

# The Creemore ECHO

Thursday, December 31, 2020 Vol. 21 No. 01 [www.creemore.com](http://www.creemore.com)

News and views in and around Creemore

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**Caring Community**  
Village shows its big heart in 2020  
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Publications Mail Agreement # 40024973

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# THIS IS YOUR NEWSPAPER

As your community newspaper, we have been working hard to offer a place for Creemore and area residents to connect throughout this year of distancing. At the start of the pandemic, with businesses shuttering and the world changing overnight, we worried about our ability to keep going but we resolved to soldier on and so we did.

It is the support of the community that made it possible for us to continue without interruption. We must acknowledge Heritage Canada for their emergency funding for periodicals. This one-time investment in journalism by the federal government has protected news organizations like *The Echo* and for this we should all be thankful. Though this grant was helpful, it is really all of you, our active village, advertisers and readers, that kept this paper relevant in 2020.

The trust of local businesses and organizations to help reach the community is something that we take seriously, and we thank you for the privilege of connecting you all. The financial contributions of our subscribers, boosters, champions, and patrons was greater this year than in any other year. This was not only helpful in terms of covering our operations here, but it was also very encouraging, knowing that this paper is important to all of you.

We would like to thank each one of you and we look forward to meeting in the pages of *The Echo* every week of 2021.

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Above: **Lorna May** of St. Luke's Anglican Church accepts a donation from Creemore Foodland owner **Sim Spry**. Right: **Clayton Culham**, of Clearview Community Church, with a Big Heart Food Box.

# Existing support networks shine during pandemic

The pandemic shone a spotlight on a number of existing community networks that were quietly doing a lot of good work behind the scenes and became invaluable during the health crisis.

Shortly after news of the lockdown was announced, our phones started ringing with people asking what they could do to help others in the community who were laid off, feeling isolated and scared, and the vulnerable, who may not be able to access the services they rely on.

Right away, people offered to donate money and volunteered to make phone calls.

It became obvious that the local church communities already had networks in place that could accept

## Community Spotlight

donations and make sure anyone who needed assistance knew who to ask.

**Lorna May** at St. Luke's and **Clayton Culham** at Clearview Community Church became the go-to people for anyone wanting to offer assistance. Donations were funnelled through them, and a vegetable program partnership was formed through the Big Heart Food Box.

The Clearview-Stayner Food Bank also shone as an existing service that kicked into high gear. The Township of Clearview funnelled some of its

COVID-19 emergency assistance funds through the food bank to make sure that people were getting the support they needed.

The value of existing community assistance networks was emphasized by the global health crisis. It is for this reason that we recognize the people who have worked for years to support those who need it, making it much easier to increase assistance when needed most.

As we head into another lockdown, please consider donating to the Clearview-Stayner Food Bank, St. Luke's Anglican Church's benevolent fund, St. John's emergency relief account or Clearview Community Church.

# ATV controversy eclipsed pandemic, for a while

As the paralyzing shock of the pandemic was starting to subside, Clearview Township residents were sideswiped by a polarizing controversy that revved people up on both sides of the issue and escalated beyond anyone's expectations.

No one would argue that COVID-19 is the biggest news story of the year, decade and arguably the century. Since March, there has rarely been an edition of *The Echo* without mention of it – and some weeks we really tried to find news that was not related to COVID-19. But if we set that aside, the decision of whether or not to allow ATVs greater access to township roads was the story that wouldn't pale in comparison to the pandemic.

The story begins on July 13, when Stayner councillor **John Broderick** provided notice of motion that at the following meeting he would be asking council to pass a motion allowing off-road vehicles on all township roads, as opposed to the two routes through Glen Huron and New Lowell approved a couple years earlier.

On the July 27 agenda, the night the item was to be discussed, there were 50 communications from the public, with most being against the proposal.

The fact that Broderick owns a business which sells off-road vehicles only fanned the flames and sparked an attack ad campaign and a lawsuit claiming Broderick had a conflict of interest.

The integrity commissioner came out in defence of Broderick. **Janice Atwood-Petkovski** and **Jeffrey Abrams** of Principles Integrity stated in a 12-page report dated Sept. 1, "We find that there was no conflict of interest for the councillor under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act (MCIA) nor any apparent conflict of interest under the Code of Conduct. In conclusion, we find that the councillor has not violated any of the provisions of the Code of Conduct, nor of the MCIA," states the report.

## In the News

We're sure there were many people who took a neutral view of the issue but the strong views on each side made it feel like ATVs were all anyone was talking about. There was a strong dissenting voice from the Creemore area, while 1,250 have signed a petition in support of ATVs having access to all roads.

There was a proposal by Creemore councillor **Thom Paterson** and Creemore and Area Residents Association, among others, to take a ward-by-ward approach, essentially banning them in Creemore but allowing them elsewhere.

Tensions ran high and tempers flared. On Oct. 31, a bylaw was passed allowing ATVs quite a bit more access to township roads, but not all. County roads and provincial highways were never

up for discussion, thereby leaving out a number of possible routes. ATVs are still banned in Creemore and an area south, but most of the other settlement areas are accessible.

Practically overnight, the tension eased and for the most part, it appears a compromise has been reached.

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# From the Front Page

The Creemore Echo looks back on some of the news that made headlines in 2020

## Hygiene supplies in high demand

### Health unit encourages public to prepare for COVID-19



## Region could be starting to see rise in COVID-19 curve

### Region sees first positive case of COVID-19

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) has

### Community transmission is a growing concern for public



## Getting the hang of learning at home

by Trina Berlo

As students and teachers in Ontario were heading off on March Break, they received the shocking news that schools would not be reopening on March 23.

have time to socialize in the morning, and at lunch. Now, she is home most of the time, except for the odd trip to the grocery store. Her mom and sister are home too, and her dad goes out to work in the afternoons.



## COVID-19 claims life of Clearview woman

by Trina Berlo

"We're not out of the woods by any means," said Dr. Charles Gardner, medical officer of health for Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit in his weekly media briefings.

He said the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the region is holding, but he fears there may be a slight upward trend.

The data shows 11 confirmed cases recovered, and 3 COVID-19 deaths.

Clearview woman who died at Coll Marine Hospital Clearview residence the virus.

The highest number of cases are affecting the range. The majority were in the 14-20 age group.



"I am very concerned about community spread and I think in a very short time it will be overwhelmingly the dominant means of transmissions in our communities," said Gardner. "I think even now, even though you can't see it because surveillance is basically seeing the tip of the iceberg, the cases you see represent many others that you don't see, that you don't know of. I believe there are probably many cases of community transmission happening therefore people need to take their precautions and exercise the physical distancing."

He said people need to stay home whenever possible, wash hands frequently and maintain a two-metre distance from others when out in public. Anyone who feels unwell should self-isolate for 14 days.

## Evidence that COVID-19 is spreading



Dr. Charles Gardner

done in math, monitoring the first definition of Gardner on of less than, as He finds a high significance. "He's and have in our capacity IDA has sold more re

## Masks now required inside public spaces

by Trina Berlo

Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's medical officer of health has said that as of Monday, face coverings will be required in all indoor public spaces in the region.

Dr. Charles Gardner announced Tuesday, during his weekly media briefing, there is growing evidence that non-medical masks and face coverings are one more way to slow the spread of COVID-19.

close up shop once more.

People will be required to wear a non-medical mask such as a homemade cloth mask, buff, scarf or bandana, when entering businesses, organizations and public transit systems in Simcoe Muskoka. (A face shield is not considered an appropriate substitute.) There are exemptions for religious practices, medical conditions and age.

province with a much higher incidence of COVID-19, resulting in crowding in public spaces, and this has us concerned," said Gardner in a press release.

"There is emerging evidence that suggests the spread of COVID-19 can be reduced with a high level of compliance of non-medical mask use by the public. As well, we have seen a lot of support for the use of masks in public spaces."

## Condos now marketed as The Brix

by Trina Berlo

Developers of an approved condominium complex in Creemore are asking council to approve a change to the plan.

MDM Developments has taken over the project developed by Creemore resident Doug MacIntosh at the corner of Mary Street and Edward Street East.

The new developer is asking for approval to build the 72 condo units in two three-storey buildings instead of three.

The development, formerly known as the Meadows of Creemore, is now being marketed as The Brix, modern terrace suites starting from the \$500s coming spring 2021.

MDM Developments describes it as (See "Developers" on page 2)



The Brix may be marketed as The Brix works since 2018.

## TD Bank demolition begins

## Elementary educators begin full day strikes

by Trina Berlo

Creemore educators joined forces with those at New Lowell Central and other schools in the region, including the mayor's office, to support Monday during a full day strike.



Niagara and Creemore Public School staff joined colleagues at New Lowell Elementary School on the picket line during the first full day rotating strike.

## MPP Jim Wilson will not seek re-election

Long-time Simcoe-Grey MPP Jim Wilson announced Thursday he will not be seeking re-election.

"Although I have been discussing my intentions with family, friends and constituents for months, I have today formally informed the Simcoe-Grey Progressive Conservative Riding Association that I will not be seeking the party nomination to run as their candidate in the next Ontario provincial election; nor will I run as an independent candidate," said Wilson in a statement.

"It has been my privilege and pleasure to have represented the riding for more than 30 years. I am grateful for the support shown me since I was first elected in 1990, and returned to the legislature with healthy pluralities in seven subsequent General Elections. In 2018, I was elected as Minister of Economic Development and Job Creation to seek treatment for addiction issues as a result of allegations of sexual misconduct. He then sat as an opposition member for the remainder of the session."

region has experienced significant growth, and I have done my best in government, in opposition and independently to ensure that the province delivered the services and infrastructure our families, businesses and communities need to prosper into the future."

Wilson said, until the next election, he will continue to fight for the priorities of constituents, including advancing the proposed redevelopments of hospitals in Collingwood and Alliston hospitals, advocating for the business community, and people living with Cystic Fibrosis.

"As always, the well-being of our individuals and families is my top priority."



Jim Wilson

actions," said Wilson. "I do not know what is in store for me personally in the years to come. Be assured that I will always have the best interests of Simcoe-Grey in mind and will continue to contribute in any way that I can. Thank you everyone for your help and support. I am honoured and humbled."

In 2018, Wilson resigned as Minister of Economic Development and Job Creation to seek treatment for addiction issues as a result of allegations of sexual misconduct. He then sat as an opposition member for the remainder of the session."

# The Creemore ECHO

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The Creemore Echo is independently owned and operated.



**PUBLISHER**  
Sara Hershoff  
sara@creemore.com



**EDITOR**  
Trina Berlo  
trina@creemore.com



Natalie de Ruiter  
natalie@creemore.com



Bonnie MacPherson  
bonnie@creemore.com

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# Pre-COVID

2020 got off to a good start with 10 weeks or normalcy before the pandemic put the country into lockdown.



Clockwise from above: Sunnidale Winterama went off without a hitch from Jan 30 to Feb. 2; **Donovan Woods** welcomed special guest **Ed Robertson** of The Barenaked Ladies to Avening Hall on March 7; the curling season was well underway; House of Stitches went to work supporting wildlife rescue efforts associated with wildfires in Australia; The demolition of the TD Bank.



Clockwise from above: Clearview began taking serious consideration of multi-million dollar upgrades to the Creemore Waste Water Treatment Plant; Construction of the Stayner library was completed in 2020; Traffic concerns were top of mind for residents; **Steven Del Duca** won the Ontario Liberal Leadership race.



Clearview council member **Phyllis Dineen** (left) was appointed to replace the late Ed Christie who died in November 2019.





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# In Solidarity

2020 saw a fair share of civil unrest with people gathering in protest of injustice, and grief.



Clockwise from above: Protesters took to the streets of Collingwood in June in support of Black Lives Matter; teachers from all provincial unions held a series of one-day strikes during contract negotiations; A group of residents protesting the expansion of accommodations at Mansfield Ski Club; Jean Vanier students held a rally in June in support of re-naming Jean Vanier Catholic High School, Our Lady of the Bay; A vigil was held in April for the victims of a shooting in Nova Scotia.



*Happy New Year*

May 2021 bring you and your family joy, prosperity and good health.

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# On Parade

Creemore had to get creative in order to celebrate birthdays, holidays, and displays of gratitude for health care workers.



Clockwise from above: In May, residents paraded around town in their antique cars and tractors to give the community some entertainment; the fire department answered the call for birthday drive-bys for people of all ages; A Canada Day parade in Stayner went by the nursing homes as a salute to residents and staff; A parade was organized in April to show support for residents and staff at Creedan Valley Care Community.



*Together we can make the new year better.*

**This is not an easy time but know that we are here and dedicated to serving this community in 2021.**

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# Business

The community supported local businesses in 2020 making for a busy year for many as everyone adapted to new COVID-19 protocols.



Clockwise from above: Cardboard Castles Children's Emporium made the difficult decision to close the store; Creemore Apothecary opened; Creemore Foodland was one of the most essential stores in the village putting in place strict protocols to keep shoppers safe; *The Creemore Echo* opened a stationery store, The Newsstand; The Old Stanton Store in Mansfield closed after 40 years; Pizza Perfect opened with new owners, **Robbi and DeeJay Grantmyre**; Affairs Bakery and Cafe was named best bicycle friendly business of 2020; **Irene and Steve Davenport** retired as Station on the Green caretakers.



The Creemore Refillery (below) opened in February, quickly outgrowing its small space and relocating to 180 Mill St., and Heirloom 142 expanded, opening a new location of Lagom at 172 Mill St.





# Memorable Moments

A few of the memorable moments of 2020 that made us laugh and cry.



Clockwise from left: Rabbie Burns Day at Pizza Perfect with haggis pizza; Mulmur's Morningcall Farm welcomes twin calves; A gypsy moth caterpillar invasion; The Big Heart Food Box program launches; the Leimgardts mark the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Holland in 1945; A surprise visit from Beaker on Halloween.



# FUN & Games

Sudoku by Barbara Simpson

3										2
1			3		6				5	
5	2				7	8				
		1		7					6	
		7		5		4				
	3			4		5				
		3	2						4	5
	9		7		5					6
6										3

Answers on page 11

**FRED'S FUNNIES**  
 My New Year's resolution  
 is to read more  
 ... so I put the subtitles  
 on my TV.  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## Canadian Criss Cross

December 31, 2020

- ACROSS**
- Plant used for making rope
  - Wide-mouthed earthenware pot
  - Mac alternatives
  - Largest continent
  - Strap for controlling a horse
  - French word for king
  - Collapse to the ground
  - Piece of written work stored on a computer
  - Island in the Solomon Islands
  - Vincent van Gogh painting
  - Remaining the same
  - Not very many
  - Present
  - \_\_\_ Lanka
  - Overflow of water
  - Mild exclamation of surprise
  - Clean oneself
  - Make as if
  - Become pregnant
  - Opposite to the mouth
  - Town in British Columbia
  - Greek dish
  - Design symbol of a business
  - Hotel in the country
  - Cuckoopint, e.g.
  - Small advantage
  - Decimal point
  - Half of a Hawaiian massage

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
15					16					17		
18				19			20					
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		38		39	40							
41	42						43			44	45	46
47						48				49		
50					51					52		
53					54					55		

- Thatcher who was premier of Saskatchewan
  - Historical period
  - Nobleman below an earl
  - Marshy land
  - Spread newly cut grass for drying
  - Japanese art of paper folding
  - Band that had a hit with "Whip It"
  - \_\_\_ d'oeuvre
  - Bank employee
  - Relating to the nose
  - Mild light-coloured cigar
  - Surrounded by
  - Paul David Hewson's stage name
  - Bird found on Mauritius
  - Breakfast food
  - Negative answers
  - Kara \_\_\_ (desert in Turkmenistan)
- DOWN**
- Knife handle
  - Jacob's twin brother
  - Coffee grinder
  - Royal residence
  - Kind of number
  - Fifth sign of the zodiac
  - Allowed by law
  - Order for frogs
  - Having high reputation and attracting respect
  - Ice cream container
  - Takes a chair
  - Chinese dynasty
  - 1981 arcade game
  - Side of a hill
  - Opposite of NNE



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# Screen Time

So many Zoom meetings!

Virtual meetings became the norm in 2020. All council meetings were conducted virtually, resulting in a major increase in screen time for most. We spent hours in online meetings as people adapted to having the public seeing them in their home environment and all the distractions that come with it. From top: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit medical officer of health Dr. **Charles Gardner** held a weekly media update, becoming a newsroom ritual; Clearview council during one of its early virtual emergency meetings; During a June Simcoe Muskoka District Catholic School Board meeting about changing the name of Jean Vanier Catholic High School, trustee **Peter Fracassi** chose an apocalyptic background.



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## DINING OUT

**FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS** at Affairs Bakery & Cafe. Enjoy beer battered halibut, crispy fries and homemade coleslaw. Take-out only. Call 705-466-5621.

**CREEMORE LEGION DINNERS** Because of COVID restrictions, the Legion has been banned from holding events such as the monthly breakfasts. Starting in January, the Legion will offer Thursday night takeout dinners. The first of these is on Thursday, Jan. 14, the second will be the annual Valentine's Dinner and the third is planned for mid-March. Jan. 14 features a full cabbage roll take-out dinner for \$17 per person. Place your order at 705-466-2330 before Jan. 7. Please bring the exact amount to avoid handling cash. When calling, specify your preferred pick-up time on Jan. 14.

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**CUSTOM SNOW BLOWING** in Creemore and surrounding areas. Contact Al 705-305-4420.

### NOTICE

During the lockdown, *The Creemore Echo* will be operating but our door may be closed to the public. As of Jan. 4, the best way to get in touch with us is by e-mail. For general inquiries, classifieds and advertising, e-mail info@creemore.com. To reach the editor, e-mail editor@creemore.com. We will also be checking our voicemail, at 705-466-9906. Stationery and office supplies will be available by curbside pick-up.

## This week's answers

H	E	M	P	O	L	L	A	P	C	S
A	S	I	A	R	E	I	N	R	O	I
F	A	L	L	D	O	C	U	M	E	N
T	U	L	A	G	I	I	R	I	S	E
C	O	N	S	T	A	N	T			
S	E	V	E	R	A	L	G	I	F	T
S	R	I	F	L	O	O	D	G	E	E
W	A	S	H	P	R	E	T	E	N	D
C	O	N	C	E	I	V	E			
A	B	O	R	A	L	G	O	L	D	E
M	O	U	S	S	A	K	A	L	O	G
I	N	N	A	R	U	M	E	D	G	E
D	O	T	L	O	M	I	R	O	S	S

3	7	9	5	8	4	6	1	2
1	4	8	3	2	6	7	5	9
5	2	6	1	9	7	8	3	4
4	5	1	9	7	2	3	6	8
9	6	7	8	5	3	4	2	1
8	3	2	6	4	1	5	9	7
7	1	3	2	6	8	9	4	5
2	9	4	7	3	5	1	8	6
6	8	5	4	1	9	2	7	3

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Communications are available in alternative formats upon request.

**NOTICE – NAMING OF TWO (2) PUBLIC ROADS**

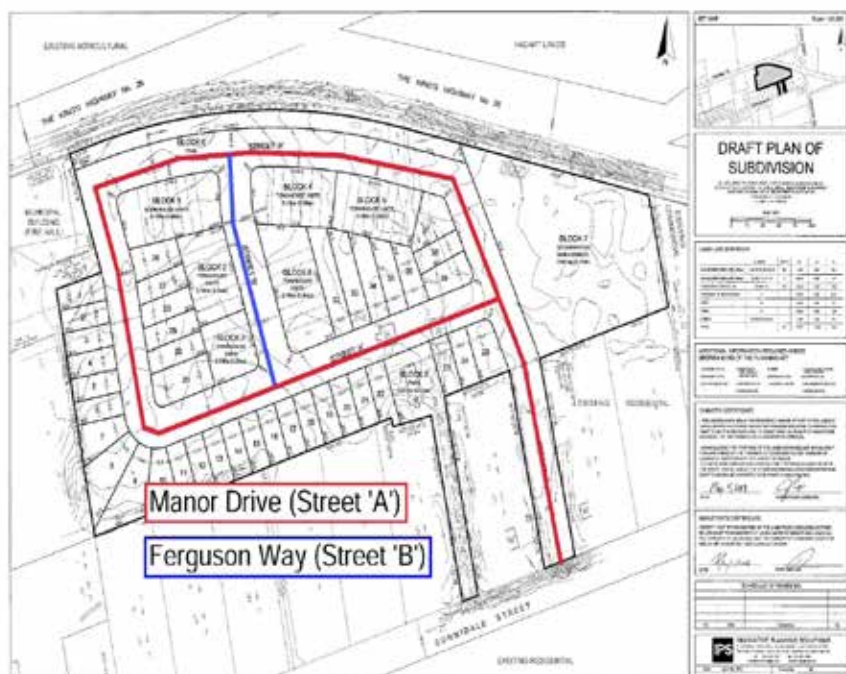
Please be advised that the Township of Clearview has received a request to consider "Manor Drive" & "Ferguson Way" as the names for two (2) new public roads. The subject public roads are situated within the proposed Manortown Homes Inc. Subdivision. The lands are located within the eastern portion of the Stayner Settlement Area, east of the Municipal Emergency Hub Facility lands.

For more information, please contact:

**Nick Ainley, Community Planner**

[nainley@clearview.ca](mailto:nainley@clearview.ca)

Map showing the subject public roads.



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