The Creemore

Friday, July 11, 2014 Vol. 14 No. 28 thecreemoreecho.com

INSIDE THE ECHO





Congratulations! PAGE 7

Argos behind the scenes Report from the Head of Laundry PAGE 10

Publications Mail Agreement # 40024973

CLEARVIEW IN GOOD FINANCIAL SHAPE: AUDITOR

Clearview's finances are in good shape, its Auditor told Council at its last meeting where she presented the 2013 financial report.

Reserves, reserve funds and general surplus were up to \$8.7 million by December 31, 2013, said Sue Bragg, partner at Gaviller and Company LLP Chartered Accountants.

This does not include \$2 million, which Simcoe County will pay Clearview for landfills later this year.

Bragg said the big change in revenues came from government grants. Clearview budgeted \$3.6 million in grants in 2013, but didn't receive or use all of that

Due to delays in the Clearview-Wasaga Waste Water Project, Clearview spent only \$400,000 of a \$10 million grant from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

"It's hard to set a budget on capital projects," Bragg said.

The unspent grant affected other numbers including (See "Debt" on page 3)



HORSES BACK HOME – Gloria White holds on tight to her three miniature horses (left to right) Trixie, Blaze and Sophia, who escaped from the farm and took an early-morning tour of Creemore last week. Find out what happened in the story on page 6.

VanderKruys runs for Mayor again

By Kristi Green Four years after competing against Ken Ferguson for the position of Clearview's Mayor, Christopher VanderKruys is back for a second kick at the can.

In the 2010 municipal election, VanderKruys won 36% of the vote against Ferguson.

This time around, VanderKruys' platform remains the same. He still believes that Council needs to communicate better with residents and that Clearview needs to be more fiscally

responsible.

"Council makes decisions that the people don't want," said VanderKruys. "But if people realized the costs behind [the decisions] and they still don't want the change, then Council should listen."

If elected Mayor, VanderKruys said he would ensure every Councillor conducted Town Hall meetings at least twice a year so people could voice their concerns.

"The Councillors still don't do that within our area," he said. "So how do you really know what's going on?"

A s Mayor, VanderKruys said he would recommend a review of the Township's operations from the inside.

"I would look at the salaries within the organization," he explained. "Do we need a large Planning Department if we aren't building?"

He also said he would push for ways to grow the area's industry and businesses.

VanderKruys has (See "Roots" on page 3)

Kids in charge of festival lineup

By Kristi Green On the quest for more inspirational acts to perform at this year's Children's Festival, Chair Laurie Copeland went straight to the source: kids.

"We are always talking to kids," she says. "We get comments from adults all the time, and it's great that mum and dad are enjoying it, but the ones that count are from the kids."

That's why 15-yearold Tori Hathaway will be headlining the Main Stage on Saturday, August 2. Tori, 15, is a singer/songwriter from Barrie. She will arrive in Creemore after touring all across North America.

"We're so happy to be able to showcase a young performer who is really going places," says Laurie. "The festival is about kids inspiring kids."

Former TVO producer/director Clive VanderBurgh will light up the stage with music from his second children's album. Throughout his career, he has produced hundreds of musical pieces for television shows including "Today's Special" and "Sesame Street."

Children's authors Joel Sutherland and Richard Scrimger are slated to haunt the stage with a performance about ghost stories.

The main stage will also feature The Stars of Pop tribute act, with Katy Perry, Taylor Swift, Lady Gaga and Rihanna performances.

While that lineup is sure to dazzle, there will be lots of other activities in the village to participate in as well.

The Reptilia Zoo Truck will drive in (See "Activities" page 3)





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COMMUNITY Calendar

Submit your community events

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

This Weekend

Friday, July 11

- Rosemont Farmers' Market. Fresh produce, baked goods, preserves, soaps, crafts and more. Fridays to October 10 from 3 to 7 pm on Hwy 89 just east of Airport Rd.
- Nottawasaga Daylilies Come see the excellent early bloom. Open 10 am to 5 pm Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays from now until Labour Day. 3757 Conc 3, Avening. See ad on page 3 for directions.

Saturday, July 12

• Creemore Horticultural Society Summer Flower Show, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at Station on the Green. Come and see a wonderful display of flowers from members' gardens and a special showing of cacti by Kathy Meeser. Members will be present to answer your garden questions and to talk about all things floral.

Saturday, July 12

- Creemore's Log Cabin is open from 10 am to 1 pm. History Hosts will be on hand to welcome visitors and tell them about the cabin and its first families. (The Cabin, Creemore's only surviving log residence, was built in the 1870s and is now located on Library Street, between the Old Jail and the Creemore library.) It will continue to be open each Saturday morning until Thanksgiving.
- Dairy Day at Millers Dairy at Jalon Farm, Cty Rd 9 just east of Creemore, from 11 am to 4 pm. All are welcome.
- Come and Go Tea to celebrate the birthdays of Glen (85) and Joan (80) Best. From 1:30 to 4:30 pm at St John's United Church in Creemore. No gifts, please.
- Creemore Minor Hockey Registration at 7 Longwood Crescent, New Lowell from 11 am to 1 pm. For information call 705-424-0579.

Saturday, July 12

• Avening Hall Annual Beef BBQ. Roast beef dinner cooked over an open fire with fresh new potatoes, salad, baked beans and pie. From 4:30 to 7 pm. Adults \$15, children 6 to 12 \$10, ages 5 and under free.

Sunday, July 13

- Nottawa Day this day is for the kids with activities at the Community Center and the ball park games, crafts, BBQ and fun with equipment and firefighters from Clearview Station 6, Nottawa.
- Church Services see page 5.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, July 15 to Saturday, July 19

• Theatre Collingwood presents Summer of Love. Relive the music and emotion of the 1960s and rekindle the Summer of Love! For ticket information call 705-445-2200 or visit www. theatrecollingwood.ca.

Tuesday, July 15 & Thursday, July 17

• VON Smart – free seniors exercise classes. Tuesdays at 1 pm & Thursdays at 11 am at St. Luke's Anglican Church, Caroline Street West. Come one day or both. Gentle, no floor or mat work. Can be performed seated or standing. Must be 55+ with a valid Ontario Health Card. For more information call 705-309-7054 or michelle. foster@von.ca.

Wednesday, July 16

 New Lowell Farmers Market on Wednesday evenings from 6 to dusk at the Recreation Park all summer long.

Thursday, July 17

- Bingo at Creemore Legion. Doors open at 5:30 pm, canteen opens at 6 pm. Early Birds start at 6:45 pm. Progressive Jackpot continues at 55 numbers. Everyone welcome to the biggest little bingo in the area.
- Music in the Park Concert at Station Park in Stayner from 7 to 9 pm featuring Tommy Gilham and the CIll Billys. Bring your own lawnchair.

Saturday, July 19

- 8th Annual Mystery Tour of the Hills Tractor Tour. For the ride of your life. The tour will start and end in the Dunedin Park. The route includes farmland, back roads and much more. Coffee and muffins at the start (\$2), a mystery lunch catered (?) and the tour ends at The Dunedin Hall mid afternoon. For more information call Neil 705-466-5190
- Dunedin Hall is hosting a Roast Beef Supper from 4:30 to 7 pm. \$15 for adults. \$6 for 12 and under, children 6 and under free. This is a fundraiser for the hall renovations. For advance tickets call 705-466-2181 or 466-3071. Tickets also at the door.

Sunday, July 20 and Saturday, July 26

• Please Join us for our Annual TNYH Fundraising Gourmet Hacks. Riders: \$100 Lunch Only: \$50. All start at 10 am, waivers must be signed. Please RSVP to laurel@parkstud.ca. Limited to 25 riders, sign up early to reserve! Sunday July 20th at Waterstone Estate, Deborah Weiss 17900 Dufferin Steet, Newmarket. Saturday July 26th at the Home of Stuart and Victoria Lazier 79633 3rd Line East, Mulmur

Thursday, July 24

 Music in the Park Concert at Station Park in Stayner from 7 to 9 pm featuring Southern Comfort. Bring your own lawnchair

Saturday, July 26

• 49th Annual Honeywood Beef Barbeque at the Honeywood Arena. Famous for its mouth-watering outdoor charcoal-roasted beef dinner with all the fixins' and scrumptious homemade desserts. All proceeds raised support the North Dufferin Community Recreation Centre. Dinner Served 5 to 7:30 pm. Free for kids 5 & under, \$7.50 for kids 12 & under, \$17.50 for adults.

Sunday, July 27

• John Millar of Tin Roof Global will expose striking similarities between the water realities faced by rural Ugandans and First Nations communities in Canada, while taking the audience for a tour water projects at home and abroad

Friday, August 1

• Singhampton Farmers Market will start August 1st and run till Thanksgiving. Every Friday's rain or shine from 4pm till dusk in the Mylars parking lot Grey County Road 124, Singhampton. Any Vendors interested or wishing more information please contact Spencer at Mylars at 705 445-1247. At St. johns United Church at 10:15 am.

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Strawberries & Jersey Cream

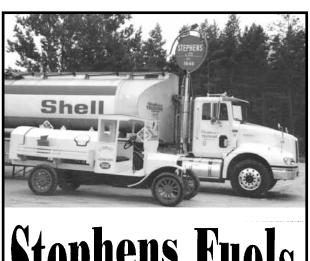


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DEBT IS NOT OF CONCERN

(Continued from page 1) accumulated surplus, cash, capital revenue and expenses.

The municipality now has \$18 million in cash, compared to \$8 million last year, and capital revenue was down to \$915,000, compared to the budgeted \$26.5 million.

Last year, accumulated surplus rose to \$89 million, compared to \$86 million in 2012. This included more than \$80 million invested in land, buildings, roads, equipment and water or sewer infrastructure.

2013 expenses remained stable since the previous year, totalling almost \$17 million. The \$24 million budgeted for expenses last year included \$8.9 million for the waste water project.

Clearview's \$8.1 million debt is not of concern to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Bragg added.

"Your debts could be four times that amount... Much is related to water and sewer projects, so it's necessary."

Water and sewer billings increased by more than \$60,000 compared to last year. This was due to recent increases in the water rate and due to the extra seven days at year end in the 2013 billing year compared to 2012.

Revenue rose slightly last year to \$19 million compared to \$18.2 million in 2012, and taxes receivable remained similar to last year at \$3 million.

Accounts receivable rose due to recovered HST from the federal government. The HST receivable at the end of 2013 was \$360,000 higher than at the end of 2012.

Accounts payable and accruals increased to \$182,000 due to payrollrelated accruals (amounts owing from the year before).

According to the Ministry, the Township's additional borrowing capacity is between \$27 million and \$37 million, depending on the interest rate and amortization period. This would be in addition to the balance of long-term debt at the end of 2013, which was \$8.1 million.

Bragg put her stamp of approval on the audited financial report on June 23.

than the bubble

booth, for

example. We

spend as much

time on the

little details as

h

Creemore

Children's

Festival will

take place

on Saturday,

August 2 from

10 am to 5 pm.

the big ones."

T



CANADA DAY SHOOTOUT - A player shoots the ball at a fiercely guarded net at the Canada Day Street Hockey Fundraiser on June 28 where participants raised \$800 for the Cybergnomes robotics team.

Roots are deep in Brentwood

(Continued from page 1)

been the Director of Business and Development at the Barrie Public Library for the last seven years.

He has been a member of the Brentwood Hall Board, which he chairs, for more than 25 years.

"We need to have the tax base to offset the growth that needs to happen," he emphasized.

VanderKruys feels his family's connection to Clearview gives him a solid base from which to lead.

Born and raised in Brentwood, VanderKruys still calls the area home. The land he lives on with his wife Carol and daughter Kristin is the same property his greatgrandfather inhabited in the late 1800s.

That man, J. J. Dumond, is wellknown in these parts for building the Collingwood Street bridge.

At press time, Ferguson said he had not yet decided whether he would seek a third term as Mayor of Clearview Township.



Christopher VanderKruys

Activities both big and small

(Continued from page 1) loaded with creatures, a representative from the Simcoe County Museum will discuss treasures in the log cabin and Camp Mansfield will hold traditional games.



Originally planned to occur every two years, the festival is back this year after a successful run in 2013. Visit www.creemorechildrensfestival.com.

groups on the main stage," explains Laurie, "but is isn't more important

"More money is spent to get those

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creemore CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

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Reserve your space by calling 705-466-9998 or email us at info@creemorechildrensfestival.com

There's a Party Brewing! Join us for some good old fashion fun and help us celebrate the brewery, the town and the beer.

Saturday, August 23rd, 2014 Noon – 6:00pm. Rain or Shine!



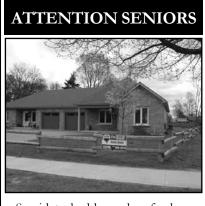
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OPINION & Feedback

THE WAY WE WERE



We'll bet these kids sure are happy school's out for summer vacation! Pictured are the students from Room 2 of the Creemore School in 1923. Front row (left to right): Maurice Miller, Norman Gowan, George Burtch, Earl Redfern, Bob Branch, Tom Peasly, Harold Gowan, ? Lightheart, Fred Branch and Gordon Watson. Second row: Della Mackay, Mary Sommerville, Ruth Ashley, Bernice Johnston, Lillian Thurston, Bertha McCarthy, Grace Lemmon, Ira Thompson and Gerald Johnston. Third row: R.B. Mackay, Ed White, Margaret Hood, Cora Jardine, Beatrice Branch, Ida Weatherup, Doris Blackburn, ?, Sherlock Young, Mary Pratt? Fourth row: Ross Smith, Norris Nicol, Ed Kenny?, Russell Long, ?, Howard Madill and Wes Perry. Fifth row: ?, Lloyd Jardine, George Ashley, Jack Davis, Bill Gowan and Maurice Mackay.

LETTER

Illegal bikes

I agree with the letter from Dick Byford ("Motorcycle tyranny," The Creemore Echo, June 20, 2014) and disagree with the letter from Glen Eagle.

The recent invasion of 600 bikes was 90 per cent illegal because of noisy pipes and that is what people object to. These illegal motorcycles pollute 18 times more than a modern small car because of the removal of OEM mufflers. That means that our poor village was subjected to the pollution equivalent of 10,800 cars, which is quite a lot and hard to "live our best life" in.

There were a few turbine smooth bikes that I do not object to. The decision to ride in a very long line is also troubling as it is illegal to impede the flow of traffic. More troubling is the health cost of riders following each other and breathing in raw exhaust fumes.

I have written to the Ride for Dad/Prostate Cancer people to ask why they condone the use of illegal bikes to fundraise for this very easily preventable disease but did not receive a reply.

I have also written to the Mayor and the police to ask if they could do something to bar illegal bikes from Creemore as we have by-laws for this... Again, no reply. This week, I noticed a band of rough-looking bikers wearing patches and colours, criss-cross the village streets. If a biker chapter opens here we can say goodbye to our small businesses and suffer property value decreases. Personally, I cannot enjoy my veranda at weekends because of the noise.

We must now protect ourselves. To Minister Eagle, I say: I do not care who drives a bike if it is legal, but if you are indeed a Minister, you should reread your Bible on the topic of good neighbours, because driving illegal noisy bikes down Mill Street when people are at church or trying to sleep in or hoping that their children do so, is not being a good neighbour.

Glenn Brown, Creemore

LETTER

More outrage, please

I would just like to say that I am shocked and appalled at the decided lack of outrage in the Letters section of the past few Echos. Yes, people need to slow down, respect speed limits, watch out for cats and learn to share the road better. Sure, Brent has a habit of actually saying what he thinks, but so does Rob Ford, and at least Brent's thoughts are worth listening to. So, really, is this the best we can do? Usually we're up in arms about something: wind turbines or housing developments or mega-quarries or high taxes or water treatment plants or heritage bridges or cellphone towers or MPs throwing candy too hard or food trucks or running down cyclists. Hasn't Kristi been around long enough that we could accuse her of having a liberal bias? Or perhaps that local national columnist has out of left field made a thinly veiled, snarky, and completely unwarranted remark about one of our own to help support her views that recycling and local, organic farming are bad for the environment (kind of like this remark)? Surely something must be able to spark some outrage. We have a long summer ahead of us, and if all we can do is talk about how amazing our community is and how beautiful it is here and how adorable the children are, it's going to be awfully boring. Couldn't someone get mad at the Brewery for something?

Simon Heath, Dunedin

LETTER

Put breaks on Township vehicles

As a former Councillor, I have a pet peeve about just one small area of Township expense and that is the personal use of Township vehicles.

Far too often to I see Clearview employees using Township vehicles for their personal use. These vehicles belong to us taxpayers – not staff. They are purchased, insured and fueled with taxpayer money. Yet every night they are parked in employees' driveways rather than in a Township parking lot.

Why should taxpayers carry this cost? Does the Township really need all these vehicles? What happens if an employee is involved in an accident after hours? Does the employee reimburse the Township for personal use, and if so, how much? Is there a taxable benefit addition to each employee's T4? (If this is how the system works, how does this reimburse local taxpayers for the use of "their" vehicles?)

To my mind, staff's personal use of Towship's assets is just a small example of poor administration and accountability for taxpayers' monies

If the Township administration is loose in this area, what happens in other areas that require even greater expenditures?

Frank Awender, Creemore

Letters reflect the views of community members and Letters must include the sender's full name. not necessarily those of The Creemore Echo.

Send your letters to:

The Creemore Echo 3 Caroline Street West, Box 1219

Creemore, ON LOM 1G0

Email info@creemore.com or drop them off at the request permission before printing. Echo's Office.

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





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FRED AND IVY'S GOOD OLD DAYS

I come from a long line of dead people. My lineage never seems to get much past the age of 70 - ifthey are lucky. In fact, too many have met their demise fairly short of that magic number. But even though they died far too young, they left a very deep impact on me.

My Dad (68 when cancer took him) had a very colourful set of relatives. Dad was English, born within the sound of the bells of London, so a true Londoner indeed. He was at an impressionable age when the World War II ravaged London and Welwyn Garden City, just 20 miles north of London. His Mum (my Nanna) used to look after children evacuated from London during the war.

Dad had a great Uncle and Auntie who lived out in the country in the south of England: Fred and Ivy. Their house was at the end of a grassy trail that was only accessible by foot. The great white house (or so it seemed to this eight-year-old at the time) stood what seemed like only 10 feet from the railway line. The line was still in use, but the train only went by once every 24 hours at about 11 pm, seven days a week; you could set your clock by it.

Great Uncle Fred had a passion



for racing pigeons. His flock would have been 100 strong – and strong they were. His shelves were lined with trophies from all the races his birds had won.

Great Auntie Ivy was the colourful one, though. She always wore bright

red lipstick – probably the one with the colouring that has been linked to cancer (yep, her demise), but it was more of a glue to the fag that dangled out of the corner of her mouth ("fag" is English yabber for cigarette).

See, when we went down to the pub (she in her cloth coat with real fakefur collar and pill hat), Uncle Fred would sidle up to his reserved seat at the bar and talk birds – the feathered variety – and Auntie Ivy would be set upon by the regulars to "bang us out a tune, Ivy"!

Auntie Ivy had never had a piano lesson in her life, but as soon as you hummed a few bars she would cock her head to one side, squint an eye closed to keep the line of smoke out of it (remember fag in mouth), and play like Liberace, only better.

Those were great visits. Fred and Ivy had no children so I was always spoiled with lollies and sherbet fountains.

Ah, the good old days...

Creemore Big Heart Seniors

We had 11 tables for cards and Lucky Draws were won by Corinne Brownridge, George Blakney, Marg Ferguson, Wayne Brownridge, Ray Broad and Marg Douglas.

Moon Shots were played by Bob Veale, Lucy Young, Brian McGill x3, Corinne Brownridge, Mary Bouchard, Art Bishop and Janice Stephens, and the travel prize went to Brian McGill.

Winners for cards were Leona Hartling 315, Lois Walker 280, Barb Pilon 277 and Ray Broad 273, and Mr. **Smith** took home the low (minus 10). You really need better partners, **Dave**.

We sang "Happy Birthday" to six members celebrating birthdays in the month of July.

Welcome back to Alinda and Art Bishop who have been away on a River Cruise in Europe to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, many



WARĎEN

congratulations to them. We also welcome back the Turners who have not been to cards for a while.

Irma Flack reported that Casino Rama will be offering our club \$15 slot play plus the lunch buffet for July, August and September.

We travel to Casino Rama on the second Tuesday of each month, from April through to November. To join us for the fun, please call Irma Flack at 705-466-5205 or Evelyn Warden at 705-429-5067 to reserve a seat on the bus.

Thursday, July 17 is pot luck day, so cook up something and join us at noon sharp!

I am working on a little blurb for one of the columns, however a little more information is required to complete this – stay tuned folks.

Remember: Never settle for less than you deserve.

What's in Season?

By Farmers' Market President, Pam Black

This Saturday there will be peas, garlic, lettuces, zucchini, radishes, spinach, kale and strawberries.

Drop by Peter's "Blue Springs Apiaries" booth. Not only does he have the best honey, try some of his baking, too.

See you there!



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> **Sunday Worship Service** at 11 am

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CREEMORE UNITED PASTORAL CHARGE To the end of July:

For the month of August: New Lowell at 10:15 am All welcome • 705-466-2200 St. James' Anglican Church Clougher-Lisle

> Sunday Service at 9:30 am All are welcome to join us.

St. John's Creemore 10:15 am

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6 • THE CREEMORE ECHO • Friday, July 11, 2014 ESCAPE SHORT-LIVED FOR MINIATURE HORSES

By Kristi Green

It was a small oversight that could have turned into a nightmare.

At 3 am on Thursday morning, **Doug White** was roused from his sleep by the sound of 40 tiny hooves beating in the dirt around his farmhouse just north of Creemore.

His daughter's 10 miniature horses had got out of their pasture after leaning on an improperly latched gate.

Doug rushed outside where he caught two of the escapees and secured them in the barn.

Unfortunately, at that hour it was too dark to see the rest of the horses. So, Doug headed back to the house to wait until daybreak.

"Because there were two in the barn, Doug figured the rest would stay around the building," explained his wife Brenda, who was out of town with their children at the time. "They like to be in a herd."

However, when Doug left the house a second time in search of the horses, they were gone. Luckily, a trail of droppings led him to the group.

Four miles later, Doug managed to slip a halter over the nose of one horse, which he led home, followed by five more.

With seven of the horses back in the barn, Doug was relieved. However, there were still three miniature horses out there in the big wide world, missing.

"He couldn't find them anywhere," Brenda said. Sophia, 11, her two-year-old son Blaze, and their friend Trixie, 3, had become separated from the rest of the group. Brenda wondered if perhaps a car had



Minis on the loose on Fair Grounds Road

frightened them away from the farm at some point.

At 29.5 inches high, Trixie is the smallest member of the herd, but that has never stopped her from making a sight of herself. In recent years, visitors to Creemore may have spotted her at the Canada Day and Santa Claus parades.

But that morning, Trixie's public appearance was unplanned. Doug's mane concern was that if the horses were on the road, a car could hit them and injure both animals and people.

By 7 am, there had been a number of sightings in the village of the tiny trio. The horses had headed south on Fair Grounds Road into Creemore. One driver even posted a photo of the three ponies on Facebook when he spotted them running back up Fair Grounds Road (above).

After a door-to-door search of the area, Doug and his friends finally located the runaways in a neighbouring paddock where a mysterious and kind stranger had enclosed them.

"No one was home there," explained Brenda, who still hasn't been able to thank personally whoever led the horses to safety. "We were so thankful to be able to find them."

Blaze, Trixie and Sophia are now back at Nature View Farm where Doug, Brenda and their children (Gloria, Sarah and Timothy) have lived for 26 years.

"The ponies are fine but tired," Brenda said. "It was a lot of walking for all three of them."

Hopefully, now that the horses are safely home, they won't stirrup any more trouble for a while.

Banting's homestead now site for diabetes education

By Edith Eedy

"History known is a good thing, but history shared is far more satisfying and far reaching."

Lucy Lippard

This is an appropriate quote to describe the Avening Women's Institute's excursion to the Banting Homestead Heritage Park in Alliston in June. Twenty-three of us, including friends and spouses, visited the recently renovated homestead and additions. It includes a unique octagonal brick drive shed built in 1918, and lovingly restored from materials from a similar nearby shed.

The original farmhouse was totally renovated, from sealing the original stone foundation to completely stripping the inside, and replacing the electrical and plumbing, but keeping as much of the original woodwork as possible. The house now serves as a museum with many interesting pictures, including a large original oil painting by Thomas Hunt of a sugar bush, which was restored using funds raised by Simcoe Women's Institutes.

Old furniture and artifacts, which Dr. Frederick Banting used while working on the discovery of insulin, are also on display. From idea to mass production, insulin was a tortuous trail. Although the story of insulin goes back to 1889, it is astonishing that the critical "discovery" period at the University of Toronto spanned from October 1920 to the fall of 1921 - less than 12 months. The combined experience, knowledge, conviction, persistence and resources of Banting, Charles Best, James Collip and J.J.R. Macleod produced Canada's lasting gift to the world. Banting and Macleod were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1923, and they shared the prize with Best and Collip.

Sir Banting was also an artist who sketched and painted with members of the Group of Seven. Some of his art is in the house. He also served in both World Wars as a Medical Officer and won the Military Cross for bravery under fire in World War I. He was killed while en route to England, when his plane, a Lockheed Hudson bomber, crashed on the east coast of Newfoundland on February 20, 1941.



(Left to right:): Dorothy Shropshire, Marg Prescott, Myrtle Carruthers, Marion McArthur and Eileen Martin at Banting House

Fast forward to November 2013 - the formal ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Sir Frederick Banting Legacy Foundation. The mission of the Foundation is two-fold: fight diabetes and preserve a legacy. The new building added to the old farmhouse serves as a Welcome Centre and doubles as educational space. There, local doctors and diabetes specialists share knowledge and support for outpatient services on specified days of the month.

The primary focus is youth, with an emphasis on disease prevention and self-management through education. Schools in the area have been invited to visit and learn more about diabetes, which now affects over 370 million people in the world and is projected to double by 2020. The response from the schools has been very positive. Plans for the future are to build an exclusive education centre for preventing or managing this 21st century epidemic.

We had a very interesting afternoon, and would encourage anyone in the area to take the short drive to visit this historic site.

Avening Women's Institute will start our regular monthly meetings in September. We meet every second Thursday of the month until June. Anyone who is interested in more information about our organization should call Edith Eedy at 705-424-2268, or check out the official website: www.fwio. on.ca.

An afternoon of mystery





Hilary Davidson & Ian Hamilton Sunday, July 13, 1 - 3 pm at Station on the Green, Creemore

Join us for a conversation about travel and murder with acclaimed mystery authors Hilary Davidson (Blood Always

Tells) and Ian Hamilton (the Ava Lee mysteries). Light refreshments will be served, and the authors will sign books after the talk. \$5 per person.

Come see the Ducklings! Carolyn J. Morris will bring her six week old ducklings to the store on Saturday at 10 am.



Curiosity House Books 178 Mill St. Creemore 705.466.3400 open 7 days a week www.curiosityhousebooks.com

Congrats to New Lowell Central School grads Class of 2014



By Sandra Bednarek

On June 25, the Grade 8 graduating class of New Lowell Central Public School walked into a beautifully decorated gymnasium as parents and friends wore bright smiles and flashed many pictures for the memory book. The staff and students had turned the gym into a twinklelight fairy tale place full of flowers, and most of all, good wishes.

The Valedictorian's Address was given by **Zoe Delorme** who did an outstanding job delivering this speech. She expressed very well all the ups and downs that most grads had during their time at the school. Zoe made special mention of the senior teachers who went on the long bus trip last year to Quebec. She paid a tribute to all of the parents and grandparents for helping the children get to this special evening.

After the ceremony and numerous pictures, and just before the dance, the graduates and guests were invited to an informal reception put on by the Grade 7 parents. **Mrs. Michalchuk** is to be congratulated for putting together a lovely display of yummy treats, along with the Graduation Cake.

Then, the visitors were asked to leave so the real party could begin with dancing!

Awards:

Highest Proficiency in English: Amy Hinchey
Highest Proficiency in French: Kristen Scott
Highest Proficiency in Math Skills: Zoe Delorme
Science and Technology Award: Allison Lancaster
History Award: Zoe Delorme
Geography Award: Zoe Delorme
Art Award: Zoe Delorme, Allison Lancaster
Music Award: Krystal Belknap
Creative Writing Award: Amy Hinchey
Highest Academic Average (Male and Female):
Jaden Chipman, Zoe Delorme, Thomas
Karvounis

Most Improved Grade 8 Student: Jessica Kelly Ryan Clarke Memorial for Top Athlete (Male and Female): Quinn Eggleton, Kameron Thompson

Best All-Around Student: Zoe Delorme Citizenship Award: Zoe Delorme, Quinn Eggleton, Amy Hinchey, Jessica Kelly, Allison Lancaster Honour Graduates: Zoe Delorme, Amy Hinchey, Allison Lancaster

Ontario Principal's Award: Allison Lancaster

Grads of 2014: Krystal Belknap, Sterling Campbell, Jaden Chipman, Zoe Delorme, Quinn Eggleton, Ryan Elliot, Jason Hendry, Britney Henson, Amy Hinchey, Tyler Hopping, Jess Jones-Brake, Thomas Karvounis, Jessica-Lynn Kelly, Roy Lambert, Allison Lancaster, Meghan MacCan, Julia Sarcinella, Kristen Scott, Caleigh Sentner, Tyler Stevens, Amanda Thomas, Kameron Thompson and Karen Van Leeuwen.

BACK GARDENS BLOOM IN CONTEST

By June Reed

"Backyard Beauty" was the 2014 theme for our second annual event to recognize gardens worthy of note and commendation in our community.

Thanks to the 12 participants who were willing to expose the beauty of their gardening endeavours and to our assessors' critical eyes.

The assessors were **Wendy Harry** and **Ruth Laden** from the Angus Horticultural Society, and **Katie Dawson** of Cut and Dried Flower Farm.

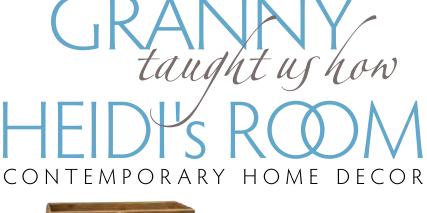
All of the participants are worthy of our admiration. Nonetheless, as advertised, we must acknowledge the five gardens judged to best meet Creemore Blooms' criteria.

This year, a "scoring tie" means that the top five are really six. Congratulations to the following gardens (in alphabetical order): 3 Elizabeth Street West; 17 Elizabeth Street West; 24 Elizabeth Street East; 22 Francis Street East; 56 George Street; and 7 Purple Hills Lane.

Thank you for the beauty you



are collectively bringing to our community! We look forward to your participation in the Creemore Horticultural Society and in future Creemore Blooms contests.





Saturday July 12 – Sunday July 20 Sunday–Thursday 10–6 | Friday–Saturday 10–8

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ANNUAL SUMMER SALE

For more information, visit www.thecreemoreecho.com





CLEARVIEW

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

TENDER

The Township of Clearview will be receiving Tenders/Quotes for:

Tender No. 2014-10

1 – 2014 Four Wheel Drive Articulated Municipal Tractor with Snow Blower and Sander Unit

Tender No. 2014-12

1 – 2014 Motor Grader with Rear Mounted Wing and One Way Plow

Tender forms are available at the Township Office, 217 Gideon Street, Stayner from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Sealed tenders clearly marked with **Tender #2014-??** on envelopes and on forms supplied by Clearview Township will be received by the Clearview Public Works Department.

Tenders for the above will be accepted by the undersigned until:

Wednesday, July 30, 2014 @ 1:00 pm

Tenders will be opened Wednesday, July 30, 2014 @ 1:15 pm.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Submit tenders to:

Stephen W Sage, CRS-S General Manager Transportation and Recreation Township of Clearview PO Box 200 217 Gideon St Stayner ON LOM 1S0 705-428-6230 ext. 228 ssage@clearview.ca

TENDER

Township of Clearview Sidewalk Reconstruction 2014 Contract No.: 300035745

SEALED BIDS, on forms supplied by the Contract Administrator, in the envelopes provided, will be received at the Township of Clearview, Municipal Office, 217 Gideon Street, Stayner, Ontario, LOM 1S0 until but not later than:

1:00:00 PM local time, Thursday, July 31, 2014

The Work includes approximately 750 m2 of concrete sidewalk installation, removal, disposal and reconstruction, including excavation, grading and full restoration, in the communities of Stayner and Creemore.

Bid Documents may be obtained at the office of the Contract Administrator, R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited, 3 Ronell Crescent, Collingwood, Ontario, L9Y 4J6 for a non-refundable fee of \$50.00 (44.25 + HST) payable to R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited.

In addition to other provisions in the Bid Documents, the lowest or any Bid will not necessarily be accepted.

Owner

Steve Sage, General Manager **Transportation and Recreation** Township of Clearview 217 Gideon Street Stayner, ON LOM 1S0 705-428-6230 ext 228 Fax: 705-428-0288



Fax: 705-446-2399

Trevor Ireton R.J. Burnside & Associates Limited 3 Ronell Crescent Collingwood, ON L9Y 4J6 705-797-4301

Contract Administrator





DEVIL'S GLEN COUNTRY CLUB

Are you interested in bringing your customer service experience to a bold, dynamic, family friendly ski club where your skills will be nurtured as you take responsibility for our day to day activities as part of our administration team? We are hiring!

Member Services Assistant/Front Desk (Term Position – Maternity Leave)

- This administrative assistant will be responsible for providing consistent and
- Exceptional front line service to Devil's Glen Members and their guests.
- Part time off-season, full time ski-season position to cover maternity leave.
- Computer skills and previous customer service training is an asset.
- Competitive hourly wage based upon experience.
- Must be able to work weekends and holidays during the ski season.

Start Date: Aug 1st, 2014

Membership Services Manager (Senior Management Position)

- High level of inter-personal skills including the ability to communicate with the membership in a calm and professional manner and demonstrated ability to manage
- people effectively.
- Strong attention to detail and proven ability to multi-task is a priority.
- Experience with a volunteer Board of Directors is an asset.
- Proficiency with Jonas Club software and Microsoft Suite an asset.
- This is a full time position offering a competitive salary.
- Must be able to work weekends and holidays during the ski season.

Start Date: Oct 1st, 2014

Deadline July 15, 2014. Please submit applications in writing, email or by fax to: Devil's Glen County Club Glen Huron

Ontario L0M 1L0

Attention: Doug Wansbrough

Email: doug@devilsglen.com Fax: (705)-445-5762

We thank all applicants for their interest but advice that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



CLEARVIEW

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

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

The Township of Clearview will be receiving quotes on your company letterhead until:

1:00 p.m. Wednesday July 30th, 2014

for the following items:

- 1. One-2002 Ford Van with Utility Box Unit 97-15
- 2. One- 70 foot electronic weigh scale
- 3. Three 10'X12' insulated manual operated roll up doors (220 Huron Street)

Equipment may be viewed at the Township of Clearview Public Works Building, located at 5833 27/28 Sideroad Nottawasaga during the hours of 7:00 am to 3:30 pm, Monday to Friday. The scale and doors may be viewed at 220 Huron Street Stayner Ontario.

The Township reserves the right to refuse any or all quotes.

For more information contact:

Stephen W. Sage, CRS-S General Manager Transportation and Recreation Township of Clearview 217 Gideon St, Box 200, Stayner ON LOM 1S0 705 428-6230 ext 228 or email ssage@clearview.ca

Want pics? Visit www.thecreemoreecho.com!

FUN& Games

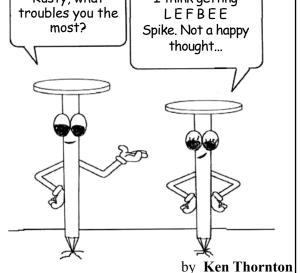
$Sudoku^{\text{by}}_{\text{Barbara Simpson}}$

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

Answer on Classifieds page

As you age, I think getting Rusty, what troubles you the LEFBEE most? Spike. Not a happy thought...

Spike & Rusty Word Scramble



Find this week's answer in Classifieds

WEEKEND WEATHER Friday, July 11 Sunny High 25 Low 6 Winds S 5 km/h POP 10% Saturday, July 12 Cloudy periods High 26 Low 13 Winds S 10 km/h POP 30% Sunday, July 13 Chance of thundershowers High 24 Low 18 Winds W 15 km/h POP 80% Where Ownership has value Recently Renovated championship golf course and club house. Equity and trial memberships available. Contact Sandy Higgins/shiggins@madriver.ca 705-428-3673 • www.madriver.ca

The AVRIDGE FARM







FRED'S FUNNIES

Why don't cows have any money?

Because farmers milk them dry.

Canadian Criss Cross

July 11, 2014

ACROSS

- 1. Curly hairstyle, for short
- 5. Garage occupant
- 8. First man
- 12. Approximate calculation
- 13. Allowed others to see
- 15. Being the only one
- 16. Port in Yemen
- 17. Quickly
- 18. "No ifs, ands, or ____'
- 19. Of leaves
- 21. Germs
- 23. Robes worn by priests
- 25. Young salmon
- 26. People moved from a place of danger
- 30. Offensive smell
- 33. Throw in a high arc
- 34. Walk in military formation
- 36. Relating to harmonic music
- 38. Beehive State
- 40. Eye parts
- 42. Everybody has one
- 43. Become slower
- 45. World-weariness
- 47. Binary number for 7
- 48. First public appearance
- 50. Partially shaved heads
- Québécois
- 54. Bird with a downward-curving bill
- 55. Cheapens
- 59. Customary practices
- 63. Declare to be true
- 64. City on the Mosel River
- 66. Dog treat
- 67. Have a habit of
- 68. Foolish

- 70. Have ___ in one's pants
- poems

DOWN

- whose motto is "The Heart of West Prince"
- 10. Opposed to prefix
- 11. Flat-topped hill
- Peak (highest mountain in Nunavut and the Canadian
- 20. Reunion attendee, for short
- 24. Start a tennis match
- 26. Jewish month
- 27. Took part in an election
- 29. It may be used in tracking
- 31. Broadcasting
- 35. Capital of Vietnam
- 39. Community on the South

- 69. Milk in French
- 71. Cash machine
- 72. Collection of Old Norse

- 1. French singer known as "The Little Sparrow"
- 2. Taro root
- 3. Spool for film
- 4. Insane person
- 5. Academic mortarboard
- 6. Muscat native
- 7. Summary
- 8. Prince Edward Island town
- 9. Sullenly obstinate
- Arctic)
- 14. Coffee order
- 22. Waste allowance
- 28. Decrease
- 32. Plant of the nettle family
- 37. Wreaths of flowers
- Shore of Nova Scotia

12 15 13 16 21 20 26 32 33 34 38 40 42 43 44 45 48 56 61 53 68 69 67 70 72

Find the answer to this week's Crossword on the Classifieds page.

- 41. County in New Brunswick
- 44. Skeet shooter's shout
- 46. Wife of Osiris
- 49. Pesters customers 51. In working order
- 53. Compound used in ceramics
- 55. Facts and figures
- 56. At the same height
- 57. Opening for air
- 58. River deposit
- 60. Prod with a stick
- 61. Geraint's wife 62. Stiff hair

10 • THE CREEMORE ECHO • Friday, July 11, 2014 "DOING FLIPS" WITH FRED, ARGOS' HEAD OF LAUNDRY

By Fred Mills

After five years away from the Toronto Argonauts Football Club since moving to Creemore, I returned in June to be Head of Laundry for their two-week training camp at York University in Toronto.

A normal day of doing laundry for more than 100 people started with a 6 am breakfast. Then, I would go to the Trainer's Room to collect the laundry (towels from treatments or staff clothing) that needed to be done. After, we headed to the stadium with the first wave of trainers where I would finish folding the remainder of the towels with help from the rest of the equipment crew.

All practice clothing (shorts, T-shirts, socks, etc.) for staff, coaches and scouts are in mesh bags. As the players come in to get ready for practice, some clothes can go missing from the bag because it "blew up" (meaning the zipper ripped or the bag wasn't done up all the way). As Head of Laundry, I would be put into action to find what had happened to the clothing.

Practice started at 7:30 am. After all the locker rooms were emptied, I would reorganize the chairs in front of the lockers, pick up any athletic tape and hang bags on hooks. I would then place a towel in each of their lockers – 88 or so in total.

Then, it was time to head out to the field and watch the practice or help out. Coach Scott Milanovich believes in power practices, which are back-toback practices with a 20-minute rest

in between. With 10 minutes left in the practice, I would unlock the locker rooms and get ready for the onslaught of laundry. I am not joking when I say this is what I missed the most! I loved being responsible for the fact that whatever was going in was coming out, clean and dry.

As the players came in, I went between the three locker rooms to separate the white jerseys (defense) from the blue jerseys (offence), as well as bags and towels, into four bins. I got the washer spinning, collected all laundry, and straightened up helmets and shoulder pads, as well as the locker room.

Being a part of the Argos and on the equipment staff is all about teamwork. When most bags and towels were in the bins, a few of us would take them over to another facility with two other washers and dryers. Some of us would get the bags spinning and head to the cafeteria for lunch. I would usually stay back in the locker room with Equipment Manager **Danny Webb** and wait to "do a flip" – take what was in the washer to the dryer. The rest of the day was spent washing, hanging up and folding more jerseys, coaches clothing and bags.

I would normally leave one small load for the next morning. The day would end after dinner, with more laundry pick-ups and folding, around

Now that I'm home, there seems to be a little less laundry to do – but I can't wait to go back next year!



MAKING A DIFFERENCE AT DAY CAMP — Keep your eyes open around the village this week - you might find evidence of Imaginarium's Summer Art Camp, which is just finishing its second week of fun. While the camp runs all summer long for the four- to 12-year-old set, there are special weeks for teenagers, and a session devoted to anyone from age four to 104! Contact 705-466-6304 or creemoreimaginarium@gmail.com for more information.

Echo brief

NDBL All-Star game results

The East Division Stars won the North Dufferin Baseball League's 50th Senior All-Star Game against the West Division Stars, 5 to 3. The Junior game ended in a 2 to 2 tie for the Reds and Blues. MVPs were Logan Wallace (Mansfield), Andrew Bukovec (Aurora Jays), Nathan Dix of Orillia (Blues) and Devon Wu of Aurora (Reds).

Hex kids

Do you want to be part of the children's marketplace

creemore CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

SATURDAY AUGUST 2, 2014

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705-466-2149

Submit your classified ad by 5 pm Tuesday: call 705-466-9906, fax 705-466-9908 email info@creemore.com, \$15 + hst for 25 words or less

FOR SALE

HAY for sale – Small squares and 4x5' rounds of horse hay. We deliver year-round. Call Norm of Stonehedge Farms at 705-466-2607.

FIREWOOD for sale. Hardwood slabs 15" long, 2-5" thick. Clean \$500-\$600 per load depending on the distance. Call 519-369-6123.

Clothing & Accessories are 20% off this weekend at **The Olde Stanton Store!!!** 15 min. South of Creemore on Airport Rd. New Parking Lot! Open Everyday 10-6, Fri. 10-9! (705) 435-6898

RENTAL / LEASE

ROOMS for rent. Furnished. \$130 per week includes shared living room, heat, hydro, wireless internet, satellite TV, parking. Linens supplied. No smoking. Call 705-444-4852.

Spacious one bedroom **APARTMENT**. Large livingroom, eat-in kitchen. Lobby & side entrance with parking. Hydro extra. 149 Mill Street, Creemore. Call Noel after 6 pm at 705-466-3635.



Russell and Margaret Rowbotham send congratulations to our granddaughter

JANNEL HULME

on graduating with an advanced graduate degree in Chiropody and completing her registration examination with the College of Chiropodists of Ontario.

She is now practicing at the office of Cindy Lewis D. Ch in Collingwood.

SERVICES

COLLEGE PRO PAINTERS. Call now to set up your free estimate. Call Nathan Fuller at 705-441-6939.

Book your jobs today! **RAY'S PLACE Youth Work Program** is in full swing. Gardening, yard work, errands and so much more. Call us at 705-466-3663.

Do you have a piece of history crumbling on your farm? We can help you preserve the past. **STONEWORK** restoration to barns, houses, outbuildings, walls and more. Contact Tom Raffay Stonework 519-538-2509; cell 519-939-0494.

THANK YOU

Thank You For Another Successful Canada Day. Even the weather cooperated by clearing up in time for the Harold Crawford Memorial Kids Bike Parade organized by Corey Finkelstein and sponsored by Helen Crawford. Thanks to both of you for starting off the day. The morning downpour forced the kid's games to be set up in the Legion Hall, but given the heat of the afternoon the indoor coolness was very welcome.

A heartfelt thanks to all those volunteers who stepped up to help with the Olde Tyme Games. There was organized chaos for a couple of hours but everyone had a great time.

A special thanks to the family that took over the water balloon toss and to the Jones family for picking up and returning the dunk tank and for their help with the clean-up afterwards. I won't thank David for running the dunk tank as he had way too much fun! Many thanks also to darci-que, Emily and Jen for the activities table and face-painting and all those folks not named here who pitched in to make our day so fun – you know who you are!

A huge thank-you to the local businesses who make generous contributions every year; to those individuals who made generous donations; to all those who contributed to the firefighters' boot drive. Without these donations Creemore's fireworks would not be the best.

The winner of the \$500.00 Visa card is John R. Spencer of Barrie.

Your Legion Canada Day Coordinator, **Norm Nordstrom**

HELP WANTED



Hope Acres

is seeking a furniture finisher /spray finish to work Monday through Friday. 20 hours per week. Experience preferred but not required. Willing to train.

Contact Rob Hardy rob_hardy@can.salvationarmy.org

BUILDING SUPPLY

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Fuel Delivery •Oil Furnaces
Lawn & Garden Supplies

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Antiques, Art, Memorabilia & Estates Auction

Saturday July 19, 2014 @10am Preview: Friday 4-6pm, Saturday 8:30am Royal Canadian Legion Hall

27 Wellington St. West, Creemore

An outstanding selection of furniture, memorabilia and art, from prominent Ontario estates & private collections. To include - Marconi portable radio, Singer sewing machine, Pepsi cooler circa 1970's, assorted light fixtures new in box, Napolean natural gas fireplace, assorted and selected crocks and oil lamps, teak furniture (dining room table, entertainment unit, etc), wicker outdoor furniture and hampers, Bissell SpotBot new in box, decorative garden pieces, Sea-Doo Sea Scooter new in box, assorted trunks and boxes, walnut tilt top table, Budwieser memorabilia collection, large collection of Nikon cameras, add ons, equpiment, etc. Also cameras and equpiment with names such as: Canon, Vivitar, Ansco, Zeiss, Olympus, Minolta, Kodak, Bolex, Brownie and Braun. Assorted tea wagons, scottish umbrella/ cane stand, wash stands, assorted wall units, selection of couches, dining kitchen room sets, tools, books, equipment, printers, DVD players, jewelry, bedroom suites, china, art.

For full details and photos, please see our website:

www.phoenixauctionsandappraisals.com

Phoenix Auctions and Appraisals Ted Myers AAO CPPAG Auctioneer & Appraiser 705-446-9797



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MULMUR NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING FOR A PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAW

The Corporation of the Township of Mulmur will be holding a Public Meeting pursuant to the Development Charges Act, 1997, to consider a Development Charges By-law. This Notice is provided in accordance with Section 12 of the Development Charges Act.

The Public Meeting will be held at 11:30 a.m. on August 6th in the Council Chambers at the Township Office.

Copies of the draft By-law and Development Charges Background Study will be available for review at Township Office during regular office hours on and after July 23rd, 2014. Anyone wishing to address Council with respect to the proposal may do so at the Public Meeting. Persons unable to attend the Public Meeting may provide written comments to Council up until the time of the Public Meeting.

Purpose of the By-law

Development Charges are municipal fees levied against new development to finance the growth related capital costs associated with meeting the service requirements of the new development. The purpose of Development Charges is to ensure that new growth pays for capital costs associated with servicing new development without placing a burden on existing taxpayers. The Township of Mulmur has had Development Charges in place since 2000. The Development Charges Act requires that the Township review the Development Charges By-law every five years. The five year review has precipitated this Public Meeting.

The purpose of the By-law would be to update the Development Charge for residential and non-residential development.

A copy of the proposed By-law amendment will be available from the Township Office at 758070 2nd Line E, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm weekdays after July 23rd, 2014.

Lands Affected

This By-law affects all of the lands within the Township of Mulmur.

Terry Horner, CAO/Clerk, Township of Mulmur 758070 2nd Line East, Mulmur Ontario, L9V 0G8 705-466-3341



Birds can fly: Some exotic skybound sightings, near and far

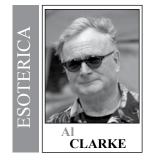
Birds can fly. Well, most birds can, and I guess everyone knows that. But when you think about it, it's really a very neat trick. I've always been amazed by birds. In fact, I bought my first Peterson Bird Guide over 50 years ago. I've always been a bit of a nerd,

but I am not one of those guys who counts the number of birds I've seen or travels to faraway places to see a certain bird, or plans a "Big Year" as in the very funny movie, "The Big Year." However, if the opportunity arises to see a new species or read about birds, I take it.

In my travels, I've been fortunate to happen upon some of the most interesting members of the bird family: a Wandering Albatross skimming the waves in the great southern Ocean off New Zealand, which has the greatest wing span of any living bird (more than 3.5 m). In the Chilean forests, the Giant Hummingbird, the largest of its species. and the large and dangerous Cassowary Bird deep in the Daintree Rainforest of Australia. I've seen Peregrine Falcons in the high Arctic off the coast of Greenland, and nesting on a bank tower in downtown Toronto; Golden Eagles soaring along the ridges in Scotland and off the 30th Line in Mulmur; and Atlantic Puffins in the the Skellig and Faroe Islands in Ireland. I've seen a King Penguin in the Falklands Islands (I am quite sure it was a King because

ALWays

FUN



as I was leaving I heard him say, "Thank yah, thank yah very much"). I've seen Flightless Cormorants and Blue Footed Boobies in the Galapagos; Ivory Gulls and Sandhill Cranes nesting in the High Canadian Arctic; and hanging nest birds, the Oropendola's, in the

Amazon. In Patagonia Rheas, the South Americas Ostrich; in southern Chile, the Andean Condor, the world's largest flying bird; and a stuffed Giant Auk – or was it a Dodo Bird? – in a strange and dusty museum in Smith Falls.

So even though I don't have a list, there are two birds I would still like to see: the Bee Hummingbird, which is the smallest bird in the world, and an Emperor Penguin, the largest of penguins. One will necessitate a trip back to Cuba where I met my wife **Jacquie**, which is a good ancillary reason to go back, and the other to Antarctica where we're headed next winter, their summer.

As exotic as those sightings were, some of my best moments have been up off the 30th Side Road Mulmur. The other day, Jacquie and I watched a Great Blue Heron pass by with large deliberate wing strokes as it pumped its way into the distance. Her favorites are the American Goldfinches – so vellow as they bounce from perch to perch. In the fall, I never tire of watching geese lining up for the trip south; lots of honking orders to each other as they

ALWays

FRCC

get into formation, and Bobolinks' distinctive calling from the tall grass in the back 40. Killdeer have taken to successfully nesting on the driveway for the last several years. I never tire of their broken-wing display if I venture too close. Occasionally, great flocks of Crows come by - so black against a blue sky. Often we are visited by a pair of Northern Harrier gliding low over the fields in search of careless mice. Turkeys walk by on a regular basis as if they have an appointment somewhere. A year ago, my dog Sally and I surprised a Golden Eagle feeding on a young turkey and watched it flee into the sky, its massive wings taking big bites of air. This spring, over the Millsap's farm, I saw a Bald Eagle moving in lazy circles towards the west. Little Song Sparrows are the nicest way to distribute the silence on a warm evening, but best of all, I like the Bluebirds. With Bluebirds you have to be patient. They're nice just sitting there, but it's when they take flight you see how blue they really are.

A few years ago I quietly launched my very own Bluebird campaign. I have built and given away over 30 pairs of Peterson Bluebird houses (you need to put two up about 15 to 29 feet apart to get good nesting success, as the Swallows will always take one) in hopes of building the population in the Mulmur area. I myself have seven pairs of houses and in any given summer, I have about four to five nesting pairs of Bluebirds. From all reports, the campaign is meeting with great success.

A couple of years ago at the Royal Canadian Geographical Society's Annual Meeting, I had the opportunity to talk to our keynote speaker and Honorary Fellow, Phil Currie. He is Canadian scientist, dinosaur hunter/paleontologist who has attainted worldwide rock-star status. He was instrumental in building the Royal Tyrrell Museum in Alberta and for examining the link between dinosaurs and birds.

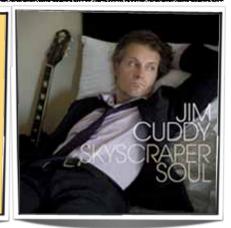
When I asked Phil if he'd had an "Eureka Moment" during his career, he talked about the day he realized that all birds were descendants of dinosaurs. (If you're a creationist, this is when you wished you had skipped to another article.) Dinosaurs are far from extinct - today they're more than 10,000 species of birds, so this represents one of nature's most successful evolutionary adaptations. When I think of failures to adapt and survive (since I have a business background, I think of Wang Corporation, Kodak or Nortel), but never dinosaurs – they're one of nature's real success stories. In a strange way, I think realizing that birds are flying dinosaurs is the real fascination for me.



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