.

Capacity Creator Corp. CEO Melanie Sodko was the second keynote speaker who provided students and staff with information on self-development. “Melanie focused on a few important ideas, all of which centred around maximizing our capacity to be successful, to achieve a balance in our lives, to make a difference in the world,” commented McMullen. He continued she discussed the “fallacy that we can multi-task effectively,” the need to learn to say ‘no’ and to focus on important commitments.

“We had twelve student-led activities that were designed to help students make connections and work together on team building initiatives,” explained McMullen, who said the activities were held in the

gymnasium of the school following the lunch break.

CDHS teacher Heather Grant accompanied 21 students from the Williamstown school. “It’s always great to play sports against other schools; friendly competition’s healthy, but this was a really nice way for students from different schools to work as a team this time and do some fun icebreaker-style leadership games,” commented CDHS

teacher Heather Grant who accompanied 21 students to the event.

“I really enjoyed the guest speakers and their positive attitudes towards life and the challenges that come with it. Meeting new people and collaborating with them in groups was so much fun as well. This was a such a fun day and experience,” said CDHS Grade 9 student Olivia Small.

“We hope to build on our

success next year by including even more schools. It was amazing to see our bleachers full of enthusiastic student leaders once again!” said McMullen who is looking forward to the 2023-24 school year. “The UCDSB’s mission is: “To prepare students for a successful life,” and we believe that opportunities such as this, play a significant role in meeting our goal,” concluded McMullen.



Polling station on Chesterville’s waterfront

The Ontario Health Coalition held a referendum for citizens on the privatization of healthcare in Ontario on Fri., May 26 and Sat., May 27 at polls across Ontario. Rainer Pethke and Ruby Mekkeron were volunteers at the poll located on the waterfront in Chesterville on May 27. It is expected the results of the province-wide referendum will be made public shortly.

Thompson Goddard Photo



From the left: Riley McMullen, Ashley Baer, Ian Tyson and Melanie Sodka gather at the photo booth as the Horizon Leadership Conference at Tagwi Second School began.

Thompson Goddard Photo



Troves of treasures throughout Winchester

If you were looking for deals, then Winchester was the place to be on May 27 when the community garage sale was held throughout the village. People were out enjoying the warm weather as they checked out the treasure laden tables on many streets. Lemonade stands offered a refreshing drink for those who had worked up a thirst searching for a deal. Krystin Gravelle is seen enjoying her first cup of coffee. She mentioned the turnout at her location was great with people starting to arrive at 6:30 a.m.

Thompson Goddard Photo



Spring is in the Air

Music was in the air on Friday evening at the Christian Reformed Church in Williamsburg as the Seaway Valley Singers performed a wide range of musical offerings as part of their Spring is in the Air concert.

Tinkess Photo

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Williamsburg Market opens
The weather was wonderful and the vendors friendly as the Williamsburg Country Market opened for the 2023 season on Sun., May 7 at 4358 County Road 31. There was a good turnout of vendors selling baked goods, various craft items, and after perusing the booths, guests were able to enjoy a barbecue lunch provided by volunteers from the I.O.O.F Local 349 in Williamsburg. The outdoor market runs each Sunday between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. until late September. Theo Janssen and Marsha Markle are shown choosing a tasty treat from the My Baking Addiction booth as Amanda Smyth looks on. Thompson Goddard Photo

Chesterville & District Historical Society hosts school visit

Carolyn Thompson Goddard
Record Staff

CHESTERVILLE – Students in Ms. Robyn Carriere’s grades 4/5 and 5/6 classes at Chesterville Public School visited the Heritage Centre on Fri., May 19. The Heritage Centre, located on Victoria Street, is run by the Chesterville & District Historical Society (CDHS) and houses artifacts and information on the history of the region.

CDHS president Caroline Roberts was joined by volunteers Corrie McRae, Susan Henbest, Verne MacMillan, and Carol Goddard. The volunteers provided information on the history of Chesterville and district to the students during morning and afternoon sessions.

After a welcome from Roberts, students were divided into groups who then visited a kitchen display, children’s sports and games, local schools and

were able to view a computerized historical overview of the community.

The Heritage Centre will have an official reopening following extensive renovations and display revitalization

during the Art on the Waterfront weekend planned for June 3 and 4. More information on this and other events at the Heritage Centre is available on their Facebook page and website.



From the left: CPS teacher Robyn Carriere, CDHS president Caroline Roberts and Susan Henbest are shown in front of a display featuring area one-room schoolhouses during the school visit at the Heritage on Fri., May 19.
Thompson Goddard Photo

JUNE IS Dairy MONTH

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Vitamin D
Helps protect your bones and immune system.

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VOLUNTEER

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER HOURS AND WANT TO BE PART OF SOMETHING FUN?

Hey, all you amazing people! We could use your help at Art on The Waterfront on Fri., June 2, Sat., June 3, and Sun., June 4, 2023 in Chesterville. There will be free pizza Friday evening for anyone who comes out to help, and lunch will be provided on Saturday and Sunday. Duties include set up and take down of tents, tables & barricades; being an event ambassador; handing out water to artists and band members; helping with set up at the music tent, etc. If interested, please contact Darcy Paquette at sylsaza@gmail.com, message us on Facebook, or register on our website at <https://artonthewaterfront.ca/faq/volunteer-with-us/>.

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VOLUNTEER

VOLUNTEER NOW!

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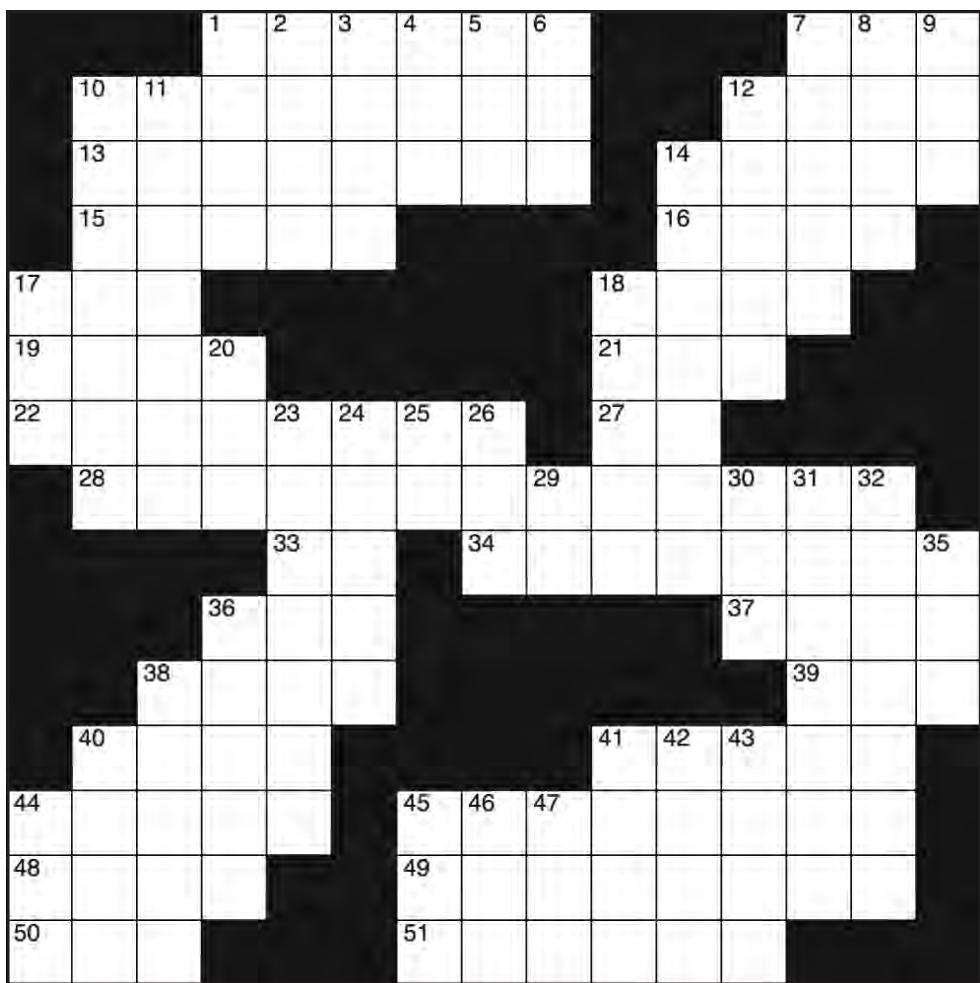
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CROSSWORD PUZZLE FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 1, 2023

CLUES ACROSS

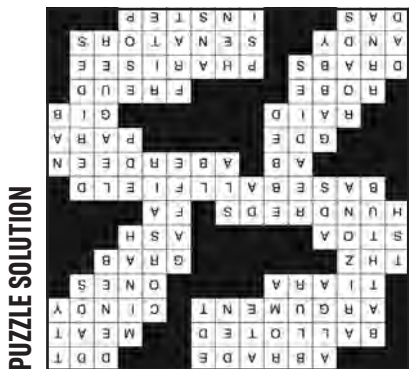
1. Wear away by friction
7. Insecticide
10. Elicited a secret vote
12. Beef
13. Disagreement
14. _ Crawford, supermodel
15. Jeweled headdress
16. Digits
17. Trillion hertz
18. Snap up
19. Classical portico
21. Residue after burning
22. Large integers
27. Free agent
28. Where ballplayers work

CLUES DOWN

1. Nonflowering aquatic plant
2. Britpop rockers
3. National capital
4. Consumed
5. The habitat of wild animals
6. Sun up in New York
7. Cygnus star
8. Male parents
9. Talk to you (abbr.)
10. A place to clean oneself
11. Southwestern US state
12. South Korean idol singer
14. Pirate
17. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
18. Mistake
20. Promotions
23. Prepares
24. Partner to flowed

33. Blood type
34. Scottish city
36. Google certification (abbr.)
37. Serbian monetary unit
38. Make a sudden surprise attack on
39. Wood or metal bolt
40. Relaxing attire
41. Famed neurologist
44. Dullish brown fabrics
45. Member of ancient Jewish sect
48. Griffith, Rooney
49. Lawmakers
50. Government lawyers
51. The arch of the foot

25. State lawyer
26. Patti Hearst's captors
29. Pound
30. Electronic data processing
31. Sports player
32. Treats with contempt
35. Apprehend
36. Excessively talkative
38. Highways
40. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
41. College organization for males
42. Any customary observance or practice
43. Employee stock ownership plan
44. Male parent
45. The 23rd letter of the Greek alphabet
46. Female bird
47. Autonomic nervous system



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.

Spotlight on Iron Forge Pizzeria

WINCHESTER – As you examine the menu at Iron Forge Pizza in Winchester, you’re immediately left with the impression that this isn’t your typical small-town restaurant. When your meal arrives, you realize how right you were.

Iron Forge Pizza (the original) is located at 500 Main St. in Winchester, and while from the outside it appears unassuming, it is well worth your time to stop in and explore. There’s plenty of seating and lots of natural light, but unlike some restaurants that prefer to invest in decor, Iron Forge concentrated on what matters most: the food.

Kate Kirkwood is the manager of the Winchester location, although in a few weeks’ time she will be moving into a new role, that of the franchisee of Iron Forge’s Embrun location. They also have a location in Merrickville and will also be opening soon in Smiths Falls.

For the present time, she’s quite happy to talk about what makes Iron Forge different.

“The sourdough crust is the biggest difference,” she said. “We try to source most of our food locally, and we’re a completely [from] scratch kitchen. Everything is handmade, nothing comes basically out of the box. All our salad dressings and chicken fingers, everything is made 100 per cent by us with fresh, locally sourced ingredients. We pair up

SMALL BUSINESS Spotlight



Shaw Knelsen is the founder of Iron Forge Pizza and is trying to replicate what led to the success of the Winchester location in his expansion plans.

Courtesy Photo

with Greg’s meats. Plot of Earth? We’ve paired up with them as well.”

For the most part, when you eat at a chain restaurant, while the food may be very tasty, you know it came out of a bag, or a bin and it has spent time in the freezer. Not so with Iron Forge. “Take chicken

nuggets, for example,” said Kirkwood. “We buy chicken breast, brine it, hand bred it. It’s a lot of care, a lot of love and making sure that it’s fresh and nutritious.

Fresh and nutritious, using premium quality products is the theme that runs throughout Iron Forge. There are many

selections on the menu that are not what you typically expect from a small rural community restaurant. It’s a little bit up-scale, but they have all the traditional favourites as well. “It works, it’s healthy, it’s nutritious, it’s what we needed,” said Kirkwood.

It’s not just pizza either. The menu has a fine selection of burgers, sandwiches, sides, salads, and sweets to wrap things up.

Expansion plans would seem to indicate a level of success. “It started with this restaurant,” said Kirkwood, “And then about two years after, with the success of this one, they opened in Merrickville. And now we’re expanding even more.

The Merrickville restaurant was opened during COVID, and because of the takeout portion of their business model, things went very well. Now that the pandemic seems to be in the rear-view mirror, you’re welcome to eat in, but takeout is always an option.

“We’ve stayed successful,” said Kirkwood, “Which is why we’re expanding. We’ll have four restaurants in less than five years. And the goal is to try to stay out in the rural community.”

Call it what you want: up-scale, premium, a healthy alternative. Whatever name you choose to describe it, Iron Forge is different, and in a good way. It has a catchy name, and comfortable surroundings, but the food is what will make you come back often.

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.



\$1,500 for Hospice Cornwall

During a break in the card game euchre, 50+ Community Group president Janice Beverdam and Betty Wheeler presented Sandy Collette from Hospice Cornwall a cheque for \$1,500. Beverdam commented how everyone at the afternoon card game was excited the funds would be going to Hospice Cornwall because so many people are touched by cancer. “I’m totally thrilled with the amount of money they were able to raise. It is donations like this which keep us afloat,” commented Collette. From the left: Betty Wheeler, Janice Beverdam, Sandy Collette and Ray Beauregard are seen shortly after the cheque presentation. Thompson Goddard Photo



Fundraising for village beautification

When walking down the streets of Chesterville during the spring, summer and fall seasons, there are many beautiful flower gardens and flower beds to view throughout the community. This is thanks to the work of the Green Gang who purchase, plant, and maintain these locations of floral beauty. On May 19, the group held their annual plant sale at the riverfront in Chesterville that raised funds for needed supplies and flowers. From the left: Ralph Norg, Joka VanWinden, Shirley Coons, Marg Norg and Connie Guich were some of the Green Gang volunteers assisting people purchase plants for their own use. Thompson Goddard Photo



Children’s Treatment Centre Bike-A-Thon

South Dundas lawyer Doug Grenkie was busy Saturday morning at the Docksyde Ice Cream Shop registering participants in the 2023 Children’s Treatment Centre (CTC) Bike-A-Thon. The Bike-A-Thon is the Centre’s second largest fundraiser and according to their website, typically raises over \$100,000. The CTC Bike-A-Thon recognizes the needs and interests of all age groups, and features various fundraising activities, allowing everyone to do what they can to help support this organization. Tinkess Photo

Phyllis Desnoyers retires from Metcalfe Farmers' Market

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

METCALFE – The Metcalfe Farmers' Market is a special place.

Over the past 30 years hundreds of vendors have made the popular market their own and along the way joined a special family of people.

Phyllis Desnoyers, has been selling her baked goods at the Metcalfe Farmer's market for the past 29 years. She joined the market one year after it was founded on the Metcalfe fairgrounds.

On Sat., May 27, Phyllis retired from the market taking with her years of great memories and more friends made than she could count.

At 76 years old, Phyllis decided it was time to slow down a little. Now she is looking forward to visiting

the market each week as a consumer and friend to all of the vendors there.

She said, "I cannot thank my customers and fellow vendors enough for all they have done for me. It is like being part of a big family."

Like many bakers, Phyllis learned her craft as a child in her mother's farm kitchen. Her mother baked everything from pies to bread to cookies.

"I started to learn how to bake when I was 8 years old," said Phyllis, "I can remember my mother teaching me how to make homemade bread and pies.

I have always liked baking. Growing up on the farm you would never eat a store bought pie."

When Phyllis grew up she worked for the government, later when her children came along she left the government and with

her husband, Bob, of 55 years came to Metcalfe.

She always enjoyed working with people and with her love of baking going to the market was an obvious choice.

Twenty-nine years ago she decided she would make a committed decision to start up her baking business called "Phyllis Home Baking". Her plan was to bake everything at home and then bring to the market every Saturday to be sold.

Her decision was a good one.

"I think I started out with 10 pies and two dozen butter tarts," said Phyllis. "It just kept growing and growing. That's how it all came about."

Getting all of her baking done in time for the Saturday market has never been a problem for her.

She has a baking disciple

for each of her items. Bread one day, and pies the next then on to date squares, cookies, and cinnamon buns.

She said while she is retiring from the market she is not going to the retiring from her baking business.

"I will be able to bake at my own pace."

She is still going to be taking baking orders from her market customers over the phone or through email.

Phyllis said being a vendor at the market has been a wonderful experience.

"I have met such wonderful people there," she said.

She said, "The market is phenomenal. You meet so many wonderful people. I know I will miss it."

You can get in touch with Phyllis at 613-821-0815 or email her at: baking2680@hotmail.com



Phyllis and Bob Desnoyers. Phyllis retired from the market on Sat. May 27. Her baking business is called "Phyllis Home Baking".
Morin Photo

Russell parents ask Russell council to become involved in school parking issue

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

RUSSELL – Parents of children attending Mother Teresa Catholic School in Russell have had enough.

Genevieve Tamas on behalf of the parents of Mother Teresa made a presentation to the Russell council on May 23.

She wanted to highlight the ongoing concern parents have about the issue of parking, dropping their children and picking them up from the school.

Tamas said the issue is not a new one but it is time to do something about it.

She described the current situation at the school as chaotic.

"In the last two years it has been brought up many times at parent council as well as having bylaw visits to assess the situation and meetings with township. I am just here today to help bring it back to the attention of the council and hopefully ensure a fair solution is added to the 2024 budget," said Tamas.

She said the school has asked the parent council to not bring the issue up again.

Parents have been asked to drop off their children at the school gate on First Ave. Kindergarten children are taken into the school individually. Other grades are called in by groups, however this has since changed.

When it is time for children to be picked up, the process is Kindergarten students are released before the school bell goes off. Primary students are released at the first bell and junior students are released at the second bell.

People have to park on both sides of the street, which leaves pedestrians with nowhere to walk safely. At the same time children who are walking to school are forced to walk in between vehicles.

She said the situation was a disaster waiting to happen.



During the winter months the issue of dropping off children and picking them up at the end of the school day at Mother Teresa Catholic School becomes worse because of the snowbanks. Courtesy Photo

During the winter the problem is worse. She said, "Now the school population is 530 students and there was an additional 50 students this year as well, as you may have seen in the news there has been an expansion for 138 more students added in the works and 24 preschool students in the child preschool program. Currently the preschool program hasn't been opened yet so this would be an additional burden to an already difficult situation."

Tamas said, "A sidewalk on First Ave. or no parking on one side of the road would give pedestrians a place to walk safely and allow for both lanes to be used."

She suggested a sidewalk or safe path from the nearby baseball diamond to the crosswalk would encourage parking at that location.

Tamas added, "The parking at Mother Teresa is not an easy or quick fix, but as the school and area continue to grow, it is only going to get worse. We need the township's help to ensure that everyone can get to

school safely every day.

The parent group would like the council to get involved with school administration to find a solution.

Mayor Pierre Leroux agreed the problem was a real one. He said the council would definitely make the issue part of their 2024 budget deliberations and he said discussions about the problem should definitely happen between the two administrations.

Councillor Lalonde said, "I know the street well. My kids all went to school there; we walked down that street a thousand times, it's a very risky road right now."

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Russell 125th celebrations continue to grow

Joseph Morin
Record Staff

Russell 125th anniversary organizers are adding to the list of interesting details about their 125th party.

A bus tour of the Russell arena is being arranged for visitors to the celebrations.

417 Bus Lines have donated a school bus to be used to take people on a tour showcasing the history of Russell village.

The cost will be \$10 per person. The bus will travel around Russell's downtown core and the outskirts of the villages pointing out some

historically interesting points of the village including certain historic homes.

Then bus rides are slated for June 24.

For more information the bus rides you can email Connie Johnston at conjon57@gmail.com