

The Creemore ECHO

Friday, February 15, 2013 Vol. 13 No. 07 thecreemoreecho.com

News and views in and around Creemore

RATEPAYERS URGE COUNCIL TO "SHARPEN PENCILS" ON BUDGET

Small crowd at public meeting worries about sustainability of 9.5% levy increase

by Brad Holden

About 25 people sat in the gallery during Monday's public meeting on the 2013 Clearview Township budget, and seven of them stood to address Council on what, at this point, could be a 9.53-per-cent increase in the Township levy and a 4.02 per cent overall tax increase.

Of the seven ratepayers who spoke, four characterized the proposed tax increase as too high or unsustainable, and appealed to Council members to "sharpen their pencils" and search for ways to bring it down. One person specifically asked for Council to cut

services to residents in order to reduce the level of taxation.

One person complimented Council on its "fiscally responsible" move to put an extra \$50,000 each into reserves for bridge construction, library construction and community hall upgrades, despite the fact the decision adds 1.5 per cent to the Township levy. Other reserves have been increased as well, with a total increase in savings of \$215,000. There was, however, criticism from two audience members regarding the \$50,000 currently budgeted for a Township branding exercise. "I just don't know what we're getting for that," said **Bob Charleton**.

The \$50,000 associated with the branding exercise is part of \$483,634 in extra operating funds being required for the administration department, accounting for 4.84 per cent of the

(See "Small" on page 3)



A BIG BOOST Representatives of the Toronto Dominion Bank, including Creemore branch manager **Laurie Wilson**, at left, were on hand at Monday's Council meeting to present a cheque for \$10,000 to the Creemore Medical Centre Expansion Fund. For another donation to the Medical Centre fund, see page 8.



A RARE SIGHTING We spied this beautiful American Bald Eagle while snowshoeing at Carruthers Park last Sunday. He was zigging and zagging while following the path of the Mad River from Creemore to Avening. The birds seem to be making a resurgence in the area, with numerous sightings of one last year in the Smithdale area as well.

A shift in focus for NDACT

by Brad Holden

Members and supporters of the North Dufferin Community Agricultural Taskforce will gather this Saturday night in Honeywood to celebrate their victory against the Highland Companies, which withdrew its application to develop a "mega quarry" in Melancthon Township last fall.

But beyond some great local food and a plethora of live music, the night will feature something else as well: the unveiling of a new vision for NDACT, of which the group's president, **Carl Cosack**, gave us a sneak preview this week.

"We've always seen our task as two-fold," said Cosack. "Job one was

to stop the mega quarry, and now we can tick that off. Job two is to make sure the legislation is changed so that food and water are the first priorities. On that subject, our demand for change is as strong as ever."

Two pieces of Ontario legislation, the Aggregate Resources Act and the Provincial Policy Statement, have always allowed aggregate extraction to trump agriculture, even on prime agricultural land. Both the ARA and the Policy Statement are currently under review, and for the next 18 months, until Cosack is finished his three-year term as head of NDACT, he intends to fight to make sure that situation is changed.

(See "NDACT" on page 3)

INSIDE THE ECHO



90 Years Young
Warren Gale celebrates a milestone.
PAGE 5



New Officers at Nitetis
Masons elect new leadership.
PAGE 12

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COMMUNITY Calendar

Submit your community events
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fax: (705) 466-9908

This Weekend

Friday, February 15

- **Collingwood & Creemore Speaker Series** showcasing local ordinary people making extraordinary choices with an intention to spark the courage in all of us. A **Conversation with Katie Hamilton** from 7 to 9:30 pm at Blue Mountain Foundation for the Arts, 163 Hurontario St, Collingwood. Call 705-532-7375 or visit www.inspirationconvention.ca for more details. Watch for details for the next speaker in March in Creemore!

Saturday, February 16

- **Free Story Hour** at 10 am at the Creemore Branch of the Clearview Public Library featuring stories, arts & crafts that are suitable for children of all ages. Parents are welcome too! (February 16 & 23, March 2, 16, 23, 30)
- **Big Heart Story Hour** at Curiosity House Bookstore at 1 pm. Storytelling with Jen and a craft. 178 Mill Street. 705-466-3400.

- **Nottawasaga Junior Farmers 4th Annual Snow Volleyball Tournament** at Duntroon Hall. \$100 per team (6-10 players, minimum of two males and two females on the court at all times), food and beverages for sale during the day. Dance following the tournament as well. Contact Melissa Ferguson for more information or to enter 705-331-7554 or sasaferg@hotmail.com.

- **Creemore Legion Ladies Auxilliary** presents **Country Western Night** at 8 pm. Chili will be served at 11 pm. \$10 per person. Come out & kick up your heels.
- **Valentine's Dance** at New Lowell Legion from 7:30 pm to 12:30 am.

Saturday, February 16 to Monday, February 18

- **Creemore's Big Heart Festival.** Build a snowman and win - judging on Sunday. Family Skate with free hot chocolate (provided by Creemore Springs)

at Station on the Green Sunday from 1 to 3 pm. Hosted by Creemore BIA.

Sunday, February 17

- **Church Services** on page 5.

Monday, February 18

- **Family Day Fun Skate** at Singhampton Park, Cty Rd 124, from 11 am to 3:30 pm.
- **Family Day Fun** at the Simcoe County Museum from 10 am to 4 pm. Snowshoeing registration at 10 am. Tobogganing races start at 1 pm. We'll give you everything you need to join in the fun; just dress for the weather. Prizes. Chili & hot dogs. Museum Members and preschoolers are free, adults \$6, seniors or students \$5, children \$4. Many other fun events. For more information, museum.simcoe.ca or call 705-728-3721. 1151 Highway 26, north of Barrie.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, February 20

- **Clearview Soccer Registration** at Creemore Arena from 6 to 8 pm. See ad on page 3.
- Spring is nearly here and the **Creemore Horticultural Society** invites you to their next meeting for a talk on "Spring Things" with guest speaker **David Hawke**. The meeting takes place at St Luke's Anglican Church at 7:30 pm. All are welcome.

Thursday, February 21

- **Canadian Blood Services Blood Donor Clinic** at Stayner Evangelical Church from 3 to 7 pm.

Friday, February 22

- **Casbah Bar** in Collingwood presents **Tim Magwood & Endless Sky**. Doors open at 7 pm,

show starts at 8 pm. \$10 per person at door. Alt-country performer, son of Chuck Magwood. www.timmagwood.com. 18 Huron Street, Collingwood.

Saturday, February 23

- **Ward 4 Townhall Meeting with Councillor Thom Paterson** at Station on the Green, Creemore, from 1 to 3 pm. Make your comments known on 2013 Budget and get updates on other local projects/programs.

Thursday, February 28

- **Hospice Georgian Triangle** presents **Avril Dell, Concert Pianist** in a seminar at Sunset Manor Auditorium from 6 to 8 pm. Avril will present and

discuss with the audience how music is part of one's heart and soul – and what a beautiful art form to carry into the care of a loved one who is approaching the final stage of their life. Registration is mandatory. Come out and experience how music can – and should – be integral to one's dying. 705-444-2555.

Saturday, March 2

- **Beef & Lamb Dinner** at St. John's United Church from 4:30 to 7:30 pm. Adults \$15, children \$5, preschoolers free. Everyone welcome.

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Small turnout at public budget meeting

(Continued from page 1)

9.53 per cent municipal levy increase. Salaries, wages and benefits have increased \$121,241, though that is attributed to an extra month of salary for the Clerk's position so that **Bob Campbell** can train his replacement, and the conversion of the Human Resources manager position from contracted services, where it was in last year's budget, to salaries. Even with that adjustment, however, the budget for contracted services is up over \$200,000, with money earmarked for the branding exercise (\$50,000), an update of the development charges study (\$40,000), an energy management program (\$35,000, with predicted payback in energy savings in future years) and a pay equity review (\$30,000).

Also affecting the administration budget is a reduction in the annual Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund grant, the Province's main transfer payment to

municipalities, from \$1.5 million to \$1.404 million. This source of revenue is scheduled to decline even further in coming years as the Province tightens its purse strings.

In total, Clearview Township's 2013 budget currently stands at \$65,709,928, with \$22.4 million going to operating expenses and \$45.3 million going to capital expenses.

One comment from the public that generated some discussion came from **Ingrid Schilling**, who questioned why the Township does its budgeting based on last year's budgeted numbers, as opposed to last year's actual numbers, as is done in the private sector. The answer from Treasurer **Edward Henley** was that at this point, the Township only has actual numbers up until November. To wait for final audited numbers for 2012 would mean that the budget could not be passed until well into the summer.

At the end of the meeting, Councillor **Thom Paterson** made another plea to Council to focus on efficiencies in order to bring spending down.

"We have an opportunity to do something this year, and we're not fully embracing it yet," he said. "We've done some good investment work, and we're in a good position to finally realize some growth. The problem is, we're still spending at a much faster rate than we bring in revenue."

Members of Council know how to manage their household finances, he said – they just need to find the political will to do the same with the Township's spending.

Council will hold one more budget workshop, at 12:30 pm on Monday, March 4, and hopes to have a final budget ready for voting at the March 25 Council meeting.

Full budget documents can be found online at www.clearview.ca/home/budget.

NDACT shifts gears

(Continued from page 1)

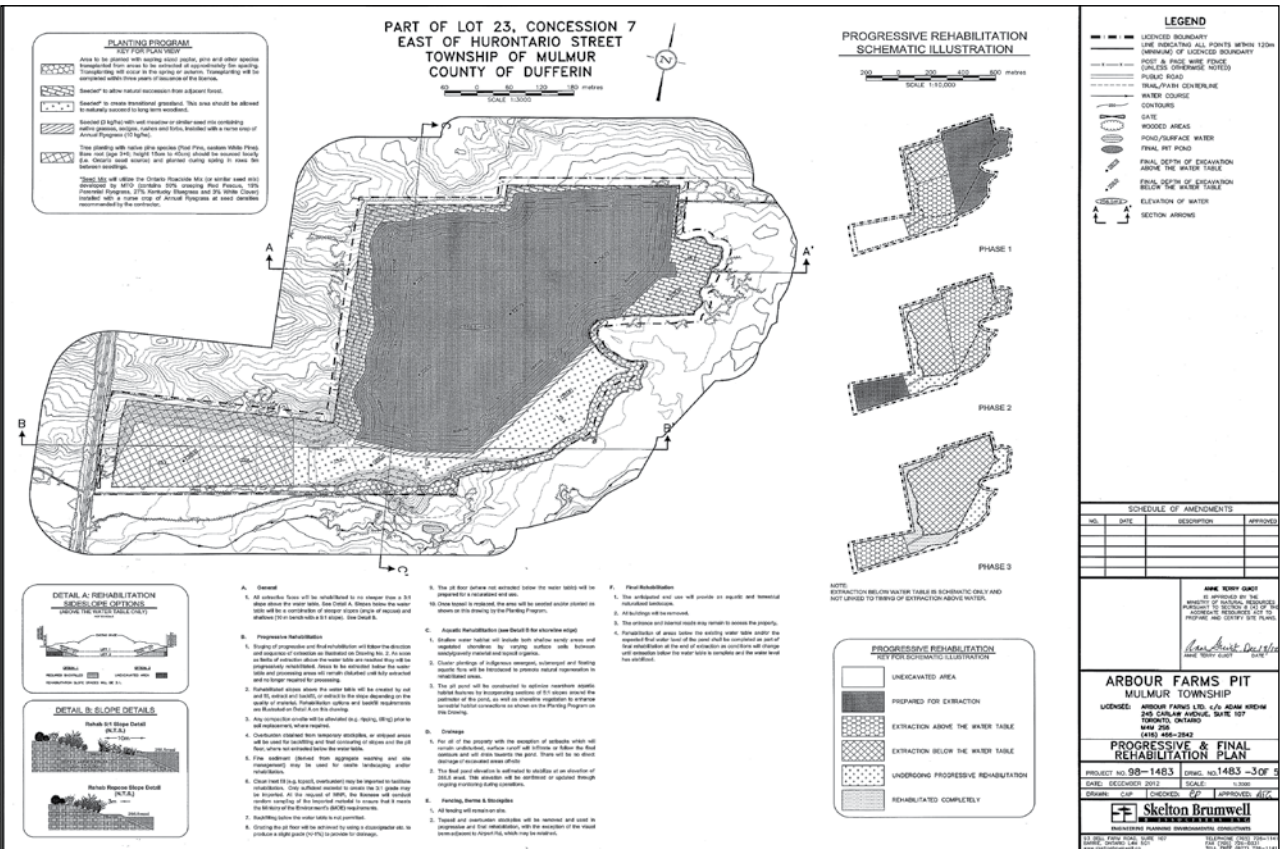
NDACT's "Stop the Mega Quarry" signs, which have been visible all over Ontario for the past few years, are gradually being replaced by "Food and Water First" signs, and an upcoming "spring planting," as Cosack calls it, will soon see many more dotting the landscape.

In addition, NDACT will be approaching businesses and organizations across the province who are involved in agriculture in any way at all and encouraging them to sign a pledge, the wording of which is still in the works, and make their commitment to food and water known in their literature, at their storefronts and on their websites.

Meanwhile, NDACT members will be lobbying politicians and bureaucrats, many of whom have made connections locally during the mega quarry fight, and encouraging them to fight to make sure prime agricultural land and specialty crop areas are made sacrosanct in legislation.

"Food and water need to be prioritized," said Cosack, noting that he was still working on his exact speech for Saturday night. "Once the foodland is gone, it's gone, and a society that cannot feed itself cannot claim to be a sovereign society."

Tickets for Saturday night's party, at \$20, are available at ndact.com.



PIT APPLICATION Mulmur residents got a look last week at the new plans for the Arbour Farms gravel pit, currently the subject of a Aggregate Resources Act application. The pit, located on Airport Road near its intersection with County Road 21, would see 500,000 tonnes of aggregate extracted per year from a 36-hectare site. Extraction below water would occur to a maximum of 187,000 tonnes per year. Rezoning and Official Plan amendment applications will be before Mulmur Township sometime this spring.

Clearview hires new clerk


Clearview Township announced on Monday that Clerk **Robert Campbell** is retiring after 48 years of municipal service with the Township of Nottawasaga and, after amalgamation in 1994, Clearview Township.

Pamela Fettes, currently the Clerk of the Town of Meaford, will take over Campbell's position on March 18.

Fettes brings with her 10 years of municipal experience. She is a Certified Municipal Officer (CMO) and possesses a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Diploma in Municipal Administration.

As a function of municipal administration services, the Clerk's Office is responsible for a variety of corporate, administrative and legal functions requiring continual contact with all municipal departments, elected officials and other levels of government and the general public. The statutory duties of the municipal clerk include legislative support to Council and its subcommittees; maintenance of municipal records; administration of municipal elections; processing of official correspondence to and from Council; coordination of all requests received under the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act; and processing of a broad range of inquiries from the public.

Campbell will remain on the job until the end of April to help train his replacement.



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LETTER

Problems with the “Greed Energy Act”

Dear Editor,

I just got my latest rural hydro bill, like lots of *Creemore Echo* readers. I notice that Hydro One is digging deep into my pockets with a substantial increase in delivery costs. They even sent a little chart showing exactly how deep and who will suffer. I was pretty sure that Statistics Canada had said that the inflation rate was under 2 per cent, but Hydro One has been approved for increases ranging from 1.6 per cent to as much as 40.4 per cent. Most are at least double the StatsCan number. But wait, it gets worse! We are told by independent experts that we can expect our hydro bills to rise anywhere from 40 per cent to more than double (depending on the source and the type of consumer) in the next four years!

At least Hydro One now admits in its little flyer that a sizeable portion of this increase is due to the construction of new infrastructure to support the Greed Energy Act. (That's my spelling, and my sentiment.) It is bitterly ironic that the rural people who have been the most staunch opponents of wind turbines (Residential-Low Density customers) will be facing an increase of 5.7 per cent, the highest of all common General Service and Residential customers. It feels like our provincial Liberal government is not only ignoring the rural people and their concerns about wind turbines, they are making us pay heavily for the very power that is supposedly being generated in our backyards! They are really rubbing our faces in it!

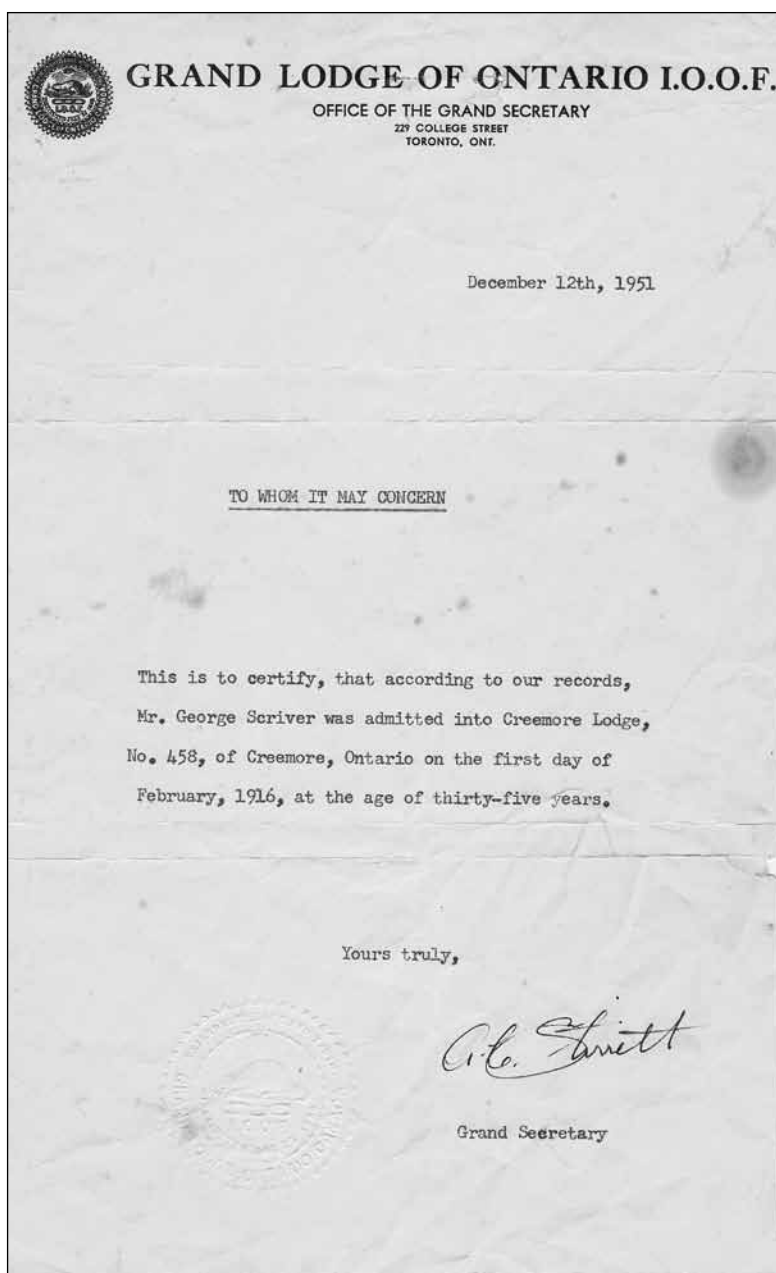
Even with the new infrastructure that we are paying so dearly for, they can't overcome the “dirty” nature of the electricity created by Greed Energy. This is having profoundly negative effects on humans and livestock, and it is also hard on their equipment and ours. So, effectively, we pay much more for the hydro that also wrecks our health, the health of our livestock, our appliances and our tools. That's a pretty hefty price tag for Greed Energy, whose profits go mostly to offshore corporations!

I wish we could count on Andrea Horwath and the NDP to help boot these foolish and spendthrift Liberals from office, but it seems they have cut a deal. The NDP need big union support, their traditional power base, and one of the largest of those is the Canadian Auto Workers. But, it is interesting that the CAW has a huge wind turbine at its head offices. One might surmise that this is to generate income to offset the reduction in union dues resulting from the massive job losses in the auto and other sectors in our province. In any event, the NDP are in as deep and dirty as the Liberals with this mess, and now they're supporting them. Power and politics make strange bedfellows, but we “little people” always get the bill.

It seems that there are many selfish and conflicting agendas participating in the Greed Energy Act. As rural people, who are most negatively affected by these towering behemoths, we need a wholesale change of government, with a new energy and rural policy. We need to get a promise from the next government for a retroactive moratorium on wind turbine construction and a plan by which to decommission those already in service before we personally and provincially go broke with this Greed Energy fiasco.

Paul Briggs, Creemore

THE WAY WE WERE



Marian Abbey brought us these two documents from her archives, which led her to another one of her thought-provoking questions. Apparently, when Marian's father George Scriver turned 65, he had no birth certificate or other documentation to prove he'd reached the age where he was eligible for his Old Age Security Pension. He ended up submitting the letter at left, confirming that he was 35 when he had entered the Creemore branch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in 1916. This led Marian to wonder where the Odd Fellows had met in Creemore. **Gerry Blackburn** provided the answer – their lodge was located above May's Home Hardware, the present-day home of Creemore Springs Brewery.

The Creemore
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thecreemoreecho.com



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Creemore Big Heart Seniors

As I was absent today, my thanks go to **Barb Cudmore** for the info on the day's proceedings.

There were 40 out to play cards, and the 50/50 draws went to **Wilma Zeggil, Roy Veinot, Marg Hope, Janice Long, Peter Gubbels, Irma Flack** and **John Van Voorst**.

Moon shots were played by **Dave Smith, Marge Douglas, Leona Hartling, Pat Winger, June Hartley, Marj Thomson, Bert Douglas, Marg Hope, Janie Long** and **Gerri Miller**. Gerri won the travelling prize, and Dave took the Sidewinders money.

High scorers were **Dave Smith** with – wow! – 323, **June Hartley** 279, **Marg Hennessey** 275 and **Bert Douglas** 274. Low was **Roy Veinot** with 90.

This is just a reminder that next Thursday, February 21 is our 12 noon potluck lunch day.

Our best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to **Eileen Giffen** who, I understand, had a fall that cracked or broke her pelvic bone. I don't know what the difference is – or even if there is a distinction between “cracked” and “broken.” They both sound like hurtin' time to me!

A large number of people from a big area got a terrible shock when they heard that Marg Rainbird had passed away. Marg (McEachern) Rainbird was the wife of Dennis Rainbird, mother of Julie (deceased) Rainbird-Kendrick

SENIORS



Sylvia
GALE

(Rob) and Karen (James) Cubitt, and grandmother of Ashleigh, Jordan and Kate Rainbird-Kendrick, Todd Cummings, and Ryan and Cara Cubitt. She was sister of Ellen (Lloyd) Whitley, Kathy Lavers and Jim McEachern. Marg was one of the mainstays of the Avening

United Church, and helped with and/or was involved in just about any village function. These usually involve the women getting the venue ready, the food ready, etc, etc. In other words, work! The men down here are good to help, but they are all getting a bit older, too. Marg was involved in a lot of fun things along the line of the Red Hat Society and so on, and was very well-known in a wide area as being a wonderful person, a wonderful neighbour and a wonderful friend. She will be missed, and we send our condolences to **Dennis** and his family, and all of Marg's extended family on the loss of a real treasure.

We received a phone call from **Ruby Klinck**, who is in Florida. Ruby was just checking up on how everyone at Seniors was doing. **Joan Monaghan** also phones two or three times over the winter from their place in Florida, and we usually get a card from **Jim and Marg Ferguson** from Arizona. I think the “checking up” on people is such a thoughtful thing to do. So thanks to you all for taking the time to show you care.



Friends and family gathered at the Creemore Legion last Saturday to wish **Warren Gale** a 90th birthday. His wife **Sylvia** was at his side and Councillor **Thom Paterson** paid a visit to present Warren with a commemorative plaque from Clearview Township. Happy 90th, Warren!



Warren was really pleased that everyone sang Happy Birthday to him at Seniors, complete with a Happy Birthday card, and he thanks you all. We also want to thank **Marcie Cameron** for sending down the squares, knowing we were having a lot of extra people. We also want to thank **Maurice Weatherall, Cynthia** and **Jerry Jordan**, and **Ellen and Lloyd Whitley** for the offer of spare beds. I'm not exactly sure that Ellen and Lloyd knew their beds had been offered, but we all knew it would be OK anyway! At any rate, with sleeping bags, foam and pillows, they all managed quite nicely.

Warren's 90th birthday party was held at the Legion, one day after that heavy snow storm we had. We so appreciated everyone getting “dug out” and joining us at the Legion. And, I just can't say enough in appreciation of the Ladies Auxiliary, who kept expanding the food until it fed everyone with food to spare. They had assorted sandwiches, veggie trays with dip, tea and coffee and dessert. We did have one breakdown in our “best laid plans of mice and men” that occurred with the birthday cake. **Heath Needles** (my niece) had baked a huge birthday cake, and was going to deliver it to the Legion. Well, the cake didn't come as soon as I thought it might, but being one of Heath's cakes meant you just knew it would be good and well worth waiting for. After quite

a bit of the afternoon had passed, and some folks were starting to go home, I began to be afraid that Heath had run into some problems while delivering the cake to the Legion. Heath's sister, **Shawn**, was also concerned, and phoned the Needles. Turned out that Heath was in the shower, blissfully unaware that the party was Saturday, not Sunday as she had thought! Anyway, poor Heath was so apologetic – she had never missed a date on a delivery, ever, before this. Anyway, she brought this huge cake to our house, and when I mentioned that it would be nice if I could get it to Seniors on Thursday, Heath took it back to cold storage and she will deliver it to the Legion on Thursday. And, I did have a piece. It really is good.

Our thanks to **Wilma Zeggil** for the muffins (they just don't survive around our house for long!), and to daughter **Sharon** for sending a lot of goodies back to us with **Laurie**, and to Laurie who did one hundred and one things and still made time to do more. But who left the priceless jar of elderberry jelly? Wonderful stuff – but we don't know who to thank. And I sure hope it wasn't slated for the food bank goodies, because if so I inadvertently stole it! But it was not in one of the “food” boxes. So please, somebody, let me know it was OK to take it, and let me say “thank you” for my favourite jelly.

LOCAL CHURCH DIRECTORY



Sunday, February 17

CREEMORE UNITED PASTORAL CHARGE

Sunday Services:

Avening 9 am;
New Lowell 10:15 am;
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Story Hour

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Outdoor Family Skate

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Dinner will be served at 11pm.
Tickets \$10/person.
Presented by the
Creemore Legion Ladies
Auxiliary.

Win a weekend on us!
The winner will be drawn
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announce the winner of
the snowman building
competition on Feb 18. as
well.



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\$2,500 for Creemore Medical Centre

The Creemore Medical Centre expansion fund received a donation of \$2,500 from DuPont Pioneer Canada on Monday. The grant originated with a request from **Scott Caughill**, a Pioneer sales representative and manager at Holmes Agro in Stayner, through the Pioneer Community Investment Program.

As the philanthropic arm of Pioneer, Community Investment makes contributions to community-based organizations on behalf of the business and its employees. Consideration for grants are given to communities where Pioneer representatives, employees and customers live and work and that support quality-of-life initiatives to create an improved, sustainable lifestyle for people worldwide.

From left to right above are **Bill Mann**, chair of the Creemore Medical Centre Service Board; **Scott Caughill**; **James D'Aoust**, Pioneer account manager for Eastern Canada; **Andy van Niekerk**, Pioneer sales representative; and **Bill Redrupp**, chair of the Creemore Medical Centre's fundraising committee.

Seen & Heard around Creemore



A Milestone

Lorna Dennison (a.k.a. "Gigi" to her great grandchildren) celebrated her 85th birthday at Leisureworld Creedan Valley this week in the company of family. As this picture shows, she's still young at heart!



PANCAKE SUPPER The ladies of St. Luke's Anglican Church were busy on Tuesday, filling people's plates with pancakes and sausages for the annual Shrove Tuesday celebration.



ROBOTIC FUNDS The Cybergnomes 2013 Robotics Team had great attendance at its spaghetti dinner fundraiser last week, raising more than \$2,000 to go towards this year's travel and competitions. The team's first test is on March 7 in Oshawa.



WINNERS The Creemore Valley Hawks Tyke team was triumphant at last weekend's Georgian Shores Minor Hockey Tournament in Meaford. Team members are **Jakob Hayward**, **Brady Reynolds**, **Luke Millsap**, **Nathan Elliott**, **Gage Breedon**, **Matthew Gray**, **Ryker Elliott**, **Miles Millar**, **Hunter Strong**, **Cora Patton**, **Sawyer Lammle**, **Leo Wolfe**, **Miles Dempsey**, **Jon Van Severen**, **Justin Rowbotham** and **Landon Grant**. The team is coached by **John Millsap** and his assistant **Chris Hayward** and managed by **Chris Reynolds**. **Ed Strong** is the team's trainer.



CLEARVIEW TOWNSHIP NOTICES

Summer Student Employment Opportunities – 2013

Who can apply:

To be eligible to apply for a summer student position, you must meet the following criteria:

- Minimum age requirement is 16
- Be in possession of a Social Insurance Number (card) at time of hire
- Be legally entitled to work in Canada as a student
- At time of this application, you must have full intentions of returning to full-time studies in the fall of 2013 (information will be verified at time of consideration)

How to apply:

All resumes must be received electronically through the Human Resources department, **quoting the appropriate Job # by February 22, 2013** at: hr@clearview.ca

Positions available:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Job # 2013 – 002 | Instructor / Life Guard |
| Job # 2013 - 003 | Lifeguard Supervisor |
| Job # 2013 – 004 | Student Roads Worker |
| Job # 2013 - 005 | Student Water / Sewer Operator (Co-Op position) |
| Job # 2013 - 006 | Student Arborist |
| Job # 2013 – 007 | Student Landscape Architect |
| Job # 2013 – 008 | Student GIS Technician |
| Job # 2013 – 009 | Student Grounds Maintenance Worker |
| Job # 2013 – 010 | Student Tourism/Recreation Assistant |
| Job # 2013 – 011 | Student Fire Department Admin Assistant |

All positions are 35-40 hours per week (May to August 2013) Interested applicants may view full details of job duties and qualifications at www.Clearview.ca

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 requirements at 705-428-6230 x. 255

Clearview Township, Box 200, 217 Gideon St. Stayner, ON L0M 1S0
705-428-6230 • www.clearview.ca

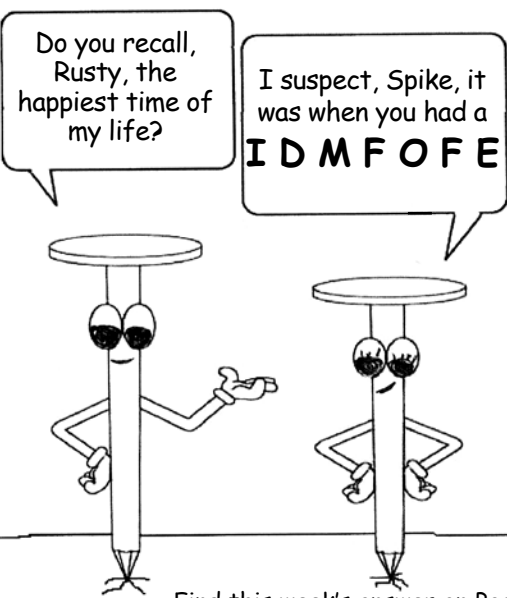
FUN & Games

Sudoku by Barbara Simpson

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

Answer on Page 11

Spike & Rusty Word Scramble



Find this week's answer on Page 11
by Ken Thornton

CREEMORE Weekend Weather

Friday, February 15

Scattered flurries
High -2 Low -9 Winds W 25 km/h
POP 40%

Saturday, February 16

Variable cloudiness
High -9 Low -13 Winds NW 10 km/h
POP 20%

Sunday, February 17

Cloudy periods
High -9 Low -15 Winds NW 10 km/h
POP 20%

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FRED'S FUNNIES

Q: What happens when you drop a snowball in water?

A: It gets wet!

The AVRIDGE FARM



by JEFF WILSON

Brian's Canadian Crossword

#214 by Brian Paquin © 2013

#0214

ACROSS

- 1 Theatre company started by Garth Drabinsky and Myron Gottlieb
- 7 By the book
- 12 Sanderson of the Bruins
- 17 Broadway play based on a Dickens novel
- 18 King of pop music
- 19 Cooling down (2)
- 20 Out of focus
- 21 On the hook
- 22 Stoneworker
- 23 Racetrack in Bowmanville, ON
- 25 Weaponry
- 27 Publisher of the first Canadian English dictionary
- 30 Idiot boxes
- 31 ___ here?
- 32 Circular gasket (hyph.)
- 34 Components of spreadsheets
- 37 Content of the Tecumseh coin
- 41 More flushed
- 43 Old saws
- 46 Liquid rock
- 47 Native (to)
- 49 Construe
- 50 Trojan beauty

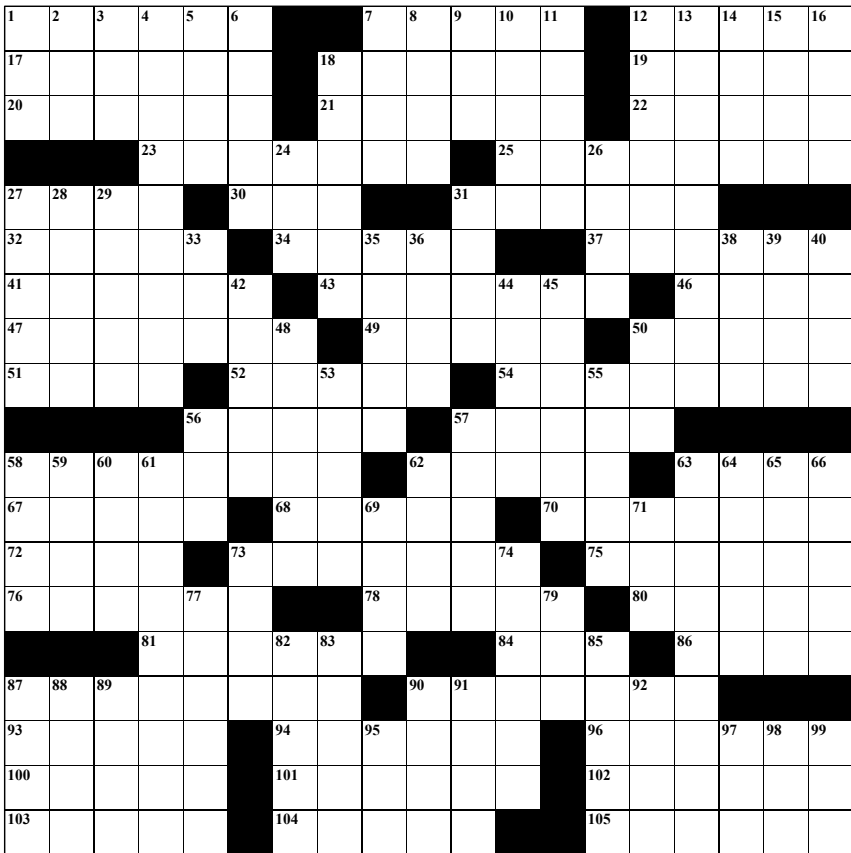
- 51 Favoured work shift
- 52 Actress Mary ___ (Newhart)
- 54 Occupant
- 56 One who wandered through Wonderland
- 57 Olympic contest
- 58 Well-to-do
- 62 System of beliefs
- 63 Gypsies
- 67 ___ Max! (Shania Twain)
- 68 Make the grade (2)
- 70 Christmas stocking warmer (2)
- 72 Major accomplishment
- 73 Deodorant choice
- 75 Ratted out (2)
- 76 Most cunning
- 78 Bad Mr. Brown of song
- 80 Gaggle members
- 81 Done like dinner
- 84 ___-de-sac
- 86 Multiplied
- 87 Anomalous
- 90 Shoulder blade
- 93 Prepare to paint
- 94 Pre-game routine
- 96 Nary a one (2)
- 100 Peter, Chantal, Allan and Andrew, e.g.
- 101 Star, in Saint-Jerome
- 102 Illinois or Indiana in Monopoly

- 103 West Side ___
- 104 Small amphibians
- 105 Biting pest (2)

DOWN

- 1 Slow throw
- 2 Not well at all
- 3 Compete
- 4 Will Smith's co-star in Hitch (2)
- 5 Detective Wolfe of fiction
- 6 Secret encounter
- 7 Hibernation hideaway
- 8 Quod ___ faciendum
- 9 Mouth, slangily
- 10 Celtic musician John ___ Cameron
- 11 Sceptical
- 12 Forgettable day in Italy?
- 13 Glazed
- 14 Begin the day
- 15 BComm subj.
- 16 Scud Stud Arthur ___ of Medicine Hat
- 18 Locks up for the night
- 24 Sewer pipe material
- 26 Burnaby actress Carrie-Anne ___ (The Matrix)
- 27 Butted in a bullring
- 28 Bullring
- 29 Lightheaded
- 31 You wish! (2)
- 33 Ring thing
- 35 Mule Train singer Frankie

- 36 British actress Fontanne
- 38 Lowland
- 39 Smooth out
- 40 Mouth off
- 42 Lee-Enfield, e.g.
- 44 Chutzpah
- 45 Avaricious
- 48 Show disgust
- 50 Popular play
- 53 Play player
- 55 Aardvark feature
- 56 Stereo connection
- 57 Faux pas
- 58 Sounds from pounds
- 59 Intuit



- 60 Chew out
- 61 Fashionable partygoer?
- 62 Container
- 63 Consigned (to)
- 64 Not as new
- 65 One of Archie's pals
- 66 VP Spiro ___
- 69 Muck a hand
- 71 Beachcomber's find
- 73 Molecule element
- 74 Venue
- 77 In a grievous way
- 79 You betcha!
- 82 Actress Black (Five Easy

- Pieces)
- 83 Like Canada's Joint Task Force 2
- 85 Eclipse type
- 87 PC programs
- 88 Bart Simpson, e.g.
- 89 Bilbao boy
- 90 Executive, slangily
- 91 Dieter's concern, briefly
- 92 Beach Boy Mike ___
- 95 CAA task
- 97 Purchase from Vanna (2)
- 98 Female hospitalier
- 99 Are we there ___?

#0213
Solved

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

Budget out of touch with local economy

Clearview Council presented the draft 2013 budget for public comment on Monday evening. About 30 residents attended, seven spoke and one sent in written comments. Some expressed their appreciation for the difficult work crafting a budget. All made suggestions to improve the process and the acceptability of the budget draft.

While the prevailing view was that the proposed 9.53 per cent increase in the Clearview tax levy was too high, suggestions ranged from the need to improve the public process, attendance and input, to adding and removing specific projects, reducing operating costs, reviewing staff salary levels, cutting services, adding to the reserve funds and spending more in line with actual growth.

I will be holding a Townhall Meeting on Saturday, February 23, at 1 pm at the Station on the Green during which I will review the draft budget to receive further comments from residents, as well as update residents on other local projects and concerns.

More work is planned before a final budget is approved by Council. The current schedule is to have one more budget workshop on Monday, March 4. The public is encouraged to attend. Final budget approval is expected at the March 25 Council meeting.

WARD 4 MATTERS



Thom
PATERSON

In my view, Council has an opportunity to bring the 2013 budget into line with our local economy. We are spending at a much higher annual rate than we are bringing in new revenue. We have been doing this for the past few years in anticipation of growth.

That growth has not happened. The slower than anticipated growth in the Township's assessed base means that essentially the same number of households are being asked year over year to support increasing spending as if Clearview Township is actually growing. It's not. We have to rebalance our spending to our actual growth.

In fact, our population has declined 2.5 per cent since the last census in 2006. Census families have declined 1.9 per cent while family dwellings have stayed essentially the same, up only 0.6 per cent. The median age of our residents has risen; those of us 65 and older are up 7.4 per cent. These statistics are in marked contrast to our neighbouring communities of Collingwood, Wasaga Beach, Springwater, Essa and Mulmur, our usual comparators when justifying spending increases.

Combined with our aging demographics, median family after-tax incomes peaked in 2008 and have remained unchanged. More residents are entering into retirement and onto

fixed incomes. Ratepayers' ability and tolerance to pay rising taxes is maxing out.

In the private sector, businesses facing stagnant or declining customer numbers look to creative ways to reduce costs, maintain service and quality and increase their competitiveness and sales. Shouldn't the Township, facing a stagnant tax base and increasing demands for program spending, find innovative ways to control its costs? I think we should. Municipalities who raise taxes, user fees and development charges without assessing the impact on its current and future homeowners, will eventually price themselves out of the competitive residential growth market.

This is not a philosophical argument, it is an economic reality. We have the staff resources to take up the challenge of rebalancing sustainable spending in line with our growth outlook. A multi-year plan will position us well to encourage and realize future growth. Council needs to find the political will to set this plan in motion.

We need growth in this Township to support our families and our businesses. This cannot be done by simply branding over what is an unsustainable business plan.

I invite you to the Ward 4 Townhall on Saturday, February 23 to make your comments known. Feel free to contact me at (705) 466-6321, or tpaterson@clearview.ca.

Echo up for three provincial awards

The finalists for the Ontario Community Newspaper Association's 2012 Better Newspaper Awards were announced on Thursday and the *Creemore Echo* is in the running in three categories.

In the In-House Promotion category, the *Echo* is up against the *Brant News* in Brantford and the *Elmira-Woolrich Observer*. The *Echo* is nominated for last year's subscription drive ad campaign, which featured a local-food theme and dressed up such consumables as an apple, a carrot, a milk bottle and a box of cereal in the newspaper's colours.

The *Echo*'s website, thecreemoreecho.com, received the other two nominations. The website is in contention in the Best Community Newspaper Web Site/Web Portal (circulation under 9,999) category as well as the Surfer's Selection category, which is not judged but rather the subject of a survey of OCNA members.

Three finalists were released in all of the Better Newspaper Award categories Thursday; the winners will be announced at the OCNA's annual spring convention on Friday, March 22.

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Spike & Rusty: FIEFDOM

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

DINING

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THANK YOU

Words can not express our sincere gratitude to everyone who has supported our family in Regan's journey to the Special Olympic World Winter Games in South Korea. Your cards, Facebook posts and presence at the celebration was overwhelming! Thank you for sharing in the adventure.

Dean, Lorri, Regan, and Bryn Millsap

LENNOX – I would like to thank everyone for their acts of kindness that was shown at the time of loss of my two brothers Herman and Lorne Lennox. The phone calls, visits, flowers, food at the homes. Thanks to Dr. Marshall and Dr. Hutching for their kindness. Carruthers and Davidson and Fawcett Funeral Homes. Thanks June Gayle sister for lunch on Saturday. To extended family members for their love and support. To Bob my companion for his support for us all until the end. Thanks again, Shirley Lennox Woods

Thanks to **Cat Flack** for the Valentine treats! They were delicious! *Creemore Echo*

THANK YOU

To Donna Tranquada and Sandi Wong, leaders of Artists Against the Megaquarry:

We are so proud of the way that you both worked tirelessly and elegantly in the face of mayhem. You are and always will be an inspiration to us. Thank you for your inclusivity and high moral character. You were backbone when it was needed and silly funster when it was warranted and everything in between. We think it speaks to the deep connection to the earth and to our community and to your artistic hearts. You are both unconventional and brave, brilliant, full of heart and talent. You prove that “artist” means not only visionary, sensitive and talented but also organized, determined, hard working and responsible. Hundreds joined the fight and put in thousands of hours because of you.

So our beauties, our friends, thank you for your efforts. You changed perception, community, the country. We are so proud of you and proud to have been a part of the fight. Celebrate hard and may we meet with all our dedicated artists in a field soon to paint together and celebrate what we won.

Artists Against the Megaquarry

The Avening Hall would like to thank all those who came out or helped out at last Saturday's concert. Thanks also to Creemore Springs & Caplansky's & Mad Maple Farms for their contributions.

DEATH NOTICE

RAINBIRD, Margaret passed away peacefully at Soldiers Memorial Hospital in Orillia on Saturday, February 9, 2013 in her 67th year. Beloved wife of Dennis. Loving mother to Karen Cubitt (James), predeceased by daughter Julie Rainbird-Kendrick (Rob). Remembered by her grandchildren Todd Cummings, Ashleigh, Jackson and Kate Rainbird-Kendrick, Ryan and Cara Cubitt. Survived by siblings Jim McEachern, Ellen Whitley (Lloyd) and Cathy Lavers and in-laws John Rainbird (Lyn), Diane MacAlpine and Joan Rainbird-Sharp. Visitation was held on Tuesday, February 12th, 2013 at Fawcett Funeral Home – Creemore Chapel, followed by a Memorial Service at St. John's United Church in Creemore. In lieu of flowers the family kindly asks for donations to the Avening United Church or Avening Hall. Friends may visit Margaret's on-line Book of Memories at www.fawcettfuneralhomes.com

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A SPECIAL EVENING Creemore's Nitetis Masonic Lodge No. 444 recently celebrated the installation of officers for 2013 on January 21. Back row, left to right: **Phil Sutherland, Doug Giffen, Steve Martin, Glenn Hoag, Jim Deslippe, Don Akehurst.** Front row: **Corey Finkelstein, Bill Thomas, Fran Webster,** Most Worshipful **Ronald Groshaw,** Worshipful Master **Alex Hargrave,** District Deputy Grand Master **Douglas Fleet, Jeff Fachnie, Doug Hammill, Nick Brindisi.**



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Escorted by Creemore resident Murray Skinkle

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Guinness stout, fine porcelain and Blarney.**
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A good neighbour

Preserving Agriculture in Dufferin County

The Dufferin Wind Farm project was started by members of this community to help sustain local farming and support our community through the generation of clean, renewable energy.

Over its lifetime, the Dufferin Wind Farm will contribute millions of dollars to the local community through land leases, property taxes, construction and operating activities. The project will be an important source of income for the community and will help us keep our farming way of life that we, and our families before us, have worked so hard to preserve.

We want to thank all of the members of the community who have come to visit us in our project office and for their ongoing support and encouragement. We are looking forward to building a project that we can all be proud of and that helps our community.



Farm Owned Power Melancthon

Dufferin Wind Power remains committed to working closely with the community and appreciates all of your comments and suggestions.

We would like to hear from you!
www.DufferinWindPower.ca

Call: 1 (855) 249-1473
Email: info@dufferinwindpower.ca