



Blue Mountain Resort

The scene was quite different from the first opening day at Blue Mountain in 1941. At the top of the festively decorated Blue Mountain Village, all eyes were on one of Blue Mountain's five high-speed six-person chair lifts. At the base of the Silver Bullet, a crowd of skiers and snowboarders anxiously waited for the chairs to start turning and to be one of the first hit the trails at Blue during its 75th anniversary season. Guests were greeted with complimentary hot chocolate and opening day remarks from Dan Skelton, President and COO of Blue Mountain Resort.



"We have 15 cm of snow coming down and cold temperatures for the next week and it feels like it's going to be a really great start to the season," said Skelton, standing next to George Weider whose father founded Blue Mountain Resort in 1941. "This is our 75th anniversary... and we have been reflecting on our past and where we came from," Skelton continued. "I think Jojo would be very impressed and proud of what we have built here."

Blue Mountain's official anniversary celebration will be held on the weekend of **January 21 and 22 with Celebrate 75, a winter festival with live music, entertainment and family-friendly activities.** The weekend will also host a special life auction of retired ski lift chairs which have been modified into outdoor benches featuring one-of-a-kind artwork by local artists. The auction will be a fundraiser for Blue Mountain's anniversary charity of choice, the Blue Mountain Special Olympic Alpine team.

More information about Blue Mountain and its anniversary can be found at www.bluemountain/75.

Concern Growing Over Future Costs of Local Health Care - www.gbhs.on.ca

Written by Stephen Vance, Meaford Independent

At their November 21 meeting, Meaford council was told that the Grey Bruce Health Services (GBHS) is facing the prospect of \$17 million annual deficits by 2019/20 unless significant changes are made to its cost structure, and that could mean bad news for rural hospitals like Meaford's. Lance Thurston, GBHS President and CEO, told council that the problems began with changes to the provincial funding formula that hit the GBHS particularly hard.

continued on page 2

REMEMBERING WHEN



COMMUNITY EVENTS

To be included in this listing post your event on www.visitbluemountains.ca

Details subject to change- Confirm with organizers

L.E. SHORE LIBRARY GALLERY

January - Trichromacy features the work of Carol Hahn, Tanya Zaryski and Kate Civiero. On display will be pieces in a variety of media, including glass, ceramic and paint. Beautiful to see!

original music with three exciting performances from Canadian artists representing Roots Reggae, Roots Americana and Roots Rock/Blues.

Jan 21 - The Human Rights

Feb 18 - Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar

Mar 25 - Conor Gains & The Ramblin' Moon

SERIES PASS - \$95

Single Ticket \$35 - 8:30pm

call 519-599-7837 or tickets online at www.marshstreetcentre.com

BEAVER RIVER WATERSHED INITIATIVE

Saturday, January 14, 10:00am

Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg
Notice of 4th Annual General Meeting

WILLS, POWERS OF ATTORNEY & 'LIVING' WILLS - NEW TERRITORY FOR SENIORS

Thursday, January 19, 1-3pm

L. E. Shore Memorial Library
Presenter -- Jane Patterson, Barrister & Solicitor, -- overview of these documents, their importance and relevance to planning for the future: opportunity to learn about the process of creating the documents and to clarify their purpose. FREE event: register by calling 519 599 2577, ext. 29 or emailing seniors@bvo.ca. Transportation is available Contact: Pamela 519-599-2577, ext. 29

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION PUBLIC MEETING

Monday, January 23, 6pm & 7pm

Town Hall, Council Chambers
The Blue Mountains Council will be holding a Public Information Session 6pm and Public Meeting 7pm to provide information to the public and to allow the public the opportunity to review and comment on the 2017 Draft Budget and supporting Tax Rate Changes as well as the 2017 Draft Water and Wastewater Budget and Rates.

COME -- ENJOY FOOD, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!

Tuesday, January 24 at 12 Noon

Who says, "There's no free lunch!" Come and munch with the lunch bunch at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Thornbury continuing the Fourth Tuesday of each month

WINTER SERIES BACK TO THE ROOTS'

The Marsh Street Centre is excited to present their fourth winter series. This season they will present



Public Skating

at Beaver Valley Arena

Adult Skating \$3 per person

Mondays, Wednesday & Fridays
(10am - 12pm)

Parent & Tot - No Charge

Tuesdays (10am - 11am)

Public Skating - No Charge

Sat 7pm - 9pm; Sun 12pm - 2pm

Exceptions Mar 26.

Cancellations and updates can be found on the Municipal Calendar on the Town's Home Page www.thebluemountains.ca

WEEKLY EVENTS

Daily - Monday-Friday

Coffee Klatch - 10am to noon
Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri

Pickleball - Beaver Valley Community Centre; www.pickleballthornbury.com for the schedule or call Jean 519-538-5130

Mondays

Bridge 1pm. St. Georges Anglican Church, \$2.00 includes refreshments

Tuesdays

Toastmasters 7pm. Marsh Street Centre

Wednesdays

Taoist Tai Chi Arts™ Classes 9am-noon
Beaver Valley Com. Centre. 519-377-0652

Events For Life Coffee Nook

9:30-10:30am
Come and enjoy coffee and muffins at Grace United Church www.eventsfor.life

Wednesday and Thursday

Bid Euchre 1:00 pm Beaver Valley Community Centre, \$2.00 - 519-599-2209

Sundays

English Country Dancing, loved by Jane Austin and many local dancers, takes place at the Marsh St. Centre in Clarksburg, Jan. 15; Feb. 5 & 19; Mar. 5 & 19; Apr. 9 & 23 and May 7; 2:00pm to 4:30 p.m. No partner necessary -admission \$6. www.lordgreysdance.weebly.com

Hospital continued from pg 1

"We're planning for the worst, but we're hoping for the best," Thurston told council. "We have been advocating, very quietly, very professionally, with the LHIN (Local Health Integration Network), with the Ministry of Health, with our other partners, to try and get the word out that we are particularly hard hit. The funding which changed back in 2014-15, was reset last year, and that reset hit us."

Thurston told council that of the 32 hospital corporations negatively impacted by the funding changes, five were considered to have had a significant impact, with the GBHS topping that list. In the six years prior to the changes to the provincial funding formula, the GBHS saw surpluses each year totalling \$12.7 million, however this year a \$4.5 million deficit is expected, and deficits of \$7 million next year, \$12 million in 2018/19, and \$17 million in 2019/20 are being forecast by the GBHS.

Thurston said that in addition to lobbying government agencies, the GBHS board is working to find areas to cut costs in order to create a sustainable organization by 2020, which will require a reduction in annual expenditures of \$17 million.

Among the cost-cutting measures being considered by the board are the consolidation of surgical services to the Owen Sound hospital, which would close operating rooms in rural hospitals including Meaford's, reviewing transportation costs, reviewing physician billing and cost recovery, and reviewing IT costs.

"Revenues have got to somehow match reasonable expenditures," Thurston told council. "The way it is now is not sustainable, and this is for virtually every hospital in Ontario, not just us. If you're in an urban centre with a growth population, a single site, the funding formula is your friend. But for us, with a stagnant population, it's not working."

The board is currently awaiting a decision regarding their request for a review of the funding formula for rural hospitals, but that decision isn't expected to be made until sometime in February or March of this year.

The next meeting of the GBHS's Board is scheduled for January 23. Staff input will be presented at that meeting. Thurston told council in November that before any final decisions are made, there will be public meetings held that will allow residents to express their views and concerns.

The petition currently circulating in the community asks residents to sign the document and to send copies to Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MPP Bill Walker, Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound MP Larry Miller, and Meaford Mayor Barb Clumpus.

Grey Bruce Health Services operate six hospitals in the Grey Bruce region. Their vision is to offer quality health care close to home. There is approx 1,600 staff across the six sites, and close to 200 physicians.

The hospital in Owen Sound is the largest of the sites, and offers a full range specialty services for residents across the region, including complex surgeries, total joint replacements, cancer surgeries, MRI and CT scan services, and more.

The rural hospitals in Lion's Head, Markdale, Meaford, Southampton and Wiarton offer a wide range of primary and ambulatory care services and all have 24/7 emergency departments.

The Executive Team has established an initial list of transformation initiatives to be pursued through 2016/17:

- Surgical Review
- Length of Stay Review
- Ambulatory Care Review
- Skill Mix Review
- Revenue Optimization
- OHIP Billing Practices
- Health Record Coding
- Transportation Cost Reduction
- HIS Implementation

Jazzmania 2017

Saturday April 29th

3pm and 8pm

rock 'n' roll
dinner/dance

with The Desotos. Tickets \$50

(band includes members
from the former Martels)

www.jazzmania.ca

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or info@signatureclients.com

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The Blue Mountains Review

Thornbury, Clarksburg, Craigeleith, Heathcote, Ravenna

Published monthly, copies are mailed throughout the Blue Mountains. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our community can be emailed to info@bluemountainsreview.ca for inclusion in the newsletter. Advertising rates are available by calling 519-599-3345 or from our website. www.bluemountainsreview.ca

Six-week Foundation Course to Boost Confidence & Skills in

- Speaking
- Listening
- Presentations
- Leadership

Where: Marsh Street Community Centre,
187 Marsh St, Clarksburg

When: Tuesdays, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Jan 17 - Feb 21, 2017

Cost: \$50 (group discounts available)

Contact: Jean McAllister
705-445-7182

Details: www.tbtoastmasters.org

The Blue Mountains Toastmasters

In Memory

*Those we love,
don't go away,
they walk beside
us every day,
unseen, unheard,
but always there,
still missed, still loved,
still very dear!*



LINDA HAMILL

It is with great sadness that the Bluewater District School Board announces the passing of Trustee Linda Hamill. A former teacher, school volunteer and children's author, Linda dedicated her life to education and many other pursuits in her community. She was elected as a trustee for the Municipality of Meaford/The Blue Mountains in 2014, where she recently played an active role in ensuring a sustainable future for public education in the Meaford area through the establishment of a new K – 12 school.

Peacefully at her home in the arms of her loving husband. Linda Mae Hamill (née Kuhl), of R.R. #4, Meaford, entered the presence of her Saviour, on December 4th, 2016 at 4:45 a.m., in her 69th year. She is survived by Jim, her loving husband of 47 years and their three sons, Jamie Hamill (Heather), of Meaford, Scott Hamill (Cynthia), of Wasaga Beach and Chris Hamill (Melinda), of Milton. She will be greatly missed by her 6 grandchildren, Seamus, Danielle and Bronwyn Hamill; Cole Hamill; Amelia and Brynn Hamill. Linda is survived by her brother, Lloyd Kuhl (Catherine); her sister, Irma Kuhl Gamble (Al Spears); her mother-in-law, Ruth Hamill; her sisters-in-law, Doreen Bannister and Mary Jean Hamill; her brothers-in-law, Stewart Hamill (Mary Lou), Bruce Hamill, and Ted Hamill (Mary Louise). Predeceased by her parents, George and Sylvia Kuhl; her twin grandsons, Aidan and Brent Hamill, her father-in-law, Carman Hamill.

DALE CHARLES ALEXANDER EAGLES

Suddenly, at home, on Saturday, December 10, 2016 of Ravenna in his 79th year. Loving husband of the late Brenda (nee Fraser). Dear father of Lloyd (Stephanie) and Phillip of Feversham. Loved and remembered by grandchildren Miranda (Josh Deroy), Rebecca, Ashlyn and Jenna Eagles. Dale will be missed by siblings Larry (Della) of Gibraltar, Carol (Don) Rowbatham of Strathroy and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Dear

brother-in-law of Judy Eagles and Wayne Spears. Predeceased by siblings Blair Eagles, Gwen Dobson, Pauline Spears, Sylvia Eagles and brother-in-law Reg Dobson.

TERENCE GRANT JACKMAN

Terry Jackman of Meaford and formerly of Thornbury passed away at Grey Bruce Health Services in Owen Sound on Tuesday December 20, 2016 at the age of 86. Terry was the son of the late Clarence and Kathleen (née White) Jackman. He was the loved husband of the former Shirley Foster, now of Meaford. Terry will be remembered as the dear father of Terry Jackman Jr. and his wife Maxine of Thornbury, Denise Jackman of Edmonton, Alberta, Lori Allen and her husband Bill of Clarksburg and Tracy McAuley and her husband Jeff of Bolton. He will be fondly remembered by his grandchildren Leslie Anne, Lindsay, Katherine, Will, Taylor and Jordon and great grandchildren Dalia, Aliyah, Taio, Sophie, Isla, Julian Charli, Madi and Piper. Terry was predeceased by his brother Douglas Jackman and by his sister Sally Yaskovitch (late Bill) and he is remembered also by Doug's wife Sally and their families.

AUDREY MAE PRIESTLEY

Born in Osprey Township on October 31, 1934, a daughter of the late John and Ivy (nee Izard) Weldrick, Audrey passed away in Owen Sound on Thursday December 29th 2016 at the age of 82. She and Ed Priestley were married in March of 1954. Audrey was predeceased by her beloved husband Ed on March 13, 2005 and missed him ever since. Audrey is remembered as the treasured mother of Sharon and her husband Henry Klepach of Mundare Alberta, Brenda and her husband Gene Lamirante of Chalk River, Marlene and her husband Don Hutchinson, Donna and her husband Dennis Rice, Wanda and her husband Keith Vamplew, Terry and his wife Karalee Priestley, and Lisa and her husband Terry Green all of Clarksburg. Seventeen grandchildren and sixteen great grandchildren will sorely miss their Grandmother. She was a dear sister of Doreen McGregor and her partner Harold Wood of Owen Sound, and Marge and her husband Dennis Williams of Feversham and sister-in-law to Isobelle Weldrick of Meaford. Audrey was predeceased by a sister Muriel (late Bob) Angel and Clifford Weldrick. She will be remembered also by her several nieces and nephews and their families.

BVCS Pilots New Snowboarding Program

Even before the snow arrived students at Beaver Valley Community School (BVCS) in Thornbury were already learning skills and thrills of snowboarding!

BVCS had the unique distinction of being the first school in the province to test a new program piloted by Snowboard Ontario. Representatives from the association brought equipment to the school for a variety of snowboarding games and training that are being offered during gym class to more than 100 students from JK to Grade 3. The program directly ties into curriculum by assisting students with the development of athletic skills. Snowboard Ontario, which acts as the provincial governing body responsible for developing and monitoring the sport of snowboarding, intends to expand the program to other schools across the province.



New Team Name and School Colours for Georgian Bay Community School

The new team name for the recently reconfigured Georgian Bay Community School (GBCS) is the Thunder, while the school's new colours are black and gold.

St. Vincent-Euphrasia Elementary School site has been confirmed as the location for the new Georgian Bay Community School.

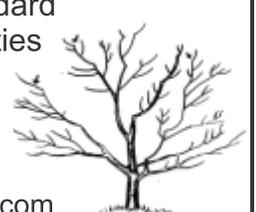
A mascot committee, which included representation from elementary and secondary students and staff, held a vote during the week of November 21, 2016, for all members of the GBCS and St. Vincent-Euphrasia Elementary School (SVE) communities. The committee's list of options was based on suggestions that had been received from elementary and secondary students at both schools.

Following a thorough process with good representation from both school communities, the Thunder was the clear team name winner with 39 percent of the votes. This was followed by the Storm at 32 percent and the Steelheads at 29 percent. Black/gold won the popular vote for the school's colours at 39 percent, ahead of blue/white/silver at 26 percent, black/silver at 18 percent, and black/navy at 17 percent.

Students, parents and others from the community had an opportunity to view clothing samples with the new team name and colours at the GBCS Annual Open House held on Thurs, Dec 1. GBCS staff, in consultation with athletic coaches from the school, will present three official logo ideas to choose from early in the new year.

Apple and Pear Tree Pruning Residential or Small Blocks

- Rejuvenate standard or heritage varieties
- Train and prune smaller trees



519-599-6194
amaxwell25@rogers.com

33 Bridges with Historical Value in Grey County - 2 in Clarksburg

by Historic Bridges.org

Saving a historic bridge is frequently a complicated and time-consuming process. But regardless of the money source, replacement is almost always seen as the cheaper, and thus, best route. What is lost in the calculated costs of replacing or rehabilitating a historic bridge is the intrinsic value of the bridge itself. Across our country we devote million of dollars to the preservation of buildings, schools, and other cultural and historic landmarks. Often, however, when a community takes inventory of their historic properties, the local historic bridge fails to make the list. Somehow we must elevate the importance of our historic bridges in the stories that identify the communities of our nation and say "this bridge is part of who we are and it must be saved."

The fact is, many bridges that have historic value and deserve to be preserved are being considered non-historic under the current government system. The system does recognize the significance and decreasing population of certain historic bridge types, particularly metal truss bridges. It also is far too black and white. Either a bridge is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, is actually on the National Register of Historic Places, or is non-historic.

Any bridge that is older than 1970 likely has some design characteristics that are not seen on modern bridges today, even if the only difference is the design of the guardrail. Thus, a bridge older than 1970, perhaps one built in 1965, might be a record and example of bridges in a certain period of time. Thus, the bridge has importance in relating to people what this period of time was like, in bridge construction, and perhaps other areas of life. However at the same time, it makes sense to observe that an 1870 bridge that is the last of its kind in the nation, likely deserves more attention and preservation funding than the 1965 bridge, which is likely to be one of many remaining similar structures. Finally, greater recognition needs to be given to the idea that a bridge

might have a low level of national significance but be extremely rare and important locally.

HistoricBridges.org has developed its own rating system, the **Historic Significance Rating (HSR)** for bridges featured on their website. The purpose of the system is twofold. It is intended to help website visitors to sort out which bridges are extremely rare, and which are just a window into a period of history. Please note that the findings of this system may not agree with what government systems currently assess a particular bridge. This is precisely the point of the new system, which is designed to be more flexible. It is based on the idea that a bridge is not simply "historic" or "non-historic" but rather can have a range of "historic value" as a historic bridge. The greater the value, the more important the bridge. The system includes an assessment of bridge significance on the local and national level. The scale is from 0-10. A bridge with a rating is zero is solely reserved for bridges that are not historic at all, such as a modern bridge. All other numbers refer to bridges that have at least some historic value, even if not much. Any bridge with a rating higher than zero in either category should be considered for preservation before being demolished. However, granted, a higher priority for preservation should be given to bridges with a higher rating. The HSR is designed to show that some bridges are more important than others, while also showing that bridges that are not as rare still indeed have historic value, and should still be considered for preservation. It also presents the case that bridges that are only locally significant are just as worthy for preservation as those that are nationally significant.

About the Local Scale Rating

The local scale is less consistent because, as its name suggests, it is based on the unique surrounding environment where it is located. For this reason, no one set of examples can be provided here. It is based on the idea that historic bridges that might be common on a national scale might be the only remaining example of its kind in a certain area. For example, if Ontario only had one 1930s massive-membered truss bridge, this bridge might have a 9 local significance rating.

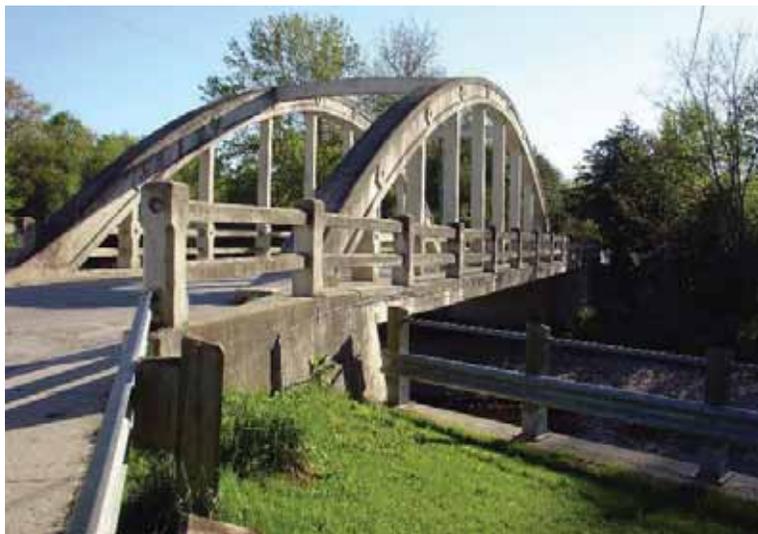


10th Line Bridge at Clendenan Dam

Historic Significance Rating 6 - Local Rating 6

Bridges in this category clearly have historic value, yet are often facing demolition, and being assessed as non-historic.

On July 14/2011 the bridge was inspected, and defects were found on the north bearing points. The bridge was immediately closed to vehicular traffic but still allowed for foot traffic and cyclists. Although deputations have been made to re-open the route this bridge is not listed in the 5 year plan. Costs are estimated in the order of a million dollars to replace plus there may be additional costs to do work on the 10th Line near the Clark Street intersection to improve site lines especially if there was an expectation that there would be a significant increase in traffic.



Black Bridge, Clark Street

Historic Significance Rating 8 - Local Rating 8

Built 1923; Charles Borromeo Mattaini of Fergus, Refurbished 1991

This is an extremely rare example of a rainbow arch with overhead bracing and unique design characteristics, or high levels of ornamentation.

Rehabilitation work is scheduled for this year. Since the bridge is considered a heritage structure, the appearance of the bridge will not change. The railings will be improved to bring them up to current traffic barrier standards, but the style will be in keeping with the look of the bridge. Given the age of the structure and its limitations, the town will be looking for a weight reduction of between 21 – 34 Tonnes based on the truck configuration. For reference, a snow plow and fire trucks will be able to use the bridge.

Georgian Hills Vineyards

Frozen on the Vine

To grow grapes that make delicious sweet winter wines you need the right climate. It is produced from grapes that have been left on the vine after the fall harvest. Once the temperature dips to -8C or lower, the frozen grapes are handpicked, usually overnight and pressed immediately to carefully release a thick, rich, yellow-gold liquid, highly concentrated in natural sugars and acidity. Georgian Hills make sweet winter wines every year in the traditional ice wine method. *photos by Robert Burcher*



Library Celebrates Canada 150 with 12 Months / 12 Themes

The Blue Mountains Public Library is gearing up for a year of celebration to mark Canada's 150th anniversary. The Library is pleased to announce it has received a \$5,000 grant from Community Foundation Grey-Bruce. The funds will support a year-long series of programmes organized by the Blue Mountains Public Library.

The Blue Mountains traces its heritage back hundreds of millions of years to the formation of the land itself, followed by the arrival of people several thousands of years ago, all the way up to the vibrant community of today.

In 2017, celebrate The Town of The Blue Mountains' unique environment and its place within Canada. Rich and diverse stories will be featured in programmes and special events planned throughout the year at both branches of the Blue Mountains Public Library – the Craigleith Heritage Depot and the L.E. Shore Memorial Library – as well as throughout the community.

January's theme will be Explorers and the First Peoples. On January 15th from 1:00 pm to 4:00pm at the Craigleith Heritage Depot, you will be able to imagine what it was like to walk / snowshoe in Champlain's Footsteps. Discover winter travel in the Blue Mountains four hundred years ago and check out snowshoes on your library card all winter long. Scenic Caves has supported this programme for the month of January. You can also bring the whole family to our French language and explorer-themed programmes throughout the month, including story times and conversational French classes. This is just the beginning!

The following months will be just as full of activities. Make sure to look at the Library's events calendar, which can be found on its website, throughout the year to stay up to date. Each month will have themed programmes at both locations:

February will showcase Black History during Black History Month with locally-focused programming.

March, including March Break, will focus on the Canadian Circus and high flying acts that have grown here in The Blue Mountains.

April is Canadian Film month, and programming will include an event for National Canadian Film Day on April 19, 2017.

May will look at Clay the Canadian Way, an exploration of a millennia of making objects from Blue Mountains clay.

June will be about everything Naturally Blue as we revel in the wonders of the natural world while spring becomes summer.

July will kick off with a Canada Day's Eve Party (June 30, 2017) where we gear up to celebrate our country's 150th birthday with a community party featuring interactive games and activities for all ages at Tomahawk Recreation Complex y.

August celebrates local Canadians' innovative skills through Inventing Canada.

September's harvest will bring us Canadian Foodways, from comfort food to the apples of this region.

October will shine a spotlight on Stories from our Community as it is also Family History Month, Canadian Library Month, and Ontario Public Library Week!

November will be a time to focus on Defending Canada to highlight and honour the Canadian Military.

December will celebrate Multiculturalism Canada during the festive winter season.

This initiative is made possible by the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, a collaboration between Community Foundation Grey Bruce, the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from coast to coast to coast.

www.thebluemountainslibrary.ca

Writing Programmes at the Craigleith Heritage Depot

In response to the popularity and success of the Writing Your Life History programme, the Craigleith Heritage Depot will offer this programme again in March 2017 and has also created the Blue Mountains Writer's Group, which will begin to meet in January 2017.

Both programmes will be led by facilitator John Fisher, a retired graphic artist and writer.

The Blue Mountains Writer's Group is for participants who are already actively writing and want to stretch their skills and network with other writers, published and unpublished, in order to share and grow.

Meetings will be bi-weekly on alternating Tuesdays, starting Tuesday, January 24, 2017 and continuing to May 30, 2017, and will take place from 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm. There is a \$25.00 fee which will provide refreshments and resources for every registrant. The group size is capped at 8 people.

Due to potential interest in the Blue Mountain's Writer's Group and the limited number of spaces, there is an application process. Participants will be selected based on their application to ensure a diverse and lively interaction among the chosen writers.

The Writing Your Life History Programme will be offered again for five consecutive Thursdays in March from 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm. If you have always wanted to put pen to paper and write your own life story, then this is the programme for you. A workbook will help shape your story along with the support of the group. The cost of the programme is \$15.00 for the entire five weeks.

Please contact Andrea Wilson, Curator for more information and to join these groups. 519-599-3131, ext. 372; awilson@thebluemountains.ca

THE View FROM Blue

HIGHLIGHT EDITION

JANUARY 2017

EDITION 17-01

Published by Blue Mountain Ratepayers' Association

www.bmraters.com

Box 198, Thornbury, Ontario NOH 2P0

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Peter Bordignon, President of BMRA

Hello everyone and welcome to 2017! I am delighted to have been selected as the President of the Blue Mountains Ratepayers' Association at the 2016 AGM, thank you for your support. We now are half way through our own annual term and have the 2018 Municipal Election well within our sights.

Looking back at 2016, it was probably the most turbulent year in the history of the BMRA. Over and above dealing with normal issues such as County, Town Budget, Planning, STA and the Environment we had a few very polarizing and very emotionally charged issues to deal with. Some have referred to this as big picture/small picture or wholesale /retail points of view. One thing is for sure, the energy draw of these issues was unprecedented. We as a Community need to now focus and work through the next 22 months until the 2018 Municipal Election. We also have to be cognizant of the fact that Optics matter and the TBM needs to have a larger and unified voice at the County.

The recent census shows that there are almost 7000 permanent residents in the TBM also with more than 4000 seasonal residents. Every time I see numbers like this, I am amazed that our Rate Payers' Association struggles to maintain as few as a dozen volunteers on the Board of Directors. Time and again, the same small group of people is at the core of maintaining your functional Community Association.

We need to applaud these folks for the time they put in at Meetings, Committees and Volunteerism.

We are still seeking new members to serve on our Board. If you want to help the organization and have some flexible time to spare, we want to hear from you.

Our organization is getting stronger, especially as we become more informative and continue to receive feedback from Community members at large. That naturally leads me to kindly remind everyone to renew your membership if you haven't already with the Blue Mountain Ratepayers' Association (BMRA). Also, if you haven't joined in the past, we invite all permanent and seasonal residents to become new members.

This year our membership fees will remain at \$25.00 despite rising communications costs. Our Annual AGM is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 6th, 2017.

NEW OFFICIAL PLAN APPROVED

UP NEXT... THE TOWN'S COMPREHENSIVE ZONING BY-LAW

The new Town of the Blue Mountains Official Plan is now in effect. BMRA played key roles in encouraging Council to incorporate Design Guidelines and reject density bonusing. As with all planning documents, a lot depends on how the OP is used in practice, and that's what we'll be watching in the coming months.

Town Planners are now working on short-term accommodation (STA) policies for the OP, to be developed along with our new Comprehensive Zoning By-Law in 2017. BMRA will be providing updates, and you can check the Town's website:

<http://thebluemountains.ca/index.cfm>



Happy New Year

The color of springtime is in the flowers; the color of winter is in the imagination. ~Terri Guillemets

THE TBM CASH COW CONTINUES TO BE MILKED

By BMRA County Committee John Leckie, Chair and members Ritchie Baird, Ron Baran, Doug & Patricia Chalmers, Janet Findlay, Al Fraser, Brian Harkness, Jack Hirsh, Ara Khajerian, Terry Thompson

It is essential that we get a better Deal with the County.

Our current situation of our 7% population base funding 26% (and growing) share of the County Budget is both unfair and untenable.

And for our money, we get the worst roads in the County. The County duplicitously offered to let us take over our own roads by August 2017. Then they laughed at us when we wanted to keep the money we had been sending them for those roads.

Talk about bargaining in bad faith!!!

Because we only get 2 votes out of 18, the County is a de facto closed meeting as far as Ratepayers in TBM are concerned.

However it did cause the County (out of shame?) to offer this:

"Grey County and the Town of the Blue Mountains continue to work together regarding our transportation infrastructure. The County's 2017 construction plan includes a significant investment in upgrading Grey Road 119 in the Town of the Blue Mountains. This \$4.7 million project will result in significant improvements, including paved shoulders to facilitate cyclists, from Banks through Ravenna to the intersection of Grey Road 13."

So the squeaky wheel gets greased.

Therefore we will keep up the pressure. The roads are a good start but let's work to secure more improvements for the entire population. In 2017, TBM must ensure that the offer of a Facilitator, by the Minister of Municipal Affairs, be taken up by our Town to help us negotiate a Better Deal with the County.



SHORT TERM ACCOMMODATION BRIEF

The BMRA STA committee's purpose is to deal with issues related to short term rentals in residential areas. We work with citizens who have STA problems in their neighborhoods. The Town has established appropriate Bylaws and Licensing to deal with noise, parking, garbage and other issues but unfortunately problems still exist.

If you are having problems with renters in your area, for noise & disturbances please call the OPP (310-1122), also get a incident # for future reference and for other issues call the Bylaw officers (519-599-3131 x 249).

Please contact us at sta.bmra@gmail.com if you need any help or have questions about your rights.



Can you do another draft of this? There's still a couple of sentences people might actually understand...

BRC REPORT ON 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET

- Our thanks go to finance staff for including current year "forecast actual" results. Year over year comparisons are much easier now.
- After Council review, 2017 "Total Costs to be collected through taxes" of \$14.8 million are up 5.8% over 2016.
- Your "Blended Tax Rate" will be up 2% including County costs of nearly \$14 million.
- TBM's share of the County is 26%, up 6% from the 20% rate that was in place when Blue Mountains was formed in the late 1990's. Other municipalities in Grey are benefitting by \$3 million annually.
- Your BRC believes this drain on our resources needs to stop and we will work with Council to press for a Better Deal. Lets get back to 20% and spend the money here!
- The BRC will also work to understand the Library costs during 2017.
- Good news - Water&Wastewater rates for consumption and fixed charges remain the same for 2017.

The Blue Mountains Ratepayers' Association is growing in numbers thanks to many of you who keep abreast of the issues and support BMRA activities! Please don't forget to send in your \$25 and keep us the force we've become! New members and diversity always welcome!

We are actively seeking residential members as well as members from our agricultural community, corporate business, and small business.

PLEASE RENEW OR JOIN TODAY!

WHY BE A BMRA MEMBER?

- Strength in numbers = influence on government and community issues, paid membership is the proof
- Membership means you can bring issues of concern to the attention of the Association and perhaps find like minded support
- Represent the issues facing your neighbourhood or industry and make a difference
- While your Board are all Volunteers...

Website, Newsletters and AGM are costly: for effective and timely communication we need your dues!

705-607-1440 | www.bmratepayers.com

Call for membership info, or visit the website and click on JOIN NOW today!

Looking For Help This Summer?

Why Not Hire A Student?

Financial Assistance For Wages Is Available!

The 2017 Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ) application period for employers is now open. **Apply before January 20, 2017!**

Canada Summer Jobs is a Government of Canada initiative. It provides funding for not-for-profit organizations, public sector employers and small businesses with 50 or fewer full-time employees to create summer jobs for students between the ages of 15 and 30.

The application form as well as the applicant guide are currently available at www.canada.ca/canada-summer-jobs. You can submit your application online, by mail or in person at any Service Canada Centre.

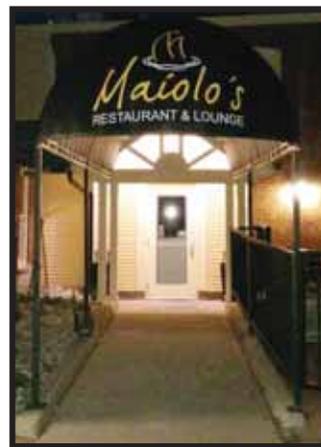
We encourage you to submit your 2017 application online. By doing so, you will benefit from a fast, easy-to-use, and secure way of applying as you will:

- have access to the Canada Summer Jobs application 24/7, from any location, allowing you to complete it at your convenience;
- ensure your application is received immediately by Service Canada;
- receive an instant acknowledgement confirming that your application has been received; and,
- avoid postal delays.

For more information: www.canada.ca/canada-summer-jobs

Call: 1-800-935-5555 (ATS: 1-800-926-9105)

Visit: a Service Canada Centre



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*Based on Royal LePage award level income excluding teams.



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and selling in the Georgian Triangle.

ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS NORTH
Thornbury Meaford Collingwood

josh@joshdolan.com
705-446-8404

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THE BLUE MOUNTAINS INFORMATION PORTAL

events

business listings

local news

volunteer

organizations

www.visitblue.ca and make sure your listings
are up-to-date or call 519-599-3345

Welcome to the Citizens' Pages

This is the second issue of the Citizen's Pages, an insert into the Blue Mountains Review ("BMR"), which is distributed to about 3,000 people as a flyer in the mail each month. You would have received one, unless you have specified "no flyers" at the post office.

We had a very successful launch. We have had a lot of positive comments and in our first few weeks of crowd funding we raised \$1,200 dollars.

Thanks to your generous support we had enough to pay the BMR for the two page December Issue (\$400) and have been able to grow from two pages to four this month (\$600). With four pages this month we were able to add more content. I hope you will enjoy reading Citizen's Letters, Library news brought to you by VOCAL (Voices of Our Community for Accountable Leadership), as well as our Political Cartoon.

We still have a long way to go to our goal of \$7,200 to keep us going for a full year. If you like what you see and want to see it continue, please follow the link below and donate to keep us going.

<https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review>

Donations can also be made to the Citizens' Pages care of The Blue Mountains Review and be dropped off at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg. Alar Soever, Editor

CITIZENS AT THE

THE CORNER
CAFÉ & GRILL

Come out and meet people who are interested in what is going on in the Town, and what is before Council. All citizens are invited to drop in at the Community Room at Corner Café on Monday nights between 4 and 7 for some socializing and friendly discussion on the issues facing the Town and what is on the Council Agenda.

Come, meet new friends, listen, and have your say.

Rules: Be polite, respect other people's opinions, and if you don't agree with them, just remember: They have the right to be wrong.

Know your businesses

This month's business: [Goldsmith's Orchard Market](#)



1. When was Goldsmith's Orchard Market first opened?
a) 1960s b) 1970s c) 1980s d) 1990s e) 2000s
2. What year did it first stay open all year round? a) 2012-2013 b) 2013-2014 c) 2014-2015 d) 2015-2016 e) 2016-2017
3. What are the ingredients in Goldsmith's famous Thornberry Pie?

Town Council Roundup

Changes to the Town's Harassment Policy

On [December 5th there was a Special Meeting of Council](#) where Lauren Bernardi, the Mississauga Human Relations Lawyer who co-ordinated the investigation into Councillor Seguin, gave training on the [Town Obligations Under the Workplace Harassment and Violence Program](#).

Ms. Bernardi reviewed the Town's obligations Under the the Ontario Human Rights Code, and the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA), the definition of and examples of harassment, and the impact on victims. She noted that OHSA requires Town to ensure the investigation of "incidents and complaints" of harassment which is appropriate in the circumstances.

Unfortunately, although the meeting was open to the public, the public was not allowed to ask any questions.

At the [Committee of the Whole Meeting on December 5th](#) several citizens made deputations re: the proposed changes to the Town's Harassment Policy. [Alar Soever noted in his deputation](#) that "The greatest weakness in this document is the lack of clarity with regards to who is responsible, and how to deal with complaints when they fall under the jurisdiction of multiple pieces of legislation." "A well-defined complaint protocol would assist members of Council and the public in understanding how complaints will be investigated and when they will be the subject of public report."

[In her deputation Rosemary Gosselin](#) suggested "More focus on prevention and amelioration would help too. Mediation has been suggested by the public and Council. Perhaps lawyers need not be our first line of consultation."

[Correspondence received from Paul Wilson](#) noted "You have already received letters from some citizens drawing your attention to possible problems in the report. I believe what you need now is expert, independent opinion on those contentions."

Ammendments to Sign Bylaw

The December 5 Committee of the Whole also saw [the final draft of the new Sign Bylaw](#) approved. The following is from Vivienne Alper, who has kept us on top of its progress by combing through the various drafts, attending meetings, writing letters and giving deputations.

"The Community should be pleased with the outcome. After many meetings, deliberations, suggestions which resulted in numerous re-drafts, the final one, included a number of issues some of which were hard fought - the banning of pylon signs, the size of ground signs, the number of signs on a building, limiting the number and use of banner signs and banning backlit signs on anything but industrial/institutional buildings. We also took the opportunity to express the thanks of the public and our Community to the Sign Bylaw Committee for our inclusion in the process. We said how worthwhile the inclusion of the public had been, and perhaps this could be used as a template for other situations facing our Town."

The sign bylaw was approved by the Council at their meeting on Monday, December 19, 2017.

This insert is brought to you as a public service to provide citizens information about issues facing their Town. It is funded by the citizens of the Town through online contributions. If you like this page and would like to keep it going, please donate by following the link <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review> To contact us with your letters, comments, ideas, and suggested content please e-mail tbmcitizens@gmail.com

Breaking News

Integrity Commissioner Clears Mayor - Criticizes Town Media Release and Policies

At the Council Meeting on December 19, 2016 [a report of the Integrity Commissioner \("IC"\)](#) and a letter from the Ombudsman of Ontario ([Correspondence](#) pgs. 33-35) were tabled. Both dealt with complaints made to them that the Town was obligated to issue a public report on the findings of the Code of Conduct investigation into Councillor Seguin. Both stated that although the original complaint was made under both the Code of Conduct and the Town's harassment policies, the Town has told them that there never was a Code of Conduct investigation and that the entire matter was handled under the harassment policy and thus the Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act, which does not require a public report. As a result, both the Ombudsman and IC have concluded there is no requirement for a public report.

The complaints were restricted to the lack of a report and not whether the Town acted properly in addressing the Complaint against Councillor Seguin. In her report the IC notes:

"This report stays within the limits of this complaint and has avoided making any findings concerning the investigation into the original complaint against the member of Council which led to the communications under review."

We will have to wait for the results of the Judicial Review filed by Councillor Seguin to see whether he was properly treated under the law. Given what is described in the IC's report, there appears to be a lot to complain about the process, and the results of the Judicial Review will be most interesting.

In clearing the Mayor the IC noted:

"On September 19, 2016, the resident sent an open letter to the Mayor reviewing the history of the matter and expressing concern that "secrecy" surrounding the complaint against the member of Council was eroding public confidence in elected officials."

"The Mayor forwarded a copy of the open letter to the Town's lawyer and asked for advice on how to respond. The lawyer in turn engaged a communications firm to provide advice on the content of the press release."

"The Mayor acted on this advice and approved a press release drafted by his external advisers. There is no suggestion in any of the communications leading up to his approval of the press release that he was trying to mislead the public or acting in bad faith. Accordingly, I find that the Mayor did not release the press release with any intent to mislead." "On this basis, I find that there was no breach of the Code of Conduct by the Mayor in issuing the press release, as described above."

With regard to the press release she was less kind, noting:

"The September 23 press release was factually correct although not comprehensive."

"The press release, as far as it went, did not contain any false statements."

"The press release could have gone farther in explaining why the choice was made to limit the investigation to the procedures under the town policies. As such, the press release was not completely responsive to some of the publicly raised concerns."

Stating the press release was truthful "as far as it went" is hardly a ringing endorsement.

With regard to the Town's policies, in her report the IC noted:

"A complaint protocol would assist members of Council and the public in understanding when complaints made under the Code of Conduct will be investigated and the subject of public report."

It should be the subject of debate by Council and once in place, posted along with the Code of Conduct as part of the ethical infrastructure for use by all. It can reflect the value of early complaint resolution, provide for fair and orderly classification of complaints and contribute to Council's public commitment to upholding the principles in its Code of Conduct."

In her presentation to Council on Monday night the IC reiterated this last point, saying that Council should put in place well defined Complaint protocols which allow for early classification of complaints, an opportunity for early resolution, and well defined transparent processes for dealing with formal complaints. She offered to assist with this. The saddest part is the IC's remarks echo the deputations made by citizens when the Town was amending its Code of Conduct last summer, and many of the deputations being made by citizens relative to the changes being proposed to the Harassment Policy. Council after hearing the same recommendations from the IC, finally listened, and directed staff to act on these recommendations. Let's hope they do.

While the fact Council is prepared to now act is most encouraging, it raises the question, **why don't we have good transparent protocols already?**

With all the advice we have been paying for from big city lawyers and media consultants, how is it that we find ourselves in the current situation, with a report critical of the Town's media releases and its policies, and a Councillor having to resort, at his own expense, to a Judicial Review to get a fair hearing?

It is time for a serious look how this whole situation developed. It is time someone started to show leadership on this issue.



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Library news

Brought to you by [VOCAL Voices of Our Community for Accountable Leadership](#)

THEN AND NOW: HOW LIBRARYGATE SQUANDERED PUBLIC GOODWILL.

It seems so long ago. Was it only last December that we all gathered at the L.E. Shore Memorial Library to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of our community treasure? The evening was rich with memories, recounted by our esteemed once-upon-a time Chief Librarian, Ken Haig.

Who knew what was lurking in the shadows?

If December 4th was an evening to remember, March 8th was a day that we wish we could forget. Black Tuesday, it's not too far-fetched to say, initiated a collective trauma. When an unexpected event severs the ties that bind community members to one another, it constitutes a collective trauma, according to sociology professor Neil Gross. And trauma stays as fresh as yesterday if not addressed. The individuals who made the soul of our great community hub and centrepiece were all fired. So began our trauma.

How could this happen? A citizens' group was formed almost overnight in an effort to answer the many troubling questions: VOCAL (Voices of Community for Accountable Leadership -- [OurLibraryOurVoice.com](#)). . Former board chairs protested the loss of a legacy they had carefully nurtured. Their efforts and Strategic Plans were dismissed as "boilerplate" by one of the town councillors on the board. The fired staff cast off as "collateral damage." For what? A new library/museum that no one had asked for and that no one on the Library Board would explain.

Was the Depot Deal based on a community needs survey, as was the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan? No. There is no evidence, either in the 2014 Library Survey or the 2016 VOCAL Survey for expansion into Craigleith. However, service could easily have been provided to Craigleith without firing the entire library staff.

For the new Library Board to ignore the Strategic Plan shows a lack of respect as well as questionable leadership. The leadership changed hands when the Chair stepped down but this did not lead to any of the community's questions being answered. Nor did the subsequent resignation of two Board members, one of whom said: "I stepped down due to mounting frustrations with the governance, lack of candour, and refusal to acknowledge the community with respect."

These disturbing behaviours continue. Letters and deputations are ignored; questions remain unanswered. Could it get worse? Yes. At least one grandmother was sent a threatening letter by the Town Mayor for objecting too strongly. Persistent questions are met with threats of harassment charges. Not only has goodwill been lost, but also a moral compass.

VOCAL has assembled a detailed timeline of all that contributed to March 8th and all that has followed. If our elected and appointed representatives won't answer our questions, we will find the answers on our own.

Rosemary Gosselin, Thornbury

Town Council Roundup continued Online Video Streaming And Archiving Of Council

At its' meeting on December 5th Council also approved a [motion brought by Councillor McGee](#) which noted that since the Town does not provide detailed transcripts of Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings, that the availability of a detailed record of Council and committee proceedings in the form of webcasting would be useful for informing the public.

We agree, as the Minutes of meetings are often very brief and do not always provide a complete picture of what happened. For example, the Minutes of the Council Meeting of September 15th at which Councillor Seguin was sanctioned do not include the fact that Councillor Martin voted against the sanctions on the basis that they were "disproportionate to the allegations".

Council passed the motion and directed staff to include video streaming to the 2017 budget for Council consideration. This was approved by Council during budget deliberations on December 14th. Councillor McGee is to be commended for his leadership on this issue.

Budget Update Staff does great job -Council adds \$240K to reduce 2018 election year pressure

On December 12th and December 14th Council met to consider the Draft 2017 Budget. Staff did a great job in preparing a very comprehensive document. The 2017 Proposed Budget provided for the same services delivered in 2016 at a 0.42% increase. Taking into account the County's Approved Budget, the 2017 Proposed Budget proposed an increase in the overall blended property tax levy of 0.89%. There are no increases Water and Wastewater rates. The 2017 Budget doesn't suggest any new debt for 2017 projects, however the existing Landfill and Harbour will be formalized into external debt in 2017.

With some additions and deletions by Council the proposed budget would have resulted in a tax increase of 1.49% or 1.32% when blended with the County rate. Councillor Gamble noted that there is projected to be a larger increase in 2018, while McGee stated "We should take advantage of the opportunity in the 2017 budget to add to our asset management reserves as there might be different pressures on the budget in 2018, an election year." Gamble, seconded by McGee brought a motion that Council approve the addition of \$240,000 to capital reserves for the Elma Street Reconstruction Project for inclusion in the final draft 2017 Proposed Budget, so that these funds would be available to reduce financial pressures in future years. The motion carried with Councillor's Seguin and Halos opposed. This raised the Town's 2017 tax increase to 3.19%, and the blended increase with the County and Education to 2.00%. The [revised draft of the Budget](#) can be found on the Town's website.

There will be a Public Information Centre on the Budget 6-7 pm Jan. 23, 2017, followed by a Public Meeting. The Committee of the Whole-Finance will meet to follow-up on the comments received at 7:00 pm Monday, Jan. 30th, following which Council will consider adoption of the 2017 Budget on Feb. 13th, 2017.

Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

Citizens' Letters

Welcome to the first edition of Citizens' Letters. This new section of the Citizens' Pages was prompted by the many letters we have received from citizens asking if we could print their letters as they want to have their voices heard.

Many complain they have written the Town and have had no acknowledgement or response to their letters. More recently some have wondered: how it is that former Mayor Ellen Anderson's letter, a particularly personal attack on Councillor Seguin and the citizens who support him, was posted as correspondence at the December 19th meeting of Council, while they don't even get a response to their letters. You can read Anderson's letter which is posted on the Town website under the tab for Correspondence for the Council Meeting of December 19th. The letter is at pages 53 to 54 of the [correspondence file](#).

We would never post in the Citizen's Pages a letter such as Ellen Anderson's, which makes general accusations about the behavior of Councillor Seguin and his supporters, without getting into the specific actions referred to. We will not spread this kind of rumour and innuendo. We hold ourselves to a much higher standard. We will be happy to post letters which are either critical or supportive of the actions of Council, but only when they relate to specific actions and are respectful.

Some people, who have followed in detail the recent discussion on amendments to the Town's Harassment Policy, have suggested that Anderson's letter is harassment and she should be charged under that policy. We disagree. We should let Anderson's letter speak for itself. We do not need yet another investigation with costly expenditures of our tax dollars on big city lawyers and media consultants: lately it seems that we have become an employment plan for these individuals.

The citizens of our Town are smart people. They will judge the letter for what it is. The letter says far more about the author than the citizens she attacks. We don't need lawyers and media consultants to tell us what to think.

We will however note here that at least two of our Councillors seem to have been paying attention to the discussion on harassment. Prior to the meeting, Councillor Seguin seconded by Councillor Martin, requested that the letter be removed from the agenda and the website. Their motion was defeated 5-2 with the rest of Council, (Mayor McKean, Deputy Mayor Ardiel, as well as Councillors Gamble, Halos, and McGee), all voting against the motion. Unfortunately, Council has now set the bar very low for the kinds of letters they will post.

To those citizens who want to have their voices heard, please continue to send us your letters. As long as they are respectful and deal with the issues, we will try to post them, however our space is limited so we can post only a very few of the letters we receive.

To have your letter posted as correspondence at a Council meeting you should proceed as follows:

1. Address the letter to the Mayor and Council.
2. Send a copy to Ms. Corrina Giles, Clerk, Town of the Blue Mountains, 32 Mill Street, P.O. Box 310, Thornbury, ON, N0H 2P0 or e-mail to cgiles@thebluemountains.ca
3. Ask for acknowledgement that it has been received.
4. Ask that it be posted as correspondence at the next meeting of Council.

If Ellen Anderson can get her letter posted, so should you.

The frustration of many citizens is obvious from the copy of a letter below, which we received and were asked to print.

13 December, 2016

Mr. John McKean
Mayor, Town of The Blue Mountains
32 Mill Street, Box 310
Thornbury, ON N0H2P0

Dear Mr Mayor:

In October of this year I sent a letter to you asking a number of questions and then a few weeks later a reminder as no answer had been forthcoming. To date still no response. I believe answers should be given.

In the meantime I have been told by a library board member that in February when the turmoil commenced re: staff, that no one on the board was aware of the grievances that had been filed.

If the CEO of the library withheld this information she should be fired for cause and paid no severance. If by chance you knew of these grievances and withheld this information you should be ashamed of yourself and you should resign.

May I please have a response to my questions. The professing of transparency is and has been belied by actions, and actions speak louder than words. Please enough!

Sincerely, Don Green QC Cc/ Councillors, Library Board

We gladly accept letters to the editor. Please be advised that these letters will be reviewed & published at the discretion of our Editor. Please limit your letters to 200 words or less. You can email your letters to tbcitizens@gmail.com. Please include a phone number for validation.

By submitting a Letter to the Editor you agree to be bound by the following terms and conditions: You may not use a false e-mail address, impersonate any person or entity, or otherwise mislead as to the origin of submitted material. You agree to be fully responsible for your own submissions. You agree to grant The Citizens' Pages a right to use your name and other identifying information you provide in connection with that letter. You agree to indemnify and hold the Citizens' Pages and its associates harmless from any claims, damages, losses or costs that arise out of any Letter to the Editor that you submit, including, without limitation, any material submitted or otherwise provided by you that infringes upon any copyright, trademark, or intellectual property right of any person, defames any person, or violates any person's rights of publicity or privacy.

Answers to Know Your Businesses

1. 1960s
2. This year, 2016-2017, is the first year Goldsmith's has been open year round, offering our customers the freshest produce and baking all winter.
3. Apples, strawberries, blackberries, raspberries and blueberries make the Thornberry Pie a taste sensation.

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Grants Available for Nonprofit Organizations in Grey & Bruce

Community Foundation Grey Bruce invites charities and nonprofit organizations across Grey and Bruce Counties to apply for grants before the spring deadline of April 15. Community Foundation Grey Bruce produced its first Vital Signs report in 2016, containing data on health & wellness, arts & culture, education and lifelong learning, living standards, the environment, and community connections in Grey Bruce Counties. The statistics gathered in the Vital Signs report are indicative of needs to be addressed in our region. Applicants are asked to describe how their project addresses one of the indicators of community vitality as outlined in Vital Signs. The online grant application will be open from January 30 until the deadline of April 15, 2017.

Organizations may access the online application form, assessment criteria and full Vital Signs report at www.communityfoundationgreybruce.com. Community Foundation Grey Bruce advises applicants to confirm the eligibility of their project before beginning the application process by contacting the Foundation office at 519 371 7203 during regular business hours.

Municipal Art Program

Pick up a brochure and enjoy a self guided tour of the current juried exhibition of our regional artists. The artwork is displayed throughout Town hall and showcases the diverse talents of these artists.

The Public Art Committee has a 'Call for Artists Submissions' again this year and as it is Canada's Sesquicentennial, you may want to consider a Canadian theme. If interested in being part of this exciting program go to www.thebluemountains.ca/map.cfm. Deadline is Feb.28/17

Tour location: Town Hall, 32 Mill St., Thornbury, Mon-Fri. 8:30-4:30

Black Bridge Clarksburg Rehabilitation

CC Tatham and Associates (CCTA) has defined the scope of work that needs to be completed. The deck and bow string arches are sound but require cleaning and patching to protect the encased rebar. The asphalt deck needs to be removed and replaced to allow the concrete deck to be resealed. The key concern identified were the guide rails. The existing guide rails do not meet the current crash test requirements.



Three options were proposed at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday Jan 30.

#1 Similar concrete post and rail as existing - \$51,000; #2 Concrete post with steel rail - \$85,000; #3 Decorative Concrete - \$212,500. There were pros and cons for each option and #2 was considered as the most viable option however it does not seem to retain the look of the original architecture. Hopefully, a combination of Option #1&2 will be considered.



REMEMBERING WHEN



Joan and Kay Larmondin and Sue Abbott enjoying a cup of tea Feb 14, 1987 with two Brownies, Christine and Jenny on the scene.

65th ANNIVERSARY GIRL GUIDES VALENTINE TEA AND BAKE SALE

Saturday, February 11, 2pm - 4pm

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. Enjoy a hot drink with homemade goodies served by your local Girl Guides and then browse through the Bake Table for a treat to take home. All proceeds go toward girl centered programming. (elevator available) Tickets \$2.50 at the door or call 519-599-3968. Donated baked goods are gratefully accepted and can be dropped off between 10 am and 1 pm on Saturday.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

To be included in this listing post your event on www.visitbluemountains.ca

Details subject to change- Confirm with organizers

L.E. SHORE LIBRARY GALLERY

FEBRUARY - The Gift of Love

The Arts Advisory Council is presenting a special February exhibit, showcasing local artists' interpretations on the theme of love. All work is available for purchase. Show runs until Mar 2.

PLAY AND LEARN: FOR SENIORS AND CAREGIVERS

Wednesday, February 8, 12 - 3:00pm

The L.E. Shore Library Gallery BVO and the Library invite you to the first *Play and Learn: For Seniors and Caregivers*. The event will showcase recreational and social resources that make it easier to have fun and lead an active and interesting life in your community. Free event for the public.

BEAVER VALLEY OPEN DOOR OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, February 12, 3:00pm - 5:00pm

St George's Church, Clarksburg
Thank you to the volunteers and donors who have supported Beaver Valley Open Door. Come and meet the Hussein family and enjoy some refreshments. Find out more about supporting another family to come to the

Beaver Valley and the need for new volunteers. Margaret 705-888-7686

SNOWFEST: THE SCIENCE OF FUN

Sunday, February 12, 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Kimbercote Farm, 316362 3rd Line C, Heathcote. Fun for the whole family! Maple taffy, orienteering, snowfort building, rockets and human hamster balls! Fran 519-373-2797 headwatersacademy.ca

WINTER SERIES

BACK TO THE ROOTS'

Saturday, February 18, 8:30 p.m.

Marsh Street Centre
Samantha Martin & Delta Sugar; Tickets \$35. Order online at www.marshstreetcentre.com or call 519-599-7837

FAMILY DAY WEEKEND

February 18-20 Blue Mountain Village

Music, Birds of Prey, Groove Dancing, Fireworks, plus
www.bluemountainvillage.ca

HOW TO FACEBOOK

Wednesday, February 22, 2:00-3:00pm

L E Shore Memorial Library
Learn how to create a Facebook account, add pictures, and more. Instructor: Richard Banks "the

Computer Guy" Registration required. Sign up by visiting the Library or calling 519-599-3681.

COME -- ENJOY FOOD, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!

Tuesday, February 28 at 12 Noon

Come and munch with the lunch bunch at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Thornbury continuing the 4th Tuesday of each month **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER**

Tuesday, February 28, 5:00pm - 7:00pm

St. George's Anglican Church Everyone is welcome to join us for pancakes, sausages and icecream. Adults \$6. Child \$2. 519-599-3047



Jazz Mania
APRIL 28, 29, 30, 2017
THORNURY-CLARKSBURG
www.jazzmania.ca

WEEKLY EVENTS

Daily - Monday-Friday

Coffee Klatch - 10am to noon
Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg

Mondays

Bridge 1pm. St. Georges Anglican Church, \$2.00 includes refreshments

Tuesdays

Toastmasters 7pm. Marsh Street Centre

Wednesdays

Taoist Tai Chi Arts™

Beginner Classes 9am-11am

Continuing Classes 10-noon

Beaver Valley Com. Centre. 519-377-0652

Events For Life Coffee Nook 9:30-10:30am

Come and enjoy coffee and muffins at Grace United Church www.eventsfor.life

Wednesday and Thursday

Bid Euchre 1:00 pm Beaver Valley Community Centre, \$2.00 - 519-599-2209

Sundays

English Country Dancing, Try traditional dance with a friendly group at the Marsh St. Centre in Clarksburg. Lovely music, no partner or experience needed. Sundays, Feb. 5th and 19th, March 19th and 26th. Dancing from 1:45 to 4:30 with a snack break, \$6 per session. www.lordgreysdance.weebly.com 519-599-6195

Blue Mountains Public Library Celebrates Canada 150 with Black History Month

On **Thursday Feb. 9**, please join us for an Author Talk with local writer, Judith Plaxton at L.E. Shore Memorial Library at 2pm to discuss her junior fiction novel, Morning Star, the story of escaped slaves going North to freedom via the Underground Railroad.

On **Thursday Feb. 16**, "Amazing Grace and Abolition" will take place from 1:30-3:30pm at the L.E. Shore Memorial Library branch. Admission is by donation.

On **Friday Feb. 17**, a Quilting Workshop with the Georgian Quilters will take place from 1:30pm - 3:30pm at L.E. Shore Memorial Library. This all-ages programme will teach the basics in quilting and attendees will learn how to make a small quilted project. Materials provided. Please register in advance by calling 519-599-3681.

The "Books on Deck Book Club" will meet on **Wednesday Feb. 22** from 6:45pm-7:45pm at the Craigeleith Heritage Depot. The book "The Invention of Wings" by Sue Monk Kidd will be the focus of discussion.

March, including March Break, will focus on the Canadian Circus and high flying acts that have grown here in The Blue Mountains.

Know Your Town Trivia

The Marsh Street Centre, in Clarksburg has been an important part of the community for the past 90 years and has always been a place for people to come together. A Know Your Town Trivia fundraiser is planned for Sat April 1st, 7pm.

Each round will have a specific theme and questions about our town - history, arts, tourism, agriculture, municipality, nature, geography, and sports.

Plan to bring a team of 6 at \$15 a person and get to know your Town. Registration forms available by calling 519-599-3345

Thornbury Jazzworks 2017 Spring Series

Continuing with the successful concept of previous years, the performances will offer not only superb musical entertainment but insight into the world of prominent 20th century musicians, vocalists and composers.

The first concert will take place on **March 31** at the Library with Mary-Catherine Pazzano presenting a program celebrating the 100th birthday of Ella Fitzgerald.

During Jazzmania weekend on **April 28** at the Marsh Street Centre, the exciting 10 member jazz orchestra, the Noodle Factory Jazz Project presents a show focusing on 150 Years of Jazz with emphasis on Canadian musicians and composers.

On **May 26**, back at the Library, the renowned jazz trombonist Russ Little brings his interpretation of what Jazz can be. His outstanding musical virtuosity and exuberance embody the pure joy of jazz.

On **June 23** John MacMurchy, jazz saxophonist and clarinetist born and raised in Collingwood and now well established in the Toronto Jazz scene, will show his passion for the beauty in music. For ticket info call Tony Bauer 519-599-2893

Town of The Blue Mountains Public Appointments

The Town of The Blue Mountains are seeking applications, in the form of resume and covering letter, from members of the public for appointment to the following:

- The Blue Mountains Public Library Board (one vacancy)
- Public Art Committee (two vacancies)

Appointments run concurrent with the term of Council and will be for the remainder of 2014 to 2018 term. Applicants are encouraged to include background information and any special qualifications or interest related to The Blue Mountains Public Library Board and Public Art Committee. Applications selected for consideration will require a formal reference check.

All applications should be submitted no later than Wednesday, February 15, 2017 1:00 pm to:

Town of The Blue Mountains
Attention: Town Clerk
32 Mill Street
Thornbury, Ontario N0H 2P0
townclerk@thebluemountains.ca

Public Skating

at Beaver Valley Arena
Adult Skating \$3 per person
Mondays, Wednesday & Fridays (10am - 12pm)
Parent & Tot - No Charge
Tuesdays (10am - 11am)
Public Skating - No Charge
Sat 7pm - 9pm; Sun 12pm - 2pm
Exceptions Mar 26.

Cancellations and updates can be found on the Municipal Calendar on the Town's Home Page www.thebluemountains.ca

Curling Update

Individuals have spoken with municipal staff about curling and hosting curling events at the arena and have met with a positive response. Details to follow. Contact tbcurling@gmail.com if you are interested.



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February 21 - April 4
Collingwood Leisure Time Club



The Blue Mountains Review
Thornbury, Clarksburg, Craigeleith, Heathcote, Ravenna

Published monthly, copies are mailed throughout the Blue Mountains. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our community can be emailed to info@bluemountainsreview.ca for inclusion in the newsletter. Advertising rates are available by calling 519-599-3345 or from our website. www.bluemountainsreview.ca

In Memory

*Those we love,
don't go away,
they walk beside
us every day,
unseen, unheard,
but always there,
still missed, still loved,
still very dear!*



JANIE EAGLES

Born in St. Vincent Township and a longtime resident of Meaford, Janie passed away on Wednesday January 4, 2017 at the age of 92. She was the daughter of the late Harold and Ethel (nee Reid) Vickers and step-daughter of the late Mable (nee Doherty). Janie was predeceased by her beloved husband Wilmer "Shorty" Eagles in 1994 and is remembered as the much loved Mom of Sharon and her husband Allan Thompson of Markdale, Donna Eagles of Meaford, Dennis Eagles and his wife Bonnie of Fergus, Gerald Eagles and his wife Sandy of Clarksburg, Doug Eagles and his wife Gwenda of Cambridge and Brenda and her husband Scott May of Waterloo. A son Ken Eagles predeceased Janie and she is remembered by his wife Lynda also of Meaford. Fifteen grandchildren and twenty six great grandchildren will sorely miss their Gramma. Janie was predeceased also by a sister Viola (late Jim) Shaw of Meaford. She will be fondly recalled as a dear aunt by her several nieces and nephews and by their families.

JEROME JOHN McGROARTY

Jerome (Jerry) passed away unexpectedly in his home in Thornbury on January 5, 2017. Fiancé of Natalia Bubnich. Jerry is the son of Margaret and the late Herbert McGroarty. He is lovingly remembered by his children Jerome Jr. (Marlene), Robert (Sophia), Chris (Martha) and Carrie (Stephen). He was predeceased by his son Patrick in 2013. His grandchildren will sadly miss him: Johnny, Jamie, Nathaniel, Lucinda, Eleanor, Amanda, Jillian, Caleb, Madeline, Mathias, Christian and William; his adopted grandchildren Hannah and Joe, and foster son, Kurt. He will be missed by his brothers and sisters Herb Jr, Bruce, Darcy, Maggie, Mark, Shawn, Maura, Brian and Kevin. Jerry was predeceased by his sister, Debbie. He will also be missed by Bonnie, Louise, and daughter-in-law, Melissa.

MAURICE ANDREW HOGGARD

Maurice passed away peacefully at the Meaford Long Term Care Centre on Saturday January 7, 2017 at the age of 92. Born on the family farm in Collingwood Township on May 7, 1924, the only child of the late Walter and Rose Elizabeth (nee Andrew) Hoggard, Maurice was the beloved husband for 66 years of the late Ellouise Doreen (nee Johnston) Hoggard of Meaford. Maurice was the loving Dad of Marilyn and Royce and his wife Margaret and the proud grandfather of Andrew and his wife Shilo and great grandfather of Zach, Josh and Abbie. He will be fondly remembered by his first cousins: Alice Hoggard of Thornbury, Carol Nicholson and Shirley Haines of Lindsay, Norm (Mildred) Tripp of Coldwater, Betty Doan of Elmvale and Elborne (June) Andrew of Collingwood as well as his first cousins by marriage: Audrey Hoggard of Thornbury and Eileen Tripp of Newmarket. He was close to his brothers-in-law Wally Johnston (Fern) and the late Len Johnston. He had a special place in his heart for his nieces Lori (Sam), Melanie (Paul), Marie (Ron), and his nephew Ed (Carolyn) and their families.

EDWARD FARLEY

Edward passed away on Tuesday January 10, 2017 at Errinrunc Residence in Thornbury in his 89th year. He was born in Hamilton on February 23, 1928, a son of the late Arlo and Elizabeth (nee Coome) Farley. Ed was predeceased by his wife of over 50 years, Lida (nee Topham). He was the dear father of Mary Farley-Begy and her husband Colin Begy, and proud 'Nonno' to Sarah Begy, all of Clarksburg 'Banks'. Ed will be remembered fondly by his brother Frank Farley (Janet), and was predeceased by his sister Vivian and will be remembered also by his nieces and nephew. Ed worked on the Canadian National Railway for 50 years as an engineer. After his career with the railway he enjoyed many years of retirement, living in Thornbury the past four years and meeting many new friends.

WILMA CORNFIELD

Born in Collingwood Township on September 28, 1926, a daughter of the late Adelbert and Laura (nee Loughheed) Brown, Wilma passed away at Errinrunc Nursing Home in Thornbury on Thursday January 12, 2017 at the age of 90. Wilma is remembered as the beloved wife of sixty eight years of Harold Cornfield, also residing at Errinrunc. Much loved mother of George and his

wife Lynn Cornfield of Thornbury, Blair (late Jean) Cornfield of Collingwood, Gerald and his wife Joanne Cornfield of Clarksburg, and Tom Cornfield of Burlington. Wilma will be the sadly missed Grandma of eight: Stacey and Trevor Flint, Terri and Jeff Eichenberger, Ashley and Warren McGregor, Ryan and Alison Cornfield, Tyler and Elsa Cornfield, Kara Cornfield and Nick Townson, and Michael Cornfield and Liz Cornfield and Great Gramma of eleven. She was predeceased by granddaughters Jennifer and Darlah Cornfield. Wilma is also survived by a brother George (late Helen) Brown of Meaford and will be recalled kindly by her sister-in-law Fern (late Carl Thompson and late Ivan Park) of Thornbury and was predeceased by brother-in-law Gerald (late Audrey) Cornfield, and Freda (late Leighton Vail) of Meaford and will be remembered also by her several nieces and nephews and their families.

EVELYN GUNNS

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the sudden passing of Evelyn Gunns, on Monday January 23rd, 2017 at the age of 84. Evelyn was a long time resident of Thornbury and enjoyed an active but relaxing life with her loving husband and best friend of 61 years, Bob Gunns, who survives her. She will be sorely missed by her children: Karen, Richard (Kirsten), Linda (Mike) and her grandchildren, Adam (Rachael), Amy, Rob, Tara, Ryker and Bailey. She will be recalled as a dear sister and sister-in-law and will be fondly remembered as a special aunt to her nieces and nephews.

Upcoming Programs at the Blue Mountains Public Library

Borrow Snowshoes with your Library Card. Discover winter travel in the Blue Mountains by checking out snowshoes on your library card.

All snowshoes will be kept at the Craighleith Heritage Depot, but you may place a hold on a pair and have them sent to the L.E. Shore Memorial Library branch. Thank you to Scenic Caves Nature Adventures for generously loaning a couple of pairs to jump-start this special winter offer.

March Break 2017 will be a CIRCUS theme. Special guest, The Puppet Tamer will be at the L.E. Shore Memorial Library on Tuesday March 14th at 10:30am. \$3/ticket. Stunt Ventriloquist Tim, The Puppet Tamer, drops jaws and tickles funny bones with a cast of hilarious characters in a one man show.

Toddler Story Time – Friday from 10:45am–11:30am at the L.E. Shore Memorial Library. Every week is a different theme and will feature stories, rhymes, songs and crafts for tots. This is a free, drop in program. No need to register.

Baby Play Time – Friday from 1:00pm – 1:30pm at the L.E. Shore Memorial Library. Meet us for a hands-on play time dedicated to helping infants build up their sensory experiences. An adult must accompany children. Ages 0-24 months. Free, drop-in program.

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Tier 1 Status

At a Council Meeting June 20 2016, Councillor Michael Martin made the following motion which was passed in a 6 to 1 vote: THAT the Town of The Blue Mountains resolves to investigate "Single Tier" status and if found appropriate, to seek from the Province of Ontario "Single Tier" status. This motion means that Blue Mountains is considering withdrawing from Grey County. If you would like to part of a citizens group researching this type of local government and the potential impact on services please call the Blue Mountains Review 519-599-3345.

Reassessing Potential of Grey County Role in Provision of Library Services

In Ontario, the Public Libraries Act provides for the provision of universal access to public library services for residents. The Ministry of Culture has responsibility for the Public Libraries Act and provides programs and support for libraries under the Southern Ontario Library Service.

Public libraries are created by municipal bylaws and governed by public library boards. An individual municipality can establish its own board as have Hanover, West Grey, The Blue Mountains, Meaford, Southgate and Grey Highlands. A municipality can contract with another library board to provide library services for their residents. Municipalities can agree to provide services jointly under a union library board as have Owen Sound, Chatsworth and Georgian Bluffs.

There has been a long standing interest in exploring the costs and benefits of a countywide public library system in Grey County. According to the Ontario Public Library Statistics, in 2015 there were 30,486 active library cardholders from a population of 48,012 households in Grey County.

A proposed environmental scan of the libraries in Grey County would provide information to Council regarding current service delivery metrics across the county as well as any planned capital investments or service enhancements and note where there may be economies of scale or efficiencies to be gained through collaboration.

A motion at County Council was passed and approved by that Report CAOR-CW-04-17 Reassessing Potential of Grey County Role in Provision of Library Services be received; and THAT Council direct the CAO to prepare an updated environmental scan of library services and an assessment of the merits of proceeding with a more comprehensive library services project for Council's consideration in March 2017

The proposed environmental scan and preliminary assessment would be completed by the CAO with assistance from County staff and the participation of library services stakeholders.

Highway 26 Bypass

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) completed a Highway 26 Transportation Study – Needs Assessment Report in late 2015. The locations of roadway improvements and new transportation corridors recommended by the study locally include:

- Highway Bypass of Thornbury
- Widening Highway 26 to 4-5 lanes between Thornbury Bypass and the proposed Collingwood Bypass.

Given the ever increasing traffic load on Highway 26 through the Town, the related congestion, and MTO's intention to at some point in the future consider widening the Highway 26 corridor, the proposal before the Town and the County at the present time is to create signage for the alternate route along Grey Roads 19 and 2 to Clark Street. Details of the proposal can be found on the town site January 30 Committee of the Whole agenda or call 519-599-3345.



At the Beaver River Watershed Initiative AGM in January, a framed print of Haines Dam by Bill Hartman was presented to Grey Sauble Conservation Authority representatives Sonya Skinner and John Bittorf for their support by Tom Kennedy, Management Team Chair (right). The BRWI mission is to improve and conserve the overall water quality of the Beaver River Watershed. www.whatwaterwants.org

Bluewater District School Board Update

Effective February 6th, **Heather Minielly** is the Vice-Principal at Georgian Bay Community School.

Through the appointment process as determined at the January 24, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Board, as permitted in legislation, **Fran Morgan** has accepted the position of Trustee for the remainder of the 2014 – 2018 term. As outlined in the Education Act (section 221 1-5), trustees have the option of appointing a qualified person to fill a vacancy within 90 days of the vacancy being created. The seat became vacant after the passing of Trustee Linda Hamill late last year.

Fran Morgan previously served as Trustee for Bluewater District School Board, representing the Municipality of Meaford and the Town of The Blue Mountains, during the 2010–2014 term.



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COLLINGWOOD - LIGHTHOUSE POINT

TURNKEY 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH GROUND FLOOR UNIT WITH GARAGE is a rare animal in this market. Features include: Gated community, private marina, private location, garage, walking distance to recreation facilities and a huge private patio area. Condo Fees Include: Use of recreation facilities on site, namely, indoor and outdoor saltwater pools, tennis courts, private beaches, mini golf, snow removal, kitchen refuse p/u reserve fund, common element insurance, lawn and garden maintenance. **Updates Include:** Newer carpeting and underpads, stainless steel appliances, painted throughout, windows and patio doors and bathrooms. There's more but you *Better call Ed or Heather* before you blink and it's gone.

ASKING \$350,000.00

NEWEST LISTINGS



WASAGA SANDS

MOTIVATED SELLER!!!... VALUE PRICED WITH TLC IN MIND... A home in the Wasaga Sands golf course community under 400K is a rarity these days. Features include: **LOCATION!!!!... LOCATION!!!!... and LOCATION!!!!...**, paved circular drive with a two car garage, 3 bedrooms, two baths all on the main floor with a large eat in kitchen and separate dining room, spacious living room and a sunken family room leading into the lower level recreation room, huge 20' x 24' deck, plenty of storage, a large laundry area and separate workshop that could easily be converted into a fourth bedroom. Short drive to the world's largest freshwater beach, medical/dental centre and shopping. *Better call Ed* to book your private showing now! **ASKING \$375,000**



MEAFORD

CHARACTER & UNIQUENESS abound in this circa (1895-1904) rare, limestone block Victorian home in central Meaford. Covered front porch, interlock double driveway, stained glass windows & doors welcome you. Impressively treed & landscaped fully fenced yard with two sheds and even a little trailer/bunkie. Mansard hip roof re-shingled and 18+ inches of insulation added to the stand up attic (unfinished) completed in Nov/16 with transferable warranty. Stone crawl space trenched/waterproofed in 2009, all plumbing and electrical updated between 2011-2016, family room addition (2000) with stunning period style gas fireplace (2015) with a walkout to spacious deck. No carpeting! Oak hardwood and vinyl/tiled flooring throughout home. Good size closets e in all three bedrooms (one with balcony), two full baths, all updated, stunning oak banister, rails and treads, patterned crown moulded ceilings in 6 rooms, 10+ inch baseboards, pocket doors, 9ft ceilings... you have to see it in person. *Better call Heather or Ed* for your personal tour. **OFFERED AT \$475,000**



WASAGA BEACH

NO CONDO FEES... FREEHOLD TOWNHOME WITH FINISHED BASEMENT. The Sand Castle Model Featuring: 3 generous sized bedrooms and 4 bathrooms, 3 car single driveway, quality finishing throughout, laminate wood flooring, upgraded kitchen - molding and valance lighting, crown molding on the main floor, gas fireplace - oak surround, main floor laundry, 9' ceilings on main floor, rounded corners, crown molding, spacious master bedroom. 3 full baths up with 2 pc on main, walkout to backyard and 10' x 12' deck, garden shed and fenced along the back property line, inside entry to garage and a roughed in central vacuum system. Easy walk to sandy beach located at Park 6, Replex, 45th and Mosley shopping. *Better call Ed* for your personal tour. **ASKING \$370,000**



SILVER GLEN

END UNIT IN SILVER GLEN PRESERVE. Designed and upgraded for Princess Margaret Hospital Lottery, this 2 storey, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath town home shows to perfection. Featuring custom island in kitchen, granite counter tops, ceramic back splash, high end appliances, hardwood throughout the entire unit, upgraded gas fireplace with matching stone adds a cozy touch to the large family. Custom blinds cover all the large bright windows. Upgraded tile in the foyer and bathrooms, large master bedroom, large walk in closet, fantastic ensuite. Move in ready. **LONG CLOSING AVAILABLE (MAY 2017)** *Better call Ed* or Heather** for your private viewing.. **Asking \$425,000**



SILVER GLEN

PRICED TO SELL WITH QUICK CLOSING.. This 2 storey, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath town home **WITH FINISHED BASEMENT** is ready to move in. Featuring hardwood throughout the living and dining areas. Unit is located close to the Rec Centre featuring an outdoor pool and patio area, equipped fitness centre, games/party room, change rooms, showers and saunas.. By comparison to other resorts, note the low condo fees.. *Better call Ed** to book your private showing now! **ASKING \$400,000**

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WASAGA BEACH

ON A RARE OCCASION. One finds a 52.5 FOOT hidden WATERFRONT jewel on the southern shores of Georgian Bay. A blank canvas with no development charges just waiting for your Malibu North/Wasaga Beach design. Pure sand beach for as far as the eye can see in both directions. Sunsets??? To die for... Storm watching??? Awesome... Seller is including an up to date topographical survey which will be a requirement for NVC permit approval. And a Shoreline Hazard Assessment for the adjacent property to assist in obtaining to also assist in NVCQ approval. Oh yes... Did we mention that HST is included in the purchase price?... *Better call Ed** **Asking \$749,000**



STAYNER

NEED A LOT OF BEDROOMS? WE GOT 'EM... Freshly touched up, engineered wood flooring, new carpet, fully fenced back yard. This FIVE BEDROOM, 3 BATHROOM, Glencairn Model is a raised bungalow in a great neighborhood called The Villages in Stayner and is all ready for you to move in. Features include a 3 pc ensuite off the master bedroom, gas fireplace in the living room, inside entry from garage, garage door opener, central vac and attachments, 5 appliances, all light fixtures and window coverings. **PLENTY OF ROOM FOR INLAWS, OUTLAWS, LOTTA KIDS, DOGS and CATS** and maybe a GOAT or two. *Better call Ed** for a private viewing. **Asking \$370,000**



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STAYNER

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COLLINGWOOD

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Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

The Mid-Term Council Report Card Issue



Mid-Term Council Report Card



High Marks for STA Licencing/Enforcement,
New Sign Bylaw, Closure of 5th Line, Budget
Low Marks for Openness and Transparency,
Library Issues, Treatment of Councillor Seguin

Council is now half-way through its term, so we thought we would ask Council and Citizens how they thought Council had performed so far.

On the whole people are disappointed. Generally people view Council as uncommunicative and unresponsive. Most complained about the lack of transparency, and the way the restructuring of the Library and the harassment charges against Michael Seguin were handled.

Positive comments were received on STA licencing, the sign bylaw, budget management, and the closing of the 5th line road allowance.

Citizens gave Council an average grade of "D".

We asked Council and the Mayor, and Deputy Mayor to provide a self-assessment. We asked:

- 1) Which is the one item that you campaigned and were elected on that you have had the most success advancing?
- 2) What would you rate as your most significant contribution to Council over the last 2 years?
- 3) What has been Council's most important achievement over the first half of its term?
- 4) What has been the one issue in which you are most disappointed with the lack of progress or the outcome?
- 5) What would you like to see Council accomplish over the next 2 years?
- 6) On a scale from A to F, how would you rate:
a. your own performance; b. that of Council as a whole;

We were pleasantly surprised by the response from Council, with 4 of 5 councillors and the Deputy Mayor responding. Unfortunately Mayor McKean and Councillor Gamble chose not respond. Three of the five who responded addressed only the achievements and not the disappointments. Only two Councillors were bold enough to give Council as a whole a grade, one a "C" and one a "D". See what each had to say in the following pages.

We also asked Citizens to rate each person, and Council as a whole, with an overall grade from A to F together with a reason for the grade, and to describe for each individual their most important contribution and their greatest disappointment.

The responses from citizens can be categorized into two categories:

1) People who looked at both the negative and positive gave a balanced assessment, and 2) people who are so upset and disillusioned that they were overwhelming negative and gave F's across the Board. The latter group who chose only to address the negative, in a way are similar to those on Council, who chose only to address the positive.

Hopefully councillors and citizens will read what each other had to say and we can start communicating again. One reader pleaded:

"Please initiate an open, transparent and consistent public engagement process so citizens don't feel shut out of their own government and we can start to rebuild trust. I realize that trust is a two way street and somehow we have gotten to the point where there is mistrust, perhaps on both sides. As a citizen, I want to be sensitive to the possibility that we have made council defensive, but I think that a discussion (involving citizens of course) about such a process would allow Council and citizens to work together and build trust."

Welcome to the Citizens' Pages

This is the third monthly issue of the Citizen's Pages, an insert into the Blue Mountains Review ("BMR"), which is distributed to about 3,000 people as a flyer in the mail each month. You would have received one if you have a mailing address in the Town of Blue Mountains, unless you have specified "no flyers" at the post office. Copies are also available at various locations around town.

It is funded through an online crowdfunding campaign

<https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review>

Donations can also be made to the Citizens' Pages care of The Blue Mountains Review and be dropped off at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg.

All of the funds we receive go towards the printing and distribution. All content and editing is provided by citizen volunteers. **We have managed to raise enough to survive for our first three issues, but we are surviving month to month. We still have a long way to go to our goal of \$7,200 to keep us going for a full year.**

If you like what you see and want to see it continue, please donate to keep us going.

Alar Soever, Editor

CITIZENS AT THE



Come out and meet people who are interested in what is going on in the Town, and what is before Council. All citizens are invited to drop in at the Community Room at Corner Café on Monday nights between 4 and 7 for some socializing and friendly discussion on the issues facing the Town and what is on the Council Agenda.

Come, meet new friends, listen, and have your say.

Rules: Be polite, respect other people's opinions, and if you don't agree with them, just remember: They have the right to be wrong.

Know your businesses



This month's business: Maiolo's Restaurant and Lounge

1. Where is Maiolo's?
2. What about Maiolo's location makes it special?
3. What kind of food does Maiolo serve?

1) Greek 2) Italian/Canadian 3) French 4) Japanese

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Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

The Mid-Term Council Report Card Issue



Mid-Term Council Report Card

Mayor McKean - Self Assessment – No response received
Citizens Grades Range: “D” to “F” Average Grade: “F”

Citizens' Comments: People were almost unanimously critical of the Mayor's performance, and he got the lowest average rating of anyone. People said that they had great hopes for Mayor McKean, “particularly after the former Mayor”, but are disappointed that he does not listen or respond to citizens.

Citizen's cited a lack of leadership, poor communication skills, and a lack of transparency. He was criticized for creating a dysfunctional Council, and in particular for his handling of the harassment allegations against Councillor Seguin and the library issue.

The most generous assessment of the Mayor stated: “*McKean seems like a nice man who is in a little over his head. He doesn't shows strong leadership or ask questions or seek clarification from staff. His depth of knowledge of municipal affairs appears weak, as he always defers to staff or requests legal advice. He has misjudged the importance of certain issues and seems totally out-of-touch with the residents. Instead of being open and transparent, he has withdrawn behind a veil of secrecy. It must be very difficult, as I think he wants to do a good job as Mayor. He has a quiet style and that hasn't serviced him well in his role as Mayor. He should seek the advice and opinions of his fellow Councillors as often as he seeks the advice of staff and he also needs to be a consensus builder.*”

Deputy Mayor Ardiel - Self Assessment

Item most success advancing: 3 items, a fair contract with the O.P.P., Open for Business, and bring savings back to the town. I believe that council has worked hard to be Open for Business and this has been achieved by 1)the new Sign By Law; 2) Economic Development and 3)the reorganization of our Planning and Development Services.

Most significant contribution: Listening to the all the ratepayers and having the ability to make decisions, not alone but with the whole of Council. I also was elected to Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) to be able to bring forth the concerns of our town and other towns with similar concerns to a body of government that has more power to address issues with the province.

Council's top achievement: The Short-Term Accommodations licensing, this program is now working in our town and now other municipalities having the same issues are asking our town for help in developing and implementing a license regime.

Issue disappointed with: We have had many issues of late and would prefer to move forward on a clean slate.

In next 2 years would like to see: Moving forward with many projects regarding our Infrastructure, a new Zoning By-Law, and ensuring our Corporate Strategic Plan 2016-2020 is followed.

Self-Assessment Grade: I will let the people of this community decide the rating on my performance. I attend each meeting well informed, my attendance record is excellent. I participate in all discussions. I believe in open communication with full and part time constituents contributing to informed, intelligent decisions moving forward.

Mid-Term Council Report Card

D. M. Ardiel -Citizens Grades: Range: “A” to “F” Avg. Grade: “D”

Citizens' Comments: Positive comments received include that she “*speaks her mind*” and “*seems to have thoughts in line with the community.*” People also noted her support for the passing of the new Sign Bylaw. Deputy Mayor Ardiel was criticised for being seen as being overly eager to punish Mr. Seguin and for her silence during the entire library scandal. People also commented that they wish she would spend more time on the issues rather than self-promotion, noting that she mentions her position on AMO and/or OSUM at least once during each meeting of Council.

Councillor McGee - Self Assessment

Item most success advancing: Council's Strategic Plan for this term contains some aspects of my key campaign issues, sustainable communities, affordable government, accessible government and public engagement

Most significant contribution: Preparation is the most significant contribution a Councillor can make on an ongoing basis. Agenda topics are widely varied. Without preparation it is very difficult to contribute to the debate and the subsequent decision by Council.

Council's top achievement: Council's work in clarifying the vision for the future of The Blue Mountains through its Strategic Plan, the Official Plan and the Sign By-law.

Issue disappointed with: No response given

In next 2 years would like to see: I would like to see Council move forward on sustainability in many ways, one of the key aspects would be the furthering of our asset management plan to assist future councils in the prioritizing infrastructure maintenance and renewal and funding.

Self-Assessment Grade: This should be left to others to evaluate.

Citizens Grades: Range: “A” to “F” Average Grade: “C”

Citizens' Comments: Mr. McGee received high praise for his initiative to have Council meetings recorded on audio/video to improve accountability. He was both praised and criticised for his focus on sustainability. People criticised his attendance record noting “*McGee was absent for most of the summer and seems to have just recently re-engaged.*”, also noting he was absent for the meeting at which sanctions were applied against Councillor Seguin. People pointed to poor communication skills with his electorate and lack of strong conviction, as “*he voices his views about a number of issues even when not agreeing with the majority, but does not always follow through when he votes.*”

Councillor Gamble - Self Assessment:- No Response Given

Citizens Grades: Range: “A” to “F” Average Grade: “D”

Citizens' Comments: People didn't have much to say about Mr. Gamble. He was given credit for his long service on Council and for keeping a watchful eye on the budget over the years, and for voting against the amendment to the Purchasing Policy, which removed a level of Council oversight over spending. He was criticised for his lack of action against what many view as the unprincipled firing of the Library staff. People noted that his contribution and attention to detail appears to be lessening, and noted “*he often closes his eyes and appears to have fallen asleep during meetings.*” He was also criticised for not responding back to citizens' e-mails.

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Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

The Mid-Term Council Report Card Issue



Mid-Term Council Report Card

Councillor Martin - Self Assessment- Submitted with the comment: *"No one councillor is responsible for any specific aspect of Council's agenda. Once an issue is resolved by at least four votes, the balance of Council whether for or against must support the resolution of the majority. This council has to its credit followed that principle. In fact and my opinion: all of the members of this Council act in a principled manner to each other and the community at large. That said, I feel I can only answer Questions "1, 3, & 5"*.

Item most success advancing: Council accountability for spending and its priorities and objectives.

Most significant contribution: No response as per above

Council's top achievement: 1) 2 budgets with modest surplus and tax within or below cost of living percentage increases; 2) Strategic Plan; 3) final resolution of Official Plan; 4) STA licensing programme, 5) Setting stage to resolve the financial disparity of this municipality paying for 26% of County budget, through our initiative to assume County roads within the Town, 6) Resolution of the Georgian Trail crossing issue championed by Mr. Sequin, 7) Appreciation of the importance of the Library and Depot as a community centres.

Issue disappointed with: No response as per above.

In next 2 years would like to see: Resolving the financial disparity of this municipality paying for 26% of County budget

Self-Assessment Grade: No response as per above.

Citizens Grades: Range: "A" to "F" Average Grade: "C"

Citizens' Comments: Mr. Martin received high praise for acting *"with objective integrity in all aspects of the handling of the charges against Mr. Sequin, and spoke out about the unnecessarily harsh sanctions."* He was also praised for his persistent push for a fair deal from the County of Grey.

People were critical of his role in the library issue and the fact he does not return their e-mails. They noted that he is an independent thinker, is knowledgeable, and comes prepared to meetings. One described him as *"the voice of reason on Council"*. People gave him credit for his well thought out opinions, but noted that unfortunately he often does not show leadership by more forcefully advocating for his positions. Several added that they wished he had a *"more forthright speaking style"* noting *"he continues to put his hand in front of his face and then mumbles into the microphone."*

Councillor Halos - Self Assessment

Item most success advancing: New sign Bylaw. I made a commitment to work on a new sign bylaw during the election. We had considerable public input and crafted a low height, low light model.

Most significant contribution: Councillors sit on many committees and work behind the scenes. Housing affordability has long been an issue and I feel that the work that I and others performed with the Attainable Housing Corporation made a significant contribution to our Town. We put programs in place to help citizens purchase homes as well as renovate existing to create new dwelling units. We were also able to attract significant capital from developers through the bonusing provisions in the old Official Plan to fund future projects.

Council's top achievement: Closing the fifth line to vehicular traffic. This removed access by vehicles to the Loree forest, Bruce trail, Len Gertler Memorial forest and other public lands where the environmental degradation was significant. This issue was attended and commented on by more interested citizens than any other during

Mid-Term Council Report Card

my terms of council, thus my rating.

Issue disappointed with: "Sigh..... the Michael Sequin affair."

In next 2 years would like to see: Continued strong financial performance. Stand against rezoning to expand extraction uses in significant recreational and escarpment lands. Not get sidetracked with personal agendas, stick to running the Municipality. Start webcasting our meetings. Continued attention to ensuring public access to public waterfront areas. Continued attention to improving our development process. Continued attention to regulating STA's. etc. etc.

Self-Assessment Grade: "C"

Citizens Grades: Range: "B" to "F" Average Grade: "D"

Citizens' Comments: Mr. Halos was commended for his support for the closing of the fifth line, his participation level in Council discussions, and the openness of the Sign Bylaw Committee. He received both criticism and praise for advocating for the business community.

Mr. Halos was heavily criticised for his harsh attack on Councillor Sequin during the application of sanctions. Others commented that they are often not sure where he stands on issues. Others criticised him on flip-flopping on issues.

Councillor Sequin - Self Assessment

Item most success advancing: 1) The upgrade and assumption of the road network within the 87-unit Thunderhill subdivision so that all residents of this community receive fair services for their tax dollars and, 2) the adoption of a new Sign-By-law that provides more clarity and better reflects the existing and future vision of the community.

Most significant contribution: Staying true to my election promise/word that I would bring a **C**harge to this Council **C**larity and/or a clearer vision, **H**onesty and no hidden agendas, **A**-attitude and higher standards, **R**-research, responsibility and preparation, **G**-get things done and, **E**-enthusiasm. Apparently, that was too much for the CAO and Council to accept from a new councillor!

Council's top achievement: The adoption of a new Official Plan that provides better zoning and design controls and promotes compatible and more modest growth and development. The removal of flawed BONUSING policies, until clear Guidelines are developed that provide more open, transparent and a predictable development process--no surprises; no side deals.

Issue disappointed with: This Council's lack of interest in neighbourhood road safety (reducing speed limits) and trail safety (crossings) and continue to ignore residents' cries for security and rely on outdated standards. In my opinion, this does not promote a HEALTHY COMMUNITY or LIFESTYLE – Goal #3 in the new Strategic Plan

In next 2 years would like to see: Show more respect for each other and the public by listening and responding to their concerns.

Self-Assessment Grade: "B" I was only allowed to express myself over 1 year and suppressed over the second year.

Citizens Grades: Range: "A" to "D" Average Grade: "B"

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Mid-Term Council Report Card

Citizens' Comments: Councillor Seguin received the highest rating of all the councillors. He was given high marks for being responsive and caring about the citizens. Comments included: *"The ONLY Councillor to return emails, phone calls and the only one who actually listens to the electorate."*, and, *"Represents citizens and cares deeply. Perhaps, too much."* Some commented they could not judge him as they did not know what he was accused of *"if I knew what he did and said I would be in a better position to judge."* He was criticised on the Library issue *"Not doing enough to investigate the suspicious firings of 9 municipal employees last March"*. One reader summed it up as follows: *"Seguin is a lone wolf/the outsider on Council. He has a blunt style that rubs people the wrong way. He asks the 'hard' questions and pays the price. He cares deeply for this community, comes fully prepared to each Council meeting, and is not afraid to ask questions or speak his mind. He should reach out more to build relationships and liaisons with colleagues and others who can help advance his ideas. Consensus building is an important part of interacting with people in order to ensure a positive experience and outcome."*

Breaking News: STA Owners Group Joins ex-Mayor Anderson in Criticising Councillor Seguin and his Supporters

In a media release which was widely picked up by various local media, a group calling itself The Blue Mountains Short Term Accommodation Owner's Association ("BMSTAOA") stated that it *"wishes to add its voice to others, including former Mayor Ellen Anderson, on the topic of the continuing saga of the unprofessional conduct of Councillor Michael Seguin."* And, that it *"wishes to strongly encourage Mr. Michael Seguin to immediately resign or, at an absolute minimum, recuse himself from Council until such time as these serious allegations have been satisfactorily resolved."*

When questioned by the Citizens Pages about what it knew that the public did not, as the media release referred to *"serious allegations of unprofessional conduct and inappropriate behavior"*, Stu Frith, President of the BMSTAOA stated *"We, like you, do not have the facts so we are unable to come to any informed conclusion."* *"Mr. Seguin's guilt or innocence is not able to be determined at this time. We support his right to due process. We are simply suggesting that he should resign temporarily until such time as the final determinations are made."*

In an interview with the Citizens' Pages Councillor Seguin stated, *"I am limited in what I can say as I have filed for a Judicial Review of how this whole matter has been handled and this is now before the courts. I can assure you that I do not plan to resign. The people that elected me would not expect nor want me to resign. The fact that this group has joined Anderson in attacking me does not surprise me. They have been trying to get rid of me for some time now, due to my advocacy for the regulation of the STA industry."*

Little is known about the BMSTAOA. The e-mail given in their press release did not exist. They seem to have been formed last fall and initially claimed to represent the STA industry as a whole. After their initial deputation Blue Mountain Resorts advised the Town they did not represent their views. They currently claim to represent "members who own approximately 120 Chalet and Cottage STA's and 100 or so condo's that would be defined as either STA Condo's or Commercial Resort Condo's." When asked by us, Mr. Frith would not divulge their paid-up membership number .

Library news Brought to you by [VOCAL Voices of Our Community for Accountable Leadership](#)

The Vocalist: On the principle of "cooperative arm's length."

VOCAL members are sometimes asked: "The Town pays for the library; why shouldn't they run it?"

This is a common misunderstanding. Many public institutions can't function properly unless they operate at arms-length from government. The Federal government pays for Elections Canada, for the National Library and the National Archives, for Statistics Canada and the CBC, but the government of the day doesn't run them, because if it did, the institutions would lose all credibility. When government tries to interfere, as it sometimes does, it creates chaos, uncertainty, and dysfunction.

Library independence is considered so important in Ontario that libraries are administered, not under the Municipal Act, but under a separate Public Libraries Act, which restricts the number of council members on any library board to "one less than a majority of the board." In other words, boards may be advised by, but not run by, town councils. Guidelines issued by the Ontario Library Boards' Association make this very clear: under current legislation, "A library board is an independent body and cannot become a committee of council." It also says that for library board members, "The interests of the library take precedence over . . . those of any other group with which [they] are associated."

VOCAL believes that current problems at the library stem from a failure to observe these principles. We believe that the take-over of the Craigleith Depot and the "restructuring" that involved firing the entire library staff, was planned and imposed on the library by some members of council and the town staff, with the cooperation of the Human Resources department and the library CEO, and that it was done without properly informing the board of all the details. The result was a public-relations disaster and a text-book example of why library boards must be free to resist political pressure and make decisions that are in the best interest of the library.

We would like to believe that a council respectful of the Public Libraries Act, and a board fully aware of its powers and duties under the Act—and also aware of the sensibilities of the community— would never have allowed this debacle to happen.

We encourage all readers to attend this month's meeting of the library board, Thursday Feb 16, at 2: 00 in the Town Hall, Thornbury.

Answers to Know Your Businesses

- 1) Maiolo's is located at 15 Harbour St., down by the Thornbury harbour. At the light's turn down towards the water, turn left on Harbour St.
- 2) Maiolo's is the only restaurant where you can enjoy a view of the Bay and Thornbury Harbour.
- 3) Maiolo's features Italian / Canadian Food. Casual fine dining at **very reasonable prices.**

We gladly accept letters to the editor. Please be advised that these letters will be reviewed & published at the discretion of our Editor. Please limit your letters to 200 words or less. You can email your letters to tbcitizens@gmail.com. Please include a phone number for validation. By submitting a Letter to the Editor you agree to be bound by the following terms and conditions: You may not use a false e-mail address, impersonate any person or entity, or otherwise mislead as to the origin of submitted material. You agree to be fully responsible for your own submissions. You agree to grant The Citizens' Pages a right to use your name and other identifying information you provide in connection with that letter. You agree to indemnify and hold the Citizens' Pages and its associates harmless from any claims, damages, losses or costs that arise out of any Letter to the Editor that you submit, including, without limitation, any material submitted or otherwise provided by you that infringes upon any copyright, trademark, or intellectual property right of any person, defames any person, or violates any person's rights of publicity or privacy.

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THE *View* FROM *Blue*

HIGHLIGHT EDITION

Published by Blue Mountain Ratepayers' Association

www.bmratepayers.com

Box 198, Thornbury, Ontario NOH 2P0

FEBRUARY 2017

EDITION 17-02

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Peter Bordignon, President of BMRA

Hello Everyone,

People often ask me about the meaning of the term 'ratepayer'. The best definition is:

"any person required to pay local property taxes to the town".

Clearly everyone in the Town of the Blue Mountains is a ratepayer.

That's important to know, because the volunteer Board of Directors at the Blue Mountain Ratepayers Association - BMRA works diligently on your behalf everyday. We work with the Mayor, Council and Town Staff on many areas with regular consultation on planning policies and bylaws to improve everyone's enjoyment of our beautiful town. Most recently, there have been vast improvements made in many areas by The Blue Mountain Ratepayers Association!

Grey County: John Leckie and the County Committee will have the most work in front of them for 2017. It is very important to realize just how much of your property tax dollars flow to the County and how vastly inadequate the money coming back is. At the time of amalgamation of the TBM, our contribution of Grey County's total revenue was 20%. Since that time, our contribution has **shot up to 26%** of their revenue pool. During this time, all 8 of the other municipalities in Grey County have decreased their percentage contribution. The important fact to note is that contributing the most money does not give you the biggest voice at the County. Most people do not realize that the amount of votes each municipality gets is based on eligible voters **NOT** money contributed.

Most notably, at the January 23rd Town Council Meeting, by our request, Councillor Michael Martin introduced a notice of Motion for a Provincial Facilitator and County Option Workshop. This **BIG WIN** means that we have taken the first major steps to getting a fair and equitable deal with the County of Grey.

New Official Plan: Brian Nelson and Committee directly influenced two areas of the OP with both inclusion of the Town's Community Design Guidelines and elimination of some very open-ended density bonusing policies.

Short Term Accommodation: Terry Keller and the STA Committee constantly meet and work with Town Staff to monitor STA bylaws and OMB hearings in regards to Short Term Accommodation. It's important to mention also that BMRA stood up for a lot more clarity in the STA policies within the new Official Plan.

Annual Town Budget: Terry Thompson and the BMRA Budget Review Committee are constantly working with Ruth Prince, TBM Director of Finance and her capable team to ensure that all budget numbers are thoroughly vetted.

Environment: Our Environmental Committee Chair, Blanka Guyatt sits both on our Board and the Watershed Board working to protect our beautiful land and water areas.

Communications: Paula Hope, BMRA Communications Chair and Committee are improving the flow of all this information to our members in both print and website mediums.

Community: We were involved in the new Sign By-law, which will set some precedents for an approach to design that's more in line with our community character.

I would like to mention that this effort was led by Vivien Alper & Rosemary Gosselin, both BMRA members. This is a great example of how the BMRA and our members work together to get things done.

Membership: This is our only source of operating revenue. Jane Moysey, the Membership Chair is constantly informing and recruiting new and current tax payers to our association. That naturally leads me to kindly remind everyone to renew your membership if you haven't already with the Blue Mountain Ratepayers' Association (BMRA). If you haven't joined in the past, we invite all permanent and seasonal residents to become new members. This year our membership fees will remain at \$25.00

These are just a few of the highlights that your Blue Mountain Ratepayers Association is currently working on and involved with. Our Annual AGM is scheduled for Saturday, May 6th, 2017 at the Marsh Street Centre.



"It's called SLUSH... SORT OF LIKE MUSH, ONLY COLDER."

By BRC Chair Terry Thompson and members Richie Baird, Al Fraser, Brian Harkness and John Leckie

The amalgamation “founders” put the 20 % in place for 1998 when TBM became part of Grey County for budget purposes. We maintain our support should be “capped” at a 20% share and moved back to that level from 26%. The \$3 million in annual savings could be put to good use here in TBM for major project funding, improving infrastructure, the community centre, the library or simply reducing property taxes for residents.

This 20% cap idea was first raised by Al Fraser, a member of the BRC and most recently given weight when we found out from Town finance staff that a 20% share was in fact the original number put in place when TBM was formed in the late 1990's. (see table below).

This represents a significant change in TBM's relationship with the County. Your Board has approved “back to 20%” as a goal of the BMRA as we move forward. The upcoming AGM will give us an opportunity to work to further educate ratepayers and gather grass roots support.

In addition to the goal there are several ways we are already keeping the pressure on trying to get a better deal from the County, from reducing the number of County council reps from 18 to 9 and taking more on re the roads and raising the tier one idea. These all help us “get back to the 20%”

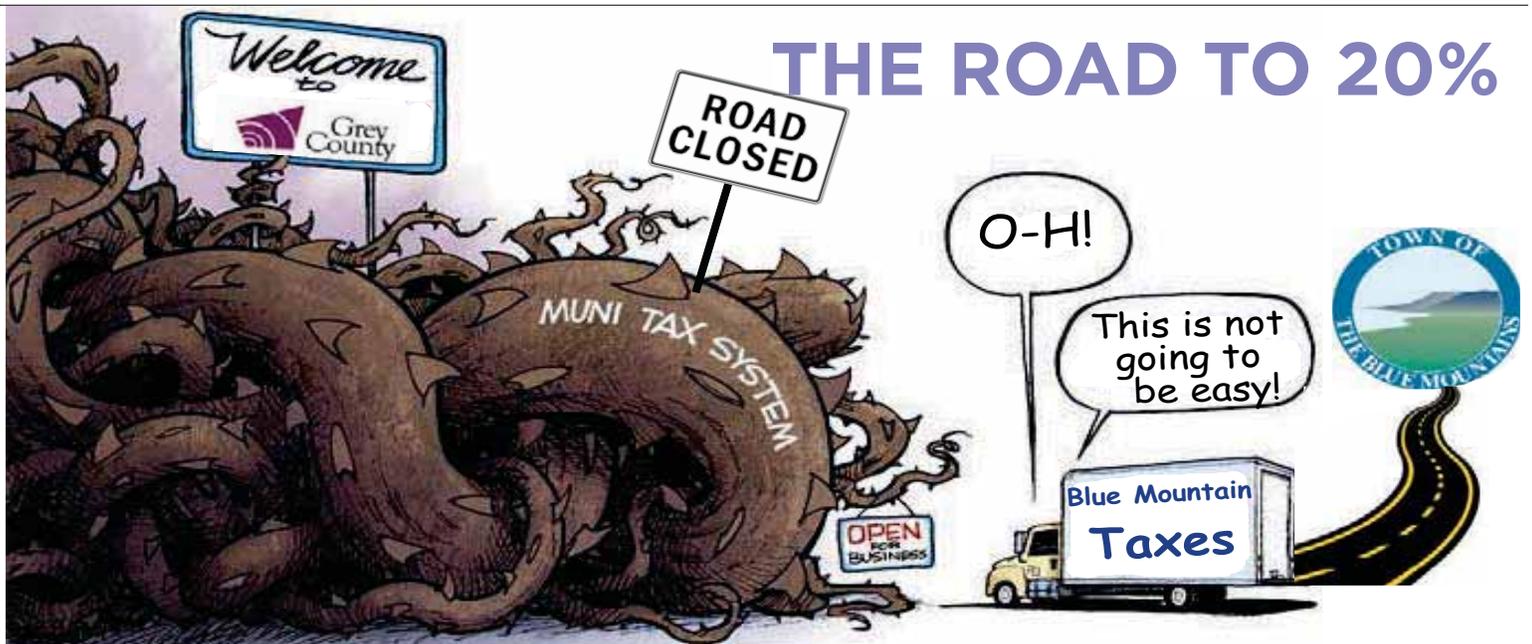
Note that at the 20% level our share of the present \$14 million sent to Grey annually would be reduced by 3 million dollars. This would no longer be available to the County for distribution to the other 8 municipalities and would likely encounter resistance although it was deemed a “fair share” in 1998.

The following table illustrates how TBM's share has risen to 26% from 20% while the other 8 municipalities of Grey County have declined. We are the “cash cow” in the eyes of the County.

Grey County Municipality	2016		1998		1998-2016
	\$	%	\$	%	△%
Chatsworth (<i>Chatsworth, Holland, Sullivan</i>)	2,780,558	5%	1,522,011	7%	-2%
Georgian Bluffs (<i>Derby, Keppel, Sarawak, Shallow Lake</i>)	5,907,254	11%	3,492,037	15%	-4%
Grey Highlands (<i>Artemesia, Euphrasia, Flesherton, Markdale, Osprey</i>)	6,189,779	12%	3,265,979	14%	-2%
Hanover	2,654,572	5%	1,762,671	8%	-3%
Meaford (<i>Meaford, St. Vincent, Sydenham</i>)	6,125,478	12%	3,486,662	15%	-3%
Owen Sound	7,709,893	15%	N/A	N/A	-3%
Southgate (<i>Dundalk, Egremont, Proton</i>)	2,715,277	5%	1,555,236	7%	-2%
The Blue Mountains (<i>Thornbury, Twp of Collingwood</i>)	13,812,178	26%	4,465,390	20%	6%
West Grey (<i>Durham, Neustadt, Bentinck, Glenelg, Normanby</i>)	5,004,631	9%	3,094,751	14%	-5%
	52,899,620	100%	22,644,737	100%	

6% of \$53 million is \$3.2 million, funds that could be used to grow our success as a municipality: funding major projects, improving infrastructure, building needed reserves, renovating the community centre, helping the Library or simply reducing taxes.

Even at 20% we would continue to send a “fair share” to the county to support other municipalities.



By BMRA County Committee John Leckie, Chair and members Ritchie Baird, Ron Baran, Doug & Patricia Chalmers, Janet Findlay, Al Fraser, Brian Harkness, Jack Hirsh, Ara Khajerian, Terry Thompson, Laurie Thorne

Thankfully there is no party system in local politics and therefore no ideology gets in the way of what is pragmatic for our residents. We do not get hung up on “my tribe against your tribe” like we do at the Provincial and Federal level. What truly matters is not which party controls our government, but whether the people control our government. That is why the solution to sprawling unaccountable government is decentralization, so that issues are as close to the voter as possible. In our view, sustainable local governments are at the heart of successful federalism.

The question before us is very simple:

Do we want TBM’s economy to go **up** or do we want it to go **down** like what the rest of rural Ontario is experiencing? It’s not a choice of left or right ... it’s up or down. In this new era of a knowledge-based economy that concentrates in mega cities, we have a geography that can leverage our economy in this successful rural area. We are very fortunate to have a magnificent geographic gift that is an attraction to the people of Toronto and its environs. Make no mistake, it’s the geography, and nearby mega population, driving this success. Let’s not blow it by mismanaging our tax revenues. Nor do we want to be trapped by bad Official Planning which is why the BMRA has been so active on that OP file.

Fortunately our Town generates an abundance of tax revenues. It should be more freed up to flourish, not hog-tied to anachronistic aspects of Grey County.

Unfortunately we send an equivalent amount of our own budget, i.e. \$14 million, to the County where we have virtually no say in what happens to that money. That’s because we only have two representatives at Grey Council out of 18. It’s a feudal system. Why on earth do we even have as many as 18 not directly-elected representatives sitting around a County table?

Where is our Robin Hood to save us from this feudalism?

Councillor Michael Martin put forth a Notice of Motion at the Jan 23rd Council meeting. It calls for a Workshop for Council on County issues, and a Facilitator to assist in discussions toward a better deal between the Town and the County. Kudos to both Councillor Martin and to Acting CAO Shawn Everitt who was thankfully quick to offer his support for the Motion, saying he deemed it to already be partially underway. Shawn is expected to report on these matters at the next Committee of the Whole meeting of Feb 22nd or possibly sooner. We would encourage Council to give Staff direction and support to get on with the Report that Acting CAO Shawn Everitt seems keen to deliver.

The Facilitator idea was proposed to our Mayor and Deputy Mayor and Councillor Joe Halos by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Apparently there are Ontario precedents where a facilitator has helped negotiate a better deal between municipalities and a county. We shall keep you apprised of the progress being made with this Facilitator Strategy.

We trust our Councillors are ready to get back to work on this County file, which was a critical issue during last election campaign.

Meanwhile here are some questions some of you have had about the Facilitator:

What is the cost?

Always a good question but let’s put it in the context of \$14 million a year sent to a County, where we have virtually no say on what happens to that money. Over 10 years that would be \$140 million. Yes, we will have to spend some money on a Facilitator to help us get out of this jam. It will be money well spent.

Can we force the County to come to the table with a Facilitator?

No, but if County turns us down, then we can use that and advise the Minister of Municipal Affairs, who suggested it, by saying “...see, we told you we can’t work with the County, which is why we would like to get out of it and become a Tier 1 Municipality”.

Are there precedents where this is happening?

Yes and no, not exactly. Because most of rural Ontario is struggling, there is not another case where one Town has to support eight others to this disproportionate degree. There simply are not many rural areas that have our good fortune. But yes, there are cases where a Facilitator has helped reconcile differences between a Town and a County which is why the Minister suggested we retain a Facilitator.

Are there any side benefits that could materialize if TBM starts this process?

Yes, by vocalizing this issue we will stop enabling bad management of all 9 Towns plus a County all having their own accounting and HR and Planning and Roads departments. No business could survive without trying to find economies of scale on these functions.

Our economic base is not centered in Grey County; it is centered around the Mountain and South Georgian Bay, from Wasaga to Meaford and even Grey Highlands. But trying to govern locally as if it’s Owen Sound centric is simply not being accountable to the voters in this locale.

Feudalism 2017



“ Put up a big splashy banner that says, ‘Thanks for another great year, Blue Mountains’ “

Short Term Accommodation (STA) Update

Demerit Points ... What are they and do they work?

In February 2015 the first STA received its license from the Town and we now have over 200 licensed residences in residential areas in The Town of Blue Mountains.

When a property has accumulated 15 Demerit points the Owner must appear at a hearing with a Committee of three councilors. After a review, the Committee has the choices of rescinding the points, imposing conditions, suspend the license or revoke the license.

How has assigning Demerit Points for bad behavior affected our residential neighborhoods? We have heard from people living near STA's and, for many, last summer was the best they have experienced in years, with fewer noise and related problems. It would appear that the consequence of receiving demerit points has had a positive impact.

Any questions contact us at: sta.bmra@gmail.com

The licensing Bylaw allows the Town to assign Demerit Points against a STA owner for various infractions that occur at their property as per the table below.

STA Demerit Points Reference Table	
Infraction	Demerit Points
Fire Protection & Prevention Act/Fire Code	15
Operating without a license	7
Building Code Act	7
Sleeping in excess of maximum permitted	5
Non-availability of Responsible Person	5
Noise By-law Infraction	5
Not providing updated information	3
Contrary to Parking Management Plan	3
Contrary to Property Management Plan	3
Not posting license	3
Property Standards	3
Long Grass	2
Waste/Garbage Collection	2

Happy Valentines Day

JOIN TODAY!

The Blue Mountains Ratepayers' Association is growing in numbers thanks to many of you who keep abreast of the issues and support BMRA activities! Please don't forget to send in your \$25 and keep us the force we've become! New members and diversity always welcome!

We are actively seeking residential members as well as members from our agricultural community, corporate business, and small business.

PLEASE RENEW OR JOIN TODAY!

**RENEW TODAY
ONLY \$25!**

705-607-1440 | www.bmratepayers.com

Call for membership info, or visit the website and click on JOIN NOW today!



BMRA

Board of Directors

Peter Bordignon, President

pbordignon@outlook.com

John Leckie, Vice-President

john.leckie@rogers.com

Peter Sharpe, Treasurer

pesharpe@rogers.com

Bill Pittaway, Secretary

billpittaway13@gmail.com

Denis Fennessy

djf@rogers.com

Paula Hope, Communications Chair

paula@bookedsolid.ca

Blanka Guyatt, Environmental Chair

blankaguyatt777@gmail.com

Terry Kellar, STA Chair

tkellar@sympatico.ca

Jane Moysey, Membership Chair

jane@janemoysey.com

Brian Nelson, Official Plan Chair

briannelson@sympatico.ca

Terry Thompson, Budget Review

terencethompson@rogers.com

Michael Seguin Past-President

Dorothy Healey Past-President

705-607-1440

www.bmratepayers.com

Call for membership info, or visit the website and click on JOIN NOW today!

WHY BE A BMRA MEMBER?

- Strength in numbers = influence on government and community issues, paid membership is the proof
- Membership means you can bring issues of concern to the attention of the Association and perhaps find like minded support
- Represent the issues facing your neighbourhood or industry and make a difference
- While your Board are all Volunteers...

Website, Newsletters and AGM are costly: for effective and timely communication we need your dues!



Landfill - Open Year Round on Saturdays

Starting March 4, 2017 the Town Solid Waste Disposal Site will be open year round on Saturdays. The Town Disposal Site is adding Saturdays from 8 am to noon to the year round hours of operation.

Hours: Starting March 4, 2017

Tuesday and Thursday 8 am to 4 pm
Saturday 8 am to noon
Saturday operations will be limited to the bin sorting and receiving area. There will be no access to the active landfill area on Saturdays from Dec to the end of Mar.

Disposal Site Fees have increased:

Sorted waste - \$130/tonne
Unsorted waste - \$260/tonne
Clean wood, metals, commercial brush, concrete - \$65/tonne
Minimum site use fee - \$6.00
Recyclables, e-waste, tires, yard waste and household hazardous waste - No charge
788090 Grey Road 13, Clarksburg, 519-599-6760

Delivery of Water to Face Huge Potential Increases

Baymount Service recently submitted a request for a letter of permission to travel load restricted roads and the majority of Council voted against the request at their meeting on Mar 5th

To: Town of Blue Mountains, Mayor and Council

We have been supplying water to the residents and business of the municipality for over 37 years. A big portion of the water we supply is to residences and businesses that have only the water we supply to them to use.

The trucks we use haul 15 cubic meters of water. Load restricted roads run from March 1 to May 31. When these load restrictions are on we cannot deliver full loads of water to these people and businesses.

We have been doing deliveries early in the day and choosing our route as to minimize damage to the roads to these customers from March 1 to May 31 in the past with no problems.

continued on page 2



CANADA 150
1867-2017

Let's Move to Our Nation's Play List

It's time to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday, and we've got the ultimate Play List created by over 450,000 votes to get you moving – 150 activities that define our land and people – from sledge hockey to lacrosse to snow shoveling and more. So get out there, try as many as you can, track your activities online and earn chances to win great prizes!

www.participaction.com

Majority of Council members vote not to participate in County Library Survey

Excerpts from Staff Report presented to Council Monday, March 5th

On January 26, 2017, County CAO Kim Wingrove brought forward to County Council Report CAOR-CW-04-17. As a result of that report, County Council passed the following resolutions:

"THAT Report CAOR-CW-04-17 Reassessing Potential of Grey County Role in Provision of Library Services be received; and THAT Council direct the CAO to prepare an updated environmental scan of library services and an assessment of the merits of proceeding with a more comprehensive library services project for Council's consideration in March 2017."

On February 1, 2017, Staff at Town of The Blue Mountains sought direction from Council regarding participating in the aforementioned environmental scan. At that time, The Blue Mountains Council directed that the Town staff report be received, and further directed: THAT Council direct Staff to bring a further report to Council at the first available opportunity regarding

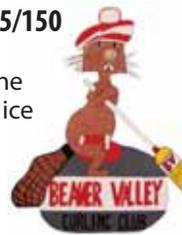
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REMEMBERING WHEN



CANADA 150 PARTICIPATION LISTS CURLING AS ACTIVITY 5/150

Curling started locally in Clarksburg in 1900 and moved to Thornbury in 1914. The men's club was up to 90 and the lady's club 60 in the 1950's. In the early 1950's artificial ice was installed. In the early 1960's, there was a one week bonspiel involving 32 teams from well outside our area. Around the turn of the century, the artificial ice plant wore out as well as the pipes carrying the brine. New rules requiring the "ice plant" be in an outside building as well as all the new updates being required caused the demise of the club. Curling was a very social and competitive sport in our area for almost a century. Dr. Robert MacDairmid has a number of trophies from the club and is in the process of refurbishing them.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

To be included in this listing post your event on www.visitbluemountains.ca

Details subject to change- Confirm with organizers

L.E. SHORE LIBRARY GALLERY

MARCH- Hiraeth - Homecoming

"Hiraeth is a longing for one's homeland, but it's not mere homesickness. It's an expression of the bond one feels with one's home country when one is away from it" Born and raised in Tokyo, Japan, Keita Inoue moved to Canada in 2000. Keita's viewfinder focuses on abandoned, derelict, and dilapidated places and buildings, as well as beautiful landscapes and streetscapes.

RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Saturday, March 11, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Amnesty International Group 82 invites everyone to join us at Jessica's Book Store in downtown Thornbury. The focus will be on Canadian indigenous women.

CHARITY HOCKEY GAME

Saturday, March 11, 7 p.m.

Beaver Valley Community Centre Charity hockey game between the Blue Mountains Firefighters and Meaford Fire Department. Proceeds to BVO and Drive Fore Teens winter driving program

THE DEMENTIA PLAY - NEW TERRITORY FOR SENIORS

Thursday, March 23, 1pm - 3pm

L. E. Shore Memorial Library The community theatre company, SHEATRE, is coming back to our area, to perform its most recent version of The Dementia Play. This project was created and is performed by local residents living with dementia or caring for someone with dementia. This FREE event is open to everyone; please register so that we can plan for seating. Call 519 599 2577, ext. 29 or e-mail seniors@bvo.ca.

WINTER SERIES

BACK TO THE ROOTS'

Saturday, March 25, 8:30 p.m.

Marsh Street Centre Conor Gains & The Ramblin' Moon; Tickets \$35. Order online at www.marshstreetcentre.com or call 519-599-7837

COME -- ENJOY FOOD, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!

Tuesday, March 28 at 12 Noon

Come and munch with the lunch bunch at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Thornbury continuing the 4th Tuesday of each month

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, March 30, 6:30pm

Beaver Valley Community Centre
Come and celebrate the impact
Beaver Valley Outreach made in
our Community in 2016
6:30 p.m. – Meet and greet over
dessert & coffee/tea
7p.m. – Annual General Meeting
R.S.V.P email: admin@bvo.ca or
Catherine @ 519-599-2577 ext. 26

JAZZ AT THE LIBRARY

Friday, March 31, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

L. E. Shore Library
In celebration of Ella Fitzgerald's
100th Birthday, prominent jazz
vocalist Mary-Catherine Pazzano
and the Don Buchanan quartet
bring back the unforgettable
melodies of The Great American
Songbook. Tickets \$20 at Sincerely
Yours and Pharmasave, Thornbury
Info call Bill 705 445 6127

TARTAN DAY CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 1, 5:00pm-10:00pm

Beaver Valley Community Center
The Beaver Valley Pipes and
Drums has helped keep our
Scottish heritage alive by playing
music in local parades and events
over the past 57 years. Dinner will
begin at 6PM with the "Ode to the
Haggis" followed by traditional
food. There will be music
throughout the evening. Tickets
are \$25 each and are available
at Thornbury Pharmasave,
Stuff to Read, Meaford, Email
beavervalleypipeband@gmail.
com or call 705-606-2573 Please
wear your tartan and if you have
a kilt, wear it with pride! Slàinte
mhath! Alba gu brath!...(Good
health to you!..Scotland Forever!)

KNOW YOUR TOWN TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday, April 1, 7:00 p.m.

Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg
Teams of 6 at \$15 per person.
Call 519-599-3345 to register.
Proceeds go to the Centre.

BRIDGE TO AFRICA

Sunday, April 2, 1-4 p.m.

Leisure Time Club, Collingwood
Grey Grannies fundraiser for the
Grandmother to Grandmother
Campaign. Bridge players of all levels
welcome, by donation. Prizes and
refreshments. 519-922-2545

Grey County Tourism Hosts Industry Events

Priority engagement is priority
one for 2017 based on our Tourism
Action Plan. Here is a list of the
sessions we will be offering over the
next few months. Registrations and
invites will be sent out a month in
advance of each session. To ensure
you receive the details sign up for
our industry newsletter at
www.visitgrey.ca/industry
email industry@visitgrey.ca
or 519-376-3265

MARCH 14 – Make the Media Work
for You, Liz Fleming, Marsh Street
Centre, Clarksburg

MARCH 29 – Grey County Tourism
Winter Marketing Recap – Tourism
Team

APRIL 11 – Are We There Yet?
(Measuring Success in Business –
Part One), Jane Phillips

APRIL 18 – Marketing Success
(Measuring Success in Business –
Part Two), Jane Phillips

MAY 10 – Grey-Bruce Brochure
Swap, Blue Mountain Resort

Business To Retail Networking Event

The Counties of Simcoe and Grey
are hosting a Business to Retail
Networking Event on **Thursday,
March 16** at the Beaver Valley
Community Centre in Thornbury.
The event, which runs from 10
a.m. to 5 p.m. will give retailers the
opportunity to meet local agri-
food businesses, sample products
and understand what products
are available. The goal is to
support growth in the food sector
by strengthening connections
between producers and retailers.

There is no cost to participate
for producers or retailers. Space is
limited and advance registration
is required through www.
investingrey.ca

Businesses wishing to participate
as a vendor must complete an
application form showing their
market readiness.

CANWARN Storm Spotters

On **Wednesday, April 5**, Grey
County is hosting an Environment
Canada training session for
amateur storm spotters at the
Grey County Administration
Building, 595 9th Ave E, Owen
Sound from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
CANWARN Storm Spotters provide
valuable, real-time, on-the-ground
information during severe weather.
Environment Canada is looking to
recruit new volunteers and refresh
existing volunteers in the area.

Training will be led by Geoff
Coulson, Warning Preparedness
Meteorologist. Participants will
learn about severe and non-
severe thunderstorms, the types
of damage they can produce, what
to watch for in the sky and what
to report to the Storm Prediction
Centre.

The training is free to attend and
no pre-registration is required.

For information about the training,
contact Geoff Coulson, Warning
Preparedness Meteorologist, at
geoff.coulson@canada.ca

Planning 101

Do you understand planning as
well as you'd like to? Grey's Plan-
ning team has offered to teach us!
The Planning 101 sessions will in-
clude a full planning overview, plus
an Interactive Session and an over-
view of the Grey County Planning
Process. Please join us!

Tuesday, April 11; 9:30-11:30am
Meaford Hall, 12 Nelson St. E.
RSVP to maryjane.hills@grey.ca or
519-376-3365 ext. 6108 by April 7

WEEKLY EVENTS

Daily - Monday-Friday

Coffee Klatch - 10am to noon
Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg

Mondays

Bridge 1pm. St. Georges Anglican Church,
\$2.00 includes refreshments

Tuesdays

Toastmasters 7pm. Marsh Street Centre

Wednesdays

Taoist Tai Chi Arts™ Beaver Valley Com.
Centre. Beginner Classes 9am-11am;
Continuing Classes 10-noon; 519-377-0652
Events For Life Coffee Nook 9:30-10:30am
Come and enjoy coffee and muffins at Grace
United Church www.eventsfor.life

Wednesday and Thursday

Bid Euchre 1:00 pm Beaver Valley
Community Centre, \$2.00 - 519-599-2209

Sundays

English Country Dancing, Marsh Street
Centre Clarksburg, 1:45-4:30 Come English
Country Dancing March 19 and 26. No
partner or experience needed. Friendly and
fun activity.

Delivery of Water cont'd

We have recently been stopped
by the M.T.O. while doing this and
have been warned that we need
a letter of permission from the
municipality that we can show
them if and when stopped to allow
us to deliver water as we have in
the past on load restricted roads
during load restrictions.

The trucks we use to provide this
service will haul 15 cubic meters of
water per load. The same type of
truck that is used to haul milk from
the farmers in the area is exempt of
load restrictions to allow them to
do this.

The average residence requires
15 cubic meters of water every 6-8
weeks. We do realize that we can
provide a service to haul water
to these people during the load
restriction period if we reduce the
amount of water delivered. The
problem with this is to respect
the load restriction we would be
allowed to haul about 1 cubic
meter of water per trip. We would
now have to make 15 trips to equal
a delivery. This would add a lot of
extra expense to the customer for
trucking and also more chance
of doing damage to the roads to
maintain a supply of water to them
during load restrictions.

We have approached the road
department and asked Jim
McCannell to help us to exempt
us from load restriction to allow
us to provide a efficient service to
the residences and business that
live on these roads throughout our
municipality in the past. He will not
do this for us.

So we are now approaching
council to help resolve this issue
to issue a letter of permission to
allow us to use roads that are load
restricted from March 1 to May 31
to be able to efficiently provide
water to residences and business
for essential uses that live on these
roads.

*If this will affect you or if you think
that delivery of water is an essential
service (such as milk trucks) consider
writing a letter to Council with your
concerns.*

Blue Mountains Soccer Club

Early Bird Registration Ends
April 15, 2017
register online at
bluemountainsoccer.com



The Blue Mountains Review

Thornbury, Clarksburg, Craighleith, Heathcote, Ravenna

Published monthly, copies are mailed throughout the Blue
Mountains. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our
community can be emailed to info@bluemountainsreview.ca for
inclusion in the newsletter. Advertising rates are available by calling
519-599-3345 or from our website. www.bluemountainsreview.ca

Craigleith Heritage Depot

Show, Tell & Create:

Wednesdays, 3:30pm – 5:00pm

A monthly after-school program for kids ages 5 - 13 where they're encouraged to bring something related to the month's theme. Kids will share and do crafts. March's theme will be PUPPETS to celebrate this month's Canada 150 theme "Canadian Circus." Register online, over the phone, or via email if you can, but drop-ins are always welcome. Cost by donation.

Vertical Belles Documentary

Screening:

Thursday March 9, 10am – 12:00pm

Experience the journey of aerial silks artistry and discover the circus in your own backyard with a special screening of an award-winning local documentary film "Vertical Belles" - written and directed by Blue Mountains' own talented Tom Strnad of Mountain Goat Film! Enjoy the film and meet its creators in the charming, historic setting of the Craigleith Community Centre, just a few seconds from the Craigleith Heritage Depot. A free Canada 150 event.

Craigleith Lace Club:

Wednesday March 15, 3– 6pm

Every third Wednesday of the month, Museum Curator and professional lacemaker Andrea leads 45 minute beginner's lace tatting classes during a 3 hour drop in period. Lacemakers of all levels of experience - from no experience to expert - are welcome! Cost is by donation and will help provide supplies for this program.

Free Tax Return Service:

Saturday March 25, 10am – 12pm

Good news: you may be eligible to have a trained volunteer complete your tax return for you! Call or email the Craigleith Heritage Depot to be connected with a trained volunteer to arrange an appointment on Saturday, March 25th, 2017. The Depot is hosting a morning of appointment-only meetings between a volunteer and those members of the public interested in receiving help with preparing their tax returns.

The Craigleith Heritage Depot, 113 Lakeshore Road East, T: 519-599-3131 ext. 370

L.E. Shore Memorial Library

The Puppet Tamer

Tuesday March 14, 10:30am – 11:30am

Stunt Ventriloquist Tim The Puppet Tamer drops jaws and tickles funny bones with a cast of hilarious characters in a one-man show. Tickets are \$2/person and are available at the L.E. Shore Library or Craigleith Heritage Depot.

Tightrope Walk over the Niagara Gorge

Wednesday March 15, 11am – 12pm

Can you imagine being at a treacherous height with no safety features...and doing it for fun!? About 120 years ago, two such young lads from Clarksburg, accomplished several terrifying feats by walking over The Niagara Gorge on a tightrope. One of them set a world record that has never been defeated. All ages are encouraged to come out to hear local Grey-Bruce Boomer magazine writer, Linda Thorn, give her interactive presentation 'Clarksburg's Dynamic Duo'

Face Painting and Fortune Telling

Wednesday March 15, 1 – 2pm

Drop in to the Library Gallery in the afternoon to have your face painted (for free!) and have your tarot cards read by Mystic Madeline.

Professor Jumble's Case of Curious Objects and Skybound Spheres (aka Juggling Workshop)

Thursday March 16, 10:30 – 11:30am

Make your own juggling objects and learn how to use them. Free program. Please register online.

Movie Matinee: Vertical Belles

Thursday March 16, 2 – 4pm

Experience the journey of aerial silks artistry. The Blue Mountains Public Library and Mountain Goat Film Company present the award winning documentary film VERTICAL BELLES. Local filmmaker, Tom Strnad, will be in attendance to present this film which follows the local aerial silks artists the Vertical Belles for two years as they grow from small local performances to major gala productions in Ontario.

Library Circus Extravaganza!

Friday March 17, 1 – 4pm

Carnival games, treats, arts & crafts, and much more. Free, drop-in program. Fun for all-ages. Families and friends welcome!

www.thebluemountainslibrary.ca

County Library Survey

cont'd from page 2

the Grey County motion regarding provision of library services; AND THAT, in the interim, Council direct staff not to provide information regarding library services pending further direction from Council.

As further background, on February 16, 2017, the Board for the L.E. Shore Library passed a resolution stating as follows:

THAT The Blue Mountains Public Library Board direct the CEO to formally respond to Grey County confirming that The Blue Mountains Public Library Board will not participate in future Grey County reviews regarding the provision of Library Services.

Analysis

It is our understanding that some concern has been expressed that, with this project, the County is attempting to take control of library services across the County. However, in report CAOR-CW-04-17, the County's CAO makes it very clear that the goal of the exercise is to identify potential collaboration opportunities between municipalities:

"The proposed environmental scan would provide information to Council regarding current service delivery metrics across the county as well as any planned capital investments or service enhancements and note where there may be economies of scale or efficiencies to be gained through collaboration."

In response to inquiries from Town staff for more information, the County CAO responded in a February 3, 2017 e-mail, and

at a County CAO's meeting on February 17, 2017, the County CAO reiterated that she has no mandate from her Council, other than to look at library services in Grey and neighbouring counties and try to identify whether there are any areas/roles for the County to provide support or do something to help other library services be more efficient.

In addition to all of the above it should be highlighted that a key component of the Town's current strategic plan is direction from Council to work collaboratively with neighbouring municipalities with a view to identifying potential opportunities to improve services and/or create efficiencies. This Council direction has also been a component of previous strategic plans for the Town. Refusing to participate in the type of environmental scan now being considered by the County in this instance, would appear to fly in the face of these long-held principles of research and collaboration.

For all the reasons outlined above, it is recommended that the Town participate in the County's environmental scan.

Perhaps a Council resolution, requesting that the Board reconsider its position and participate in the environmental scan after all, might be well received.

Even though the majority of council voted against the recommendation (3 of whom are on the Library Board) the Library Board can choose to do what they see is best for the community.

JOSH DOLAN
REAL ESTATE BROKER
joshdolan.com

TOP
#1

Individual Producer

Royal LePage Locations North
2014 & 2015*

TOP
3%

National Gross Sales

Royal LePage 2013, 2014 & 2015

*Based on Royal LePage award level income excluding teams.



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and selling in the Georgian Triangle.

ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS NORTH
Thornbury Meaford Collingwood

josh@joshdolan.com
705-446-8404

In Memory

*Those we love,
don't go away,
they walk beside
us every day,
unseen, unheard,
but always there,
still missed, still loved,
still very dear!*



FIELDING, CATHERINE MARY

Catherine suffered a hemorrhagic stroke which resulted in her passing at Meaford Hospital on Saturday January 28th, 2017 at the age of 94. Born in the United Kingdom on June 15, 1922, a daughter of the late Joseph and Elizabeth (nee Arrowsmith) Hadfield, Catherine and her husband John, along with their family, arrived in Canada in 1957. A resident of Mississauga, she would often spend enjoyable time at the

home of her daughter Cheryl in Clarksburg where she was visiting at the time of her passing. She is survived by her son Graham (Trudy) and their children Lisa, Cathy (Gary), Jeff, Ryan (April), and Crystal and by her daughter Cheryl (Paul Derksen) and their children Justin (Annie) and Christopher (Fay) and by her son Keith (Vicki). Catherine was predeceased by her son Barry (late Christine) and remembered by their daughter Karrie (Rich). She was also predeceased by her son Ian (Elaine) and is remembered by their children Meghan, Nicole and Chelsea as well as by her four great grandchildren: Jada, Kai, Chase and Florence. Catherine will be recalled as a dear sister by her brother Colin and sister Beryl and was predeceased by her sister Marjorie and brother Stewart of the United Kingdom.

QUINN, HERBERT HEALY

Born in Norfolk, Virginia on August 13, 1929, son of the late Herbert John and Myrtle Healy Quinn, Herb passed away peacefully at Errinrunc Nursing Home in Thornbury on Tuesday, January 31, 2017 at the age of 87. He will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him. Herb was predeceased by his first wife Kitty, sister Ann Ryan and his treasured granddaughter Sadie Quinn Hardman. Surviving Herb's passing are his wife Bunny (Beverly) and his children and stepchildren David Giles (wife Lesley and children Kate, Lindsey and Maggie), Andrea Quinn (mother of Sadie), Michael Giles (children Madison and Emerson), Cassie Quinn, Chris Giles (wife Tracey and children

in-law and mother-in-law John and Cora Keaveney and also by a brother-in-law John Keaveney of Toronto and will be remembered with great affection as a dear aunt and friend by those families.

WARLOW, ROBERT 'BOB' RAYMOND

Born in Toronto on May 10, 1931, a son of the late James and Laura (nee Clubine) Warlow, Bob passed away at Errinrunc Nursing Home in Thornbury on Monday, February 6, 2017 at the age of 85. Bob is lovingly remembered as a dear husband by his wife Dorothy and as the much loved Dad of Christine (Pat), Debra (Ian) and Blake (late Pat) and grandfather to Patrick, Lisa, Josh, Faith, Michael, David, Helen, Scott, Erin. He will be recalled with fondness by his great grandchildren, extended family and many life-long friends. Bob is remembered as a dear brother by his sister Diane Hill (late Robert) and he was predeceased by his brother Russell (late Joan) and by his sister Rita (late Jack Samson).

KEAVENEY, M. JANE (Nee Yaskovitch)

Longtime resident of Clarksburg and Thornbury, Jane passed away peacefully at her home and surrounded by her loving family on Monday, February 6, 2017 at the age of 63. Jane was born in Collingwood on November 6, 1953, a daughter of the late William and Sally (nee Jackman) Yaskovitch. Jane will be remembered for her work at the Thornbury Post Office until her retirement after 35 years of service. Jane was the devoted wife, partner and companion for some 42 years of her beloved husband Michael Keaveney of Thornbury. She will be recalled as the cherished mother of Jennifer Keaveney of Barrie, and Kerri and her husband Stewart Taylor of Ravenna. She will be sorely missed as the loving Nana of Brittany, Lily, Alexis and Archer and as a special Nana to Bernie. Jane is survived also by her sister Chris and her husband Ross Arthur of Clarksburg, sister Barb and her husband Doug Sheridan also of Clarksburg and brother Jim Yaskovitch of Thornbury. Jane will be the fondly remembered sister-in-law of Mary and her husband Marvin Thibeault of Meaford, Carol-Anne Stevenson (late Ronald) of Thornbury, Dale Keaveney and his wife Shirley of Meaford, Jim Keaveney and his wife Liz of Portage La Prairie, and Stephen Keaveney of Thornbury. She was predeceased by her father-

BELL, DENNIS IRWIN

Born in Collingwood on February 10, 1945, a son of the late Mervyne and Selina (nee Harmer) Bell, Dennis passed away at Meaford Hospital on Sunday February 12, 2017 at the age of 72. Dennis, a long time resident of Thornbury, is remembered as the beloved husband of Maureen (nee Shaw) and much loved Dad of Jason and his wife Bobi of Meaford and Jennifer and her husband Grant Jones of Collingwood and grandfather of Noah, Lukas and Rylin Bell and Hayden, Dylan and Grayson Jones. Dennis was a dear brother of Judith Bell and Daniel Bell, both of Meaford, and he was predeceased also by his brother Donald Bell in 1996. He is recalled as a dear son-in-law of Winifred Shaw (late George) of Meaford and brother-in-law to Jim Shaw and his wife Janice of Stratford and he will be fondly remembered by his several nieces and nephews and their families.

McGUIRE, THOMAS VERNON 'VERN'

Vern McGuire of Thornbury, and Heathcote, passed away peacefully at Grey Bruce Health Services in Meaford on Saturday, February 18, 2017 in his 89th year. He was born October 22, 1928, a son of the late Bruce and Edna (née Gekill) McGuire. Vern was the cherished husband of 65 years of Freda (née Ward) McGuire of Thornbury, and the much loved father of Brenda Deacon and her husband Ray Baxter. He was predeceased by his son David McGuire and his daughter Judy Fisher, and will be remembered fondly by his daughter-in-law Irene and son-in-law Bev. He was the wonderful grandfather of Kevin McGuire (Samantha), Karen McGuire, Rebecca Fisher (William), Ben Baxter (Melissa), Andrea Riddell (Andrew), Ian Baxter (Cassandra), Monica Fisher, and great grandfather of Bishop McGuire, Quintin McGuire, Sophia McGuire and Delilah Paquet. Vern was the dear brother of Ralph McGuire (Doreen) and Walter McGuire (late Birdie), and was predeceased by his brother Russell McGuire (late Jean) and sisters Margaret Lentine and Nora Teed Booth. He will be remembered always and fondly by his many nieces and nephews.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS

THE BLUE MOUNTAINS ATTAINABLE HOUSING CORPORATION

Would you like to give back to your community?

The Blue Mountains Attainable Housing Corporation is looking for two additional volunteers to join the current Board of Directors.

The Town of The Blue Mountains has established a not-for-profit Corporation to augment the supply of healthy and sustainable housing units in The Blue Mountains which are affordable to people that would like to live here, but just can't afford to do so. The aim of this initiative is to have a school full of children, supported by their parents and grandparents or individuals, all living in the vibrant, diverse community of The Blue Mountains.

The Board is comprised of seven Directors, two of whom are sitting members of Council, the balance are residents of the Town of The Blue Mountains. We meet monthly, generally on Thursday afternoons, and we also pitch in several hours a month to get things done.

The Corporation currently runs a program to help provide a rental secondary suite in an existing home as well as a down payment assistance program to help toward the purchase of a home in The Blue Mountains.

Our website can be found at thebluemountainshousing.ca

If you would like to give back to community, and have time to attend monthly meetings, we would like to hear from you. Please contact Bruce Taylor (brucedtaylor@rogers.com or info@thebluemountainshousing.ca) by March 30th, 2017.

BVO IS SEEKING NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

If you have the knowledge of the community served by BVO and If you have the knowledge and skills in one or more areas of Board governance: policy, finance, marketing, fund raising, volunteering, planning and advocacy, consider becoming part of our team and help us live up to our motto of: Making Good Things Happen In Our Community For further information about BVO's Board of Directors, please contact Cathy Innes at boardchair@bvo.ca or visit our website at www.bvo.ca.

Valentine Tea and Bake Sale

On behalf of the Thornbury Sparks, Brownies & Guides, I would like to thank our community for their overwhelming support at our Valentine Tea & Bake Sale.



This has been a tradition with our units for over 64 years and the generosity of the area has always amazed us! This year was no different. Thanks to the Guiders who gave up their day, assisting in the running of the tea, the Sparks, Brownies; Guides who served our visitors, the parents who assisted in the kitchen and on the door, Senior Ambassador of the Fair Abigail Woodhouse, Junior Ambassador Alexa Elford, the parents who supplied baking and St. Paul's Presbyterian Church for the use of their facility.

Your help allowed us to continue this tradition competently and graciously. Our Valentine Tea & Bake Sale event has been "grandfathered" with Girl Guides of Canada, meaning that because it has been done for so long we are allowed to continue. If we miss a year, we lose it! Bake sales are no longer recognized or allowed as a fundraiser.

The Thornbury units are proud we have been able to maintain this event and look forward to hosting the community again next year.



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Grey County Residents!

Help County Policies Better Reflect and Support Youth and Older Adults ...while not forgetting about all other age groups in between.

Grey County has recently initiated a five-year review of the County Official Plan known as Recolour Grey. Early feedback from Recolour Grey suggests that County policies need to better reflect and support youth and older adults, while not forgetting about all other age groups in between.

A group of University of Guelph Rural Planning and Development Master's students have been contracted to investigate these issues and provide policy recommendations for updates to the County Official Plan. The students will hold small scale community engagement sessions with both youth and seniors to determine the needs identified by Grey County residents.

Community engagement sessions and surveys will be made available through Grey County's website <https://www.grey.ca/planning-development> and possibly through some libraries in the County. There will be additional outreach with community groups and organizations.

Once results from the community engagement sessions and surveys are summarized, the students will review policies from other age-friendly communities that are similar to Grey County.

Recommendations will be given to inform policy that promotes the vitality of age friendly communities within Grey County.

We appreciate your participation and support. For more information, please feel free to contact Katherine Howes at khowes@uoguelph.ca or Scott Taylor at scott.taylor@grey.ca or call 519-372-0219 extension 1238. www.surveymonkey.com/r/B3HZ29X



APRIL 28, 29, 30, 2017
THORNURY-CLARKSBURG
Jazz / Blues / Swing / Rock n Roll



NOODLE FACTORY JAZZ PROJECT

Saturday, April 28, 7:30 pm
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available online at www.jazzmania.ca 519-599-3345
Thornbury Pharmasave; Stuff to Read, Meaford
or Riverside Graphics, Clarksburg



SKYLINERS BIG BAND

Saturday, April 29, 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Beaver Valley Community Centre, Thornbury
available online at www.jazzmania.ca 519-599-3345
Thornbury Pharmasave; Stuff to Read, Meaford
or Riverside Graphics, Clarksburg



THE DESOTOS

Saturday, April 29, 3:00 - 6:00 pm
Saturday, April 29, 7:00 - 10:00 pm
Maiolos Restaurant, 15 Harbour St Thornbury
Tickets \$50.00 includes dinner
available online at www.jazzmania.ca 519-599-3345
or Riverside Graphics, Clarksburg



Madeleine French & Russ Strathdee

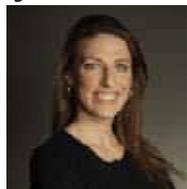


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GBHS Continues on Journey to Balance Budget

As part of its ongoing efforts to balance its books over the coming years, Grey Bruce Health Services is assessing the merits of consolidating elective day surgeries, currently performed at the Markdale, Meaford and Southampton hospitals, into the surgical program at the Owen Sound Regional Hospital.

A year-long review of the GBHS surgical program by a working group of staff and physicians from across GBHS concluded that consolidation of surgery at the Owen Sound Regional Hospital will reduce operating costs significantly, avoid the need for imminent capital and equipment investments at a number of sites, ensure standardized care, and maintain quality patient outcomes.

"In addition to saving GBHS over \$500,000 in annual operating costs, consolidating surgical procedures at the Owen Sound Regional Hospital will eliminate the imminent need to spend \$3 million to replace outdated surgical equipment, replace instrument sterilization systems, and upgrade the air handling units and other infrastructure in the operating rooms at multiple sites across the corporation," said Lance Thurston, President and CEO of GBHS.

A total of 12,970 elective surgeries and endoscopies are performed at GBHS annually: 78% in Owen Sound; 8% in Meaford; 5.5% in Markdale; 4.5% in Southampton; and 4.0% in Wiarton (endoscopy only). Surgery requiring an overnight stay, such as hip and knee surgery, plus most emergency surgeries, are performed in Owen Sound.

"We have the capacity in our operating rooms in Owen Sound to take on more surgery, without increasing wait times for patients," said Dr. Mike Marriott, Chief of the Medical Staff for GBHS.

There are 28 surgeons, 9 operating rooms (OR) and a procedure room at the Owen Sound Hospital, with approximately 40-70 surgeries booked per day. The OR is staffed until 11 p.m. daily, with a back-up team on call as needed for urgent and emergency procedures. Meaford, Markdale and Southampton each have one OR.

Endoscopy procedures are performed at Markdale, Meaford, Southampton, Wiarton and Owen Sound, and will continue to be offered at these sites. There were 597 endoscopy procedures done in Meaford last year, 289 in Markdale, 324 in Southampton, and 523 in Wiarton.

The GBHS Board of Directors has directed staff to inform community stakeholders of the surgical consolidation option it is considering, and to report back to the Board in late April with a summary of stakeholder feedback. The Board will then weigh the merits of consolidation and the stakeholder comments to arrive at a decision.

"The Board will be weighing the cost advantages of service consolidation along with other potential factors, such as: impact

large and diverse rural area." Further work is being done to assess opportunities for reducing costs and enhancing revenues. The Board of Directors is committed to ensuring that any changes improve the patient experience, contribute to improving the health of the residents of Grey Bruce, and reduce the per capita cost of hospital based care.

The review of surgical services is only one of many initiatives GBHS is pursuing to return to a balanced financial position. "We are making many smaller process changes, which, when combined, will yield upwards of \$3 million in annual savings," said Thurston. "This is significant, but does not solve our budget problem and we will still be short \$3-\$5 million next year."

"While these and future efforts demonstrate our commitment to balancing our budget, we cannot close the budget shortfall completely without changes to the provincial funding formula to account for the multi-site nature of our organization and the challenges of serving a

large and diverse rural area." Further work is being done to assess opportunities for reducing costs and enhancing revenues. The Board of Directors is committed to ensuring that any changes improve the patient experience, contribute to improving the health of the residents of Grey Bruce, and reduce the per capita cost of hospital based care.

A dedicated phone line and email have been set up for those interested in commenting on the consolidation of surgical services, or for anyone with suggestions for reducing the deficit while maintaining quality care for all communities served by GBHS.

Background information is available at www.gbhs.on.ca.

Phone: 519-378-1587



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Better call Ed**

FEATURE HOME - MEAFORD



Overflowing with character, this low maintenance bungalow in the Meaford Downtown core, will please first time homeowners, retirees, weekenders, an investment rental property, or a work/live/play combo! Steps from the Georgian Trail, Harbourfront, parks and amenities makes this a very walkable location. Gas fireplace with feature brick wall in the living room as well as wood burning fireplace in the dining room with walkout to patio. Unique features such as brick floors and clever storage built ins. Two bedrooms, spacious kitchen, living room and dining room, one full bath, and laundry make up the 1050 sqft. home. Beautiful rock garden and perennial landscaping that changes with the seasons. Workshop space accessible from the exterior and crawl space for storage needs. There's even a white picket fence... **Better call Heather** to see this Beauty before it's gone.

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FEATURE HOME - WASAGA BEACH



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MEAFORD
CHARACTER & UNIQUENESS abound in this circa (1895-1904) rare, limestone block Victorian home in central Meaford. Covered front porch, interlock double driveway, stained glass windows & doors - welcome you. Impressively treed & landscaped fully fenced yard with two sheds and even a little trailer/bunkie. Mansard hip roof re-shingled and 18+ inches of insulation added to the stand up attic (unfinished) completed in Nov/16 with transferable warranty. Stone crawl space trenched/waterproofed in 2009, all plumbing and electrical updated between 2011-2016, family room addition (2000) with stunning period style gas fireplace (2015) with a walkout to spacious deck. No carpeting! Oak hardwood and vinyl/ tiled flooring throughout home. Good size closets e in all three bdrms (one with balcony), two full baths, all updated, stunning oak banister, rails and treads, patterned crown moulded ceilings in 6 rooms, 10+ inch baseboards, pocket doors, 9ft. ceilings... you have to see it in person. **Better call Heather or Ed** for your personal tour. **OFFERED AT \$475,000**



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SPACIOUS FOUR LEVEL BACK SPLIT SEMI, with large rooms, hardwood flooring and ceramics throughout. Features include forced air heating and A/C, IN-LAW SUITE POTENTIAL. Plumbing remains to be installed for a second kitchen in the lower level, three bedrooms, master with walkout to deck, two with walk in closets, and three full bathrooms. Spa bathroom on main floor plus two others on second level. Fenced yard, long driveway and large shed. Two large family/living room areas. Plenty of space for storage in the 5 ft. high 20 x 14 foot area. In a super location, across from the Legion, park, short walk to Hospital and Sunset Point. Currently tenanted; until March 15/17. **Better call Heather or Ed** for your personal tour! **OFFERED AT \$350,000**

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STAYNER
BUILD THAT DREAM HOME TIME???... Have we ever got the location, location, location for you. Nested amongst four hundred thousand dollar homes sits a perfect lot to accommodate a home with a walkout basement. **SAVE MORE** as HST is included in the purchase price. Buyer is to satisfy himself that his dream home will coincide with local building code bylaws. Close to town, schools and shopping. **Better call Ed*** for more information and personal viewing. **OFFERED AT \$139,000**



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DO THE MATH AND CALL

Bluewater Angel Investor Group Accepting Applications

High-growth businesses in Grey-Bruce have a new source of potential financing and mentoring with the start of an angel investor network in the region.

Bluewater Angel Investor Group is now accepting applications for private sector funding. The Angels are prepared to invest in scalable existing businesses and startups, in companies going through a transition in leadership and ownership, and in businesses coming to this area that want local financing and knowledge.

Bluewater Angels collectively have about \$5 million of their own money they are willing to invest in local businesses. Angel investing, while new to this area, has provided considerable economic stimulus throughout Ontario, with some \$250 million invested in 400 Ontario companies since 2007.

Angel investments often complement funds raised by entrepreneurs from family, financial institutions, and government agencies and programs. The local Angels all have extensive business leadership backgrounds, many as successful entrepreneurs.

Angel investors make individual investment decisions based on the quality of applicant businesses.

Often, a group of individual angels will collaborate on an investment, which can range from tens of thousands to several hundred thousand dollars. The investment can take many forms, including equity, debt or debentures.

Bluewater Angels encourages growth businesses to apply for financing, and is also seeking more Angels and private sector sponsors to join the network.

Information can be found at www.bluewaterangels.ca

BVO Good Neighbours: Good Food For All

This month, Beaver Valley Outreach will be highlighting its community food initiative in The Blue Mountains, called BVO Good Neighbours, which helps local families and individuals put good food on their tables.

Partnering with Foodland Thornbury, shoppers at Foodland will be asked by cashiers in March to add 25¢ (or more, if they choose) to their grocery order to help local families in need purchase good quality food in the store. Foodland branded Gifts Cards, pre-loaded with sums of money, will be distributed by BVO to people in the community needing help with buying groceries, who will redeem the gift cards towards their non-taxable grocery purchases.

Foodland Thornbury owner Brian Leduc is pleased to be partnering with Beaver Valley Outreach in the new initiative. "BVO does vital work in the community, and we're happy to be on board," he says. "I have always believed that a hand up is better than a handout. The Good Neighbours program makes it easier to provide good food for recipients while maintaining their dignity."

Although BVO Good Neighbours is meant to replace traditional food drives, BVO will maintain a 'food cubby' with basic staples. Grocery donations from community groups and events, especially for the more expensive taxable items like toiletries and cleaning products, will continue to be accepted.

For over 30 years, BVO has been delivering a variety of quality programs and services to enhance the social, economic and environmental well-being of residents in The Blue Mountains. To learn more about BVO Good Neighbours, other BVO programs and services, or to volunteer, please contact BVO at 519-599-2577 or visit www.bvo.ca



BVO GOOD NEIGHBOURS
A BEAVER VALLEY OUTREACH PROGRAM

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2:00-4:00pm



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The Continuing Saga of the Supposed Harassment Allegations Against Councillor Seguin: What we now know, and clues to where it's going from Wasaga Beach

The resolution of the supposed harassment allegations against Councillor Seguin is slowly starting to wind its way through the legal system. The Judicial Review filed for by Councillor Seguin is now being moved to Brampton from Barrie. A date for the hearing has not yet been set.

As documents are filed in the court, they will become public, and we the public will learn what Councillor Seguin was alleged to have done. Was there really misconduct of a serious nature, which justified the harsh sanctions his fellow councillors imposed on him, or is the whole matter an expensive tempest in a teapot, which was concocted by individuals who did not like his direct style and the tough questions he was asking on behalf of his constituents?

The judicial review will determine if he was fairly treated, or whether the whole issue was mishandled. While, to date, there is little information available, what little is known paints a troubling picture of what went on and how Councillor Seguin was treated.

The best information on the goings-on can be found in a [report of the Integrity Commissioner \("IC"\)](#) and a letter from the Ombudsman of Ontario which dealt with complaints about the lack of a public report on the findings of the investigation into the councillor's actions.

Both the IC and the Ombudsman note that they are merely opining on the lack of the report and not whether the investigation was properly handled. Nonetheless, there is a lot to learn from the IC's and Ombudsman's reports and it does not paint a pretty picture.

It is clear from both these documents and media reports that on May 9, 2016, a complaint was made by Town CAO Troy Speck that Councillor Seguin had violated the Town's Code of Conduct for Members of Council and the Town's Workplace Harassment Program.

According to both the IC and Ombudsman, the investigation was referred to the Town's employment lawyer, who in turn retained an investigator to assist her. According to the Ombudsman, *"the investigator released a report on July 7, 2016, and concluded, on a balance of probabilities, the council member in question made public comments that had the potential to undermine the Town as a whole in the eyes of the citizens."* No mention is made of a finding of harassment. Indeed this seems to be a fairly modest finding of potential wrong doing under the Code of Conduct, rather than one of serious transgressions.

The IC then reports that *"An investigation report was issued on July 7, 2016. At a meeting with the staff member who had raised the complaint, and in reviewing the results of the workplace investigation with the complainant, the Mayor advised the staff complainant that Council was planning to appoint an Integrity Commissioner to investigate complaints under the Code and recommend sanctions. The Mayor suggested that after that had taken place, that the complaint should be re-submitted to the integrity commissioner once appointed."*

No mention is made of the results ever being discussed with Councillor Seguin, a fact which Councillor Seguin has confirmed. Indeed he pointed out that his lawyer had requested that the matter be put off until his return on July 8th.

Through the IC's and Ombudsman's reports, it is now apparent that the Town hurriedly completed the investigation prior to Councillor Seguin's lawyer's return and did not discuss the results with Councillor Seguin as would be standard practice in a workplace investigation.

Moreover the description of the Mayor's discussion with the complainant clearly indicates that at the time of that discussion the Mayor considered it as a Code of Conduct investigation.

The subsequent events as described by the IC are even more troubling. *"The staff complainant wrote to the Mayor and pointed out the Town was obliged to follow its policies for workplace matters and the provisions of the OHSA. The staff complainant asked the Mayor to follow*

through on that portion of the complaint."

From the fact that the Town on July 22nd issued a Notice of Public Meeting to be held on August 19th and on August 22nd, Council met to approve the amendments to the Code of Conduct and the hiring of an Integrity Commissioner, it is clear that at least until August 22nd, the Mayor was prepared to proceed with the complaint under the Code of Conduct, which would have resulted in a public report as required under the Municipal Act.

The IC then reports *"On August 24, the employment lawyer reported in writing to the Mayor and the Manager of Human Resources on the application of the OHSA to the complaint. The report addressed the question of the two ways to enforce workplace conduct. The advice to the Mayor was that the protections available under the OHSA were in addition to any Code of Conduct provisions and that in any event, the municipality was planning to amend its Code of Conduct and appoint an integrity commissioner for the purposes of addressing Code of Conduct concerns."*

The Ombudsman describes the contents of this letter as follows: *"Based on the findings in the investigator's report, the Town's lawyer wrote to council on August 24, 2016 to provide an opinion on whether the facts established a violation of the Town's Harassment policies, and whether there was a requirement for the complaint to be reviewed under the Code of Conduct. She found that the council member engaged in behavior that met the test of harassment under the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Town's policies."*

Of the human relations lawyer's letter the Ombudsman continues: *"She noted that, although the original complaint also referred to the Code of Conduct, it was not necessary that the matter also be considered under the terms of the Code; the allegations related to harassment and there are duties and protections provided for under both the Town's policies and the Occupational Health and Safety Act in that regard."*

In light of the subsequent sequence of events, it appears that it was this letter from the Town's human relations lawyer that convinced the Mayor to move the whole process behind closed doors. It is not clear who requested this report from the employment lawyer, but it seems to be written in support of the views expressed in the previous letter written by complainant. It should be noted that the employment lawyer in question had been previously engaged by the complainant and his staff on other matters, including the Council/staff relationship and thus could hardly be considered

Welcome to the Citizens' Pages

This is the fourth monthly issue of the Citizen's Pages, a Citizen funded insert into the Blue Mountains Review. **If you like reading us, please follow the link and make a donation to keep us going. We can't do it without your support! We have managed to raise enough to survive for our first four issues, but we are surviving month to month. <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review>** Donations can also be made to the Citizens' Pages care of The Blue Mountains Review and be dropped off at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg. All of the funds we receive go towards printing and distribution. All content and editing is provided by citizen volunteers.

Alar Soever, Editor

The Continuing Saga of the Supposed Harassment Allegations Against Councillor Seguin cont'd.

independent in this matter.

How does her advice stack up against what we are seeing from other municipalities? In this, it is useful to compare what happened in three other recent cases:

- 1) In the City of Cambridge, where a councillor was accused of harassment of a citizen; and,
- 2) In the Town of Wasaga Beach, where the Deputy Mayor was accused of harassing a staff member.
- 3) In the Town of Kincardine, where a councillor was accused of abusing staff.

It is interesting to note that in all three of these cases, in contrast to how Councillor Seguin was treated in the TBM, the matter was dealt with under the Code of Conduct by an integrity commissioner, resulting in a public report. The public got to see what the people were accused of. In each case the Town fulfilled its duty to address harassment. Both these municipalities seem to understand the importance of openness and transparency. They seem to understand that in the case of an elected official the public has the right to know what they are accused of, and what the results of the investigation were. As the other municipalities have shown, there is no legal reason this cannot be done.

Indeed in the case in Wasaga Beach, the integrity commissioner noted in his report that investigating council members under the Workplace Harassment Policy, as was done with Councillor Seguin, is *"unworkable"* and recommended that the Town of Wasaga Beach adjust its policies accordingly.

It should also be noted that even in the Seguin case in the TBM, the Integrity Commissioner, while refraining to comment on how this case was handled offered to help the Town in putting together *"a complaint protocol sets out how complaints are to be classified and where appropriate, referred to other processes for resolution."*

Council seemed to be listening and instructed our Manager of Human Resources to consult with the IC in putting together the new Harassment Policy and coordinating it with the Code of Conduct. We have yet to see results of this exercise.

In the meantime, Council continues to spend our tax dollars on fighting Councillor Seguin's Judicial Review of how he was treated. Judging by the sequence of events described above, and the manner in which other municipalities handled similar cases, it will be most interesting to see how the court rules, as it seems Councillor Seguin does indeed have a lot to complain about.

Town Council Round-up 2017 Budget

The 2017 Draft Budget was reviewed by Council and the Public over a series of meetings throughout 2016 and on January 23, 2017, the Town held a Public Information Session and Public Meeting to provide the public with the opportunity to review and comment on the 2017 Draft Budget and 2017 Draft Water and Wastewater Rates. On January 30th the Committee of the Whole met to receive additional comments on the budget.

The Blue Mountain Ratepayer's Association (BMRA) made a comprehensive presentation. The BMRA noted that they understand that growth and success for our town costs money and that they recognised that council and staff work hard on behalf of all looking for savings. They acknowledged that many cost elements such as police services are not fully in control of Council.

They stressed a concern with the long term trend that results and the impact on taxpayers and presented a graph showing that costs have risen an average of 7.8% a year since 2010.

The BMRA also noted the TBM's share of county costs has grown by 6% from 20% to 26%, stating it would like to see a "get back to 20%" movement in the Town and pointing out that 6% of \$53 million is \$3.2 million, funds that could be used to grow our success as a municipality: funding major projects, improving infrastructure, building needed reserves, renovating the community centre, helping the library or simply reducing our taxes, noting that even at 20% we would continue to send a "fair share" the county to support other municipalities.

The BMRA concluded by urging Staff and Council work to balance need for maintaining services while controlling costs.

It recommended that Town compare last year's actual spending to this year's budget rather than the present "budget to budget" method to make it clear to Council and the public how costs are increasing substantially from year to year.

The [Budget By-law \(By-law No. 2017- 9\)](#) being a By-law to adopt the estimates of all sums required for 2017 for Town purposes was passed at the 13th day of February, 2017.

Total Operating Expenses are estimated at \$19,576,367, with Operating Revenue at \$4,807,590 leaving Net Expenses to be Funded by Local Property Tax Levy of \$14,768,777.

The Approved 2017 Budget can be found on the Towns website at http://www.thebluemountains.ca/public_docs/documents/2017%20Approved%20Budget%20-%20web.pdf

Library Services Agreement – Memorandum of Understanding ("LSA-MOU")

At the Committee of the Whole Meeting on January 30th, Staff Report FAF.17.24 was tabled requesting that Council approve a Memorandum of Understanding that governs the services the Town provides to the Library.

The report noted that *"The Town employs staff who have developed expertise in areas that include Human Resources, Finance, Facility Maintenance and Information Technology support. The Library is a separate entity of the Town but is funded by the Town. The Town has been providing services to the Library on an ad hoc basis as requested for a number of years. The Town in consultation with the Library has determined that providing services on a regular basis is in both the best interest of the Town and the best interest of the Library."*

The motion that Council approve the LSA-MOU was carried at the Committee of the Whole.

While one cannot argue with the intent of the LSA-MOU, which is to create efficiencies and save costs, it was obvious to many that this was a poorly crafted document, which did not properly define the independent relationship between the Town and the Library as dictated by the Public Libraries Act ("PLA").

The LSA-MOU was pulled from the Council Agenda on February 13th for a more careful consideration of the language in the MOU and

Know your businesses

This month's business:



RIVERSIDE GRAPHICS

www.riversidegraphics.ca

1. Where is Riverside Graphics located?
2. What services does Riverside Graphics provide to the public?
3. What publications are printed at and distributed by Riverside Graphics.

Town Council Round-up **Library Services Agreement – Memorandum of Understanding (“LSA-MOU”) continued**

the Schedules which may be in non-compliance with the Public Libraries Act (PLA). The ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport has expressed a willingness to engage in helping to make sure that the MOU is in harmony with the letter and the intent of the PLA. We hope Council and the Library board -- both of whom must agree to the memorandum -- make use of their expertise before the LSA-MOU is passed, to avoid any future problems.

Town Appoints Steering Committee to negotiate relationship with Grey County

On February 13th Council received [Staff Report FAF.17.28 entitled “Town/County Relationship”](#) and authorized the Mayor to write the Minister of Municipal Affairs for the Province of Ontario, asking that the services of the Office of the Provincial Land and Development Facilitator be engaged to assist the Town of The Blue Mountains and Grey County by facilitating discussions between the two municipalities with a view to finding solutions to resolve existing disagreement between the Town and the County regarding the Town's share of the County's annual levy.

Council also requested the County of Grey to join the Town in writing their own letter requesting this facilitation.

Council appointed Councillors Martin, Halos, and McGee to a Steering Committee to bring back draft Terms of Reference for Council consideration which include the development of a Council Workshop to provide detailed information on potential Town/County Relationship opportunities, to be developed for an open session of Council by the Steering Committee and to be scheduled in the Spring of 2017.

This is an important step forward in trying to resolve the current situation whereby TBM taxpayers provide 26% of Grey County expenditures we only have 2 votes on the 18 person County Council, so very little say on how this money is spent.. Last year we sent \$13.8 million of our tax dollars million to Grey County, far more than the next largest contributor, Owen Sound at \$7.7 million. Of your tax dollar 40.6% goes to the Town (Tier 2 government), 39.2% goes to the County (Tier 1 government) and 20.2% goes to the Province of Ontario for Education.

2018 Election – Council Rejects Ranked Ballots, Recommends Move to Internet and Phone-In Voting

At the Committee of the Whole Meeting February 22, 2017 Council received [Staff Report FAF.17.33, entitled “Updates to the Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#). The Municipal Elections Modernization Act, 2016, or Bill 181, makes changes to the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. Some of these changes come into effect immediately after Royal Assent, and certain changes do not come into effect until April 1, 2018, in time for the next municipal election.

What has changed? Municipal councils will have the option of passing by-laws to use ranked ballots starting in the 2018 municipal election.

The first day that nominations can be filed for a regular election will be May 1st. Nomination day (the deadline to file a nomination) for a regular election will move to the fourth Friday in July (July 27, for the 2018 election).

A number of other deadlines related to regular elections have also changed. There are also changes to campaign finance provisions that will help ensure that the rules are consistent with transparent, accountable, fair and modern election finance practices. There is a new requirement that anyone wishing to run for office on a council must submit the signatures of 25 voters supporting the nomination.

Clerks, rather than councils, will determine the dates and times for advance voting. Another change prohibits voters from taking photographs or videos of their marked ballots. In addition, members of the public are able to inspect documents and materials related to the election for 120 days after the results of the election have been declared.

Clerks are now required to not only declare who wins the election but also provide the public with information regarding the number of votes received by each candidate, the number of votes for “yes” and “no” for a question on the ballot, and the number of declined and rejected ballots.

At the February 13th Council Meeting Council received [Staff Report FAF.17.32, entitled “Municipal Election 2018 – Ranked Ballots”](#); and directed that ranked ballots not be considered for the 2018 municipal election.

At the Committee of the Whole Meeting on Date: February 22, 2017 Council received [Staff Report FAF.17.31, entitled “Municipal and School Board Election 2018 – Alternative Voting Methods”](#); which recommended that Electronic Voting – Internet and Telephone, be approved as the voting method for the 2018 Municipal Election and School Board Election. This will mean an end to mail-in ballots.

Eligible electors will receive a voter package in the mail that includes instructions, voter's identification number, voter's unique personal identification number (PIN) to vote using either the Internet or Telephone, the URL, and the telephone number for the voting system. Voters also receive the list of candidates, legal requirements to vote, and how to receive more information.

The voter requires the PIN as well as a second piece of information, usually, date of birth, in order to proceed to complete a ballot.

Voters can vote at any time within the authorized voting period (generally seven to ten days), by telephone, hand held device, tablet or computer until the close of the election.

Help centres would be set up to provide information and assistance to electors that do not have access to a computer to vote by internet if they wish. The ballot information is stored in a secure database and tabulated at the end of Election Day.

The system is designed to ensure there is no link that connects the voter with his or her ballot.

The Committee of the Whole voted to recommend that Electronic Voting – Internet and Telephone, be approved as the voting method for the 2018 Municipal Election and School Board Election with Councillors Seguin and Gamble opposed.

Other items of interest before Council this month

How you might be hooked up to the sewage system, if you aren't already -- [Staff Report CSPW.17.029 entitled “Wastewater Servicing Means and Methodologies”](#) and how you are going to pay for it [Staff Report FAF.17.08, entitled “Affordability Policy”](#)

Citizens at the

THE CORNER

CAFÉ & GRILL

Come out and meet people who are interested in what is going on in the Town, and what is before Council. All citizens are invited to drop in at the Community Room at Corner Café on Monday nights between 4 and 7 for some socializing and friendly discussion on the issues facing the Town and what is on the Council Agenda.

Come, meet new friends, listen, and have your say.

Rules: Be polite, respect other peoples opinions, and if you don't agree with them, just remember: They have the right to be wrong.

Library news Brought to you by [VOCAL Voices of Our Community for Accountable Leadership](#)

It's been a year since Black Tuesday, March 8, 2016, when all nine employees at the L.E. Shore Library were fired during a surprise restructuring of library services. During that year, as you will learn from the VOCAL brochure included with this newsletter, we have worked hard to raise community awareness of the problems that still plague the Library Board, and to offer positive solutions. So far, most of our efforts have been rebuffed.

At a Library Board meeting on February 16, 'the controversy erupted again when Patrick Delaney, a local teacher and member of VOCAL, revealed that a Library Board member had filed a formal complaint against him with the Ontario College of Teachers. The complaint could have cost Delaney his job, but fortunately, it was quickly dismissed by the association as an abuse of process. In his deputation to the Board, Delaney asked for an apology and the resignation of the member in question. Neither was offered.

Stephen Vance of *The Meaford Independent* was present at the meeting. In recent months, Meaford has experienced a library crisis of its own, and Vance's reporting on the crisis provided much needed clarity. His articles were a major factor in the swift resolution of Meaford's library kerfuffle.

Stephen Vance has now turned the spotlight on our own crisis, in an engagingly personal opinion piece called "**An Outsider's Take on the Fractured Relationship Between Residents of the Town of the Blue Mountains and Their Council & Library Board**" in the February 23 issue of *The Meaford Independent*. Here's a small taste:

"... you simply don't have 50 residents show up at 2:00 in the afternoon on a workday to a library board meeting... unless people are genuinely frustrated, concerned, and angry. And a municipality doesn't request the presence of police officers at a weekday afternoon library board meeting, unless they know the community is fuming."



You can enjoy the whole article at www.themeafordindependent.ca/news/our-neighbours/

At the same meeting, VOCAL launched its "Timeline of Events Concerning The Blue Mountains Library. . .", a carefully researched 24-page document that will be an essential tool for anyone wishing to understand the roots of the crisis. It is available as a bound brochure, or on-line at <https://ourlibraryourvoice.wordpress.com/timeline/>

From the Timeline's "Afterword:"

"We hope this timeline of events encourages those of you who have not been aware of our work to give VOCAL your support. What we are trying to do is the essence of what a democracy is all about – speaking out, and demanding accountability from those in positions of trust."

You can show solidarity with our cause by coming to a demonstration in front of the L.E. Shore Library at noon on March 11.

**REMEMBERING
BLACK TUESDAY**
March 11, 2017 · 12 Noon
In front of L.E. Shore Library

Join us for the one year Anniversary
of our library's "restructure"

**LOYALTY
ACCOUNTABILITY
INTEGRITY
ARE OVERDUE!**

L.E. SHORE MEMORIAL LIBRARY
1995-2017

Learn more: OurLibraryOurVoice.com

Answers to Know Your Businesses

1. Riverside Graphics is located at the corner of Grey Rd 13 (Marsh St) and Grey Rd 33(Clark St) in downtown Clarksburg.
2. Riverside Graphics provides a range of printing and graphic design services including signs, colour and B/W copying, scanning, fax service, laminating, wide format printing, and bindery. It also sells books by local authors.
3. The Blue Mountains Review and the Citizens Pages.

We gladly accept letters to the editor. Please be advised that these letters will be reviewed & published at the discretion of our Editor. Please limit your letters to 200 words or less. You can email your letters to tbcitizens@gmail.com. Please include a phone number for validation. By submitting a Letter to the Editor you agree to be bound by the following terms and conditions: You may not use a false e-mail address, impersonate any person or entity, or otherwise mislead as to the origin of submitted material. You agree to be fully responsible for your own submissions. You agree to grant The Citizens' Pages a right to use your name and other identifying information you provide in connection with that letter. You agree to indemnify and hold the Citizens' Pages and its associates harmless from any claims, damages, losses or costs that arise out of any Letter to the Editor that you submit, including, without limitation, any material submitted or otherwise provided by you that infringes upon any copyright, trademark, or intellectual property right of any person, defames any person, or violates any person's rights of publicity or privacy.

This insert is brought to you as a public service to provide citizens information about issues facing their Town. It is funded by the citizens of the Town through online contributions. If you like this page and would like to keep it going, please donate by following the link <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review> Donations can also be dropped off at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg. To contact us with your letters, comments, ideas, and suggested content please e-mail tbcitizens@gmail.com



BVO to begin “making good things happen” in NEW LOCATION!

Beaver Valley Outreach is pleased to announce that it has purchased the former site of Piper’s Restaurant on King Street in Thornbury for its new home.

This new chapter in BVO’s history will provide BVO with the accessible single level space for which it has been searching. In addition to plenty of parking space and much needed on site storage, the new location will provide sufficient office space for staff, volunteer gathering/meeting space, and both retail and sorting space for the Treasure Shop.

Despite many renovations of the current Bruce St. location, BVO has been struggling to continue to make the space work, according to BVO Chair Cathy Innes. “Our decision to purchase the new property was the result of due diligence in obtaining feedback from our staff, volunteers, customers and partners. Rather than an expansion, the new location is an improvement in efficiencies, giving us a clean, functional and accessible building in which we can do what we do, better.”

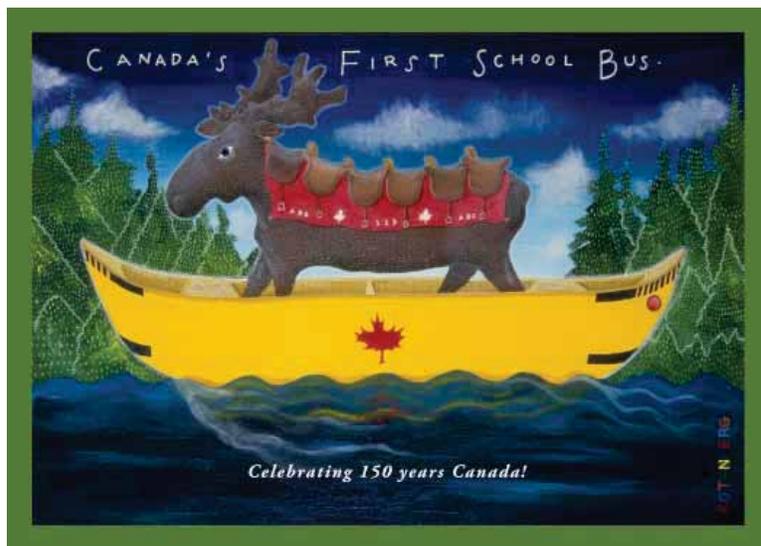
“This is such an exciting move for the organization,” says Carolyn Letourneau BVO’s Executive Director. “We are thrilled about the future improvements in work space for staff and volunteers, as well as the added convenience that customers and visitors to BVO will experience. The new location offers us sustainability and a more efficient space that will allow us to continue making good things happen in our community. I am



confident that it will be the best place for BVO forever!”

For more information on BVO’s new location or to help BVO accomplish this transition, please contact Carolyn Letourneau @ 519-599- 2577x21, executivedir@bvo.ca or Cathy Innes @ boardchair@bvo.ca

Established over 30 years ago, BVO is a community-based charitable organization of volunteers and staff dedicated to “making good things happen in our community” with quality programs and services for families, children, youth, seniors and individuals in The Blue Mountains. For more information, visit www.bvo.ca.



Canada 150 cards by local artist Lisa Rotenberg available by calling 519-599-3345

Canada Day Celebrations Underway

Kick off Canada Day weekend with us! The Blue Mountains Public Library, Town of The Blue Mountains, Thornbury BIA, and the Thornbury-Clarksburg Rotary Club are excited to be hosting **Canada’s Day Eve Party** on **Friday, June 30** from 4:30-10pm at the Beaver Valley Community Centre. Events will include live music from an amazing local band, Graham Playford and the Flying J’s as well as fun & interactive children’s activities, a BBQ provided by Black Angus Fine Meats and Game, a taco stand provided by Culinary Designs as well as desserts & treats provided by Foodland; a beer tent sponsored by Creemore Springs and Ardiel Cider House and ending the evening with a large **fireworks display at Tomahawk.**

Saturday, July 1 begins with the annual **Beaver Crawl** and **Pancake Breakfast.** The **Parade** from Clarksburg to Thornbury begins at 11am and all are invited to participate. Music, kids activities, cake and an amazing **Air Show by Gord Price** are things to watch for.

Sunday, July 2 Jazz by the Bay will be featuring Chuck Jackson and Tyler Yarema. For details www.visitbluejuly1.ca or call 519-599-3345.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

To be included in this listing post your event on www.visitbluemountains.ca

Details subject to change- Confirm with organizers

L.E. SHORE LIBRARY GALLERY

APRIL - Sketchbooks - A Retrospective

The Arts Advisory Council presents Ann Ziegler’s Sketchbooks - A Retrospective. Ann’s art is a mixture of drawn and painted images: monoprints, collage, acrylics, watercolours and mixed media pieces. She works intuitively and spontaneously from the subconscious, incorporating universal symbols and shapes to create a sense of the mysterious flow of nature’s energy and passage. Show runs April 1st till April 30th.

SAILING THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE

Tuesday, April 11, 7:00pm - 8:15pm

L. E. Shore Memorial Gallery
In August 2016, Linda Pim, a member of the Beaver Valley Bruce Trail Club, spent nine days aboard a Russian research/passenger ship sailing through the Northwest Passage, retracing the route of the Franklin Expedition. Linda will share her knowledge of the history and culture of the Northwest Passage, her impressions of Nunavut’s stunning landscape, and her

understanding of how the Arctic environment is threatened. There is no charge and all are welcome. Phone: 519-599-3681

www.thebluemountainslibrary.ca

BVO EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, April 15, 10am - 1pm

Beaver Valley Community Centre
Join Beaver Valley Outreach for our annual super-fun Easter celebration! Magic Egg Hunt; Shop til You Drop; Create a Craft; Photo Booth; Face Painting; Bounce Castle; BBQ; Easter Basket Raffle and more! Admission by donation.

CANADA 150:

SNOW PEOPLE SCREENINGS

Wednesday, April 19, 1:30 or 6:30

Craigleith Community Centre

Thursday, April 20, 6:30pm

L.E. Shore Memorial Library Gallery
The Craigleith Heritage Depot is pleased to present screenings of the new documentary “Snow People” (2016), created by local company Mountain Goat Film. You can see the film and then take part in a Q & A with its creators. Seating is limited, so pick up a ticket at either branch of the Blue Mountains Public Library or call 519-599-3131 ext. 370 to reserve!

YUK YUK'S COMEDY SHOW AND DANCE

Saturday, April 22, 8:00pm

Beaver Valley Community Centre
Doors open at 7:00 p.m., show to start at 8:00 p.m. with dance to follow featuring Amanda Dorey and Northern County. Tickets are \$15.00 and available at Thornbury Pharmasave, New Beginnings Salon in Meaford or by calling 519-538-0485. Presented by Meaford and Beaver Valley Kinette Clubs.

COME -- ENJOY FOOD, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!

Tuesday, April 25 at 12 Noon

Come and munch with the lunch bunch at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Thornbury continuing the 4th Tuesday of each month

CANADA 150:

THE JAZZMAN FILM SCREENING

Thursday, April 27, 1:30 - 3:00pm

Craigleith Community Centre
Enjoy a fun afternoon screening of the excellent film "The Jazzman" (2009) about famous jazz musician Mo Koffman. Produced by local filmmaker Tom Strnad and directed by Mo Koffman's own grandson! Free event but ticket required; pick up at either Blue Mountains Public Library

WEEKLY EVENTS

Daily - Monday-Friday

Coffee Klatch - 10am to noon
Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg

Mondays

Bridge 1pm. St. Georges Anglican Church, \$2.00 includes refreshments

Tuesdays

Toastmasters 7pm. Marsh Street Centre

Wednesdays

Taoist Tai Chi Arts™ Beaver Valley Com. Centre. Beginner Classes 9am-11am; Continuing Classes 10-noon; 519-377-0652

Events For Life Coffee Nook 9:30-10:30am
Come and enjoy coffee and muffins at Grace United Church www.eventsfor.life

Wednesday and Thursday

Bid Euchre 1:00 pm Beaver Valley Community Centre, \$2.00 - 519-599-2209

Sundays

English Country Dancing, Marsh Street Centre Clarksburg, 1:45-4:30 Come English Country Dancing April 9, 23 and May 7. No partner or experience needed. Friendly and fun activity.

branch. Part of the BMPL's "A Year of Canada: 12 Months, 12 Themes" suite of programming. Contact: Andrea 519-599-3131 ext. 370

HAM AND SCALLOPED POTATO DINNER

Friday, April 28, 5:15pm or 6:30pm

Grace United Church
Come and start your weekend with a delicious Ham and Scalloped Potato dinner prepared by the cooks and bakers of Grace United Church. Tickets available from the church office on Mondays and Fridays 519 599 2438 or Lois 705 444 2697 or Mary 519 599 7846 Adults \$15 Children under 10, \$6.

JAZZMANIA WEEKEND

Friday, Saturday, Sunday Apr 28-30;

Clarksburg - Thornbury Jazz, Blues, Big Band & Rock 'n' Roll. www.jazzmania.ca or call 519-599-3345 for details

PROFESSIONAL COUPLE WANTING TO RENT

Looking for a 2 bedroom house (or apt) in the Thornbury/Blue Mountain area. We are an older professional couple who both work full time. Non smokers and no cat or dog, just a bird. Willing to sign a lease, wanting a long-term rental.

Please call 519-599-7554

Patios, Decks, Walks,

Trees and Grass

Basic conceptual plans

519-599-6194

amaxwell25@rogers.com

Naturopat Family Medicine

- Intolerance Tes ing
- Management of igestive
- Con itions
- Immune Support and
- Natural Treatment of
- Infec ions
- Natural Presc ip ions for An iety and Insom ia
- Pe iat ic and Women's Health
- Natural An i ing Strate ies

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lysonmunkle



38 Years of Service

RON GIBBONS is honoured at a recent Council meeting for his service to the Town. He also received the Long Service Award from the Ontario Good Roads Association to recognize his 38 years of service as a Roads Crew Operator! Ron is retiring soon, and the Town would like to thank him for his many years of service.

Business Recognition

Awards were handed out March 23rd as part of the Blue Mountains Chamber of Commerce Annual General Meeting and BRA Awards. The event was held at Lora Bay.

2016 Business of the Year

Loft Gallery Inc.
Owner Heather Carroll
Presented by *Secure Insurance Solutions Group Inc.*

2016 Entrepreneur of the Year

Mountain Life Media
Owner Glen Harris
Presented by *the Center for Business and Economic Dev.*

2016 Carol Kordts Customer Service

Excellence Award
myFavoriteMarketer
Owner Vic Michener
Presented by *TD Canada Trust*

2016 Above & Beyond:

Site Enhancement Award
Shale Rock Coffee House
Owner Grant Thomsen
Presented by *The Town of The Blue Mountains, Planning and Development Services*

2016 Above & Beyond:

Sustainable Innovation Award
Kolapore Springs
Owner Sean Brady
Presented by *The Town of The Blue Mountains, Economic Development and Communications*

2016 Above & Beyond:

Economic Impact Award
SOS Storage on Site
Owner Gary Bochna
Presented by *the Blue Mountain Village Association*

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The Blue Mountains Review

Thornbury, Clarksburg, Craigleith, Heathcote, Ravenna

Published monthly, copies are mailed throughout the Blue Mountains. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our community can be emailed to info@bluemountainsreview.ca for inclusion in the newsletter. Advertising rates are available by calling 519-599-3345 or from our website. www.bluemountainsreview.ca

In Memory

Those we love,
don't go away,
they walk beside
us every day,
unseen, unheard,
but always there,
still missed, still loved,
still very dear!



DENNIS IRWIN BELL

Born in Collingwood on February 10, 1945, a son of the late Mervyne and Selina (nee Harmer) Bell, Dennis passed away at Meaford Hospital on Sunday February 12, 2017 at the age of 72. Dennis, a long time resident of Thornbury, is remembered as the beloved husband of Maureen (nee Shaw) and much loved Dad of Jason and his wife Bobi of Meaford and Jennifer and her husband Grant Jones of Collingwood and grandfather of Noah, Lukas and Rylin Bell and Hayden, Dylan and Grayson Jones. Dennis was a dear brother of Judith Bell and Daniel Bell, both of Meaford, and he was predeceased also by his brother Donald Bell in 1996. He is recalled as a dear son-in-law of Winifred Shaw (late George) of Meaford and brother-in-law to Jim Shaw and his wife Janice of Stratford and he will be fondly remembered by his several nieces and nephews and their families.

KEITH REEKIE

Keith Irwin Reekie of Hamilton and Clarksburg, son of the late George Harold and Eva Rebecca (née Irwin) Reekie, passed away at his residence in Hamilton on December 16, 2016 at the age of 90. He will be fondly remembered by his friends and relatives.

ALEXANDER GRAHAM "BUD" McVICAR

Graham 'Bud' McVicar, born in Toronto, a son of the late Alec and Alice (nee Graham) McVicar, passed away at Collingwood General and Marine Hospital on Saturday March 11, 2017 at the age of 88. Bud is remembered as the beloved husband of Catherine (nee Coutts) of Collingwood and as the much loved father of Bruce of Mississauga, Sandy of Heathcote, and Anne and her husband Paul Rogers of Clarksburg and he was predeceased by a son Don McVicar. He will be the sadly missed grandfather of Ian, Colin, Kevin and Jennifer McVicar, Sharon and her husband Peter Witruk, Amanda Saunders, and Stephanie and Andrew Rogers.

HAROLD ALBERT WOODHOUSE

Born in Euphrasia Township on August 5, 1924, a son of the late Frederick and Violet (née Dobson) and stepson of the late May (née Fiddis) Woodhouse, Harold passed away peacefully at his home in Heathcote with his loving family by his side on Tuesday March 14, 2017 at the age of 92. Harold is survived by his beloved wife of almost 68 years, June (née Vickers) both of whom were longtime members of the Heathcote and area communities. He was the devoted father of Brian (Donna) Woodhouse of King City, Darlene (Rod) Turner of Owen Sound, Kathy (Dale) Clarke of Meaford, Lisa (Marlon) Hewgill of Heathcote, and he was predeceased by his daughter Kaylene Woodhouse in 1980. He was the cherished grandfather of Michelle (Paul) Ingham, Jamie (Justin) Machin, Jarrett (Sarah) Turner, Joni (Keith) Reid, Jason Clarke, Kristina Clarke (Nathan Grimsley), Colton Hewgill, and Layne Hewgill, and proud great grandfather of William, Ben, Clay, Ainslee and Bryce. Harold was predeceased by his brother Arnie Woodhouse and his wives Wilma and Dorothy, his sister Doris and her husband Reg Cann, and his brother Lloyd Woodhouse and he will be remembered fondly by Lloyd's wife Jean and by his many nieces and nephews and their families. He will be remembered fondly also by his brother-in-law Vernon (Helen) Vickers and was predeceased by his sister-in-law Phyllis.

CORNELIS "KEES" LEKX

Born in Holland on June 8, 1930, a son of the late Leendert and Tonia (nee de Graaff) Lekx, Kees passed away at Errinrunc Nursing Home in Thornbury on Friday March 24th in his 87th year. Kees is remembered as the beloved husband of Ann (nee Clarke) of Thornbury and as a much loved Dad by his daughters Nancy Lekx of Thornbury and Sharon Lekx and her friend Mike Longmire of Owen Sound. He will be recalled as a dear brother by his sister Clazien (Chris) Catcher of Priceville and brothers Bill (Stella) Lekx of Richmond Hill, Fred (Donna) Lekx of Durham and Rev. John (Miriam) Lekx of Sebringville. He was predeceased by a sister Nell (late Gordon) Powell of Arthur and a brother Tony (late Joyce) Lekx of London and will be recalled fondly by several nieces and nephews and their families.



Tartan Day is a celebration of Scottish heritage on April 6, the date on which the Declaration of Arbroath was signed in 1320. The Beaver Valley Pipes and Drums celebrated on Saturday at the Beaver Valley Community Centre with great food, music and dancing. photo by Robert Burcher

Grants Available for Nonprofit Organizations in Grey & Bruce

Community Foundation Grey Bruce invites nonprofit organizations across Grey and Bruce Counties to apply now for Spring granting for projects and programs. Applicants' projects must benefit local communities in one of the following categories: Arts & Culture, Children's Interests, Education, Poverty Reduction, Environmental Endeavors, Health & Wellness or Recreation. Applicants are asked to describe how their project addresses one of the indicators of community vitality as outlined in the Foundation's Vital Signs Report which was recently released. Projects and programs that show support to disadvantaged children may apply for up to \$5,000; other projects may apply to \$3,000.

The online grant application will be open until April 15. Organizations may access the application under the Granting tab at www.communityfoundationgreybruce.com. Applicants should contact the Grant Co-ordinator Wendy Bachiu at wendy.bachiu@cfbg.ca or phone the Community Foundation office at 519-371-7203 to discuss the eligibility of their project before filling out an application.

Community Foundation Grey Bruce is also calling for Letters of Intent to apply for a Capital Grant for Fall/Winter of 2017. Letters will be received by mail or by email until the deadline of June 1, 2017. Criteria is posted on the website.

Established in 1994, Community Foundation Grey Bruce builds community vitality now and for future generations by encouraging endowment building and facilitating philanthropic partnerships within Grey and Bruce Counties.

The Foundation provides grants to a wide variety of nonprofit organizations that, in turn, provide necessary initiatives and services for the people of this region. Community Foundation Grey Bruce also provides leadership in identifying and convening discussion around community issues.

Thornbury-Beaver Valley Lions Club

The Lions Club meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month from Sept to June. Meetings are held at the Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg beginning at 7pm. Come and have supper with us to learn what we do as a Club. If you would like to attend please phone Grace 519-599-2818.

April 1 – April 30 in the Gallery at the
L. E. Shore Memorial Library
173 Bruce Street S., Thornbury



ANN ZIEGLER
Sketchbooks

Ideas – Images – Musings

A Retrospec

Mon/Wed/Fri/Sat 1 -

ial library

/Thu 1

Grey County Council Grey Road 119 Reconstruction

The tender is awarded to Arnill Construction for an estimated project cost of \$4,322,866 net HST.

Alternate Route for Hwy 26

That Report TR-CW-11-17 be received and that Grey County not proceed with placing signage identifying an alternate route for Highway 26 on Grey Road 19 and Grey Road 2.

BACKGROUND

In May 2016, Town of The Blue Mountains (ToBM) staff met with staff from Collingwood, and Grey County to discuss the potential for an alternate route for Highway 26. At the meeting, ToBM staff indicated that the purpose of the alternative route was to alleviate congestion along Hwy 26 in the Craighleith Area.

Collingwood staff indicated that routing the public around Collingwood may have a negative effect on local businesses and the Town would likely not support the idea. Subsequently, Grey County forwarded a letter to the Director of Infrastructure and Public Works at the ToBM that identified the following 5 concerns:

1. The purpose of a Provincial Highway is access for the travelling public and to transport goods and services. The volumes of these roads (Highway 26) justify a higher level of service. Directing traffic onto a Grey Road with a lower level of service may represent a risk to the travelling public (i.e. winter season).

2. The proposal in general has no significant reduction in travel time although clearly the residents on Highway 26, east of Thornbury may

benefit from reduced traffic.

3. The Grey County intersections on the alternate route are not controlled by signals. It is generally inadvisable to direct traffic from signalized intersections to non-signalized intersections.

4. The increased traffic on Grey Roads (specifically trucks) will have a financial impact on the Grey Roads by decreasing the useful life.

5. The roads on the alternate route typically experience a significant amount of cyclists. Since the entire route does not currently have paved shoulders, the increased traffic would have an impact on the cyclists.

In addition to the 5 points mentioned above, Grey County Transportation Services has also considered:

- No traffic study has been completed by the ToBM at this time and it is unclear how the traffic patterns may change if the signage were installed
- If the route were to gain in popularity, it would likely increase the required level of service and/or warrants for future intersection upgrades on Grey County Roads.
- There was no indication how any increased maintenance or construction would be funded
- The new signage may increase the traffic on Grey Road 2, Grey Road 19, Poplar Sideroad, Concession 10 and Sixth Street, effectively just 'moving the problem'
- There are a significant amount of agricultural vehicles along Grey Road 2 and more traffic may cause increased driver frustration
- The large number of Highway 26 East and Highway 26 West signs would be confusing to motorists if the motorist was intending to access Highway 26 between Thornbury and the Highway 26 East study area limit.

Money Smarts 4 Seniors – Get involved!

Beaver Valley Outreach is seeking volunteers interested in helping to develop a financial literacy information program for seniors & caregivers. We want to hear about the experiences you've had in trying to get information about financial supports for seniors. If you have expertise in financial areas, share it with us. Do you have a background in making public presentations or developing information packages?

Come along and get involved. At BVO's Answers4Seniors service, we've learned a lot from local seniors & caregivers, about the financial situations that are difficult, stressful & confusing. We think that together with community residents, we can make these matters more clear and understandable.

To find out more, give us a call at Answers4Seniors (519 599 2577, ext. 29) or drop by on a Monday morning (10-12:30) or Wednesday afternoon (12:30 – 3:00) in the meeting room, rear of the main floor at BVO. (64 Bruce Street) – Pamela McDermid, Coordinator, Seniors Programs, BVO.

Regional Tourism Organization 7 Invite You to Learn More About their 2017 Funding Programs April 20th

Are you a tourism business looking to go to the next level through Digital Marketing? Video? or creating a new Customer Experience? These opportunities and more will be shared April 20th from 9 to 11 am, Cranberry Resort (William Watts Room), 19 Keith Avenue, Collingwood. Plan now to attend the annual RTO7 Annual Information Session for updates and information on 2017/18 funding programs and more.

RSVP is required - Phone: 705-888-8728, Email: info@rto7.ca



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2014 & 2015*

TOP 3% National Gross Sales
Royal LePage 2013, 2014 & 2015

* Based on Royal LePage award level income excluding teams.



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and selling in the Georgian Triangle.

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Sylvie's Kitchen
Finest quality handcrafted

**EASTER
CHOCOLATE**

Po

il 8/9

April 14/15

1:00p -

Harbour Mews, 16 Bruce St. N.
Thornbury

Visit us and help support
the Beaver Valley Kinettes
sylvieskitchen.com 519.599.1105

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NEIGHBOURS**
A BEAVER VALLEY OUTREACH PROGRAM

**Help put good
food on tables.**

ADD 25¢ TO YOUR PURCHASE
AT FOODLAND THORNBURY

WWW.BVO.CA

Making good things happen in our community!

FEATURE HOME - COLLINGWOOD



OFFERED AT \$398,800.00

PROFESSIONALS, RETIREES, AND WEEKENDERS, TAKE NOTE - this stunning, professionally re-designed and renovated 2 BDRM, 2 BATH, bungalow in Central Collingwood includes a beautiful built in modern gas fireplace in the living room, light maple hardwood throughout principle rooms, two entries with spacious foyers/storage and main floor laundry, walk in showers in both full baths,
WAIT!!.. There's more and not enough space tell..

Better call Heather

FEATURE HOME - NEW LOWELL



OFFERED AT \$500,000.00

SPACIOUS RANCH STYLED BUNGALOW ON A .53 ACRE LOT. What more could anyone ask for? This 3 BDRM 2 BATH home shows pride of ownership throughout. Ideal size for a growing family. Sunken family room with gas fireplace makes for a great family setting. Conveniently located in countryside setting close to Base Borden, Angus (15 min) and Barrie (40 min). Full basement is partially finished with room for value enhancement. Septic last inspected and pumped June/16. DON'T BLINK OR YOU'LL MISS IT!

Better call Ed

SOLD



COLLINGWOOD

Selling Fees Saved \$2,864.55

ATTENTION FIRST TIME BUYERS Affordable 2 BDRM, 840 sq.ft. 3rd floor condo in a well kept 6-storey building in central Collingwood. Walk to Sunset Point, or downtown Collingwood. Unit is tenanted at \$1050/month incl. utilities and tenant would like to stay although vacant possession is available. Condo fees of 412.60/mth include hydro, water, reserve
Better call Ed or Heather
Offered at \$170,000.00

NEW LISTING



TINY BEACHES

A DUPLEX, ACROSS FROM THE BEACH ??? How often ??? Look no further than this 6 BDRM 3 BATH home in an idyllic location. Features incl: inside entrance to double car garage, TWO NAPOLEON gas fireplaces in each unit are main heat source, with electric baseboard back up, fenced yard with 3 storage/bunkies and an above ground pool. INCOME POTENTIAL.
Better call Ed or Heather
Offered at \$399,000.00

Better call Ed or Heather
Offered at \$399,000.00



WASAGA BEACH

LOCATION...LOCATION...LOCATION... Just a stones throw away from the worlds largest fresh water beach this fantastic 4 BDRM, 4-season cottage, on a large lot, in very quiet area of Wasaga Beach (Beach Area 6) and yet a short walk to shopping at 45th and Mosley. Hedged front yard for privacy & open rear yard backing onto Provincial-owned land for extra privacy. Open concept.
Better call Ed
Offered at \$399,000.00

Better call Ed
Offered at \$399,000.00



MEAFORD

MUST SEE the character and uniqueness that abounds this 3 BDRM, 2 BATH, 1,300 sq.ft. updated circa (1895-1904) rare, stone home in central Meaford. Covered front porch, interlock double driveway, stained glass windows & doors- welcome you. Mansard hip roof re shingled plus 18+ inches of insulation added to the (stand up, unfinished) attic. To many features not enough space to list all.
Better call Heather or Ed
Offered at \$475,000.00

Better call Heather or Ed
Offered at \$475,000.00



COLLINGWOOD

SPACIOUS 4 LEVEL BACK-SPLIT SEMI, 3 BDRM, 3 BATHS, hardwood flooring and ceramics throughout, forced air heating, A/C, INLAW SUITE POTENTIAL. (plumbing r/i), 3 BDRM, 3 BATHS, master with walkout to deck, fenced yard, large storage shed, two family room/living areas, 5' crawl space across from Legion, park & short walk to Sunset Point. WAIT!!!!.. THERE'S MORE!!!!.. Call for your personal tour!

Better call Ed or Heather
Offered at \$350,000.00

SOLD



WASAGA BEACH

Selling Fees Saved \$6,254.55

VALUE PRICED WITH TLC IN MIND A home in the Wasaga Sands golf course community under 400K is a rarity these days. Features include: paved circular drive, two car garage, 3BDRM, 2 BATHS, large eat in kitchen and separate dining room, spacious living room lower level recreation room, huge 20' x 24' deck. THERE'S MORE but you must see it to realize the potential.
Better call Ed
Offered at \$369,000.00

Better call Ed
Offered at \$369,000.00



MEAFORD

IDEAL LOCATION FOR HOME BASED BUSINESS. This 2 BDRM, 1 BATH, 1050 sq ft bungalow is OVERFLOWING WITH CHARACTER. Some features include: gas fireplace with feature brick wall in the living room, wood burning fireplace in the dining room with walkout to patio. Unique features such as brick floors and clever storage built ins. To many updates/ features to list. Call now before it's gone.
Better call Heather
Offered at \$215,000.00

Better call Heather
Offered at \$215,000.00



SOLD

WASAGA BEACH

Selling Fees Saved \$3,034.05

ATTENTION SNOW BIRDS - RETIREMENT LIVING in an immaculate Park Place Home, an adult community on 92 acres of country setting with indoor pool & all the amenities. Features include 8200 sq.ft. recreational centre, gated entrance & full municipal services.
Better call Ed
Offered at \$180,000.00

Better call Ed
Offered at \$180,000.00



SOLD OVER ASK

WASAGA BEACH

Selling Fees Saved \$4,661.25

MARLWOOD GOLF COURSE. 2 BDRM, 2 BATH 1,045 sq ft beautifully appointed third floor end unit with commanding views of Marl Lake and the 9th and 10th hole. Stainless appliances, upgraded kitchen cabinets and drawers, Silstone counters in kitchen and both baths, stainless sinks in baths, pocket doors for both bedrooms, engineered hardwood flooring. YES, THERE IS MORE.
Better call Heather or Ed
Offered at \$270,000.00

Better call Heather or Ed
Offered at \$270,000.00



CASHTOWN CORNERS

PROFESSIONALS, RETIREES, AND WEEKENDERS, TAKE NOTE - this stunning, professionally re-designed and renovated 2 BDRM, 2 BATH, bungalow in Central Collingwood includes a beautiful built in modern gas fireplace in the living room, light maple hardwood throughout principle rooms, main floor laundry, walk in showers, WAIT!!.. There's more and not enough space to tell..
Better call Heather
Offered at \$600,000.00

Better call Heather
Offered at \$600,000.00

SOLD



COLLINGWOOD

Selling Fees Saved \$10,661.55

SOLD



COLLINGWOOD

Selling Fees Saved \$9260.30

65 CLIENTS HAVE MAXIMIZED THEIR RETURNS AND HAVE SAVED \$391,814.40 IN SELLING FEES USING OUR SERVICES SINCE JAN 1/15
HOW MUCH WILL YOU SAVE ????

SOLD



WASAGA BEACH

Selling Fees Saved \$4,661.25

SOLD



LIGHTHOUSE POINT

Selling Fees Saved \$6147.20

SOLD



LIGHTHOUSE POINT

Selling Fees Saved \$4,873.12

SOLD



STAYNER

Selling Fees Saved \$3,813.75

SOLD



COLLINGWOOD

Selling Fees Saved \$4,915.50

SOLD



WASAGA SANDS

Selling Fees Saved \$5,763.00

SOLD



WASAGA BEACH

Selling Fees Saved \$9,407.25

SOLD



HISTORIC SNOWBRIDGE

Selling Fees Saved \$6,554.00

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OUR PRESCRIPTION FOR SELLER STRESS RELIEF

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*Heather Stitt - Broker

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** Ed Pakstas - Broker of Record

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* Does not include Buyer/Co-Operating Broker fees

Jazz mania

APRIL 28, 29, 30, 2017
THORNBURY-CLARKSBURG
Jazz / Blues / Swing / Rock n Roll



NOODLE FACTORY JAZZ PROJECT

Friday, April 28, 7:30 pm

Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg \$25

Tickets at Thornbury Pharmasave; Stuff to Read, Meaford
or Riverside Graphics, Clarksburg
hosted by the Thornbury Jazzworks



SKYLINERS BIG BAND

Saturday, April 29, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Beaver Valley Community Centre, Thornbury \$25

Tickets at Thornbury Pharmasave; Stuff to Read, Meaford
or Riverside Graphics, Clarksburg
hosted by the Beaver Valley Kinette Club



THE DESOTOS, Classic Rock 'n' Roll

Saturday, April 29, 3:00 - 6:00 pm

Saturday, April 29, 7:00 **SOLD OUT**

Maiolos Restaurant, 15 Harbour St., Thornbury

Tickets \$50 includes dinner
at Riverside Graphics, Clarksburg

with
Madeleine French & Russ Strathdee



SUNDAY, APRIL 30 - non-ticketed events, first come...

Breakfast 9-11 at Steve's Restaurant "The Browns"

Brunch 11-1 at The Orchid "Ken Meyer"

Lunch 1-3 at The Corner "Brian Miessner Trio"



For tickets and information call 519-599-3345

EASTER at ST. GEORGE'S

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 9

A family oriented service 9.00am

HOLY MONDAY

BCP Evensong 7.00pm

TUESDAY APRIL 11

Candlelit Night Prayer 7.00pm

WEDNESDAY APRIL 12

BCP, Holy Communion 7.00pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Agape Meal Service 6.00pm

GOOD FRIDAY

Ecumenical Way of the Cross 10am

EASTER SUNDAY

Said Holy Eucharist 8.00am

Sung Holy Eucharist 10.00am

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www.cleanbinmovie.com

Special Film Screening

Friday April 21, 2017 at 7 pm

Grace United Church, Thornbury

In honour of Earth Day. Presented by the Grace United **Green Team** and



Donations accepted. Space is limited.
For information call Norine Baron 519-599-2442

Town Council Round-up

The Town-County Relationship Committee

At the Committee of the Whole Meeting on March 13th, Council received [Staff Report FAF.17.46, entitled "Town / County Steering Committee, Terms of Reference"](#) and approved the Town / County Steering Committee, Terms of Reference.

At the February 13, 2017 Council Meeting, Council had established a Committee comprised of Michael Martin – Chair, Councillor, Joe Halos –Councillor, John McGee – Councillor, Troy Speck – CAO, Ruth Prince – Director of Financial and IT Services, and Jennifer Moreau –Manager of Human Resources to explore possible solutions to resolve existing issues between the Town and the County regarding the Town's share of the County annual levy.

The Terms of Reference set for the Committee are to

1. Consider alternatives to the Town's current financial and governance relationship with the County of Grey, including Single Tier governance
2. Determine the most viable alternatives
3. Present to Council the most viable options for a change in that relationship for Council's consideration

The Committee may investigate any possible opportunities to improve the Town/County relationship, may interview individuals or organizations and may hold public meetings, may consult with experts in the municipal/provincial field.

It is beyond the Committee's mandate to initiate discussions or negotiations with the County of Grey, unless authorized by Council.

Council has approved a \$20,000 budget for a workshop and the Committee may use that budget in both determining viable options and presenting them to council for their consideration.

Is the Thornbury Waste Water Treatment Plant reaching capacity ahead of schedule?

In order to extend the Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA) for the Thornbury Waste Water Treatment Plant ("WWTP") in 2010, the Town committed to begin final design and expansion of the WWTP the year after it reached 80% Average Daily Flow ("ADF") of its current capacity of 3,580 m³/day and proceed to construction immediately thereafter to increase the capacity of the WWTP from the current 3,580 m³/day to 5,330 m³/day.

Last year the [2015 Year End Water & Wastewater Capacity Assessment Report](#) stated: "The Thornbury WWTP's 5 year rolling ADF is 2,183 m³/day which means that the flows are utilizing 61% of the Thornbury WWTP built capacity. Based on this information the Town does not need to take immediate measures to initiate final design. Continued measures to reduce inflow and infiltration of storm and groundwater into the wastewater collection system will further delay the Thornbury WWTP expansion. Staff estimate that it will be 10 years or 2026 before the expansion will be required."

At the Committee of the Whole meeting on March 13,

Continued on last page

Citizens of our Town

Joan Gaudet is an energetic senior citizen volunteer who works tirelessly for our Town. She has volunteered at many community organisations and events including at the Library looking after plants, the Marsh Street Centre, Beaver Valley Outreach, and the Thornbury Beaver Valley Lions Club. You will often see Joan motoring around town on her scooter, on her way to her volunteer work or putting up posters for some event or organisation.

Joan was born Margaret Joan McClung in Midland, and developed her sense of community at an early age, living in what she describes as "a very close knit, hard- working community who cared for and worked with each other with respect, consideration, and community spirit for all our neighbours and families." "I was the richest child in the area although we had no plumbing, no heat, hydro, just a wood stove. We had security because of a caring family and community."

She operated her own business for 12 years and then worked for Trentway Coach Lines for 25 years. She moved to Thornbury in 2006.

Joan is very passionate about our community and the Library in particular. She is dismayed about how the Library was re-structured and how the staff who lost their jobs were treated.

"In my career I have been involved with three restructurings including the merger of Trentway Bus Lines and Wagar Coach Lines in 1976, which was carried out with dignity and respect for all employees. The company went out of its way to look after its employees. There was a retreat held, and support offered for those that would be impacted. The other two restructurings were also carried out compassionately with consideration."

"When I moved here 11 years ago, the Town was a friendly and welcoming place. Somehow, over the last year, with how the restructuring of the Library was handled, it has ripped the heart out of our community. Hopefully we can get our community spirit back."

Joan attributes her community activism and spirit in part to the fact that she is the great-great niece of Nellie McClung, the famous Canadian feminist, politician, author, and social activist who fought her whole life for freedom of speech-equality for all and was instrumental in securing women's right to vote and having women recognised as "persons" under the British North America Act. Says Joan, "My great-great aunt Nellie would be disappointed if I didn't fight for what is right."

Thank you Joan for all you do for our community. It is citizens like you who make our Town a better place for all of us.

Know your businesses

This month's business:



1. For how many years has Bay-Mount Service been serving the TBM?
2. What service is Bay-Mount best known for?
3. What other services does Bay-Mount provide?

Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

Citizens Survey – What is important to you? Let Us Know!

Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey and return by e-mail to tmmcitizens@gmail.com , or drop off your responses at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg.

There are many in this Town who are passionate and care about the future of our community and the issues that Council has to deal with. There are also many who just don't care, and are merely happy to live here and pay their property taxes.

During the last election in 2014 only 37.85% of eligible voters in the TBM even bothered to vote. This is lower than the Ontario average voter turnout of 43.12% and well below the largest voter turnout of 86.63% reported for the Town of Latchford.

If you care about the future of our Town, please take a few minutes to fill out our survey to let us know what is important to you. Answer as many questions as you feel you are comfortable answering. A partial response is better than none. Individual responses will be kept confidential.

Who am I?

I am a full-time resident of the TBM

I am a part-time resident of the TBM

I have resided full or part-time in the TBM for

> 20 years 10-20 years

5-10 years <5 years

I am, am not, involved in a community organisation.

During the last 2 years I have attended >10, 5-10, 1 – 5, or no Council or Committee meetings.

I feel I know , do not know enough about most issues before council to have an informed opinion.

I voted, or did not, vote in the last election.

I will, or will not vote in the next election.

What is important to me?

Please rate the following issues in terms of importance to you. 5=very important 4=important 3=moderately important 2=slightly important 1= not at all important

How we elect our municipal government

How our municipal government runs

The Budget and Property Taxes

The amount of our taxes going to Grey County

The Library and provision of Library Services

Recreation opportunities supported by the Town

Town Services such as policing, fire services, garbage pick-up and snow plowing

Service levels provided by the Staff at the Town Hall

Short Term Accommodation Bylaw and Enforcement

Sewer and Water Rates

The Official Plan and Development

How we elect our municipal officials

Council recently approved the elimination of mail-in ballots and the institution of Internet and telephone voting only for the 2018 election.

I support, do not support the elimination of mail-in ballots.

Currently, the five members of Council are elected to represent the entire Town. Some other municipalities have

a ward system where councillors are elected to represent individual wards within the Town. Some argue that having a councillor represent a specific ward means that citizens have a specific person to go to with their local concerns, which might not be shared by people from other parts of the community. Others argue that having councillors represent individual wards will mean that it will be harder to get consensus.

I support, do not support changing to the ward system.

How our municipal government runs

Over the last year there have been concerns expressed over the way our municipal government has operated, in particular with the secrecy involving the alleged harassment allegations against Councillor Seguin, and the involvement of the Town in the restructuring of the Library.

I am, am not satisfied with the level of openness and transparency in the TBM government.

Currently meetings of Council are held on Monday nights at 7 pm and the Committee of the Whole on Mondays at 1 pm.

I would like all meetings of Council to be held in the evenings so I could attend.

I would like all meetings of Council to be held on weekends so I could attend.

I believe, do not believe that the minutes of meetings should include a record of who voted for and against motions, as is done in some other municipalities.

I believe, do not believe it is currently too difficult to make a deputation to Council.

I support, do not support the concept of an Open Mike session following Council meetings to allow citizens to be heard.

I believe, do not believe that meetings of Council and Committees should be videotaped and archived so that a complete and accurate record is available.

I believe, do not believe that closed meetings of Council and Committees should be videotaped and securely archived, so that a complete and accurate record is available for any Closed Meeting Investigations.

Historically, the Town had a number of committees with citizen participation, which provided council with advice on specific items such as the Harbour, etc.

I support, do not support the idea of Committees to enhance citizen involvement in government.

Citizens at the

THE CORNER

CAFÉ & GRILL

Come out and meet people who are interested in what is going on in the Town, and what is before Council. All citizens are invited to drop in at the Community Room at Corner Café on Monday nights between 4 and 7 for some socializing and friendly discussion on the issues facing the Town and what is on the Council Agenda.

Come, meet new friends, listen, and have your say.

Rules: Be polite, respect other people's opinions, and if you don't agree with them, just remember: They have the right to be wrong.

This insert is brought to you as a public service to provide citizens information about issues facing their Town. It is funded by the citizens of the Town through online contributions. If you like this page and would like to keep it going, please donate by following the link <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review> To contact us with your letters, comments, ideas, and suggested content please e-mail tmmcitizens@gmail.com

Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

The Budget, Spending, and Property Taxes

I ___ believe, ___ do not believe that Council has done a good job of keeping the budget and spending under control.

Which of the statements best reflects your opinion:

___ 1) Our taxes are too high; I would like to pay less even if it means a cut in services.

___ 2) Our taxes are too high; I believe there efficiencies which could be used to lower taxes without cutting services

___ 3) Our taxes are appropriate for the services we receive from our local government.

___ 4) Taxes are what we pay for a civilized society. I would pay more for better services and government.

I ___ support, ___ do not support the new Purchasing of Goods & Services Policy which give staff more authority over spending by removing council from the tendering process for projects that are within the annually budgeted amounts.

The Amount of our taxes going to Grey County

At the time of amalgamation of the TBM, the TBM contributed 20% of Grey County's total revenue. Today our contribution has shot up to 26%. Last year we sent \$13.8 million of our tax dollars million to Grey County, far more than the next largest contributor, Owen Sound at \$7.7 million.

Of your tax dollar 40.6% goes to the Town (Tier 2 government), 39.2% goes to the County (Tier 1 government) and 20.2% goes to the Province of Ontario for Education.

Although we pay 26% of the County expenditures we only have 2 votes on the 18 person County Council, so very little say on how this money is spent.

Which of the following best reflects your opinion on this issue:

___ 1) As the wealthiest community in Grey County, we should pay the largest share, to help out the people in less fortunate communities, even if we don't have a proportionate say.

___ 2) We should negotiate a new deal with Grey County, which gives us a vote on County Council proportionate to our percentage of the funding.

___ 3) We should negotiate to cap our proportion of County expenditures at 20%, the level it was at amalgamation.

___ 4) We should work to secede from Grey County and become a Tier 1 government.

The Library and provision of Library Services

I ___ do, ___ do not, use the TBM Library.

I use the ___ L. E. Shore, and/or ___ the Depot Branch.

I ___ know, ___ do not know what services the Library provides.

I am ___ aware, ___ not aware that the Town is obligated to provide and fund library services under the Public Libraries Act.

I am ___ aware, ___ not aware that under the Libraries Act the operation of the library is governed by the Library Board, while the budget is approved by Town Council.

In the last few years the library services and programs offered by the Library have ___ improved, ___ remained

the same, ___ deteriorated.

I ___ am, ___ am not aware of the issues surrounding the restructuring of the Library and the summary dismissal of long term Library staff.

Recreation opportunities supported by the Town

The Town provides funding for 21 municipally owned and maintained Parks, some of which contain ___ green space ___ tennis courts, ___ picnic tables, ___ playgrounds, ___ swing sets, ___ pavilions, ___ washrooms, ___ beaches, ___ river access, ___ a basketball court, ___ a shuffleboard court, ___ a volleyball court, ___ baseball diamonds, and a ___ skateboard park, as well as the Tomahawk Recreation Complex - ___ Soccer and ___ Golf, ___ the Beaver Valley Community Centre (Arena) and ___ the Thornbury Harbour.

Please check above which you have used in the last year.

I believe the Town should increase, decrease, or maintain its level of support for the following:

Facility	Increase	Maintain	Decrease
Parks			
Tomahawk			
Arena			
Harbour			

Historically curling was a popular sport in Clarksburg and Thornbury with up to 150 curlers participating in the 1950s. Recently a local group has shown interest in re-establishing curling, by turning the arena into a multi-use facility by converting it to curling ice for part of each week, as is done in some other communities.

I would, ___ support, ___ not support this initiative; or,

___ I would rather support a dedicated curling facility.

Town Services such as policing, fire services, garbage pick-up, and snow plowing, and road maintenance

Please rate your satisfaction with the following services. 4=very satisfied 3=satisfied 2= moderately satisfied 1=not at all satisfied

___ policing, ___ fire services, ___ garbage pick-up,

___ waste disposal site operation, ___ snow plowing,

___ road maintenance

Service levels provided by the Staff at the Town Hall

I ___ have, ___ have not used the services or corresponded with Town staff.

I was ___ very satisfied, ___ satisfied, ___ moderately satisfied, ___ not at all satisfied with the service I received.

Welcome to the Citizens' Pages

This is the fifth monthly issue of the Citizen's Pages, a Citizen funded insert into the Blue Mountains Review. **If you like reading us, please follow the link and make a donation to keep us going. We can't do it without your support! We have managed to raise enough to survive for our first four issues, but we are surviving month to month.** <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review> Donations can also be made to the Citizens' Pages care of The Blue Mountains Review and be dropped off at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg. All of the funds we receive go towards printing and distribution. All content and editing is provided by citizen volunteers.

Alar Soever, Editor

Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

Short Term Accommodation Bylaw

Since 2014 the TBM has had a Short Term Accommodation (STA) Licensing By-law, which provides for a system of licensing of STA premises (premises rented on a basis of 30 consecutive days or less)

Under the STA Licensing Program, property owners must apply for and obtain a licence, and renew it bi-annually. The licence may be suspended or revoked by the Town should the property owner not comply with the provisions of the By-law which cover the responsible operation of the premises. Most common complaints deal with parking, maintenance, and noise infractions. I ___ have, or ___ do not have an STA in my neighbourhood. I ___ have, or ___ have not had reason to complain about an STA during the last 2 years.

I believe the Town is doing a ___ good, ___ poor, ___adequate job in regulating STAs. I believe the STA bylaw should be ___ strengthened, ___relaxed, or ___maintained as it is at present.

Sewer and Water

I ___ am, ___ am not currently serviced by Town Sewer and Water.

If you are currently serviced please answer the following questions, if not skip to the questions below.

1) I ___ am, ___ am not happy with the sewer and water services I receive.

2) I believe the sewer and water charges I pay are ___ too high, ___ reasonable, or ___ too low.

If you are not currently serviced please answer these questions.

1) I ___ would, ___ would not like to have Town sewer and water.

2) I ___ believe, ___ do not believe, I should have a say as to whether my area is serviced by Town sewer and water.

3) I ___ know, ___ do not know if I will be forced to be hooked up if my area is serviced.

3) I ___ know, ___ do not know, roughly how much I will have to pay to be hooked up to Town sewer and water.

4) I ___ believe, ___ do not believe that the proposed deferred payment plan for hooking up is fair.

The Official Plan and Development

Which of the following best represents your vision for the Town of Blue Mountains?

- ___ A seasonal resort community
- ___ A retirement community for wealthy people
- ___ An agricultural community
- ___ A combination of the above, where most jobs are low paying service industry jobs, filled by people from neighbouring towns because they can't afford to live here.
- ___ A community with a diverse economy, with year round well-paying jobs which takes advantage of our location, geography and other attributes.

I believe the Town has ___ too much, ___ too little, ___ the proper amount of new residential development.

I believe the Town has ___ too much, ___ too little, ___ the proper amount of new commercial development.

I believe the Town has done a ___ good, ___ poor, or ___adequate job in attracting new businesses which provide year-round well-paying jobs.

I ___ believe, ___ do not believe that the Town should zone some land light- industrial/commercial to attract new businesses which would provide year-round, good paying jobs to our community.

Local Media ,The Citizens' Pages, and the Blue Mountains Review

Which of the following media do you read 1=often, 2=sometimes, 3= almost never

___ Blue Mountains Review ___ Citizens' Pages
 ___ Collingwood Connection ___ Enterprise Bulletin
 ___ Owen Sound Sun Times ___ Meaford Independent
 ___ The Thornbury Paper

On a scale of 5 to 1, 5 being good and 1 being bad, rate the following media in terms of the quality of their coverage of local affairs in the TBM.

___ Blue Mountains Review ___ Citizens' Pages
 ___ Collingwood Connection ___ Enterprise Bulletin
 ___ Owen Sound Sun Times ___ Meaford Independent
 ___ The Thornbury Paper

I ___ would, ___ would not likely subscribe to a local weekly or bi-weekly print newspaper which provided coverage on events in the TBM.

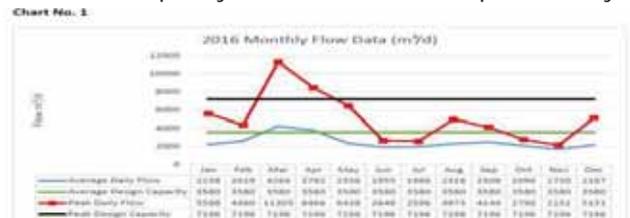
I ___ would, ___ would not likely subscribe to a local weekly or bi-weekly internet newspaper which provided coverage on events in the TBM.

Is the Thornbury Waste Water Treatment Plant reaching capacity ahead of schedule? Continued from Page 1

2017 staff tabled the [2016 Annual Performance Report for the Thornbury Wastewater Treatment Plant.](#) This report stated, "The Thornbury WWTP is operating at 65% average day design capacity, up from 51% during the 2015 operating year. The Town is obligated to expand the Thornbury WWTP when it reaches 80% design capacity, as required by the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC)."

No mention was made this year of 2026, as the projected dated the plant will exceed the 80% design capacity.

A graph included in the report showed that the plant exceeded 80% of capacity in both March and April of last year.



Councillor Seguin asked the question: "How does the current building boom in the TBM, and the increase to 65% usage from 51% over the last year, affect the timeline projection for expansion as stated in the 2015 report?"

Staff could not confirm that it was still 2026.

If the plant does reach 80% capacity in the next few years, the Town is obligated to start building the expansion, which was estimated to cost \$6.44M in 2014.

Answers to Know Your Businesses

1. Bay-Mount has been serving the TBM area for over 30 yrs.
2. Bay-Mount is best known for fast, dependable, year round, water delivery. Many people in the TBM rely on Bay-Mount for their potable water.
3. •Cistern installation, cleaning & maintenance •Excavation •Drain repair •Bobcat service •Snow removal services •Small landscaping jobs •Driveway levelling and resurfacing •Septic systems installation •Sewage system installation and repair •Water lines •Hydro lines



Bruce Trail Conservancy Turns 50



2017 is a special year for all of us. With the Peninsula Club turning 50 this year, all nine Clubs have now officially reached this milestone. The Bruce Trail, as it was in 1967, held its official opening at a ceremony at its Northern Terminus Cairn in Tobermory on June 10th, 1967. This summer on **Saturday, June 10** join us for the official 50th Anniversary Ceremony. It begins at 10 am, followed by hikes, a chartered boat tour to view the Escarpment, lunch, and historical displays. Visit brucetrail.org to register.

History repeats itself in the **50th Anniversary Baton Relay**. The baton begins its journey on April 1st as the BTC Board of Directors present it to the Niagara Bruce Trail Club. Each of the nine Clubs will carry the baton for one week, ensuring it travels along the length of the entire Trail by volunteer power, until it arrives in Tobermory on June 10. Visit brucetrail.org or follow #brucetrailbaton on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook to follow the baton's progress. The Beaver Valley Club will receive the baton from The Blue Mountain Club on **Sunday, May 7** and will pass it on to the Sydenham Club on **Sunday May 15**.

Our **Club's AGM is on Sunday, June 4**. Meet at 1:30 p.m. at St. George Anglican Church's parking lot in Clarksburg for a short easy walk. AGM starts at 3:00 p.m. in the Church Hall. Potluck to follow. The guest speaker is Warren Bell, Chair of the BTC Board. Please plan to join us to meet, mingle and partake in our wonderful potluck.

The 50 km Challenge takes place on **Sunday, June 25**. This hiking and fundraising event, 50 km in one day, raises funds to support the land acquisition work of the BTC. The route begins near Rush Cove and heads south, ending at the BTC's Vanishing Stream Nature Reserve. Take on the challenge and participate either as an individual, or a relay team of two. To sponsor this event, visit brucetrail.org 50km Challenge.

We are looking for volunteers to fill unique and rewarding positions on our Board. President Jill Smith-Brodie 519-270-0076
toadhallbb@icloud.com or www.beavervalleybrucetrail.org



Canada 150 Mosaic Mural Project

Oakville's Mural

This May residents will have the opportunity to join 150 communities across Canada in creating community murals for the Canada 150 Mosaic Mural Project. The Canada 150 Mosaic Mural will be one of the biggest collaborative murals ever created in Canadian history and will unite



Canadians from coast to coast. The Canada 150 Mosaic Mural Project is led by internationally recognized artist Lewis Lavoie and his Mural Mosaic Team based out of Alberta. To follow the mural's progress across Canada, visit the Canada 150 Mosaic website. The Blue Mountains' mural will be composed of 400 tiles, each measuring 4 inches square. Residents are invited to participate in a 1hour painting workshop to create their own tile that will become part of the mural. No painting skill is necessary, the workshops are free and all materials are provided. To register for a spot in one of the painting workshop sessions at the Beaver Valley Community Centre, call Community Services Department, 519-599-3131 ext 254

The Blue Mountains' Mosaic Mural will be unveiled July 1.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

To be included in this listing post your event on www.visitbluemountains.ca

DETAILS SUBJECT TO CHANGE- CONFIRM WITH ORGANIZERS

L.E. SHORE LIBRARY GALLERY

Paintings and Creative Interpretations

Framed drawings and large abstracts by José Etcheverry Orchard bring an explosion of colour and line to the Gallery for the month of May.

APPLE VALLEY YOUTH CHORUS

Friday, May 12, 7:30pm

St. George's Anglican Church

Spring concert of 'Songs of Africa' include Dry Your Tears Afrika, Hakuna Matata, The Lion Sleeps Tonight, Takadamu (Lead The Way) and more. Admission by donation.

GARLIC MUSTARD "PULL PARTY"

Saturday, May 20, 9:30am - 11:30am

Loree, Sideroad 21 and the 5th Line Come and help save the Loree Forest from an invasive species, Garlic Mustard. Learn how to recognize and pull this invader, bagging it for disposal. Stay for the BBQ lunch afterwards at a nearby home. Rain or shine. All welcome. Joan 519-599-6470.

www.beavervalleybrucetrail.org

BLUE MOUNTAINS STUDIO TOUR OF THE ARTS

Sat, Sun, Mon, May 20-22, 11am - 5pm

Thornbury, Clarksburg, Craigleith, Kimberley

Free self-guided studio tour on Victoria Day weekend. In its 23rd year, local well established artists open their studios to the public and will be there to answer questions about their work, what

inspires them and in some cases, demonstrate their craft. Glass workers, textile art, jewellery, pottery, sculpture, painting, wood work and photography...a wide range of fabulous talent. This is a great opportunity to add a piece of original art to your collection!

Brochures available in most local businesses! Louise 519-599-3999

www.tourofthearts.ca

COME -- ENJOY FOOD, FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!

Tuesday, May 23 at 12 Noon

Come and munch with the lunch bunch at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Thornbury continuing the 4th Tuesday of each month.

TRIVIA

Friday, May 26, 7 - 9:30 p.m.

Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg What might you know that you don't know you know? Surprise yourself at an innovative evening of trivia. Cash Bar and Prizes!. Brought to you by VOCAL and Dwight Dyson, local Thornburian and famed British Car Club Trivia Quizmaster. Bring the whole family! Child care provided. \$10

THE JOY OF JAZZ

Friday, May 26, 7:30pm

L. E. Shore Library Gallery Thornbury Jazzworks presents Canadian Jazz Great Russ Little The Joy of Jazz Admission \$20 adults, \$5 students. Refreshments. Tickets at Pharmasave and Sincerely Yours

WOMEN'S NIGHT

Wednesday, May 31, 6:30pm

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
Come join special guest Jane Burke as she displays her amazing quilts and speaks on the subject, "A Quilter meets The Potter" Dessert at 6:30 pm. All ladies welcome!

BRITS IN THE VILLAGE

Saturday, June 3, 12noon -4pm

The Village at Blue Mountain
The Georgian Bay British Car Club is very pleased to hold our 6th "Brits in the Village" car show. There will be upwards of 50 cars on display and their owners will be happy to answer any questions about their cars. Graeme Wallace 705-444-8296 www.gbbcc.com

BIRTHDAY BASH - Marsh Street Centre 90 / Canada 150

Saturday, June 10, 10am - 11pm

Marsh Street Centre
Save the Date! A full day of activities starting with a pancake breakfast with the Lions and ending with an awesome dance party! marshstreetcentre.com

*Remembering with love our parents
Wilma Woodhouse who passed away
March 14, 1998 and
Arnold Woodhouse who passed away
May 17, 2007.
Never forgotten, always in our hearts.
Bernie, Sharon, Janet, Julie, Randy
and their families*

WEEKLY EVENTS

Daily - Monday-Friday
Coffee Klatch - 10am to noon
Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg
Mondays
Bridge 1pm. St. Georges Anglican Church, \$2.00 includes refreshments
Tuesdays
Toastmasters 7pm. Marsh Street Centre
Wednesdays
Taoist Tai Chi Arts™ Beaver Valley Com. Centre. Beginner Classes 9am-11am; Continuing Classes 10-noon; 519-377-0652
Events For Life Coffee Nook 9:30-10:30am
Come and enjoy coffee and muffins at Grace United Church www.eventsfor.life
Wednesday and Thursday
Bid Euchre 1:00 pm Beaver Valley Community Centre, \$2.00 - 519-599-2209

Blue Mountains Infrastructure & Public Works Road Tour Tuesday, May 23

Infrastructure & Public Works Staff have arranged a Special Meeting of Council for the purpose of a bus trip in order to conduct a tour of municipal sites, facilities and construction projects.

This bus tour is open to any member of the public wishing to attend.

The bus will depart from the Town Hall north parking lot Tues May 23 at 1:00 pm and return by 4:00 pm.

Please RSVP no later than 12:00 pm (noon) Friday May 19th to: Sherry Steadman, Administrative Assistant 519-599-3131 ext. 259
E: ipwinfo@thebluemountains.ca
Fax: 519-599-7723



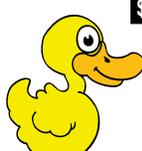
16th Annual DUCK Race

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2017

LIONS' PARK, CLARKSBURG

3:00pm Race Starts, Black Bridge, Beaver River

\$5.00 per ticket



- 1st Prize - \$1000.00**
- 2nd - Family Spa Membership for 1 month at Royal Harbour Resort**
- 3rd - Gift Certificate at Foodland**
- 4th - Painting by Judy Shield**
- Last duck in - \$50.00**

For tickets call Joan at 519-599-3541 or Tom 519-599-7781 or visit Riverside Graphics, Clarksburg
All proceeds to Community Projects

Dr. Alyson Munkley
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- Personalized Treatments
- Safe, reliable, and effective natural health solutions

519-599-3400 23 Arthur St. Thornbury
www.alysonmunkley.com



The Apple Valley Youth Chorus will be presenting a spring concert 'Songs of Africa' on **Friday, May 12, 7:30pm** at St. George's Anglican Church. Selected songs include Dry Your Tears Afrika, Hakuna Matata, The Lion Sleeps Tonight, Takadamu (Lead The Way) and more. Directed by Ann-Marie MacDairmid and Karen James. For info call 519-599-7506 or applevalleyyc@gmail.com. Sponsored by CIBC Wood Gundy, Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club and St. George's Anglican Church

'Take the Reins on Cancer' Saturday, June 3

Come join Sunbridge Equestrian and help 'Take the Reins on Cancer' as we raise money and awareness for Wheels of Hope. Join the family fun on June 3rd from noon until 3:30 at The Farmers Pantry, 788030 Grey Road 13, Clarksburg. 100% of the proceeds will go to Wheels of Hope, a Canadian Cancer Society program, in Grey & Bruce County to aide those 1 in 5 families & patients needing transportation to and from treatment centers for radiation and chemotherapy.

Sunbridge & friends will be hosting an afternoon of traditional family fun with a BBQ picnic, kid's games, face painting, mazes, and much more. For the big kids, there will be a MacLean's Ale tasting, silent auction, live music and more! Tickets can be bought in Clarksburg at Code Red Hair Salon, in Thornbury at Evolution him & her and at The Lodge at Lora Bay. Available by email to order and e-transfer.
Lori Shaw - 519.373.2558 lorishaw1@hotmail.com
Leslie Lewis - 705.606.3232 leslielewis1972@gmail.com

Grey Road 119

Will be under construction from approximately May 1 to August 31. The project will be divided into two parts. The road will remain open with alternating lane closures from Grey Road 13 to Grey Road 2 for pulverizing and paving. The road will be closed to non-local traffic from Grey Road 2 to the 4th Line (Banks) for reconstruction. A detour route will be provided for non-local traffic. Garbage collection will continue as normal.

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Investment Advisor
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The Blue Mountains Review
Thornbury, Clarksburg, Craighleith, Heathcote, Ravenna

Published monthly, copies are mailed throughout the Blue Mountains. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our community can be emailed to info@bluemountainsreview.ca for inclusion in the newsletter. Advertising rates are available by calling 519-599-3345 or from our website. www.bluemountainsreview.ca

Meals on Wheels

In a typical year, Home and Community Support Services volunteers deliver over 21,000 Hot Meals on Wheels in 15 communities in Grey Bruce. In 2016 6 volunteers in The Blue Mountains assisted with the delivery of 120 meals to 8 clients in 2016. Meals are delivered at approximately noon, 2 days of the week. The cost of the delivered Meals is \$8.50.

- Meals on Wheels programs offer many benefits.
- Access to well-balanced, affordable meals is imperative to the independence and sustenance of isolated seniors and individuals with disabilities.
 - Research shows that healthy eating provides essential energy and nutrients for general welfare and maintenance of health and functional autonomy, and reduces the risk of chronic diseases at older ages.
 - The benefits of Meals on Wheels are emotional and psychological, as well as physical. Sometimes, a friendly Meals on Wheels volunteer may be the only person a client interacts with in a given day.
 - Meals on Wheels volunteers perform a valuable security check for isolated clients, and can notify the proper authorities in the case of accident or injury.

Please take a moment to learn more about your local Meals on Wheels program. This is a great time to become one of our wonderful volunteers, to make a donation, or to call to receive meals delivered to your door. Contact 519-372-2091 or 1-888-881-4808 homecommunitysupport.com.

Public Notice of Pesticide Use

Commencing May 8, weather permitting, and ending May 31, the County of Grey, Town of The Blue Mountains, Township of Georgian Bluffs, Municipality of Grey Highlands, and Township of Southgate intend to control noxious weeds along the county and municipal roadsides under their respective jurisdiction. We will be using Truvist Herbicide, which contains the active ingredients, Chlorsulfuron and Aminocyclopyrachlor. PCP Registration Number 30920 in combination with Hasten NT Spray Adjuvant, which contains active ingredients Methyl and ethyl oleate (esterified vegetable oil). PCP Registration Number 28277 under the Pest Control Products Act.

New Regulations for Licence Plate Denial

As of May 1, new regulations are in place to deny licence plate renewals to drivers with unpaid fines. The new regulations apply to offences such as speeding, careless driving, driving without insurance and more. Drivers will need to pay their unpaid fines in full before their licence can be renewed.

Drivers with outstanding fines are encouraged to contact the Provincial Offences office and pay their tickets before their licence is up for renewal. Grey County can work with eligible defendants to develop a court-approved payment plan to avoid plate denial.

Provincial Offences Main Office
595 9th Avenue East, Owen Sound
519-376-3470 poa@grey.ca



Celebrate Canada's 150 in The Blue Mountains

Ravenna, Clarksburg, Thornbury and Blue Mountain Village

Friday June 30th

•Canada Day Eve Party 4:30pm-9:30pm

Hosted by the Blue Mountains Public Library,
Thornbury-Clarksburg Rotary and
the Town of The Blue Mountains

Beaver Valley Community Centre

Live Music, Black Angus BBQ, Culinary Designs
Taco Stand; Face Painting and Children's Activities
Foodland & Chapman's Ice Cream Desserts
Lemonade Stand; Beverages from Creemore and
Ardiel Cider House

•Fireworks 9:30pm

Tomahawk Complex, 417230 10th Line

Saturday, July 1st

Ravenna 7:30am, Beaver Crawl

Hosted by Georgian Bay Youth Roots
BIKE - PADDLE - RUN - Non-traditional triathlon,
where participants start at Ravenna, bike to
Heathcote, then paddle along the river to Slabtown
and from there run to the finish line in Clarksburg.

Blue Mountain Village

All day family activities such as magicians and
dance parties

12:30-2pm Live Music: Emma Wright and
Jayden Grahman

2pm Cake Cutting and National Anthem

8-10:15pm Live Music: True North

10:15pm Fireworks

Saturday, July 1st

Clarksburg, 8:30am-11:00am

Pancake Breakfast, Music by Bored of
Education, Magic Show, Face Painting,
Caricature Artist

Beaver Valley Parade 11am-Noon

Clarksburg to Thornbury

Groups, businesses and individuals are invited to
join in the parade with floats, vintage cars,
bicycles, music, walkers etc

Thornbury 10:30am-2:30pm

Face Painting & Balloon Twisting
Steve Baker Magic Show, Rotary Chili & Hotdogs
Cake Cutting at Noon

Georgian Bay British Car Club, Sidewalk Sale
Unveiling of Canada 150 Mosaic Mural

At the Harbour 11am-2pm

Music by Hwy 26, Fire Department,
Coast Guard, O.P.P. Marine Unit
O.P.P. Emergency Response Team "ERT"

Performance Air Show, 1pm

Sponsored by The Dam Pub

Canadian Aerobatic champ, Gord Price, will
perform his exhilarating air show over the bay.

Sunday, July 2nd

Jazz by the Bay 6-8pm

Bayview Park

Toronto All Star Big Band



www.visitbluejuly1.ca



Featuring our authentic Premium Apple Cider, Thornbury Village Craft Beer and a variety of wines from Colio Estate Winery.



Cider House Hours

Sun., Mon., Tues., Wed., 11am – 6pm

Thurs., Fri., Sat. 11am – 8pm

90 King St., Hwy 26 Thornbury

www.thornburycraft.com

Clay The Canadian Way – Canada 150

The Blue Mountains Public Library is celebrating all things Canadian to mark our country's 150th Anniversary. The theme for May is Clay the Canadian Way.

Blue Mountain Pottery is not the only pottery that our area is known for. Discover the rich heritage of pottery making at the library. The Blue Mountains Public Library's two branches, the Craigeleith Heritage Depot and the L.E. Shore Memorial Library, are running programmes and exhibits all month.

The Craigeleith Heritage Depot will be exhibiting its collection of Blue Mountain Pottery along with a small exhibit called Earthenware Everywhere. This exhibit includes thousands of years of pottery making and use from indigenous pieces to everyday household items.

Starting May 1 - Scavenger Hunt

Win a Week Away at Summer Camp! Play the Summer Camp Scavenger Hunt at L.E. Shore Memorial Library and be entered into a draw to win one week at Camp Presqu'île, Owen Sound for ages 6-14 years.



Prize graciously donated by the Thornbury - Clarksburg Rotary Club. Winner to be announced at the Canada Day's Eve Party at the Beaver Valley Community Centre, Friday June 30.

Wednesday May 31 3-5 pm Pottery Class & Demo with Carol Hahn

Join us for a pottery demo with local potter, Carol Hahn and sign up for a beginner potter's class at the L.E. Shore Memorial Library. \$5/person. Register on our events calendar: www.thebluemountainslibrary.ca/events.cfm Demo is open to everyone to watch.

www.route26.ca
Music events listing for
venues along Hwy 26
from Meaford to
Thornbury/Clarksburg &
Collingwood



Notice of Public Information Centre Black Bridge #17

Thursday May 18, 6pm
Town Hall Atrium, 2 Mill Street

A Public Information Center will be held to discuss the rehabilitation work and the installation of metal guide railings to the heritage structure known as Black Bridge, Clark Street, Clarksburg.

What is a Public Information Centre (PIC)?

A PIC is an informal open house with Town Staff. For the purposes of this PIC, Staff will be offering information to you regarding rehabilitation work and the installation of metal guide railings to the heritage structure known as Black Bridge. Staff will be pleased to discuss and answer any questions you may have about the Black Bridge Rehabilitation at this PIC.

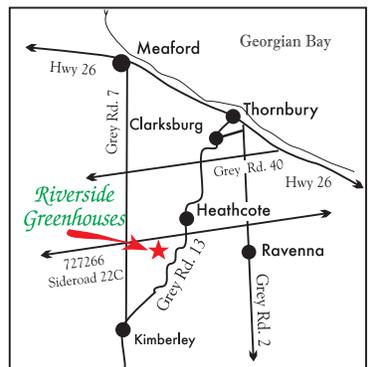


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annuals, perennials,
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Pre orders available
through our website.
www.riversidegreenhouses.ca

Open May 2 until June 30
Tuesday-Saturday 9am-5pm
Sunday 12-4 pm and
Victoria Day Monday



What should I expect to learn at this PIC?

The Bridge is identified as Number 17 and registered as a historical bridge. Constructed in 1923, it is a single lane reinforced concrete bow string arch structure with an asphalt wearing surface placed over the concrete deck. The overall span length of the bridge is 25.3 m. The structure has railings between the roadway and the sidewalk and a hand railing on the north side.



Hedging Cedars
approx \$3.00 a foot
Call 226-665-0333
to place an order

Yard Waste Collection

Curbside collection will include yard waste from May 1 to 25. A maximum of 10 paper bags of yard waste (leaves and plant trimmings) will be collected per week on your normal day of collection from May 1 to 25, 2017. Additional or oversized yard waste may be delivered to the Town Disposal free of charge during hours of operation. Place yard waste at curbside by 7:00am on your day of collection. Use yard waste collection bags or waste bins with their lid off.

**Help put good
food on tables.**

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Town Council Round-up

Last Minute Revisions to IT Policy Move Power to Investigate Council from Staff to Integrity Commissioner

At the Committee of the Whole Meeting on April 24th a staff report was tabled on [Updates to the Information Technology Acceptable Use Policy](#). This was a revised version of the draft contained in the Committee materials, which had given the power to investigate Members of Council to the Chief Administrative Officer and Human Resources Manager. This would have allowed Town staff to investigate a Member of Council's use of Information Technology, including accessing the members correspondence with constituents.

It is very encouraging to see that at least someone at the Town Hall had enough understanding of governance principles to recognise that that this was wrong, and that staff should not be put in charge of investigating our Council Members and our correspondence with them.

The revised version contained changes, so that investigations of Council Members under the IT policy are now turned over to the independent Integrity Commissioner. A big thumbs-up to whomever it was who made these changes. We hope that the revised Workplace Violence and Harassment Program, when tabled, will contain similar language.

A comparison of the original version of the IT policy and the revised version is shown below.

Investigations Section 1 (d) original language

d) Abuse of Town computer systems by Staff or Council

- i. Searches may include internet usage, Electronic Messages and files on all servers*
- ii. Requests can be made by the Department Head or the CAO*
- iii. Approval must be provided by the Manager HR or the CAO*
- iv. Searches may be performed by an external agency*

Investigations Section 1 (d and e) revised language

d) Abuse of Town computer systems by Staff

- i. Searches may include internet usage, Electronic Messages and files on all servers*
- ii. Requests can be made by the Dept. Head or the CAO*
- iii. Approval must be provided by the Manager HR or the CAO*
- iv. Searches may be performed by an external agency*

e) Abuse of Town computer systems by Council

- i. Searches may include internet usage, Electronic Messages and files on all servers*
- ii. If anyone has reason to believe that a Council member has abused Town computer systems a complaint may be submitted to the Clerks Department in written form. This complaint will be forwarded within 48 business hours to the Town's Integrity Commissioner who will process it in accordance with Section 223.3 of the Municipal Act, 2001*
- iii. As part of the investigation process, the integrity commissioner may request and direct the types of system searches, as outlined above*
- iv. At the integrity commissioner's direction, searches may be performed by an external agency*

The Citizen's Survey: There is Still Time to Let Us Know What is Important To You

We have had a slow but steady response to our Citizen's Survey, which was featured in the April Issue of these pages. Because of this, we have decided to extend the deadline to May 30th. **We really want to know how you feel about the issues facing our Town.** If you have lost your copy, and still want to fill out a survey, you can pick up a copy at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg. You can also request an electronic copy, by e-mailing us at tbcitizens@gmail.com. Completed surveys can be returned by e-mail or dropped off at Riverside Graphics.

Deputation on Trailwoods Phase 3

Highlights What's Right and

What's Wrong at Town Hall:

Things Get Heated When a Citizen Demands Action

On March 27th a local citizen, Mitchel Freedman, made a deputation to Council expressing the disappointment of the Cameron Street residents that they had not been informed of the start of construction on the Trailwoods 3 development, stating that many residents had been shocked and dismayed when they arrived to see the trees that had been cut down and the heavy equipment at work.

He stressed that while the residents knew that the development was approved and would happen, they were not aware that work was starting. They wanted more information on the construction activities and how their lives would be impacted in the coming months. The deputant asked the Town to organise a public information session with Town employees, the developer, and the residents, at the earliest possible time to answer these and other questions.

The Mayor offered that Staff could prepare a staff report, and subsequently there could be a public meeting organized on a Monday before or after Council. The citizen pointed out that most people on Cameron Street are only there on weekends, and they wanted information now, not at some time long into the future after the staff report was complete. The Mayor continued to talk about a report. Mr. Freedman reiterated that all the residents wanted was information

continued on page 3

Welcome to the Citizens' Pages

This is the sixth monthly issue of the Citizen's Pages, a citizen funded insert into the Blue Mountains Review. This insert allows for an extra four pages of news about what is going on in our Town.

If you like reading us, please follow the link and make a donation to keep us going. We can't do it without your support! We have managed to raise enough to survive for our first four issues, but we are surviving month to month.

<https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review> Donations can also be made to the Citizens' Pages care of The Blue Mountains Review and be dropped off at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg. All of the funds we receive go towards printing and distribution. All content and editing is provided by citizen volunteers.

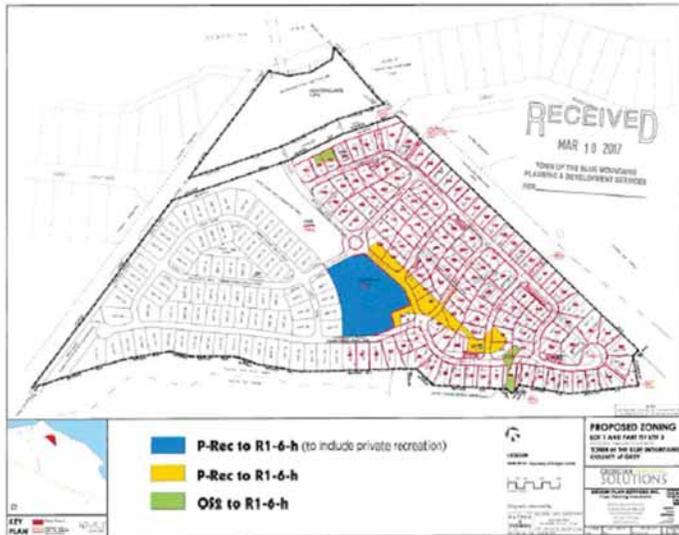
Alar Soever, Editor

Overflow Crowd Protests Loss of Green Space at Lora Bay and in Downtown Thornbury

An overflow crowd filled the Council Chambers on April 24th for two public meetings on 1) proposing a major plan revision to amend the approved Draft Plan for Condominium for Phases 3 and 4 of the Cottages at Lora Bay, (located at 39th Sideroad and Sunset Blvd.)

2) The Stopping Up & Closing of Portions of the Victoria Street North and Bay Street West Unopened Road Allowances (Thornbury)

1) What is being proposed at Lora Bay is the rezoning of land currently zoned Private Recreational and Open Space to Residential in order to allow a reconfiguring of the Plan of Condominium as shown below.



Residents complained about the loss of green space. The proposal basically takes what was originally two residential areas separated by a green space, and merges them into one residential area of 194 units. Others were suspicious of the rezoning of the area now occupied by the Recreation Centre to Residential: Does this mean even more units in the future? Others complained about the lack of visitor parking spaces and suggested that the space could be better used for extra parking spaces.

Residents also complained that they had not received notice of the public meeting and had only become aware of it from talking to their neighbours.

2) The second meeting on the stopping up & closing of portions of the Victoria Street North and Bay Street West unopened road allowances (Thornbury) also attracted a lot of public interest and comment.

It soon became clear, that the catalyst for closing the road allowances was that the Town had been approached by the developer of the adjacent lands who wants to buy the lands, so that they might build additional units. This was not mentioned in the Notice of Public Meeting.

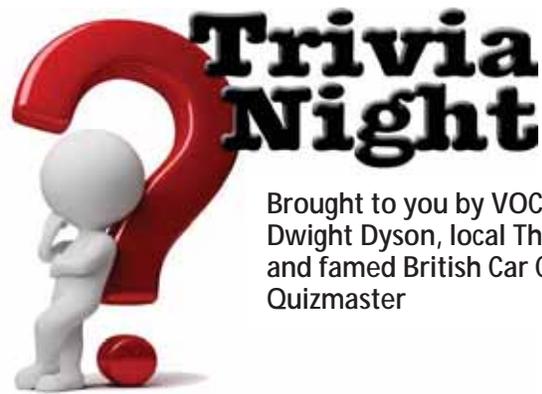
People were upset that the public was not being advised of the true purpose for the closing, and were also concerned with drainage issues, as currently the land provides



overland drainage for the area to the south. People were also concerned about the loss of green space and the fact that the contemplated development will change the character of Thornbury.

It should be noted here that although the contemplated development has not yet been officially proposed or subjected to public review and comment, at the meeting the developer's agent submitted several plans for the development, as if the sale to the developer was a done deal once the road allowances were closed.

Councillor Martin stated the no decision had been made on disposition of the lands, and Councillor Halos stated that he would like to see a walking trail on the lands.



Brought to you by VOCAL and Dwight Dyson, local Thornburian and famed British Car Club Trivia Quizmaster

What might you know that you don't know you know?
Surprise yourself at an innovative evening of:

TRIVIA

Friday, May 26, 7 - 9:30 p.m.

Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg

Only \$10

Cash Bar and Prizes!

Bring the whole family! Child care provided.

Register yourself, and/or a team of up to six, by e-mailing OurLibraryOurVoice@gmail.com.

Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

This Year the Town of The Blue Mountains has a Senior of the Year nominee:

It's about time we honoured our seniors

Each year the Ontario Ministry of Seniors Affairs requests each municipality "to honour one outstanding local Ontarian who after age 65 has enriched the social, cultural or civic life of his or her community." All citizens are eligible, unless they are self-nominated, are elected federal, provincial or municipal representatives, or are political appointees who are being appointed for achievements which are related to their current appointment. For the last 2 years the Town of The Blue Mountains has not had a nominee.

In 2015 Council saw fit not to receive the request to nominate someone, as the motion brought forward by councillors Martin and Halos to receive the request was defeated. Councillor Seguin, seconded by McGee then moved that the request be forwarded to the Library Board for their recommendation. This motion carried. The Town Clerk has advised us no nomination was received.

In 2016 Council did receive the correspondence and staff was asked to post a notice on the Town Website asking people to submit nominations. The Town Clerk has again advised us no nominations were received

This year, at its' meeting on March 27th, Council did decide to receive the correspondence from the Minister of Seniors Affairs inviting them to submit a nomination by April 30, 2017. Staff was asked to post a notice on the Town Website inviting people to submit nominations.

While no notice was posted, on Friday April 21st a long time local resident made a submission nominating Joan Gaudet, a hard working senior volunteer, who had been featured as a "Citizen of Our Town" on these pages last month.

At the time the Town Clerk seemed to indicate that no other nominations had been received. We understand the nomination of Joan has received widespread support in the community, and that several people have submitted letters in support.

On Monday April 24th, a request for nominations was posted on the Town website, and a notice was posted of a Special Meeting of Council, to be held on April 27th to discuss the nominations. Council did meet behind closed doors on April 27th to discuss the nominations. We are advised that the Senior of the Year Award will be announced in the Month of June, which is Seniors' Month in Ontario.

Deputation on Trailwoods Phase 3

(continued from page 1)

and, that they wanted it as soon as possible.

When, after some more discussion, Mr. Freedman suggested it was more than a request, but a demand, the Mayor angrily responded by threatening to call the citizen out of order and stated that "no one comes in here and demands anything."

Fortunately, at this point cooler heads, in the persons of Councillors Seguin and Martin, as well as the Town Director of Planning, Mr. Benner, entered the discussion. All three seemed to understand the importance of getting information to the residents as soon as possible. Councillor Seguin suggested perhaps the information meeting could be held first, followed by a staff report to answer remaining questions. Mr. Benner was tasked with organising distribution of information to the residents.

An interesting exchange took place during the discussion when the Mayor mistakenly referred to Mr. Benner as Councillor Benner, quickly noting the error and saying "of course I know you're not a Councillor." To this Mr. Benner responded, "I could never be a Councillor, I am not smart enough to be a Councillor".

Staff, working with the developer, provided information to the residents in a conference call held April 6th. A [staff report on the matter](#) was tabled at the Council meeting on April 24th. A newsletter with information on development, construction timelines, and other asked questions and contact information was delivered by hand to local residents in the Cameron Street area during the Easter weekend. A Public Information Session is planned for sometime in May.

In the meantime, the developer has requested a further extension of time from the Ontario Municipal Board ("OMB") for 1 year until July 18, 2018, to satisfy the OMB's draft plan of subdivision Conditions of Approval.

Some of the residents are opposing this request and are suggesting that the OMB should hold a new hearing on the matter, as many factors have changed in the 37 years since the development was originally approved.

It sounds like we will be hearing more on this matter in the months to come.

Know your businesses This Month's Business



- 1) What are the 3 most popular pizza toppings?
A) Sausage/ Onion/ Pepperoni B) Pepperoni/ Bacon/ Mushroom C) Anchovies/ Pepperoni/ Green Pepper
- 2) The Hawaiian pizza was invented in what country?
A) Greece B) Canada C) USA
- 3) New Orleans Pizza has been serving delicious pizza to Thornbury, Clarksburg and the Blue Mountains since:
A) 2003 B) 1998 C) 2008

Citizens at the

THE CORNER

CAFÉ & GRILL

Come out and meet people who are interested in what is going on in the Town, and what is before Council. All citizens are invited to drop in at the Community Room at Corner Café on most Monday nights between 4 and 7 (except for holiday weekends) for some socializing and friendly discussion on the issues facing the Town and what is on the Council Agenda.

Come, meet new friends, listen, and have your say.

Rules: Be polite, respect other people's opinions, and if you don't agree with them, just remember: They have the right to be wrong.

This insert is brought to you as a public service to provide citizens information about issues facing their Town. It is funded by the citizens of the Town through online contributions. If you like this page and would like to keep it going, please donate by following the link <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review> To contact us with your letters, comments, ideas, and suggested content please e-mail tbcitizens@gmail.com

Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

Library news Brought to you by [VOCAL Voices of Our Community for Accountable Leadership](#)

The following is a summary of the deputation made by Mike D'Abramo of VOCAL to the Library Board on April 20th, 2017.

Strategic Planning for the Library

The Library developed a Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and a series of Values in 2014. The 2014 Strategic Plan covered many of the same points the revised Strategic Plan covers, but it has no mention of the Board takeover of the Depot, the operation of a Museum, and the forcing of all employees to re-apply for their jobs. It does not refer to what happened, nor does it refer to how these events impact the plan. I took time to review the current plan and ask: How have the current Vision, Mission, and Values been applied since the plan was approved?

I could find no evidence of a debate between members of this Board, Town Staff, or the public on the question, "Does operating the Depot and the potential of replacing all Library staff meet our Vision, Mission, and Values?" Mayor McKean said of the Board, "You just have to trust that they're doing the right thing. There was likely a lot of thought put into this before they made that decision." "LIKELY a lot of thought" not, "I KNOW there was a lot of thought." This significant difference may explain the lack of evidence.

Strategic plans are a statement of who we are and what we want to become. They are not boilerplate documents. If an organization doesn't practice asking hard questions about how decisions fit their Vision, Mission, and Value, then they have no plan.

Part 2: Having a Process

Let's talk about the process of planning. I'd like to quote a political leader speaking about strategic planning, which in this case involved businesses. "The community is really involved in (the process), which is great. They're the taxpayers, and they know what they want their town to look like."

That was the Chair of this board, Mayor John McKean, talking about the sign by-law. Creating a dialogue with stakeholders—citizens and taxpayers—is important as it gives credibility to the outcomes of that dialogue. Open dialogues lead to credibility. No dialogue or secret dialogue diminishes credibility.

I recommend the Board establishes a group of Library staff, volunteers, and community members and hires someone to manage a working session to move the vision for the Library forward. This person could manage the process—keeping politics out of it. And if you are concerned people won't "comment in a favorable manner," the Board doesn't have to be at these meetings. Market researchers work on behalf of clients all the time without the client going face-to-face with the customer. In the end, you need to know what people are seeking from

the Library—they fund and use the services.

Part 3: The Current Plan

Now, let's focus on the existing plan. The first strategic goal of the current plan is to raise community and Council awareness of the value of the Library. I have several issues here:

- It is troubling, or possibly absurd, that Council should require enhanced awareness of the Library's value. It is a massively important element of the Town's culture and the overall budget. If you need to promote the Library to Council—when three members of the Council are on the Library Board—then we may have a larger problem to address.
- The first strategic goal must be on rebuilding the relationship with the community. I encourage The Board to work to get the community excited to support this institution again.

The second strategic goal is about the infrastructure to deliver high-quality programs and services.

- Form follows function. We cannot assess the needed infrastructure—including the hiring of an architecture firm—without knowing what we are trying to do. How would they know what to design? What direction would we give them if our plan is not thoroughly thought through?
- The Library is a service organization. The most important part of the infrastructure isn't physical, it is the staff. This staff was once best-in-class, with a 98% satisfaction level. The events of the last year have created an environment where staff are still struggling to feel trusted and respected by leadership. That gap needs to be bridged.
- The role of CEO Pope needs to be frankly assessed. Her overall job performance is intertwined with the tensions of the past year. It will be difficult to move forward without a significant change, in one form or another.

In summary, this Board can work with the community to create a more thoughtful Strategic Plan. I encourage you to:

1. Focus first on your WHY: How do your decisions better reflect the Vision, Mission, and Values of the Library to help it realize its potential?
2. Establish a working group of Library staff, volunteers, and community members. Hire someone to manage a working session to develop a holistic vision for the Library, including refining your WHY, and start to more precisely determine the HOW and WHAT the Library ought to be.
3. Revise the current plan to more consistently apply the Vision, Mission, and Values and move to a new level of detail on what is next for this institution.

Answers to Know Your Businesses

1. B) Pepperoni is the most popular item making almost 30% of the items ordered. Anchovies are the least popular.
2. B) It was Invented in 1962 by Sam Panopoulos, a Greek immigrant, who ran the Satellite Restaurant in Chatham, Ontario
3. A) New Orleans Pizza opened its doors in May of 2003 and delivers to the entire town of The Blue Mountains!



Grey Grannies Celebrate Ten Years



In May of 2007, Stephen Lewis spoke at Meaford United Church about the foundation he established to raise funds to fight HIV/AIDS in Africa. In response to his initiative, groups of Canadian grandmothers were coming together to support African grandmothers, who more and more, were shouldering the burden of raising their grandchildren who had been orphaned by HIV/AIDS.

That speech inspired three women - Rose Peters, Donna Reimer and Norine Baron - to start a group called the Grey Grannies. In the same year, under the leadership of Pat McTaggart and Sandy Farrell, the Meaford Grannies started. Over the years these groups grew and fundraising ideas blossomed. The **Meaford Grannies** sold pins, held garage sales, bake sales, plant sales and house tours as well as hosting teas and silent auctions and raised \$27,044. The **Grey Grannies** through selling locally designed notecards, crafts, Kazuri jewellery from Kenya and sisal baskets woven by women in Swaziland, have raised \$84,260 for the Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF). In 2012, the two groups joined together.

Two of the Grey Grannies - Norine Baron and Donna Reimer - had the opportunity to visit some of these projects and see for themselves the impact SLF is having on the lives of African children and the



grandmothers who are parenting them. SLF has invested over \$97 million through partnerships with more than 300 grassroots organizations in 15 countries. By working directly with community organizations, they help responsibly without need-less bureaucracy. This ability to help efficiently and compassionately continues to inspire the Grey Grannies.

The Grey Grannies have also raised awareness about SLF projects through community events - African dinners, presentations of African music and drama and hosting speakers. The Grannies appreciate all the support they have received from local businesses and organizations. During the month of June there will be a display at the

L.E. Shore Library in Thornbury highlighting what the Grey Grannies have done.

On October 20, they will celebrate their ten years at a dinner at Grace United Church in Thornbury.

For more information about the Grey Grannies or to ask about joining their group, visit their Facebook page or GreyGrannies@gmail.com



Notice

The Board of the Blue Mountains Public Library wishes to advise that Terri Pope, formerly CEO, is no longer with the L. E. Shore Library, effective immediately. The Library wishes Ms. Pope every success in her future endeavours. The Library Board will begin recruitment to replace the position of CEO immediately. In the interim, the Museum Curator will remain in an Acting CEO role supported by the Library Leadership team, the Managers of Public Service and the Manager of Technical and Virtual Services.



John McKean, Library Board Chair

St. George's Anglican Teams Up With GBCS Students

Grade 11 students in teacher Drew Ferris's Green Industries course were recruited to grow tomato plants in the school's large greenhouse. Four varieties of tomato seeds - Beefsteak, a French fresh-eating variety, Chadwick's cherry tomatoes and heirloom slicing tomatoes were provided by Renee's Seeds from California. The students planted 240 seeds in starter pots from Riverside Greenhouses and then transplanted them into larger pots to bring them along. Students Hailey Stevenson, Heather Harvey and Belle Schnurr proudly display their prize tomato plants in the school greenhouse. The tomato plants will be for sale at the St. Georges annual plant sale, Saturday June 24, starting at 8 am. You will be pleasantly surprised at the cost for these full-grown plants. This co-operative project gives the students direct hands-on horticultural experience combined with valuable Community Service hours.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

To be included in this listing post your event on www.visitblue.ca

L.E. SHORE LIBRARY GALLERY

Painting with the Past - month of June

There are 13 Artists involved in this Exhibition. Each Artist has a personal vision which has been expressed using a variety of materials including paint, wire, fabric, handmade paper, rock, and found objects.

BRITS IN THE VILLAGE

Saturday, June 3, 12noon -4pm

Blue Mountain Village

The Georgian Bay British Car Club is very pleased to hold our 6th "Brits in the Village" car show. There will be upwards of 50 cars on display and their owners will be happy to answer any questions about their cars. Graeme Wallace 705-444-8296 www.gbbcc.com

COMMUNITY DAY AT BLUE

Sunday, June 4, Blue Mountain Resort is inviting all local residents to bring a proof of mailing address to Blue Mountain Village and receive a Community Day Passport to redeem for FREE and discounted access to attractions, activities and other goodies!

MET CON ADVENTURE RACE

Friday, June 9 - Saturday, June 10

Blue Mountain Village

Most insane race on the planet!

BIRTHDAY BASH - Marsh Street

Centre 90 / Canada 150

Saturday, June 10, 9am

Marsh Street Centre

A full day of activities starting with a pancake breakfast with the Lions Club 9am, Marsh Street AGM 11am 12noon-3pm BBQ and ending with an awesome dance party! 'The Amazing Time Machine featuring Tyler Yarema' will start in the 20's and move through the decades right up to today's hits. 7:30-11:30pm Tickets \$15. 519-599-7837

THORNBURY BEAVER VALLEY

LION'S DUCK RACE

Saturday, June 10, 3pm

Black Bridge in Clarksburg. Tickets \$5.00. Many prizes with first place being \$1000.00 Tickets at Riverside Graphics, Clarksburg or call 519-599-3541

LOLE WHITE TOUR ON THE ROAD

Wednesday, June 14, 5:50-7:00pm

Events Plaza, Blue Mountain Village Take part in the event with hundreds of yogis all dressed in white to celebrate our love for yoga. The session will be led by Lolë ambassadors and set to the rhythms of live musical performances.

Citizens Survey online at www.bluemountainsreview.ca

previously inserted in the April edition of The Review

What is important to you? Let us Know!

GREY COUNTY ROAD RACE

Friday, June 16 - Sunday, June 18

The fourth annual Grey County Road Race is in the beautiful and challenging countryside of Thornbury-Clarksburg. This is an Ontario Cycling Association sanctioned race and includes an 87km or 162km route.

www.greycountyrace.com

SALSA AT BLUE

Friday, June 23 - Sunday, June 25

Latino fever hits Blue Mountain with the return of the much anticipated 9th annual Salsa at Blue Mountain. A FREE family street party transforming the entire Village into a fiesta of fun with mucho music and dancing capped off with FIREWORKS!

ANNUAL YARD SALE

Saturday, June 24 8am-noon and FISH FRY

Saturday, June 24 4:30-7:00 p.m.

St. George's Anglican Church

Tickets for the dinner are \$16.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 10 and under. Tickets are available at Pharmasave Thornbury; Stuff to Read Meaford and St. George's Church Office. 519-599-3047

JAZZ BY THE BAY.CA

Sundays July 2nd - August 13th 6-8pm

Bayview Park, Thornbury

July 2nd features the Toronto All Star Big Band with a roast pork picnic supper offered at 5pm for \$20. Please call 519-599-3345 for reservations.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Daily - Monday-Friday

Coffee Klatch - 10am to noon

Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg

Mondays

Bridge 1pm. St. Georges Anglican Church,

\$2.00 includes refreshments

Tuesdays

Toastmasters 7pm. Marsh Street Centre

Wednesdays

Taoist Tai Chi Arts™ Beaver Valley Com.

Centre. Beginner Classes 9am-11am;

Continuing Classes 10-noon; 519-377-0652

Events For Life Coffee Nook 9:30-10:30am

Come and enjoy coffee and muffins at Grace

United Church www.eventsfor.life

Wednesday and Thursday

Bid Euchre 1:00 pm Beaver Valley

Community Centre, \$2.00 - 519-599-2209

Father's Day

Weekend Events

The Blue Mountains Public Library is celebrating all things Canadian to mark our country's 150th anniversary and Naturally Blue is June's theme.

Kayak Nature Tour, Saturday June 17, 10-12 pm or 1-3pm

Learn interesting facts about the formation of the Niagara escarpment and Georgian Bay as you kayak around the island off Craigeleith with a Free Spirit Tour guide. All equipment supplied. Park and meet at Northwinds Beach. Afterwards visit the Craigeleith Heritage Depot to learn more about this amazing area. \$55.00 per person, 8 people maximum per tour. Pre-registration required.

Fossils at Delphi Point

Sunday June 18 10-11 am

Join Monica Norris, Museum Assistant, as she takes you on a tour of the Delphi Point fossils beds. Bring your watershoes and enjoy our ancient history. New exhibit plaques with touch tables have been placed to help explore this park. Pre-registration required. \$5.00 per family, no charge for Dad!

This initiative is made possible by the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, a collaboration between Community Foundation Grey Bruce, the Government of Canada, and extraordinary leaders from coast to coast to coast.

16th Annual DUCK Race

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2017

LIONS' PARK, CLARKSBURG

3:00pm Race Starts, Black Bridge, Beaver River

\$5.00 per ticket

1st Prize - \$1000.00
2nd - Family Spa Membership for 1 month at Royal Harbour Resort
3rd - Gift Certificate at Foodland
4th - Painting by Judy Shield
Last duck in - \$50.00

For tickets call Joan at 519-599-3541 or Tom 519-599-7781 or visit Riverside Graphics, Clarksburg
 All proceeds to Community Projects



Marsh Street Centre turned back the clock to the late 1700's as the local English Country Dancers had their Apple Blossom Ball on May 13th. This was the fourth annual Ball and dancers came from as far as Peterborough, Toronto and London to take in the festivities like Jane Austen would have! Season 5 workshops begin on the following dates: Oct. 1 & 15; Nov. 5 & 19 and Dec. 10; Jan. 21; Feb. 4 & 18; Mar. 4 & 18; Apr. 8 & 22. Dance partner not required. For further information www.lordgreysdance.weebly.com

Sandcastle Theatre offers young people ages 7 - 13 great opportunities to develop performance skills and self-confidence while having heaps of fun this summer at our day camps. During the morning, students participate in a variety of fun drama activities and create an original play to be performed on the final day of camp. In the afternoon, students will work with an artist to create sets, props and costumes for the show and other art projects related to the theme of the camp. Registration and more information available here:

Contact: Lauren www.sandcastletheatre.com/summer-camps

Blue Mountains CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

"After Six" Networking Event
 June 28th, 2017

The Blue Mountains Chamber of Commerce holds its summer networking opportunity on Wednesday evening, June 28th at 6pm at the Thornbury Village Cider House.

Come meet our hosts at the cidery and our co-hosts from Thornbury Jazzworks and Harbour Mews to learn more about their new ventures in our community. Be sure to bring your business cards!

Both members and guests are invited, but we do ask you to RSVP by June 21st to info@bluemountainschamber.ca or 519-599-1200

A SLEEP-OVER CAMP FOR CHILDREN AGES 6-16

Camp Presqu'île

20 minutes North of Owen Sound at Kemble Camp Presqu'île is a unique summer camp that focuses on the camper's development in "spirit, mind and body". Through low camper to staff ratios, campers are able to be members of a community that focuses on fun, fair play and building relationships with fellow campers. From Presqu'île's humble beginnings in 1929, its commitment to mentorship has kept our focus on our campers.

www.rotarycamp.com

Rotary YMCA of Owen Sound Grey Bruce

BVO BEAVER VALLEY OUTREACH

Summer Fun Day Camp

July & August

Register at **WWW.BVO.CA** or call **519.599.2190**

Making good things happen in our community!

Fine Art & Music Camp

WK 1 - June 19 - 23 Group of 7 & Canadian Folk Music
 WK 2 - July 10 - 14 Latin American Art & Music
 WK 3 - July 17 - 21 Art & Music from the 40's & 50's

CONTACT: Brenda Beattie t: 519.599.5874 e: brendebattiemusic@gmail.com w: brendebattiemusic.ca

The Bay School of Art

The Blue Mountains Review
 Thornbury, Clarksburg, Craigeleith, Heathcote, Ravenna

Published monthly, copies are mailed throughout the Blue Mountains. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our community can be emailed to info@bluemountainsreview.ca for inclusion in the newsletter. Advertising rates are available by calling 519-599-3345 or from our website. www.bluemountainsreview.ca

In Memory

Those we love,
don't go away,
they walk beside
us every day,
unseen, unheard,
but always there,
still missed, still
loved, still very dear!



PETER NORWOOD

In loving memory of Peter Norwood, who passed away peacefully, surrounded by long time friends and the exceptional care staff at Meaford Long Term Care at 05:10 EST on May 5, 2017. Loving husband of Penny. Beloved father of Jane Norwood, Helen Gardiner and Richard Norwood. Proud grandfather of Alexander and Johnathan Gardiner. Loyal friend to many. Dad was a Renaissance man: Born in England in 1931, he emigrated with baby Jane and first wife, June Koster, in 1958 and built a new life in Canada. Draftsman, builder and sailor of boats, adventurer, story-teller, self-proclaimed terrible bridge player, lover of opera, supreme gardener and art historian. He loved a challenge and kept on learning new things throughout his life. Most of all he made us laugh. He kept his heart open and lived life with vigour and authenticity. He was our guiding light and our joy.

BERNICE GLADYS MCKITTRICK

daughter of the late Corle and Gladys (née Penrose) Londry, passed away Saturday May 6, 2017 at London Health Science Centre in her 89th year. She was the beloved wife of the late Murray McKittrick and loving mother of Bill McKittrick and his wife Lynn; Doris and her husband Harley Greenfield; Liz McKittrick; Barb McKittrick; Rosemary and her husband Paul Cornfield and Jackie Sheppard and her partner Eric Duncan and was predeceased by a son Thomas, a daughter Debbie McKittrick-Brown and a great grandson Hunter McKittrick. She will be fondly remembered by her grandchildren Jonathan McKittrick (Petra), Jeffrey McKittrick; Amanda Greenfield; Tyler Draper; Phillip Greenfield (Michele Knox), Matt Duncan (Taylor); Tim Sheppard (Trisha); Craig Cornfield; Kandas McKittrick (Brad Hill); Kaitlyn McKittrick-Hill

(John); Jennifer Sheppard (Mike Hadley); Heather Greenfield, and Rachel Brown and will be sadly missed by her ten great grandchildren Trevor, Griffin and Logan Goodfellow; Kelsey McKittrick; Connor and Emma Contois; Ethan and Rylin Hill; Hunter and Lundon Hadley and she will be remembered also by her son-in-law Robert Brown and brother-in-law Don Sedgewick. A brother Harry Londry and sisters Arlie Sedgewick, Dora Wright and Alice Sheridan predeceased Bernice.

VERNON HAROLD MOORE

Longtime Beaver Valley resident Vernon Moore of Ravenna passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday May 9, 2017 at the age of 85. Born in Ravenna, the son of the late Ellingsworth and Sadie (nee Theakston) Moore, Vern is survived by his beloved wife of nearly 63 years, Betty (nee Stephens). He is remembered as the much loved father by his daughter Karen Fair and her husband Steven of Ripley and by his son Barry Moore of Clinton Township, Michigan. He will be the sadly missed grandfather and great grandfather of his grandson Mark Cronin and his wife Lisa of Heathcote and their children Rhett and Tahlia and grandson Paul Cronin and his wife Tracey of Milton. He will be recalled fondly also by Steven's children Jaqui Fair and her partner Dave of Calgary, Kayla Fair and Cory Fair both of Kincardine. Vernon was predeceased by his sister Iona (late Harvey) Park of Thornbury and will be remembered as a dear brother-in-law by Murray and Ilene Stephens of Waterloo and John and Shirley Harrison of Orillia and he was predeceased by a brother-in-law Jack Stephens (late Ilene) of Inglewood and Madeline McCallum (late Ray) of Clarksburg. He was a special uncle to his several nieces and nephews and their families.

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Grey Bruce Health Services Receives Funding Increase

Grey Bruce Health Services is pleased to confirm that it will receive an additional \$2.5 million in provincial funding for its 2017/18 fiscal year. This represents a 2.07% increase in funding over last year's amount, and was announced recently as part of the Ontario Government's budget.

"This is very good news for local and regional hospital services in Grey Bruce," said GBHS President and CEO Lance Thurston. "This new money, combined with adjustments to our funding base last year, will help significantly to bring some stability to our operating budget. It will allow us to focus more of our energies and attention as an organization on strengthening our unique model of integrated rural health care."

Thurston is quick to caution that GBHS is by no means out of the woods financially. "Even with this positive budget news, we must continue to look for opportunities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our services and programs if we are to achieve and sustain balanced budgets year over year." As part of that ongoing strategy, GBHS is considering a proposal, as reported previously, to consolidate all elective day surgery at the Owen Sound Regional Hospital.

GBHS recently concluded an extensive outreach to hospital and community stakeholders, including the general public, to receive input on the surgery proposal. "As we had hoped," said Board Chair Mark Ostland, "we received some good input from many individuals and groups keenly interested in their hospital. That feedback has broadened our frame of reference and perspective on this issue. There is much to consider as a Board, beyond simply the financial merits of the proposal at hand." The Board will take additional time to consider the best option for patient care and will make a decision regarding the elective day surgery program at its June meeting.

Joan Matilda Waters

Eleven years is how long it's been since I've seen your smiling face. All this time I've yearned to feel the touch of your embrace. Those special moments that I wish I could have shared with you. I know you're looking down on me, wishing you could have been there too. But I find solace in knowing that we'll meet again someday. Just like when you took Grandpa's hand and you showed him the way. As long as I am living, your memory will endure. And you'll both continue watching over me I'm sure. So for now I'll tell the story of the woman with a heart of gold. She was as kind as she was daring. As sweet as she was bold.

- Christina Brooke



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Grey County Sets Direction for Long Term Care

Rockwood Terrace, Grey County's 100-bed long term care home in Durham, requires redevelopment by 2025 to maintain its licence from the Ministry. In 2016, Grey County began a long term care review to look for opportunities to address service delivery challenges and to meet the future long term care needs of southern Grey County.

Consultants reports showed that amalgamating the two smaller homes, Rockwood Terrace and Grey Gables, Markdale would create long-term efficiencies. It would also help Grey County address challenges in staffing multiple homes.

Grey County worked closely with the Southwest LHIN to better understand the needs of our region.

After considering demographic information and learning about the intentions of other operators in and around southern Grey County, staff recommended Durham as the best location for a 166-bed home. On May 25, 2017, Grey County Council supported the recommendation during a committee of the whole meeting.

The estimated cost of building a new 166-bed home in Durham is \$38 million. The building will be funded through reserve savings, proceeds from the sale of Grey Gables and Ministry funding of \$635,000 per year for 25 years. Annual tax levy contributions will drop by just over \$1 million in the first year. With this motion, staff will also create a detailed project plan to support the sale of the Grey Gables. Grey County will look to attract other services for seniors such as assisted living and memory care.

"Seniors need many different services, not just long term care. Grey Gables is in great condition to be repurposed as an assisted living and memory care home. These services are needed in southern Grey County and it makes sense for a provider to operate here," said Lynne Johnson.

Construction of the new home is years away. All plans must be approved by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care and a new site for the building needs to be found. Once plans are approved, Grey County will issue a public request for proposal to find an architect and later a public tender will be issued to find a builder.

Community Paramedicine Returning to Grey County

Grey County is on track to restart its community paramedicine program this June. On May 25, Grey County Council approved plans for paramedic services staff to continue offering a modified version of EPIC, the provincially-funded community paramedicine trial that wrapped up in February.

"We're very excited to see the community paramedicine back in action this summer," said Grey County Warden Alan Barfoot. "We've seen the value this program has added to our community. Patients agree it improves their health and we are confident it has an impact reducing wait times at our local hospital emergency rooms."



The program will operate in partnership with local family health teams. Chronic disease sufferers are referred into the community paramedicine program by their health care practitioner.

Grey County is working with the Southwest LHIN and will receive \$254,000 to continue offering community paramedicine services until March 31, 2018.

The community paramedicine program will operate with less funding than the EPIC trial. The new program will run 12 hours per day, five days a week, down from seven. Demand is high on weekends so Tuesdays and Thursdays will be the off days for the program.

In addition to the community paramedicine program, Grey County will continue offering Remote Patient Monitoring and the Community Health Assessment Program.

The community paramedicine announcement comes just in time for Paramedic Services Week which runs May 28 to June 3. The theme this year is "Always in Service".

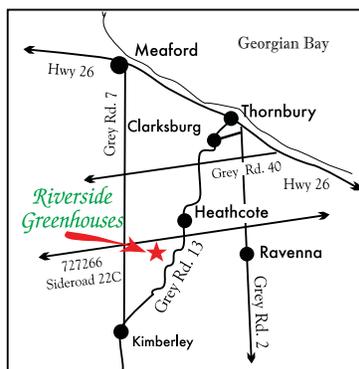


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**Thank you,
John!**

John Caswell is retiring after 29 years of service with the Town of The Blue Mountains.

John held the position of Manager of Water and Waste Water Services / Assistant Director.



Central Region OPP Awards

Several officers from the Collingwood and The Blue Mountains detachment of recently received awards at the 2017 Central Region OPP Award Ceremony.

Blue Mountains Special Provincial Constable Tracey Clarke received an award for her 30 years of service.

Constable Andrew Thomas and Constable Andrew Cordeiro as well as a member of the public received Life

Saving awards for their implication in a March 2016 incident where officers received a 911 call in regards an elderly male that had fallen into the water off a pier at Lighthouse Point.

Constable Kevin Cornell, Constable Ryan Lehr and Constable Richard Law and a member of the public also received Life Saving awards for their implication in a February 2017 incident where an officer on Mill Street in Thornbury was alerted to a male that had collapsed on the sidewalk nearby. The officer began cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and requested that a defibrillator be brought to scene by another OPP officer. Grey County Paramedics arrived on scene and transported the male to an area hospital.

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**Peak to Shore Returns
July 5 to 9**

There's nothing like a summer music festival. And there's no summer music festival like Peak to Shore. It's a diverse showcase of local, up-and-coming talent plus Canadian touring veterans performing at 20 unique venues - all situated within the incredible natural beauty of the Southern Georgian Bay region. With more visitors each year, Peak to Shore has become an important source of exposure for new Canadian talent. "It's a great platform for new and local artists", says Chris Scerri, the festival's program director. "Some of these musicians just starting out are going to be on the scene for a long time. They're going to create some of those, 'I saw them before anyone knew who they were!' moments for our guests, which is really exciting."

The Lineup

Headlining the festival is east coast icon Séan McCann of Great Big Sea, Saturday night at Blue Mountain Village. Featured Venue Artists include: Irish Mythen at Meaford Hall, Luke McMaster at Blue, King Cuddy at Bruce Wine Bar, The Harpoonists and the Axe Murderer at Blue, Ethan Paxton & The Brakeman at the new CROW Bar & Variety, and Devon Cuddy Band at the spectacular Shipyards amphitheater overlooking the Collingwood Harbour. Plus dozens more concerts and open mics all week throughout the region. While the vast majority of the shows are free, dinner reservations are recommended at several venues and advance tickets are available for Meaford Hall and Simcoe St. Theatre concerts.

www.peaktoshore.ca



Residents of Grey County, The Blue Mountains and Grey Highlands

I want to inform you of the cycling event that will be taking place on your roads.

Cyclists from across Ontario already know that Grey County has the best cycling roads in the province. On June 15 and 17, once again we are doing something very special in hosting the only qualifying event in North America for the Amateur World Cycling Championships. Participants from across North America will be making the trip to The Blue Mountains in hopes of qualifying for the World Championships.

The County of Grey Transportation Services Department, the Town of the Blue Mountains as well as the Municipality of Grey Highlands are providing the events with the required Road Use Permits. The event has safety for all road users as the number one priority.

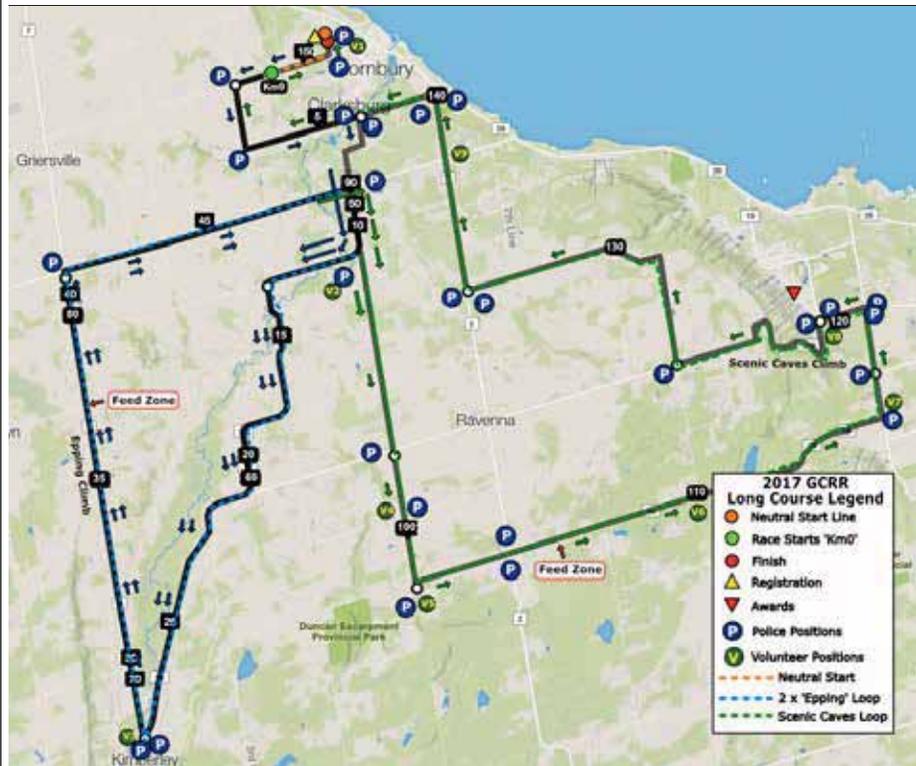
Thursday June 15th from 5 to 9 pm.

On Thursday June 15th riders will be travelling in a clockwise direction around a loop starting and ending near Tomahawk Recreation. Napier Street will be closed from the Beaver Street halfway to Albert Street as well as the 10th Line from 33rd to the Tomahawk Recreation Centre between noon & 9 pm. Please be aware there will be a cycling event "Time Trial" taking place between 5 - 9 pm with many other OPP controlled intersections.

Saturday June 17th from 8am to 2pm.

There will not be full road closures on Saturday June 17th except for a small section of the 10th Concession just North of 33 across from the Tomahawk Recreation Centre. There will also be delays experienced when ascending Scenic Caves Rd as the riders slowly make their way up the hill. Please be aware there will be cycling Road Races taking place between 8 am and 2 pm with many OPP controlled intersections

I want to thank you very much for your patience and understanding and please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. More information about the event is available on the event website www.greycountyroadrace.com
Bruce Bird - Race Director, brucebird68@yahoo.com



Agriculture in Grey County

Statistics Canada has released the 2016 Census of Agriculture and Grey County continues to thrive despite national trends. Grey is adding more farms, is retaining and attracting younger farmers and is seeing a large increase in farm earnings.

"Agriculture has deep roots in Grey County and the new Stats Canada data confirms its importance," said Alan Barfoot, Grey County Warden. "Grey County is proud of our farmers and wishes continued success for all of those who have chosen this vital occupation."

Grey continues to have an extremely diverse agricultural economy. Large and small farms alike are producing a wide variety of agri-food products. Between 2011 and 2016 the county added 56 new farms, attracted young farmers, saw gross farm earnings jump, and increased overall acres in production while protecting more vulnerable wetlands.

The total number of farms nationwide decreased by 5.9%; however Grey County gained 2.5%. That's a jump from 2,248 to 2,304 farms in active production since 2011. In the same five years there was a 61% increase in gross farm receipts from \$288,295,498 to \$463,676,995. These figures are largely influenced by gains in commodity prices worldwide.

The median age of farmers continues to rise across the country and now stands at 55 both in Grey County and nationwide. In contrast to that trend, Grey added young farmers at more than double the national rate with a 20% increase in farmers under 35 years old.

"We are encouraged by the influx of young and new farmers into Grey County" said Ray Robertson, Executive

Director and President of Grey Ag Services. "Our land value is still much more economical than in most parts of Ontario and we know people are looking to leave urban areas and seek new opportunities. Instead of creating legislation to cap pricing in urban areas, why not consider incenting more people to choose a rural life? Grey County is a place where businesses and families can thrive."

The 41 data sets in the census measure everything from farm size and crop and livestock type, to demographics, on-farm employment, succession planning, and the use of fertilizers, irrigation, renewable energy and advanced technology. It will take time to analyze all the data in the latest census figures, but here are some other noteworthy numbers and facts:

- The biggest increases were in micro farms, or those between under 10 and 69 acres; and in huge farms, those over 2,240 acres and up
- **Farmland in production increased in all municipalities except Chatsworth and Town of The Blue Mountains, which saw small decreases**
- Natural and seeded pasture land decreased in favour of cash crops; Grey County saw the highest percentage land use change in southwestern Ontario
- Cow-calf operations and the number of animals produced decreased nationwide, but Grey County farms increased beef steer and heifer production
- Sheep farms decreased by 25% in Grey, but the total production of sheep increased by 15%
- There was a 40% jump in apiculture (beekeeping) in Grey
- West Grey has a significant organics sector, followed by Meaford.

Grey County council recently approved a Local Agri-Food Strategic Plan.



Last Minute Breaking News

Library Board Terminates Services of CEO

On May 29th The Blue Mountains Public Library, issued a Media Release stating, "Terri Pope, formerly CEO, is no longer with the L.E. Shore Library, effective immediately." (May 29th, 2017) "The library board decided we were going to end our relationship," Library Board Chair, TBM Mayor John McKean said in [an interview with simcoe.com](#). McKean couldn't comment on the reason for the decision, saying, "it's a board decision."

The decision was well received by many in the community. A media release by [VOCAL Voices of Our Community for Accountable Leadership](#), a community group focused on library issues, also supported the decision stating "we applaud them for making this decision and hope that it promises more wise decisions in the future."

We understand that the Board acted on concerns raised by library staff. The decision shows that issues can be resolved by staff and elected and/or appointed officials working together within the governance structure and by using the tools provided to them.

Town Council Round-up

Council Listens to Residents and Supports Them Re: Road Closings – Councillor Halos, as Chair Allows Questions and Comments from Audience



On May 15th Committee of the Whole meeting heard a deputation from the Woodland Park Road residents and the Board of Directors of the Shore Acres Property Owners' Association that they UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSE the proposal to close intersections at Highway 26/Lake-wood Drive/Woodland Park Road and Grey Road 40/Woodland Park Road for the following reasons:

SAFETY

- two new crossings on the Georgian Trail create two new hazards for Trail users
- statistics indicate that the level of the problem at the intersections slated for closure is minimal
- proposed short term improvements do little to improve

The Citizen's Survey: There is Still Time to Let Us Know What is Important To You

We continue to get responses to our Citizen's Survey, which was featured in the April Issue of these pages, so we have decided to keep it open for a while longer. It has now also been posted online on the Blue Mountains Review website <http://www.bluemountainsreview.ca/>, so you can fill it out on line. If you have lost your copy, and still want to fill out a hard copy of the survey, you can pick up a copy at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg. Completed surveys can be returned by e-mail to tbscitizens@gmail.com or dropped off at Riverside Graphics.

the safety at the critical intersection of Highway 26 and Grey Road 40 Woodland Park residents

COST

- The proposal is a needless expenditure of taxpayer dollars
The residents were supported by correspondence from the Blue Mountains Ratepayers Association, the Georgian Cycle & Ski Trail Association, and the Georgian View Estates Ratepayers Association who all voiced their opposition to the proposed closing on the basis that con-structing two new roads crossing the Georgian Trail would pose a significant safety issue for all users of the trail.

The Committee of the Whole meeting of May 15th was memorable for two reasons – 1) Councillor Halos who chaired the Community Services and Infrastructure & Public Works Reports session actually allowed people from the audience to ask questions and make comments, even though they had not registered to make a deputation; and,

2) Council actually listened to the citizens and directed staff to inform the County of Grey and the Ministry of Transportation that Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains does not support the recommendation in the Environmental Assessment to close the intersections at Woodland Park Road and Lakewood Drive (onto Highway 26), and Grey Road 40 and Woodland Park Road, in spite of the objections of Reg Russwurm, Director of Infrastructure and Public Works who noted that this would be inconsistent with the Town's earlier position on the matter.

The fact that the audience was allowed to participate is a refreshing change from the way this Council has conducted itself to date. In December when Lauren Bernardi, Lawyer & Human Resource Advisor addressed a Special Meeting of Council providing training on the Town's Obligations Under the Workplace Harassment and Violence Program, the public was prevented by the Mayor from asking questions.

More recently Councillor Gamble was quoted in the press as saying the public *"cannot be trusted for the type of comments or concerns they might put forth in an open mic."*

Thumbs up to Councillor Halos for allowing public participation on this matter, and to Council for listening to the public and what they want. Let's hope this is a start of positive change.

Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

Community Roundtable Discussions are coming to your neighbourhood

A new community initiative hopes to bring together different individuals and groups to discuss ways to improve communication between the Public and the Town, and among each other. This last year has seen unprecedented development and change within our Town, with a corresponding increase in public awareness and engagement in Municipal affairs. The first community roundtable meeting is being held at the Marsh Street Centre on Tuesday June 20th (7-9pm), and is open to all community members (refreshments provided). A panel of representatives from various groups from our community will start the conversation. The hope however, is to hear from as many people as possible throughout the evening. We are eager to hear YOUR views. No registration is required.

Council Turns Down Request by Bridge's Tavern for Relief From Sound Bylaw

At the Committee of the Whole Meeting on May 15th Council received [Staff Report FAF.17.66 "Bridges Tavern, 27 Bridge St. E – Noise By-law Exemption Request"](#) to consider Bridges Tavern's request for relief from the noise by-law for outside entertainment during the spring/summer/fall months on various dates and times similar to previous years until 11:00 p.m.

Two deputations were made opposing the application. In addition, the Town also received 11 letters opposing the exemption. Bridge's was not represented at the meeting.

The Committee of the Whole recommended Council not approve the application.

At the Council Meeting on May 29th a letter from Bridge's Tavern was tabled stating that *"After reading the letters from our neighbours and learning some of their concerns, we would like to express that it is not our intention to upset anyone with loud live music every night past 8pm. "... It is not our intention to have live music or DJ's playing past 8pm on any day going forward. We are trying to make Bridges Tavern a destination for alfresco dining, where you can take the whole family. "...*

"We hope that our neighbours will continue to work with us to keep Bridges a positive contributor to the neighbourhood both as an employer, and a destination for locals and seasonal visitors."

No one from Bridge's was at the Council Meeting to answer questions from Council as to what changes to their application Bridge's might be willing to make to address the residents' concerns.

As a result, after some discussion, Council decided to pass the motion as recommended by the Committee of the Whole and not approve the application for the exemption. It is now up to Bridge's to come back to Council with a new application which might be more acceptable.

Welcome to the Citizens' Pages

This is the seventh monthly issue of the Citizen's Pages, a citizen funded insert into the Blue Mountains Review. This insert allows for an extra four pages of news about what is going on in our Town.

If you like reading us, please follow the link below and make a donation to keep us going.

<https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review>

Donations can also be made to the Citizens' Pages care of The Blue Mountains Review and be dropped off at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg.

We can't do it without your support! We have managed to raise enough to survive for our first seven issues, but we are surviving month to month.

To date we have raised \$2,350 on our Go Fund Me web page (net from Go Fund Me of \$2,063) and we have received \$1135 in cash donations from individuals.

All of these funds have gone towards printing costs for the first seven issues, which have amounted to \$4,000. We hope that with your generous support we are able to continue.

All of the funds we receive go towards printing and distribution. All content and editing is provided by citizen volunteers.

Alar Soever, Editor

You are invited to a Community Roundtable Discussion

Tuesday June 20th, 7- 9pm

Marsh St Centre, Clarksburg

Informal panel discussion

Refreshments provided

Sponsored by the Citizens' Communication Committee to create increased opportunities for public dialogue and input into issues which affect our Town

Know your businesses

This Month's Business

1. When did the Scandinave Spa open? One point each for month & year.
2. The Scandinave Spa Blue Mountains contracts how many Registered Massage Therapists (RMTs)
A)17 B)28 C)41 D)53 E)65
3. Which is the Spa's busiest month?



This insert is brought to you as a public service to provide citizens information about issues facing their Town. It is funded by the citizens of the Town through online contributions. If you like this page and would like to keep it going, please donate by following the link <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review> To contact us with your letters, comments, ideas, and suggested content please e-mail tbcitizens@gmail.com

Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

Library news Brought to you by [VOCAL Voices of Our Community for Accountable Leadership](#)

For the past fourteen months VOCAL (Voices of the Community for Accountable Leadership) has been working to clarify what led to the astonishing firing of all staff and the restructuring of the L.E. Shore on Tuesday, March 8th 2016, which outraged library users and set the community at odds with the Library Board and the CEO. In the aftermath VOCAL has done a great deal of research, completed a timeline, conducted an online survey, established contact with the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Recreation, which oversees the Ontario Libraries Act, reached out to the community through events, meetings and rallies, published informational materials, sought the advice of former Chairs, and drawn on the wisdom of some elder statesmen in this municipality. Our objective has been to shed light on what occurred, for both the Library Board, and the community at large.

A great deal of what led up to "Black Tuesday" happened behind closed doors, often for legitimate reasons, but on a number of occasions it appears that decisions were taken which should have been made in consultation with the primary stake-holders, the tax-paying citizens of the Town of the Blue Mountains. Apparently, the Library CEO and the Board were "surprised" by the outraged response to the firings, to the restructuring and the apparent dumping of the original strategic plan, which was accomplished in closed session without any community knowledge or input. Their "surprise" suggests they knew little about the people who used and loved the library and payed taxes to support it.

Following the debacle, communications with the Board and the Chair (Mayor McKean) have been stifled, public input censored and concerns have remained unaddressed, the chief one being that the Mayor's serving as Chair of the Library Board contradicts the spirit, if not the law, of the Ontario Libraries Act, which specifically requires Library Boards to function at arm's length from the council that appoints them.

As a result of the radical changes brought in under sleight of hand, the atmosphere at the library changed, many people stopped going, children's programming suffered, and the Library Board appeared to be completely dysfunctional and helpless to deal with the community's angry response.

It's now apparent that we must look ahead to the next election to bring about real change in this situation. VOCAL is now looking forward rather than back, and we intend to concentrate on communicating to the electorate why it's important to pay closer attention to who will represent us, both on Council and as appointees to the Library Board. In the past many of us probably paid little attention to municipal politics, and if nothing else, the inept decision-making that went into the library restructuring has awakened us to the fact that some of

our elected and un-elected representatives are hopelessly out of touch with their constituents.

VOCAL hopes that the next Library Board will better reflect the demographics they serve. Imagine a Board on which there was a dynamic representation of those who really use the library – for instance a home schooling parent, a high school student, a young entrepreneur from this area (there are many!), a farmer, an educator, a local business owner. Imagine a Board that realized they have the power, and the responsibility, under the Libraries Act, to make accountable and transparent decisions independent of council, who would freely and openly communicate with Library users. Imagine a Board that would revisit the original strategic plan and move ahead with plans to incorporate the adjacent building, expand the gallery facility to provide for more art shows and public events, perhaps include a coffee shop and a garden . . . and imagine a council who would back them and endorse a vision to enhance the library rather than diminish it.

VOCAL is looking forward to these changes, and is prepared to help make them happen by supporting candidates who would not be "surprised" by reactions to decisions made without transparency and accountability.

THE VOCALIST

Town Legal Bills Soaring

The Town's legal expenses are soaring. This year the Town has already paid law firms in excess of \$195,000, compared to expenditures of approximately \$125,000 for the same period last year. The largest billers this year are the Town's solicitors, Aird and Berlis (\$161,198.82) and the Town's Human Resources Lawyer, Bernardi Human Resource Law (\$18,163.08).

At December 31, 2016 there was \$130,159 in the Legal Reserve Fund. On May 15th the Committee of the Whole recommended that Council approve the allocation of the 2016 taxation year-end surplus of \$53,624 to the Legal Reserve, and that Council approve that any differences or remaining taxation surplus be transferred to or reduce the amount of the recommended transfer to the Legal Reserve.

Clearly Staff and Council are expecting more legal costs to come.

Citizens at the



Come out and meet people who are interested in what is going on in the Town, and what is before Council. All citizens are invited to drop in at the Community Room at Corner Café on most Monday nights between 4 and 7 (except for holiday weekends) for some socializing and friendly discussion on the issues facing the Town and what is on the Council Agenda.

Come, meet new friends, listen, and have your say.

Rules: Be polite, respect other people's opinions, and if you don't agree with them, just remember: They have the right to be wrong.

Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

Citizens' Letters

Boom and Bust: An Overview of the Town of The Blue Mountains

Ski towns are bellwethers that attract all kinds of people and you see all types of development trends along with "behind closed doors" politics.

Today's urban decline in cities doesn't necessarily lead to a rural renaissance in resort areas re: humanly scaled and designed developments.

An ensuing Town of Blue Mountains build out could be an environmental disaster depending on the number and size and density of subdivision approvals.

In many ski towns rampant growth has led to a paradox How can a town embrace a boom of residential growth and still hang onto its character ... if there's any left to speak of thanks to poor planning.

What will guide development and people in the future the official plan and zoning and design guidelines or common sense, versus greed and lack of vision?

The Town is becoming an urban centre ... the rural aspect is virtually gone and we're certainly not managing growth. We're filling the landscape with sprawl. ... The scenery is medium rural. i.e.) you can see the cows but not smell them, so to speak. There's one season now ... construction!

Is there any end to it or are the future development charges and property taxes too great an incentive to the Town and the politicians to pause and reflect on the beautiful Town that we have. -

People don't understand growth they think, what's a little expansion. The ideology of growth is so imbedded in our commercial culture that no one stops to ask ... what's happening?

People believe that growth is important because it's all that they hear along with job creation and affordable housing. In essence, growth has the ethic of a cancer cell.

When you have too much development and growth the quality of life suffers. The assumption that growth is always good just isn't true. i.e.) overpowering densities and lack of human scale.

In turn, the hardest thing to say in the Blue Mountains is, "Is there a limit to growth?" Their mantra is "build it and they will come" Well they definitely have come, along with gridlock and monopoly houses.

It's the result of no master planning and too few secondary plans, just ad hoc planning. It's too late for a Master Plan per se and for reasonable secondary plans.

There is no balance of development and nature, and, in turn, the rustic character is gone.

So what is next ? Who knows! There's no transparency for residents.

To summarize ... some examples ...

Boom: Windfall (800 units) and Mair Mills- very high densities and future traffic impacts.

Bust: The Telfer leasehold development- totally inappropriate and future problems like Keeper's Cove.

John Sinnott

John Sinnott is a semi-retired planner, who is a long time resident of the Town of Blue Mountains and who cares passionately about its future

The New Appointees to the Library Board

We are impressed by the seriousness with which the newly-appointed Library Board members are approaching their responsibilities.

For some of us who have been deeply troubled by recent events at the L.E. Shore Library, your willingness to listen to our concerns, to question decisions, and to seek information is heartening.

We applaud the newly constructed Board's strong efforts to participate in the MOU, to fully understand the financial situation, to carefully carve the relationship with MAC, to earnestly tackle strategic planning, and to, at last, communicate and engage with the public.

With warm appreciation,

Rosemary and Roland Gosselin

We gladly accept letters to the editor. Please be advised that these letters will be reviewed & published at the discretion of our Editor. Please limit your letters to 200 words or less. You can email your letters to tbcitizens@gmail.com. Please include a phone number for validation.

By submitting a Letter to the Editor you agree to be bound by the following terms and conditions: You may not use a false e-mail address, impersonate any person or entity, or otherwise mislead as to the origin of submitted material. You agree to be fully responsible for your own submissions. You agree to grant The Citizens' Pages a right to use your name and other identifying information you provide in connection with that letter. You agree to indemnify and hold the Citizens' Pages and its associates harmless from any claims, damages, losses or costs that arise out of any Letter to the Editor that you submit, including, without limitation, any material submitted or otherwise provided by you that infringes upon any copyright, trademark, or intellectual property right of any person, defames any person, or violates any person's rights of publicity or privacy.

Answers to Know Your Businesses



1. December 2006
2. 65
3. February

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