

The Creemore ECHO

Friday, December 8, 2023 Vol. 23 No. 49 www.creemore.com

News and views in and around Creemore

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Staff photo: Trina Berlo

Izzy Jorgensen, 7, is announced as the winner of the crazy hat contest at the Dec. 2 tree lighting ceremony at Creemore Village Green, earning her the honour of flipping the switch to illuminate the tree. For more photos, see page 7.

Budget advances with 4.55% increase

by Trina Berlo

Clearview council had a chance to fine-tune the 2024 municipal budget Tuesday to create a spending plan members were comfortable presenting to the public.

The budget will be presented for public comment Monday, reflecting a 6.5 per cent increase in municipal spending.

The increase is reduced to 4.55 per cent when factoring in the taxes collected on behalf of the County of Simcoe, school boards, and the Ontario Provincial Police. The tax rate will result in an increase of \$65.20 per \$100,000 of property assessment.

The biggest addition is for a \$300,000 allocation to a new stormwater

management pond reserve.

Deputy Director of Public Works **Dan Perreault**, reported that staff has identified three existing stormwater management ponds that require much needed maintenance.

The ponds are built by the developers during construction of a subdivision and are then turned over to the municipality.

A cost estimate to clean out the ponds came in at \$2.3 million – \$560,286 for the Collingwoodlands subdivision pond, \$1,108,670 for the McKean subdivision pond and \$621,945 for the Zancor subdivision pond.

Perreault said, “Due to the costs noted above, it may not be fiscally achievable to perform the required work in one budget year, that is why staff

are recommending to begin a reserve in the amount of \$300,000 starting in 2024 and continuing contributions to this reserve in order to complete the clean out of the ponds identified, and any future ponds that the township will assume in future developments.”

Council also added cell phone allowance, mileage and health benefits for elected members, ranging from \$24,615.20 to \$51,658.36 depending on dependents, and also on who chooses to opt in to the benefits program.

Councillor **Robert McArthur** asked staff for justification for adding staff (four new positions and a restructuring of the parks department).

“Five new hires in one year is (See “Circuitous” on page 3)

Jewellery store robbers nabbed in Nottawa

Police have charged three individuals in relation to a robbery at D.C. Taylor Jewellers in Collingwood on Monday, which led to a chase near Nottawa.

At about 3 p.m. on Dec. 5, three suspects were observed going into the jewellery store, discharging a firearm in the process. A short time later they were observed fleeing the scene in a dark coloured SUV.

Officers obtained a description of the suspect vehicle, which had been reported stolen by Toronto Police Services, as well as information on last known direction of travel leading police to the abandoned SUV in a field near County Road 124 and the 30/31 Sideroad, just south of Nottawa.

A ground search began with assistance from members of the Huronia West OPP, OPP Canine, OPP Tactics and Rescue Unit (TRU), OPP Emergency Response Team (ERT) as well as OPP Aviation Services, and after several hours all three suspects were apprehended without incident and were held for video bail hearings.

As a result, a 17-year-old and a 16-year-old from Brampton, and a 17-year-old from Whitby are facing charges relating to unauthorized possession of firearms, using firearms to commit an offence, possession of stolen property obtained by crime over \$5,000, flight from a peace officer, discharging a firearm into or at a place in a reckless manner, and disguise with intent.

All three cannot be identified under the provisions of the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

None of the store employees were physically injured in the incident.

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COMMUNITY Calendar

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December

- **VON SMART free fitness classes.** Mondays at 6:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m. at St. Luke's Anglican Church Hall, Creemore. For community members looking to improve strength, balance and mobility. Ages 55+. Call for more information or to register: 705-355-2200.
- Build strong bones, find your core and improve your flexibility with **Pilates** at the Sanctuary in Creemore: Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m., Saturday at 9 a.m. All levels are welcome, small props and mats provided. Pre-registration is required, e-mail enquiries to karin_stephens@hotmail.com or for more information, please visit the website www.thecreemoresanctuary.com.
- Surround yourself in light and wellness with **yoga classes** at the Sanctuary. Gentle, Flow, Strength and Restorative. Call 705-888-7729 or visit the website for details www.thecreemoresanctuary.com. Email inquiries to thecreemoresanctuary@gmail.com.
- Join Creemore Missfits for Bounce Fit and full body **bootcamp classes** at Station on the Green. Follow us on Instagram or Facebook at Creemore Missfits for our weekly class schedule or call 705-441-6386.

Friday, Dec. 8

- **Free skating** at Creemore Arena every Friday until March from 4:30 p.m. to 5:50 p.m. Sponsored by Caroline McIntosh Real Estate.
- **Darts** every Friday evening at the Stayner Legion, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- **Line dancing lessons** every Friday night at Station on the Green in Creemore. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. \$15 per person. Beginner friendly, bring your water bottle. Sign up at the Creemore 100 Mile Store or call/text Linda at 705-794-0638.

Saturday, Dec. 9

- Creemore Farmers' Market hosts their **Christmas Market Series** on Dec. 9 and 16 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Station on the Green, 10 Caroline St. E.
- Find the perfect gifts for everyone on your list at the annual **A Very Artisan Christmas Market**. With over 25 artisans showcasing their creations, delicious food, raffles, and free admission, it's your one-stop-shop for all your gift-giving needs! 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Nottawa Community Hall. Contact Merakimarketplace@hotmail.com for more information.

Tuesday, Dec. 12

- **The Station Cafe** is open Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon at Station on the Green, 10 Caroline St. E., Creemore. \$2 fee for a bottomless cup of coffee or tea. Now until Christmas, bring a non-perishable food item for St. Luke's Community Foodbank and receive a free coffee. Everyone welcome.

Wednesday, Dec. 13

- Creemore Horticultural Society's **Traditional Holiday Dinner** at The Creemore Legion, 27 Wellington St. W. Social begins 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m., entertainment by The Brown's Time Machine at 7 p.m. Carolling, door prizes and lots of fun. CHS members only, \$20/person, plus ones welcome. E-transfer: Treasurer.CreemoreHort@gmail.com or pay cash to Angelina Stokman, 416-466-8422.

Thursday, Dec. 14

- **8 Ball** every Thursday evening at the Stayner Legion, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 15 & Saturday, Dec. 16

- **Michael Gibson Gallery** pops up in Creemore! For two days only, MGG will join Peter Dušek Gallery for a unique pop-up event. In addition to Dušek photographs, artworks by Greg Curnoe, Gathie Falk, Roly Fenwick, Dorothy Knowles, Michael Smith, Michael Snow, and Diana Thorneycroft will be exhibited along with Peter Doig's Zermatt, Switzerland series of etchings. Show runs from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Peter Dušek Gallery, 151 Mill St., Creemore. Celebratory warm beverages and light snacks will be provided at 3 p.m. each day. For more information, please visit www.gibsongallery.com or @michaelgibsongallery.

Saturday, Dec. 16

- **The Missing Link** perform at the Stayner Legion from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. No cover, just great music.

Monday, Dec. 25

- **Creemore Community Christmas Dinner** from 4:30 p.m. at the Creemore Legion. Pay what you can. Everyone welcome to dine and/or volunteer. Take-out/delivery meals available. Donations of non-perishable food item appreciated. Contact Donna at 705-466-2523 or CreemoreChristmasElf@gmail.com to reserve your seat or make special arrangements. For more information see www.CreemoreChristmas.ca.

Sunday, Dec. 31

- **New Year's Eve Party** from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Stayner Legion featuring live music by the ever popular Green Rhino Classical Rock Band. Party favours, buffet lunch. Tickets are \$50 per couple or \$30 per single. Limited amount of tickets for sale, available at Hair By Sue on the Main St. and at the RCL Branch 457, Stayner, 705-428-3809.



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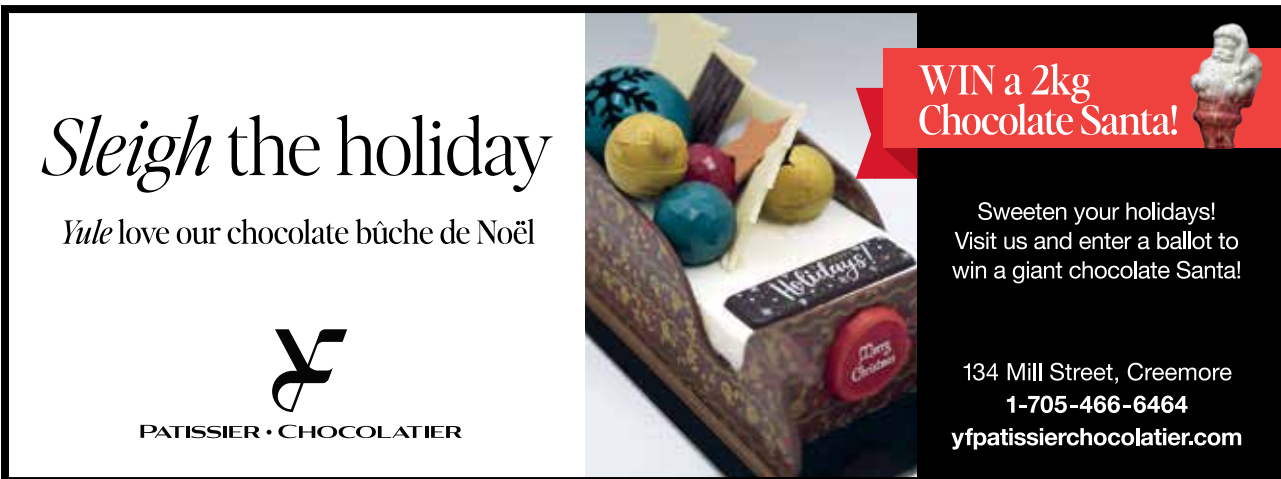
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Circuitous budget debate results in housing reserve funds

(Continued from page 1)
pushing the envelope,” said McArthur.

Staff said an IT assistant is much needed and essential to security, an additional planner will help meet deadlines and hopefully save the department money by ensuring timelines are met, an operations technologist for the public works department will help implement more technical projects, and an economic development officer will be available to implement the new Strategic Plan.

McArthur made no motion to remove any of the positions from the budget and councillors were not able to convince staff to combine any of the positions.

Once again this year, council deliberated about contributing to a reserve earmarked for affordable housing for seniors.

Councillors were all over the spectrum on how to approach the issue.

During last year’s deliberation Councillor **Marty Beelen** made a

motion to defer any payment to the reserve until 2024, which passed. This year, he made another motion to strike the contribution to the reserve but without enough votes, the motion failed.

“We don’t know how to administer this and it really wouldn’t make enough money in that reserve to do much for affordable housing,” said Beelen, adding that he doesn’t like the name of the reserve because affordable housing should be for everyone.

“I have a big issue with taxing people that own a house for people that don’t have a house. Sometimes you’re taxing them into not owning a house anymore,” said Beelen, adding that there are homeowners who have big mortgages. “To seniors, who have spent their whole lives buying a house, to tax them more when they’re on a fixed income is unfair. If you want to make it the haves pay for the have-nots, they should be looking at income, and that is a federal thing, not a municipal thing.”

The reserve was established in 2020, championed by former Deputy Mayor **Barry Burton** who wanted to see the municipality better positioned for housing partnership opportunities. At the time, Burton encouraged council to earmark half a million dollars per year for three years for a reserve fund to create affordable housing for seniors, reasoning that if the township put together \$1,500,000 they could push the County of Simcoe for matching funds and begin to address the housing crisis in a meaningful way. Instead, council voted to put aside \$150,000 in 2020, \$250,000 in 2021 and \$350,000 in 2022. The amounts were further reduced to \$150,000 per year during the pandemic. The reserve now sits at \$400,000.

On Tuesday, council was debating a \$100,000 allocation to the reserve, which was approved after a circuitous debate.

“We should keep something going...

If we left it at \$100,000 at least we’re putting something towards a potential project down the ways,” said Deputy Mayor **Paul Van Staveren**. “We have to put money where our mouth is.”

“Sorry Marty, I understand where you’re coming from but I can’t support your motion,” said Councillor **John Broderick**. “If it were up to me it would be a \$250,000 add every single year. I firmly believe we need to move there.”

Mayor **Doug Measures**, who voted in favour of cancelling the reserve transfer, said the County of Simcoe has just established a seniors’ affordable housing reserve.

A final motion to approve maintaining the affordable housing transfer of \$100,000, and renaming it to the affordable/attainable housing to capture all housing needs, passed unanimously.

The budget will be presented at a public meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 11, at town hall, located at 217 Gideon St., Stayner.

Library branches out

by **Bonnie MacPherson**

The hours at the Creemore branch of Clearview Public Library will be changing in the New Year.

Effective Jan. 2, the library will be open Tuesday to Friday 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on a trial basis.

CEO **Jennifer LaChapelle** explains the dinner hour break in library hours was a staffing issue.

“The budget for 2024 was already done so we’ll have the same number of open hours with some shifts based on useage,” she said. “We’ve been wondering for a few years whether the opening hours are the best to serve the community. We decided to wait a year or two after the pandemic to study traffic patterns.”

Following the six-month pilot project, the new hours will be evaluated to see whether the change should be permanent.

Clearview Public Library is also planning to increase outreach in the coming year. Discover Library Days

started in the parking lots outside the Nottawa Memorial Community Centre and the Dunedin Village Hall last June. In November, the programs moved indoors. Patrons can visit the Nottawa Hall twice a month on Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and the Dunedin Hall from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Staff bring a variety of materials from the library collection including books and activity kits. Anyone wishing to borrow a specific title can reserve it and have it sent to their local hall. LaChapelle says it has been hard getting the programs off the ground but on days when the weather cooperates there has been some traffic. The next Discover Library Days event is scheduled for Dec. 12.

LaChapelle anticipates services will be expanded to the parking lots of two more community halls (yet to be determined) in the spring. A request for more funding to add indoor Discovery Library events at two more locations next fall has been submitted to Clearview Township.



Staff photo: Bonnie MacPherson

There is a contractor on site at Avening Hall this week tasked with protecting the building from the elements. The hall’s accessibility renovation was supposed to have been completed in November so the building now needs to be wrapped and heated. Township officials said they didn’t know the fencing would be removed from the construction site last Friday, leaving the building vulnerable to trespassers. Staff scrambled to put up barriers and pylons. Officials say staff is monitoring the site, visiting daily. They remind the public that the construction site is off limits, and anyone who enters is trespassing.

Stayner man faces arson charges


Police have arrested a man in connection with the arson investigation of two fires at a Collingwood tire shop.

Police officers first attended the scene of a fire at a business on Beachwood Road in Collingwood at approximately 3:50 p.m. on Nov. 13. They were called to a second fire at the same location at about 5:20 a.m. on Nov. 26.



As a result of an investigation, police arrested 20-year-old Stayner resident **Gabriel Talbot** and charged him with two counts of arson.

The accused was held for bail, appeared before Provincial Court on Dec. 2 and was released on conditions.




There were no injuries reported from either fire.







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EDITORIAL

Fund could pay off

No one is expecting a small rural municipality like Clearview Township to solve the housing crisis, but seeing as it is has planning authority, it would be nice to believe it can be part of a solution.

While social housing may not be the responsibility of the lower tier municipality, suitable housing is. And we are tired of hearing that nothing can be done when there is an immediate need and all solutions feel a long way off, or completely out of reach.

Housing woes have been on our radar since we began hearing from seniors who feel they have no opportunities for downsizing when they are ready to leave their traditional single family homes, and are forced to move out of the community to find suitable housing – scaled, accessible and affordable. The seniors' affordable housing reserve was established with a goal of being well positioned to partner with the County of Simcoe or developers when an opportunity came along. The initial goal was to get to \$1.5 million by 2023 but with allocations scaled back considerably, the reserve now sits at \$400,000, plus an additional \$100,000 to be added in 2024 if the proposed budget is approved.

We can't help but wonder what may have been if things had worked out differently.

What if during a recent Call for Proposals from the Simcoe County Housing Corporation for donations of land, buildings, and other incentives for the purpose of affordable rental, supportive, and mixed income housing developments, the township had been in a position to act.

Maybe there is an opportunity to work with a developer to convert an existing building into housing. Or a solution could be to use the reserve funds to establish a land package that could come online once services become available.

What if the municipality set a target for rental units in the form of secondary suites and used the reserve to subsidize building permit applications?

We should be asking ourselves, how can the municipality incentivize and encourage the creation of housing in a community where many people are over housed?

No one is expecting the municipality to become the landlord, but we do expect open and innovative thinking to house a wide variety of people including lifelong Clearview taxpayers, the people who work in the small businesses in the municipality, newcomers – everyone.

Or is the unspeakable true? Are we putting up road blocks to make sure the people who need housing have to find it elsewhere? Well, that is a false narrative because there is no elsewhere. The housing crisis is affecting all communities. We would be wise to remember that many of us are in a precarious financial state, despite appearances – one divorce, illness, or financial setback from being unhoused.

And we're not buying the argument that a municipal tax shouldn't be used to weave the social fabric of the community, if that were true we wouldn't fund the youth centre, libraries, arenas, parks or anything else that serves a few at a low cost to many. That is social capitalism and our entire society is built on it.

THE WAY WE WERE



Creemore Council 1993, weeks before amalgamation: Marty Wilkinson, Ursula Abbott, Harold McArthur and Henry Verstegen. Submitted by Colleen Stamp.

COLUMN

Federal court overturns plastics ban

by Andrew Murray

Federal Court judge, Justice Angela Furlanetto's recent decision to overturn the single-use plastics ban is a terrifying reminder of the power of the fossil fuel industry and an empowering reminder of the need to take climate change into our own hands.

Justice Furlanetto claimed that federal government's decision to list plastics as toxic was "unreasonable and unconstitutional". It's this toxic classification that seems to be the crux of her decision but it is evidence of the oil industry successfully pulling the plastic bag over her eyes.

The case to fight the ban on plastic stir sticks, straws, grocery bags, cutlery, takeout containers and six-pack beverage rings in Canada was brought by the fossil fuel behemoths like Dow Chemical, Nova Chemicals and Imperial Oil. These are the companies primarily responsible for the 3 million tonnes of plastic waste thrown away by Canadians every year.

This grasping-at-straws move by 'Big Plastic' is a doubling down on the lie they've been telling for 50 years. They knew it then and they know it now. Plastic is incredibly difficult and expensive to recycle. In fact, only nine per cent of the plastic that makes its way into a blue bin is ever recycled - the rest is actual garbage. The plastics industry has spent millions of marketing dollars claiming that plastic can be recycled while making billions of dollars knowing it can't.

When people think of why plastic is bad, they think of that picture they saw of the turtle with the straw stuck in its nose. While a horrible image, the waste

created by plastic is only the tip of the giant melting iceberg when it comes to the catastrophic impact it is having on the planet.

It starts at the beginning; plastic comes from fossil fuels and estimates are up to eight per cent of all global oil production is to produce plastics. Annually, the greenhouse-gas emissions from the manufacturing of ethylene, the building block for plastic are the equivalent of what 50 million cars produce in a year. The carbon dioxide emissions from plastic production are expected to increase by 35 per cent in the next 25 years with plastic accounting for 20 per cent of all oil production.

That's just the start of its never-ending lifecycle.

Once the non-recycled plastic finds its way into rivers, lakes and landfills, it starts to breakdown, very slowly. In fact a plastic laundry jug takes over 450 years to breakdown. If the people who came over on the Mayflower were throwing laundry jugs into the ocean, they would still be breaking down. If Sir Issac Newton had used a plastic water bottle to discover gravity instead of an apple, it would still be lying there on the ground breaking down.

As discarded plastics are exposed to the sun, heat and water they once again start emitting dangerous levels of greenhouse gases and while they decompose, they break down into microplastics which enter the soil and water systems. These can never be cleaned up and are now everywhere. Scientists estimate that every human on the planet is consuming five grams of microplastics

(See "Onus" on page 5)

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Onus on consumers to demand change

(Continued from page 4)

per week – about the weight on a credit card. Every. Single. Week.

The impact of climate change is at a tipping point, both at a micro and macro level. Global temperature records were shattered this year. July alone saw over 10,000 global heat records broken. Water temperatures off the coast of Florida this summer reached 100 degrees, hot tub level temperatures. 2023 will end as the hottest year on record. CO2 emissions from fossil fuels will also hit a record high this year. These two things are intrinsically connected. Meanwhile, Canadian oil sands companies saw their 2022 profits soar to a mind-blowing \$34.7 billion, more than double the \$15.1 billion they made in 2021.

Environment Minister Steven Guilbeault say the federal government is reviewing the decision to overturn the ban and is “strongly considering an appeal.” However, history has shown we can’t rely on the government, whether it be federal, provincial or municipal, to do what’s best when it comes to the environment and climate change. The onus is on us as individuals to stand up and make change on their own.

Andrew Murray is a member of the Clearview Sustainability Network, a citizen-led climate action group, and a partner at The Keep Refillery, a Creemore-based business with a mission to reduce plastic consumption.

It’s Christmas baking time!

Now that December is upon us and Christmas is coming up fast, it is time to dust off our favourite festive recipes, get out all those baking pans and cookie sheets and get cracking!

Most families have time tested Christmas recipes handed down from generation to generation. These have to be baked up each December, otherwise there might be a chorus of “where are my cherry topped macaroons?” or “what, no peanut butter pinwheels this year?!”

In our household, there are a few standbys which must be made. The first is my cranberry pecan coffee cake, which is ooey gooey good on Christmas morning for a sweet breakfast treat. The second is steamed Christmas pudding (my Mum’s recipe handed down from my Nana). My sister counts on me to make her a pudding each year. Since she lives in the United States, this dessert is her little piece of family and home. As her husband doesn’t really care for it, she gets the whole pudding to herself! The third is mince tarts. I used to make the filling from scratch but had quite a moldy adventure one year when I opened the refrigerated container and the mincemeat started talking back to me, so now I rely on a few store-bought jars and then doctor it up with a good glug of brandy (well maybe more than one glug). My best friend

CREEMORE DISH



Elaine COLLIER

loves mince tarts and does not make pastry, so these are especially for her.

I have now added a new standard – gingerbread men. I volunteer in the kitchen at Campbell House Hospice. Every year, all the volunteers pitch in to make

all sorts of Christmas cookies. Treat bags are then made up and delivered to over 100 palliative care clients and their families living in the area. This extends to people not just in palliative care but requiring community support and services due to long term illness. This year I have committed to 100 gingerbread men, and I have met my target. It is a wonderful tradition and one I am very glad to be a part of. This year I am sharing one of my two favourite gingerbread cookie recipes, which I hope you will enjoy.

In this special Christmas edition of *The Echo*, Stephen and I would like to wish all of you a very happy and healthy holiday season. Don’t forget to eat well, live well... and I’ll see you in the New Year!

Historical Gingerbread Cookies

- 1 cup (250 ml) unsalted butter, softened
- 1 cup granulated white sugar
- 1 cup unsulphured molasses (fancy grade)
- 4 cups all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt

- 2 tablespoons ground ginger
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon each ground allspice and nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon ground cloves

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350°F. Line two cookie sheets with parchment paper. In a large bowl, beat the butter and sugar until fluffy; beat in the molasses.

In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, baking soda, salt, ginger, cinnamon, allspice, nutmeg, and cloves. In two additions, stir the dry ingredients into the molasses mixture, stirring until the dough is smooth. Divide the dough into two discs; wrap and chill until firm. Chill at least three hours and preferably overnight.

On a well-floured work surface, roll out the dough one disc at a time, to 1/4-inch thickness. At first, the dough will be very stiff but will quickly start to warm up as you roll. Cut out cookie shapes (gingerbread people, stars, teddy bears, snowmen – use whatever cookie cutters you like) and arrange an inch apart on the prepared baking sheets. Re-roll scraps and cut out more cookies.

Bake in the centre of your oven until slightly darkened and just firm to the touch. For smaller cookies I suggest 8-9 minutes. For larger cookies, I usually bake for 10-11 minutes. Let cool on the baking sheets for five minutes. Transfer to racks to cool. Decorate as desired.

Makes approximately 24 cookies.



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School board hopes to build new school on Byng site

by Trina Berlo

The Simcoe County District School Board has approved a list of capital projects to submit to the Ministry of Education, including a new growth school at the site of the former Byng Public School in Stayner.

The school board has submitted a list of 13 capital priorities that meet the Ministry of Education’s new guidelines for shovel-ready developments, meaning that the projects have a set timeline, completed design, and available land.

The Byng Public School site, located on William Street in Stayner, has been identified as number 10 on the list.

At a Sept. 27 business and facilities standing committee meeting, superintendent of business and facility services **Corry Van Nispen** outlined the development plan for a new two-storey building with an on-the-ground ministry rated capacity of 380-420.

At number 11 on the list is an addition for Nottawa Elementary School that would accommodate 144 students.

New elementary schools in Angus, Barrie, and Alcona top the list, while a new Wasaga Beach high



File photo

Byng Public School closed in 2020.

school is at number 12.

The submission is in response to a call from the minister’s office for priority capital projects based on the new criteria. This is the first call for submissions under the new shovel-ready approach. The call was issued in August, with a submission deadline of Oct. 20.

Trustee **Jodi Lloyd** said the prospect of building schools is exciting but cautioned fellow members of the


board, saying the most urgent projects are not always the ones that are funded.

“We finally have a call for priorities and it’s great but we could get one, we could get two,” she said. “We could get more but we are competing against every board in the province for the limited amount of funding that’s available.”

Van Nispen acknowledged that the accommodation needs within the school board catchment area are greater than what is represented on the list, but the 13 identified projects are the ones that meet the new criteria.

He told trustees that the school board would be assessed on meeting established timelines and a failure to do so could affect its ability to get approvals in the future.

Byng Public School closed in June 2020 following an accommodation review that resulted in Stayner Collegiate Institute becoming a Grade 7-12 school and all K-6 students going to Clearview Meadows. The school, constructed in 1922, was in need of millions of dollars in structural repairs and accessibility accommodations.



Peter Doig, "Jie Set", Etching with aquatint, chine colle, 2021, edition of 20, 14 x 12 in.

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MLS 40427435 | \$1,125,000



429560 Conc 8B Singhampton
MLS 40486601 | \$1,475,000



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Staff photos: Trina Berlo

Clockwise from above: A crowd gathered at Creemore Village Green Dec. 1 applauds participants in the crazy hat contest before the Christmas tree was lit; Inside Station on the Green, **Sierra Masters** and **Lily Fox** make ornaments; **Jacob Vander Zaag** makes s'mores with his children **Joshua** and **Payton**; The Creemore Community Children's Choir makes its debut at the tree lighting. On Dec. 2, holiday festivities began with Breakfast with Santa at the Legion, with school staff and volunteers serving breakfast before the parade.



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SPORTS & Recreation

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fax 705-466-9908

Creemore Curling Club standings

Ladies

Team	win-loss-tie
Neelin	3-0-1
Verstegen	2-1-0
McKay	1-1-1
Crawford	1-2-0
Millsap	1-2-0
Walker	1-3-0

From the Hack: All four teams this week made some amazing shots. On Sheet 1 it was an exciting game with lots of rocks in play. Verstegen was the winner over Millsap. On Sheet 2 Neelin and Walker had a close game until the last end and Neelin was victorious. It is going to be a thrilling Monday night, next week. It has come down to the wire for the final placement of our top two teams to win the McArthur Trophy.

Men

Team	win-loss-tie-points
Dave Millsap	4-1-0-40
Verstegen	4-1-0-40
Cober	3-2-0-30
Walker	3-3-0-30
Neelin	2-3-0-20
Fuller	2-3-0-20
Sauder	0-5-0-0

From the Hack: Winning teams this week wee teams Verstegen, Neelin and Walker. 50/50 winner was Phil Cober.

Daytime

Team	win-loss-tie
Coulter	9-2-1
Lambert	8-3-1
Loranger	7-4-1
Bell	4-7-0
McDougall	3-8-0
Martens	2-9-1

From the Hack: Bill and Heather, skip and vice on Team McDougall, called the shots perfectly, throughout the entire game, enabling them to deliver a second loss to Team Coulter. Monday also had Teams Lambert and Loranger winning their matches.

On Wednesday, Michael, skip of Team Loranger, had the hammer coming home, trailing by two.

Unfortunately, he came up short for three to win, however the two scored tied the game against Team Coulter. Team Lambert won their match and appear ready to replace Team Coulter at the top of the leaderboard! The butter tarts and cookies were excellent, this week! Good curling everyone!

Mixed

Team	win-loss
Crevier	5-0
Neelin	3-2
Fuller	4-1
Vorstermans	0-5
Meulendyk	1-4
Cass	2-3

From the Hack: Crevier's still have a strong hold of first place with Fuller's close behind. Still lots of opportunities for all teams! Good luck to all!



Contributed photo

Jonathan Fillion and Meagan Brozic got engaged at the tree lighting ceremony on Dec. 1 and celebrated by curling in the Friday night league.



COYOTES CORNER

Coyotes in a top spot four-team logjam

After what can only be described as a dismal weekend on Nov. 25-26, the Creemore Coyotes received a 9-3 thumping at the hands of the Seaforth Centenaries and a 4-0 loss in a Sunday afternoon match at home vs the Ripley Wolves.

For the first time this year, **Zack Johnson's** air horn fell silent.

However, The Valley Varmints bounced back Dec. 2 on the road against defending champs Tavistock Royals, winning 7-6 in a very strange game that saw them score three goals in two minutes and 12 seconds to take the two points.

The Coyotes are still sitting near the top of the league but in a log jam with three other teams. The half way point sees them with a 7-3 record including one overtime loss. Leading the charge in Tavistock was JD Falconer with five assists and **Jacob Vander Zaag** with a four-point night and with a four-goal performance was former Siskin **Ben Hughes** including the winner

Going back to Nov. 26:

Shoot the puck winner: **Everleigh Van Sickle** - Howie's hockey bag.

Free groceries courtesy of Creemore Foodland: **Donna Harper**, who graciously donated them to the Clearview Food Bank.

50/50 winner: **Amber Fisher**

Stockyards Prize pack: **Kelly Durrer**

Attendance: 152

Up next: Saugeen Shores Winterhawks make their first trek back to Creemore since last year's playoffs.

See you at the rink.

– Submitted by Tom Macham

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Please note foodbank on the cheque.

For more information about the ST. LUKE'S COMMUNITY FOODBANK contact lornathedeacon@gmail.com

A big hearted thanks to you for being part of Creemore's

Santa Claus Parade

The Creemore BIA thanks all those who created a float, walked in the parade and came out to wave to their friends and neighbours as we celebrate the season.

This event is possible thanks to the volunteers and businesses that give of their time and resources.

We are so grateful to Robert McArthur, darci que and emily que for organizing Santa's sleigh, Chris and Luke Hare of Huron Tractor for pulling Santa's float, and Elves Jane, Piper, Benny and Maya. Thanks to the OPP and Clearview Firefighters for clearing the way for the procession and Clearview Township and the Creemore Legion for their support in staging the parade. Thanks also to Creemore Foodland for the treats and the Creemore Echo for advertising support.

Next time you see James Bruer, Jenn Hubbs, Keith Boulter, Brian Doran, Hillary Veneziale, Ron Vink, John Millar, Erin McGrath, Sam Prosperi, Chandra Rooney, Andrew Karsgaard or Tristan Karsgaard thank them for being such great helpers and friends of the parade. Last but not least thanks to Brendan Callery and Sara Hershoff for coordinating the community event.

If you would like to be part of the parade team in 2024 contact sara@creemore.com

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

Answers on page 11

FRED'S FUNNIES

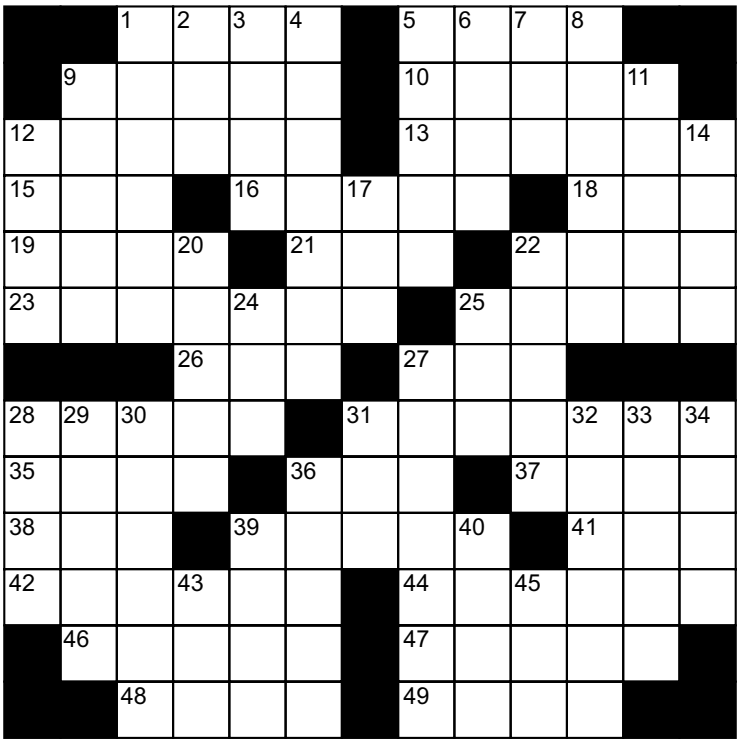
What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?

Claustrophobic.

Canadian Criss Cross

ACROSS

- Female college student
- Roman numeral for 1300
- Figure out
- Toys on strings
- Business agent of a university
- Job for a gopher
- Leftover piece
- Former "CTV News" anchor Robertson
- Rorqual
- Big heads
- One hundredth of a hectare
- Wound with a knife
- Make uneasy
- Elephant teeth
- Period in history
- Gear tooth
- Vehicle collision
- Easily intimidated ones
- Far above the ground
- Enjoyment
- Walk looking like you are going to fall
- It has a yolk
- German sausage
- Former Canadian goalie for the Red Wings
- Household linen, such as sheets
- Elaborately decorated
- Abruptly concise
- Prepared
- Location
- Head (French)



DOWN

- Andean vulture
- Antiquated
- Wickedness
- Make a statement of goods for customs
- Mild exclamation of surprise
- Electrical cable
- Canadian strongman
- Moves by momentum
- "The Playboy of the Western World" playwright
- Go furtively
- Leak out slowly
- Claim of rights
- Globe
- Put away for safekeeping
- Coffee additive
- Grunting exclamation
- Drag behind
- Reigning monarch's spouse
- Grind up food before swallowing
- One of two opposite directions
- Some playing marbles
- Aggressive dog
- Filmed a new version of
- Divine being
- Blackthorn fruit
- Windproof match
- Sunset direction
- Place to build a house for kids to play in
- Three prefix
- Singer King Cole

Weekly blast of the Duntroon Hall's Know It All Ball trivia questions

In the spirit of staycations, which of the following foreign city names can you NOT find in Ontario:

A. Paris, B. London, C. Rome, D. Dublin, E. Vienna, or F. Verona?

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All claims against the Estate of STEFAN SMYKAL, late of the Municipality of Grey Highlands, in the County of Grey, who died on or about the 9th day of December 2022 must be filed with the undersigned solicitors for the Estate Trustee on or before the 5th day of January 2024, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims of which the Estate Trustee then shall have notice. Dated this 1st day of December 2023. Richard Smykal
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By his solicitors
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DEATH NOTICE

CORNELISSE, Cory – It is with heavy hearts that the family announce that Cory died at Sunset Manor Long Term Care, Collingwood on Tuesday, Nov. 28, 2023 at the age of 79. Cory Cornelisse, of Stayner, was the beloved husband of Maria for 59 years. Loving father of Sharon (Marcel), Terry (Lila), and Linda (Andy). Cherished grandfather of Peter (Christina), Lindsay (Matt), Perry (Tamara), Justine (Jenn), Michelle (Chris), Shaney, Joy, Faith-Anne, Ben and Claire. Treasured great-grandfather of Jacob, Avry, Isaac, Sophia, Sydney, Jack, Elise, Freya Ave, Emily, Lilly, Casey, Brooklyn, Janelle and Remy. Dear brother of Adrian (Tina), Herb (Heidi), John (Carrie), Bill (late Sue), Ron (Kathryn) and brother-in-law of Wilhemina (late George), Lena (Wayne), Klaas (Margie),

Mary (Casey), late Len (Gerrie), Elizabeth (Rob), Harry (Marlene), Lucy (Mike) and Rob (Louise). Lovingly remembered by his numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and many friends. Cory was also predeceased by his parents Case and Johanna Cornelisse and by Maria's parents Leendert and Margie Noordegraaf. Born in the Netherlands, Cory immigrated to Canada with his family when he was a young boy. He loved keeping busy: fixing, building, woodcarving, gardening, camping, feeding the critters or simply spending time with friends and family. He was a loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather and a big kid at heart. He loved the Lord and was always the first to lend a hand, whether to friends, family or a stranger. Cory was able to fulfill his dreams. He had a successful career as a heavy equipment mechanic and volunteered all while having a working farm. He moved to the cottage with the love of his life Maria, building their own home on their little piece of heaven, Hamer Lake in Mactier. In retirement he and Maria were blessed with the ability to travel North America for a year in an RV. Meeting new friends and making amazing memories. He will be missed by many, but our memories will last forever. Friends are invited to join the family at the Jubilee Presbyterian Church, 7320 Highway 26, Stayner for visitation on Saturday, Dec. 9, 2023 from 10 a.m. for the memorial service at 11 a.m. A reception will follow in the church hall. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Cory to the County of Simcoe - Sunset Manor for the purchase of a new bus or to the Hospice Georgian Triangle Foundation for Campbell House Hospice would be appreciated by the family. To sign Cory's Book of Memories, please visit www.carruthersdavidson.com.

IN MEMORIAM

Maxine Elizabeth ARMAGOST (nee Rowbotham)–Jan. 1, 1957-Dec. 6, 2022 In loving memory of Maxine (Marmoe) who left this world a better place. It has been a year since we lost you. To the world you were one person. To us you changed our life forever. WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO NOW:
Love your parents and care for them.
Without exception take two hours each day to read and reflect.
Be honest to a fault.
Finish a job when started.
Love your family unconditionally.
Take in and care for your pets.
Watch birds and feed them.
Sit around the campfire with family.
Enjoy and dote over your brothers and sisters.
Kayak with your kids.
Get 10,000 steps a day.
Crochet a lot of stuff.
Sponsor a child.
Engage actions not words.
Have respect for all.
- Ken, Chris, Carrie and all Team Maxine

Ann TINTI
Aug. 30, 1939 - Dec. 9, 1997
One thing I'll always cherish
No matter what life sends
Is memory of the happiness we had
Just being friends.
Until we meet again,
- Martine

IN MEMORIAM

A wonderful dad, Grampa and Great-Grampa, **George RANSIER**, who passed away Dec. 13, 2010. Dad, 13 years since you left us and we still miss you every day.
Love always,
Bob, Betty (Grant) and families

In loving memory of **Carl GOWAN** (Jan. 7, 1927 - Mar. 4, 1991), **Gertie GOWAN** (Dec. 18, 1930 - Dec. 11, 2020), and **Rick GOWAN** (Dec. 23, 1956 - Nov. 12, 2015).
Your presence we miss,
Your memories we treasure,
Loving you always,
Forgetting you, never.
Love & Prayers,
Susan & Fred, Terry, Trudy & Wayne,
Cathie, Dan & Lynn, Tammy & Families

This week's answers

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

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

Trivia: C. Rome

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217 Gideon Street, Stayner ON L0M 1S0
Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
705.428.6230

Planning and Development Technician

The Corporation of the Township of Clearview

Clearview Township is currently seeking a permanent full-time Planning and Development Technician.

Clearview Township stretches south from the shores of Georgian Bay, in the heartland of one of Ontario's most beautiful recreation areas; - just a 90-minute drive from Toronto and other major centers in Southern Ontario. The region has a long history as one of Ontario's favorite tourist and vacation destinations, attracting over 2 million visitors annually. Our community offers all the modern urban amenities with the attractiveness and friendly charm of small-town quality of life.

Qualifications:
A recognized College Diploma or University Degree in Planning, Geography, or related discipline with a minimum of 3 years of related experience in technical Planning review and minor application processing, as well as Committee of Adjustment administration. Candidates with an equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered. The successful candidate will possess competent knowledge of Municipal Government, Planning Act, Official Plan and Zoning By-Law, with excellent analytical, customer service, strong organizational and communication skills. Proficiency in computer skills is required with experience using Microsoft 365, in addition, working knowledge and experience in GIS and City View is an asset.

Responsibilities:
Reporting to the Director of Planning & Building, the Planning and Development Technician is the primary contact for Planning services, responding to general inquiries (at the front counter, by phone or email) from the public on matters pertaining to zoning, general application inquiries, and Planning Act Application review processes. The Technician also acts as Secretary to the Committee of Adjustment and is responsible for the administration of the Committee. Additional requirements include providing general support to Planning services including preparing letters, database management, drafting planning notices, circulating applications, researching, Planning records management, preparing team meeting agendas, minutes, and maintaining planning policy documents and development maps.

Salary:
Salary range offered for this position is \$62,316 to \$76,512 per year plus a competitive benefits package.

Note: The preferred candidate must be willing to provide consent for the Township to conduct a criminal background and vulnerable sector check prior to finalizing an employment offer.

Interested candidates are invited to forward their resume and covering letter quoting **job # 2023-035** to Human Resources by **December 20, 2023** to: hr@clearview.ca

We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. No phone calls please. The Township of Clearview is an equal opportunity employer.

Accommodation will be provided in accordance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA).

Please visit: www.clearview.ca





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