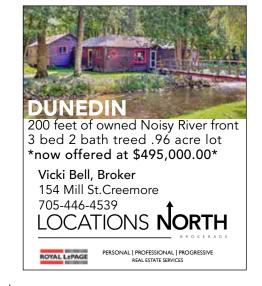
The Creemore ECHO

Friday, November 7, 2025 Vol. 25 No. 45 www.creemore.com

News and views in and around Creemore

Christmas in a Box Filling the gap in three communities PAGE 10

Publications Mail Agreement # 40024973



Government plans to consolidate conservation authorities

The government of Ontario has announced plans to consolidate the province's 36 existing conservation authorities into "several" watershed based regional conservation authorities.

In the coming weeks the government plans to introduce legislation to create the Ontario Provincial Conservation Agency (OPCA), "with the aim of improving the province's conservation authority system to help get shovels in the ground faster on homes and other local infrastructure projects, while strengthening the vital role conservation authorities play in managing watersheds and protecting communities from floods and natural hazards," announced Todd McCarthy, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks. "This action will help the province deliver on its plan to protect Ontario by cutting red tape and building an economy that is more competitive, resilient and selfreliant, to help keep workers on the job in the face of tariffs and economic uncertainty."

In a press conference on Oct. 31, McCarthy said the province's 36 conservation authorities, created in 1946, are fragmented resulting in unpredictable and inconsistent turnaround times for approvals. The main criticisms are that conservation authorities have significant disparities in size and resources, with some lacking access to the latest tools and technology that support flood risk management and evidencebased decision making. Under the current system,130 municipalities fall within the jurisdiction of two or more conservation authorities, resulting

(See 'Government' on page 3)



taff photo: Trina Berlo

MILL STREET TRICK OR TREAT Sawyer and Freddie Lapointe as Toy Story's Slinky dog.

Certain recycling services terminated

Beginning Jan. 1, industrial, commercial and institutional properties will no longer receive curbside recycling collection.

The change is driven by a provincewide shift announced last year by the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Despite ongoing advocacy by the County of Simcoe and other lower tier municipalities to include small businesses and not-for-profit organizations in the new recycling collection program, the county announced it has received formal notification that the contractor, Circular Materials, that it will not be providing recycling services to these properties under the current framework.

The county had argued that locations, such as places of worship, food banks, and small businesses, often produce waste volumes similar to residential households and currently account for just 1.4 per cent of the county's serviced units, suggesting that their inclusion could have been achieved with minimal disruption.

"The shift toward producer responsibility for recycling costs is intended to support long-term waste reduction, which is a goal we strongly support," said Warden Basil Clarke in a press release. "At the same time, the exclusion of certain properties presents challenges for our community. The county has maintained one of Ontario's most effective recycling programs for over 30 years, with high capture rates and dependable service. We remain committed to advocating for broader inclusion in the provincial program, and we want to ensure affected organizations are aware that,

starting Jan. 1, they will need to make alternative arrangements for recycling. Our concern is that without accessible options, more recyclable materials may end up in the waste stream, undermining progress."

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) was also calling on the province to include small industrial, commercial and institutions and also to expand waste separation requirements and extend the Ontario Deposit Return Program to cover non-alcoholic beverage containers.

NVCA chair **Jonathan Scott** raised concerns about an increased risk of illegal dumping, blocking stormwater systems, degrading water quality and heightening flood and erosion hazards.

"Conservation authorities are on (See 'Recycling' on page 3)

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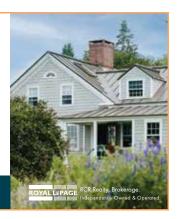


Questions about the Real Estate Market?

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COMMUNITY Calendar

Submit your community events

sales@creemore.com phone: 705-466-9906 fax: 705-466-9908

Saturday, Nov. 8

• Mad River Hiking Club easy **two-hour hike**. Starting in Avening, it takes the hiker on trail and road into Creemore. Hike starts at 10 a.m., meeting at Creemore Recreation Centre, 218 Collingwood St., Creemore. There will be a shuttle to Avening. Dress for the weather; no dogs allowed. To register, text 519-823-3848 or email flo.oosterhoff@rogers. com. Waivers required.

Sunday, Nov. 9

• New Lowell United Church hosts its annual harvest dinner and silent auction at the New Lowell Royal Canadian Legion, 5357 County Rd. 8. Enjoy a roast beef dinner and bid on great items at the auction. Take-out pick-up is from 5 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., with dine-in service beginning at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$15 for youth aged six to 12, and free for children under six. Advance tickets only. Call 705-424-1476 to reserve.

Tuesday, Nov. 11

- Mansfield Women's Institute invites everyone to a **Remembrance Day service** at the cenotaph in Mansfield Ballpark to commence at 10:45 a.m.
- Stayner Legion Remembrance Day service at 11 a.m. Parade form-up at 10:30 a.m. at Station Park 10:45 a.m. Parade will then get to Clearview Administration Centre on Gideon Street. Following the ceremony, a wreath will be laid at Royal Canadian Legion, Stayner, Branch 457 with a luncheon and refreshments inside to follow. Everyone is welcome to attend. Any veterans, organizations or individuals that would like to take part in the parade, please just show up at the aforementioned times.
- New Lowell **Remembrance Day service**. Parade beginning at 10:30 a.m. at the Fire Hall. Service at 11 a.m. at the Legion. The Legion Branch will be open after the service serving light refreshments. All are welcome.
- Creemore **Remembrance Day service** at the Creemore Cenotaph. Please arrive by 10:30 a.m. Service begins at 10:45 a.m.
- **Pub Trivia Night** every Tuesday night from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Old Mill House Pub, Creemore. \$10 cover includes entry, answer sheets and a shot at prizes. Gather your team and put your knowledge to the test. For info, contact 705-466-5244, visit theoldmillhousepub.com.

Friday, Nov. 14

- Join host Bob Marek for acoustic jam night at the Dunedin Pub from 7 p.m. to midnight. Musicians are encouraged to bring their talent and an acoustic instrument of choice. This is a 19+ event with a cash bar. No cover charge, but donations toward the Dunedin Community Hall are gratefully accepted.
- Line dancing lessons every Friday night at Station on the Green. 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.
- Dale Pearson and Friends concert fundraiser at Knox Presbyterian Church in Dunedin at 7 p.m. This will raise funds for church repairs including the church steeple and assistance for the Dunedin Community Hall. Free will offering. Knox Presbyterian Church is located at 8933 County Rd. 9, Dunedin.

Saturday, Nov. 15

- *This Life With You* Concert: Musician Patrick Savage performs at Compass Life Church at 7 p.m. The evening will feature stories, songs, worship and entertainment and maybe even a Christmas carol. All are welcome. Freewill offering.
- Catholic Women's League Christmas Fundraiser. Raffle baskets, designer leather outerwear, baked goods, silent auction items and more will be available at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Fr. Allard Hall, 63 Elgin St., Collingwood. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. It's the perfect place to do your Christmas shopping while supporting the CWL.
- Deck the Legion Hall. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion, Creemore Branch 397, 27 Wellington St. W. Volunteers are wanted to help decorate for Christmas. Get into the Christmas spirit and enjoy fun community hours for students. For further information, contact Donna B. at CreemoreChristmasElf@gmail.com, visit www. creemorechristmas.ca or call 705-466-2523.

Saturday, Nov. 22

• Mistletoe Market at Dunedin Community Hall. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Get your gift list ready for this year's Mistletoe Market, featuring more than 20 local artisans with handmade items, Dunedin swag and a bake sale. Free admission.

Saturday, Nov. 29 - Sunday, Nov. 30

• Handmade Holiday Market: More than 40 local vendors and musicians will be featured at the Creemore Legion, 27 Wellington St. W. The show runs Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Different vendors each day. Contact thehandmadeholidaymarket@gmail.com for details.

Sunday, Nov. 30

• The Avening Community Centre Board invites you to the **grand reopening** of the hall. 2 p.m. ribbon cutting. 2:30 p.m. official welcome and remarks. Refreshments and tours to follow.

Sunday, Dec. 7

- Creemore **Farmers' and Craft Market** indoors at the Station on the Green from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. during December. For info visit creemorefarmersmarket. ca. There will be no market on Dec. 21.
- J.S. Bach's Long Walk in the Snow: The Purple Hills Arts & Heritage Society, with support from Kayla Thompson Realtor, presents musician and broadcaster Tom Allen in an afternoon of music and storytelling. The performance brings to life J.S. Bach's coming-of-age journey through cello, violin, accordion and voice. St. John's United Church, 192 Mill St., 2 p.m. Tickets \$40 at ticketscene.ca.

Saturday, Dec. 6

• Breakfast with Santa at the Creemore Legion from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, with proceeds going to St. Luke's Food Bank and Creemore Public School. The event will feature a silent auction and a special visit from Santa Claus.

Friday, Dec. 19

• Christmas Cheers at The Dunedin Pub Start your holidays off with good spirits and great company at The Dunedin Pub's annual **Christmas Cheers event**. Festivities begin at 7 p.m. 19+ event. Cash bar. No cover.

Thursday, Dec. 25

• Creemore Community Christmas Dinner at 4:30 p.m. at the Creemore Legion, PWYC. Everyone is welcome. Come out to dine and/or volunteer. Takeout dinners and delivery available. A donation of a non-perishable food item is appreciated. To reserve your seat, make special arrangements, or donate to the event, contact or e-transfer Donna B. at CreemoreChristmasElf@gmail.com or call 705-446-2523. For more information, visit www.CreemoreChristmas.ca.









Government aims to eliminate duplication of service

(Continued from page 1)

in what McCarthy calls unnecessary duplication that diverts resources from front-line conservation work and service delivery. According to the government, under the consolidation, duplication would be reduced by 63 per cent.

"Conservation authorities play a vital role in protecting our communities and managing our watersheds, but the system has become too fragmented, inconsistent and outdated," said McCarthy. "The new, dedicated agency would work with conservation leaders to ensure faster, more transparent permitting and more front-line services so we can reduce delays to get shovels in the ground sooner, support economic growth and keep our communities safe from floods and other natural hazards."

"The government is right to insist on greater standardization and

clearer processes across conservation authorities," said **Jonathan Scott**, chair of the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA), in a press release. "These are essential steps toward improving transparency and accountability. However, the proposed consolidation represents a significant and potentially disruptive shift. If not carefully managed, it could undermine local expertise and responsiveness, ultimately working against the outcomes the government aims to achieve."

The new agency would be tasked with the development of a single digital permitting platform to provide a faster, more predictable approvals process and improved customer service; streamlining and standardizing service delivery by setting clear, province-wide performance standards and support their consistent

application by conservation authorities with centralized data and updated floodplain mapping; and overseeing the implementation of a regional, watershed-based consolidation of conservation authorities.

The government says under the leadership of the new agency, conservation authorities will continue to deliver existing programs such as protecting people and property from natural hazards, drinking water source protection and the management of lands and recreational trails, including public access to local natural areas, as well as other recreational and educational activities.

"Conservation authorities remain one of Ontario's best tools for balancing the province's urgent housing needs with protecting the Nottawasaga Watershed from natural hazards and climate change," said the NVCA's CAO Jennifer Vincent. "NVCA is committed to being part of the solution and will continue working to achieve these goals. This year alone, we've taken significant steps to modernize by introducing digital and standardized processes for permitting. As a result, our customer satisfaction scores have grown from 68 per cent to 90 per cent, and permitting timelines now meet provincial standards 95 per cent of the time with an average review time of just 16 days. These improvement reflect our dedication to progress - and we're ready to build on this momentum."

The government will soon begin consultations with the public, municipalities, stakeholders, Indigenous communities and other partners. The policy proposal will include a 45-day public consultation on the Environmental Registry of Ontario.

Recycling will be uniform across province

(Continued from page 1)

the front lines of protecting people, property and ecosystems from flooding and pollution. When recycling isn't accessible, the environmental costs show up directly in our creeks, rivers and stormwater systems," wrote Scott in a letter to the minister. "Alongside our member municipalities, we are worried about a loss of recycling services to our downtown small businesses and places of worship resulting from unintended consequences in provincial regulations."

Circular Materials is a national not-for-profit producer responsibility

organization that helps producers meet their obligations under extended producer responsibility regulations across Canada. Under the new system, recycling will be uniform across the province and the program will be expanded to include black plastic containers and toothpaste tubes.

Residential recycling collection will continue on the regular collection day using existing recycling carts. However, recycling will be collected by Emterra Environmental trucks on behalf of Circular Materials. Garbage and organics will continue to be collected by Miller Waste on behalf of

the County of Simcoe, although pickup times may be different.

Also in the New Year, recycling taken to county waste drop-off depots will be subject to fees.

Starting Jan. 1, residents should direct all recycling-related collection inquiries, including missed collections, cart issues, and accepted materials, to Emterra Environmental Inc at 1-888-597-1541 or customercareont@ emterra.ca.

For more details on residential recycling changes, visit simcoe.ca/recyclingchange.To learn what is currently eligible for the green bin system, check the Waste Wizard at simcoe.ca.

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NOV 13TH-14TH AT 5PM
CURRENCY COLLECTION SALE

The recently expanded Currency Collection Sale is a treasure trove for collectors of every level. We've got a large quantity of lots — from historic banknotes to highly sought after sets — there's no better time to expand your collection!

Place your bids online by 5pm Nov 13th & 14th at www.KiddFamilyAuctions.com.

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Preview: Thurs & Fri, Nov 13th & 14th, 10am – 4pm, or call for an appointment on another day.

Pickup: Sat Nov 15th, 10am – 4pm.

Call or text if you need more information.

Features: 1923 Dominion of Canada \$1 Horse Blanket; 2020 RCM \$5 Silver Coin – Hudson's Bay Company; Uncut Sheet of 1973 CDN \$1 Banknotes; 1870-1923 Dominion of Canada 25 Cent Shinplasters; \$100-\$1 Graded Canadian Banknotes including 1954 \$20 Banknote – PCGS Graded; 1954 CDN \$5 Banknote – Devil's Face; VERY LARGE QUANTITY OF PURE SILVER. 2012 \$5 .999oz Silver Coin – Maple Leaf; RCM Fine Silver .999oz Bar; 1914 Great Britian Half Crown – PCGS Graded; Collectible CDN & U.S. Silver Dollars; CDN 25 Cent Silver Coins; RCM Denomination Sets; Uncirculated Coins; Sequential, Uncirculated & Replacement Banknotes; International Currency and so much more!

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OPINION

& Feedback

Feedback and old photos welcome info@creemore.com call 705-466-9906 fax 705-466-9908

COLUMN

More about Banda

Last month, my local history story was about Banda from the book, Nottawasaga: The Outburst of the Iroquois, written for the township's centennial in 1934. This month we have more about the Banda area south of Avening. Over the



years any evidence of the thriving village of Banda has disappeared but the name sticks. To continue...

Another interesting story told to the writer by Mr. Lott, was the discovery of a bone pit by himself and his neighbour, Thompson, on Lot 3, Concession 4. (Comment by HB: This was a burial site of the Petuns/ Tionontati, who were in this area in the early 1600s. Burying bones of the dead was part of their tradition.) The bodies were buried together with all their worldly possessions. On excavating, besides innumerable skulls and bones, thirteen copper kettles, probably of French origin were found. They varied in size holding from six to 15 pails. Two of these kettles were taken by Rev. Mr. Osler to Toronto museum, and the others were divided among the settlers and were in use on some farms for many years.

Oh, money was scarce in those days, but a little went a long way. The nearest market where wheat could be sold was Bradford. The price was fifty cents per bushel and I paid a teamster half that amount to convey a load from Bradford to market. (Here the story was interrupted while the trusty pipe was relighted.)

"How long have you smoked?" we questioned. Laughingly he answered, "80 years." O, yes, everybody smoked and drank a little whiskey, too, but it was real stuff, good and pure and cheap. Cost a shilling, 25 cents, a gallon. Much work in the early days was done by 'bees' and the man who made the bee supplied the refreshments. The old time logging bee to pile up the timber on a fallow would attract men from great distances, sure of lots to eat and drink.'

Wearing apparel was all homemade. A weaver located on the 4th line was kept busy making homespun and could weave some striking patterns.

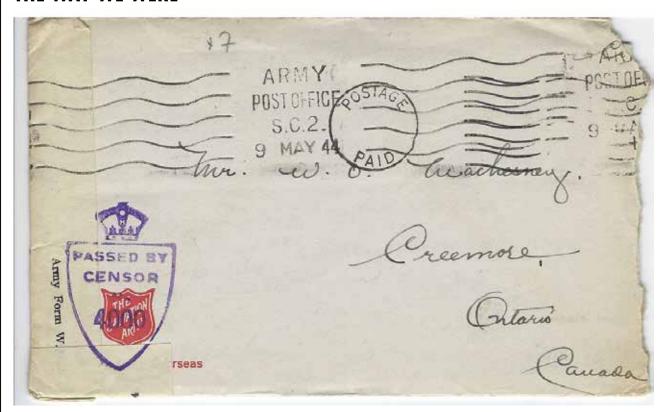
Thomas Lounds on Tory Hill was the shoemaker for the young colony. He afterwards moved to the mill, Creemore. At an election for a MP all voters had to go to Duntroon. The voting was open and much squabbling took place just as it does today.

The county advances wonderfully; in 1855 the Northern Railway went to Collingwood. After that Stayner was our market until in 1875 the line was built from Beeton to Glencairn and afterwards to Collingwood.

At Glencairn a turntable was installed and residents had great visions of a great metropolis. "But," he continued, "the company always intended

(See 'A better' on page 5)

THE WAY WE WERE



A letter from Al Gillard dated May 4, 1944 was passed by censors and cleared for delivery to his old friend Orr Machesney in Creemore.

Wartime letter to friends back home

The following letter, from the collection of Robert Curran, was sent from Pte Al Gillard to his friend Orr Machesney in Creemore during the Second World War. Machesney had a small grocery store in the building that now houses the post office and adjacent restaurant. The Machesney home was the brick house at the north end of Mill Street, fourth from the corner on the east side. The letter refers Orr's young brother Jerry, who had lost his life.

4 May, 1944

Dear Orr,

Strange as it may seem, you do not in the Army do the many things you plan, consequently a much belated

letter which I intended to write sometime ago.

Anyhow you beat me to it, as opening one of my wife's parcels, noticed the cigarettes you were so kind to send along. You can be well assured they were much appreciated, as they seem to be very needful to this life, Orr.

I read with interest *The Creemore Star* and notice where you are engaged in many of the town's activities, plus some church activities, no doubt the latter causing you many headaches. No more as a tenant in Creemore either, I noticed. Guess this grocery business is not so bad, Orr, though you are deserving of all credit that is due. They have not been short hours of labour and to

remain under the Excess Profits tax is a problem in itself.

Can well remember when you were anticipating settling in Creemore.

By the way, has not another heir to your estate been an addition since I left. If correct, congratulations, and pass Mrs. Machesney's share along.

Marg mentioned in one of her letters the sad news forced upon you people, namely Jerry presumably lost. I was very sorry to hear such, notwithstanding how much you and the ones at home would be also. Anyhow Orr it must give you great pride to have one that sacrificed the most and do it as Jerry would.

You have no realization the suffering that is prevalent and sometimes when you see and hear all about it, you often wonder what it is about. The papers do not give too much detail, but almost five years is becoming to have a telling effect. You can be sure there is much heartfelt sympathy extended by the people here, for anything that affects a Canadian. All and one they are very highly regarded.

It was early last winter that I noticed where Jerry had registered at the same service club as I. They have a register, if you care to register your name, and where looking over it, noticed Creemore opposite his name.

(See 'Just' on page 6)



Gerald (Jerry) Rowland Machesney

The Creemore ECHO



The Creemore Echo is independently owned and operated by the publisher.



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Stormy weather created dramatic cloud effects on Monday, Nov. 3 seen throughout Clearview Township and area. **Murray Lackie** took this photo from "Hydro Hill" on the corner of his farm west of Cashtown Corners.

A better community spirit existed

(Continued from page 4)
Collingwood as the destination of the branch and were biding their time while they bluffed the municipality of Nottawasaga for huge concessions."

Following the opening up of the township by the railway, advancement was rapid, but this worthy patriarch contended when our visit was about over, that the old days were the best. If you had trouble everybody shared it. A better community spirit existed, visiting each other was part of the daily life. No telephones in those days, but somehow news was carried from family to family and the intercourse resulting played a wonderful part in adding sunshine to the lives of those who moulded the virgin forest into the beautiful farms which are our heritage.

Helen Blackburn is a retired teacher, avid gardener and a long-time contributor to The Creemore Echo. She writes about local history.

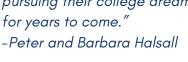


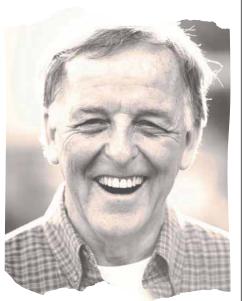


Tony Fry College Award

Thanks to the generosity of Peter and Barbara Halsall and an anonymous donor, every donation made to RAYS (College Program) during the months of November and December will be matched dollar-for-dollar.

"We wish to honour Tony Fry, whose inspiring vision launched RAYS to empower young people in our community. Tony believed deeply in helping students reach their full potential, and we share his commitment. Our hope is that the Tony Fry Award will continue to support local students in pursuing their college dreams for years to come."



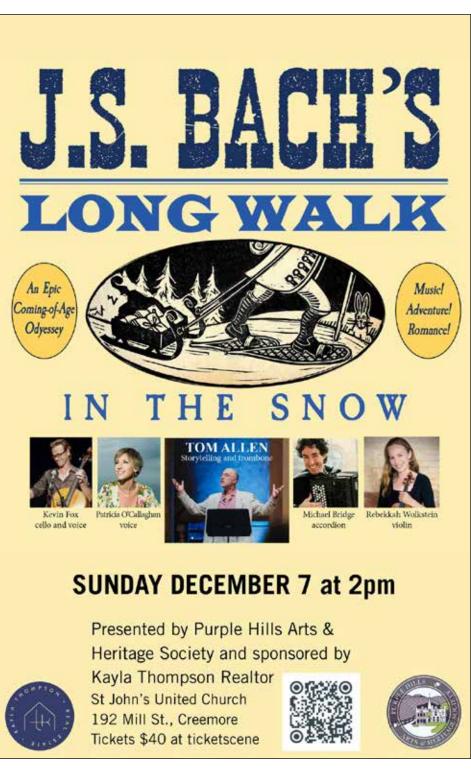


Tony Fry 1937-2025

Every gift you make will have double the impact—up to \$20,000—thanks to the generosity of the Halsalls and an anonymous donor.

Together, we can ensure more local students have the opportunity to pursue their dreams and succeed.

Donations welcome - visit www.raysscholarships.com





ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION Creemore Legion Branch 397

Welcomes the public to attend the REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, 2025

Please arrive by 10:30 a.m. at the Creemore Cenotaph Service begins at 10:45 a.m.



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION New Lowell Branch 516

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE
Parade beginning at 10:30 a.m.
at the Fire Hall
Service at 11 a.m. at the Legion

Service at 11 a.m. at the Legion **Tuesday, November 11, 2025**

The Legion Branch will be open after the service serving light refreshments. **ALL ARE WELCOME**.



ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

Branch 457, Stayner Legion Remembrance Day Service, Nov. 11, 2024

Parade form-up at 10:30 a.m. at Station Park 10:45 a.m. parade will march from Station Park to Clearview Administration Centre on Gideon St.

Following the ceremony, a wreath will be laid at Royal Canadian Legion, Stayner, Branch 457 with a luncheon & refreshments inside to follow.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND.

Any veterans, organizations or individuals that would like to take part in the parade, please just show up at the aforementionned times.

RCL Branch 457 Stayner, 7149 Hwy 26, Stayner, ON • 705-428-3809

'Just at present, the stars are our ceiling'

(Continued from page 4)
To have the place well represented on one page, I added mine also.

Have enjoyed quite good health over here, though for some time very busy. Have been attached to different units and per usual, many changes each time. Just at present, the stars are our ceiling and whatsoever is convenient our bed. Very loud a varied life provides one with some contentment and must please these higher ups, to do something they request. Happy will be the day, when I can check for penny errors or watch furnaces and deliver drafts etc.

Creemore has again been called upon to provide a home for my wife. She is quite happy, I believe, to be back and while dependent for employment, after hours much enjoyment is afforded her to be there. She will have experienced both phases, living there with me and without me, so no doubt now can offer a decision, if I should ask, for her choice.

Nothing much I can add Orr to this, also as we are without the convenience of electricity, for lights, bathrooms, reading, believe had better send this along.

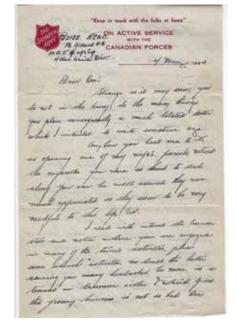
With sincere regards to Mrs. Machesney and family and exalted pride for what Jerry has done.

Sincerely,

Al Gillard.

Gerald (Jerry) Rowland Machesney enlisted Sept. 4, 1942. He was killed in a raid over Schweinfurt, Germany on Feb. 25,1944. Age 19. When he was killed he was a Sergeant but was promoted posthumously to Pilot Officer.

Machesney served as a tail gunner in a four-engine Halifax bomber and was



killed in the crash. Most of the crew survived but due to his position in the aircraft Gerald would not have been able to get out. He was located in the tail of the aircraft and was buried in a grave with two other members of his aircrew that perished on Feb. 26,1944. In 1949 his body was removed and reburied in Durnbach Commonwealth Cemetery in south Germany (south of Munich). This cemetery is all Air Force dead.

He married Orma Myrtle Miller of Creemore on July 15, 1943.

He was the son of William Alexander Machesney and Clara Louisa Machesney of Hanover and brother of William Orr Machesney of Creemore.

– The above information provided by Sharon Machesney Smith, daughter of the intended recipient of the letter from Al Gillard back in 1944. She is the youngest of three Machesney children and the one referred to in the letter.



Remembrance Day is a time to Respect Reflect Remember

On November 11, at 11 a.m. we observe two minutes of silence to show gratitude for the courage and sacrifice of our veterans.

For more ways to remember or to learn more, visit ontario.ca/remember



Ontario 👸

Youth called upon during wartime

In her reminiscences, **Helen Blackburn** recalls that during the Second World War, children were encouraged to collect milkweed pods in the fall.

Helen, 7, and her five-year-old sister walked up the side of the road collecting them in a basket. They were rewarded with a movie screening in Creemore. It was the first movie they had ever seen.

The milkweed floss was used as the floatation in life preservers for the armed forces and the United Nations.

A call to duty from the Agricultural Supplies Board of the Dominion Department of Agriculture in Ottawa said, "Everyone can help by collecting pods of common milkweed. In this way you may save the life of a sailor or airman."

The Agricultural Supplies Board would pay 20 cents per bag of properly dried pods. Instructions were that the pods should be picked the first or second week of September, when some of the seeds were brown in colour. The pods were placed in mesh onion bags supplied by the board, then hung outside on a fence for four to six weeks until perfectly dry, at which point the board would arrange for pick-up from the school or other collection point.

"Plan now to collect the milkweed in the fall," the board urged. "Keep watch during the summer for good patches of it. Be certain that every milkweed pod in your vicinity is collected and that



Colleen Stamp photo

It took 20 pounds of floss – equivalent to 1,200 to 1,600 pods – to make each life preserver during wartime.

none got to waste. Collecting milkweed will make a real contribution to the war effort."

The floss is a naturally buoyant and water repellent fibre that could be used as a substitute for kapok, a silky fibre from the fruit of a Ceiba tree grown in the Dutch West Indies (present day Indonesia.) Japan's occupation of the region during the war cut off the supply of kapok.

Because women were substituting for the men in the workforce, children were recruited to collect the milkweed pods – either through school, 4-H, or Scouts.

Each life preserver, which could keep a 150-pound man afloat for more than 40 hours, required 20 pounds of floss – equivalent to 1,200 to 1,600 pods. One pound of floss was as warm as wool but six times lighter and six times as buoyant as cork.

- with research by Colleen Stamp. Her mother Lois (Holden) Barber and her cousin Harold Holden also have memories of collecting milkweed pods at Banks, near Ravenna, where they grew up.

Remembrance Day services

Remembrance Day services will be held locally in Creemore, Stayner, New Lowell and Mansfield.

For details on the Nov. 11 services, go to the community calendar on page 2

Museum hosts military history lecture series

The Simcoe County Museum is presenting a virtual lecture series Canadian military history throughout the month of November.

The series will feature expert guest speakers and local historians, each exploring unique topics related to Canadian military history, stories of service and sacrifice, featuring a new guest speaker in each session.

Lectures are free to attend and will last approximately 45 minutes each, followed by a brief question and answer period.

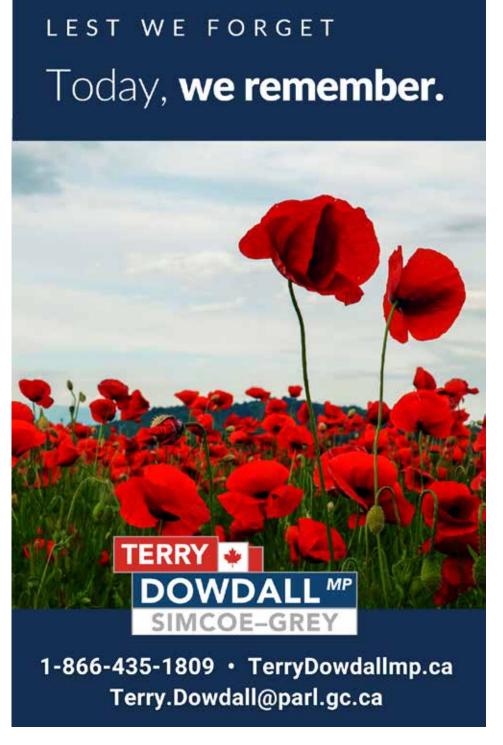
For more details on the different sessions and how to participate, visit museum.simcoe.ca/whats-on/upcoming-events/.



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Daytime

Teamwin-loss-tieLoranger2-0-0Lambert1-1-0Beelen0-1-1Gallaugher0-1-1

From the Hack: It's great to be back on the ice! Most of us stumbled through the first few games, except for Joan and Steve. Their take-out and draw weights were perfect this week. On Monday, Team Lambert lost to Team Loranger on a successful take-out with the last stone. Teams Beelen and Gallaugher played to a tie. Wednesday had Team Loranger continue with another win vs Team Gallaugher, and Team Lambert came from behind to beat Team Beelen – much to Sandy's delight! Good curling everyone!

Ladies

Welcome back curlers and welcome to our new curlers, Elizabeth and Colleen.

This Monday on Ice 1, Team Millsap with a win over Team Fuller, Ice 2 Team Verstegen with a win over Team Arsenault, for the late game Team Harvey with the win over Team McKay. Good curling everyone!



Contributed photo

The Oct. 25 Creemore Clothing Exchange raised \$1,047, more than doubling its fundraising goal. As a result, \$500 was donated to St. Luke's Community Food Bank (pictured is **Sheila Koss** and **Lorna May** accepting the donation). Another \$500 was donated to the school to buy a tablet/ Chromebook charging station.





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Sudoku

ьу Barbara Simpson

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

Answers on page 11

FRED'S FUNNIES

What has four wheels and flies?
A garbage truck!

Thank You Andrew for the joke

Canadian Criss Cross

by Walter Feener

ACROSS

- 1. Fossil fuel
- 5. Removed one's hat in greeting
- 9. Chisel used for scooping
- 10. Relative by marriage
- 12. Used colourful language
- 13. Mariner
- 15. Bits of thread
- 16. Gangster's pistol
- 18. Computer acronym about faulty data
- 19. Lyric poem
- 20. Cap with no brim
- 22. Film studio and the site on which it is located
- 23. Sparing in the use of words
- 25. Drug that relieves pain
- 27. Fruit seed
- 29. Press for payment
- 30. One who is in charge a business
- 34. Games are played with them
- 38. Winning serve
- 39. Era
- 41. Devour
- 42. Travel with a band
- 44. Hot beverage
- 45. Festive occasion46. Book blunders
- 48. In need of a jacket
- 50. Pertaining to warships
- 51. Christmas decoration
- 52. Onion relative
- 53. Little whirlpool

15 16 18 23 25 30 31 32 33 36 38 39 40 42 46 48 50 51 52 53

DOWN

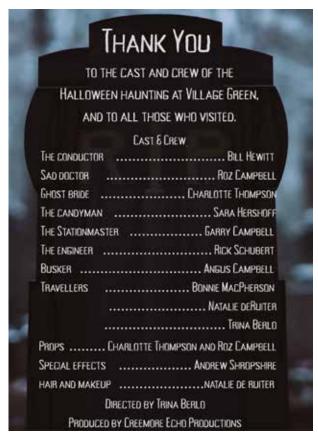
- 1. Place where two streets meet
- 2. Force out of a position
- 3. Mature, as wine
- 4. Pigeon's perch
- Become larger and rounder because of pressure from inside
- 6. An hour after midnight7. It's often hung from a
- 7. It's often nung from a pole
- 8. Father, mother, and their children
- 9. Handbook or manual
- 11. Child's cart pulled by a handle
- 12. Coagulate
- 14. Musical sound
- 17. Genus of macaws

- 20. Trousers colour
- 21. Border on
- 24. Mineral spring
- 26. Genetic material
- 28. Locker room speech (2 words)
- 30. One of a pair
- 31. Oak tree nut
- 32. Relating to the nervous system
- 33. Fish eggs
- 35. Exclamation of surprise
- 36. Waste time
- 37. Continue to be in a place
- 40. Computer storage area
- 43. All-night dance party
- 45. Cover with a thin layer of gold
- 47. ___ kwon do
- 49. Coal scuttle

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

What is the name of the Creemore Masonic Lodge?





Christmas in a Box extends to Clearview

by Trina Berlo

A local community-based program aims to help fill the gaps this holiday season.

Christmas in a Box is prepping for its second season in Clearview Township, under the leadership of Cayleigh Jago, calling on families, donors and sponsors to sign up in order to ensure everyone has a good Christmas.

Jago has been a volunteer with the Wasaga Beach program, started by **Debbie Yaniw**.

Yaniw said the grassroots program began quite organically and spread by word of mouth. She had been given an extra turkey so she put a call out to the community to see who was in need of one.

The result was that Yaniw saw there was a great need in the community and she said once she saw it she couldn't look away.

"I wanted to be able to help more of the people who responded," said Yaniw.

That first year the Yaniw family provided more than just the turkey to a family in need of assistance. The following year, with help from friends and neighbours, six families received help, then 12.

That was a decade ago and the Christmas in a Box program has since grown to include a team of volunteers and partners who provided gifts, Christmas dinner and breakfast for 150 families last year, including 248 children.

There are now Christmas in a Box programs running in three communities, including Collingwood. They operate as separate entities, but they work together and share resources.

Volunteers have opened registration for the upcoming holiday season. There is a simple form on the Facebook page to collect information about family members, their ages, and their wish lists. Sometimes a family will sponsor another family, some people provide gift cards, or donations.

"The problem," said Yaniw, "is that often the people who really want to help don't have a lot of money

With that in mind, resources are pooled to provide food and new, unwrapped gifts to the children on their list. Volunteers then assemble packages for pick-up in time for Christmas.

Yago said the program is really intended to fill the gaps for those who are not already receiving assistance from another organization.

"If you see a need you find a way to fill it," said Yaniw.

"It nice to be able to give back in small ways," added Jago.

Christmas In A Box Wasaga, Clearview and Collingwood is on Facebook, and Instagram @ christmas in a box wasaga.

To sign up to get assistance fill out the form for your community.

There is also a form for sponsors (individuals, families and businesses).

Questions can be sent to Cayleigh (Clearview), christmasinaboxclearview@gmail.com; Debbie (Wasaga) at christmasinaboxwasaga@gmail.com; or Paula (Collingwood) at christmasinaboxcollingwood@ gmail.com.

Donations can be made at drop-off locations including Playtime Casino and at Christmas markets at Centennial United Church on Nov. 22 and at the Stayner arena on Dec. 13-14.

Volunteers will be at Stayner Foodland from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Nov. 15. For more information on donating, visit the Facebook page.

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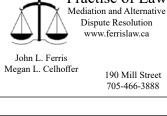
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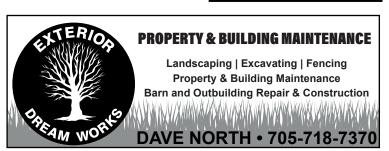
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LOVE TO COOK and would be interested in preparing and delivering one dinner per week for family of two. Please reply to morleysandra@icloud. com for more details.

Santa Claus is coming to town. Creemore's Annual **SANTA CLAUS PARADE** is taking place Saturday, Dec. 6. If you are a community group or business interested in entering a float, or an individual wanting to volunteer, contact Sara at sara@creemore.com or call 705-466-9906.

Senior Wish Association Clearview is looking for individuals or businesses to "ADOPT A SENIOR" for the holidays. If interested or want info email: seniorwish55@gmail.com.

Friends of Music Mansion Museum and Recording Studio in Montego Bay, Jamaica, are collecting items to support Jamaican HURRICANE RELIEF efforts. Donations of medical supplies, tools and other needed items can be dropped off at Creemore Pizza Co., 158 Mill St., during regular business hours. A full list of needed supplies is available at Creemore Pizza Co. Donations will be shipped out Nov. 11. For more information, contact Marcy Stewart at 519-938-0588 or marcystewartdesign@gmail.com.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

We want to thank our mommy and daddy for making a little brother for us to play with! **Lincoln Paul Gray** born early afternoon Oct. 28. A happy healthy baby and mommy. We are so excited to play with him and we hope mommy has a great recovery since we are the best little helpers hehe.

Love, your favourite big bro Hendrix & Mickeydog

ALL NOTICES ARE POSTED ONLINE.

CREEMORE.COM

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our husband and father, **Harold "Big Harold" Bigham** who left us twenty years ago on Nov. 2, 2005. Everyday in some small way, Memories of you come our way, Though absent, you are always near, Still missed, loved, always dear. Love always,

Marion, Janet and Paul, Janice and Julie Ann

In loving memory of parents Allan Curran, March 4, 2018, and Margaret Curran, November 8, 2019. Forever in our hearts, gone but not forgotten.

Remembered by Fred, Cindy Lawson and family.

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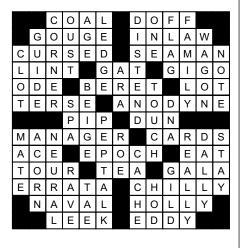
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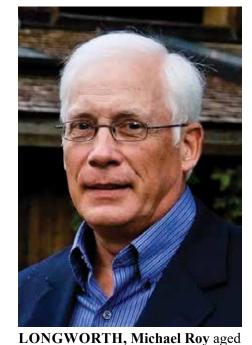
This week's answers

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

Trivia: Nitetis Lodge No. 444



DEATH NOTICE



78, of Creemore, passed away peacefully at Campbell House in Collingwood on Oct. 29, 2025, with family by his side. Born on Oct. 11, 1947, in Toronto, Michael was an incredible husband, father and grandfather to his wife, Kathleen; his son and daughter-in-law, Jonathan and Jennifer; and his two grandsons, Nate and Brady, and not to be forgotten, his dog Wiley. Michael grew up in Woodbridge, ON., where he excelled in both school and athletics. From his time on the hockey rink, golf course, basketball court or football field to family adventures at Lake Nipissing, he lived an active and eventful childhood. He went on to study accounting at the University of Western Ontario, followed by several years as an accountant with Clarkson Gordon and later in private practice in Orangeville. Eventually, he found his true calling in teaching. Michael was a professor at Seneca College for nearly 30 years, where he made a lasting impact on the lives of countless students. Known for being tough but fair, he had a gift for bringing out the best in people and helping them find success. Those who knew Michael knew that his love of teaching went far beyond the classroom. He was always one to offer advice or a helping hand, putting the needs of others ahead of his own. Through his wisdom, support and quiet generosity, he touched the lives of so many. He could always be counted on to show up when times were tough. He also lived his life with passion — passion for his work, his boats and cars, but most of all for his friends and family. So many wonderful memories were made over the years on the lakes of Muskoka or sitting by the river in his backyard. He was the life of the party, while always ensuring all around him were having a good time. We will all miss Michael (Mike, Mikey, Dad, Grampa, Uncle Mike), but the memories he gave us and the impact he had on so many lives will live on. For that, we will always be grateful.



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Clearview Youth Centre volunteers and Tim Hortons staff decorate cookies for the upcoming Holiday Smile Cookie Campaign.

Youth centre all smiles about cookie campaign

The Clearview Youth Centre has been selected as the local recipient of the 2025 Tim Hortons Holiday Smile Cookie Campaign.

Local proceeds will be shared evenly with the Tim Hortons Foundation Camps, supporting youth programs across Canada.

From Nov. 17-23, the Holiday Smile Cookies will be sold at Tim Hortons in Stayner, Sunnidale and Cashtown Corners.

The youth centre will use the funds to support its mission to keep youth minds active and engaged as plans move forward to open a new youth centre in 2026. The new facility will expand on this vision, offering enhanced spaces for recreation, leadership,

technology, arts, and mentorship — creating a hub where young people can feel safe, supported and inspired. Funds will help bridge the gap between the Centre's current programming and the expanded offerings planned for the new facility.

"Being selected for this campaign is a tremendous honour," said Courtney Rogers, Youth Centre Coordinator. "This is more than fundraising—it's about giving our youth a place to thrive, to find connection, to grow. A smile cookie really can spark something big."

For more information about the campaign, or to pre-order cookies, contact Rogers at 705-351-4612 or crogers@clearview.ca.

Check **Ontario 511** and know before you

Before getting behind the wheel, check Ontario 511 for real time local updates on snowplows, driving conditions and road closures.

