

photo by Will Shortt

Watershed Conditions Statement - Flood Outlook

The current forecast is calling for temperatures to rise above +10C on Friday and Saturday. In addition, forecasts are expecting 10 to 40 mm of rain to fall in our region starting later Friday and much of Saturday. Recent snow surveys show that the snowpack in the southern part of our watershed has approximately 10 to 15 mm of water equivalent, while areas on the peninsula have between 20 and 30 mm of water equivalent. The snowpack is dense and saturated and ready to release water as it has become more compact with the recent nice weather.

As the snow melts and rain falls, the soil will become saturated under the snow, and additional snow melt will run off into ditches, streams and rivers. Seasonal flooding of low-lying areas may occur, and watercourses may reach or exceed their banks. Streamflow may reach typical spring levels, but major flooding is not expected at this time. Currently, the risk of ice jamming appears to be low. However, isolated areas may experience issues as water levels rise and the ice cover breaks up.

Grey Sauble Conservation Authority would like to remind everyone that significant runoff events can lead to unsafe conditions near rivers and streams. Fast-moving water, slippery or unstable banks, and melting ice can present significant safety risks. Please stay alert and avoid watercourses when flows are high.

Grey Sauble staff will continue to monitor the weather and the flows and provide additional updates as needed. Watershed residents can access snow, stream flow and rain gauge data through the Watershed Conditions page on our website: www.greysauble.on.ca/water-management/current-watershed-conditions/

This Statement expires Monday, March 9th, 2026 at 4:00pm unless replaced by further updates. Contact: Ian Eriksen, Flood Duty Officer, flood@greysauble.on.ca, ph 548-877-0701



Town Updates

Waste Resource Guide is now available

The updated guide is an important resource that outlines sorting information, landfill and recycling depot details, curbside collection guidelines and key dates for 2026. Notably, the 2026 edition includes significant updates related to Ontario's new Blue Box collection rules that came into effect on January 1, 2026. These changes shift how recycling is managed across the province and expands what can be collected. www.thebluemountains.ca

Municipal Road Transfer

A County Roads Exchange Task Force was formed in February 2023 with representation from all nine municipalities. Includes Grey County proposal to transfer ownership of Grey Road 13 (Matilda, Marsh, and Bruce Street S) and Grey Road 113 (Alfred St. W.) to the Town. The proposal includes a provision of approximately \$3.5 million over the next 10 years to support this transition.

Road exchanges will better align road ownership with the intended function of roads.

County Priority: Keeping road connectivity between communities via regional and provincial corridors.

- Inconsistent road authority causes conflicts with local priorities and ability to respond to local community needs and concerns, local economic development, and management of service-related infrastructure.

- Appropriate road authority will provide greater flexibility and ability to meet local needs in areas such as: Construction coordination, Entrance permits, Utility placement, Cyclists and pedestrians, Water/wastewater/storm sewer maintenance, Urban road maintenance (summer and winter), Right of way issues (entrances, encroachments, setbacks, signs), Speed limits

Upcoming Landfill Expansion

Work on the town's landfill site must begin in 2027 to ensure we do not run out of space for our waste by 2030. The 2020 budget for the project had escalated from just over \$5.1 million to close to \$7.8 million. Expanding the landfill as planned and continuing its operations, would provide the town with landfill capacity until 2057.

Reduced Load Restrictions in Effect March 1st

Please be advised that half-load restrictions will come into effect on March 1, 2026 for a variety of roads within the Town of The Blue Mountains, pursuant to By-law No. 2010-54. Where Axle Weight Restrictions signs are in place, the by-law is in full force and effect.

Half-load restrictions may be extended beyond May 31, 2026, depending on weather and road conditions. A detailed map has been produced to highlight the impacted roads. The roads highlighted in red are subject to half-load restrictions when Axle Weight Restrictions signs are in place. www.thebluemountains.ca



St. James' Fairmount Anglican Church

196759 Grey Rd 7, Meaford
corner of Grey Rd 7 & Grey Rd 40

1st & 3rd Sunday 9am

Holy Eucharist BCP

2nd & 4th Sunday 9am

Morning Prayer BCP

5th Sunday 4pm Evensong BCP

Rector Jeff Kischak

519-770-7979

stjamesfairmount.ca

INDOOR WALKING

Beaver Valley Community
Centre, Thornbury

Mon. and Thurs. from 9-11am
no pre-registration and no fee.

Walking with poles with
rubber feet and walkers allowed.

DROP-IN BRIDGE

Monday 1-3pm; \$2 p/p;

St. George's Anglican Church,
Clarksburg

BID EUCHRE

Wednesday & Thursday,
12:50-3:30pm

\$1 per day, Small Hall
Beaver Valley Community Centre
Lessons Available -
Bev 705-507-0563



E-NEWSLETTER - Use the subscribe form on our website to receive the weekly E-newsletter. www.bluemountainsreview.ca

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER This edition is mailed to residents in The Blue Mountains the first week of each month

DONATE - by e-transfer to info@visitblue.ca or by cheque to Riverside Press, Box 245, Clarksburg, N0H 1J0

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: We ask that letters be no longer than 250 words, and adhere to standards of fairness, accuracy, legality and civility. Beyond that, we select letters on the basis of timeliness, relevance and diversity and reserve the right to not publish.

ARTICLES are from media releases or those that are submitted acknowledge the author.

Publisher Linda Wykes, printed by Riverside Press. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our community can be emailed to info@visitblue.ca for inclusion in the newsletter by each Friday. Advertising rates available on the website or call 519-599-3345

Waste Collection

Operations staff have provided additional reminders regarding collection:

- Weekly bag limit: the first garbage bag is free, the second bag requires one tag, and the third bag requires two tags. Each tag costs \$5.00.
- If you are placing your bins out the night before collection day, they must be placed at the curb after 7:00 p.m.
- All garbage, organics and recycling must be on the curbside by 7:00 a.m. on your collection day.
- The cardboard is to be flattened, cut into 18" x 24" pieces and placed next to your recycle boxes.
- Ensure the Full/Empty tab is tethered to your stationary waste box and fully visible to the collection crew.

Landfill and Recycling Depot Hours:

Monday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Friday, Sunday:

Closed

Address: 788090 Grey Road 13,
south of Grey Road 40

Phone: (519) 599-3131 ext. 490

The Landfill & Recycling Depot will be closed on all statutory holidays and Remembrance Day.



Seniors Matters Today

Pamela McDermid, Coordinator, Seniors Programs

Join us on **Thursday, March 12th**, at L.E. Shore Library from noon - 2:30 p.m. to get updated on Income Tax Credits & Benefits and the Canadian Dental Care Plan.

Canadian Tax Benefits and Credits for Seniors information will be presented by Sheena Barnett of Canada Revenue, and the presentation will begin at 12 noon and continue until about 1:15 p.m.

The Canada Dental Care Program details, including renewal, will be presented by Francesca Pedulla of Service Canada and the presentation will begin at 1:45 p.m. until about 2:30 p.m.

Both presenters will attend virtually, via Zoom on the big screen in the Gallery of L. E. Shore Library. The audience will be able to communicate with the presenters and ask their questions directly to each of the experts. A complimentary free Light Lunch will be offered between 1:15p.m. and 1:45p.m. Please register for this event by calling 519 599 2577, ext. 6 OR email seniors@bvo.ca.

Volunteer Recognition Awards & Fair

Wednesday, April 22, 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at the Beaver Valley Community Center. It's an opportunity to honour the volunteers who make the community a great place and also a chance to learn about all of the organizations in town which have options for new volunteers to join. This event is sponsored by Town of the Blue Mountains, Youth Roots and the Seniors Network Blue Mountains.

Renewing Driver's Licenses, Age 80 and over - Once a senior reaches 80 years of age, Drivers' licenses need to be renewed every 2 years. The full requirements are described on the website, Renew a G driver's licence: 80 years and over | ontario.ca (If you don't have access to the internet, you could ask staff at your local library to find the website or talk with the staff at your nearest Service Ontario office.) As of February 2026, the closest Service Ontario sites to renew your license are in Meaford and Collingwood. Meaford location - 150 Sykes St., hours are 10-1 and 2-5; Collingwood - 191 Hurontario St., Unit 6, hours are 9-5. Both sites are fully equipped to do the driver's license renewal for those 80 and over, including the testing that is necessary.

Looking for Danielle and Stephen, who drive a late model green Ford Bronco, who might live near the Clarksburg Sideroad. On Saturday Feb 7th you came to my aid in the coldest, most fiercely windy day I can recall. I was stuck in a snow drift on my way into The Blackbird Pie Company and I didn't get a chance to know your last name. Thank you so much for your assistance, I will never forget it.

I was well planted in a snow drift, blocking traffic in both directions, with a town plow on either side of me not able get by. Roger Dinsmore was the hero, arriving with his machine and clearing the snow from either side of my van, so my wife in our truck could gently nudge the van free.

In the midst of the most difficult, frost biting weather, it warmed my heart to be helped by my fellow townspeople. And Danielle and Stephen, please drop by the bakery so I can thank you properly.

Paul Linklater, Blackbird Pie Company, Heathcote



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We will have Rev. Dr. Brian Goodings presiding.
All are welcome and Sunday School
is provided for children.**

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Craigleith SLS, Mill Street SPS and Bay-Grey Street Linear Works

The Project is a DC eligible project and the remaining amount will be funded through Wastewater Asset Mgmt Reserves (User Fee generated reserve fund) / Water Asset Mgmt Reserves (User Fee generated fund) and a small amount will be funded through Roads Asset Mgmt Reserves (Tax based generated fund). Each project has a slightly different DC eligibility which are noted below:

Mill St Sewage Pumping Station – 69% DC

Craigleith Main Sewage Lift Station – 40% DC

Bay St. Reconstruction – only the new 2nd forcemain is DC eligible at 100% noting that it will also take a portion of the road works, etc.

It is also important to recognize that although these projects are to be funded through these reserves, where the reserves do not have sufficient cash flow the Town will need to look to either other reserves that we can borrow from and/or external financing.

The total number of units that would be able to connect or be enabled is 2,078 – noting that 1,313 of these are shovel ready units. The revenue associated with DCs (Wastewater only) would be 2078 * the current DC Rate for that area. In TBM we have 2 service areas that benefit from this both Thornbury East and West which have different rates associated with them - (East is \$8,425 and West is \$15,605), using the assumption that 50% of the shovel ready units are coming from East and West that would mean DC revenues of: \$15,775,694.

Although development charges are revenue, they are not a source of profit for municipalities. They are a regulated, cost-recovery tool intended to ensure that new growth pays for the infrastructure it requires, rather than placing that burden on existing taxpayers or utility ratepayers. Under Ontario legislation, development charges may only be used to fund growth-related capital costs, such as new or expanded water, wastewater, roads, parks, and other eligible services required to service new development. Charges are calculated through a detailed background study that identifies eligible projects, allocates costs between growth and existing benefit, and establishes rates based on forecasted development activity. It is also important to understand that the DC rates are not intended to pay for one particular project – the rates are calculated based on the creation of number of projects and these are all noted in DC Background Study.



Barb Blaser Broker **&** **Janet Nielsen** Realtor

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We honour the strength and achievements of women and girls this International Women's Day.

[f](#) [i](#) [in](#) @beavervalleyoutreach [www.bvo.ca](#) #GiveToGain



Use Your Voice Shape Your Space

We're developing a 10-year Strategic Plan to guide how we grow and serve you.

Whether you visit often, occasionally, or not at all, your perspective matters.

- How aware you are of our services
 - What barriers exist
- How we can be more inclusive and welcoming
- What our community needs over the next decade

The survey takes 7-10 minutes and is anonymous.

Take the survey here



www.surveymonkey.com/r/BZ3ZQZ7



BLUE MOUNTAINS PUBLIC LIBRARY



Happy ST. PATRICK'S day

May your troubles be less, your blessings be more, and nothing but happiness come through your door.



TERRY

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TerryDowdallMP.ca
Terry.Dowdall@parl.gc.ca

In Memoriam



BECKY JUNE 'MIIGWAANS' HOLDEN

Becky passed away peacefully surrounded by the love of her family at Grey Bruce Hospice 'Chapman House' in Owen Sound on Thursday, February 12, 2026 at the age of 42.

Born in Meaford on May 2, 1983, Becky was the much-loved daughter of Peggy (nee Weatherall) and Denver Holden.

She will be missed by her brother Jeremy, his wife Beth and their children Finn and Cooper, and by her brother Robin, his wife Amy and their children Briden and Harlan.

Becky will be remembered fondly by her aunts, uncles and many cousins. Her loyal travel companion Mawkoose will miss the many adventures they shared. Becky was only 2 weeks old when she made her first trip to Nestor Falls and Lake of the Woods. This must have made a significant impression, as she would eventually choose to reside in Nestor Falls and the Lake of the Woods area year-round following graduation from the University of Ottawa.

Figure skating was Becky's first activity starting when she was 2 years old and continued to skate throughout her teen years eventually giving back as a coach and judge. As an adult her interests turned to outdoor pursuits. She could often be found in her kayak or on her paddleboard or in the winter cross-country skiing on Kakagi Lake. In the summer she would also find pleasure doing yoga on the dock at the cabin on Lake of the Woods. She also frequently enjoyed travel to BC to visit friends or more exotic trips like a yoga retreat to India.

Becky was a Policy Analyst on the Indigenous Midwifery team at the Association of Ontario Midwives. She provided tireless support to Indigenous Midwives and communities. She also worked with Grand Council Treaty 3 as a Health Policy Analyst, Ojibway's of Onigaming First Nation as a Crisis Coordinator and Family Well Being Coordinator and as Post Secondary Instructor with Seven Generations Education Institute. Her work touched many lives and communities in the Lake of the Woods area.

Becky's Anishinaabe name, Miigwaans means "Little Feather" and was given to her when she worked at Grand Council Treaty 3. In a ceremony, a sharing circle or a meeting she would introduce herself using both her English and Anishinaabe name. She will certainly be missed but will never be forgotten.

Becky's family will receive friends at the Ferguson Funeral Home in Meaford for a public visitation on Thursday, February 19, 2026 from 5 until 8 p.m. A private family service will take place at a later date.

The family would like to thank the staff at Riverside Health Care in Fort Frances, Brightshores Health and Grey Bruce Hospice-Chapman House in Owen Sound for the quality care and compassion received during her stays.

As your expression of sympathy, donations to the Ovarian Cancer Society of Canada <https://ovariancanada.org/ways-to-give>, Fort Frances Hospital Oncology Unit <https://www.riversidehealthcare.ca/donate>, or the Pink Pearl Foundation - <https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/donation-form/support-young-women-facing-cancer> would be appreciated and may be made through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted. www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca



EVELYN "SHIRLEY" ANDRUSIAK

Shirley Andrusiak, age 96, of The Blue Mountains, Ontario, passed away peacefully on February 21, 2026, at Brightshores Hospital in Meaford, Ontario.

Born on May 19, 1929, in Borden, Saskatchewan, to Vesta and Clifford Wainwright, Shirley grew up on the family farm, where she developed a strong work ethic and a creativity inspired by her Grandmother "Nanny" that would shape her life. She went on to attend the University of Saskatchewan, earning her Bachelor of Education degree. Shirley dedicated more than 30 years to teaching, primarily kindergarten at Langham Elementary School. She was widely regarded as one of Saskatchewan's most innovative and devoted educators, inspiring generations of young students, before retiring at age 65.

Shirley lived life with style, imagination and joy. An accomplished painter of murals and small watercolours, she later established both an event décor business and a bed and breakfast, sharing her artistic eye and gift for hospitality with many. She was also a passionate ballroom dancer.

She will be remembered for her fun and generous spirit, her beautifully hosted dinner parties and her legendary pies. Above all, Shirley was a steadfast friend, a beloved big sister, a loving mother and grandmother, and a dedicated Christian and member of her faith community.

Shirley is survived by her children Sandra (Allan), Kathryn (David) and Sharon (Jeff); her grandchildren Calum (Bec) and Caitlin (Robert), Paloma (Greg) and Aidan (Gaelle), Darius (Monica) Hope, and Lydia (Josh); her great granddaughters, Cora, Allegra, Ava and Ariana; her siblings Stuart Wainwright (Elaine), Jean Kolback (Ed), Archie Wainwright (Peggy), and Margaret Muzika (Jerry). She was predeceased by her daughter Terri Saunders, her brother Bob Wainwright (Geraldine/Renata), her sister Kathleen Delparte (Don), and her brother Harold Wainwright who died in infancy.

Shirley's warmth, her creativity, and her unwavering love for her family and friends will be deeply missed.

A memorial service will be held on Friday September 25, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. at the Saskatoon Funeral Home in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. A lunch will follow the service. The memorial will be livestreamed via the funeral home's website.

As your expression of sympathy, and in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Borden Museum in Borden, Saskatchewan through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted. www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca



MILDRED ISABELLE 'MILLIE' STILL

Mildred passed away peacefully at Errinrunc Nursing Home in Thornbury on Friday, February 6, 2026 at the age of 85. Born in Duncan, Ontario on September 14, 1939. Mildred was a daughter of the late Percy and Lenora (nee Rear) Sanderson.

She was predeceased by her beloved husband Richard Still in 2022. Mildred will be missed by her daughter Yvonne Hunter-Wickens (Dave Wickens). She was predeceased by her son Everett Fawcett and will be remembered fondly by her daughter-in-law

Karan Fawcett, and by her step-children Betty, Kevin, Doug, and Cindy and their families.

Mildred was the proud grandmother of Jorden (Jamie-Lee), Joe (Kristina), Amanda (Mike Baskerville), Michelle Fawcett (Brandy), and Andrew Fawcett. She was the great grandmother of Seth, Everson, Evaleigh, James, Madison and Allie. Mildred was the dear sister of Thelma, Joyce, Pat, and David, and was predeceased by her siblings Charlie, May and Dianne. She will be remembered fondly by many nieces, nephews, cousins and their families.

Millie was a social butterfly; she loved to get out visiting and looked forward to Sunday drives. She and Richard enjoyed music and dancing. She loved to get together with others to play cards and was always willing to help out when someone needed a ride. She will be missed but will never be forgotten.

A private service of committal and interment will take place at Thornbury-Clarksburg Union Cemetery in the warmer weather.

As your expression of sympathy, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or the Meaford Hospital Foundation would be appreciated and may be made through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted.

www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca



ROBERT 'BOB' STEVEN ANDERSON

The world became a little quieter on February 8th, 2026 when Robert 'Bob' Steven Anderson, at the age of 73, died at Chapman House Hospice in Owen Sound surrounded by his family.

Born in Hamilton on December 3, 1952, to the late Dorothy (nee Truman) and John 'Jack' Anderson. Bob attended McMaster University and earned a degree in Fine Arts before marrying the love of his life, Orleen (nee Hunter) in March of 1979, in Thornbury.

A man who followed "the lay of the land" in all things, Bob forged his own paths—whether on woodland trails, in a canoe through still water, or in the workshop where he pursued perfection in woodwork and cabinetry. He spent many cherished times at his cabin on Lake Memesagamasing, building sheds, boats, furniture, and memories. He loved being out on the water, playing hockey, reading, motorcycle trips, listening to music played loud and sitting quietly on the land. He taught those around him to measure twice, cut once, and trust the work of their own hands. Bob faced illness with the same determination he brought to every challenge in life. Though he was not ready to go, and those who loved him were not ready to let him go, his legacy of strength, love, craftsmanship and adventure lives on.

Bob left behind his wife of 47 years, Orleen and their children and families; Sally (Liz), Jane (Sean and grandchildren Flynn, Rowan and Jack) and Steven (Lauren); his brother John Anderson (Margaret), brother-in-law John Hunter (Debby) and multiple nieces and nephews, beloved relations and chosen family.

A gathering will take place on July 18, 2026 at Maple Home Farms, 827297 Grey Road 40, Clarksburg from 2 until 5 p.m. with reflections at 3 o'clock. Donations in memory of Bob may be made to Grey Bruce Hospice 'Chapman House' in Owen Sound or the Bruce Trail Foundation would be appreciated and may be made through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted. www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca



RAY ALVAN LOUGHEED

It is with profound sadness that we announce the peaceful and painless passing of Ray Lougheed at Brightshores Health System in Owen Sound on Saturday, February 28, 2026 at the age of 77. Born in Collingwood on May 4, 1948, a son of the late Alvan and Rita (nee Sheridan) Lougheed. Ray will be missed by the love of his life and wife of 35 years, Donna May Lougheed of Thornbury.

He was the much-loved brother of Marie Turner (late Lorne) of Meaford and Ruth McColl (late Richard) of New Brunswick. He was the dear brother-in-law of Debra Mardorf (Gary) and Cathy Hawrysis Genua (Nick) and Janis Cullen, and was predeceased by his brother-in-law Robert 'Bobby' Hawrysis. Ray will be remembered fondly by his many nieces, nephews and their families.

Ray loved his job with the Metro Toronto Police and retired after 25 years of service. He and Donna moved to Thornbury where he started his own driving service. This was the perfect job for him, he loved to drive and he met many wonderful clients along the way. He also loved a good game of euchre and would travel to play with different groups. Ray will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew him. A special thank you to all of the doctors and nurses from the Brightshores Health System in Meaford and Owen Sound for the care and compassion shown to Ray during a challenging time.

As per Ray's wishes, cremation has taken place and a come and go visitation to celebrate Ray's life will be held at the Ferguson Funeral Home in Meaford on Saturday, March 28, 2026 from 2 until 4 p.m.

As your expression of sympathy, donations to the Meaford or Owen Sound Brightshores Hospital Foundation would be appreciated and may be made through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted. www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca



Liliana Grovu, REALTOR®

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Liliana Grovu is specializing in relocation and lifestyle moves between Toronto and Southern Georgian Bay. She helps clients transition seamlessly - whether leaving the city for a four-season lifestyle, securing a vacation or investment property, or moving back to Toronto or other areas when life shifts again.

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by Alice Otrysko

March is the third month in both Julian and Gregorian calendars.

This is a very busy month! We are in the middle of Lent which is a holy time for Christians. Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday, March 29.

Daylight Savings Time starts March 8 so we need to turn our clocks ahead. Ramadan ends March 19. Spring Equinox is on March 20 and for many it's the last month of winter. Indeed, a busy month.

We begin with Lent. This is a solemn Christian religious observance in the liturgical year in preparation for Easter. It reminds us of the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert and was tempted by Satan. Christians observe Lent by prayer, fasting and performing good deeds.

As a girl, I remember Lent as a difficult time because we were aware that we must do sacrifice of some kind so most kids gave up candy. But required as well, we had to perform acts of kindness towards others. Prayer was an easy way to live up to that so we chose someone we knew and prayed for them daily. Many of us attended church more often than just on Sundays. Lent this year started on Ash Wednesday, February 18.

St. Patrick's Day is March 17. It commemorates the patron saint of Ireland. It is not a religious holiday but a celebration of Ireland, its culture and history.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar and observed by Muslims worldwide as a holy time of fasting, prayer, reflection and community service. Ramadan ends on March 19.

Palm Sunday is March 29, the beginning of Holy Week which ends on Easter Sunday, April 5th. Palm Sunday reflects Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem and ends with his crucifixion of Good Friday.

The name originates from the palm branches waved by the crowd to greet and honour Jesus as he rode a donkey and entered the holy city of Jerusalem.

I was in Jerusalem and actually walked the route Jesus took to the city. Jerusalem is an amazing place, both beautiful and historical; a city that leaves you feeling holy.

March is 31 days long and for me it's a time to prepare for gardening. I make sure to have my seeds bought and weather permitting, clear any debris etc. that has accumulated during the winter.

It's a time to tidy up outside and begin thinking about summer. It's a time to say good bye to winter until the end of the year. March also is welcomed by schools because kids get a week of, March Break!



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Joint Communication from Grace United Church and Events for Life Centre Inc.

We are pleased to announce that Events for Life Centre Inc. (EFL), a charitable day program in The Blue Mountains, will be moving into Grace United Church, Thornbury in the coming weeks. Grace United will be home to both the administrative offices along with one of the core locations for the day program offered. EFL will also continue to have its other core location at Blue Mountain Community Church who have been generously supporting EFL with program space for over 4 years.

"We are excited to once again call Grace United home, a location we began at over 10 years ago" said Kevin Whyte – Board Chair EFL. "The space is ideal for our offices and programs, it is close to the amenities we use in town, and the enthusiasm of the Grace United team to have us back make it a perfect fit."

Mary Lou Gignac, Church Board Chairperson says "Grace United Church Thornbury welcomes EFL back to our space and into a new partnership. It feels like welcoming family back home. We look forward to having our church building alive with EFL participants and see this as an expression of Grace United's commitment to support community life and being responsible stewards of the church's building asset."

EFL will be relocating from Beaver Creek Farm after over 8 wonderful years as the Hutchings Family are moving to their farm full time. Kevin shared "We have had the greatest time at Beaver Creek Farm and can not begin to thank Mike and Alicia Hutchings enough for their incredible generosity and support of EFL."

We also want to thank St Paul's Presbyterian Church for their support as a program space on Mondays for the last year.

After relocation, daily programming for EFL participants will be offered at Grace United Church & Blue Mountain Community Church (BMCC) as well as many other activity related locations in and around the town such as the Marsh Street Centre, Live Life Fit, the LE Shore Library and the Beaver Valley Community Centre.

About Events for Life - EFL provides day programs for individuals with special needs from Thornbury, Meaford, and the surrounding areas. Operating Monday through Thursdays, EFL provides social, recreational, and healthy living skills for over 30 participants both in person and on-line. For information, please visit www.eventsfor.life

About Grace United Church - At Grace United Church we strive to offer a safe, inclusive and generous space for all who are seeking a faith community. We seek to balance the need for traditional values with our modern and progressive theological views.

For more information, please visit www.graceunitedthornbury.ca

WE ARE HIRING

L.E. Shore Library

Looking for a **high school or College/University Student**

Library Programming Summer Student

- Full-Time Seasonal Position (35 hours/week, 12 weeks minimum)
- \$17.68-19.52/hour

Craigleith Heritage Depot

Looking for a **recent College/University Graduate**

Intern Museum Special Collections Technician

- Full-Time Contract (35 hours/week, 12-26 weeks)
- \$20.87/hr

Applications open Monday February 16, and close Monday March 2, at 9am.

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The Gift That Keeps Giving

When Taylor and Jordan became grandparents, they wanted to give their grandchildren something more meaningful than birthday cheques or holiday gifts. They hoped to create a financial foundation that would still be helping long after they were gone—something steady, simple, and built to last.

They explored the usual options. Direct gifts to minors weren't straightforward; any meaningful amount would require some form of trust—formal or informal—along with the responsibility and paperwork that come with it. An RESP was useful, but only if each grandchild followed a traditional education path. And in both cases, the parents would ultimately control the funds, which didn't guarantee the money would be used the way Taylor and Jordan intended.

A quickpay permanent life insurance policy offered a different path.

By choosing a 10pay plan, they could fully fund each policy in just ten years. From there, the cash value would continue to grow on a taxadvantaged basis for decades, with guaranteed values that didn't depend on market swings. The policy also locked in lifelong insurance while the grandchildren were young and healthy, protecting their insurability no matter what the future brought.

Just as important, Taylor and Jordan could keep ownership and control while the grandchildren were young, then pass the policy to the parents and eventually to each grandchild—taxfree and without probate. The future death benefit would also pass taxfree.

For the grandchildren, the longterm benefits were even more powerful. They would one day have permanent insurance already in place and a growing pool of accessible cash value—money available at a truly meaningful moment in life.

When their eldest grandchild turned 28, the plan proved its worth. The policy had built enough value to help with a first home down payment—giving a head start that would have taken years to save for. And the remaining cash value continued to grow for future needs, including the potential for taxfree income later in life through policy loans.

Taylor and Jordan often say it's the most meaningful financial gift they've ever arranged, and for them, the greatest comfort came from knowing it wasn't just a financial head start—it was something their grandchildren would remember them for long after they were gone.

If you'd like to explore this kind of lifetime gift for your own grandchildren, I'd be glad to walk you through it.

Elliot Sinukoff, B.A., B. Comm, PRP, CEPA
Senior Financial Consultant,
IG Wealth Management Inc.
(226) 665-0764
Elliot.sinukoff@ig.ca

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Remembering When

by Robert Burcher

Time has a way of slipping past, really fast in fact. I was cleaning my desk recently and found a file from 10 years ago about the Great



Library Revolt! It has been Ten Years. Those of you who were here will remember that terrible March of 2016 when the total library staff got fired! This was supposedly a way for the Head Librarian to deal with a few "troublemakers" on her staff. Backed up by a dubious Library Board who supported her actions, she sent out notices to one and all and shortly after the ----- hit the fan. If the Head Librarian thought she had trouble with a few outspoken staff, she wasn't at all ready for the Tsunami of protest that she unleashed. Demonstrations on the street, loud angry meetings with the Library Committee and the Mayor, and a general uprising of support for the staff.

Eventually the Head Librarian was relieved of her duties, and a new boss was brought in. The staff were all rehired. But this wasn't the end of the protest movement. It morphed into a group called Our Library Our Voice and then into a Corner Café Group who then started looking at the process of government in this town. At the next municipal election there was a clearing out of the old guard.

A new Mayor and many new faces that were supposed to turn things around and straighten it all out. Well, did it? Not to dissect the politics here, but the library is in fine shape, and the Town is still motoring along despite the usual controversies. Not a pleasant time back then but a powerful statement from the citizens.

As graffiti I used to see on walls in Toronto stated: "It doesn't matter who you vote for the Government always gets in!"

And this one I just made up - "time does heal all librarian wounds!"



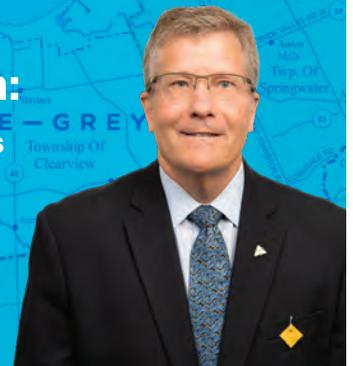
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MPP, Simcoe-Grey

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Connect With Me:
 ✉ Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org
 🌐 www.briansaundersonmpp.ca

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2026 Shrove Tuesday

Again, this year St. George's, Anglican Parish of The Blue Mountains, working with the Blue Mountain Fire Fighters, organized a Shrove Tuesday or Pancake Tuesday celebration at the Community Centre to raise funds for an annual charitable donation, this year to the Events For Life organization.

Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Tuesday, is a celebration held each year on the day before the beginning of Lent, the 40-day period before Easter, when many Christians engage in some form of fasting.

St. George's has been working on this event in collaboration with the Blue Mountain Fire Fighters, since they raised money to send to the devastating wildfires in Australia, some 10 years ago.

The idea of Shrove Tuesday is that, before Christians start the 40-day period of fasting before Easter, you gather up fatty food items like sausages, and pancakes in your larder and enjoy them before the fasting begins.

St. George's has turned this event into a very successful annual fundraiser. Church volunteers do the promotion, and welcome the many people who come and serve sausages and pancakes which the Firefighters have cooked on BBQs outside the back doors of the Community Centre.

This year, there was a record turnout of at least 360 guests, who enjoyed the Shrove Tuesday meal with many of their friends. Net proceeds after expenses of \$3500 will be donated to Events For Life. The collaboration between the groups was so successful, that it will be repeated at St. George's annual Free Community Corn Roast on the church grounds this August, the date to be set shortly.



SOS Screenviews:

A Non-AI take on What to Stream

by Anne Britton



Memorable: I would watch this show again by myself.

Watchable: I would watch this show again with someone else.

Bearable: I would watch this show again if someone paid me.

Here are three shows that you might find interesting this month:

M: Painkiller (Netflix)

This is a series about Purdue Pharma's plan to flood the market with opioids in order for the company to get out of debt. . Matthew Broderick plays the senior executive and architect of this plan. It is about greed, selfishness and outright malevolence. These qualities were portrayed right from the opening scene.

The directors have added short segments to the beginning of each episode. These consist of interviews with people whose relatives have succumbed to the opioid crisis. It is an effective way to remind viewers that this program, although a great drama, is grounded in what has happened to individuals in the real world.

W: The Making of a God (Netflix)

This is a short documentary type series based on the life of Alexander the Great. I knew nothing about him so it was enlightening.

B: Agent Carter (Disney Plus)

This show is part of the Marvel universe. Carter is played by Hayley Atwell who is a secret service agent. You might want to take a look if you like this genre.

If you are interested in more recommendations, my blog address is <https://sosscreenviews.blogspot.com>. Enjoy your screenviews!

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Are You Overpaying the CRA in Retirement?

This is a familiar situation: a couple with a primary home in the city, a place near the ski hill, an investment portfolio built over decades, and a corporation that did what it was meant to do during the working years. By any measure, this couple has done a lot right.

The problem is rarely any single decision. It's that the decisions were made independently – and never designed to work together once the salary stops. That's where the hidden costs can arise.

As finances get more complex, tax can become one of the largest lifetime expenses in retirement – not because you've done something wrong, but possibly in part because the moving parts were never coordinated into one plan. If you have an RRSP/RRIF, non-registered savings, and either corporate income or a second property, it is worth having a closer look at your situation.

Most “accidental” tax overpayments show up in three places.

First, in forced income. RRSPs feel like a solid option while they're growing. But left untouched into your seventies, they convert into RRIFs with mandatory withdrawals—on top of Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security (OAS), and any pension. That can push you into higher brackets and, in some cases, trigger an OAS claw back. Even an extra \$20,000 of taxable income in the wrong year can mean more tax and reduced benefits.

Second, one-time events. A chalet, a rental property, a business transition, or a concentrated stock position often gets sold when life dictates, not when the tax impact is most favourable. With planning, the same decision can often be timed or structured to reduce after-tax cost – by spreading gains across years and coordinating with other income.

Third, system design. Most retirees don't have one “retirement account” – they have a system: registered accounts, TFSAs, non-registered investments, and sometimes corporate assets. Each piece may be managed well on its own, but without a designed withdrawal plan, the total result can be inefficient.

The solution is sequencing: which account to draw from first, when to realize gains, and how dividends, pensions, and RRIF withdrawals layer together year over year. When done well, an integrated plan can help reduce unnecessary tax over the long run.

If you'd like a coordinated retirement plan built around your accounts, assets, and goals, please reach out using my contact information below.

I'm also hosting an educational session, **Planning a Tax-Efficient Retirement, on March 25 at 2 p.m.** Contact me to register.

Fraser Willson, CFP, CIM | Senior Wealth Advisor | CIBC Wood Gundy | Collingwood | Fraser.Willson@cibc.com | (647) 588-4344

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Grace United Church Donates An Erskine Brown Folk Art To The Craigleith Heritage Depot

Alessia Farris M.A., Curator at the Craigleith Heritage Depot and Barry Tatchell of Grace United Church Thornbury

Erskine Brown was a renowned folk artist and carver born into a farming family in Grey County. In his early years, lived in the Owen Sound area and later moved to Thornbury where he was a member of Grace United Church.

He created several farm-themed folk art pieces and many of them featured horse drawn wagons with cargo representing the merchandise of the day. Erskine Brown folk art is featured in many galleries in Canada including the Canadian Museum of Civilization in Ottawa and Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau Quebec, the Grey Roots Museum and our own Craigleith Heritage Depot, 113 Lakeshore Rd E, off Hwy 26.

Erskine Brown had donated this folk art to the Sunday School at Grace United Church where it has been enjoyed for over 60 years. In preparation for groups using the church's lower hall for its programs, Grace United Church donated the art piece to the Craigleith Heritage Depot where it will join other Erskine Brown art and be preserved.

It was important to the congregation that this piece stay in Blue Mountains where Erskine Brown spent the later decades of his life and where it can continue to be enjoyed by our community and visitors.



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Guest speaker:



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Senior Wealth Advisor,
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Cherie Chen, CFP, TEP, CLU, LL.M
Director, Tax and Estate Planning
at Mackenzie

March 25, 2026

2:00 p.m.

Location: Virtual

Please RSVP to
fraser.willson@cibc.com
for the meeting link.

Sponsored in part by:
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The Master Gardener's Corner

Things to do in your garden each month, taken from the Ontario Master Gardener Calendar by John Hethrington, Past President, Master Gardeners of Ontario Inc. For more information, or to get your own copy of the 11" x 17" calendar of the full year's tips for a \$2 contribution to Master Gardeners, call 519-599-5846.



Things to do in and for your garden in March

WOW! What a winter! VERY COLD, but don't worry about your plants, the feet & feet of snow will protect them! And no January Thaw! It's not all bad. When the snow finally melts, there will be lots of much-needed moisture deep in the soil. And, Warton Willy, on Ground Hog Day, forecasted an EARLY SPRING!

- After the 15th you can start tuberous begonia & caladium corms in pots, or in a tray of peat moss. Keep it moist, but not soggy.
- Plant brassicas, like kale, turnip and radish seeds plus hardy annual seeds indoors for late May planting outdoors.
- Start tomatoes, lettuce and other fast-growing vegetables from seed in late March to early April.
- Make a list of spring garden chores in the order they should be done, if you haven't already done so.
- Order summer flowering bulbs & plants. Try www.botanus.com. Order or buy flower & vegetable seeds NOW for summer planting to get the best selection! They are in the grocery stores already.
- Check, repair and sharpen your gardening tools on a snowy day.
- Apply combination dormant oil spray to fruit trees & pest-prone shrubs when above-freezing weather permits.
- Bring Spring indoors. Start forcing branches of spring-flowering shrubs like Forsythia, if you can get through the snow to get at them.
- If you can find them, buy Narcissus bulbs now and grow them in gravel with water for spring flowers indoors.
- Prune summer-flowering shrubs and vines late in the month.
- When the snow is finally gone from your garden beds (maybe in April) and they are still damp, but before new plant leaves emerge, buy and apply triple-19 agricultural fertilizer liberally, but only to your garden beds. It's available now at the Midwest Co-Op on Hwy 10 south of Markdale.
- Plan to plant a few native shrubs that have berries for the birds, plus pollinator perennials for the bees and butterflies.
- When the snow finally disappears, loosen up and dig-in any packed winter Mulch, and press perennials that the frost has heaved, back into place.

If there are any high school students out there who are interested in garden work after school this spring, plus during the summer months as well, (no gardening experience needed), please get in touch NOW! There are lots of jobs available. Contact John Hethrington casacarolejohn@gmail.com

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such lottery of Canada has
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oceans,
Arctic in the north, Pacific on
western shores, and swells of
Atlantic upon the maritime
banks.

This sandwich of triple decker
image is our heritage, a
resource of people, values
and hope,

And within this allegory of toasted grain, ours to relish
our sympathy of common purpose.

The sandwich is of gentle preparation, balance and
proportion, attractive for nutrition,

By ingredient it slakes a polygon of human tastes,
proposed upon a platter of diverse etchings.

Unity performs a marriage vow between medallions of
meat and cucumber sliced to match,

A tomato offers contrast and texture, firm to its
position, while lettuce blends decor and crunch.

Let mayo join the cornucopia, likening to our harmony
which binds together, dignity throughout.

So we trade this morsel of our blessings far and wide,
ever mindful to breathe a generous hand,

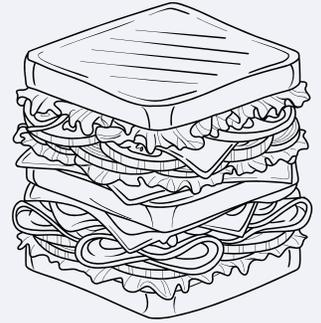
Asking only that gratitude may be the currency, that a
trade of today holds tomorrow in trust.

When our story's sandwich faces drooling jaws that
frame the alligator of Mar-a-Lago,

Our nation resets identity and vision, seeks out new
partners, raises awareness of noble friends,

Looks within to entice producer and consumer to
embrace Canada's treasure of grace.

Jeremy Wentworth-Stanley
jeremy@officeinthebarn.com



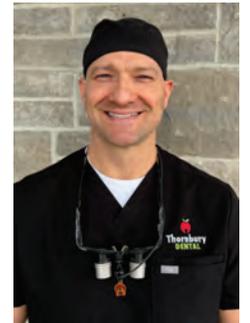
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Grey Roots Announces Living Histories: Grey County

Grey Roots Museum & Archives is pleased to announce the opening of Living Histories: Grey County, a striking new exhibition exploring the region's past through photographs.

Grey Roots invited Guest Curator Richard Thomas to develop the exhibition, building on the success of Living Histories, an Owen Sound-focused version first presented by the Tom Thomson Art Gallery in 2023. What began, he notes, as a simple rescue of a box of photos bound for the landfill became something much larger. "Photographs are more than images - they are proof that someone was here," says Thomas. "They carry emotion, history, and presence. They make time visible." The exhibition pairs select historic photographs with contemporary images by John Fearnall, who recreated the original compositions where possible to show how iconic Grey County scenes have changed over time. Objects from the Grey Roots collection add a tangible dimension to the exhibition, connecting past and present in meaningful ways.

Living Histories: Grey County runs until May 2nd and will return for a second engagement in fall 2026. All are invited to explore this evocative, community-based exhibition.



Kolapore Loppett by Robert Burcher

Kolapore is more than a nasty curve in the road south of Ravenna. For some it is the ultimate destination in Ontario for wilderness cross-country skiing.

I was up to see a ski race there last week and remembered what a great place it is for advanced skiing. The ski race called a Loppet is more of a personal goal to complete rather than a race against the clock. Sweden is famous for a Loppet where 15,000 people head out on a mass start for a 96 km race.

This second Kolapore Loppet had three distances that you could test yourself against: 51, 26 and 15km. These all ran on the trails of Kolapore which remained open for any and all skiers on the day of the race.

The typical skier was young and fit and well equipped. I imagine all of them had been training all winter to get to this level of fitness.

The racers came from all over Ontario to take on this gnarly event. I was impressed. I personally have retreated to the tame groomed trails of Scenic Caves or Duntroon Nordic for my senior adventures. So I was glad to see another generation of wild and woolie types enjoying our winter highlands.

A note of thanks must go out to the new Utopia Market – just south of the Kolapore Highlands on County Rd. #2 for support of the Loppet with parking facilities and a great warm place to recover from the race.

Congratulations to Georgian Hills Vineyard

The Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention hosted the Annual Craft Cider Competition in February featuring Ontario cider businesses from across the province.

Modern Craft Competition

Modern Ciders are made from 100% Ontario apples only with no other fruits permitted. Sweet ciders must not be cloying. Dry ciders must not be too austere.

1st Place Georgian Hills Vineyard - Ardiel Dry Apple Cider

Cider Maker's Notes

Our Ardiel Dry Cider is classic in style with full bodied cider flavours and a vibrant fresh apple mid palate, ending in a clean, pleasing and refreshingly dry finish. To make the cider unique, Ardiel Cider House practices the age old tradition of winemakers called "back blending". This is accomplished by adding unfermented fresh apple juice and a small amount of ice cider which balances out the acidity and alcohol and enhances the flavour. The resulting cider is delicious and distinct.



Specialty Craft – Fruit/Botanical Competition

Fruit/Botanical blends: made from 100% Ontario apples and contain other fruits or fruit juices and spices, herbs, and/or vegetables.

3rd Place Spy Cider House & Distillery - Conspiracy Theory

DEADLINE: MARCH 27th, 2026

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Norine Baron and Ann Parsons present a cheque to Melanie Kearns to support the school music program.

School Music by Robert Burcher

Two solitudes exist in this town. The old folks (like me) and then the kids. Did you know that there are 680 kids in our local public school? Kids you never really see. Kids who do great things and don't get appreciated. I had a brief view behind the curtain of what goes on in a public school when I sat in on a Grade 8 music class last month. There are talented kids in the realm, and they are brought to life by a great music program and an even greater teacher at BVCS – Melanie Kearns.

I was asked to go and take a photo of a cheque presentation ceremony recently when the Goldenaires Choir donated \$300 to the music program. But in the process, I got to talk to Melanie and hear about what this school has created - an awesome music program. Having been at the school for 13 years, Melanie has known some of the kids since they started in kindergarten and watched them grow and learn over the years. No wonder that there is such a great rapport.

Before Melanie there was another great music teacher Dave Randall. He is well known in this town for his work in creating passion around

music. There are many awards lining the walls of the classroom from the Kiwanis Music Festival in Owen Sound that testified to his work and that continue by Melanie. More recently three different awards are from the years when a music class from this school reached the Top Ten rating in the CBC Radio music class challenge. That's in the Top Ten across Canada! No wonder the teachers are proud. There is also a shout out to Laura McFarland who is the choir master in the school and is also part of the team creating the intense music program.

But as always school boards don't always see the importance of a good music program and have a nasty habit of eroding budgets. Here in the Blue Mountains the community has stepped up to fill the gap. As mentioned earlier the Goldenaires choir have been regular donors as well as Thornbury Jazz. Then too, the parent's association has been solidly behind the music program with fundraising efforts.

So, if you see an event advertised for a concert at the school check it out. Or if you see the kids busking on the street in the spring, give them some hearty support as well.

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Notice of Public Meeting: Stop Up & Close Lansdowne Street S - Unopened Road Allowance

Date of this Notice: February 18, 2026

Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Hybrid Format: In-Person AND Virtual/Online

Town Hall, Council Chambers

32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

What is being proposed?

Lansdowne St. S unopened road allowance is located at the northwest end of Moreau Park between Alfred St. W and Alice St. W. Through the Moreau Park Revitalization project, preliminary assessments have indicated that this portion should proceed with a stop up and close process (See attached key map).

More information can be found in the Community Services Staff Report CS.26.011 Proposal to Stop Up and Close a portion of Lansdowne St. S Unopened Road Allowance from Alfred St. W to Alice St. W.

Copies of the proposed amendments to the By-laws will be available through the Town's website, www.thebluemountains.ca.

When will a decision be made?

It is important to note that a decision on this topic has NOT been made at this point and will NOT be made at this Public Meeting. After reviewing the comments from the public, Staff will bring its recommendations to a future Council Meeting.

How can I make my views known about this proposal?

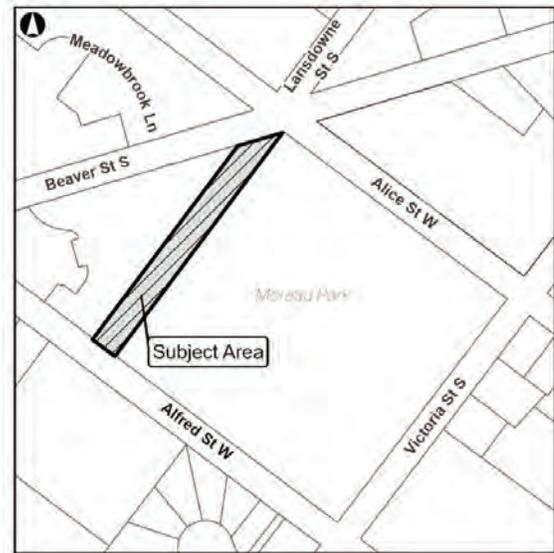
Any person or agency may provide comments on this matter in writing or verbally at the Public Meeting. Comments at the Public Meeting assist the Town and Council in their decision-making process, so be sure to have your say!

How do I submit my comments?

Written Comments – You are encouraged to provide your comments or questions in writing using email or regular letter mail to the Town Clerk. Written comments received by **9:00 a.m. Friday, March 6, 2026**, will be read by the Town Clerk at the Public Meeting for the benefit of everyone in attendance and will be included in the record of the Public Meeting.

Comments can be faxed to (519) 599-7723, or emailed townclerk@thebluemountains.ca.

Any submitted comments become part of the **public record**, including names and addresses.



Verbal Comments – This Public Meeting is a hybrid meeting, allowing the public to attend the meeting in person or virtually. Those that wish to make verbal comments **virtually** are required to pre-register with the Town Clerk, no later than five business days in advance of the Public Meeting, by **Tuesday, March 3, 2026**.

Anyone wishing to provide their verbal comments **in person** at the Public Meeting, can attend the Town Hall, Council Chamber.

Want to be notified of a decision?

You must make a request in writing to the Town Clerk if you would like to be notified of a decision on this proposal to:

Corrina Giles, Town Clerk
Town Hall, 32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON
Fax: (519) 599-7723
Email: townclerk@thebluemountains.ca

Questions? Want more information? Ask a Staff Member!

Katie Love, Community Services
Phone: (519) 599-3131 ext. 254;
Email: csadmin@thebluemountains.ca

Under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 and in accordance with Ontario's Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), all information provided for, or at a Public Meeting, Public Consultation, or other Public Process are considered part of the public record, including resident deputations. This information may be posted on the Town's website. and/or made available to the public upon request. This document can be made available in other accessible formats as soon as practicable and upon request.



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Notice of Public Meetings

Application for Zoning By-law Amendment

Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Hybrid Format: In-Person AND Virtual/Online

Town Hall, Council Chambers

32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

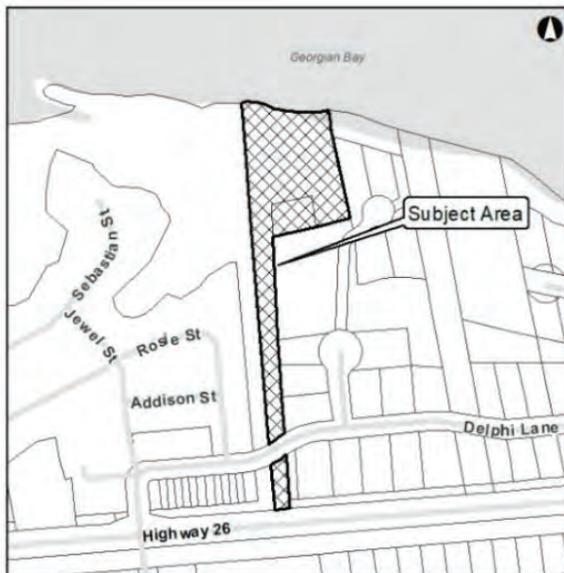


What is being proposed?

This proposal involves rezoning two properties located north and south of Delphi Lane.

The property north of Delphi Lane is currently zoned Development (D) and Hazard (H). It is proposed to be rezoned to Open Space (OS) and Residential One (R1-1-X) Exception Zone to facilitate the construction of a replacement dwelling, as well as an addition to the existing dwelling.

The property south of Delphi Lane is currently zoned Hazard (H) and is proposed to be rezoned to Residential One (R1-1) Zone to allow for the future construction of a dwelling.



Where do I find more information?

To view the complete Notice of Public Meeting or learn more about the project, including information about appeal rights, visit www.thebluemountains.ca/DelphiLaneZBA or scan the QR code above.

Alternatively, visit the Planning Services Division located at Town Hall during regular office hours, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Parkland Dedication By-law Update

Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Hybrid Format: In-Person AND Virtual/Online

Town Hall, Council Chambers

32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0



What is being proposed?

The Town of The Blue Mountains has initiated a review to update and replace its existing Parkland Dedication By-law 2003-31.

The Town's current Parkland Dedication By-law was approved in 2003. Since then, legislative changes have been made to the Planning Act, and this update is needed to ensure the Town's By-law reflects these changes.

The proposed By-law will incorporate new provincial requirements and provide clearer direction on how parkland dedication is calculated for different types of development and land uses. Additional updates include proposed exemptions for certain development types, such as on-farm diversified uses, reduced requirements for affordable housing, and a simplified flat-rate approach for residential severances.

The proposed Parkland Dedication By-law applies to all lands within the Town of The Blue Mountains. A key map has not been included in this notice as the proposed amendment applies to the entire municipality.

Where do I find more information?

To view the complete Notice of Public Meeting or learn more about the project, including information about appeal rights, visit www.thebluemountains.ca/ParklandDedication or scan the QR code above.

Alternatively, visit the Planning Services Division located at Town Hall during regular office hours, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Blue Mountains 2025 Annual Water Report

In accordance with Ontario Regulation 170/03, please be advised that the Annual Water Report prepared for the Blue Mountains Drinking Water System is available for viewing at Town Hall or by visiting www.thebluemountains.ca

Rob Gilchrist, Water Supervisor
Thornbury Water Treatment Plant



TOWN NEWS & NOTICES



(519) 599-3131



info@thebluemountains.ca



32 Mill St. Thornbury, ON



www.thebluemountains.ca



Subscribe for Updates: www.thebluemountains.ca/subscribe

Notice of Public Meeting

Proposed Backyard Hens By-law

Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.
Hybrid Format: In-Person AND Virtual/Online
Town Hall, Council Chambers
32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

What is being proposed?

A new Backyard Hens By-law is proposed to allow and regulate the keeping of chicken (hens and pullets), excluding roosters, on residentially zoned properties (R1, R2, R3) in the Town's urban settlement areas, as well as residentially zoned properties in the rural area and hamlets where agricultural uses are currently not permitted. The proposed Backyard Hens By-law does not in any way change or affect the keeping of chickens in zones where agricultural uses are already permitted, including Agriculture (A), Special Agriculture (SA), and Rural (RU) zones.

Many communities have adopted by-laws that permit owners to keep a limited number of backyard hens on residential properties. The proposed Backyard Hens By-law is a response to public interest in doing so as part of a movement toward sustainable living, greater self-sufficiency, and healthy eating.

The Backyard Hens By-law would allow the keeping of hens with rules to mitigate potential risks such as noise, smell, or the potential spread of avian-borne illnesses while ensuring animal wellbeing, and would apply Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMPs) for non-compliance.

Additional information regarding the proposed Backyard Hens By-law, including a February 3, 2026 staff report and the draft by-law, can be found at www.thebluemountains.ca/hens-by-law.

For more information, please contact:

Nicholas Cloet, Sustainability Coordinator,
sustainability@thebluemountains.ca | (519) 599-3131 ext. 235

Fire Prevention Reminder

With SPRING just around the corner, TBM Fire Prevention would like to remind you to take the time to prepare and protect yourself. Have you heard of Readyfor72.ca? There are resources and tips for everyone available for you to help you be prepared, not scared. If you have questions or concerns regarding fire safety, please reach out to TBM Fire Prevention at: fireprevention@thebluemountains.ca
TBM Fire Prevention phone: 519-599-3131 ext. 9016

Notice: Nominate a Resident for the Ontario Senior of the Year Award

Council of The Town of The Blue Mountains is encouraging residents, local service clubs and community groups to submit nominations for the Province of Ontario Senior of the Year Award!

Established in 1994, the Senior of the Year Award honours one outstanding local senior in each municipality in Ontario to recognize an outstanding senior who, after age 65, enriches the social, cultural or civic life of the community. The nominee must be:

- At least 65 years of age
- A resident of Ontario
- A living person who has made their community a better place to live
- Nominated by the Town of The Blue Mountains

Seniors who qualify for this award may have contributed to any number of fields such as the arts, literature, community service, volunteering, education, environment, fitness and humanitarian activities.

Nominations can be made in the form of a letter, and must be submitted to the Town Clerk by **Thursday, March 26, 2026** at 1:00 p.m. In the letter please include:

- Nominator's name and contact information
- Nominee's name and contact information
- Details on why the Nominee should be considered for the Ontario Senior of the Year Award for the Town of The Blue Mountains

Council will consider the nominations received at a closed session and the nominee selected will be presented with the Ontario Senior of the Year Award in the month of June.

Please contact the Town Clerk should you have questions regarding the nomination process:

Town Clerk: Corrina Giles
Phone: (519) 599-3131 ext. 232
Email: townclerk@thebluemountains.ca

To learn more about the Ontario Senior of the Year Award, please visit: www.ontario.ca/page/honours-and-awards-community#section-3

The Arts & Culture Council Presents...

Abstracted Realities

Viz Saraby | Simon Kattar



OPENING

March 7, 2026
2:00-4:00pm

RUNS

Mar 7-Apr 1, 2026

Abstracted Realities transforms everyday experiences into something entirely new. Together, Viz Saraby and Simon Kattar's works invite viewers to explore a world where reality is just the starting point - sometimes strange, sometimes funny, always thought-provoking.



The Gallery
at L.E. Shore

TheGallery@TheBlueMountains.ca
TheBlueMountainsLibrary.ca | 519-599-3681
173 Bruce Street South | Thornbury, Ontario



THUR MARCH 12
MARY HINDLE,
FIREFIGHTER



THUR MARCH 19
DR. ZIMMERMAN,
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST



THUR MARCH 26
WOMEN OF THE BLUE
MOUNTAIN CHAMBER



THUR APRIL 2
MAJ. BRASSEUR, FIRST CAN
WOMAN FIGHTER PILOT

Lead Like Her

INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY SPEAKER SERIES

ADULTS \$15 STUDENTS \$5
PURCHASE ALL 4 EVENTS FOR \$45

KICK OFF the series with a concert on March 8th by Krista Blondin celebrating Canadian women in music at the MSC!

FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT
MARSHSTREETCENTRE.COM



Events for Life Women's Clothing Sale

DROP OFF DETAILS

EVENTS FOR LIFE, BEAVER CREEK FARMS,
067547 33RD SIDEROAD
(GARAGE BY RED BRICK HOUSE)

9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

MARCH 6TH, MARCH 20TH, MARCH 27TH

(MORE DROP OFF DATES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN APRIL)

PLEASE BRING ITEMS IN PLASTIC CONTAINERS,
GARBAGE OR GARMENT BAGS

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO EVENTS FOR LIFE
A YEAR-ROUND PROGRAM FOR ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS



WWW.EVENTSFOR.LIFE



International Women's Day TRIBUTE CONCERT

MARCH 8TH, 1PM AT THE MARSH

KRISTA BLONDIN'S
TRIBUTE TO
CANADIAN WOMEN
IN MUSIC



doors: 1pm
showtime: 2pm

Kick-off concert to
"Women of Distinction"
Speaker Series



SATURDAY MARCH 14, 2026



MAGGIE'S WAKE

DOORS 6:30
SHOW 7:30
TICKETS
\$35 ADVANCE
\$40 DOORS

2025
prix folk
awards
WINNERS



ON SALE NOW AT
WWW.MARSHSTREETCENTRE.COM

ARTS & CULTURE COUNCIL PRESENTS

AN ART CRITIQUE WORKSHOP

With Michelle Fleming



When:
SAT, MAR 14, 2026
1:00PM - 3:00PM

Who:
All ages and levels of ability!

Registration:
This is a FREE workshop. Contact us to register!

The Workshop

Bring your paintings to the library (or come as an observer!) and have them critiqued by local art teacher Michelle Fleming! Michelle will provide feedback on your work, identifying strengths and areas for improvement. You will have a chance to provide input too!

Michelle will also review the fundamentals of painting, providing a deeper understanding of the building blocks that create a successful painting.

We will not be painting in this workshop, so please bring your sketchbook to make notes!

About the Instructor

Michelle has taught art for over 30 years in private schools, public schools and her own art school, The Bay School of Art, in Collingwood, Ontario.



The Gallery
at L.E. Shore

TheGallery@TheBlueMountains.ca
TheBlueMountainsLibrary.ca | 519-599-3681
173 Bruce Street South | Thornbury, Ontario

SEED STARTING AND PROPAGATION

March 23rd from 1-3pm

Register on thebluemountainslibrary.ca



L.E. Shore Memorial Library
thebluemountainslibrary.ca
173 Bruce St S, Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0



LUNCH BUNCH

4th Tuesday

MARCH 24TH AT NOON

Come for lunch and bring a friend. Min. \$10 donation
St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 165 Russell St. E., Thornbury

MARCH BREAK
At L.E. Shore Library

NO-BAKE BAKE OFF

Join us all March Break long and learn some delicious recipes!
Ages 8+ | Registration Required

16 MON	CUPCAKE DECORATING 11AM - 12PM 
17 TUE	BUGS IN DIRT 1PM - 2PM
18 WED	ICEBOX CAKE 11AM - 12PM
19 THU	NO BAKE CHEESECAKE 11AM - 12PM
20 FRI	CHOCOLATE LASAGNA 11AM - 12PM



L.E. Shore Memorial Library
519-599-3681
thebluemountainslibrary.ca

Notice of Community Engagement Session

The Town of The Blue Mountains is holding a Community Engagement Session to introduce a project which will see the creation of a Green Burial Area at the Thornbury-Clarksburg Union Cemetery. All those interested in the project are invited to attend the Community Engagement Session. The event will include a presentation and Q&A session. The meetings will be recorded and posted to the project page for anyone unable to attend in person.

Tuesday, March 24, 1-3 p.m. and 5-7 p.m.
Town Hall, 32 Mill St., Thornbury

Sewing Foundations



Sewing Machine Basics

March 24th from 1-4pm

\$10/participant. Ages 16 and up. Very small class size.
Registration required - Register online
www.thebluemountainslibrary.ca



L.E. Shore Memorial Library
519-599-3681
thebluemountainslibrary.ca
173 Bruce St S, Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0



THORNBURY JAZZ WORKS

GRACE UNITED CHURCH, 140 BRUCE STREET S., THORNBURY

FRIDAY MARCH 27 - 7:30 PM

DEAN HOLLIN QUARTET

Spotlight on Standards:

Jazz Takes the Stage for World Theatre Day

ADMISSION \$30 PROCEEDS SUPPORT STUDENT MUSIC EDUCATION

Purchase tickets by email - thornburyjazz@gmail.com
Thornbury Pharmasave, 45 Arthur St. W., Thornbury
Gabriele Photography, 133 Hurontario St., Collingwood
AT THE DOOR (CASH ONLY)



www.thornburyjazz.com



24 HOUR TEAM RELAY CHALLENGE

MARCH 27-29, 2026

IT'S ALL ABOUT GIVING BACK

IN SUPPORT OF



24HBLUEMTN.CA



Let's get family and friends together to celebrate Mother Earth!
Turn Off The Lights and Join CANN For Earth Hour
Saturday, MARCH 28th - 8:30-9:30pm

Grace United Church Parking Lot

140 Bruce Street S Thornbury

Bonfire - Hot Chocolate - S'mores

All welcome - Bring a flashlight and turn off devices




TBM Repair Café
140 Bruce St. S. Thornbury

Saturday, March 28

9am-Noon

Bring broken items for free repair and enjoy a snack.

Go **Green** for a better **Blue!**

www.repaircafethebluemountains.ca

Shoreline Chorus Presents Canada to France Concert Paris, Strasbourg, Lyon



Directed by Ann-Marie MacDairmid

Featuring a wide-range of Canadian repertoire including...

'Let Us Cheer The Weary Traveler' by Nathaniel Dett

'Hymn to Freedom' by Oscar Peterson

'Anthem' by Leonard Cohen

'O Source of All' by Brian Tate

Saturday March 28, 2026
at 3:00pm

St. George's Anglican Church

166 Russell Street, Clarksburg

Admission by donation

For information please call 519-599-2710



Boot Skatin' Boogie



March 29, 2026
2PM SHOWTIME

Beaver Valley Arena
58 Alfred St. W., Thornbury

END OF SEASON ICE SHOW



CLARKSBURG EASTER EGG HUNT

**SATURDAY APRIL 4
11AM SHARP**

Come and enjoy delicious treats and goodies,
courtesy of the businesses of Clarksburg

www.experienceclarksburg.ca

Proudly presented by The Arts & Culture Council for The Gallery at L.E. Shore, **A Closer Look's opening reception will take place on April 11 from 2:00 – 4:00pm.** Drop by to meet the artists and enjoy an art-filled afternoon! Complementary refreshments provided.

Step away from the panoramic and take a closer look at the familiar in a new exhibition by Bonnie Hastings and Wanda Haayen. From the bold, intricate details of a flower petal to a garden caught in late afternoon light, their work reflects the quiet beauty of small moments. This exhibition runs April 4-29



POLAND

Polish Spring Dinner w. Perogies and Pork schnitzel

- *TRADITIONAL PEROGIES
- *PORK SCHNITZEL
- *CABBAGE ROLLS
- *DESSERT

Adults: \$30
Kids 12 & under: \$15

April **17** | 6:00PM
2026
Friday

Get tickets at Pharmasave Thornbury
or contact
stpaulsthornbury@gmail.com or
phone 519 599 6645

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
165 Russell Street, Thornbury

Volunteer Recognition Awards & Fair

You're Invited

Beaver Valley Community Centre
Wednesday, April 22nd
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Volunteer Fair
5:30 p.m. Volunteer Recognition Awards



TBM Repair Café
140 Bruce St. S. Thornbury

Saturday, April 25
9am-Noon

Bring broken items for free repair
and enjoy a snack.

Go **Green** for a better **Blue!**
www.repaircafethebluemountains.ca

LUNCH BUNCH

4th Tuesday

APRIL 28TH AT NOON

Come for lunch and bring a friend. Min. \$10 donation
St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 165 Russell St. E., Thornbury

BMFM 2026

EARLY BIRD PRICING ON NOW!

TICKETS,
PASSES,
& LODGING

5TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

MAY 28-31, 2026

bluemtnfilmfest.ca



Jennifer Abbotts
RMT

REGISTERED MASSAGE THERAPY
Now Accepting New Clients!

Book Your Appointment Online at
jenniferabbottsrmt.com

The Blue Mountains Community Health Centre 78 King St. E., Thornbury
or Inner Worx Unit 2, 53 Arthur St. W., Thornbury



SATURDAY
MAY 30th, 2026

6TH ANNUAL

LOBSTER FEST
TAKE OUT



EAST COAST LOBSTER BASIC DINNER

1 1/2 lb Lobster, Chicken/Ribs, Baked Potato - \$60 Pickup time 4:30

EAST COAST LOBSTER DINNER

1 1/2 lb Lobster, Ribs/Chicken, Baked Potato, Salad & Dessert - \$80

SINGLE LOBSTER - \$40

Order online - Pickup Times 5:00; 5:30; 6:00; 6:30pm
Beaver Valley Community Centre, Thornbury
Proceeds to support The Blue Mountain Legacy Fund

FOR INFORMATION CALL 519-599-3345

www.lobsterfestblue.ca

josh@joshdolan.com

705-446-8404

Josh Dolan

REAL ESTATE BROKER

joshdolan.com



ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS NORTH
BROKERAGE
THORNBURY MEAFORD COLLINGWOOD

Let me advise you on buying and selling in the Georgian Triangle.



MARCH BREAK

presented by



MARCH 13 - 22

Big mountain energy meets Village-wide fun with live entertainment, hands-on activities, shopping, dining, and indoor adventures all steps apart.

For local families, it's ten days of action, laughter, and memory-making right in your own backyard.

Scan for
full event
details &
schedule



Featuring: **KPOP SNOW CLUB**



Subaru Box Car Rally



Friday the 13th Rail Jam



Roaming Entertainment



The Amazing Race



Subaru Family Ski & Snowboard Race



Hula Hoop Show & Workshop



Sonshine & Broccoli



Groove Dancing



The Connors Brothers



Birds of Prey Show