

The Creemore ECHO

Friday, April 19, 2024 Vol. 24 No. 16

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News and views in and around Creemore

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Staff photo: Trina Berlo

Georgian Good Food Box volunteers celebrate the organization's 20th anniversary.

Sharing healthy habits for 20 years

by Trina Berlo

On Wednesday morning, Georgian Good Food Box volunteers gathered at St. Patrick's Parish Hall in Stayner, where they finished packing 170 bags of produce before 10 a.m. It is apparent that the team is a well coordinated and efficient crew, many of whom have been working together for two decades.

At least nine of the 20 regular volunteers have been involved since early days. When asked what has kept them engaged for 20 years, a founding member **Laurie vandenHurk** says, "It's fun and we like to come together as a group and share a treat and coffee after the pack."

The Good Food Box is a non-profit buying club that purchases fresh fruits and vegetables for monthly distribution in the Southern Georgian Bay area. Participants get about \$35 worth of produce for \$22. The order always includes potatoes, carrots, onions and apples. This month's bag also contains a cantaloupe, corn on the cob, oranges, head lettuce, red peppers, grape tomatoes and a newsletter with a recipe submitted by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit.

VandenHurk said she and **Mark Redmond** started the program back in 2004 through their participation in the Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition (ISARC). VandenHurk, who facilitated local forums, said she and Redmond learned that low-income families were basically living on a pasta-based diet. As a result, they set out to create a food delivery system that would help get affordable fruits and vegetables to those who needed it most.

Twenty years later the program has evolved into a buying collective that benefits all and is open to everyone.

VandenHurk's husband **Ted** points out that when you buy produce through the Georgian Good Food Box it encourages healthy eating habits and cooking practices because you have to find ways to use what you've received.

When the program started, government funds were available to get it up and running. It tied in with a number of other initiatives of the day promoting healthy living and school nutrition programs, such as Healthy Living Schools. That's how **Lynn Black** got involved. As a parent of students at New Lowell Central Public School, she

promoted the program in the community. At one point there were 60 bags of food being delivered to the school monthly.

The depot eventually moved to the library, which is still the pick-up location in New Lowell, as is the case with library branches in Creemore and Stayner.

The Georgian Good Food Box now supports the Eat Well to Excel program, a nutrition program for school age children in Simcoe County, including local elementary and high schools, by sourcing fruit. It is also an avenue for food donations and a way for food banks to extend their buying power.

"The more people buy the more we can give," said vandenHurk.

Volunteers recognize the role of community partners that contribute to the longevity of the program including Clearview Township, McNulty Printing, and Sanfilippo's Wholesale Fruits and Vegetables, which not only picks up the food from the Ontario Food Terminal in Toronto, but also sources the most local options at the best prices to stretch buyers' dollars.

For more information and to sign up, visit ggfb.ca. People can also purchase orders to be donated to those in need.

Survey says residents support NDCC repairs

by Trina Berlo

Mulmur council has chosen to deplete some of its reserve funds to pay for repairs to the North Dufferin Community Centre.

At its April 3 meeting, council members voted 4-1 to amend the 2024 capital budget to allocate funds covering all expenses associated with replacing the ice pad and roof at the arena located in Honeywood.

The initial spend for the ice pad repairs and replacement of the boards is pegged at \$1.5 million. Council also approved an additional \$130,000 to repair the leaking roof.

A survey conducted last month found that 88 per cent of the 525 respondents support spending the money to repair the ice pad and coolant system to ensure the ongoing operation of the arena (412, or 79 per cent, of those respondents identified as residents of Mulmur).

Councillor **Patty Clark** had the dissenting vote due to concerns about the integrity of the survey. She said communication was simplistic, biased, and optimistic in its tone. She said she doesn't believe people had all the information they needed to make a decision.

"I know the survey wasn't perfect but it was better than nothing," said Deputy Mayor **Earl Hawkins**.

He spoke of the cultural significance of the arena, saying that it produced two NHL players – Bert Wilson and **Aaron Downey**.

(See "Arena" on page 3)

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COMMUNITY Calendar

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Friday, April 19 & Saturday, April 20

- Clearview Community Theatre's spring **fundraising concert**, *A Gift of Music*. Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 3 p.m. at the Clearview Community Church in Stayner, 1070 County Rd. 42. Tickets are \$20 at the door. This venue is wheelchair accessible. Bring a friend and support your local community theatre! Visit clearviewcommunitytheatre.ca for more info.

Saturday, April 20

- Clearview EcoPark **community garden clean up** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 300 Mowat St. N., Stayner. Join the Friends of the EcoPark for a day of community camaraderie and environmental stewardship. Gloves and garbage bags available. Bring leashed dogs and the whole family.
- **Community drum circle** at the Stayner EcoPark Community Garden (300 Mowat St. North) from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., weather permitting. Bring a drum, small percussion instruments, chair and water bottle. Free to attend.
- **Live Music** at the Stayner Legion, 7149 ON-26. No cover, just great music and good times. This week: The Missing Link performs from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Everyone welcome. For more info call the branch at 705-428-3809. Upcoming: Sunday, April 21 - open mic featuring The Missing Link, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. April 27 - Tom Zinn Band from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Monday, April 22

- Stayner Garden Club **meeting** at Centennial United Church, 234 William St., Stayner. Social at 7 p.m. Bring your mug. Speaker is Ken Brown, "Container Gardening."

Wednesday, April 24

- **"Double toonie lunch"** at St. Luke's Anglican Church. Enjoy homemade soup, coffee/tea and delicious desserts from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in exchange for a donation to the food bank.
- The Creemore Children's Choir is a non-denominational, inclusive, free **children's choir** looking to welcome new singers ages 8-18. Practice is every Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. at St. Luke's Anglican Church, 22 Caroline St. W. More information at creemorechildrenscommunitychoir.com.
- Clearview Sustainability Network "Gardening for Biodiversity" **talk** with Lorraine Johnson at the Station on the Green, 7 p.m. Pay what you can at the door. Refreshments provided, books for sale at the event. Contact clearviewsustainabilitynetwork@gmail.com with questions.

Saturday, April 27

- Second annual **Spring Sale** at Centennial United Church, 234 William St., Stayner. Featuring great local vendors and children's activities with the Stayner Horticultural Society. Sale runs from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., swag bags at 9:30 a.m. and noon.
- **Spring Fling Youth Dance** for ages 7-12 at the New Lowell Legion, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. \$10 admission. Parent chaperoned. Proceeds to support New Lowell Pathfinders trip to the Yukon.

Sunday, April 28

- Braiding Together Health, Environment and Community through Indigenous Land Based Practices, a free **community presentation** featuring Anishinaabe scholar and land restoration specialist Mkomose (Andrew Judge, PhD). Learn practical ways to participate in improving biodiversity and health in our community. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Monora Park Pavillion, Mono. Sponsored by the Mono Mulmur Citizens' Coalition and the Environment Committee of MC2.

Wednesday, May 1

- The Stayner chapter of **Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) Club Inc.** meets at the Stayner Legion Wednesday mornings at 9:20 a.m. Real people, real weight loss. Guests welcome. Visit tops.org for more information.
- Mad and Noisy Quilt Group invites you to the 23rd annual **Quilt Dessert Tea**. 7 p.m. at the Creemore Legion, 27 Wellington St. W. \$8 admission.

Saturday, May 4

- Badjeros United Church **Scrap and Bottle Fundraiser**, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the shed beside the church. All metals, batteries, bottles and aluminum cans accepted. Contact David Culham, 705-446-7203 or Barbara Black, 705-441-2466.
- **Meraki Mother's Day Artisan Market** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Nottawa Memorial Community Centre, 4129 Simcoe County Rd. 124. Don't miss this annual market featuring 30+ artisans, makers and creators, cuisine, henna, raffles and more. Free entry! A great way to celebrate moms and support handmade.

Sunday, May 5

- **Tree planting** along the creek with Friends of the Mad River and Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority from 9 a.m. to noon. This is a great way for students to get their volunteer hours. Pre-registration required at nvca.on.ca/events-and-education/volunteer-events.

Saturday, May 11

- Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority's 34th annual Arbour day **tree sale**, 8 a.m. to noon at the Tiffin Conservation Area, 8195 8th Line of Essa, Utopia. Trees and shrubs sold in bundles of 10 for \$35 each. Tree availability is first come first serve. Visit nvca.on.ca for more information.
- Spring out to the **37th Ramp Romp** at the Singhampton Community Centre 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Dine on luscious leeks, pork, veggies and pie. Adults, \$20; students, \$18; under 12, \$12; under 6, free. Tickets available at the door with cash only. No advance ticket sales. For more info contact singhamptonhall@gmail.com.
- Clearview Chamber of Commerce presents a Mother's Day Spring **Fashion Show**, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Station on the Green. Tickets \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door. Visit www.clearviewchamber.com for tickets and more info.

Tuesday, May 14

- Escarpment Corridor Alliance is hosting a free **information session** at the Creemore Station on the Green from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Meet the leaders of the Escarpment Corridor Alliance and learn about the vision of creating a nature corridor system extending from the hills of Creemore to South Georgian Bay and the Beaver Valley, protecting the local Niagara Escarpment and Greenbelt from inappropriate development. More information at myescarpment.ca.

Sunday, May 25

- Stayner Lawn Bowling Club's 100th anniversary **celebration and open house**, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the club, 205 Ontario St., Stayner. Enjoy cake and coffee, tour the facility and meet the members. Wear flat soled shoes/sneakers to take part in an introduction to lawn bowling, equipment provided. Everyone is welcome, fun for all ages. Visit staynerlawnbowlingclub.ca for more information.

Friday, June 7

- Clearview Community Theatre **auditions** for the fall show, *Matilda: The Musical* for ages 8 and up. Auditions will be held on four dates: June 7 and 14 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., and June 8 and 15 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. For information and sign-up, please visit clearviewcommunitytheatre.ca. There is no cost to audition. Auditions will be held at Church of the Good Shepherd, 219 Scott St., Stayner.



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Hunting in the Dufferin County Forest

All users of the Dufferin County Forest are hereby advised that April 25-May 31 is the spring shotgun/archery season for wild turkey in 2024. Wild turkey hunting may occur only from ½ hour before sunrise to 7:00 p.m. During this time there will be a number of hunters using the Dufferin County Forest properties. Please use caution in the forest and wear bright-coloured clothing. There is no hunting allowed at any time in the following tracts: north portion of Amaranth, Hockley, Leening, Levitt, Little, Main, Mono, Thomson, and River Road. Suspected violations of the Fish & Wildlife Conservation Act should be reported to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry at 877-847-7667 (877-TIPS-MNR). Other inquiries should be directed to the County Forest Manager at 877-941-7787.



Arena funds will be drawn from reserves

(Continued from page 1)

“It’s a wonder that building isn’t a heritage building,” said Hawkins. “I am in favour of doing the repairs now that have to be done.”

Township staff has determined that the repairs can be funded from reserves, without triggering a tax increase.

“We do have reserves sufficient enough if council chooses to do this project, to fund it without causing a major problem,” said treasurer **Heather Boston**.

To find the \$1.5 million, the funds will be taken from a number of different reserves: \$622,150 from the Tax Rate Stabilization Fund (maintaining a balance of \$500,000); \$409,347 from Efficiency Reserves; \$76,310 from Recreation Building Reserves; \$113,310 from the Legal Contingency Reserve; \$100,000 from the Planning and Bylaw Reserves; and \$178,883 plus the additional roof repair costs from Road Reserves (to be replenished through scheduled contributions).

Although the ice pad repairs costs are known, the roof repairs are only estimates at this time.

“Mulmur council has an opportunity to show its commitment to this community and its residents. Allowing for the continued legacy of the Honeywood arena to develop youth

through sport and competition,” said Councillor **Andrew Cunningham**, choking up. “It is a facility that was built by the community for the community and has been a hive of activity for social gatherings over its years. Although over time it has been neglected, this old barn still has lots of life left in it.”

He said investments from community members, municipal partners, corporate donors and grants will be essential to its success.

The survey also found that 39 per cent of respondents said they would be willing to donate or help with future fundraising activities.

A committee to manage fundraising efforts will be struck including members of the community, council representation and township staff.

Editor’s note: A correction is needed to clarify the March 15 article “Mulmur council seeks public support for arena upgrades.” A three per cent tax increase would only be needed if the remaining balance in the tax rate stabilization reserve was used to fund arena repairs. With the funds being taken from a number of other reserves that can be replenished through the regular contribution schedule, no tax increase is required. The Echo apologizes for the error.



Visiting jets to be moved by road

by **Trina Berlo**

Planning is still underway for the relocation of the Royal Canadian Air Force CT-155 Hawk aircraft parked at Collingwood Regional Airport, located in Clearview Township.

“After reaching the end of their service lives, the CT-155 Hawks were recently retired as RCAF jet pilot trainers and will now find a new home and new life as maintenance trainers at the Canadian Forces School of Aerospace Technology and Engineering in 16 Wing Borden, where the Air Force’s new generation of aircraft technicians learn their trades,” said Major **Trevor Reid**, with

2 Canadian Air Division Public Affairs.

Late last month, the planes were flown from 4 Wing Cold Lake, Alberta, 15 Wing Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, and onto Collingwood.

Reid said, because the runway at Borden’s aerodrome is not suitable for landing jet aircraft like the CT-155 Hawk, the planes will be moved by roadway.

The logistics for the move are still in the planning stages, including the dates and routes that are to be used.

Reid plans to issue a public service announcement to the local area that will alert people as to when the planes will be towed so motorists are aware.

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OPINION & Feedback

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HEALTH

Public health is vital to our community

by Dr. Charles Gardner

Public health is a sector within Canada's health care system that frequently works in the background and often goes unnoticed when things are well. When the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020, public health agencies across Canada and around the world moved into the spotlight and stayed there throughout the course of the pandemic. The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) played a critical role locally in the front-line pandemic response, providing case and contact management, outbreak response, surveillance and reporting, infection prevention measures, immunization and communications for our residents.

However, responding to infectious disease outbreaks is only one aspect of the ongoing work the health unit does to help keep everyone in our community healthy. Local public health agencies in Ontario are mandated by the province to provide services and advocate for changes that will help to prevent injuries, illness and premature death and promote and protect health. SMDHU offers programs, services and resources to the community that cover a wide range of public health topics and issues.

While people may be aware of the immunization clinics we operate to ensure people can stay up to date with their routine vaccinations, the health unit also offers other clinical services that provide emergency, essential and preventive dental care to eligible children, adults and seniors; and confidential sexual health services including emergency contraception, testing for sexually transmitted infections and free treatment if required.

The health unit inspects many retail businesses and local facilities and educates operators to ensure they understand and follow laws that restrict the sale of tobacco and vape products to minors and to ensure that smoke-free area rules are obeyed, particularly around local schools. Public health inspectors help to ensure safe drinking water; that restaurants and food premises are safely storing, preparing and handling food; and that personal service settings such as barber shops, salons, spas and tattoo parlors follow essential infection prevention and sanitation measures. The health unit also responds to rabies and other environmental hazards.

We support community and family health by offering prenatal education and breastfeeding support groups throughout Simcoe Muskoka and providing positive parenting resources. We focus on the healthy growth and development of children and youth in many ways, including through working with school boards and other partners to provide educational resources and programs on such topics as physical activity, healthy eating, smoking and vaping, and mental health and well-being.

Collaboration is a key part of public health's work and we partner with a variety of community organizations and municipalities to address issues affecting our community, such as household

(See "Partners" on page 5)

THE WAY WE WERE



Louise Ransier, Deb Gillespie with Cindy Kibjgis and baby Whitney, winners of a 1988 IGA draw.

LETTERS

Commending local farmers, good stewards

Editor:

Many thanks to *The Creemore Echo* for the informative review on the current and future of farming in Clearview and area. I learned many new things about farmers in our community. As graduates of the University of Guelph and owners of farms, my husband and I have been able to see the evolving of technological and economic changes over the 50 years that we have operated our cow calf operation near Dundalk and in Mulmur. Farming truly is a lifestyle, as frequently pointed out in your articles. It is labour and capital intensive, often involving shared workloads and outside work to support the business operation. I commend the many farmers in our area who support sustainable farming techniques such as zero till, crop rotation, reduced pesticides etc. These farmers are good stewards of our valuable land, whether owned or rented from other people as in many instances. Today's larger equipment means that farmers can work much larger parcels of land, much more productively and with less labour. Crop yields have increased enormously (eg corn from 70 bushels an acre to over 200 bushels an acre.) I recognize that

many these farming advances need to be carefully monitored for many reasons. All of these factors contribute to our sustainability and food security.

I would also like to thank the fire departments of Honeywood, Creemore and Rosemont for fighting a major early morning fire (1:15 a.m.) at our farm on Easter weekend. The fire burned the epicentre for operating our farm – that is the utility centre with all of our equipment and office building. The good news is that our 150-year-old wooden barn stocked with animals and our 1902 farmhouse were totally saved! Fortunately, no one was physically hurt. The bad news for us was that we received the unfortunate news by phone as we were away celebrating Easter in Seville, Spain observing their unique Easter traditions.

As farmers say, manure happens! Thanks again to the many firefighters and support workers who were actively involved to help us save our farming operations and cattle. We truly appreciate their skills and assistance within our community and at our farm in particular on Easter weekend.

Anne Arrell,
 Mulmur.

Farmers seem to have the ability to cope and thrive

Editor:

Congratulations, *Creemore Echo*, on the publication of the agriculture special.

When I was quite young all farming was done with horses. The typical farm was 100 acres and farm families lived well. Nothing lavish, I assure you, but well.

It has been interesting over my life to observe the

changes made in farming. Farmers seem to have the ability to cope with any problems that arise and continue to do well. As in the past problems will continue to turn up, especially with climate change. Let us all hope for the very best outcome.

Helen Blackburn,
 Working member of CSN.
 Websterville.

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LETTERS

Farmland needs to be better protected

Editor:

Congratulations on last week's Agriculture Edition of *The Echo* – excellent work!

This special edition was great to see and I hope that it is just the beginning of sequels that will share the experiences and lives of other farmers within our area.

I would like to offer some additional information, as I understand it, to the short article you had titled *Farmland in Ontario is Disappearing*. First of all, thank you for incorporating this article and for exposing the frightening reality that the farmlands which feed us are being lost to building developments, highway expansions, aggregate extraction, parking lots, etc. at a totally astonishing rate. Think about it, an average of 319 acres of farmland being eradicated every day – four of your traditional Ontario farms when you consider a fairly optimistic 80 per cent of arable land per farm, vanishing beneath development day after day. At that rate the original 100-acre farm parcels on both sides of 124 from Duntroon to Nottawa would be eliminated from our food production system in only eight days. Creemore to the northern edge of Clearview along Fairgrounds Road has about 100 original 100-acre farm parcels, 50 on each side, a total of 10,000 acres. At the current rate of agricultural land loss in Ontario,

if concentrated on that one country road, that highly productive farmland would be eliminated in only 31 days. Imagine driving the length of that road now, and then only one month later, not seeing a single farm during your 15-minute trip, only “development.” Now imagine repeating that over the course of a year, resulting in 45 Duntroon-to-Nottawa stretches of farmland being pulled out of agricultural production... in just a single year. Understandably, our farmland needs to be much better protected ASAP since this rate of eradication is definitely not sustainable.

While it is easy to think that addressing this issue needs to fall on the shoulders of municipal, provincial and/or federal powers that be, it is heartening to know there is a very interesting program available for an individual or family to protect their farmland permanently, with no effect on their ownership, the continued farming of their land, or their rights to sell or pass it on to the next generation.

The award-winning Ontario Farmland Trust (OFT), Canada's first province-wide agricultural land trust, originated at a forum at the University of Guelph about 20 years ago. OFT supports grassroots, farmer-led initiatives for farmland protection – a bottom-up rather than top-down approach that places the ability to

permanently protect a farm's future agricultural use squarely within the hands of the landowner, whether that be the farmer themselves, or someone with a weekend or retirement property who has their farmland leased out or worked by others.

Landowners that take advantage of OFT's Farmland Easement Agreements can receive tax benefits, with further tax breaks being possible if the farm also contains significant ecological features such as forests or wetlands. There is also an option for a landowner to donate their land to OFT, potentially in conjunction with a Farmland Easement Agreement if they have no need to hold on to it or leave it to others.

I would encourage all owners of farmland who are concerned with the preservation of farming within our community to learn more by visiting the OFT website, ontariofarmlandtrust.ca, and contact them at info@ontariofarmlandtrust.ca or 519-781-3276.

And the next time you drive between Nottawa and Collingwood, past the Morrison Pumpkin Farm, note the sign “Farmland Forever” at their gate and appreciate that they have taken this step with Ontario Farmland Trust to ensure their land remains as farmland, forever.

Jim Campbell,
Rockside/Duntroon.

GNE organizers applaud farm edition

Editor:

Evidence of the importance of a community newspaper is at the fingertips of *Creemore Echo* readers with the Farm Edition published recently.

Our Simcoe County Board of Education schools would do well to get copies and use content from this excellent edition to tie to lessons about community, rural matters, business (advertising), and even the importance of free speech and communication.

The Collingwood Agricultural Society, which annually presents the Great Northern Exhibition (since 1855!), salutes you and commends readers and advertisers for supporting *The Creemore Echo*.

George Czerny,
Community liaison,
Collingwood Agricultural Society.

Thanks to those who feed us

Editor:

We would like to say the Farm Edition was terrific. How wonderful to single out these hard working people and give them the praise they deserve. The articles were informative and well researched with happy photos as well. We all need to sit back and thank the men, women and children who commit themselves to feed and educate us.

Doug and Norah Mills,
Creemore.

Partners address health inequity

(Continued from page 4)

food insecurity, substance use and harm reduction, injury prevention, healthy community design, climate change, and emergency preparedness, planning and response.

Health is complex and the conditions of daily living (also known as the social determinants of health), such as where we live and work, the amount of money we have and our social connections, can affect our health and well-being. These factors can mean fewer opportunities for good health for some individuals and groups of people. We collaborate with partners and work to address these factors to reduce the negative effects they can have on people's health. This is done through community engagement and advocating for healthy public policies.

Our work is performed by a staff of dedicated and highly-skilled professionals that include nurses,

dietitians, dental hygienists, dental assistants, dentists, public health inspectors, medical doctors, and specialists in epidemiology, research, evaluation, health promotion, communications, human resources, information technology, finance, administration and infrastructure. We operate eight offices in Barrie, Collingwood, Cookstown, Gravenhurst, Huntsville, Midland and Orillia.

For more information about the health unit and its programs visit smdhu.org, or call Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Dr. Charles Gardner is the Medical Officer of Health for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. To learn more about public health topics, visit smdhu.org.

Correction/Clarification

With regards to two articles published in last week's Farm Edition of *The Creemore Echo*: *Shepherds in training*, p. 14-15 and *Cashtown goats*, p. 16-17.

The sheep lamb three times over a two year period, not one.

The goats each kid once per year but are timed to breed in three sessions over the course of the year to ensure steady milk production.

Send letters to the editor to editor@creemore.com. All letters must be signed with the writer's full name and include a phone number (which will not be printed.) Deadline is 5 p.m. on Tuesdays.

NVCA, Friends of the Mad River call for tree planters

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) and the Friends of the Mad River are organizing a tree-planting near Creemore on Sunday, May 5.

Volunteers are needed to plant native trees and shrubs along the banks of Temperance Creek. Trees will help enhance fish and wildlife habitat, shade the stream, stabilize the banks and capture carbon.

Individuals, families and community groups are welcome. (Uneven surfaces and a steep slope make this event not recommended for small children.)

The morning will begin with an orientation and tree planting tutorial. Volunteers are advised to wear closed toed shoes or rubber boots, and bring a rain jacket, hat, work gloves, sunscreen, bug spray, snacks and extra water.

A portable toilet will be available on site.

The planting is on Concession 6 Nottawasaga, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Registration is required at nvca.on.ca/events-and-education/volunteer-events.

Students are encouraged to take the opportunity to accumulate some of their required volunteer hours.

This event will take place rain or shine but will be rescheduled if there is extreme weather.

The NVCA is also hosting its 34th annual Arbour Day tree sale on May 11, from 8 a.m. to noon at the Tiffin Conservation Area, 8195 8th Line of Essa, Utopia. Trees and shrubs will be sold in bundles of 10 for \$35 each. Selection is based on first come, first serve. Visit nvca.on.ca for more information.

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SAVOUR Summer WITH CREEMORE

Independent wine shop, Chin Chin, opens in Creemore

by **Bonnie MacPherson**

In France and Italy, cin cin means “to your health.” In the UK, where they add an “h”, chin chin can mean hello, goodbye or cheers. In Creemore, it will mean a welcoming place to sample, and buy quality wines.

Keiran Coyne is originally from Bath, UK – home of the Jane Austen Museum and the setting for period dramas such as Bridgerton. It is also home to many fine restaurants, where Coyne first developed an appreciation for good food and good wine. His work in the hospitality sector took him from Bath to London and eventually Toronto where he became the sommelier at Union Restaurant on Ossington. The same owners operated Heart’s Tavern in Kimberly. It was while doing some weekend work at Heart’s Tavern that he and wife **Tammy Yiu Coyne** fell in love with the area and started scouting for an opportunity to move north.

The pair eventually purchased a small home near Mansfield and spent the next year renovating and learning to deal with wells, septic systems and all the vagaries of life in the country. With the home reno under control, they began work in January to convert a Mill Street space, formerly occupied by The Refillery, into a wine bar and store. They did the work themselves, and the décor includes a counter from the old Port Carling Post Office and shelves of spalted maple from Mulmur.

Coyne says the Canadian hospitality industry, and Toronto in particular, is quite vibrant.

“The Toronto food and wine scene is truly world class,” he said. “There are many great sommeliers.”

Unfortunately, he says, there is also a great deal of pretentiousness and that is something they intend to

steer clear of.

“We’re just two normal people doing what we love,” said Coyne.

There are many lovely, independent wine shops in London but they didn’t really exist here, pre-pandemic. Coyne says rule changes instituted during Covid have made it possible to operate a business like this in Ontario.

Chin Chin will open with 80 different wines, mostly European with a few Ontario, B.C. and California selections. All will be artisanal wines from small batch growers, not the sort of thing that is available at the LCBO. In an effort to offer something for every taste, they will stock a range of styles and prices from \$25 to \$200 per bottle. There will also be a limited selection of beers, de-alcoholized wines and luxury sparkling teas.

Coyne says Chin Chin will offer “sips and snacks,” but it is not their intention to become a restaurant. The bar area has seating for 10 people with a variety of wines available by the glass. On any given day, there will be 10 selections on the tasting menu.

“Typically we’ll have one sparkling wine, a couple of rosés, one orange wine, three whites and three reds. We’ll offer a wine flight with a trio of two ounce pours to encourage people to try something new.”

Orange wine, he explains, is white wine fermented on the skins of the grapes which imparts colour, aroma and flavour.

Chin Chin will be open Thursday through Sunday, and Coyne is hopeful that by late spring they’ll be ready to host group wine tastings. It will be a place to interact, talk about wine, and pick some up to take home.



Staff photo: *Bonnie MacPherson*

Keiran Coyne and Tammy Yiu Coyne's independent wine shop Chin Chin opens this week in Creemore.

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Tim Hortons' local Smile Cookie Campaign will support the Georgian Triangle Humane Society (GTHS) and Hospice Georgian Triangle.

Collingwood Tim Hortons restaurants owned by the Trude family in Collingwood, are supporting these two local organizations. Sunnidale Corners Tim Horton owners **Ann Murphy** and **Amy Bennett** will also be dedicating Smile Cookie proceeds to the GTHS. From April 29 to May 5, \$1.50 from every Smile Cookie will support charities in their community. Guests can complete a form to place pre-orders for Smile Cookies.

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Creemore Springs celebrates cycling culture with new radler

by **Trina Berlo**

As part of its discovery series, Creemore Springs Brewery has launched a grapefruit radler just in time for cycling season.

Radlers – the German word for cyclist – have been around for more than 100 years but have been growing in popularity in the North American market.

According to lore, Franz Kugler invented the radler in 1922 when, during the cycling craze of the day, thousands of thirsty cyclists stopped at his tavern in Deisenhofen, Germany. When he began to run out of beer, he started cutting it with sparkling lemon soda.

Radlers are made with a variety of juices and are typically lower in alcohol.

Setting out to make a grapefruit radler – Stiegl being a popular brand – head brewer **Cameron Cottrell** said the Creemore Springs Brewery team went in a different direction. Instead of adding grapefruit juice, they used only the zest.

The zest is blended with a specific hop selection – citra and cascade – that also mimic the flavour of grapefruit. The result is a lighter, drier radler that is a little more tart.

Cottrell describes it as refreshing with a light aroma of a dry hop.

“You really get the zest,” said Cottrell. “It’s very effervescent.”

With the recipe in development since December under the leadership of **Matt Polowyck**, Cottrell said the team sampled many, many different types of radlers and brewed a few test batches before landing on the recipe.

He said that is the rewarding thing about the discovery series, that the brewers get to be creative and experimental. Out of 135 possibilities though, the team will only get to make three or four specialty brews per year. The radler is a very limited run, only about 5,000 litres, which will be available at the retail store and through direct delivery.

At 3.7 per cent alcohol per volume, the radler is classified as a light beer, which makes it more “crushable,” says Cottrell.

He said members of the brew team are cyclists and the light, less filling beverage appeals to them, along with its origin story.

It’s labeled a celebratory radler because it is meant to be consumed at the end of a long ride. The beverage is launching in time for Turas Mor, the brewery’s own European style cycling event, and two others for which Creemore Springs Brewery is the title sponsor, the Paris to Ancaster bike race and the GTA’s Heck of the North.

Turas Mor takes riders on their choice of four back road routes ranging from 20-85 kilometres in length, beginning and ending at the brewery.

Organizer **Heather Harding** said the May 11 cycling event sold out in record time even with increased registration

from 450 to 650 participants. She encourages the community to come out and cheer on riders as they depart and return. Harding said there will be live music on the stage at Creemore Village Green from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and a farmers’ market from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.



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Class average on the rise at Duntroon Hall's Know-it-all-Ball

by Jim Campbell

A huge thank you to all of you who came out to the 22nd edition of The Know-it-all-Ball (KIAB) at The Duntroon Hall last Saturday for another brain- (and drink-, and snack-) fuelled night of trivia and community fun! The KIAB was once again a great follow-up event to another very successful Green Beer Day which was held at The Duntroon Hall on March 16. All proceeds from these events go toward the upkeep and improvements to our wonderful Big Small Hall and to the community events that our awesome hall board members and volunteers hold there and within adjacent Islay Park.

This year there was another tight race at the KIAB, but The Grand Prize Winner of the night was (once again!) Brain Candy with an overall score of 77.5 per cent, down from their 88 per cent of last year (...possibly the result of too much candy not labelled Smarties?) Second place went to Creemore Crew with 72.5 per cent and third was captured by Leyshon Nation at 70 per cent.

Our summary in *The Echo* last year indicated that the 2024 KIAB would “knock your socks off but keep you on your feet” with a promise to increase the “class” average from 2023’s 61 per cent, and we did it! The class average this past Saturday night was 64 per cent, so a nice bump up, which we hope to repeat in 2025, and an indication that the overall spread of scores across the field of trivia teams was quite close.



Jim Campbell photo

Brain Candy, defending champs of the 2024 Know-it-all-Ball **Rick Schubert** (from left), **Bonnie MacPherson**, **Bill Hewitt**, **Isla Ross**, **Finn Ross**, **Jenny Ross**, **Gavin Ross** and **Trina Berlo** (top).

This year’s illustrious winner of the Main Brain Drain was the beautifully-aproned **Lucas Graham** (right) of the Leek Freeks (...they’ve gotta be Singhamptonites given that the famous Ramp Romp dinner will return to their Tall Small Hall on May 13), who had the privilege of being crowned by hall board chair and QuestionMaster **Gordon Kemp** (right) with the coveted Encephalon Softhat.

A big hit this year was a new feature Gord incorporated into our traditional final round of music questions; identification of various bird songs

which we all hear at this time of year within the beautiful environment that surrounds us.

We hope you can come out to our future community events at The Duntroon Hall: The Small Hall Festival in late September (High-speed Chicken Race!), the One Stop Christmas Shop in November, Green Beer Day in March, and the 23rd edition of The Know-it-all-Ball next April!

Keep on top of your homework!

Jim Campbell is a member of the Duntroon Hall board of directors.



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www.ucstayner.ca

Jubilee Presbyterian Church
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Knox Presbyterian Church
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SCDSB Equity Advisory Committee seeks parent/guardian members

The Simcoe County District School Board (SCDSB) is committed to identifying and removing barriers within the school system to ensure that all students and staff are offered supportive, inclusive, and respectful learning and working environments.

To support this work, the SCDSB has an Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) comprised of parents/guardians, trustees, students, community partner organizations or associations, and board staff.

The SCDSB is seeking new parent/guardian members for the EAC. Applications are open until May 20. Applicants must be a parent/guardian of a current SCDSB student; be from a community that has traditionally experienced barriers to equal access, opportunities, and resources; and reside in Simcoe County. (SCDSB employees are not eligible.)

The role of the EAC is to work in partnership with the SCDSB on the review, development, implementation, and monitoring of initiatives related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The EAC supports members of the SCDSB community and encourages equitable outcomes, sense of belonging, student achievement, and well-being, in alignment with the SCDSB Strategic Priorities. Apply to be a parent/guardian member of the EAC at www.scdsb.on.ca/about/equity_and_inclusion.



Contributed photo

Jim LaRue and Carey Nickels took home pickle ball gold, winning the Creemore Pickle Ball Club's winter session tournament. Congratulations to all the players who honed their skills over the 11-week session. Spring session is under way with a few spots still open. For details, contact emilyworts@hotmail.com.

FUN & Games

Sudoku by Barbara Simpson

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

Answers on page 10

FRED'S FUNNIES

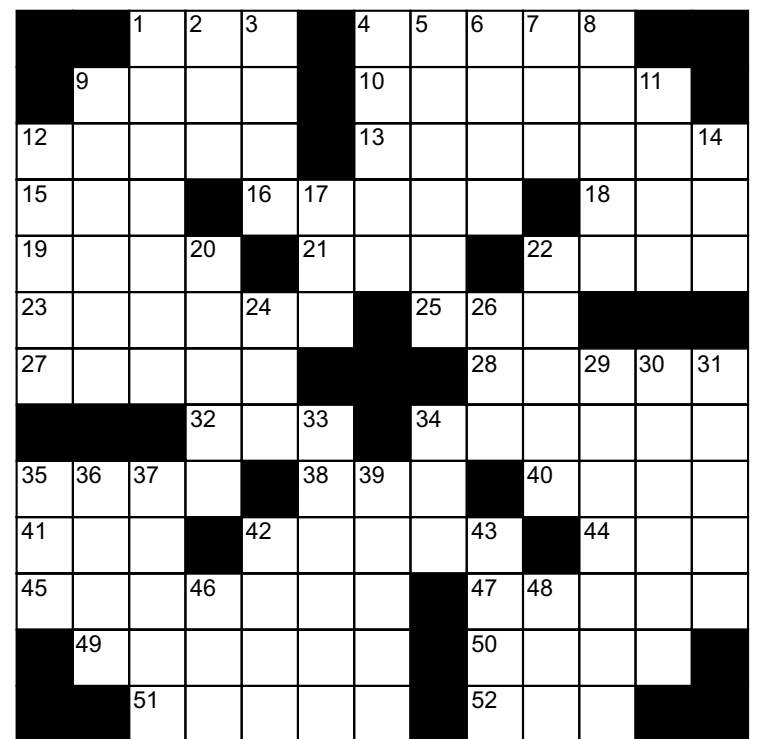
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ACROSS

1. Down in the dumps
4. Some bathrooms have one
9. Having no doubt
10. Deep secrets
12. Drinking bout
13. Holy place
15. Fake hair
16. Glass used for artificial gems
18. Baseball statistic
19. Invention beginning
21. Kind of bread
22. Canadian actress who was in "King Kong"
23. Containing iron
25. "Kanga's son"
27. It's not far from Crapaud on Prince Edward Island
28. Accumulate
32. Glide down snow covered hills
34. Part of a tree
35. Highest point
38. Kind of sauce used in Asian cooking
40. Canadian violinist
Clench
41. Which person?
42. Tenth Commandment word
44. 2-year-old sheep
45. Harmful to one's health
47. Fireplace residue
49. Novelist
50. End of a hammer head
51. Make a strenuous effort
52. Auditory apparatus



DOWN

1. Room where a doctor works
2. Common verb
3. Hard to understand
4. Outspokenly
5. Mouth of a volcano
6. Adolescent affliction
7. Resinous substance
8. Keyboard key
9. Eight-legged creature
11. Invisible emanation, such as a scent
12. ___ Current, Saskatchewan
14. Could possibly
17. Curved path
20. Stood up
22. Girl grown up
24. Stubborn laundry stain
26. Paddle
29. One more
30. A computer has one
31. Black seabirds
33. Chemical compound
34. Secondary matter
35. Barley beard
36. Food
37. Watered fabric
39. Not concealed
42. Sheep shelter
43. It's sticky on one side
46. Inverted nine
48. Red is one

Weekly blast of the Duntroon Hall's Know-it-all-Ball trivia questions

(We continue with the 2024 edition)

The colour of the Hope Diamond is? A: white, B: blue, C: pink or D: yellow

'Sunshine List' released

Twelve Clearview Township employees have made the 2023 Sunshine List.

The list is released to the public each spring as required by law under the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act and reveals the annual salaries and taxable benefits of public sector employees who earn \$100,000 or more.

- CAO **John Ferguson**, \$194,049;
- Director of public works (retired) **Mike Rawn**, \$144,299;
- Treasurer **Kelly McDonald**, \$143,676;
- Deputy director of public works, **Dan Perreault** \$134,861;
- Director of Parks and Recreation **Terry Vachon**, \$132,386;
- Director of Planning & Building **Amy Cann**, \$130,685;
- Director of Human Resources **Tammy Gill**, \$125,446;
- Public Works Manager **Todd Patton**, \$124,639;
- Fire Chief **Scott Davison**, \$123,237;
- Chief Building Official **Scott McLeod**, \$115,164;
- Library CEO **Jennifer La Chapelle**, \$115,164;
- Deputy treasurer **Ron Mather**, \$106,802.

Three Township of Mulmur employees made the list: CAO **Tracey Atkinson**, \$167,645; Treasurer **Heather Boston**, \$123,522; and Director of Public Works **John Willmetts**, \$155,334.

Habitat for Humanity merger official

by **Bonnie MacPherson**

Habitat South Georgian Bay and Habitat Huronia have officially merged under that Habitat for Huronia name. The South Georgian Bay organization had been running under the interim leadership of Huronia CEO **Rob Cikoja** since a walkout by volunteer staff caused a one day closure of the Collingwood Restore last October.

Habitat South Georgian Bay was one of 48 affiliate organizations in Canada, each of which operates independently. When the Board of Directors of South Georgian Bay decided to part ways with

long time CEO **Joy Fleury**, volunteers who felt she was being treated unfairly withdrew their services. Cikoja was brought in from Habitat Huronia in Barrie to defuse the situation, and has been leading the Collingwood operation since then.

The newly merged organization will be led by Cikoja and CFO **Ann Adams** who have been at the helm of Habitat Huronia since 2019.

Cikoja says, "The need for affordable housing is greater today than ever before. We are eager to engage donors, volunteers and municipal leaders

across South Simcoe to ensure we can serve many more families with our expanded operations."

Habitat Huronia currently has plans to complete a single family home on Christopher Street in Stayner, and projects for Angus, Barrie, Innisfil and Blue Mountains are in the works.

The existing Habitat Huronia Board of Directors will govern the newly merged organization, and already has some representation from Southern Georgian Bay. Applications for any vacant board positions will be received in May.

This week's (and last week's) answers

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

Trivia – B: Blue

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

April 19 answers

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

April 12 answers (omitted last week)

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2017 GMC CANYON Diesel 190,000 KMs - \$25,000 Certified. Very clean. Comes with two full sets of tires and custom Leer cap. 2.8L 4 cylinder Duramax diesel engine. Full sized double cab. Call Bill at 705-441-3599.

HELP WANTED

Simply Stucco is hiring **LABOURERS**. \$25/hour, flexible schedule. Students welcome. Contact Charlie, 705-466-6696, simplystucco705@gmail.com.

DRIVERS WANTED for mid-sized cash crop and earth moving business north of Maxwell. Looking for experienced seasonal tractor and rock truck drivers for the upcoming season. Duties include operating tractors from 90-200 horsepower pulling various tillage equipment. A DZ licence would be an asset but not necessary. Work could run until late fall. Call 1-519-599-5053 and leave a message.

Now hiring **COOKS** for full and part-time positions. Our fun and friendly kitchen offers competitive wage and generous bonuses. Experience preferred but will train. Please call The Old Mill House Pub in Creemore and ask for the manager to set up an interview. 705-466-5244.

ATKINSON IRRIGATION LIMITED



Seeking dedicated, hardworking, enthusiastic employees to join our team for the upcoming season. Full time seasonal work. Landscape, irrigation, small equipment experiences an asset. Working in a team environment on Ontario Golf Courses. Must be willing to travel. \$20 - \$25 per hour based on experience. Please submit resume to Tmatte@atkinsonirrigation.ca.

HELP WANTED WITH LAVENDER HARVEST

Lavender Creek Farm is a small family-owned farm near Badjeros, Ontario. We are looking for outdoor lovers who would like to help harvest lavender in July.

Email us at
lavendercreekfarm.on@gmail.com

We look forward to hearing from you!



LAVENDER CREEK FARM

FOR RENT SEASONAL RENTAL IN THE VILLAGE OF CREEMORE available June 1 to Oct. 31. 3 bedroom bungalow, open-concept, fully furnished. Contact Jan at janmorrisoncreemore@gmail.com.

DEATH NOTICE



CAUTHERS, Lois Ione (nee White) – Died peacefully on Monday, April 15, 2024, at Campbell House Hospice, Collingwood, at the age of 80. Lois leaves behind her loving husband and soulmate of 58 years, Gary. She was a devoted mother to Jac (Jessica) and Erinn (Jorge), grandmother to Laurena, Jorge and Jaime, and sister to Dick (Paulette) and the late Harry (Connie). Lois was born in Shelburne in 1944 and moved with her family to Stayner where she attended high school with Gary. Dating, the two moved to Toronto where Lois enrolled in the Wellesley Nursing Program. Gary and Lois were married in 1965 and continued to live and work in Toronto while raising a family. Lois' last employment prior to retirement utilized her nursing background as she took on the role of Human Resources Manager at Riverdale Hospital. Gary and Lois retired back to the countryside, living their golden years in the old Orange Lodge in Glen Huron. Lois was happiest when spending cherished moments with family and friends, tending her beautiful gardens, and travelling around the world with Gary. She was an ardent supporter of the Nature League (Collingwood) where she developed many wonderful friendships. No service or events are planned at this time. If desired, donations can be made to Hospice Georgian Triangle Foundation (Campbell House) or the Nature League. To sign her Book of Memories, please visit www.carruthersdavidson.com.

DEATH NOTICE



BENDELL, William passed away suddenly at the age of 81. Survived by Sandy Van Laar, daughter Kim Hallock and son Ken Bendell, John and Jeff Van Laar and sister Evelyn. Predeceased by his parents and nine siblings. Also survived by numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. A Celebration of Life will take place on Monday, April 22, 2024 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Creemore Legion located at 22 Wellington St. W. Donations in William's name can be made to the Creemore Legion Poppy Fund.

In loving memory of
SCOTT HAMMILL
March 18, 1967 to April 22, 2005

When the warm breezes of April caress us, we know that part of it is you.

When the snowflakes of winter plant a kiss on our cheek that kiss might well be you.

Through the promise of the morning and the voice of the wind,
You will always have something to say.

To reflect on the wonderful moments and warm our hearts as we make our way.

All things we were part of will continue to brighten each day making room for the Love you gave us by remembering you're not far away.

*Love from the heart,
Your family and friends*

Classifieds &
Calendar items
are posted on

www.creemore.com



WWW.CLEARVIEW.CA
 Communications available in alternative formats upon request.
 217 Gideon Street, Stayner ON L0M 1S0
 Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
 705.428.6230

Pool Customer Service (1 position)

Clearview Township is seeking 1 Pool Customer Service (1 full time) from May to end of August 2024. To be eligible to apply, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be legally entitled to work in Canada.
- Age requirement is between 15 and 30 years of age at the time of hire.
- Be in possession of a valid Social Insurance Number at time of hire.
- Hold a valid Ontario Driver's Licence, minimum Class G2 with a driving record that demonstrates responsible / safe driving behavior.

Responsibilities

Responsible for general office duties such as opening and closing the Pool Office, printing attendance lists, monitoring admissions and waiting lists for the Stayner outdoor pool. Additionally, you will be responsible for monitoring and directing patrons into and out of the pool while enforcing health and safety protocols.

Requirements

- Grade 12 education preferred, with demonstrated experience in customer service including interacting with a wide variety of ages.
- Cash-handling and previous POS experience preferred.
- Knowledge of aquatics programs would be beneficial.
- Demonstrated ability to work independently and in an inclusive team environment.
- Demonstrated effective interpersonal and communication skills with experience working with the public.
- Effective decision making and conflict management skills.
- Ability to provide a clean and current Vulnerable Sector Check
- Current certification in WHMIS.

Wage: \$16.98 per hour plus 4% vacation pay for Pool Instruction and Life Guarding. Plus, an extra \$1 per hour for returning applicants to the same position.

Training: All required training is provided by Clearview Township.

Qualified candidates are invited to submit their resume and covering letter, quoting **Job # 2024-005** to Human Resources at hr@clearview.ca by **April 19, 2024**.

We thank all applicants for their interest; however only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted. Please note: In accordance with the **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act**, please contact Human Resources for accommodation inquiries or requirements at 705-428-6230 x. 255

Job #: 2024-005

Posting Date: April 10, 2024

Please visit our website at: www.clearview.ca

Notice – 2024 Spring Hydrant Flushing

The Township of Clearview Water Department will be flushing hydrants between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM on the following dates and locations:

- Stayner: April 15- May 10
- Creemore: May 6-8
- New Lowell: May 8-10
- Nottawa: May 13-15
- Colling-Woodlands: May 15-17
- Buckingham Woods: May 22-24

Please be advised that there may potentially be water interruptions and discoloured water could stain laundry during these times. If your water remains discoloured or dirty, run water until clear. It is recommended water softeners are left in by-pass mode during these times.

For more information, please contact:

Dale Lighthart, Foreman, Water & Sewer, Clearview Township
 (705) 428-6230 ext. 303 • dlighthart@clearview.ca



RAYS invites members of the community to attend the

Annual General Meeting

Sunday, May 5, 2024

3:30pm to 4:30pm

Station on the Green

10 Caroline Street E, Creemore

Speakers to include RAYS Scholarship and Bursary recipients, and members of the board.

Investing in a brighter future

For more information about RAYS, please visit:

raysscholarships.com

PO BOX 2052, CREEMORE, ON L0M 1G0

Find us on Facebook and Instagram: [@raysscholarships](https://www.instagram.com/raysscholarships)



ERCA/ESA Licence # 7015138

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- Lighting control and automation
- Backup power systems and generators
- Solar installations
- Pool and spa installations
- Electric car charger installations



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Unsurpassed dedication to quality and satisfaction.

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