

The Creemore ECHO

Friday, December 12, 2014 Vol. 14 No. 50 thecreemoreecho.com

News and views in and around Creemore

INSIDE THE ECHO



All things local
Shop stocked with escarpment treasures
PAGE 3



Trailblazers
Highlands Nordic hosts world class skiers
PAGE 7

Publications Mail Agreement # 40024973



Staff photo: Trina Berlo

YOUNG SKEPTIC Molly Kellie, with Robyn Gignac, pulls on Santa's beard while he works the room at Breakfast with Santa Saturday at Nottawasaga and Creemore Public School. For more photos, see page 6.

Budget starts with 3.2% increase

by Trina Berlo

Clearview Township council tackled the 2015 municipal budget Dec. 8 as its first order of business for the new term of council.

During the first budget workshop, council members reviewed the budget proposed by staff, which will be discussed, revised and finally approved after several more meetings and public consultation.

Township staff has drafted a budget with a working target that would require a 3.22 per cent tax increase, once county and school board taxes are factored in.

That would translate into an estimated increase of \$91 based on a home assessed at \$255,783, the average in Clearview Township.

The estimated residential tax rate increase includes an estimated municipal tax levy increase of 5.18

per cent (6.44 per cent municipal less 1.26 per cent policing), an estimated Simcoe County tax levy increase of 2 per cent, and no increase estimated for the school board.

Staff also proposed a 2016 budget with a potential 3.09 per cent increase, or a \$90 increase for the average home.

"Two of the main factors behind the increase are a large reduction in a long-standing provincial grant (the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund) that helps rural municipalities operate and increases to municipal reserves to replace aging infrastructure," said treasurer **Edward Henley**.

In addition to the \$183,000 reduction in OMPF funding, the main factors for the tax increase are due to a \$234,200 increase in transfers to reserves, \$60,882 for new staffing and a reduction in reliance on a \$243,191 surplus last year.

As for new staff, a full-time communications and marketing coordinator is proposed in the budget, starting July 1, 2015 and the addition of an economic development officer is proposed the following July.

Mayor **Chris VanderKruys** invites all Clearview residents to contact him and the other members of council to offer feedback and advice.

"We want to hear from you. Clearview council wants to ensure that Clearview residents have a say in how their tax dollars are spent, what services are important to them and where they would like to see savings," said Vanderkruys.

Another budget workshop is planned for Jan. 12 and 26 before going to a public meeting on Feb. 9. A final budget workshop is scheduled for March 2 before going up for council approval that same evening.

Suspicious man approaches girls

Police say two girls were approached by a suspicious man in a vehicle on McKean Boulevard in Nottawa on Dec. 4.

The girls, aged 12 and nine, were walking westbound on the road when an older SUV-style vehicle that was travelling eastbound approached and stopped near the girls at about 4:45 p.m.

The driver initiated a conversation, said police, and then got out of the vehicle and approached the girls.

They ran away and sought help from a man who was riding a bicycle with his dog.

"It is believed at this time that the above driver returned to his vehicle and left the scene in an eastbound direction," said police.

The suspicious man is described as white, about five feet and 11 inches tall with a thin build and short grey hair. He was wearing black boots, a three-quarter-length coat, possibly blue in colour, with large pockets in the front and jeans.

The vehicle is dark green with dirt and rust and has a front rack with silver horns attached.

Speeder nabbed in Avening

A 31-year-old Wasaga Beach man was charged after being stopped by police for travelling 44 kilometres over the speed limit through Avening.

The driver was going 104 km/h in a 60 km/h zone on Airport Road at about 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 5.

Police then discovered the driver's license was suspended.

Gravel pit info session

An information session regarding the proposed Harbour Farms Gravel Pit, hosted by Concerned Residents of Mulmur and CORE, will take place at Mansfield Outdoor Centre on Saturday, Dec. 13 from 10 a.m. until noon.

The gravel pit is proposed on Airport Road, south of County Road 21.

Doors open at 9:30 a.m.

Coffee will be served.

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COMMUNITY Calendar

Submit your community events
info@creemore.com
phone: 705-466-9906
fax: 705-466-9908

This Weekend

Now until Monday, Dec. 22

- **Creemore Echo's Annual Toy & Food Drive.** Drop into our office with unwrapped gifts for all ages, food, grocery store gift certificates and make somebody's Christmas!

Friday, December 12

- **Friday Night Supper** at Creemore Legion from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Tourtière, French fries, peas, coleslaw, rice pudding, coffee, tea, buns and butter. Adults \$12, seniors \$10.

Saturday, December 13

- Residents are invited to attend an **Information Meeting concerning the proposed Arbour Farms Gravel Pit** on Airport Road south of County Road 21 at Mansfield Outdoor Centre from 10 a.m. to noon. Coffee at 9:30 a.m. Hosted by Concerned Residents of Mulmur and C.O.R.E.

- **Dashing Through the Snow: A Canadian Jingle Bells** – Author **Helaine Becker** will be in Curiosity House Books at 2 p.m. reading from this holiday story. All welcome. 178 Mill Street.
- **Free Public Skate** at Stayner Arena thanks to Clearview Township! 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 14

- **Church Services** – see page 5.
- **St. Luke's Gifts of Grace "Silent" Auction** closes at 12:30 p.m. today. The church will be open to view & bid on the items Sunday morning or for other times call 705-466-2206, 22 Caroline Street West.

- **Majengo Party** at Creativity Art Retreat, 8961 County Road 9 in Dunedin from 2 to 5 p.m. Have any old prescription glasses? Bring them and they will make their way to Majengo! Donation bar / delicious African food. RSVP to lynnconnell@sympatico.ca.
- **"Born a Saviour, Born a King" Mansfield Presbyterian Church Christmas Cantata** at 2:30 p.m. presented by Knox Cantata Choir & Friends. Free will offering. Refreshments to follow. All welcome. 936572 Airport Road, Mansfield.
- **St. Luke's Gift of Music Concert Series** with **The Three Tenors** at 3 p.m. today at St. Luke's Anglican Church, Caroline Street West. Tickets \$15 available at Curiosity House, *The Creemore Echo* or at the door.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, December 16

- **Canadian Blood Services' Blood Donor Clinic** at Evangelical Missionary Church in Stayner from 3:30 to 6:30 pm. Call 888 2 DONATE or www.blood.ca to book your appointment.

Wednesday, December 17

- **Support Group Meeting** for family and friends caring for a person with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias. At VON Adult Day Program, Sunset Manor, 49 Raglan Street, Collingwood from 1:30 to 3 pm. For more information call Fiona at 705-444-2457. Sponsored by Alzheimer Society of Simcoe County and the Victorian Order of Nurses.
- **The Stayner Skating Club** is hosting a **Spaghetti Dinner with Santa** from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Stayner Community Centre. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$7 for children under 12 and \$30 for a family of four.

Saturday, December 20

- Please join us for the **4th Annual Creemore Christmas Carol Sing-a-long**, inside at Station on the Green from 7 to 9 p.m. Everyone welcome. Good singers cherished!

Thursday, December 25

- **The 13th Annual Christmas Community Dinner** will be held at Creemore Legion. Social hour at 4:30 p.m. followed by the traditional hot buffet meal at 6 p.m. For more information contact Diane at 705-466-3126.

Saturday, January 10

- **Creemore Centric VIII.** Canvasses and boards now available at the gallery. Deadline for submissions is Monday, December 29. Opening reception January 10 from 2 to 4 p.m. at Mad & Noisy Gallery.

Sunday, January 18

- **Purple Hills Arts & Heritage Society's Tea and History "Champlain Slept Here"** at 2 p.m. at Station on the Green with author Douglas Hunter, PhD and expert on Samuel de Champlain's exploration of Canada. This is a pre-amble to the

Purple Hills Arts and Heritage Society celebration of the 250th anniversary of Champlain's coexistence with the Petun Tribe near Creemore. Admission free. Hunter's non-fiction book entitled *God's Mercies* (an intersection of Henry Hudson and Samuel de Champlain) will be available for sale. RSVP to fred@creemore.com

Monday, February 9

- **Clearview Township's Public Meeting to receive input on the Council Proposed Budget** at 7 p.m. at the Council Chambers. Everyone welcome.

Residents are invited to attend
An information Meeting concerning
THE PROPOSED ARBOUR FARMS GRAVEL PIT ON AIRPORT ROAD
south of County Road 21
Sat. Dec 13, 10 am to 12pm
Coffee at 9:30
at Mansfield Outdoor Centre
Held by
Concerned Residents of Mulmur
and C.O.R.E.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPECIAL**
Enjoy a main course plus your choice of appetizer or dessert & tea or coffee.
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You are invited to attend the 13th Annual
CREEMORE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER
Thursday, December 25
Please join us this year at
Creemore Legion Hall, 27 Wellington St. W.
The Christmas Dinner has moved to a new venue because we need a bigger hall!
Enjoy a social hour, serenaded by the Wipper family and vocalist Ken Robertson, at 4:30 pm before sitting down to a traditional holiday meal at 6 pm with family, friends and neighbours in the warmth of a festively decorated, fully-accessible hall.
All are welcome regardless of age or personal circumstances but pre-registration is needed before December 23 to reserve a place setting. As always a few spaces will be set for those who are not able to plan ahead. Admission is a donation of a non-perishable item for the Salvation Army Food Bank, Hope Acres, Glencairn.
* Please know that volunteers will be pleased to deliver the meal to any who may be shut-in due to illness and to assist those without transportation in Avening and Creemore.
This special event is made possible through the generosity of corporate sponsors Drug, Ursula and Rob Abbott of Village Builders Inc and many other caring individuals, businesses, community groups and volunteers.
TD Canada Trust Account #0330 5202657 has been established to accept financial contributions.
FOR DINNER RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION ON VOLUNTEERING OR MAKING A CONTRIBUTION
* PLEASE CALL DIANE AT 705-466-3126 OR EMAIL dmckay.9lives@gmail.com
Event organizers are Diane & Brian McKay, Head Cook Jim Henderson, Natalie Seltzer, Ken Robertson, Kathy Meeser, Tim Armour, Diane Kelly, Ken Thornton and David, Hazel and Karina Wipper

Outfitters' Creemore brand plays on Irish roots

by Trina Berlo

An entrepreneur with a big interest in all things local has set up shop in the village with a big heart.

The signature item in **Reg Sheffield's** new Mill Street store is the Croimor apparel.

Croimor is Gaelic for big heart, for which the village was named, and is a new brand developed by Sheffield specifically for the new Creemore location of Niagara Escarpment Outfitters.

It is a spin-off of the Collingwood shop of the same name, open since 2012.

Sheffield said he chose Creemore for the second location because it's vibrant and receptive.

Sheffield carries and promotes products from the region.



Reg Sheffield

He said his focus is on products from the Niagara Escarpment, from Manitoulin to Niagara Falls.

"I look at local as a little broader than what we've traditionally thought of as local and the reason is, I am appealing to people who maybe can't get up the

escarpment," said Sheffield. "I am promoting the region as opposed to just specifically Creemore... You have to look a little broader because we are on a global map for tourism."

He stocks many different locally made products made by more than 30 partners.

The Creemore store is carrying knitting, beeswax products from Owen Sound, Manitoulin Island preserves and furniture made from reclaimed wood from central Ontario and built by local people.

Sheffield has developed several brands, including Little Rocks, a Canadiana line for children.

He has partnered with local companies to develop products emblazoned with the Croimor logo, including the shirts and Creemore

Coffee Company. He said he is also working with Leishman Pottery to develop a line of products.

Sheffield said the impetus for opening the businesses was his success in pitching the idea at a Dragon's Den event hosted by the Meaford Chamber of Commerce in 2010. He emerged as one of six finalists.

A former career coach, Sheffield said his success can also be attributed to a decision to take his own advice to follow his dreams to open a store.

He also has a commercial cleaning business so while he does work in the stores, he has a staff to take care of the day-to-day operations.

During the holiday season, Niagara Escarpment Outfitters, located at 146 Mill St., will be open Tuesday to Sunday.

Mulmur council approves rezoning to allow for craft distillery

by Trina Berlo

Mulmur Township council has unanimously approved a zoning bylaw amendment to allow for a farm store and a craft distillery at a farm located on Airport Road.

A small portion of the property has been designated rural commercial in response to a proposal submitted by Mulmur residents **Jill Johnson** and **Matthew McBride**.

The couple purchased a farm at 936215 Airport Road in the spring and the rezoning will allow them to bring their vision for the farm as an agri-tourism destination to fruition.

About 2.5 acres of the 48-acre property has been rezoned, the rest will remain agricultural.

New to farming, the couple has been raising pigs, chickens and sheep at their home property and at the new farm property, where they plan to convert the farmhouse into the store. They spent the summer restoring the barn and have recently moved some livestock to their new quarters.

They will be selling their own meats, eggs and other products sourced from area farmers including vegetables and prepared foods such as preserves and pies.

Once the distillery is operational, they will be making small-batch fine craft spirits such as whiskey, gin, vodka, rum, moonshine and various fruit-based spirits using locally grown grain and botanicals when possible.

"In terms of the spirits, some have to be aged so we wouldn't be up and running with all of those things right away. Everything will go in stages and

some things will be a few years out, others will be produced and sold more immediately," said Johnson.

McBride and Johnson have not yet settled on a name for the operation.

They said they don't have any experience in the distillery business. They are coming to it from the consumer end, having an appreciation for such products.

"It's been percolating in my mind for some time and it's just something that I started to pursue in earnest last year," said McBride. "It's been like a snowball rolling downhill. It's collected momentum along the way."

He has been taking courses this year and touring distilleries in the United States.

"We're excited by Mulmur council's decision to unanimously approve the zoning change for us. It's a great vote of confidence and we're excited to take it to the next step," said McBride.

A second meeting was held Dec. 3 to hear comments from the public before the bylaw was considered by council

members at its inaugural meeting.

Mayor **Paul Mills** said a second meeting was held because there was a lot of opposition to the proposal. Council first heard public input on the proposal on Sept. 3.

On the second go-round changes were made to address issues and concerns raised by neighbours.

"There was a lot of controversy there back and forth and we just thought, to be fair to everybody, let's have one more," said Mills.

Several neighbours and community members spoke both in opposition to and in favour of the proposal.

Those opposed said it would not fit with the residential uses in the area and it was a poor use of prime agricultural land.

Neighbouring farmer **Kevin Greer** said allowing a commercial designation would affect the future construction of farm buildings on neighbouring farms.

Other concerns revolved around road safety, traffic, property values and what effect a distillery could have on

the wells in the surrounding area.

Those in support of the plan said it is the type of diversification needed in Mulmur and something that could attract tourists.

Graham Corbett, owner of Fiddle Foot Farm in Mulmur spoke in support of the proposal referring to it as the farm of the future. He said he too will be looking to sell products at his farm because there are so few opportunities to do so elsewhere.

"The reason it's not happening a lot here is because people don't want it and that should change," said Corbett.

Now that the zoning has been changed, McBride and Johnson will proceed with provincial and federal approvals and a county process to work out the access off Airport Road.

They plan to open the farm store in the spring and the distillery is set to open after all the approvals are in place. McBride said it would take about 18 months from that time.

"We're just really excited to get started," said McBride.

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OPINION & Feedback

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EDITORIAL

Food bank usage continues to rise

We know that people in these parts are very generous. The evidence is piled under our Christmas tree in the front window at *The Creemore Echo* office.

People have been bringing in donations of food and toys for our annual campaign to help stock the shelves of our two local food banks – the Clearview-Stayner Food Bank and Hope Acres Salvation Army – and help put something nice under the tree for those who may otherwise go without gifts this Christmas.

As housing costs increase and job quality decreases, more and more people are having trouble making ends meet. Rising costs of heating fuel, food and housing are making it even harder. As a result, food bank usage is on the rise.

According to The Ontario Association of Food Banks (OAFB) 2014 Hunger Report released Dec. 1, almost 375,000 people in the province use food banks on a monthly basis. More than one third of those people are children. The report also finds there is a 20 per cent increase in first-time food bank users.

Forty-five per cent of food bank users in Ontario are women over 18, 35 per cent are children, 30 per cent have a disability, 10 per cent are new Canadians and six per cent are First Nations people. University students and senior citizens in rural communities remain two of the fastest growing groups of food bank users.

The OAFB is a network of more than 125 food banks and 1,100 hunger-relief agencies such as breakfast clubs, school meal programs, emergency shelters and senior centres.

According to the OAFB, unstable employment conditions, unsustainable wages and rising costs on essentials like food, transportation, hydro and gas are forcing a growing number of Ontarians to have to choose between paying their bills or putting food on the table. Since the recession, food bank use increased from 314,000 in 2008 to levels that have not dipped below 370,000 in recent years.

Since 2008, of the jobs created in Canada, 80 per cent have been temporary positions, contributing to the pervasive problem of hunger in Ontario and 1.7 million jobs in Ontario are considered insecure.

Ontario has seen an increase in the number of individuals classified as the 'working poor'. Between 1996 and 2008, working poverty rates in Ontario increased 73 per cent. This is in part due to Ontario's changing employment structure and the growth in part-time, casual and temporary forms of work.

Most people who access food banks are either on social assistance or on provincial or private disability support while 64 per cent of users are renters, compared to only 0.8 per cent of users who are homeless and one per cent who live in shelters.

Our food and toy drive continues until Dec. 22, please consider making a donation. We are also accepting cash donations.



THE WAY WE WERE

A true Christmas tradition: Andrea drags her prize tree out of the bush at the VanAdrichem Farm near New Lowell, as pictured in the *Creemore Echo* in December 1997.

Send your photos to info@creemore.com or bring them to the office at 3 Caroline West to be scanned.

Editorial was filled with destructive innuendo

Editor:

I was a little confused by the editorial comments in last week's *Creemore Echo*. The writer made a lot of naive suppositions and leapt with enthusiasm to conclusions that had no basis in fact. Concluding that there is some kind of team building exercise involved in choosing who moves a motion to adjourn and, even worse, suggesting that the comments made by councillors in their speeches at the swearing-in ceremony had some dark meaning about not intending to be a part of the council team was patently destructive and absurd. The editorial suggested conspiracy by the mayor and deputy mayor, a non-existent subtlety by Councillor Walker and a slight to Councillor Davidson because of something that others used to do in the past. The editorial was filled with destructive innuendo based on nothing more than a negative interpretation of how councillors thanked the people who voted and then made a promise to try to represent their ward as well as all the people of Clearview. I was there and thought everyone spoke well, recognizing that public speaking might not necessarily be everyone's strength.

As for working together as a team, each councillor brings different experience, ideals and views to the table. In any democracy, there needs to be people who will disagree and argue over how best to implement decisions. Eventually, after debate, a vote is taken and the majority is meant to prevail with the respect of the minority. I expect this new council will be no different and to suggest that such a healthy democratic process is somehow ineffective because not everyone agrees is shameful on the part of *The Echo*.

Incidentally, under Roberts Rules, once the formal agenda of a meeting is concluded, the chairman of the meeting can ask if there is any other business to be addressed and, if none is raised, the chairman can, without a motion, adjourn the meeting. The motion does not need either a proposer or seconder. Given that the formal agenda had been completed at the swearing-in ceremony, Mayor Vandekruys could have exercised his authority to terminate the meeting without further ado.

Rowlie Fleming,
Creemore.

Creemore has a chance to make a difference

Editor:

I just read the article about Debbie Ebanks wanting to bring a Syrian refugee to Canada (*The Creemore Echo*, Friday, Nov. 28, pg. 11).

Some would say that charity starts at home but I say, tell that to the federal government, who over the last 50 years or so has sent billions overseas. I haven't heard that anything has changed, but Creemore has a chance to make a difference in one young woman's life.

If the people of Creemore spent \$10 less on gifts

for each of their family and friends and donated to this cause, the village of Creemore could see the positive result and once again, live up to our reputation as the village with the big heart.

Lee Anning,
Creemore.

Anyone interested in helping with the immigration process, please contact Ebanks at 705-896-6800 or debbie.ebanks@gmail.com or Lorna May Lowe at 705-352-2759 or lowe201@rogers.com.

The Creemore ECHO
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Friends renew bond during long walk around the Ring of Kerry

I apologize for not having written lately, been off on some adventures. This one goes back to last June when my buddy Jimmy and I were off walking again, this time the Ring of Kerry in the southwest corner of ever so green and friendly Ireland, a 130-km, six-day walk. The weather was spectacular, seven days of sunshine is almost unheard of in Irish meteorological circles. In fact, the first day we both suffered a serious case of sunburn as we had packed Gortex rain gear, and Icebreaker underwear but no sunscreen, after all how hot and sunny can Ireland be?

I am not going to bore you with how green everything was and sure, the scenery was really spectacular, the views after the 300m-plus exhausting climbs to the highlands breathtaking, the pub food was great, the stone age forts fascinating, the sheep jokes amusing, the boat ride to the remote Skellig Island with its 1,500-year-old monastery and 90,000 strong Gannet colony a wonderful rest for the feet, the Neolithic tombs and Ogham Stones mystifying, the gentle tones of spoken Gaelic lyrical, the unexpected meeting of a friend (former Antarctic weather man at the train station in Dublin) pleasantly surprising, the B&B comfortable and quaint, the beer refreshing and cold, the breakfasts of blood pudding and bread fried in bacon grease cholesterol boasting, the people helpful and friendly, not to mention the history that comes alive when you are standing where the history was made.

So yes, Ireland is one of the nicest

ESOTERICA



Al
CLARKE

places in the world to visit, and you should go there.

However, I want to tell you about the existential elements of hiking with a friend in another country.

The physical element is exhilarating. When you walk you feel every stone along an ancient abandoned

right of way, you can imagine who passed there before you, perhaps a prince or a Roman legionnaire, the coldness of a stream when the water slips over the top of your boot, so clear and inviting (and yet undrinkable because of Giardia/Beaver Fever, caused by sheep urine, of which there is no shortage in Ireland), the wind moves off the North Atlantic and refreshes you as you move across the open meadows and then suddenly the welcomed coolness as your steps take you from the sunlight into a densely shaded forest. Then there's the moment well spent venturing into an abandoned church to watch the sun through stained glass windows and examining the 1,000-year-old mason's marks on stone, stopped for conversation because there is no hurry you are surprised by the warmth of an old farmer's toothless grin when he recounts the local history, the smells of sheep manure as you carefully pick your way along an ancient path, your eye drawn to the abrupt colour of a flower escaping from the rocks of a 1,000-year-old stacked stone fence. You try to image the human effort required to build countless miles of stone fencing but can't and best of all, the tiredness at day's end resulting from an embraced exertion that brings the deepest of



Contributed photo

Al Clarke with his buddy Jimmy at the Staigue Ring Fort along the Ring of Kerry in Ireland.

sleeps. Hiking brings you face-to-face with the minutiae of a place, when you walk, unlike being in a bus or a car or even on a bike. You are more than just a visitor, you are physically usurped.

However it's the spiritual element of hiking with a friend that's really special. Think about the last time you were face-to-face for every waking moment with someone for eight days, separated only by sleep and the occasional bathroom break. People say you get to know someone when you spend four hours with them on the golf course, balderdash. Anyone can pretend to be someone they're not for four hours, but not for 15 hours a day for eight days. However, I can see the problems resulting from calling up your banker or lawyer or investment advisor and asking him/her to go hiking with you for a week. Regardless, that kind of prolonged personal interaction

allows you can virtually descend into the person's soul, probably not something you may wish to do with your banker or lawyer or investment advisor. Jimmy and I have been friends for 40-plus years, and this was the fifth time we have hiked in Europe together so we know each other as well as any two people ever do. We started hiking years ago after realizing we were only meeting at funerals.

So you can imagine that over the course of the years we have some far reaching discussions and by the end of it we pretty much know what the other thinks. Interestingly, I don't think that either of us has managed to change the other's opinions on any of the topics but it's always a great mental exercise that matches the physical effort of the 20-km days, leaving us pleasantly exhausted at day's end.

If you have a loved one, spouse, son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, son-in law, daughter-in-law, or friend you want to get to know better and they to know you better, nothing compares to the distractionless one-on-one time you experience while hiking. If you enjoy being physically tired at day's end and you revel for the cut-and-thrust of a good exchange of ideas, I recommend you pick a friend, then pick a couple of potential discussion topics (I'd avoid politics), and try a day hiking on the Bruce Trail. It's just down the road.

LOCAL CHURCH DIRECTORY

Sunday, December 14



CREEMORE UNITED PASTORAL CHARGE

This Week:

3rd Sunday of Advent

New Lowell Church at 9:45 a.m.
and St. John's Creemore at 11 a.m.

All welcome • 705-466-2200

ST. LUKE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

22 Caroline St. W. • 705-466-2206

Sunday Worship Service at 11 a.m.

Bid on our Silent Auction by Sunday, Dec. 14 at 12:30 p.m. (see details on page 2)

Knox Presbyterian Church, Dunedin

Sunday, December 14:
3rd Sunday of Advent at 10 a.m.
Speaker: Sean Angel
705-466-5202

THE SALVATION ARMY HOPE ACRES COMMUNITY CHURCH

Invites you to attend
Sunday Church Services at 10:45 a.m.
998614 Mulmur Tosorontio Townline, Glencairn
For more info call (705) 466-3435

Sunday, December 14

"Born a Saviour, Born a King"
Mansfield Presbyterian Church
Christmas Cantata at 2:30 p.m.
Knox Cantata Choir & Friends.
Free will offering. Refreshments to follow. 936572 Airport Road

Sunday, December 14

St. Luke's Gift of Music Concert
Series with The Three Tenors at 3 p.m. today at St. Luke's Anglican Church, Caroline Street West. Tickets \$15 available at Curiosity House, The Creemore Echo or at the door.

To tell us what is happening at your church, call Georgi:
705-466-9906 • fax: 705-466-9908 • email: info@creemore.com

Creemore Baptist Church

Candlelight Service
Christmas Eve
7pm

12 Wellington St. W



THREE TENORS

Sunday, Dec 14th - 3 p.m.

\$15

Tickets available at Curiosity House Books, the Echo, and at the door.

Complimentary refreshments follow all concerts

St. Luke's Church
22 Caroline St. West
Creemore

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Staff photos: Trina Berlo and Fred Mills

Hazel Dempsey (counterclockwise from above) received first place for her nature hat at the Creemore Crazy Hat Contest and was awarded lighting rights at the tree lighting ceremony Dec. 5; **Evening Martin** won third place for her ocean inspired hat; **Nigela Purkis** won second place for her super crazy Christmas hat, pictured with the events host **Greg Young**. The event was organized by CARA and the Tree Society of Creemore and sponsored by Cardboard Castles. Winners were given gift certificates for the toy store; **Holly Pike** was among volunteers flipping hundreds of pancakes Saturday at Breakfast with Santa at Nottawasaga and Creemore Public School Dec. 6, **Kieran** and **Parker Kennedy** visit with Santa, with their father **Jamie Kennedy**, during the breakfast.

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Dec 22& 23: 9-6; Dec 24: 9-3
Dec 25&26: closed; Dec 27: 9-6
705.466.3514
100milestore.ca

 Dec 13	 Dec 14	 Dec 15	 Dec 16
 Dec 17	12 Days of Christmas to SAVE 20% OFF Creemore Village Pharmacy I.D.A. creemorevillagepharmacy.com 171 Mill St. Creemore 705-466-2311		 Dec 18
 Dec 19			 Dec 20
 Dec 21	 Dec 22	 Dec 23	 Dec 24

Highlands Nordic hosts national trials

by Trina Berlo

Highlands Nordic will host between 500 and 600 cross-country skiers hoping to qualify for international level competition.

Highlands Trailblazers, the home club of Highlands Nordic in Duntroon, is hosting the Haywood NorAm World Junior Trials and Under 23 Trials, in addition to an Ontario Cup competition, Jan. 7-11.

Winners will go on to compete at the world juniors in Almaty, Kazakhstan in February.

Owned and operated by the Sinclair family, Highlands Nordic has hosted high level competitions in the past including a North American Cup, multi-nationals and Ontario Cup events.

Kelly Sinclair said in order to be selected as the venue, the club has to bid and meet certain criteria related to trail conditions and elevation.

Having secured the world juniors for skiers age 20 and younger and under 23 trials, the club added the Ontario Cup. Juvenile and midget divisions are included.

"It's a good chance for young athletes to see older, advanced athletes in action," said Sinclair.

Skiers will compete in classic and skate skiing, classic sprint and skiathlon, when skiers begin with the classic technique and switch over to skate skiing.

There are nine local club members competing in the junior level, ages



Contributed photo

Trailblazers **Alex Stukator** (top, from left), **Tess Wortley**, **Oliver Grocott**, **Aiden Tullio**, coach **Rick Dickey** (bottom, from left), **Heidi Ohrling**, **Milla Tarnopolsky**, **Emmanuelle Adamson** and **Erik Ohrling**. Several team members are competing at the Haywood NorAm World Junior Trials at Highlands Nordic near Duntroon in January.

16-17.

Sam Greer, also a member of the Trailblazers, is competing in the senior level. He has been training at the National Development Centre in Thunder Bay and is considered a contender at the qualifier.

There will be many opportunities for spectators to take in some high-level competition during the weekend beginning on Jan. 8 with the skiathlon running most of the day. On Saturday, Jan. 10, the sprint finals will take place in the afternoon and the whole

competition is expected to wrap up around noon on Sunday, Jan. 11.

The club is looking for volunteers for the event and others held throughout the season.

Sinclair said there are many volunteer opportunities for people who do not have expertise or qualifications.

Highlands Nordic will also host the Yule Tide Blast on Dec. 20, one of the earliest Nordic ski races of the season.

To volunteer, e-mail trailblazers@highlandsnordic.ca or call 705-444-5017.

Larry Sinclair inducted to Collingwood Sports Hall of Fame

Highlands Nordic owner **Larry Sinclair** was recently inducted into the Collingwood Sports Hall of Fame as a builder of sport, 10 years after his father Jim Sinclair received the same honour.

The growth of Nordic skiing and success of local athletes can be attributed to the Sinclair family, founders of the Highlands Trailblazers Cross Country Ski Club, which has trained hundreds of youths, including two-time Olympian **Brittany Webster**.

Larry Sinclair is a former competitive skier, coach and mentor.

He coached the Canadian Junior team in the 1980s travelling to Finland, Russia and Bulgaria for international competitions and was a support coach at the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics.

Highlands Nordic has hosted Provincial Ontario Cup races, OFSSA Nordic championships and a National Championships in 2003 and 2009.

Sinclair was inducted into the Collingwood Sports Hall of Fame on Oct. 25.

"Larry's love of the winter outdoors is infectious to the ever-growing number of athletes coming to Highlands Nordic. Larry is universally respected across the sport and community," said hall of fame officials.



Give a gift to last the whole year through

Call or email now to order a gift subscription and we will make sure *The Creemore Echo* is in the mailbox of the community-lover on your list, with a personalized note, before Christmas.

The paper will continue to arrive for the next 52 weeks via email or mail, a reminder to that special someone of you and the place they care about.

The Creemore ECHO info@creemore.com
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Make a Donation to The Collingwood G&M Hospital Foundation in Honour of a Loved One or in Lieu of a Gift

Please
Donate Today!

www.cgmhf.com | 705-444-8645

The Door seeks donations

The Door’s annual Christmas dinner will be held Friday, Dec. 19 at St. Patrick’s Hall in Stayner. Organizers are looking for donations of food, specifically a turkey, potatoes, corn, carrots, rolls, and nut-free desserts, and small gifts and treats to fill stockings.

Anyone wishing to contribute, volunteer or becoming a partner please contact Gerrior at gerriordutka@rogers.com, 705-428-3733 or 705-888-1188. Financial Donations can be made online at www.canadahelps.org (please select Highlands Youth For Christ and then Stayner Door in the fund/designation menu) or by mail, The Stayner Door, Box 1502, Stayner, Ont., L0M 1S0.

Seniors collect food

We welcomed back **Kathleen Foster, Lorraine Armstrong and Brian McGill.**

We would appreciate donations for the food bank in the next two weeks. Items are to be collected from us by *The Creemore Echo* staff. Non-perishable food or cash would be helpful.

It is the time of year that we make many donations and would like suggestions as to where we might do the most good.

Dec. 18 is the date for our Christmas dinner and members are admitted free, however, should you wish to invite a guest the cost will be \$15 and all guests are welcome.

There were eight full tables and lucky draws were won by **Ruth Loughheed x2, Kevin Keogh, Wilma Zeggil and John Van Voorst.**

Eight Moon Shots played by **Martin Verstraten, Evelyn Warden, Dave Smith, Eileen Nash, Lorraine Armstrong, Janice Stephens, Marg Hope and Lillian Hiltz.**

Winners for cards were **Evelyn Warden 307, Martin Verstraten 300, Peter Gubbels 293, Lillian Hiltz 291** with low for **Kathleen Foster 99.**

Jeff Foxworthy is a comedian who makes redneck jokes and recently at an event in Windsor poked some fun at living in Canada, some of these are as follows:

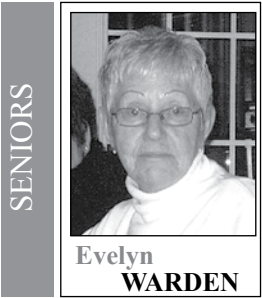
If someone in a Home Depot store offers to help you and does not work there you may live in Canada.

If you wear shorts and a parka, you may live in Canada.

If you can drive 95 km/h through two feet of snow you might live in Canada.

If you have more miles on your snow blower than your truck you may live in Canada.

Remember: The best things in life are the people you love, the places you’ve seen, and the memories you’ve made along the way.



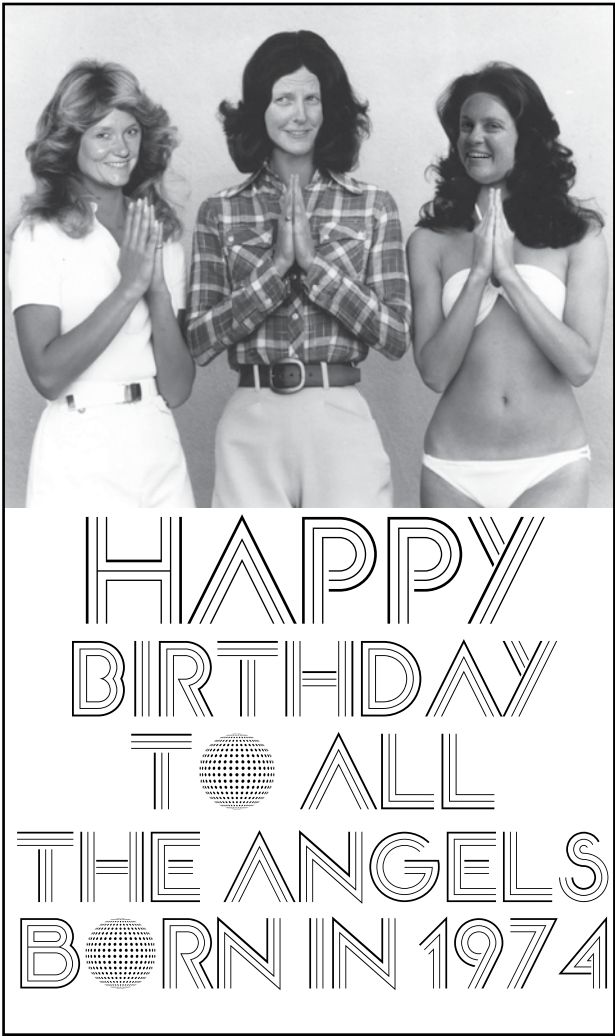
SENIORS

Evelyn
WARDEN



Contributed photo

60 YEARS OF SERVICE New Lowell Legion member **Jack McCarthy**, 95, (front) is presented his 60-year service pin. He is pictured with Sargent of Arms **Denise Beauchesne** (from left), president **Roy Pollock**, first vice president **Pauline Macintosh**, second vice president **Dave Lindgren** and executive member **Ken Day**.





CORPORATION OF THE
township of mulmur
APPOINTMENTS

The Township of Mulmur invites members of the community to apply for the following appointments:


- COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT – 3 members
- PLANNING ADVISORY/ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 4 members
- POLICE SERVICES BOARD – 1 member
- MULMUR HERITAGE COMMITTEE – 4 members
- MULMUR RECREATION COMMITTEE (new) – 4 members plus 1 youth member
- INTEGRITY COMMISSIONER

Previous members and/or applicants are welcome to re-apply. Committee of Adjustment and Planning Advisory/Economic Development Committee members are paid an honorarium. Police checks may be required for some committees.


To obtain an application form and to learn more about the committees and their mandates, please go to the Township website: www.mulmurtownship.ca or contact the Township Office. Applications can be submitted in person, by mail, fax or e-mail up to Wednesday, January 07, 2015 at 2:00 pm.

Terry Horner CAO/Clerk
thorner@mulmurtownship.ca
(ph) 705 466 3341 Ext 222

A small gift can make a big difference.



Donation of non-perishable food, money, gifts and gift cards are being received at *The Echo's* office to help people in our community. All donations go the Clearview Stayner Food Bank or Hope Acres Salvation Army. We will be collecting items during our office hours until Monday, December 22.



3 Caroline St. W.
705-466-9906



CREEMORE CHRISTMAS
Carol Sing-a-long

Saturday
December 20
7 to 9pm

at Station on the Green
Music • Refreshments
Everyone welcome
Good singers cherished



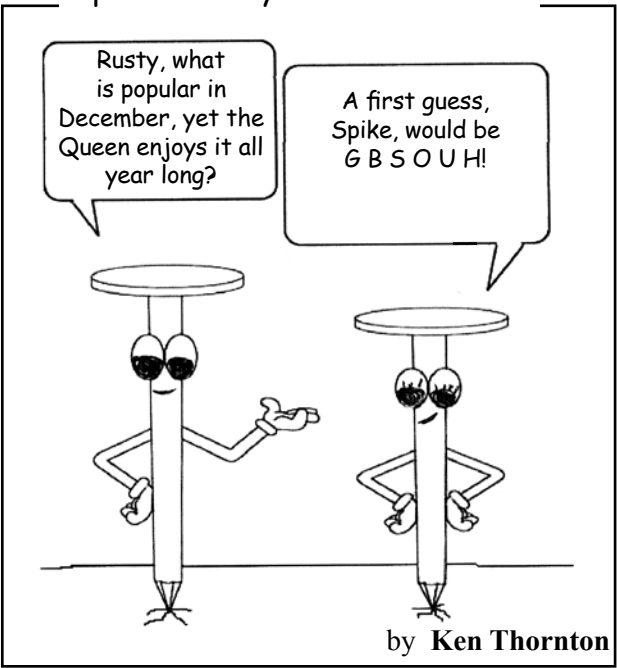
FUN & Games

Sudoku by Barbara Simpson

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

Answer on Classifieds page

Spike & Rusty Word Scramble



Find this week's answer in Classifieds

Weekend Weather

Friday, December 12

A mix of sun and cloud
High -1 Low -4 Winds NW 20 km/h
POP 30%

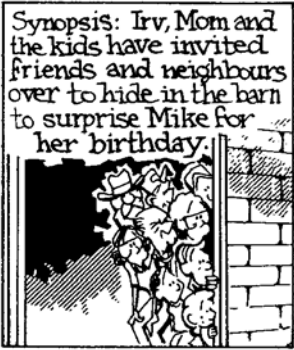
Saturday, December 13

Cloudy with sunny breaks
High 2 Low -3 Winds W 10 km/h
POP 30%

Sunday, December 14

Mainly cloudy
High 4 Low 1 Winds NW 10 km/h
POP 30%

The AVRIDGE FARM



by JEFF WILSON

FRED'S FUNNIES

The stressed out snowman was acting flaky.
That was, until he had a meltdown.
And finally he was indicted for having a slush fund.

Canadian Criss Cross

December 12, 2014

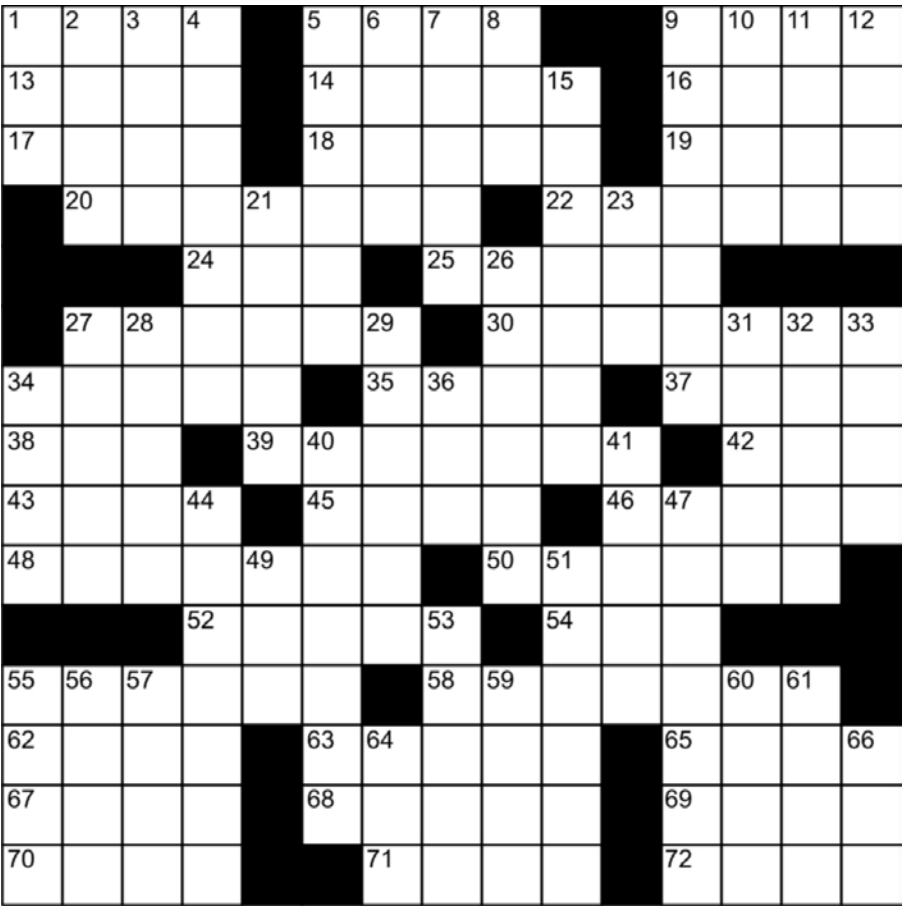
ACROSS

- Like most cupcakes
- Bit of land
- Bullets
- "Get outta the way!"
- Bonspiel for the Canadian men's national curling championship
- Been in bed
- Recipient of a Gerald Lampert Memorial Award
- Cuplike spoon
- Ground forces
- Be a warning of
- Whirling mass
- Louse egg
- Watery discharge
- One who's up
- Unpaid and overdue debts
- Confused conflict
- Part of ABM
- Leave undone
- You ___ here
- Controversialist
- Canadian mezzo-soprano Gauthier
- Feudal slave
- Atomic number of fluorine
- Daisy-like flower
- Lawyer's briefcase
- Fine-bladed sword
- Raise one's glass to
- Dispose of
- Hand out, as homework
- School for special training
- Run slowly
- Substitute for chocolate
- Frosty's "eyes"
- List of options

- Sign up
- Invisible radiation
- Sharpened side of a blade
- Little one
- Salmon's spawning area

DOWN

- Mischievous one
- Building for poultry
- In any way
- Relaxation of hostilities
- Remove, as by surgery
- Rock climber's challenge
- Contract amendment
- Conger
- In a panic
- Trading centre
- Charades player
- Cameo stone
- Daydream
- Put in place
- Sharing word
- Mad one of fiction
- Flat hat
- Quick to notice and respond to danger
- Possible result of an animal bite
- Mountain ridge
- Exploration vehicle
- Duke it out, in practice
- Tortilla dough
- A Bobbsey twin
- Magnify
- Happening speedily
- Tired feeling, as from not enough rest
- Motorcycle attachment
- Gear tooth



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

- Fit for cultivation
- Delay leaving
- Looney Tunes company
- Place for tools
- Like some telegrams

- Prepare a meal
- Pouting look
- Football measure
- Pangolin's treat
- Young man

Stayner, Alliston top the league

by Alex Hargrave

Two teams clearly lead the Georgian Mid-Ontario Junior C Hockey League after the mid-way point of the 42-game regular season.

No surprise that Alliston Hornets is one of the teams. Alliston has been the league's dominant team position since 2007. In that time, the Hornets have won six league titles, two Ontario championships while finishing second in the province three other times.

Last season, they finished second to the Penetang Kings for the league title. Alliston is currently perched on top of the league with a 21-3-1 record.

Penetang, by the way, is in a major slump. Last week, the Kings lost to the cellar dwelling Midland Flyers, 2-0, and to Erin Shamrocks, 4-1, to make it four losses in a row. In their last 12 games they have won only once. You don't need to be a genius to know there is more to this story than just losses.

Stayner is the other team that has slowly worked its way to the top.

The Siskins, 17-5-2-1, were pushed to the brink Dec. 3 by the Flyers but came out of the game victorious, 6-5, in overtime.

Said Siskins head coach **Steve Walker**, "When you play a team that you think you can beat you look past it... You just got to get past it."

Dakota Hynes was the hero netting the winner 1:43 into the fourth period. The game went back and forth for the most part with Stayner's **Trevor Franklin** scoring the only goal of the third period to tie the game at 5-5.

Netting Stayner's other goals were **Ben Lougheed, 2, Jamieson Buck** and **Sean Healy**.

Stayner out-shot the Flyers 45-32 with Midland's goaltender **Matt Camilleri** coming up big on numerous occasions.

In Stayner's other game, a 6-3 win over Orillia, former Siskins netminder **Gordie Weiss** stymied Stayner for most of the first and second periods blocking 15 and 11 shots rocketed his way.

Stayner's coach only had praise for Weiss's play.

He's the best player they have and most valuable to any team. He's a good goaltender, said Walker.

Siskins' **Quinten Bruce** scored the only goal of the first period after about five minutes of play. Orillia tied the game one minute into the second ending the period at a 1-1 draw. Stayner came out with all their guns blazing in the third notching five consecutive goals in 12 minutes by Healy, **Cooper Martin, 2, Brandon Watson** and **Lougheed** to take total control of the game. Orillia answered back with two goals in the last seven minutes, but the lead was insurmountable.

Caledon and head coach **Sandy McCarthy**, a former NHL tough guy, is in town Thursday night. Friday, Stayner plays the Kings in Penetang.

Despite Pentang's recent hard times, Walker believes the Kings are a "good team" and will be one of the clubs Stayner will have to get by to win the league.

HELP WANTED



For the upcoming 2014-2015 ski season we have the following employment opportunities available:
Full Time Seasonal Food & Beverage Staff (Wednesday to Sunday the entire ski season)
Reply in writing, email or by fax to:

Devil's Glen Country Club
Glen Huron, Ontario
L0M 1L0
E-mail: info@devilsglen.com
Fax: (705)-445-5762

Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

HELP WANTED

Part-time **HOUSEKEEPER** wanted.
5 minutes from Creemore.

- Housekeeping duties. Experience in caring for guests.
- Must be comfortable with email/texting.
- MUST have transportation.

Call 705-466-2001

Wish your family, friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
in our Christmas Eve edition on **Wednesday, December 24** for \$5 plus hst. **Contact us by Friday, December 19 at noon** with your special message.
705-466-9906 info@creemore.com

THE CREEMORE ECHO CHRISTMAS AD DEADLINES

Please note the deadline for

December 19 paper is Tuesday, December 16 at 5 p.m.

December 24 paper is Friday, December 19 at 5 p.m.

January 2, 2015 paper is Tuesday, December 16 at 5 p.m.

****Creemore Echo office will be closed from Wednesday, December 24 at noon until Monday, January 5 at 9 a.m.****

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The Village with the “Big Heart” (Creemore) certainly came to life during this magical season on Saturday, November 29th while over 300 people toured homes in and around our village. I was fortunate and honoured to be involved in this outstanding “Creemore Holiday House Tour”. Not only was I a guest, I was a contestant. The seasonal elves that helped me to decorate the inside and outside of our family home, Westridge, were my family and friends with our daughter Jenny at the reins. My welcoming angels’ wearing warm smiles and matching pajamas were our six healthy grandchildren. To conclude the magic of this eventful day, one of the finest components was that \$830.00 will be donated on our behalf to Candlelighters – a charity that I proudly chose and that is very near and dear to our family's heart.

NCPS takes up food drive challenge

Nottawasaga and Creemore Public School is holding a food drive during the month of December.

The school has taken up Forest Hill Public School's eighth annual challenge to see which Simcoe County District School Board school will collect the most items per capita.

The food will be distributed through the food bank.

Schools are collecting as many items as possible until 3 p.m. on Dec. 18.



Contributed photo

Tenor trio **Michael Ciufo** (from left), **Justin Stolz** and **Conrad Siebert** are performing in Creemore on Dec. 14.

Tenor trio returns to close Gift of Music season

by Laura Walton

The response to last year's Gift of Music tenor trio was so overwhelmingly positive that we decided to bring them back to end the 2014 season. The tenors will again perform a similar mix of classical repertoire and musical theatre that so charmed us last year and then finish off the afternoon with a carol or two to bring us into the spirit of the season.

Michael Ciufo, known for his stage presence and his powerful, classically trained voice, has already released his own album, *Momento*. Featuring his arrangements of both classical and popular songs, the album highlights his vast range as a vocalist and interpretive artist.

Justin Stolz is a versatile performer who has performed multiple roles, including a solo performance with the Thunder Bay Symphony called *From Rock to Opera*.

His numerous appearances have included the role of Don Ottavio in Mozart's Don Giovanni.

Conrad Seibert, a graduate of the University of Toronto Opera School, has won numerous awards for his sensitive portrayal of Lieder and Art Song. His credits include Mozart's Requiem, Bach's Magnificat, B Minor Mass, and various Cantatas, Gounod's St. Cecilia Mass, and Beethoven's Mass in C.

Pianist **Ivan Jovanovic** did his undergraduate degree at the University of Arts, Faculty of Music, in Belgrade, and went on to win numerous awards in Europe. He is currently a highly regarded award winning collaborative pianist at University of Toronto, where he is also working on his master's degree.

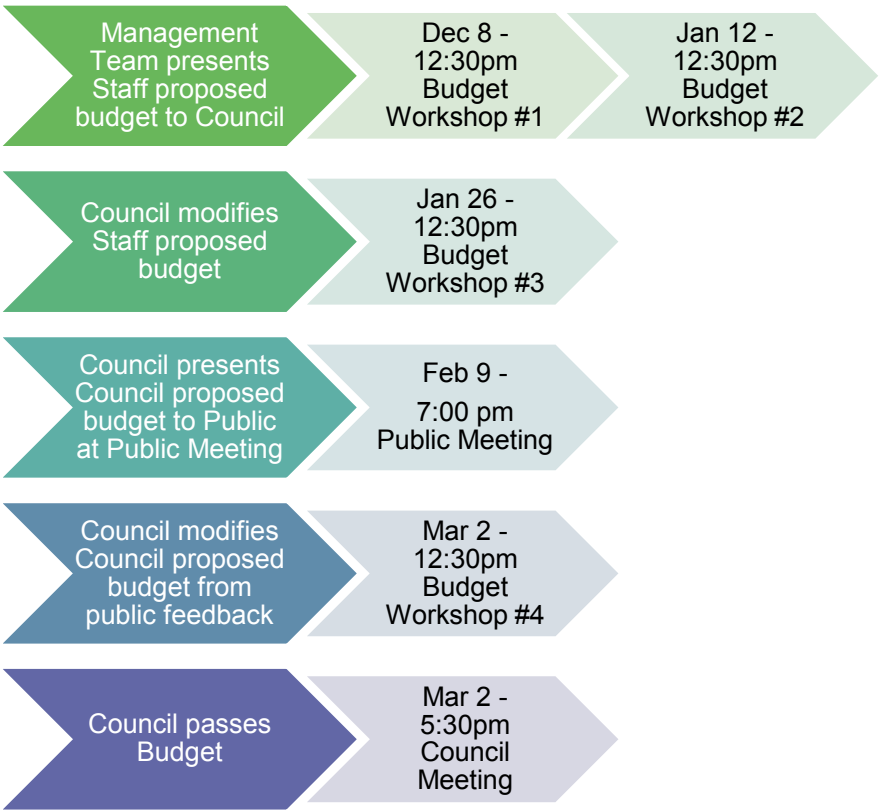
The Tenor Trio will be performing at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 14 at St. Luke's Anglican Church. Tickets cost \$15 and are available at *The Creemore Echo*, Curiosity House Books, and at the door.

217 Gideon Street, Stayner, ON L0M 1S0 Telephone: 705 428-6230 | Fax: 705 428-0288

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm

www.clearview.ca

CLEARVIEW BUDGET PROCESS



All meetings take place in the council chambers.

FREE PUBLIC SKATE

Come enjoy a free public skate with
Clearview Fire Department
Saturday, December 13
3:30pm to 4:30pm
Stayner Arena

HOLIDAY HOURS

Our Holiday Office Hours are as follows:
Wednesday, December 24th, 8:30 - 12:00 pm.
Please note that our office will be closed from
December 25th, 2014 until January 2nd, 2015 inclusive.
Regular office hours will resume on
January 5th, 2015 at 8:30 am
Wishing Everyone Happy Holidays

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