

The Creemore ECHO

Friday, February 22, 2013 Vol. 13 No. 08 thecreemoreecho.com

News and views in and around Creemore

DECISION TIME LOOMS FOR COMMUNITY HALLS

Special Council meeting called to deal with results of fire, electrical inspections

by Brad Holden

With fire and electrical safety reports now in hand for Clearview Township's six community halls (excluding the seventh, the Station on the Green), Mayor **Ken Ferguson** has invited hall board members and the public to a special meeting of Council on Monday, March 18 to once again discuss the future of the six buildings.

A similar meeting was held last fall, when a report by Township

engineering firm R.J. Burnside & Associates revealed it would cost in the neighbourhood of \$1 million to bring the halls in Avening, Dunedin, Duntroon, Nottawa, Sunnidale Corners and Brentwood up to the province's accessibility standards. At that time, Council requested fire and electrical safety reports be done on the buildings as well before any decisions are made on upgrades.

Township Transportation and Recreation General Manager **Steve Sage** confirmed to the *Echo* that those reports have now been received, and that there are "significant orders on both types of inspections." The lists vary in length for each hall, with some

(See "Political" on page 3)



HEAD OVER HEELS Last weekend's BIA-organized Big Heart Festival introduced a new element – Creemore's first annual (we hope!) Snowman Contest. Above is the winning entry, an upside-down "Bonhomme de Neige" created by County Road 9's **Chris Charlebois** and his son **Cole** (there's a picture of the two sculptors on our website at thecreemoreecho.com). For pictures of some of the other snowmen around town, see page 7 and to see some more highlights from the Festival, see page 6.

ECHO Briefs

Ward 4 Townhall Meeting

Councillor **Thom Paterson** is holding a Townhall Meeting from 1 to 3 pm on Saturday, February 23 at the Station on the Green to discuss the 2013 Township budget, the community halls situation, the Collingwood Street bridge and local improvements. All are welcome.

Avening Hall Seeking Input

The Avening Hall Board will hold its Annual General Meeting at 7 pm on Wednesday, February 27 at the hall. This is not an ordinary AGM – the Board is looking for input from the entire community regarding their feelings about the future of the hall. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.



WINNING SPEECHES The Creemore Legion held its Branch finals in the organization's annual public speaking contest and coming out on top were **Obi Page** in the Grade 7-9 category with a speech about "Ideas" and **Grace Millsap** in the Grade 4-6 category with a speech about "Bullying." The pair will now move onto the Zone level of competition, being held in Barrie on March 3.

INSIDE THE ECHO



Big Heart Fun

A great winter weekend in Creemore.

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A Strong Showing

Chantal Masselin competes in Florida.

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COMMUNITY Calendar

Submit your community events
info@creemore.com
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fax: (705) 466-9908

This Weekend

Friday, February 22

- **Toonie Lunch** at St. Luke's Anglican Church, 22 Caroline Street West from 11:30 am to 1 pm. Come enjoy some homemade soup.

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.

Sunday, February 24

- **Church Services** on page 5.

Upcoming Events

Monday, February 25

- **Stayner Garden Club Monthly Meeting** at Centennial United Church at 7:30 pm. Everyone welcome to join. Have fun, learn new ideas & keep Stayner beautiful. \$10 membership. Call 705-444-2873 for information.

Tuesday, February 26

- **Brentwood Horticultural Meeting** at Brentwood Hall at 7:30 pm. \$5 to join the Society.

Wednesday, February 27

- ***** Rescheduled *** Avening Community Centre AGM** at 7 pm. The Avening Hall Board invites the community to their annual AGM. This meeting will also be an opportunity for community input on the future of the Hall. For more information please contact Carol Rowbotham at rowbie5@live.ca.

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.

Friday, March 1

- **World Day of Prayer** at 2 pm at Hope Acres Community Church, 998614 Mulmur-Tosorontio Town Line. The theme for WDP 2013 is "I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me," based on the Gospel text of Matthew 25 and with a focus on migration. For more information call 705-466-3435 ext. 228.

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.
- **Avening Hall Euchre Tournament.** Doors open at 7 pm, cards start at 8 pm. For those new to euchre or needing a refresher we will have a little learning session at 7 pm. \$10 per person. Bring a snack to share. For more information contact Carol Rowbotham (705) 466-3024.

Sunday, March 3

- **Stayner Brethren in Christ Church** would like to announce the **Installation Service** for their new senior Pastor **Dale Collier** at 10:35 am at 1152 Concession 6 N.

Sunday, March 17

- **Abigail Zantingh's Mission Trip Fundraiser for Philippines 2013 "Serving with Hands and Feet"** Dessert Buffet, Silent Auction and Entertainment Night at Clearview Community Church, 1070 County Road 42. Doors open at 5:30 pm featuring local singing talent, dance, games, prizes and more! \$15 entrance fee, family of 4 is \$45 (2 adults, 2 children) available at the Treasure House, Clearview Community Church and through Life 100.3. Limited seating – first come, first served! For more information, call Abigail at 705-321-0429.

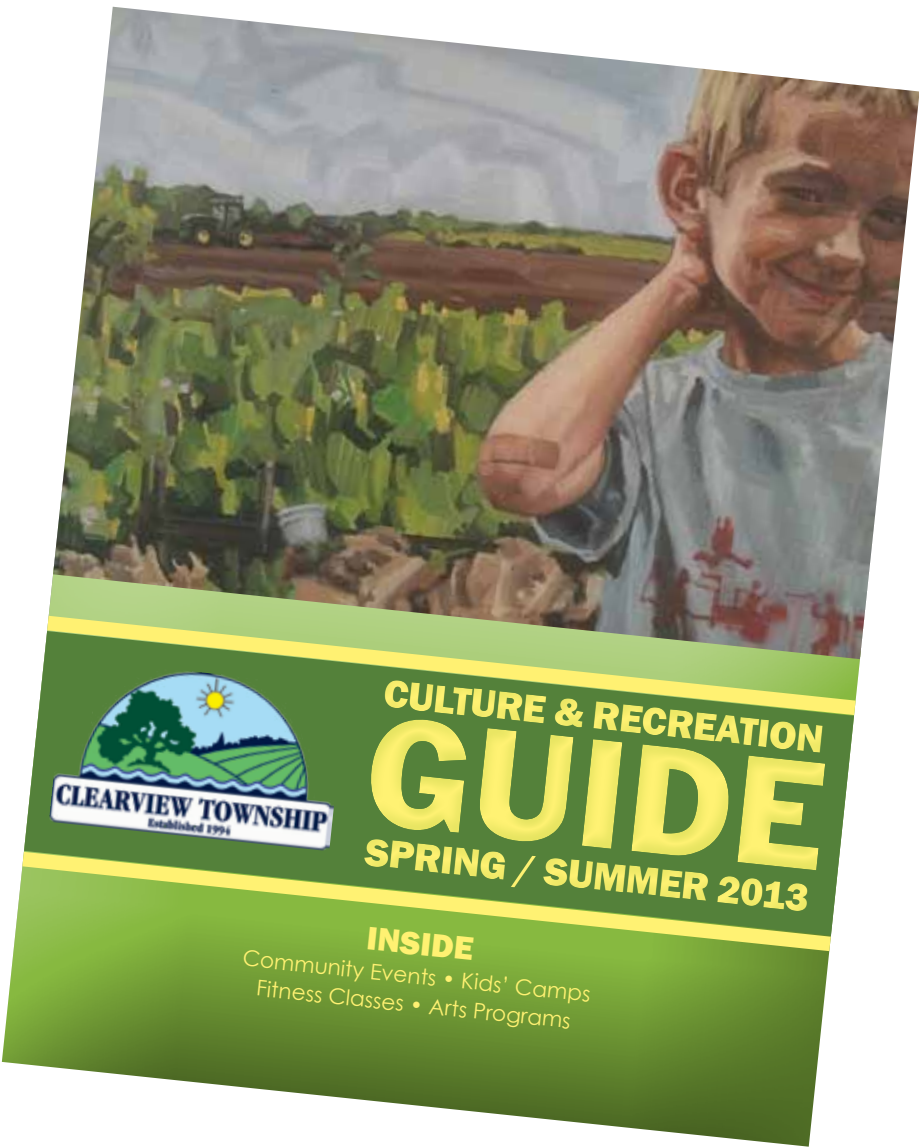
Sunday, March 24

- **Creemore Skating Club Carnival** at 2 pm at Creemore Arena. This year the theme is "Blast From The Past" Featuring popular and our favorite songs from 50's, 60's, 70's 80's and 90's. Adults \$8, Seniors \$5, Students \$2, children under 6: free.

Watch for your
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Wondering what else is going on this year?

Check out the calendar on thecreemoreecho.com for more great Creemore events.

Political decision lies ahead for community halls

(Continued from page 1)

needing basic improvements like new fire alarms and smoke extinguishers, and some needing more drastic work. Cost analysis has yet to be done, said Sage, but he did confirm that the Avening Hall had the longest list of required improvements.

There are deadlines associated with both reports, but Sage was hesitant to talk about the implications. "There are political decisions that need to be made," he said.

The challenge facing Council is to decide whether fulfilling the fire and electrical requirements is contingent on also doing the work outlined in the Burnside report, and whether all of the halls should be improved or if one or more should be closed.

To that end, Sage said the meeting on March 18 would be important for the purpose of gauging the vision and commitment of each of the hall boards. "We want to know how they feel about the issues," he said.

The fire and safety reports were to be given to members of Council and the hall board chairs on Thursday afternoon and Friday morning. Details of the reports will be made public after those people are in receipt of the information.



Photo provided by Simcoe County

CLEARVIEW ROCKS Simcoe County held its annual Warden's Bonspiel in Penetanguishene on February 12, raising \$18,607 for the County's Georgian Village project, a campus-style continuum-of-care initiative offering five housing options for seniors. Co-hosting the day with Warden **Cal Patterson** was World Curling Champion **Glenn Howard**, honorary chair of the Georgian Village Fundraising Committee. Clearview Township was well-represented, with a team winning the day's Municipal Challenge by raising \$700 for the cause. From left to right above are Howard, Clearview team members **Tiffany Thompson** and Councillor **Deb Bronee**, Clearview Deputy Mayor **Alicia Savage** (team support), Warden Patterson, and Clearview team members **Dale Lightheart** (skip) and **Marie Leroux**.



ROCKING THE ACC With Clearview's community halls again in the news, it seems timely to run this picture of Toronto musician **Hayden** during his sold-out show at the Avening Hall two weeks ago.

Market accepting applications

The Creemore Farmers' Market is currently accepting applications from those interested in becoming part-time or full-time vendors during the May-October season or taking part in the Easter or Christmas markets.

Applications can be picked up at the Creemore branch of the Public Library or can be downloaded as .PDFs from the Market's website at creemorefarmersmarket.ca. Once completed they can be mailed to Creemore Farmers' Market, P.O. Box 2081, Creemore, ON, L0M 1G0 or emailed to pam@pamssoaps.com.

The Market is also accepting applications in the form of written letters from non-profit groups who would like to use the coffee booth as a fundraising opportunity. Those can be forwarded to the same address, and the Market Board will contact groups with their allocated dates by the end of March.

In addition, the Market has announced a change of policy regarding the use of the Horticultural Park, which is now under the management of the



Station on the Green. That Board, in conjunction with the Horticultural Society, has decided that the park and fountain area should be used solely as a park, and no longer as a venue for non-profit organizations during Market hours. "The park can provide a place of quiet enjoyment in a beautiful setting for all residents at all times, showcasing the year round effort of the Horticultural volunteers," said a joint statement from the three organizations.

Non-profit groups wishing to have a presence at the Market should apply to use the coffee booth or to have a full- or part-time vendor's booth.

Another successful Walk for Memories

Creemore resident **Matthew Vorstermans** had his most successful Walk for Memories ever in 2013, raising \$3,378 for vital programs and services that support people living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. This figure meant Matthew was once again labeled both the Top Individual and Top Online Fundraiser. Overall, he was the eighth highest fundraiser in Ontario. Though the event has now come and gone, people are still free to make donations at walkformemories.ca until the end of February. Matthew takes part in the event every year in memory of his grandmother, who suffered from Alzheimer's Disease.



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LETTER

Finding a win-win option for mega quarry land

Dear Editor, and all of us!

Congratulations to all of us who have played a part, however big or small, in the Mega Quarry victory!

It was fabulous to celebrate with many last Saturday in Honeywood! What a delicious evening of great food, eloquent speaking, wonderful music, playful dancing and many joyful hearts. Even though most of us expect the journey is not over, it was good to take a few moments to celebrate the significant victory so far.

I love the idea of a fresh spring planting of a "Food And Water First" stand – on our lawns, in our hearts, and in our legislative buildings!

That said, it has felt, since the November announcement, that many of us are awaiting the "other shoe" to drop... for a next move on the part of Highland, or possibly others who may purchase the land, to launch what is anticipated to be the next leg of "the battle."

It has me wondering about being proactive in a new and creative way. What if we, as a community, did some brainstorming to come up with a list of a few options for that land's use that would be desirable to us? What ideas might provide both a viable income stream for any owners while also in keeping with our "Food And Water First" stand? What value-added business would complement or develop our community in directions we would love to see? Not unlike John Miller's Dairy and new bottling plant or Creemore Springs Brewery, what might we like to see in our Mulmur and Melancthon neighbourhoods that would enhance our lives, make us proud and generate profit? How can we make use of this potential mega-investment interest to move our community forward?

Surely, with all the talent and creativity that has been drawn on so far, we can come up with a few win-win options that would be attractive to Highland or future investors and at the same time come with our community's support and endorsement.

Let's get cracking, I say! Let's have some fun here, unleash some of that creativity that has been sitting idle since November!

What do we have to lose?

Shelley Hannah, Creemore

Send your letters to The Creemore Echo, 3 Caroline Street West, Box 1219, Creemore, ON L0M 1G0, email to info@creemore.com or drop them off at the Echo's Office.

Letters must include the sender's full name.

All letters submitted to the Echo are not necessarily published. The Echo reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.

THE WAY WE WERE



Lorne Cleary brought us these pictures this week after being reminded of them by the recent stormy weather. He took these on County Road 124 (then known as Highway 24, of course) in February 1967, while driving home from London. Nowadays, they've cut the bank back at this location (just north of Redickville) so you no longer see snowbanks like this one. But the road is as treacherous as ever when winter weather sets in!

LETTER

A word on budget comparisons

Dear Editor:

You know the famous words, "I should have said?" That is so true – I was so glad to get my five-minute speech at last week's public budget meeting over with that my brain stopped working afterward.

In a front page article in last week's paper you state, and it is true, that I asked why Clearview Council uses budget-to-budget comparisons as opposed to budget-to-actual. Treasurer Ed Henley explained that in November, when their budget process began, they did not yet have actuals. However, in that case normal procedure is to use an estimate for those last two months by referring to previous years' data. So in effect, Mr. Henley's response was not a very good reason, particularly not since I couldn't have done my comparisons without having a 2012 actual column to work with.

However, the purpose of my address was not the above question. It was to outline the drastic differences between the two methods.

I have copied the important paragraphs of my original text and inserted them below for your review.

"...What really struck me last year, and again this time around, was that you (the Council) compare budget to budget, something highly unusual in the private sector where they do budget-to-actual. A budget has a finite lifespan. It dies once the annual cycle is completed and recorded. In my experience the purpose of an annual budget is to forecast, based on facts and trends from prior year(s). It also serves as a measure of how accurate earlier projections were vis-a-vis reality, thereby highlighting unanticipated

circumstances and their related outcomes, both positive and negative. Budget-to-budget comparisons risk compounding errors while adding nothing to the active process of managing the business of Council and serving taxpayer transparency.

"Here are just two examples:

"Under General Admission – Salaries, Wages & Benefits, you report an 8.88 per cent increase by comparing the 2013 to the 2012 budget. I on the other hand compared the 2013 Budget to 2012 Actual and arrived at a 23.32 per cent increase, nearly three times larger than the percentage published.

"The other percentage formula I have never seen used before is in the 2013 Operating Budget Analyses. I refer you to the sheet Administration Department. Under the column headed "% based on \$100,000 being 1%" the first line under Expenses, "Salaries, Wages & Benefits," reflects an increase of 1.21 per cent using the above formula – the percentage calculation I did, the only one I know of, resulted in 10.83 per cent – nearly nine times higher than yours.

"These above two examples highlight clearly that a large increase is contemplated which impacts not only on your financial reporting but also demonstrates the imperative need for different management strategies and resultant planning..."

Am I really the only one who is worried? Anyway, this is what I wanted the public to know.

Regards,

Ingrid Schilling, Creemore

For more letters, see page 8.

The Creemore
ECHO
thecreemoreecho.com



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Creemore Big Heart Seniors

There were 52 in attendance today, and there could have been 53 only **Ted Underhill** opted not to stay, as that would have resulted in one “over,” which would have meant one extra player, where we take turns sitting out.

President **Ray Leighton** thanked **Wilma Zeggil** for bringing in “goodies” to add to our “stash.” It is much appreciated.

As our “get-together” fell on Valentine’s Day, **Norma Johnston** brought in a beautiful dwarf red rose plant, in full bloom, to be won by anyone whose birthday fell on Valentine’s Day. We thought there were two contenders, **Marg Hope** and **Mercedes Veinot**, but only Marg’s birthday was on the correct day, so she won the rose. We all joined in singing both gals a “Happy Birthday” song, and we all thank Norma for coming up with a great idea for something different on a special day. Some years ago, this day was a cue for **Marg Tait** and me to bake three different cakes, and the club would buy ice cream to top off the cakes, for our “special” thing for the occasion. Marg Tait moved to Elliot Lake some time ago, and she passed away in her early 70s a few years ago.

The 50/50 draws went to **Marg Hope** (again, Happy Birthday!), **Audrey Fines**, **Barb Pilon**, **Lucy Young**, **Eileen Nash**, **George Blakney**, **Alma Seifert** and **Lillian Hiltz**.

Moon shots were played by **Isabelle Gubbels**, **Barb Cudmore**, **Marj Thomson**, **Dave Smith**, **Wilma Bannerman** and **Wilma Zeggil**.

SENIORS



Sylvia
GALE

Wilma Z won the travelling prize, and Dave took the Sidewinders booty.

High scorers were **May Johnston** 287, **Martin Verstraten** 285, **Marg Hennessey** 283 and **June Hartley** 277. Low was **Beulah Dunn** with 129.

We do seem to have a good thing going at Seniors as **Irma** again brought in a fresh homemade loaf, compliments of **Cat Flack**. They have been different loaves each time, and there is just no end to the different fillings and flavourings that can be utilized to make this delicious baked item. And remember Cat – we stand ready, able and willing to check out each and every one of them.

A couple of weeks ago, just when everyone was set to gather at our house for **Warren’s** 90th birthday, our water pump started acting up. We would get a gush of water and then dribbles. Daughter **Laurie** and grandgirl **Beth** were the first to arrive from Calgary at nearly midnight. Warren had been talking to son-in-law **Bryce Rowe** (Laurie’s husband) about our water problem, as Bryce owns and operates Rowe Water Works. Bryce handles everything from Provincial Parks to ranch requirements for livestock to the usual household problems. Anyway, the two girls arrived, hauled in their luggage, and headed right out to the furnace/water pump room. Due to the magic of telephones that are also cameras, they took pictures, and Bryce, back in Calgary, told them what to do. Then Beth, a tall, slim young lady, was in her element, as she had worked for her dad one summer. She tore things apart, found the problem

(blocked filter) and put things back together and we had water. Warren had gone to bed much earlier, so he had no idea that the girls had fixed the problem. I left him a sign at his place at the table for when he got up that went something like this – “Beth and Laurie FIXED the water. Just imagine the BILL for a 2,400-mile house call at MIDNIGHT, working in the COLD, etc, etc. I think we should try to trade them my first-born child, or something that will help to cover the costs!” (Sorry, Sharon, but I couldn’t think of anything more dramatic, and that would earn me some sympathy than having to trade you off!) Warren didn’t seem too concerned about what I traded again! Me, I was happy to see the kids, have water and have the work all done free gratis. So think about it, Seniors. It might bear thinking about putting one

of your grandkids through as a plumber!

Bryce, Nevada and **Cole** flew in just before they shut down landing planes at Toronto. While here, Bryce went to visit **Doug Jeffery**, who is recuperating from a fall where he broke his hip and his ankle. Bryce has a rather distinctive laugh, so there likely was some high merriment going on during that visit. Actually, the folks up and down the Second Line might have been out checking around to see where the laughter was coming from! But not to be outdone, the three intrepid Wonder Women, **Lynda (Whitley) Jeffery**, **Marlene (Bell) Noordegraaf** and **Laurie** had planned a meeting at a restaurant on Thursday night. It was really storming, but the three of them didn’t let a storm slow them down, and they met at the Sovereign (probably their favourite restaurant), had a great time, and they all made it home OK.

LETTER

Cost control is needed at Township

Dear Editor:

The *Echo* noted that there was a small crowd at the public meeting on the 2013 Township budget. The Council may have been disappointed by the low turnout but it should not be surprised. Taxpayers know full well that the Councillors and management simply do not listen to or respond to public anger at the rising costs imposed by Clearview Council. They know that turning out to a public meeting will make no difference to the Council decisions on tax increases.


Year after year the Council goes through the motions of asking for taxpayer input on the budget and year after year it hears the same message, one most recently repeated in Thom Paterson’s article in last week’s *Echo*: that the Clearview Township spending is out of touch with the local economy and is based on dreams of growth and development charge income that will

likely never occur.

Of course, it is easy for the Council to find reasons to justify the huge annual increase in the tax levy but it takes leadership to recognize that tough decisions need to be made to control costs. Thom Paterson makes the point that municipalities that keep raising taxes, water rates, user fees and development charges will eventually price themselves out of the market. Clearview may already have crossed that line and with this latest budget proposal, including a nonsensical rebranding expense, the Township moves ever closer to forcing taxpayers to vote with their feet.

Maybe being branded as one of the highest tax municipalities north of Toronto is a looming reality. And as for future development charges saving the day, we will all wait a very long time for that to happen in the current economic environment.

Rowlie Fleming, Creemore



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**Friday, March 1
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 Hope Acres Community Church
 The theme for WDP 2013 is
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Stayner Brethren in Christ Church
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Bryan Davies Photos

HEARTFELT FUN The BIA's Big Heart Festival saw various goings-on around town, including some unique snowmen at Cardboard Castles (courtesy of **Laurie Copeland** and **Corey Finkelstein**, above left) and Affairs Bakery (seen with **Norma Panzine** and **Rachael Pidgen**, below left), kids' events at Curiosity House Books (above right) and the Creemore branch of the Clearview Public Library (below, centre) and a family skate at Station on the Green (attended by **Peter Lomath** and his grandson **Jude**, below right). The winner of the Downtown Creemore raffle was **Rosemary Bolitho** of Dunedin.



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.

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SNOWMEN GALORE The Big Heart Festival's Snowman Contest saw some spectacular entries last weekend, including the **MacAlpine** family's R2D2 on Mary Street (which garnered an honourable mention from the judges), an extra tall version at the **Van Severen** home on King Street (above), a snowman and a snowlady at the **Crawford** household on Elizabeth Street (left and below left) and a boxy fellow at the **Strain** home at Mill and King Streets.



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LETTER

The Mayor of Shelburne on Dufferin garbage

Dear Editor:

As the Mayor of Shelburne I wish to respond to the indictment by Dick Byford in his Letter to the Editor published in the February 8, 2013 *Creemore Echo*.

Firstly, the voting system employed at Dufferin County Council is not “antiquated” as Dick alleges. Each municipality’s representatives’ voting strength reflects the share of the County electors that reside in their municipality and that was last updated in 2010. For example the Deputy-Mayor of Shelburne and I have three votes between us out of the 29 cast at Dufferin County Council because Shelburne electors made up about 10 per cent of the total electors in Dufferin County in 2010. So the voting system is not “antiquated,” but up-to-date and democratic rather than “abusive” and “bullying” as Dick describes it.

Secondly, the authority for waste management was transferred to the County of Dufferin from the eight local municipal Councils based upon the triple majority as required by the Municipal Act; the majority of votes on County Council, plus the majority of municipal Councils that represent the majority of electors. The five municipal councils that supported the transfer of waste to Dufferin County were Amaranth, East Luther-Grand Valley, Mono, Orangeville and Shelburne. The County of Dufferin has been working for the past seven years on the development of the Dufferin Eco Energy Park (DEEP) that will allow us to dispose of our waste using gasification and composting technologies that will generate energy and eliminate the carbon emissions of landfills. To create DEEP the County of Dufferin needs control of the waste stream of its citizens.

Until DEEP is built, the County of Dufferin issued a tender for the collection and disposal of waste, the results of which were considered by Council at its July 2012 convocation. The option chosen will produce an estimated annual savings of \$188,000 in 2013 over the estimated total waste cost in 2012 and provide weekly curbside collection to every resident previously served and to the residents of Melancthon who previously did not have curbside collection. This option was adopted in a recorded vote, 23 in favour and 6 against on the night of July 12, 2012; 10 members were in favour and the Mayor of Amaranth, the Mayor of Mulmur, and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Mono were opposed. The motion to approve the draft 2013 budget for the County of Dufferin which included the cost of collection and disposal of waste, was approved by Dufferin County Council on December 13, 2012 in a recorded vote of 21 in favour and 8 against; 9 members were in favour and those opposed were the Mayor and Deputy-Mayor of Mulmur, the Mayor and Deputy-Mayor of Mono and the Mayor of Grand Valley.

At every step due process and democratic practices have been followed and though some may disagree with the outcome, transparency and accountability is self-evident throughout the process with the majority of Councillors supporting the outcome. To support a program that is estimated to save the taxpayers of Dufferin County \$188,000 annually, while maintaining or improving the level of service, is serving the best interests of the majority of people.

And finally, on many occasions throughout my 25-year career of public service, people have threatened our business and the businesses of the people that I represent. I think it is sad that some people try to thwart the public good and public will by urging a boycott of these businesses to get what they want. These businesses, ours included, employ people from throughout Dufferin County and we hope to continue serving people throughout our community. I have not been influenced by these tactics and I hope that your readers will not be either.

Ed Crewson, Mayor of Shelburne

LETTER

“Cookie cutter” open houses no good

Dear Editor:

I attended the Arbour Farms open house recently in an effort to understand what Mr. Krehm’s plans mean to this community. Unfortunately, this presentation was like many others we have had to attend in Dufferin County – almost a “cookie cutter” format, used with the mega quarry, windmill farms and now pits. Developers must be taught this stuff in planner’s schools.

As you enter the room, you are asked to sign in and then you are led into a semi-circle of tables and tripods, displaying posters, maps, charts and photos. On the tables are binders containing all kinds of reports. How could we not be impressed – especially when there is a clutch of well-dressed “experts,” mostly male, all wearing name tags. Experts who have supposedly prepared the studies or at least know them inside out.

And, of course, the principals are standing near the centre of the room surrounded by their lawyers and closest advisors.

Locals ask questions and are made to feel “dumb” (or at least naïve) not to believe that the plan is risk-free and will bring big benefit. How could we not believe? It is almost a “revival meeting!”

On this occasion, two residents were given conflicting answers from two of the “experts,” and when they asked Mr. Krehm for clarification, he

became anxious, demanding to know who, among his advisors, had created this confusion. Oops! The “cookie cutter” must have slipped.

The key to a successful “open house” appears to be to allow only one-on-one discussions with the “experts,” lest another questioner build on that “expert’s” answer.

Alas, Mr. Krehm chose to hold his proscribed “open house” on a weeknight, thereby avoiding a discussion with the 40 per cent of Mulmur’s taxpayers who “weekend.” Pity! Weekenders, too, will be affected by Mr. Krehm’s plans. His feeble evidence was that they wouldn’t be interested. This shows how “out-of-touch” with our community Mr. Krehm is.

We find it extremely disturbing that a company (in search of more wealth) is prepared to increase the physical danger, environmental risk and financial burden of his “so-called” neighbours.

During the First World War, the words most often used by governments were, “Is this trip necessary?” We don’t believe Mr. Krehm’s Arbour Farms Pit is necessary or desirable.

This is our community. We object to “outsiders” thinking they can do what they choose, causing all sorts of havoc in the pursuit of profit. We need protection, not exploitation from our government leaders. Ms. Wynne, where are you?

Dick Byford, Mulmur

LETTER

“Ridiculous” spending needs to stop

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to several articles in the *Echo* over the past weeks in reference to Clearview Council and its budget decisions.

I recall the article when our Mayor Ken Ferguson and the Council stood so proudly on the front page of *Echo* celebrating \$10 million in grants towards the sewage pipeline to Wasaga Beach. The caption should have read “Disneyland in Clearview.” This sewage treatment pipeline is a very expensive dream Clearview cannot afford at this time.

The facts are that Stayner’s existing sewage treatment plant is capable of handling an additional 500 homes before reaching its capacity. We are talking a development the entire size of Creemore to reach the capacity of the existing system.

Despite the fact that the existing sewage system is running at a \$600,000 deficit, Clearview Council has decided to invest \$21 million into connecting to another municipality’s sewage treatment plant. Not only do they commit to a \$21 million expenditure we don’t need or can’t afford, they brag about the combined grant of \$10 million from the provincial and federal governments.

The reality is that Clearview Council has committed \$21 million to this project and wasted \$10 million in grant funding that could be used better elsewhere. Last time I checked grants are still a result of taxpayer contributions, not some gift from our fairy Godmother, and it still leaves \$11 million that Clearview has to cough up.

Why wouldn’t Clearview explore a phased, moderately sized local facility that could be implemented and funded by development levies as demand is warranted? We should explore more sustainable, decentralized facilities as opposed to the “Big Pipe Solution” that must be built all at once. I really wonder if this is a wishful game of “build it and they will come.”

They also claim these monies will be collected from future development and user fees. If you consider the fact the growth in Clearview from 2006 to 2011 was only 0.6 percent and only seven new homes in 2012. Just when is this future development supposed to arrive? I can’t imagine how many years it would take to convince developers to build 500

homes in Stayner.

That means that in the short term, every household in Creemore and Stayner can expect increases in their water and sewer fees on top of the 10 percent increase already imposed this year.

At the same time of this crazy spending, Creemore residents are asked to raise donations of \$350,000 to build an extension on to our existing medical building. Meanwhile there is a planned 9.5 per cent increase in the draft budget that includes a 17.9 percent increase in costs for general administration, which will result in a 4 per cent increase to the average homeowner. I don’t get it.

It is time for Clearview residents to see through the smoke and mirrors and let Clearview Council know that this type of ridiculous spending is unacceptable.

I encourage all residents not to throw away those pennies the federal government has made obsolete as you will need many of them to pay your user fees and taxes.

Barry Burton, Creemore

Ed. Note: Clearview Township did conduct a multi-year Environmental Assessment to “explore a phased, moderately sized local facility” and found that connecting to Wasaga Beach was more affordable and better for the environment. Also important to note is that developers have front-ended \$1 million of Clearview’s \$11 million portion of the \$21 million project.

Send your letters to The Creemore Echo, 3 Caroline Street West, Box 1219, Creemore, ON L0M 1G0, email to info@creemore.com or drop them off at the Echo’s Office.

Letters must include the sender’s full name.

All letters submitted to the Echo are not necessarily published. The Echo reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity.

Letters can also be posted as comments on stories on thecreemoreecho.com or on our Facebook page. If we find one there, we will confirm that the writer wants it in the paper before printing it.

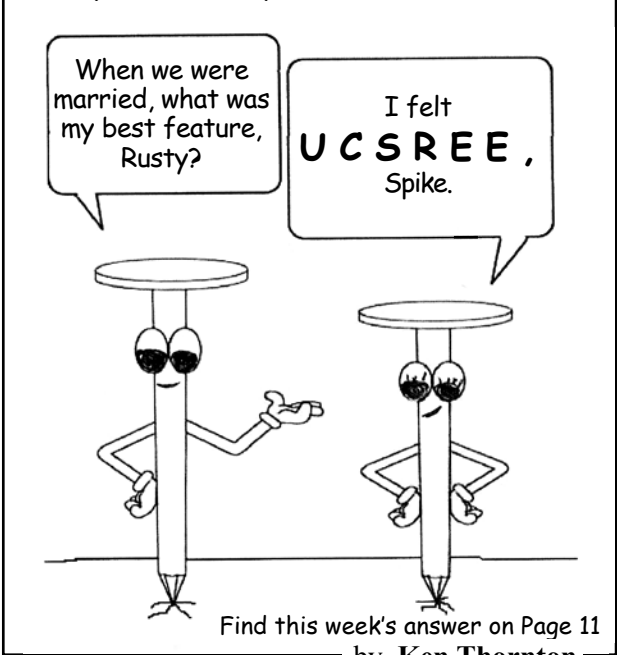
FUN & Games

Sudoku by Barbara Simpson

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

Answer on Page 11

Spike & Rusty Word Scramble



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

CREEMORE Weekend Weather

Friday, February 22
Few flurries
High -1 Low -13 Winds SE 20 km/h
POP 40%

Saturday, February 23
Mixed precipitation
High 2 Low -2 Winds SW 15 km/h
POP 40%

Sunday, February 24
Scattered flurries
High 0 Low -4 Winds SW 10 km/h
POP 40%

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YEAH! RETIREMENT!

by JEFF WILSON

FRED'S FUNNIES

Little Johnny wanted to go to the zoo and pestered his parents for days. Finally his mother talked his reluctant father into taking him. "So how was it?" his mother asked when they returned home. "Great," Little Johnny replied. "Did you and daddy have a good time?" asked his mother. "Yeah, daddy really liked it too," exclaimed Little Johnny, "especially when one of the animals came home at 30 to 1!"

Brian's Canadian Crossword

#215 by Brian Paquin © 2013

ACROSS

1 Decisions by refs

6 House of Mary, Queen of Scots

12 Fahrenheit, e.g.

17 In progress

18 Calgary Int'l, e.g.

20 Eating horse meat in Canada, e.g.

21 Imagery from Environment Canada

22 Avenue next to Water Works

23 Canadian rainy-day resources

24 NHLers from Nashville

26 You Have The ____ (David Suzuki)

28 As follows

29 Arctic pack hunter (2)

33 Wayne's partner in Canadian comedy

37 Sky Pilot singer Burdon

38 Weather forecast abbreviation (hyph.)

40 Winnipeg CBC correspondent David ____

41 Like formal wear

43 Edmund Clark's job at TD Bank

44 Big name in British

breakfast cereal

45 Antlers

46 Actress Brenda ____ (Midnight Cowboy)

50 Big butte

51 Cancellations

52 In name only (hyph.)

53 One who wanders around

55 Air Canada or Shania Twain, e.g.

56 Deprives through death

59 Hidden valleys

60 Saudi or Kuwaiti, e.g.

64 AutoTrader listing (2)

65 ____ Of Frankenstein (1935 film)

66 Tree knot

67 Map abbreviation

68 Mugs

70 Dynamic starter

71 Tea Party city

75 Coil of yarn

76 Most needy

77 Order from a Canadian court (2)

79 Golf teachers

80 Storm drain

81 Headline location (2)

86 Valletta's island

89 Men's fashion accessory (2)

92 Bewitching group

93 Justin Bieber fan category

94 Smith or Jones, e.g.

95 ____ for the ride

96 Swerves

97 Feeding trough

98 Occupation of Toronto's Ned Hanlan

DOWN

1 Canadian Fifty-Plus group

2 Miles away

3 Pay dirt

4 Pile of dirty laundry

5 Charles ____ (General Tom Thumb)

6 Relish

7 Levels of seating

8 Coffee brewers

9 Appropriate

10 Lancaster of the CFL

11 Cancer and Capricorn

12 Spreads around

13 Cake type

14 Washboard body parts

15 Cut a branch

16 Goddess of the dawn

19 Racing gait

25 At that point

27 Drenched

29 Women of the Royal Navy

30 Radiator sound

31 Provincial

32 ____ Jacques

33 Ponzi scheme, e.g.

34 Donut feature

35 Strike callers

36 Spread in a messy way

37 Mental mishap

39 Mental state

41 Italian magistrates

42 BC actress De Carlo (The Munsters)

45 Round-trippers

47 Gets busy

48 Monte Carlo or Bel Air, e.g.

49 Janitor or maid, e.g.

51 National Aboriginal Veterans Association

52 Top tennis players

54 Financing initialism

55 Jail, slangily

56 City outskirts

57 Block in court

58 Actress Witherspoon

59 Everyday routine

61 Not seen every day

62 Coat of ____

63 Ink smudge

65 Panellist Orson ____

66 Unmarked Canadian police vehicle (2)

69 Radioactive metal

70 Captain Canuck, e.g.

72 Royal poison checker

73 Atlantic and Pacific, e.g.

74 France or England starter

76 According to Hovle

78 Lucky 13 and Lucky 31, e.g.

79 Like 13 and 31

81 February 15: National ____ Day of Canada

82 Game played by Larry Robinson and Steve Shutt

83 Admit

84 Star Trek creator Roddenberry

85 Bridge builder, briefly

86 Jersey Shore's network

87 Dazzle

88 Actor Horsely (Paradise)

90 Victorian, e.g.

91 Ted Turner's channel

#0214 Solved

www.cancross.com

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



LADIES WINNERS Claiming the Brian Greasley Trophy as winners of the second draw of Ladies Curling were **Glenda Brown** (vice, here represented by spare **Lorna May**), **Donna Baylis** (skip), **Ann Huskinson** (second) and **Carol Rowbotham** (lead).



MIXED WINNERS Claiming the W.A. Gordon & Sons Trophy as winners of the second round of Mixed Curling were **Paul Vorstermans** (vice), **Rusty McArthur** (skip), **Glenda Wiedeman** (lead) and **Eric Wiedeman** (second). Presenting the trophy is Curling Club president **Dave Millsap** (at left).



MENS WINNERS Claiming the TD Bank Trophy as winners of the second round of Mens Curling were **Bill Crysdale** (lead), **Dave Duff** (vice), **Andrew Millsap** (skip) and **Bill McDougall** (second). Presenting the award is **Rick Kelly** (centre).



MENS RUNNERS-UP Claiming the Reg Westbrooke Trophy as runners-up of the second draw of Mens Curling were **Dave Millsap** (skip), **Ron Coulter** (vice), **Doug Quanbury** (second) and **Dean Morby** (lead). Presenting the trophy is **Ann Emerton**.

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CELEBRATION

Happy “29th” Birthday Again!! Amy,
From Fred, Steve, Donna and Neil!!
Hope you had a great day!

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We thank all applicants however only
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2	5	6	7	9	8	1	4	3
9	4	7	5	3	1	6	2	8
8	3	1	4	2	6	9	5	7
3	8	2	9	5	7	4	1	6
1	6	4	2	8	3	5	7	9
7	9	5	1	6	4	3	8	2
5	2	3	8	1	9	7	6	4
6	7	8	3	4	5	2	9	1
4	1	9	6	7	2	8	3	5

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NOTICE

**The Farmers’ Market coffee booth is
now accepting applications** from
non-profit organizations. To request
the use of the coffee booth at the
market, applications will be taken in
writing only and can include date
preferences. Applications should
be mailed to: Creemore Farmers’
Market, PO Box 2081, Creemore, ON
L0M 1G0. The Farmers’ Market board
will allocate dates and get in touch
with each organization at the end of
March after they have reviewed all the
applications. Non-profit organizations
can also apply to have a full or part-
time stall at the market. Application
forms can be downloaded from [www.
creemorefarmersmarket.com](http://www.creemorefarmersmarket.com).

FOR SALE

Many items for sale: small wood desk
\$10; antique wooden playpen \$15;
antique wood cupboard \$15; antique
wood washstand with towel rack \$20;
junior bed with mattress \$10; folding
picnic table \$20; round metal card
table & 4 padded chairs \$30; 2 pet
carriers \$15 each; knitting machine BO;
children’s plastic chairs BO; 3 foot tall
Santa & angel BO; suitcases BO; 2 baby
gates BO. Call Dianna at 705-466-2905.

THANK YOU

A big thank you goes out to Jean Smart
and the Creemore IDA for once again
sponsoring the **Creemore Curling
Club – Ladies’ Bonspiel** that took
place 16 Feb 2013, 1st place went to
Team Hutton from Stayner. Lorna May
organized a fabulous Mardi Gras theme
this year! (see pics of the winner and
the bonspiel at thecreemoreecho.com)

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THANK YOU

St. Luke’s Anglican Church,
Creemore would like to thank those
who helped and those who patronized
our Annual Pancake Supper on Tuesday,
February 12, 2013. You all helped to
make it quite a successful event.

Sincere thanks to everyone who sent
cards, phoned or attended what will be
a long remembered 90th Birthday Party
at the Legion on February 9, 2013.
Such a fun gathering of good friends
who, from this area, dug their way out
of the snow, and from great family
members who drove from Ottawa,
and others who flew in from Alberta –
some of whom were lucky their plane
landed just before the storm shut down
the Airport.

My thanks to the Legion Ladies
Auxillary (and Mark and his cohorts
also) for the lovely lunch and clean up,
and thanks to Heath Needles for my
beautiful, if slightly delayed birthday
cake, that was delicious anyways. Also
thanks for all the donations for the Food
Bank, and for all the goodies that were
sent home to help feed our “extras”.
Thanks to everyone who filled out the
coloured paper slips that the kids put
on the tables. Very enjoyable reading
them, and the many cards. Thanks to
the kids who quite happily spent the
night in sleeping bags on the floor
without any complaints. And a special
thanks to the “Wicked Westerners”
and helpers from East and West for
the humorous “spoof”, spearheaded
by daughter Laurie that, along with all
of you, made this a truly memorable
birthday for me. **Warren Gale**

Thanks to our local blood donors –
Many lives touched by generous Stayner
blood donors. I would like to offer my
heartfelt thanks to the dedicated blood
donors and volunteers in Stayner. On
behalf of Canadian Blood Services and
the patients we serve, I thank you for
your generosity and commitment. Your
dedication to helping those in need is
inspiring and greatly appreciated.

In 2012, Canadian Blood Services
collected 390 units of blood in Stayner
which is incredible! Cancer patients,
trauma victims and many others depend
on a stable blood supply year round. The
support we receive from Stayner donors
is an important key to the success of
Canadian Blood Services.

I know that we can continue to rely
on this community to roll up a sleeve
to meet patient needs. I invite local
residents to make an appointment to join
us at our upcoming blood donor clinics
online at www.blood.ca or by calling
1-888-2-DONATE (1-888-236-6283).

Once again, thank you for helping us
save lives. It is impossible to put into
words how greatly we appreciate your
support of the blood program.

Sincerely, Sue Nash, Community
Development Coordinator of Canadian
Blood Services

DEATH NOTICE



RICH MILES

Rich’s battle with cancer ended
peacefully on Valentine’s Day,
Thursday, February 14, 2013. Rich
is survived by his wife Joyce (nee.
Murray), son James, brother Andrew
(Pat) and sister Mary.

Rich was born in Halifax in
1946 to Edwin Richard “Buck” and
Audrey Miles. He maintained his
love of the east coast during a life that
took him to Winnipeg, Toronto and
eventually Creemore, Ontario. He
graduated from Kelvin High School
and the University of Manitoba
before moving to Toronto, where
he earned his actuarial certification
and went to work for Canada Life.
During his 35+ year career with the
company, Rich rose through the
ranks to a series of senior roles in
Group Pension, Human Resources
and Toronto Brokerage. While at
Canada Life he met and married
Joyce, the great love of his life.

The person who once said “an
actuary is someone who wanted to
be an accountant but didn’t have the
personality” had clearly never met
Rich Miles. Whether he was leading
his sales team into new territory
or organizing a dinner party, he
never settled for half measures. He
was competitive, funny, generous
and driven by his fascination with
interesting people, good food, fine
wine and new places to explore.
After he and Joyce left the company
to seek a life as ‘gentleman farmers’
on Temperance Creek in the hills
near Creemore, their house became
a gathering place for people from all
walks of life. He played golf with the
determination of a hockey player and
he was still bouncing off the boards
in the local arenas with his men’s
league until a year ago.

Friends will remember him
hacking trails through the bush on
his property or walking the sand
beach of Santa Rosa, Florida with
his faithful dog Bella. We will
remember him with a glass of wine
in his hand, telling a joke at his
own expense and toasting our good
health.

A memorial will be held at
Oslerbrook Golf and Country Club
in April (date to be announced).
In lieu of flowers donations may
be made to the Geneva Centre
for Autism Foundation [www.
autism.net](http://www.autism.net) or the charity of your
choice. Friends may visit Rich’s
on-line Book of Memories at [www.
fawcettfuneralhomes.com](http://www.fawcettfuneralhomes.com)



BIG WIN Rising equestrian **Chantal Masselin** (daughter of **Michel** and **Elinor Masselin** of Chez Michel) and her horse Tout Court Z placed sixth overall in the \$15,000 Marshall & Sterling Child/Adult Classic held Friday, February 8 at the Ocala Winter Classic horse show in Ocala, Florida.



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NLT 46SAT ADMMAT 03/2013

New Lowell News

Greetings from the New Lowell area! Winterama was a huge success – congratulations to the committee for all of their work in making it another great event. Everyone who took part had a fun time. From the spaghetti supper to the pancakes, from the clowns in the parade to the grand finale dance you saw a community come together to celebrate winter. And lo and behold since that wonderful weekend Mother Nature has given us large doses of winter. Perhaps we need to celebrate spring and see if she gives us some springtime weather!

The communities of Avening, Creemore and New Lowell are mourning the death of Marg Rainbird. Marg had the zest of life for her family, friends, faith and her community. A wonderful tribute to her was held at St. John's United Church on Tuesday, February 12. Over 300 people came to offer their sympathy to Marg's family, **Dennis, Karen (James)** and her extended relatives. Indeed most of us felt part of Marg's family because she cared so much for so many. **Rev. Tony Rennett** led the celebration of Marg's life and showed us how her life and dedication has impacted our community and indeed our faith. Marg's daughter **Karen** provided the eulogy, with a great understanding of her mom and her devotion to her family and friends. Tears, chuckles, wonderful music and prayer helped us all with heavy hearts. There was a reception at the Avening Hall following the service. Marg has gone to be with her saviour but the emptiness we all feel will take time to heal. Our sympathy to all of her family.

The Brentwood Horticulture will meet the last Tuesday of each month at the Brentwood hall. The meetings have special themes each month and begin at 7:30 pm. If you wish to join the society the cost is \$5.

The Creemore Pastoral United Church Charge will have all three services on Sunday, February 24 with Avening United at 9 am, New Lowell at 10:15 am, St. John's Creemore at 11 am (coffee time) and service at 11:30 a.m. New Lowell and Avening welcome Sunday School children at the same time of worship.

The New Lowell community offers sympathy to **Sue McLellan (Gerry MacDonald)** and her family on the passing of her sister Irma in Nova Scotia. **Lorne McLellan (Marilyn)** and **Linda Henderson** have lost a very dear Aunt.

The Building of Accessibility of the New Lowell United Church continues with its fundraising. In the next few months you will see certain events that will spearhead more funds for this project. It is hoped that this endeavour will make our village church more accessible to all peoples and make more space for community events. Please support this project. For further information go to the new website: <http://newlowellunitedchurch.weebly.com/index.html>

The Sunnidale Branch (New

NEW LOWELL NEWS



**Sandra
BEDNAREK**

Lowell) of the Clearview Library offers these free programmes throughout the week. The programmes offered are: Baby and Me (age 0-18 months) on Wednesdays at 9:30 am; Step into Stories (age 0-6 years) on Wednesdays at 10:30 am; Paper Crafting Crop (adult group) on Thursdays from 10 am to 1pm; and Get Stitchin' (adult group) on Thursdays from 2 to 3 pm.

The children at New Lowell Central Public School had a successful Dance-a-thon on Valentine's Day. The children and staff thank **Jenn Elliot** and **Jenn Meijs** and their helpers for all they did to make this day special for all the children from kindergarten to Grade 8.

The Girl Guides and the United Church welcomed 10 people to a "Scrapbook Day" last week. The ladies scrapped, ate, laughed and gained some new ideas. It was a fun time for all. This was a fundraiser for both organizations as is the selling of tickets on 11 baskets full of great things donated by Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Epicure, Bags and Bling and Scentsy. If you wish to buy tickets on this draw please call Tammy at 705-424-5252 or Sandra at 705-424-6497 (from 5 to 6 pm). They are \$2 each or three for \$5. You can choose which basket/baskets you wish to buy tickets for by viewing them at the church. The Guiding Units are in the church on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 till 7:30 pm and they would welcome you to come and look at the baskets.

One of our local youths, **Landon Black**, son of **Dave** and **Lyn Black**, is on an exchange program through the University of Guelph. In their third year of Landscape Architecture, they must go on an exchange to another country or go on a work term in a related job. If they have good grades they can go on exchange with a school of Landscape in another country.

Landon left for Norway on January 14 and has been exploring the country. He is expected to take course equivalents to completing a semester in Guelph. The idea is to see as many landforms, landscapes and types of architecture as possible. In some of these countries they heat their sidewalks and have found it cheaper than paying for snow removal and there are less accidents with the elderly slipping etc. He is near Oslo in a small community the size of Collingwood. He finds the landscape in Aas very similar to the Creemore area and their temperatures are almost the same as here.

He lives in a residence – a "pod" of six single rooms with a common living area and kitchen. His roommates are from Russia, Bangladesh, Kurdistan, Uganda and Norway – so that in itself is quite an experience!

Good luck Landon we are very proud of you!

That is the news for this week. Here is something to ponder this week: One kind word can warm many winter days....

If you have local news to promote please email me at sandra@bednarek.ca.