

# The Creemore ECHO

Friday, March 13, 2026 Vol. 26 No. 11 [www.creemore.com](http://www.creemore.com)

News and views in and around Creemore

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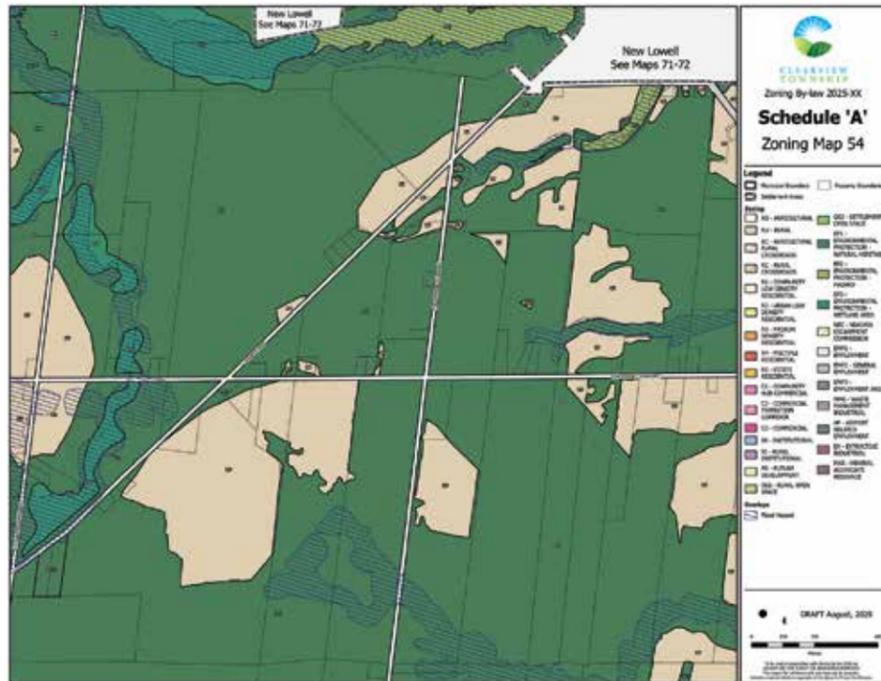
# Municipality pauses rollout of new zoning maps

by Trina Berlo

Clearview Township is pausing its rollout of proposed new mapping that staff and consultants were hoping would help assuage the concerns of residents who are unhappy to learn their properties would be rezoned environmental protection as a result of a Zoning Bylaw review that is currently underway.

After the draft mapping was published, the municipality was flooded with comments opposing the EP zones which are more restrictive than the existing rural or agricultural zones. The EP zones may restrict or prohibit accessory dwellings, home businesses and on-farm diversified uses.

“Through a review of the public and agency comments received, staff have determined that an Official Plan amendment is necessary to reflect revised greenlands/natural heritage feature mapping in the township’s Official Plan and to permit a more permissive land use framework in the greenlands designations. An Official Plan amendment that focuses on the greenlands mapping and associated land use policies is now proposed in



Residents were seeing red at the amount of green in the first round of draft zoning maps released by Clearview Township, indicating an increase in the restrictive environmental protection zones.

coordination with the Zoning Bylaw review,” reported **Derek Abbotts**, Clearview’s director of planning and building, in February.

Staff had planned on presenting an Official Plan amendment and a second

draft of the Zoning Bylaw, along with revised mapping for public review and comment in February and to hold a public meeting on March 25, but a decision has been made to hold off to allow time for further consultation

after planning consultants at MHBC and township staff circulated the draft Official Plan amendment and Zoning Bylaw to the County of Simcoe and NVCA for initial review and comment. The county comments identified concerns with the proposed approach to the natural heritage system mapping and conformity with the county’s Official Plan. NVCA requested additional areas to be zoned as regulated areas, according to a memo from MHBC partner **Dave Aston** dated Feb. 27.

“MHBC and township staff have determined that additional discussions are required with the county and NVCA to present draft natural heritage mapping and policies that balance the comments received from the agencies with the concerns raised by the public on the EP zones and property impacts,” writes Aston. “MHBC and township staff remain committed to preparing an Official Plan amendment and Zoning Bylaw that will better address the public and agency comments received as part of the Zoning Bylaw review to date. Following additional consultation with County of Simcoe (See 'Planners' on page 6)

# Significant spring thaw washes out roads and ditches

by Trina Berlo

The Township of Clearview declared a significant weather event, as of 12:30 p.m. on March 11.

Director of public works **Dan Perreault** reported a significant number of calls were made to his department’s after-hours number last weekend after the big melt.

He said Riverside Drive had to be closed for a few hours Saturday night when water was flowing over the roadway.

“Sunday proved to be a really challenging day,” Perreault told members of council during Monday’s meeting.

Because the majority of the eight to 10 feet of snow accumulated over the winter melted within one and a half days, the melt carved out some pretty significant crevices in the gravel shoulders and roadways, he said.

The washouts required the closure of several other roads, and prompted repair crews to respond.

Mayor **Doug Measures** noted that at that time every barrel pylon in the public works department’s arsenal was deployed.

It was noted that the break-up of the rivers spared the township from further grief but potholes remain a focus with a dedicated crew doing

repairs across the township.

In anticipation of more rain, the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority (NVCA) has issued a flood watch, rating the flood potential as high and ice jam potential as moderate.

A watershed conditions statement issued Thursday states precipitation is expected into the weekend.

“Water levels are currently elevated as a result of heavy rainfall, warm temperatures, and snow melt. Up to 20 mm of rain is forecasted in the following 48-72 hours. Water may overflow banks and cause flooding in some areas. Widespread flooding



Staff photo: Trina Berlo

15/16 Sideorad Nottawasaga remained closed late this week.

is not anticipated at this time, but low-lying and flood-vulnerable areas may be impacted,” said the NVCA.

For updates, call 705-424-1479 or visit [www.nvca.on.ca](http://www.nvca.on.ca).

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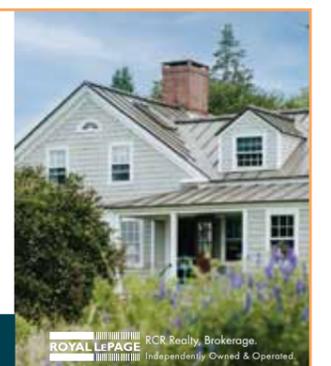
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# COMMUNITY Calendar

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## Friday, March 13

- The Royal Canadian Legion Branch 457 Stayner hosts **dart night** every Friday at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome. Stayner Legion, 7149 ON-26. For more information, call 705-428-3809.
- Luck of the **Irish Pub Night** at the Dunedin Community Hall. A warm-up for St. Paddy's Day, get your green on and your shamrocks shined. Festive attire encouraged. 7 p.m. to midnight. 19+ event. Cash bar.

## Saturday, March 14

- Station on the Green invites you to their **St. Patrick's Celebrations** with the Strange Potatoes and Shipyard Kitchen Party. Afternoon show is from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tickets cost \$20. Evening show 8 p.m. to midnight. Tickets cost \$40. Tickets are available at ticketscene.ca.
- Duntroon Hall's Annual **Green Beer Day** from 4 p.m. to midnight with DJ Stu. Beinn Gorm Highlanders perform at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. \$10 admission.

## Tuesday, March 17

- Stayner Legion's **St. Patrick's Day Party** featuring The Gulley Family Band performing from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Chili and stew available for purchase.
- **Pub Trivia Night** takes place every Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Old Mill House Pub, 141 Mill St., Creemore. A \$10 cover includes entry, answer sheets and a chance to win prizes. For more information, call 705-466-5244, visit theoldmillhousepub.com, or join the Pub Trivia Facebook group.

## Wednesday, March 18

- **Walk n Talk** final day at the Creemore Legion from 10 a.m. to noon. Please bring indoor shoes.

## Friday, March 20

- **Story time** with baby chicks. Stories read by author Carolyn Morris and time to hold baby chicks. Creemore Branch 11 a.m. New Lowell Branch 1:30 p.m. Register at clearviewpubliclibrary.ca.

## March 21-22

- **March of the Makers Artisan Market** Second annual artisan market from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 50 vendors, hands-on workshops, free entry, handcrafted creations, cozy après-ski atmosphere. Georgian Bay Hotel, 10 Vacation Inn Dr., Collingwood.

## Saturday, March 21

- **Creemore Farmers' Market** indoor at the Station on the Green from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Intuitive abstract **painting workshop** at Mill Street Art Studio with Sue A. Miller from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$150 + HST (includes all supplies). For more information email Sueamiller65@gmail.com or call 705-727-6161.

## Sunday, March 22

- Easter mini **piñata workshop** from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Creemore Legion. \$40 (pinata fill not included). Limited space. Email thepinatapatch@gmail.com to reserve your spot.

## Friday, March 27

- St. John's United Church hosts a **chili dinner** from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Family \$25, adults \$10, children \$5. All welcome.

## Saturday, March 28

- **Spring Fling - The Gay Thing** at Avening Hall hosted by the Rainbow Club of South Georgian Bay and Area. Doors open at 7 p.m. with DJ Savage Good starting at 8 p.m. Dance until midnight and bowl on retro bowling lanes. Tickets cost \$30 and are available at ticketscene.ca.
- Stayner Skating Club **Year End Carnival** - "Show me the Money" at 3:30 p.m. at the Stayner Arena. General admission is \$10. Seniors and students, \$7, children 4-12, \$5, ages three and under are admitted free. Tickets are available at the door.

## Sunday, March 29

- Purple Hills Arts and Heritage Society presents the second concert in the **Chamber Music Series** - a guitar/violin duo featuring Jung Tsai and Daniel Ramjattan. The concert takes place at St. John's United Church at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$40 at phahs.ca or \$45 at the door.
- Creemore Skating Club presents its annual **Carnival Ice Skating Show**, 1:30 p.m. at the Creemore Arena. This year's show features club members (three years of age and older) skating to music from the 1950s to the 1990s. Tickets are available at the door. Cash only. Adults, \$8, seniors, \$5 and students, \$2.

## Sunday, April 5

- **Watoto Children's Choir Live.** Join the Watoto Children's Choir for a free concert at the Creemore Legion starting at 10 a.m. as they sing, dance, and share their stories of restoration and hope. Contact clearviewcommunity.church for more information.

## April 17-18

- Clearview Community Theatre celebrates its 30th anniversary with "The Best Of," a **fundraising concert and silent auction** Friday, April 17, at 7 p.m., and Saturday, April 18, at 3 p.m., at Clearview Community Church in Stayner. The show features music for all ages with Broadway and popular hits, ukulele favourites, and a mini-musical by the children's troupe. Tickets cost \$20 at the door. For information, email clearviewcommunitytheatre@gmail.com.

## Friday, April 17

- Knox Presbyterian Church's **Quilt Raffle** event at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 each or three for \$10. Nancy Loveless, will be speaking about sleeping children and the quilt draw will take place at 8 p.m. Raffle tickets available at *The Creemore Echo* office.

## Saturday, April 25

- St. John's United Church's **Beef and Lamb Dinner** from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Adults \$25, youth 6-12 years \$15, and children five and under admitted free. All welcome.

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# The Vault unlocks potential for health and wellness

by Bonnie MacPherson

A yoga studio was not part of the plan when Lee and Lauren Merrill went to look at the old bank in New Lowell.

They had been admiring the building on County Road 9 ever since arriving in New Lowell in 2021 so when it was listed for sale, they decided to go and take a look.

“The property was zoned multi-use commercial,” according to Lee, “so we were imagining that we would buy it as an investment, rent the ground floor to a business and get a tenant for the apartment upstairs.”

All that changed when they walked through the door.

“The feeling was amazing,” said Lauren. “The space was so warm and welcoming. New Lowell is our home, where we’re going to grow our family and we thought this would be a great place to create some sort of community hub.”

Enter Lee’s sister, Kendal Merrill who has operated Strong Studio, a fitness facility in Orangeville for the past four years.

When Lee and Lauren invited her to come and look at the building, she immediately spotted the potential. With minimal cosmetic changes, the space would be perfect for a yoga and wellness studio, with a focus on social connection.

“We’re offering a range of classes



Staff photo: Bonnie MacPherson

Lee and Lauren Merrill, along with Lee’s sister Kendal Merrill, have named their newly opened yoga and wellness studio situated in the historic bank building in New Lowell, The Vault.

from beginner yoga to advanced body sculpting,” said Kendal. “I’m a fully certified fitness instructor, personal trainer and nutritionist, and we have hired five local teachers. Some of our classes are capped at six participants. Some allow up to eight people. Currently, we’re running 12-14 classes per week, and eventually,

that will probably increase to about 20 classes.”

Kendal said they don’t want to take on too much, or grow too quickly.

“We want to fill a need,” she said. “Whether you’re new to the fitness world or just getting back into it, our instructors will be there for support. Getting into a fitness program can be

daunting so we will be a sounding board and a shoulder to lean on. For me, the feeling of knowing you are a big part of someone’s fitness journey is very rewarding.”

As a mother of three young children with a busy life, Lauren has found it challenging to find a place nearby with a class schedule that worked for her. She also wanted to restore the bank building as a community hub.

“More than just a place to work on your fitness, The Vault will be a place to make connections,” said Lauren. “We’ve only been open since Feb. 9, and already we see relationships forming. This building has been a mainstay of the community for a long time, and we want to build on that heritage.”

She said it is too soon to think about expanding to additional locations although that may happen down the road.

“It’s not about money or franchising,” she said. “We want to pour our hearts into this and make it something really special.”

Individual fitness classes cost \$25 per one-hour session. The Merrills are also exploring the possibility of renting out the studio space for private gatherings.

Information on classes can be found at [the-vault-yoga-wellness-social.square.site](http://the-vault-yoga-wellness-social.square.site).

## The Big Book Bash is back!



**Saturday May 2, 2026**  
 9:30 am to 3:00 pm  
 Creemore Station on the Green

We’re looking for donations of gently read fiction and non-fiction books, hardcover and paperbacks – and puzzles!

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For more info

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# OPINION & Feedback

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## HEALTH

### Make sure your March Break souvenir isn't measles

March Break often involves travel and gatherings, making it an important time for families to review and update their children's immunizations. With increased measles activity in many travel destinations, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit urges families to ensure all members are up to date with their measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine and other vaccines. Adults and children who are not protected against measles and certain other communicable diseases may be excluded from child care, school or work for a period of time if the disease occurs in our community.

The measles vaccine is safe and highly effective, providing about 97 per cent protection after two doses. In Ontario, children receive the MMR vaccine at one year of age and again at four years as part of the province's routine immunization schedule. If you need a vaccination, contact your health care provider or book an appointment online at a health unit immunization clinic in Barrie, Collingwood, Cookstown, Gravenhurst, Huntsville, Midland, or Orillia.

Measles is increasing worldwide, with more countries reporting cases. Outbreaks are currently occurring in several countries, including Mexico and the United States, and as of Feb. 16, Health Canada reported 192 measles cases combined in Alberta, Manitoba, Quebec and Ontario this year.

Travelling internationally can increase the risk of exposure to measles and bringing the virus home. Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and the health unit recommend ensuring your immunizations are up to date, including two doses of MMR by age five before travelling.

People born before 1970 in Canada are presumed immune due to circulating measles in Canada at that time. However, if they are travelling outside of Canada and have never had measles infection or measles vaccine, it is prudent to have one dose.

Measles most often affects young children, but anyone who is not fully immunized is at risk. The virus spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes and the virus can float in the air for up to two hours.

Symptoms begin seven to 21 days after exposure and include fever, runny nose, cough, irritability, red eyes, and sometimes small white spots in the mouth.

Three to seven days after symptoms begin, a red, blotchy rash appears on the face and then spreads down the body. Complications can include ear infections, pneumonia, diarrhea, encephalitis (swelling of the brain) and occasionally death in the very young.

Infants aged six to 11 months of age who will be travelling to areas with increased measles transmission in discussion with their health care provider can get an early first dose.

For more information about measles and vaccination, visit [smdhu.org](http://smdhu.org).

## THE WAY WE WERE



Jay C. Brown – first car in Creemore c.1913. Submitted by Kathy Belcourt, courtesy of Simcoe County Archives.

## COMMUNITY

### A village tradition worth sharing

In a small village like Creemore, a book sale is never just about books.

Yes, there are tables filled with novels, biographies, cookbooks, children's stories, and the ever-popular jigsaw puzzles. But what people often remember most is the feeling in the room – neighbours chatting over a table of paperbacks, someone pressing a favourite novel into a stranger's hands with the words, "You have to read this."

For many years, Creemore enjoyed exactly that kind of gathering through a beloved community book sale. When the long-time organizer passed away, many wondered if the tradition might quietly end.

Instead, something else has happened.

Many of the volunteers who helped run the earlier sales have stepped forward again, joined by others eager to lend a hand. Together they are bringing the event back as the Creemore Book Bash, taking place May 2 at Station on the Green.

If the planning so far is any indication, the community spirit that powered the earlier sales is very much alive. Volunteers have been organizing, sorting, and spreading the word, all with the shared goal of creating an event that belongs to the whole village.

Part of the charm of a small-town book sale is the discovery. Someone finds a novel they loved years ago and insists a neighbour read it. A child carefully

chooses a book to take home.

Someone else leaves with a stack of gently used jigsaw puzzles, long a favourite feature of the sale.

And there is also a practical side. The organizers hope the Book Bash will help make books – especially children's books – accessible and affordable for families. A few dollars can go a long way toward building a young reader's bookshelf. Preparations are already underway. Advertisements have begun appearing in *The Creemore Echo*, and the Echo office is serving as a drop-off point for donated books and puzzles in the weeks leading up to the sale. If you have books you've enjoyed and are ready to pass along – or a puzzle that deserves another round – consider adding them to the collection.

Because in the end, the real story of a book sale like this is not the books themselves.

It's the people who bring them together.

– Submitted by Kate Hunter-Badger on behalf of volunteer organizers.

Note: Drop-off books at *The Creemore Echo*, 3 Caroline St. W. between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday to Saturday. The office is closed Sunday. Please do not leave books on the stoop.

The May 2 book sale will be from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Proceeds go to Station on the Green.

Send letters to the editor to [editor@creemore.com](mailto: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.

We appreciate submissions for our *They Way We Were* feature. Bring in your old photos and we will scan them and get right back to you. We also accept submissions by e-mail to [editor@creemore.com](mailto:editor@creemore.com). Thank you.

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## OPINION

# Aggregate is fundamental to everyday life

by Sharon Armstrong

*In response to the March 6 editorial "Pause new pits and fix the system."*

Aggregate – stone, sand and gravel – is essential to building and maintaining our communities, so it is understandable that people care deeply about how these resources are managed. At the same time, discussions about aggregate benefit from being grounded in the full context of the available data and how the provincial system actually works.

The article refers to the Ministry of Natural Resources' 2024 Aggregate Supply and Demand Study, which estimated remaining reserves in licensed sites in the Greater Golden Horseshoe at approximately 6.2 billion tonnes. However, the study itself clearly notes that this estimate is based on a desktop analysis and comes with important limitations. Such studies can include areas where the aggregate may be low quality, uneconomic to extract, or in some cases not actually present. As the study explains, these limitations "would tend to exaggerate or overestimate the actual reserves available."

The report also examined aggregate quality through a survey of producers and found that only about 20 per cent of sites contain material suitable for producing the high-quality stone

required for asphalt and concrete used in roads, bridges and buildings. The study further concluded that current trends support concerns about shortages of aggregate close to market, particularly in fast-growing areas.

The article also suggests that Ontario has licensed far more aggregate than we use annually. Ontario's annual consumption is approximately 164 million tonnes, which closely reflects what producers supply each year. Aggregate producers typically maintain only modest stockpiles, usually enough to carry supply through the winter months until construction resumes in the spring.

While there may be a significant amount of licensed reserve capacity, those reserves are intended to ensure a long-term supply of aggregate for Ontario's future infrastructure needs. This is important because obtaining approval for a new pit or quarry can often take 10 years or more. Sites proposed today are intended to supply materials that will be needed as development grows and Ontario implements its \$223 billion infrastructure investment plan.

It is also important to remember that aggregate must be located relatively close to where it is used. Transporting stone, sand and gravel long distances significantly increases costs, traffic

and greenhouse gas emissions. For that reason, pits and quarries tend to be distributed across the province in areas where suitable resources exist.

Simcoe County itself is one of the fastest-growing regions in Ontario, with significant investment in housing and infrastructure across communities such as Collingwood, Wasaga Beach and Clearview Township. Meeting those needs requires a reliable supply of construction materials.

Aggregate is also more fundamental to everyday life than many people realize. On average, each Ontarian uses about 12 tonnes of stone, sand and gravel every year in the infrastructure that supports modern life. A typical single-family home requires roughly 400 tonnes of aggregate in its foundation, concrete, pipes, driveway and the roads that lead to it.

Ontario's aggregate industry operates within a comprehensive regulatory framework. Before a site can operate, it must undergo detailed technical review that can include hydrogeological studies, environmental assessments, noise and dust modelling, and land-use planning approvals. Once operating, sites must comply with numerous provincial statutes governing environmental protection, rehabilitation, and operational standards.

The Auditor General's report referenced in the article did identify areas where improvements to oversight were recommended. However, it also acknowledged that the Ministry of Natural Resources has made progress in several areas, including improvements to compliance planning, risk management, and the recruitment and training of inspectors. Many of the recommendations related to oversight are either completed or currently underway.

Discussions about aggregate can sometimes become polarized, but the reality is that Ontario must balance environmental protection, community interests and the need to build essential infrastructure. Ensuring a responsible supply of aggregate – particularly close to where it is needed – is an important part of that balance.

A surprising fact: after water, aggregate (sand and gravel) is the most widely used natural resource in the world – and ensuring a responsible supply of it will remain essential to building Ontario's future.

*Sharon Armstrong is Executive Director of the Ontario Stone, Sand and Gravel Association, a not-for-profit industry association representing over 280 aggregate producers and suppliers.*



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## Planners hope for new approach to EP zones

(Continued from page 1)

staff, the draft Official Plan amendment and draft Zoning Bylaw will be published in advance of a public meeting.”

The hope is to hold the public meeting later in the spring, after determining if planners can proceed with their proposed solutions.

At the Feb. 9 council meeting, Aston had appeared optimistic about new approaches to the EP zones by way of environmental overlays.

“We believe that’s going to provide a positive response to the number of comments we received on the first draft of the bylaw...” said Aston. “Not to say we’re minimizing environmental protection, it’s just a different approach. Now, landowners can use their properties within what we’ll be calling a greenlands or EP overlay.”

“We want the public to understand we have been addressing their concerns,” said planner **Rosalyn Workman** at the Feb. 9 meeting.

Comments are still being accepted via [www.clearview.ca/ZBLReview](http://www.clearview.ca/ZBLReview), where residents can also view an interactive map that shows their property’s current zoning and the zoning proposed during the first draft of the bylaw review.

## Proponent says risk focus is a barrier to economic prosperity

by **Trina Berlo**

**Monica Branigan** is hoping to break down barriers for other farmers who want to add on-farm diversified uses (OFDUs) to their agribusinesses after finding the planning process discouraging and cost prohibitive.

Branigan shared her experience with members of Clearview Township council on Monday during a delegation. The crux of her plea to council and staff is to look to the overall community benefits of on-farm diversified uses as a balanced approach when assessing risk.

“If you’re only looking for risk, you’re only going to see risk,” she said.

It is her experience that the risk focus creates an expensive reliance on consultants, underutilization of staff expertise, and a decrease in economic opportunities and revenue.

In Clearview Township, on-farm diversified uses require site plan approval under the township’s Site Plan Control Bylaw, although its Official Plan is more interpretive on the matter and the new draft Zoning Bylaw proposes many OFDUs and Agriculture-Related Uses as a right.

Branigan said she has been mired in the planning process for two years and still hasn’t been allowed a change of use that would permit her to operate a farm related home business.

She hopes to offer workshops on her Fairgrounds Road farm on the topics of land stewardship, climate action and nature connection.

The plan is to run the workshops in her barn and on the property’s existing trails, up to three sessions per week with eight visitors staying for 2.5 hours. As a result, she has been going through a site plan approval process that her planner said was on scale with building a Walmart. Branigan is calling on township officials to create a separate site plan stream for on-farm diversified uses that would be more suited to the small scale of the proposed operation.

Pointing out that agriculture is identified as a core business in Clearview and that 32 per cent of farms are 69 acres or less in size, she said, “[Farmers] need this opportunity to make additional money and right now, the process makes it prohibitive.”

She said it is her expectation that many OFDUs  
*(Continues on next page)*

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# Resident hopes to ease pathways to OFDUs

(Continued from page 6)

are operating in the township without having gone through a planning process for that reason.

She said she has already spent \$50,000 during the permitting process, below the \$150,000 or more originally estimated.

“I hope I have reduced your litigation risk although I don’t understand why my business is risky,” said Branigan. “The only winner here is the consulting industry.”

“I think that the current system does not distinguish between OFDU and subdivision development,” Branigan told *The Echo* during a site visit. “They don’t have the tools to scale down the development.”

“There is no recognition of benefit to the community,” she said. “They just see it from a risk perspective yet they can’t articulate the liability risk.”

As a retired palliative care physician, Branigan said, “I spent my life taking care of people. We came here and fell in love with the land and now I’m taking care of the land.”

An effort has been made to rejuvenate the land by converting 12 acres into a tall grass prairie to create wildlife habitat and pasture for cattle. The rest of the property has a diverse forest plantation and a restored wetland.

Branigan said she initiated the planning process in June of 2023 with the idea of building a barn from which



Staff photo: Trina Berlo

**Monica Branigan** says she has faced many barriers when trying to establish an on-farm diversified use home business in her barn located on Fairgrounds Road.

to run her business. She said, “I made the mistake of being honest.”

The barn was constructed in 2024.

“I am hoping for other people not to have to go through this process,” she said. “The more ridiculous you make the process, people are not going to engage with the township.”

She is hoping to see a change in the system and a shift in the mindset that OFDU is a big risk.

At the conclusion of Branigan’s council presentation, staff said they

would take her comments under advisement and that work is being done to better incorporate OFDUs into the planning and development process.

Mayor **Doug Measures** said he appreciated her appeal for the township to focus on permissions.

“From a customer service point of view it has always been my objective to ask all our staff to find a way,” he said. “That’s what we want... to find a way to get our citizens to where they need to be.”

# Amrize seeks site plan amendment for Avening Pit

A commenting period is now open on the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) with regard to proposed changes to the site plan to facilitate an expansion to the existing 148-hectare Avening Pit, in operation since 1999.

Amrize Canada Inc. seeks to extract below the water table in a portion of the northern setback, which is adjacent to land owned by Amrize, formerly Lafarge Canada Inc.

Application has been made by Amrize Canada Inc. to amend the current site plan. The change would remove a portion of the 15-metre northern setback. This change would allow for the site to connect with the adjacent proposed below water expansion connecting the two pits into a single operation.

The proposed annual tonnage limit for the new pit, referred to as the 86.1-hectare Oster Pit, in combination with the existing pit is 450,000 tonnes. The operation will utilize existing infrastructure (entrance/ exit, haul route, drainage courses, settling pond and monitoring network).

The consultation for ERO number 025-1422 closes at 11:59 p.m. on March 31.

A public meeting was held in 2017 in advance of the property being rezoned from agriculture to extractive industrial below water.

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SIMCOE-GREY

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TerryDowdallmp.ca  
Terry.Dowdall@parl.gc.ca

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**CREEMORE CURLING CLUB STANDINGS**

**Daytime**

Team	win-loss-tie
Meulendyk	4-2-1
Gallaughier	3-3-1
Loranger	3-4-0
Lambert	3-4-0

From the Hack: On Monday, Ed, skip of Team Meulendyk, managed a superb draw shot, past three guards, to outscore Team Loranger in the fourth end. Unfortunately for them, Tammy, Steve, Karen, and Michael stepped up their game in the second half, to secure the win. Team Lambert fell to the excellent shot-making from Team Gallaughier. Big wins for Teams Lambert and Meulendyk on Wednesday. Good curling everyone!

**Mixed**

Team	win-loss
Fuller	3-0
Crevier	3-0
Giffen	1-2
McArthur	1-2
Dunford	1-2
Meulendyk	0-3

**Ladies**

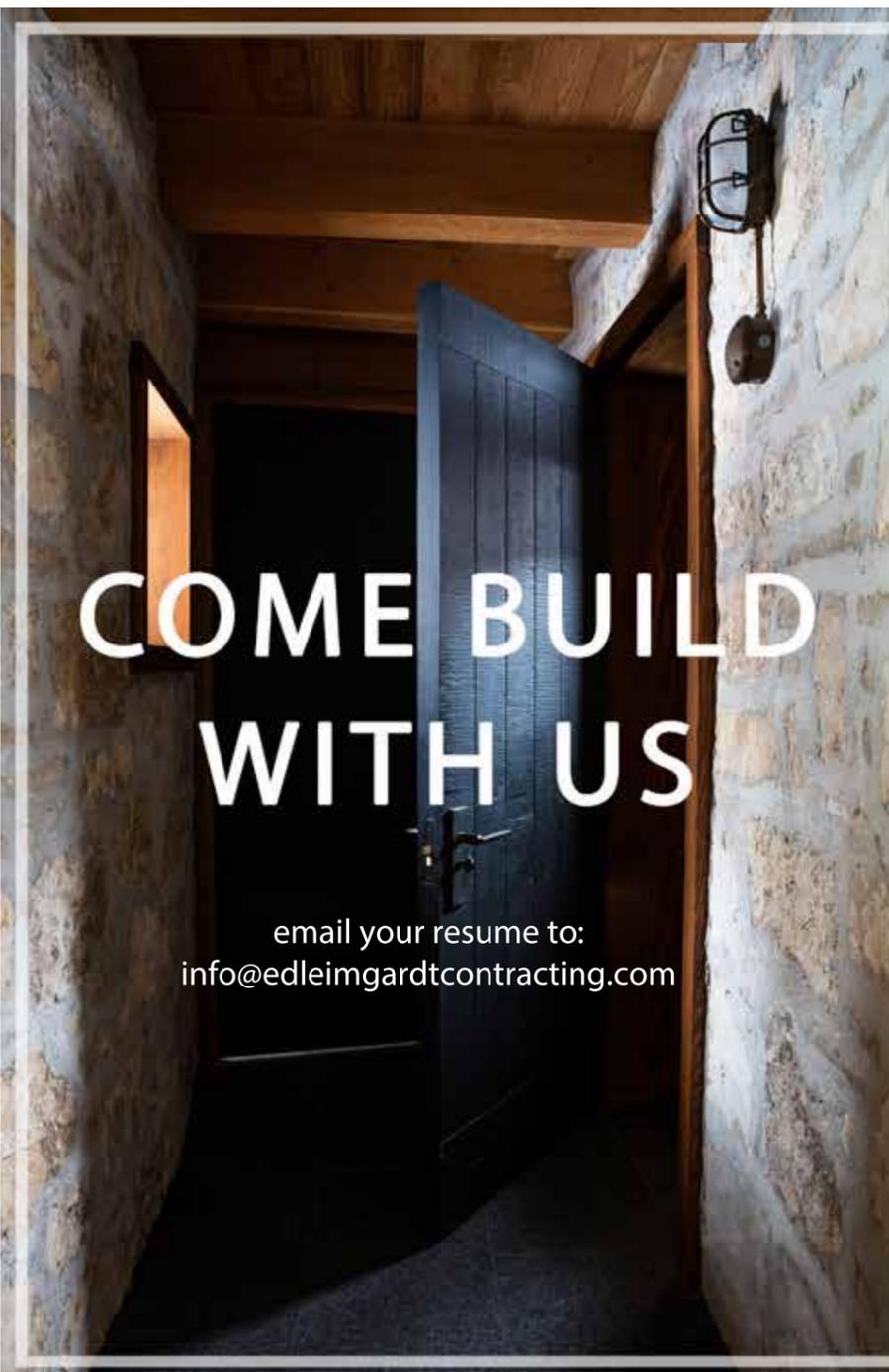
Team	win-loss-tie
Millsap	3-0-1
Jeffrey	2-1-1
Meulendyk	2-1-1
Scime	1-2-1
Fuller	1-3-0
Leimgardt	1-3-0

From the Hack: There was plenty of sweeping on Monday night as teams battled through heavy ice conditions. Chantelle clearly put her Sunday practice to good use, delivering some strong shots for her team. Gayle continued her winning streak with several impressive draws, while Team Meulendyk and Team Scime's game went back and forth before Team Meulendyk secured the win with a big end. Good curling, everyone!

**Men**

Team	win-loss-tie
Verstegen	3-1-0
Fuller	3-1-0
Woodhouse	3-1-0
Crevier	2-2-0
Cass	1-2-1
McLeod	1-2-1
Deslippe	1-3-0
Stephens	1-3-0

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- Follow instructions from site supervisor and adhere to all safety procedures

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The ideal candidate would be motivated and enthusiastic. Have the ability to work with a team and take direction. Interested in carpentry and construction. Willingness to learn about new & advanced building methods. 1-2 years experience





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- MAR 16 DROP IN CORNHOLE**
- MAR 20 BINGO**
- MAR 23 DROP IN CORNHOLE**
- MAR 27 2 GUYS WITH GUITARS**
- APR 3 CLOSED (GOOD FRIDAY)**
- APR 17 BINGO**

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**MAR 25-27 - The Roger Hadfield Estate Auction for Militaria and Firearms**

**APR 10 - Antiques, Collectible and Quality Household Items**

**APR 17 - Canvas, Carvings and Keepsakes**

**APR 24 - The Springtime Tool & Equipment Sale**

**MAY 1 - The Locked & Loaded Handgun Auction**

**MAY 8 - Toys, Toys and more Toys**

**MAY 15 - Strike It Rich: The Coins & Currency Auction**

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# FUN & Games

## Sudoku by Barbara Simpson

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

Answers on page 11

**FRED'S FUNNIES**

**What did the puddle say to the rain?**

**"I think I'm filling up!"**

## Canadian Criss Cross by Walter Feener

- ACROSS**
1. Large group of relatives
  5. Coat of \_\_\_\_
  9. Pale sandy colour
  10. The end of life
  12. Once in a while
  13. Medicine chest door, usually
  15. Out of sorts
  16. Welcome words to a hitchhiker
  18. Adam's wife
  19. Symbol of a country
  21. Group of games in tennis
  22. It goes from stem to stern
  23. Physical features of a piece of land
  25. Vestibule
  26. Calm excited feelings
  28. Supply used as it is needed
  31. Grown with natural fertilizers
  35. T, on some tests
  36. On the contrary
  37. Cooked thoroughly
  38. Take in food
  39. Assume as a fact
  41. Place for a hospital patient
  42. Strong supporter
  44. Gloomy
  46. Lacking experience
  47. One who lives outside the parental home
  48. Lawn intruder
  49. Protuberance

			1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8			
	9								10				11	
12									13				14	
15					16		17				18			
19			20			21				22				
23				24					25					
				26					27					
28	29	30					31					32	33	34
35						36				37				
38					39				40		41			
42				43					44		45			
	46								47					
									48					
										49				

- DOWN**
1. Place for a wine collection
  2. Movable cover
  3. Full of excitement
  4. An opponent that cannot be beaten
  5. Come clean
  6. Bridle strap
  7. Cause damage to
  8. Address part
  9. Favourite at the ball
  11. Be suspended
  12. Put through a sieve
  14. Be dependent on
  17. Flimsy
  20. Prayer of thanks said at a meal
  22. Work dough with the hands
  24. Invite
  25. Humpty Dumpty is one
  27. Skilled worker
  28. Put your foot down
  29. Wedding dress part
  30. Make illegal
  32. Drug a racehorse to prevent it from winning
  33. Chemically unreactive
  34. Surrender
  36. Uninterested
  39. Macadamize
  40. Kind of list
  43. Be recumbent
  45. Strong brewed coffee (slang)

**Trivia: What is the term for the spring rise in water levels, including the breakup of river ice due to melting snow and ice?**



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The Creemore Curling Club held its annual men's bonspiel this past Saturday. It was a great day of curling thanks to our volunteers, sponsors and all the guys who came out to curl. Special thanks to Christina for catering two wonderful meals. Congratulations to the winners: Team Latimer, pictured from left, **Tim Cook**, second, **Darren Placido**, vice, **Adam McCulloch**, lead, and **Mike Latimer**, skip (absent).

*Contributed photo*

**Canadian Ski Patrol hosts first aid competition at Highlands Nordic**

The Canadian Ski Patrol hosted a first aid skills competition at Highlands Nordic on Feb. 22.

The President's Cup First Aid Competition showcases the talent of volunteer ski patrollers from resorts across Central Zone, a region encompassing Toronto, Barrie, Collingwood and surrounding areas.

Competitors are challenged to complete a series of skill, teamwork, and speed testing simulations inspired by real, and sometimes, life-threatening scenarios.

"Volunteer patrol is always a 'team sport', but the scenarios being tested at President's Cup demand extraordinary problem solving and precision under pressure. Every team that competes today represent the best of the best," said **Matthew Werrell**, Canadian Ski Patrol central zone president.

The winning team will receive a free trip to Big White Ski Resort in Kelowna B.C. to represent Ontario at the Canadian Ski Patrol, National First Aid competition in March.



*Contributed photo*

The winning team from Snow Valley Resort, from left, **Brenda Lynch**, **Catarina Spinelli**, **Cedric Tam**, pictured with **Matthew Werrell**, Canadian Ski Patrol central zone president, will go on to B.C. later this month to compete nationally.

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## IN MEMORIAM

Norris, Harold - In memory of a tough old guy who left us on March 11, 2018 after a fight. Your strength and patience allowed us to grow to who we are today. We miss you and wish you didn't have to go. Always remembered by Kathy and the Norris family.

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## This week's answers

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

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

Trivia: spring freshet



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