

THE TINY COTTAGER

Issue No. 49

A GEORGIAN BAY PERSPECTIVE

Spring/Summer 2017

President's Message

BY PAUL COWLEY

We are certainly having a very wet spring this year. This is great for water levels in Georgian Bay, one aspect of the environment that our members want as our focus. To that end I have for several years been a director of the Restore Our Water International board. While ROWI efforts continue, I have some exciting news.

A new organization has been formed called the Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation (GBGLF). I serve as one of its directors and FoTTSA supports its work whole-heartedly. There's more detail about it inside the paper, but here I'll just say that its main concern is the Great Lakes and particularly Georgian Bay: it is part of the Huronia Community Foundation (HCF) in Midland. HCF will issue tax receipts for donations for GBGLF's work. GBGLF is the only Great Lakes organization that has a flexible outflow control method for the St. Clair River that will alleviate low water levels and not exacerbate high levels. The flexible wing design is entirely in keeping with the International Joint Commission's advice to both Canadian and American governments to restore our lake levels. GBGLF is currently funding a new study, the Baird Report II, which will predict future lake levels in Georgian Bay. Financial assistance is needed. (See page 10)

While lake levels, water quality and wetlands continue to be important to GBGLF, its focus has broadened to include invasive species and fish habitat – all tightly interwoven with water levels and quality. The mission of our new Foundation is stewardship of our Great Lakes water. Please support this excellent Foundation for the benefit of our future generations.

I encourage you to attend the Town Hall Meeting on Saturday, May 27 at 10:00 a.m. in the Wyebridge Community Centre. Hosted by our Tiny Township Council, Town Hall Meetings have proven to be a wonderful opportunity for residents and Council to exchange ideas.

This year we have introduced a new communication vehicle called the FoTTSA Flash. It is intended to help keep you up to date about happenings in the township in the months between issues of *The Tiny Cottager*. If you are not receiving it, please send an email to secretary.fottsa@tinycottager.org and ask to be added to the list. We also welcome your comments and suggestions on how to keep you better informed.

Wishing everyone a restful, healthy summer in our amazing township.

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Marie Richardson photo

Farm Fresh Food Fest in North Simcoe

By CINDY HASTINGS

Let me start off by saying that I am not a farmer. My meat comes in a nicely wrapped package and I am happy to pick my produce off a shelf. I am, however, very passionate about food and extremely proud of our local farmers and food entrepreneurs. I am fascinated by the amount of time, innovation, technology and sheer energy that goes into growing our food. This has been my motivation for spending countless hours with a small, grassroots, volunteer organization to develop Farm Fresh Food Fest.

The concept originated at the Economic Development Corporation of North Simcoe as it supports Tiny's pillar of the corporation – Agriculture. It also perfectly aligns with several key objectives in Tiny's recently minted strategic plan. The event is intended to be a forum for our farmers to speak directly to consumers about what they do in the hope of dispelling the many confusing messages and myths about modern farming. The timing is perfect as today's consumers want to understand more about the food they eat. It is also a fitting celebration of Canada's 150 as agriculture has always been one of our country's biggest industries. *FACT: 1 in 8 Canadian jobs are in Ag and Agri-Food.*

The journey to bring this event to fruition has been rewarding and at times a bit frustrating. The first challenge was the original name: North Simcoe Agricultural Expo. Made sense. But it was not sexy enough for the marketing people so we eventually landed on Farm Fresh Food Fest. This was great until some suggested that we were misrepresenting ourselves: after all, they said, the event was about agriculture, not food. Nonetheless, we stuck to our guns.

We had another interesting bit of confusion. Some thought we were focusing too much on big "corporate" farming – not our local community farmers. Another

head scratcher. Under their definition, my committee members would not be local because they farm over 1,000 acres, use cutting edge technology and sell products to national food chains. *FACT: Approximately 98% of Canadian farms are family owned.*

We have also had to deal with the on-going traditional versus organic farming debate. How can we possibly have both at the event? A common misconception is that the two sides plot against each other. In reality, the vast majority of farmers are passionate about what they believe in but all recognize that farming needs to be sustainable and that it is going take a concerted effort to provide enough good food to feed the world. *FACT: The world will need 60% more food by 2050.*

We have worked hard to make sure the event is informative but we have not lost sight of what this is – a celebration. Local vendors (100 mile criteria) will be selling FOOD. We will have everything from raw produce, value added foods and, of course, delicious prepared food you can eat all day long if you wish. Also, we have some amazing local artisans, engaging speakers, local entertainers and exhibitors. City TV personality, Frank Ferragine, will be on hand to speak about growing your own food. Dylan Sher, a University of Guelph student, will talk about his project, "Farm to Plate" -- a film he hopes to enter into the 2018 TIFF. We are pleased that Jeff Leal, Ontario's Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, will open the event.

Children are the future of agriculture. On Friday, we are focusing on youth and inviting day camps to attend. The University of Guelph is bringing animal displays and shows of interest to children. *FACT: Almost 25,000 farm operators are under the age of 35*.

CONTINUED on page 6

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2017 Events

Midland Model Train Show, May 13-14 North Simcoe Sports and Recreation Centre Midland

> "Death by Design", May 5-20 Midland Cultural Centre

> > www.huroniaplayers.ca

Barrie Waterfront Festival, May 26-28 Heritage Park, Barrie

www.barriewaterfront.ca Township of Tiny Town Hall Meeting, May 27 Wyebridge Community Centre

www.tiny.ca The Big (Garlic Mustard) Pull and Plant, May 27-28 Tiny Marsh

JUNE

National Health and Fitness Day, June 3 www.tiny.ca

"Marathon of Hope", June 7-17 King's Wharf Theatre, Penetanguishene www.draytonentertainment.com

Ontario's Best Butter Tart Festival, June 10 Midland

buttertartfestival.ca/

Gordon Lightfoot Tribute Band, June 10 Collingwood

gayetytheatre.com/

Wheels & Track in Motion, June 10-11 Simcoe County Museum, Minesing www.museum.simcoe.ca

Party on the Dock, June 16 Midland

www.partyonthedock.ca

Wasaga Waterfront Festival, June 17-18 www.wasagabeach.com

National Aboriginal Day, June 21 Sainte-Marie among the Hurons

www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca

"A Novel Affair", June 24 Midland Public Library Gala

www.midlandlibrary.com/a-novel-affair/

Bagattaway Lacrosse Festival, June 24-25 www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca

"Million Dollar Quartet", June 21-July 15 King's Wharf Theatre, Penetanguishene www.draytonentertainment.com

Wasaga Beach Cruisers' Fun Run - Classic Car Event, June 23-24

www.wasagabeach.com

Tiny Marsh BioBlitz, June 24

www.tinymarshbioblitz.eventbrite.ca

Coldwater & Area Studio Tour, June 25-26 www.coldwaterstudiotour.com

Georgian Triangle Music Festival, June 30-July 1 www.georgiantrianglemusicfest.com

JULY

Canada Day celebrations, July 1

Little Lake Park, Midland; Sainte-Marie among the Hurons; Discovery Harbour; Wyevale; Penetanguishene Centennial Museum

Brookside Music Festival of the Bay, July 6 to Aug 24 www.brooksidemusic.com

Church in the Pines (Outdoors), July & August Sundays 10:30am, Lefaive Rd off Conc 11

Sainte-Marie by Candlelight,

July & August, Thursday evenings

www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca Farlain Lake Aquatic Weed Fest Junktique Sale and Family Fun Day, July 2

Toanche Park, Champlain Rd. www.farlainlake.ca

Mariposa Folk Festival, July 7-9 Orillia

www.mariposafolk.com

Georgian Bay Garden Tour, July 8 www.facebook.com/gbgardentour/

RAA Northern Regional Fly-in, July 8 Huronia Municipal Airport

> huroniaairport.com Festival du Loup, July 13-16 Lafontaine

www.festivalduloup.on.ca

Township of Tiny Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament & Dinner, July 14

Brooklea Golf & Country Club, www.tiny.ca "Jonas & Barry in the Home", July 19-Aug 5 King's Wharf Theatre, Penetanguishene www.draytonentertainment.com

> Zucchini Mania, July 19 Little Lake Park, Midland

www.facebook.com/events/1125030627619376/

Harbour Days Midland (Canada 150th) feat. World's Largest Rubber Duck, July 21-23 www.midland.ca

Tiny Community BBQ

and Canada 150 Celebration, July 22 featuring made-in-Tiny musical talent, artisans and children's activities Perkinsfield Park, 11am-4pm

www.tiny.ca Collingwood Elvis Festival, July 28-30 collingwoodelvisfestival.com

Ontario Canada 150th Celebrations, Penetanguishene, July 28-29

www.penetanguishene.ca/en/discover/ontario-canada-150th-celebration.asp

FEAST: Culinary and Craft Beer Festival, July 29 www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca

AUGUST

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat",

Aug 20-Sept 3

King's Wharf Theatre,

www.draytonentertainment.com

Palaver International Literary Festival, August 12 Wasaga Beach palaver.ca/

Farm Fresh Food Fest, August 18-20 4230 Crossland Rd, Tiny www.farmfreshfoodfest.ca

Wasaga Under Siege, August 18-20 www.wasagabeachpark.com/

Fundraiser for Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation feat. Gordon Lightfoot Tribute Band

Miss Midland Tour & Concert, August 19 (4-6:30pm) info@georgianbaygreatlakesfoundation.com Georgian Bay Tugfest and Art Walk,

August 25-26 Midland Dock

www.tugfestgeorgianbay.com

Barrie Dragon Boat Festival, August 26 www.barriedragonboatfestival.ca

Wasaga Multisport Triathlon, August 26 www.multisportcanada.com/wasagabeach/

Cycle Camelot Ride, August 26 Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre cyclecamelot.com

SEPTEMBER

Annual Traditional POW WOW, September 9-10 Sainte-Marie Park,

www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca

Township of Tiny Town Hall Meeting, September 14 Tiny Township Community Centre www.tiny.ca

Terry Fox Run, September 17 Perkinsfield Park www.terryfox.org

Simcoe County Quilt, Rug & Craft Fair, September 15-17

museum.simcoe.ca/programs/upcoming-events

OCTOBER

"Pumpkinferno Haunted Harbour", Sept 28-Oct 30 Thurs-Sun evenings

www.discoveryharbour.on.ca

Thanksgiving Harvest Festival, Oct 7-8

Sainte-Marie among the Hurons www.saintemarieamongthehurons.on.ca

Halloween Spooktacular, Oct 28 Penetanguishene Centennial Museum www.pencenmuseum.com

have an event? tell us!





The Waverley Soldiers' Monument

BY BONNIE REYNOLDS

Located in Waverley, at the intersection of Highway 93 and Highway 27, where the corners of the original townships of Medonte, Flos, Tiny and Tay met, is one of North Simcoe's most recognizable landmarks – a monument or cenotaph. It has been a familiar sight for people making the trip north to the Midland-Penetanguishene area since 1920.

The Soldiers' Monument was unveiled on October 5, 1920 to honour men from these townships who gave their lives during World War I. The Waverley Women's Patriotic League largely carried the \$2,000 cost with the help of contributions from the four townships. The statue of the Canadian soldier came from Italy. R.J. Sanderson Marble Company of Orillia designed and manufactured the rest of the memorial.



War Memorial Unveiling, 1920

As monuments go, there are grander ones, but this simple statue shows what the majority of these soldiers were – young farm lads, off to defend King and country. It is a life-sized figure of a private in the Canadian army. He is wearing a cap with a maple leaf badge. A bandolier crosses his tunic from top right to bottom left. Puttees gather his trousers above his field boots. He is standing at ease with his Ross rifle at rest.

On each side of the main monument is a plaque recording the names of the war dead from World War I of the township it faces. There are 21 names from Medonte, 25 from Tay, 26 from Flos and 13 from Tiny.

The four corner granite pillars surrounding the main monument list the valiant dead from World War II: Medonte – 11, Tay-14, Tiny-4 and Flos-14 each facing the appropriate township.

The Korean War Veterans are also represented with the words "Korea – 1950-1953" at the base of the Flos and Medonte slabs.

Among the 85 killed in World War I, a shocking number for such a small area, were some whose families suffered multiple losses. John and Susan Reynolds, from Medonte township, for example, lost two sons: George was killed at the Battle of Vimy Ridge on April 9, 1917, age 27 and Frederick died at the Battle of Ypres on April 24, 1915, age 22. Two large plaques mounted on opposite sides of the Anglican Church beside the monument honour these two men. Family lore states that George went to his brother's memorial service in

Waverley and then joined the forces only to be killed at Vimy Ridge.

A couple of books detail the war exploits of two area men killed during World War I. One is: *Letters to Vimy* by Orland French. It is based on the letters of Oscar French [Orland is soldier Oscar's nephew] released locally on the 100th anniversary date of the Battle of Vimy Ridge. The other is *Good Bye for the Present: The War Letters of Harry Rumney* (of Tay township) edited by Gary E. French.

The Huronia Museum in Midland recently displayed artifacts pertaining to Henry Milton "Harry" Ellery who was killed in WWI at Passendale. Harry was the son of Celeste and Samuel Ellery of Wyebridge.

In 1997 a major grassroots fundraising campaign raised monies to replace the original wrought iron fence, repair the statue and renew the lettering, add a flagpole, plant trees and refresh the flower beds. The Waverley Monument Committee was grateful for the support from many community individuals and the local legions and townships. Improvements and renovations worth roughly \$15,000 were completed in September 1997. The annual memorial service (always held on the second Sunday in September) saw the unveiling of the monument. A kiltie band led a parade of veterans to the site for a moving dedication service where wreaths were laid by various organizations in memory of those killed in the wars.

Sadly, less than a week later, the fence and monument were badly damaged when a car veered off highway 93 and smashed into the cenotaph. Three young people perished in the burning vehicle and a seriously injured young woman was pulled from the wreck. The impact of the crash shifted the granite stone and splashed burnt oil across it. Currie Heavy Towing assisted the Sanderson Monument Company in removing the marble soldier and its base (which weighs six tons), to Orillia where the painstaking task of cleaning and repairing the monument took place. Don Sanderson said that his company had never had to clean anything so badly damaged before. As the old style lettering did not survive the crash, the restorers had to install thin strips of granite engraved with new lettering.

After the crash, fundraising began again to pay for the repairs. The soldier returned to his post at the Waverley Cenotaph in June 1998. The fence was repaired, flowers planted and new grass sown. A seat of remembrance was placed just outside the fence in the parkette by the families of those killed in the accident.

Another car accident in 2005 took out the fence once again. It was repaired and is still in good repair today.

There are many stories related to this cenotaph but I will relate only two here. For many years after the erection of the monument, my great aunt Elizabeth Elliott (who lived close by) watered the flowers and kept the area neat and tidy. She took on another task too. When



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on a number of Halloween nights, naughty lads climbed up and painted the soldier's face black, she painstakingly cleaned off the paint, observing that if she ever caught them, they would be forced to clean up the damage themselves.

The second instance concerns the special significance the memorial held for one couple – Ellwood McLaughlin and his wife Vera. They met there in 1941 while attending a service. They were married five years later in 1946 after Ellwood returned from serving in the Second World War. For many years the couple came back to pay their respects to the fallen.

2020 marks the 100th anniversary of this important memorial. Our committee would like to hold a special service in September of that year to mark this momentous occasion. Until then, please note that the annual service is always held on the second Sunday in September.

If you have photographs, stories or memorabilia concerning the Waverley Monument, I would be interested in hearing from you via editor@tinycottager.org.

Listed below are the men from Tiny who were killed in the two World Wars:

World War I

Lorne Bell, Colonel Bell, Jos. H. Blackstock, Howard Kemp, George Dusome, Harry Ellery, W.H. Braitwait, William A. Foster, Earnest N. Moore, Peter Lacroix, Albert Sterritt, Arthur Bailey, Percy Arnold

World War II

J. R. Adams, W.W. Downer, W. La Freniere, R.M. Wood





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The Tiny Cottager is published each May/June and Sept./Oct

The Federation's members are associations of property owners in those parts of the Township of Tiny designated as "Shoreline" in the Township's Official Plan.

The Tiny Cottager is mailed to the permanent addresses of more than 10,600 Tiny Township property owners (including 7,200 in the shoreline areas of Tiny) and to businesses in the area. It reaches some 25,000 readers. Copyright is claimed on all original articles and on advertisement layout and design created by this publication. ISSN 1710-9701

Report on Council

Mayor: George Cornell Deputy Mayor: Steffen Walma

Councillors: Cindy Hastings, Richard Hinton, Gibb

Wishart

STAFF CHANGES:

In October 2016, Maurice (Moe) LeFaive replaced Dave Randall as the Township's Water Superintendent.

In January 2017, Sue Walton became Clerk for the Township of Tiny. (Doug Luker continues to serve as the Township's Chief Administrative Officer.)

In April 2017, Michael Hehl became Deputy Chief Building Official and Ben Williams became Intern **Building Official**

LIVE STREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Live streaming has proved to be a largely excellent way of recording Council's discussions and decisionmaking. As long as those involved remember to speak into their microphones, everything that is said is usually clearly audible and the visual record excellent. When there are problems with real time live streaming, the archived version a day or two later is nonetheless very good. Since live streaming began on September 26, 2016, it has been possible for residents to monitor council meetings on their computer screens at home, either as they actually occur or, once they are archived a day or two later, at any time over the next year or so. No longer is there any need to travel to the township offices and then sit for hours in uncomfortable chairs.

CHANGES TO THE ELECTION ACT REGARDING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS (SEE BILL 181):

These changes will affect the 2018 municipal election. Council learned about them in September 2016 in a report from Sue Walton (then Deputy Clerk):

 Shorter Nomination Period. Instead of January to mid-September, the nomination period will be from May 1 to the fourth Friday in July.

 Change in Nomination Process. Candidates must submit 25 endorsement signatures from eligible electors with their nomination. Each endorsing individual must declare eligibility to vote in the municipality on the day they signed the document. (This requirement does not apply to candidates for school board trustee positions.)

 Approval of Alternative Voting Methods. These must be authorized by by-law by May 1 of the year before an election, and the deadline for procedures and forms related to alternative voting and vote counting equipment is December 31st of the year before the election. (In December 2016 Council decided to use vote by mail again in Tiny in 2018.)

 Corporations and Trade Union Contributors. These are no longer eligible to contribute to municipal election campaigns. Corporations and trade unions can, however, be third party advertisers and make contributions to third party advertisers.

 Changes to the Rules Regarding Campaign Finances. For these, consult the Act.

Changes to Third Party Advertising (i.e. messages in any medium that support or oppose a candidate or a "yes" or "no" vote on a question on the ballot). Individuals, corporations and unions who wish to be third party advertisers must register with the clerk of the municipality. They must do so between May 1 and the Friday before Voting Day. Third party advertising must be done independently of candidates, who are not able to direct a third party advertiser. Third parties have the same campaign finance rules as the election candidates. There are clear limits to contributions.

• Ranked Ballots. Municipal councils now have the option of passing by-laws to allow the use of ranked ballots. (In November 2016, Council decided against the use of ranked ballots for the 2018 municipal elec-

For additional details, see CoW, September 26, G Staff Reports to Council, Administration and Finance.

DOG PARK:

Also in September 2016, Council approved a by-law turning CBO Park into an off-leash dog park from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m., May 1 - October 31, starting this year. Rules of conduct are posted in the park.



How (Not) to Combat the Carp Problem. . .

PHRAGMITES CONTROL RESEARCH:

On November 14, 2016, Professor Lynn Short reported on the effectiveness of the spading method of control for invasive Phragmites at Wymbolwood Beach in the summer of 2016, and requested in kind support from the municipality to allow the project to be undertaken again on the same site in 2017. (For a thorough description of the work undertaken in 2016, see the fall 2016 Tiny Cottager.) On November 28, Council agreed to supply the requested support. Short is liaising with the Severn Sound Environmental Association with regard to a site in Midland and will be in discussion with SSEA in coming months. She is also supplying information to the Beausoleil First Nations of Christian Island as they begin to tackle the stands of Phragmites on Hope, Beckwith, and Christian Islands.

EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL (EWM) IN FARLAIN LAKE:

In a deputation on November 14, Peter Andrews updated Council on the current state of invasive EWM in Farlain Lake, which was first discovered in late August 2012. The Farlain Lake Association has learned that hand harvesting is ineffective as the infestation recurred and expanded. In 2016, the Association investigated DASH (Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting). Instead of a SCUBA diver transferring uprooted vegetation to a surface crew, the diver feeds the plants into a suction hose and onto a platform. The vegetation is then separated from the water, and the water is filtered and returned to the lake. This method is faster and ensures that minimal or no fragments are returned to the lake.

The Association is fundraising to purchase a DASH system. One initiative is an Aquatic Weed Fest community event in Toanche Park from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on July 2 featuring a BBQ/Wing Ding, displays, a children's creative zone, a silent auction, and a JunkTique sale conducted out of the trunks of participating vendors. The Township is supporting this event.

WIND TURBINES:

In December 2016, Council decided that the Township would maintain its position as an unwilling host for Industrial Wind Turbines, and directed staff to investigate all legitimate measures to counter applications for their installation. In April 2017, in an in camera session, Council received a legal opinion "on Wind Turbine By-law and Renewable Energy Policy."

ATV USE:

Also in December 2016, Council decided to restrict ATV use to specific areas such as County Forests and access routes to their trails. What this means in terms of road use is still under examination. In all likelihood there will be no change to the current rules (no ATVs on township roads) before the fall.

BUDGET:

Council approved the budget for 2017 in January. See article on page 9.

In March, Council decided that basic salary increases for council and staff would be set at 1.5%.

POLICING:

In January, following a recommendation by the Policing Governance Task Force, Council decided to move from a Section 5.1 to a Section 10 Contract arrangement for a 5 year period; the new arrangement allows the Township to establish a five member Police Service Board.

TINY BOG WETLAND RE-EVALUATION:

When the Tiny Bog Wetland east of Wildman Sideroad in Concession 4 W was evaluated in 1984, it was determined to be of non-provincial status. In January 2017, Council learned that the Severn Sound Environmental Association had re-evaluated the Wetland using current standards: these place greater emphasis on hydrological and special features. The Ministry of Natural Resources has accepted the re-evaluation. The Tiny Bog is now classified as provincially significant Wetland.

GARBAGE COLLECTION ON PRIVATE ROADS:

In a letter published under Communication Received, Section II in the Committee of the Whole Agenda for February 13, 2017 the County of Simcoe informed the Township about its requirements for curbside waste collection from "Residential Dwelling Units" that front on private roads, requirements that "must be met to the satisfaction of the Director of Solid Waste Management before the County will provide Waste Collection Services." Residents on private roads are advised to read this letter carefully.

2016 CENSUS REPORT:

Also during the February 13, 2017 CoW Meeting, Mayor Cornell noted that the 2016 Census Report shows that Tiny had a permanent population of 11,787, representing a 4.9% increase since 2011. He noted that the total number of private dwellings in Tiny Township is 9,712 of which 4,899 represent permanent dwellings.

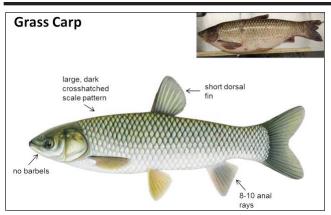
LOCAL AGING PLAN 2017 (prepared by the Senior Advisory Committee):

In March, Council decided to receive the 36-page Aging Plan and its three Appendices as a "framework for action" overseen by the Senior Advisory Committee.

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Grass Carp – a Threat to Georgian Bay

By JERRY SMITKA, RETIRED MNR FISH SPECIALIST



Non-native species introductions are not new to the Great Lakes. Over the past 200 years, 180 such species have arrived, including 25 fish species. Most came as a result of human activities: building the Erie and Welland canals, ocean-going freighters releasing ballast wastewater, deliberate stocking of non-native species such as rainbow trout, brown trout and several Pacific salmon species. Introductions that have negative impacts are called invasive species. An early invasive was the sea lamprey, which still has American and Canadian Government agencies spending millions every year on chemical controls.

More recent invasives are impacting the food chain and ecosystem. Such species (zebra and quagga mussels and spiny water flea) are typically filter feeders of microscopic phytoplankton (plants) and zooplankton (animals). Their arrival has caused the balance of the aquatic ecosystem to become chaotic in all of the Great Lakes except Superior, which may be protected by its cold temperature.

Asian Carp – a New Threat

Four species of Asian Carp -- Grass, Bighead, Silver, and Black -- sit on the Great Lakes' doorstep in the Chicago shipping canal. These species, like zebra and quagga mussels, consume the food base of native fish and could rip apart Georgian Bay's high quality wetlands. They grow and reproduce quickly. (Bighead and Silver Carp now represent more than 90% of the fish biomass in parts of the Mississippi drainage system.) The Silver Carp adds another threat by jumping out of the water in response to boat motor noise, sometimes injuring boaters.

Grass Carp

Grass Carp, with its voracious appetite for aquatic plants, was first introduced in 1963 at a U.S. fisheries research station in Arkansas and Alabama to control plants in ponds. Unfortunately, in 1966 there was an accidental escape from a U.S. government facility. Since then, there have been widespread authorized, illegal, and accidental introductions throughout the U.S. The species is now present in 45 of the U.S.'s 50 states.

Grass Carp grow rapidly. Young fish stocked in the spring at 20 cm (7.9 in) can grow to over 45 cm (18 in) by fall. Their maximum length is 1.4 m (4.6 ft) with a maximum weight of 40 kg (88 lbs). They normally live about 11 years but a lake in Washington State has recorded some at 15 years. They eat up to three times their body weight each day, thriving in lakes, ponds and backwaters of large rivers that provide abundant freshwater vegetation as food. Spawning occurs in fast moving rivers like the Nottawasaga during spring runoff.

They colonize habitat occupied by native species, their sheer numbers out-competing such species as yellow perch, northern pike, muskellunge, largemouth bass, sunfish and rock bass for space and food and destroying spawning habitat by consuming vegetation.

With their voracious appetites Grass Carp also pose a serious threat to waterfowl habitat and wetlands.

The Great Lakes

If Grass carp gain access to the Great Lakes, the more productive southern warmer waters will likely be most



impacted. Particularly at risk will be vegetated shallow water areas and extensive wetland areas. In Georgian Bay, the most likely area for colonization is Severn Sound because it is shallow and supports aquatic vegetation.

Grass Carp for Sale

Seven American states (Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Alabama) sell Grass Carp that can reproduce. Naturally reproducing populations have been established in a number of states in the Mississippi basin. In 2013, the United States Geologic Survey found four Grass Carp in the Sandusky River, Ohio. In 2015, a graduate student at the University of Toledo found eight Grass Carp eggs in the Sandusky River. (Typically, fertilized eggs remain in suspension in the downstream drift of a river.) We can conclude that many more than eight eggs were deposited, and that the likelihood that the Sandusky River will be colonized is rapidly increasing. Grass Carp (most of them sterile) have also been captured in Lakes Michigan and Ontario.

Recommendations

The Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation recommends the prohibition of the production, sale, live shipment, stocking, import and export of Grass Carp for all U.S. states that border the Great Lakes. Ontario and the Canadian government prohibit the importation and sale of live Asian Carp, requiring that they be eviscerated and beheaded when they cross the border.

Since controlling the spread of an established invasive species is extremely difficult, prevention is the most costeffective approach. Your Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation has been asking that electro fishing boats be deployed this spring in the Sandusky River to capture and destroy Grass Carp. Our government agencies have offered to help and we are hopeful that Ohio will accept their offer.

What you can do:

If you see or catch a suspected Asian Carp, please report it immediately to the Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711 or

www.invadingspecies.com/get-involved/invadingspecies-hotline/

For actions you can take, see

www.invadingspecies.com/invaders/fish/asian-carp/

And finally, support the Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation's efforts to stop these invasive fish from getting into the Great Lakes with a generous donation. See www.georgianbaygreatlakesfoundation.com

If a Tree Falls on My House...Am I Covered?

Sometimes it takes just one good storm to topple what was once a sturdy tree in your yard. And, once the storm passes, you may be wondering whether your homeowner's insurance will help pay for the cost of removing the branches or repairing damage if the tree fell on your home.

Whether your homeowner's insurance policy includes coverage for fallen trees typically depends on a number of factors, such as what caused the tree to fall and what kind of damage resulted. Here are answers to some frequently asked questions about trees and insurance.

Q: If a tree falls on my property, will my homeowner's insurance policy cover it?

A: The answer to this question is, "It depends." A homeowner's insurance policy typically protects your home and other structures, such as a fence or shed, against specific causes of loss, known as perils. Covered perils typically include damage caused by wind. So, the situation that caused the tree to fall is important. If the tree was otherwise healthy and toppled due to wind, a typical homeowner's insurance policy may help pay to repair damage to your home or other structure on your property

However, homeowner's insurance usually won't cover a loss caused by negligence or a maintenance-related issue. So if the tree was rotting and ready to fall down before the storm, homeowner's insurance likely would not cover the damage the tree caused to your home.

Q: What if the tree doesn't damage anything?

A: If a tree falls down and causes no structural damage, meaning your house doesn't need any repairs, your homeowner's insurance policy typically will not cover debris

Q: What happens if the tree was on my neighbour's property?

A: If your home is damaged by your neighbour's tree, you'll typically find that your homeowner's insurance may help pay to repair the damage to your house (or other structure, if the tree falls on your fence, for example).

Q: Am I responsible if a tree from my property damages my neighbour's property?

A: You're typically only considered responsible if neglect on your part was a contributing factor to the tree's demise. If not — say a storm knocked your healthy tree onto your neighbour's house — your neighbour will likely have to file a claim through his or her own insurance.

Q: Does insurance cover the costs of removing tree debris?

A. If the tree damaged your home, a homeowner's insurance policy may help cover the cost of repairing your house as well as removing the fallen branches. But if the

tree fell without causing damage to a structure on your property, you may find that insurance won't cover the cost of removing the debris.

It's important to keep in mind that you'll typically have to pay your deductable before your insurance will help pay for a covered loss.

Coverage limits, conditions and exclusions differ from company to company. Always read your policy and check with your agent or broker to learn what type of coverage and how much coverage your policy provides for damage caused by a fallen tree.

*Note: The information provided above is for general information purposes only. Always read your own insurance policy, and contact your insurance professional with any additional questions about insurance coverages.

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FARM FRESH FOOD FEST... continued from page 1



Jim Lambie at an international plowing match in Meaford, 2004 Photo by Marlene Lambie

Our two evening dinners promise to be great experiences. The Three Sisters' Feast on Friday night is a culinary celebration of our local French and Huron-Wendat cultures. Cultural interpreters, Metis dancers and drumming circles will make the evening special. Dr. Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous Affairs, has been invited to open the dinner.

Eleanor McMahon, Ontario's Minister of Tourism and Sport, is planning to attend our 100 Mile Dinner on Saturday evening. Guests will be treated to local entertainment throughout dinner and The Desotos will play their 50's, 60's and beyond rock and roll after dinner for dancing.

Several interesting partnerships developed as we planned the Farm Fresh Food Fest. The annual Simcoe County Plowing Match will take place on Saturday. Another exciting addition is the presentation of the Simcoe County Food and Agriculture Charter Champion Awards on Saturday evening.

The most simple and beautiful part of the event is the Sunday morning wrap up -- an inter-faith service and community breakfast. This was a component of the event that we dreamed about from the beginning but weren't sure if we could make it work. The support both financially and spiritually came together like a gift. It truly encapsulates the spirit of the farm community.

Please come on August 18, 19 and 20th to 4230 Crossland Road in Tiny for this celebration of our local agriculture. New information is posted on the event's website www.farmfreshfoodfest.ca regularly. Tickets for both dinners will be available there too, as will tickets for the festival itself (adults \$10, children \$5). Follow us on Facebook: @farmfreshfoodfest and Twitter: @farmfreshfdfest.





August 18, 19 & 20th, 2017

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What's Going On at GBGH?

BY BRIAN BRADSTREET

Given the Province's ongoing "Operation Review" that may affect various services offered at GBGH, it's important that open communication exists.

GBGH is currently working on three recommendations (with Ontario Ministry approval) that came out of the recent Operation Review - Obstetrics, Surgery Schedule, and the Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

A "Project Charter" for a new birthing partnership between Orillia Soldiers Memorial Hospital (OSMH) and GBGH has been officially signed off by both hospitals.

GBGH and OSMH are building a birthing program that ensures low risk babies continue to be delivered in Midland and riskier births occur at OSMH. This involves assessing expectant mothers to triage them to the appropriate setting. It also involves being able to safely manage emergent situations in Tiny when transport is not feasible.

Operating Room (OR) and Ambulatory Care has been reduced to a four-day schedule and the Utilization Committee continues to review OR efficiencies. Both Ophthalmology and Therapeutic Abortions will remain in the OR as this utilizes a more efficient staffing model.

The audit for physician response times in the ICU has been completed, and policies have been developed to support the admission and discharge of patients from the ICU. A staffing model has also been developed to support a four bed ICU and three high needs beds.

In addition, approval and funding has been received for Phases 2 and 3 of Emergency Department (ED) revitalization. The cost for both phases is around \$9.7M. The project involves building a four bay ambulance area so patients will no longer be offloaded in the "great outdoors". Additional treatment rooms will be created as the completed Phase 1 development is integrated into the existing ED space. The project is targeted for completion in the summer of 2018. When the project is complete the hospital will have a modern ED department that will expedite patient flow and shorten patient wait-times. The original ED was built in 1976 to handle 18,000 visitors a year. Today GBGH deals with approximately 46,000 visits per year and is a critical community resource that both permanent and seasonal resi-

dents require when in need.

A small set back in the revitalization involved the discovery during renovations of asbestos. Interim President and CEO of GBGH had this to say:

"Asbestos was discovered as we started Phase 2 and is being remediated. It's a building built in the early 1970s so like many others, there is some asbestos. We will naturally meet all of today's codes under the watchful eye of the Ministry. "

You may wonder why GBGH has an "Interim President and CEO"?

The position was left open when former President and CEO Karen McGrath left to take on the same role in New Brunswick in early January. John Kurvink, who joined GBGH in 2013 as Chief Financial Officer and vice-president of corporate affairs, was approached by the board and ultimately appointed to the role as Interim President and CEO.

The Georgian Bay General Hospital Board is getting closer to finding the organization's new captain. The Board struck a 10-member recruiting committee consisting of board members, physicians, hospital staff, members of the volunteer association and the North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integration Network (LHIN). The Board CEO recruitment committee used an executive search firm that has presented a long list of potential candidates to the committee during a March meeting. The committee has worked diligently to narrow that list down and began conducting interviews in late March.

"The board felt it important to conduct a thorough process including external and any potential internal candidates to ensure the best person for the hospital," said board Chair Ralph Befort. "We believe there are areas where the hospital can improve including transparency with more of a collaborative approach with staff and physicians and the community. As well the board feels the administration could improve its visibility within the community and around the hospital."

The goal, noted Befort, is to have the new president and CEO in place for the June Annual General Meeting.

Let's hope all goes well for GBGH!

GBGHF Reaches Out to Beach Associations

BY BRIAN BRADSTREET

The Georgian Bay General Hospital Foundation (GBGHF) would like to reach out to individual beach associations in Tiny and adjacent Townships to form "Communication Partnerships" for the purpose of being able to communicate more directly with beach association members.

With the assistance of participating beach associations, GBGHF would be allowed to communicate in pre-defined ways directly with members.

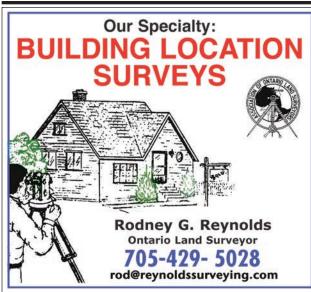
The objective is to allow GBGHF to describe and illustrate their value to cottagers directly and provide Internet links to the GBGH website and "Partnership Page" for the purpose of informing cottagers about hospital services, activities, and special fundraising events.

Beach Associations interested in participating in such a "Communication Partnership" are asked to contact Shelly Price at GBGHF at PriceS@gbgh.on.ca.











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COUNCIL REPORT...continued from page 4

The Committee identified a number of challenges for seniors wanting to stay in their homes: the lack of an identified "town centre", an alternative transportation system, a grocery store and local community health services. The Plan's mission statement gives some notion of how broad its demands on the Township's pocketbook might become: "The Township of Tiny will provide access to housing, transportation, healthcare, recreation and such other services that will enhance the dignity of older adults as they age."

PROPERTIES ADDED TO THE MUNICIPAL HER-ITAGE REGISTER IN TINY SINCE THE FALL 2016 ISSUE OF THE TINY COTTAGER:

On September 26, 2016:

- 1 County Road 6 North (Perkinsfield General Store, built 1924)
- 1 Tiny Beaches Road North (SoHomey Lodge and Collard's Store, built 1910-13, currently the Balm Beach Tavern)
- 702 Concession 17 West (farmhouse linked with the story of Le Loup de Lafontaine, built 1870)
- 2071 Tiny Beaches Road South (Woodland Beach Community Church, built 1929)
- 8144 Highway 93 (St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, built 1889)

On November 14, 2016:

- 296 Tiny Beaches Road North (cottage, built 1882) in Lafontaine, relocated to Cawaja Beach in 1931, often rented by A.Y. Jackson)
- 4130 Crossland Road (house (built in 1890 and 1891 in Gothic Revival style) and barn (built 1884). Originally two houses and two barns, joined in 1910

On January 9, 2017:

- 347 Balm Beach Road West (pioneer home, built 1940)
 - 348 Rue Lafontaine Road West (house, built 1850)
- 1745 Golflink Road (house, built 1920) and (two sheds, built 1900)

On January 30, 2017:

- 567 Concession 17 West (house, built 1890)
- 777 Concession 18 West (house, built 1880, expanded and renovated 1993)
- 830 Concession 18 West (house, originally built 1900, rebuilt 1910-1920, on property that has been a working farm since 1905)

On March 27, 2017:

- 808 Concession 18 West (house, built 1890)
- 876 County Road 6 South (Clute family homestead, built 1908)

On April 24, 2017:

- 5 Matilda Street (house, built 1880)
- 150 Green Point Road (St. Florence Roman Catholic Chapel & S.S. #24 Thunder Beach Schoolhouse, built 1943, renovated as a year-round chapel when the school closed in the 1960s)

Detailed information about each of these properties appears in the relevant Committee of the Whole Agendas under (G) Staff Reports to Council/5. Committees. There is useful information, too, in the Local Heritage section of the Township's website, tiny.ca

ARBORETUM:

In April 2017, Council learned that planning for the proposed municipal arboretum is inching along. Stott Park is being viewed as a possible location. Dawn McConnell (Public Works Department) is to visit the Guelph arboretum to learn more about arboretums. Members of staff are looking into staffing, volunteers, maintaining trees throughout the season, signage, parking and advertising. A \$5,000 federal grant has been successfully applied for. Also in hand are OLG funds of approximately \$7,000 that must be used by this fall.

COMMEMORATIVE TREE AND BENCH **GRAM:**

In response to inquiries about commemorative trees and benches, the Township initiated a Commemorative Tree and Bench Program on April 24, 2017. Benches will be installed in May/June or Oct./Nov. The deadlines for applications are April 1st and September 1st. Planting of trees will occur as weather and ground conditions permit. Application forms are available as a PDF at tiny.ca or at the township offices. Once the form has been submitted, the Recreation Department will follow up with a phone call or email to confirm receipt and may request a site meeting or discussion.

TREATING TINY'S SEPTAGE:

No updates to report.

OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW AND UPDATE:

Still no news on this front. The Township hopes to have a draft ready for a public Open House in late spring/early summer 2017.

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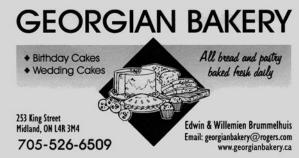


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Tiny's Council Approves a Tax Increase of 5% for 2017

BY DAVID BLAII

The 5% increase in planned tax revenue results from a 2% hike in the property tax rate, combined with the 3% average increase in MPAC assessments in Tiny this year. However, your own municipal taxes will not necessarily go up by 5%: it depends on whether your property assessment has increased by more or less than the average. Note too that your total property tax bill includes, as well as the municipal portion, an education tax and a county tax; Tiny only accounts for about a third of the total, though it collects all three

The Budget is in two parts: the Operating budget and the Capital budget.

Operating expense is actually forecasted to fall by 4.4% or \$404,000 to \$8.8 million, compared to last year's \$9.2 million. Two areas that do increase sharply are Public Works Administration, up \$149,000 or 33%, and Recreation Programs, up \$104,000 or 22%.

How does Public Works spend its budget? The bulk of the increase is to be used for an organizational review. For regular activities, the Director of Public Works, Tim Leitch currently has a winter office staff of two, two mechanics, two night patrol plus ten day operators of outside equipment, including nine ploughs, two graders, a sander truck with a blade, three loaders and one sidewalk "machine". Tim and his team are responsible for 430 km of roads within Tiny Township; a further 40 km are maintained by the County of Simcoe.

What are the Recreation Programs that are so expensive and why is Council willing to spend so much on

them? Since one of council's Strategic Priorities is to support community health and well-being, it maintains the Township's parks, and also provides funding for programs like Learn to Skate and Skating Basics, as well as the Affordable Recreation Program that includes day camp, fitness classes, soccer and baseball.

Tiny's total spending on capital projects is budgeted to rise to \$5.5 million in 2017 from \$3.6 million in 2016. As in the past, capital projects are largely funded by property taxes rather than by borrowing. However, the township also relies on its share of the federal Gas Tax (approximately \$483,000 expected in 2017), on federal and provincial grants, and on its reserves and reserve funds. The balance in the reserves and reserve funds as at December 31, 2016 was \$9.9 million; the December 31, 2017 balance is projected to be down a full million to \$8.9 million.

The chief areas of budgetary increase over last year are By-Law Enforcement (up \$122,000 primarily for new parking machines), Roads (up \$2,142,530, for road improvements of various sorts and for signage for the expanded parking strategy) and Water (up \$469,202, primarily for equipment upgrades). Note that the water department is paid for by the users of the township's sixteen water systems, not by the general taxpayer.

It is worth a comment that, of the sixteen townships in Simcoe County, Tiny still has the third lowest tax rate on residential assessment, despite having no significant industrial assessment to draw on.

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Tax Rates on Residential Property

Residential property tax rates in Tiny are falling by about one percent this year, as a result of a 2% increase in the township rate being more than offset by a 1.5% decrease in the rate levied by the County of Simcoe and a 4.8% decrease in the rate levied for education purposes. Of the total amount, 37% will go to the township, 39% to the County, and 24% for education.

	Township	County	Education	Total
2017	.00277617	0.00294537	0.00179000	0.00751154
2016	.00272174	0.00298947	0.00188000	0.00759121
Percent change	2.00%	-1.48%	-4.79%	-1.05%
Α	\$832.85	\$883.61	\$537.00	\$2253.46
В	\$816.52	\$896.84	\$564.00	\$2277.36

A: 2017 tax on a \$300,000 property (for illustration)

B: 2016 tax on a \$300,000 property

After taking into account the interim tax amount paid earlier this year, the remaining amount will be charged in two instalments due June 30 and September 29.

The average increase in the assessed value of residential properties in Tiny this year is 3.09%. Multiplying this by the 2% increase in the tax rate means that the township expects to generate an increase in tax revenue from residential properties of roughly 5.1%.





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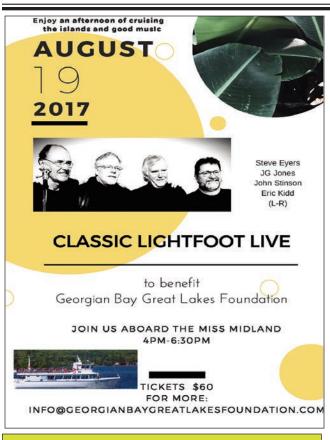
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Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation Georgian Bay Great Lakes

BY MARY MUTER



There is a new organization on the Bay – Georgian Bay Great Lakes Foundation (GBGLF). We are pleased to announce that we are happily based on the Bay within the well-respected Huronia Community Foundation in Midland. We are the same team that first identified ongoing erosion in the upper St. Clair River and brought the International Joint Commission (IJC) onboard, with FOTTSA's help, to recommend that flexible structures be deployed in the upper St. Clair River during low supply conditions. We also persuaded governments to act to "restore water levels in Lake Michigan-Huron by 13 to 25 cm (about 5 to 10 in)".

The latest good news is that our Canadian government has informed the US State Department that Canada supports the IJC's advice. Our challenge now is to get the US government onside. With your continued support, GBGLF is on task to continue to work towards

Since our government is now looking seriously at climate change, where water levels will end up remains a huge question for Georgian Bay since no government agency has been able to factor in the increased outflow in the St. Clair River when calculating future lake levels. We, GBGLF, have recently retained W.F. Baird and Associates (who authored the Baird Report) to use US Army Corps lake levels and flows along with our engineer Bill Bialkowski's Great Lakes routing model to predict water levels to 2050 for Lakes Michigan/Huron/Georgian Bay that will include the increased conveyance/outflow in the St. Clair River. This modeling has been done for all the other Great Lakes so we decided it was important to know this for our Bay. The results of this work will be peer reviewed and published by the fall we hope.

We are continuing to work with and support Dr. Pat

Chow-Fraser and her research into water quality, wetlands and the fishery. It is her investigations that identified the loss of aquatic plant and fish diversity. Dr. Chow-Fraser's papers are peer reviewed and published so that our governments cannot ignore her clear evidence of the harm caused by sustained low water lev-

So we will keep in touch with FoTTSA (your president Paul Cowley is one of our board members) and continue to provide sound science and solutions supporting water levels, wetlands, the fishery and aquatic invasive species control. You can connect with us via our new website www.georgianbaygreatlakesfoundation.com

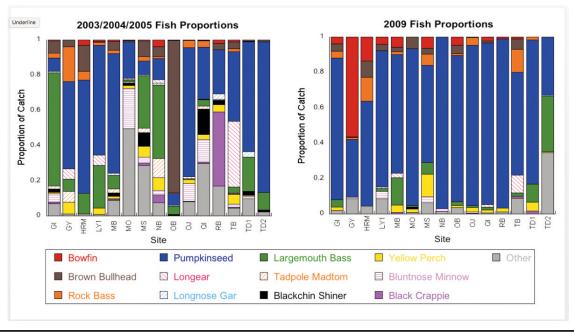
GBGLF's BOARD OF DIRECTORS are Mary Muter, Chair; Roy Schatz, Vice Chair; Jeremy Gawen, Treasurer; Jerry Smitka, Secretary; Bill Bialkowski, Paul Cowley, and John Seagram.

GBGLF's SCIENTIFIC ADVISORS are Dr. Pat Chow Fraser, Ph.D., Dr. Karl Schiefer, Ph.D., and Bill Bialkowski, B.Eng, M.A. Sc.

Well over 90% of the administration of GBGLF is carried out voluntarily by "The Team". However research and communications can be costly.

GBGLF is an Ontario registered, not-for-profit organization affiliated with the federally registered charity, Huronia Community Foundation, P.O. Box 324, Midland, Ontario, L4R 4L1. To donate to our projects by mail, please make out your cheque to Huronia Community Foundation and mark in the notation line "for GBGLF".

To make a secure online donation, go to www.huroniacommunityfoundation.com/funds/georgian-baygreat-lakes.



SSEA Awards for Tiny Residents

BY LINDA ANDREWS



Stanton, Lynn Short, Julie Cayley (SSEA General Manager)

Congratulations to Tiny residents Lynn Short (Wymbolwood) and Bill Sweenie (Farlain Lake) who received Severn Sound Environmental Association awards at the SSEA Partners Reception in November 2016.

The Bob Whittam Environmental Award recognizes those dedicated to improving the Severn Sound ecosystem. The 2016 award was presented to Lynn Short for her work in controlling the invasive plant phragmities without the use of herbicides. (See Tiny Cottager Fall 2016.) Lynn, a Professor of Horticulture at Humber College, developed a "spading" technique which was used in parallel studies

in Tiny Township and the Humber River Valley. She supervised volunteers working on test plots over the summer and was able to gather data to demonstrate the effectiveness of the "spading" method in eradicating phragmities more effective than other methods such as mowing or plowing. Her work is supported by Humber College, municipal governments and of course many beach property owners who have benefited from this work. Lynn also spends many hours educating and motivating student and community groups throughout southern Ontario.

The Volunteer Recognition Award honors landowners and partners for their exceptional contributions to the Severn Sound environment. Bill Sweenie (a 2013 Bob Whittam award winner) provided critical support to the

Inland Lake Monitoring program as SSEA was developing a survey to give a better understanding of the water quality within the lakes. Bill provided background knowledge of the watershed, guided tours, historical pictures and information on past and current Farlain Lake activities. He provided lake access through his property and the use of his boat for the many sample runs from April to October.



Bill Sweenie (Farlain Lake)

Pull & Plant! Garlic Mustard Control Plus Pollinator Support at Tiny Marsh

Every May, volunteers have been diligently pulling Garlic Mustard from various spots within Tiny Marsh. This year, we've added a new dimension!

As we remove the unwanted weed, we will be replacing it with a flowering native perennial that will provide much-needed pollen and nectar for native pollinators bees, butterflies and other insects. The plant species will include goldenrods, asters, milkweed, black-eyed Susan and Canada anemone.

There are over 400 different species of native bees in Ontario (the honey bee is not one) and many populations are stressed for lack of floral resources and habitat.

The focus will be just west of the Nature Centre, where we will be planting 1500 pollinator-friendly plants to replace and help choke out the remaining Garlic Mustard.

Originally from Europe, this highly invasive weed

spreads quickly and supresses the growth of many of our native plants and hardwood tree seedlings. The aggressive herb can quite comfortably grow in sun or shade, forests or roadsides. Each flower spike can produce hundreds of seeds which when dispersed can remain in the ground for 20+ years and still be able to germinate. Animals, humans and dogs that walk through affected areas easily disperse

The "Pull and Plant" will take place on Saturday May 27 and Sunday May 28 from 9 am to 5 pm. If you wish to help and have a couple of hours available in either the morning or afternoon, please contact Anne McArthur at aemcarth@rogers.com. We will supply the necessary equipment. Gloves, long sleeves, long pants and closed footwear as well as bug spray are recommended.



BY ANNE MCARTHUR

On Saturday June 24, Marl Tiny Matchedash (MTM) Conservation Association will once again be hosting a BioBlitz at Tiny Marsh.

With over 600 hectares of wetland and 300 hectares of forest and fields to explore, join our experts and naturalists in a series of guided 2 to 3 hour walks to discover the many species of birds, butterflies, plants, mammals, reptiles and amphibians that make this wetland their home.

This family friendly event is a great way to learn about the biodiversity found in this wildlife area and to participate as a 'citizen scientist' by helping to count how many species can be found within Tiny Marsh.

The walks start at 6 am for the birders. A series of twohour outings, each focused on an aspect of the abundant life at the marsh, leave at 10 am and again at 1 pm. The day finishes around 4:30 pm. Registration prior to June 1 is \$15 and covers the whole day – or you can take in just one or two walks. A free BBQ lunch is included as well as an optional free t-shirt. There is no charge for children under 16 accompanied by an adult. After June 1 the fee is \$20.

(T-shirts may not be available after June 1st).

For a schedule of the walks and to register, visit tinymarshbioblitz.eventbrite.ca

Come celebrate Canada's 150th anniversary by experiencing nature in one of our renowned local natural wonders. Bring your family and friends.



Ontario Nature Advocates for Protection of Water & Nature

By Joshua Wise

As part of the review of the Province's Growth Plan, the Province is set to unveil a draft map of a regional Natural Heritage System - an identified network of core natural areas and corridors that support the protection of the region's water and biodiversity - for the entire Greater Golden Horseshoe. This Natural Heritage System will provide added protection for natural features, like wetlands, dunes, forests and river valleys throughout the region. The goal is to shift development away from important areas that provide wildlife habitat, help regulate the climate, filter fresh water and control flooding. Ensuring community voices and experts inform the development of this system will be critical to get the government to protect locally-significant features. See also "Expanded Greenbelt would help protect our Water Resources" Tiny Cottager Fall 2016.

To help leverage the local expertise and knowledge that exists across these communities, Ontario Nature (established as the Federation of Ontario Naturalists in 1931) is piloting a community-led approach to identifying a Natural Heritage System, with a focus on Simcoe County and communities in the Nottawasaga watershed.

This project is being funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation and the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation, and delivered in partnership with the Simcoe County Greenbelt Coalition. For more information please contact me at joshuaw@ontarionature.org

Phragmites Removal Volunteers Needed

Professor Lynn Short will be continuing her research on Phragmites at Wymbolwood Beach this summer. Volunteers are needed Friday mornings from May to August to remove Phragmites using the selective spading technique and to measure growth. All tools will be provided -- practical clothing, work gloves and sturdy footwear suggested!

For more information & to sign up: lynn.short@humber.ca 647-273-5966

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Nicole Moore and Peter Jennings, Shark Assault

Marina Nemat, Prisoner of Tehran

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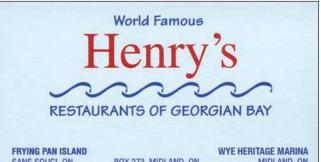
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June 24, 2017 Tickets \$125 Midland Cultural Centre MCC Box Office 6:00pm

Welcome back, Tiny Cottagers!







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Phone: 705.549.7104 Website: www.Marcelville.com Residents of the Township of Tiny have access to one of the three area Public Libraries featured below. Contact the library of your choice to find out how to become a member.

Midland Public Library

Located in the heart of downtown Midland, the Midland Public Library (www.midlandlibrary.com) fosters lifelong learning and creativity with its welcoming spaces, dynamic programs, and diverse collections.

Founded in 1880, the Library is celebrating its 50th year in Midland's iconic former post office at King and Elizabeth Streets, after moving from the original Carnegie site on Hugel Avenue. A huge expansion and renovation project, more than doubling the space and masterfully complementing the historic building, was completed in 2011. In the lower level you'll find 'The Book Cellar', a used book shop run by the Friends of the Midland Public Library. It's a treasure trove for avid readers.

The newest update is 'The Back Corner', a lounge dedicated to 9-14 year-olds. This 'tween' space is decked out with

bean bag chairs, Minecraft stations, a PS4 gaming system, and a colourful 12'x15' mural by local youth artist Bailey Paget.

Within its grand space, the Library organizes engaging programs for learning and leisure. Children can choose from regular offerings like storytime, Makers & Breakers tech workshops, and the new weekly Gardening Club. Adults can attend genealogy workshops, or boost their computer skills with a 1-on-1 Tech Tutor or small classes on e-readers, social media, and more. Special annual events like Battle of the Books and Books 2 Eat also strengthen community

The Library's first gala fundraiser takes place this June, featuring Canadian authors Nicole Miller and Peter Jennings (Shark Assault) and Marina Nemat (Prisoner of Tehran). At 'A Novel Affair' these three acclaimed authors and a renowned Canadian dance group will give moving and inspirational performances, and guests will enjoy local arts, food, and drinks.

Penetanguishene Public Library



The Penetanguishene Public Library (www.penetanguishene.library.on.ca/) began as an Andrew Carnegie Library and was renovated in 1995 to provide for the growing number of Library users. The PPL also has a satellite branch, the John Brown Memorial Library, located at Georgian Village.

The Library hosts programs for all ages throughout the year and is hosting activites for children Monday to Friday for the month of June in preparation for Canada's 150th Birthday. In July and August there will be Snap Circuit activties, a graphic novel book club and Fabulous Friday Fun. Returning again this year is the Library Summer Reading Programme which is open to members and non-members of the Library with prizes to be won for participants.

The Library partners with local groups and organizations, including Conversational French with la Clé and Veteran

Knits. The Library also offers one of the largest French collections in Simcoe County. There is an ongoing volunteer program in addition to the Friends of the Penetanguishene Public Library. Upcoming events are the Friends of the Library's annual garage sale and the Bulbs of Fire Garlic presentation.

Springwater (Elmvale) Public Library

Springwater Township's dynamic and welcoming Public Library (www.springwater.library.on.ca) has three branches: Elmvale, Midhurst, and Minesing. It has a large selection of books, DVDs, Blu-rays, magazines, and puzzles available for checkout. There are plenty of computers available for use, as well as free wifi. Children love playing in the story pit at the Elmvale Branch.

The Library's summer reading programs are very popular, especially the half-day camp which runs for one week at each of the branches. The seven week reading club features lots of great prizes and is a great way to promote reading while on summer vacation. The Elmvale Branch has a new knitting program, movies every week, storytimes, Library Babes, and some special fun this summer for the younger



ones! Look for the Library's booth at the Elmvale-Springwater Farmer's Market on Fridays and pick up a book at the used book sale. There are a wide variety of programs for all ages, so check out the website for the most updated list!



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Recommended Summer Reading

Welcome to the Tiny Cottager 2017 Recommended Summer Reading Column. As always, many thanks to the contributors who have made these suggestions for your summer reading pleasure, as an alternative to alternative facts

From Jack Ellis, Penetanguishene (Rowntree Beach emeritus)

"A Very Expensive Poison", by Luke Harding

Looking for a thrilling page-turner to snuggle up with on a rainy summer day? This book reads like a James Bond spy novel, but it's all true! The author relates the shocking saga surrounding the fatal poisoning of Alexander Litvinenko, dissident former Russian FSB (successor to the KGB) agent who mainly investigated organized crime. By the year 2000 his efforts apparently had ruffled the feathers of so many prominent persons that he was dismissed from the FSB. He promptly fled to Britain, where he turned MI6 agent. Pursued in London by Russian operatives, in November 2006 he died a horrible death after ingesting Polonium-210, an extremely rare and viciously powerful radioactive substance — and the world's most costly radioisotope to produce.

Harding was Moscow correspondent for The Guardian from 2007 to 2011. While there, he delved into the Litvinenko case and its many links to various shadowy characters associated with the FSB and the political-economic elites. Refused re-entry to Russia in February 2011, out of caution he decided not to take the word of Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov that he could, indeed, safely return to Moscow, instead scooting back to London and producing "Mafia State", a revealing bestseller on how the Russian political economy was subverted under Vladimir Putin to become a "kleptocracy" for a few hundred oligarchs. The middle chapters of "A Very Expensive Poison" present revealing insights into world events such as the Crimean annexation, incursions into Ukraine, the MH17 air crash incident, and even what the "Panama Papers" revealed about Putin & Co. The detail is amazing.

The final chapters describe the UK's long-delayed official inquest into Litvinenko's death. Led by Sir Robert Owen, a High Court justice, it ran from January to July 2015. In his final report in January 2016 Sir Robert concluded that "the FSB operation to kill Mr. Litvinenko was probably approved by...President Putin". Wow!

From Lynne Archibald, Nottawaga Beach "Commonwealth", by Ann Patchett

As we hurtle through our lives, most of us don't notice the moments that actually make all the difference. We remember getting married, but can we recall the first glance that led to love? What about the decision to go to the party where we met the person who changed the course of everything?

Ann Patchett captures these fleeting yet all determining instants in her beautiful new novel "Commonwealth". This story of two families that become intertwined takes place in America mostly during the last quarter of the 20th century and the beginning of this century. Patchett shows us the overarching view of each family's history, but she also lets us into the intimate details of what each parent and sibling feels keenly as they experience the same events through their own personal prisms.

"Commonwealth" is Patchett's seventh novel. Many of her novels, including "Bel Canto", and her non-fiction books have won awards and been named New York Times Notable books. (Her short book "What Now?" is an ideal graduation gift.) In 2011 Patchett opened an independent bookstore in Nashville and has since become a frequent speaker and author who champions reading, books and independent booksellers.

From Linda Andrews, Wahnekewening Beach

"The Death and Life of the Great Lakes", by Dan Egan

Zebra and quagga mussels are clogging the pipes of irrigation systems adjacent to the Colorado River, west of the Rockies. How did these species, native to the Caspian Sea, get there? It's a long, disturbing story.

Originally the Great Lakes, 94,000 square miles of precious freshwater, were separated from the Atlantic by Niagara Falls and from the Mississippi by a continental divide – nicely isolated, ecologically balanced, under no outside threat. In a gripping tale, Dan Egan explains how this isolation ended and presents the sequence of events leading to the ecological problems that the Great Lakes are facing today.

Engineering marvels such as the St. Lawrence Seaway

designed to benefit international trade and commerce also brought ballast water swarming with invasive species. Similarly, when the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal breached the continental divide to allow sewage-laden waters to flush down the Mississippi, thus alleviating a huge health problem for the city of Chicago, a back door was opened which enabled invasive species to swim upstream into the Great Lakes.

The Clean Water Act of 1972 reduced the threat of industrial chemicals, but did not address other threats such as biological contaminants in ballast water or toxins in fertilizer runoff. Many other factors, such as low water levels and toxic algae, also affect lake health. And ultimately every lake and river is connected and vulnerable – if not by water, then by highway, as boat trailers and bait buckets provide perfect transportation for invasives such as the zebra and quagga mussels. The money, time and expertise required to keep the Great Lakes and waterways free flowing and healthy is staggering; and typically this is money spent to undo our mistakes.

Egan is dreaming of the day when the Great Lakes are again successfully protected from invasives and other threats so that a new ecological balance can be reached. We've nearly killed the Great Lakes. This is a call to arms to save them.

From Al Taylor, Kingswood Acres "The Clifton Chronicles", by Jeffery Archer

This is a fast-reading, spellbinding, seven-book saga of two British families, the Barrringtons and the Cliftons, from the mid-1800s to 1992. Beginning with "Only Time Will Tell", it is the story of generations of one family, and how they rose from humble beginnings, and from heartbreak to triumph. The epic tale of Harry Clifton's life begins in 1920, with the words, "I was told that my father was killed in the war," establishing the characters that will appear in the next six novels.

It's easy to keep all the characters separate through the series, which is a rarity for the genre. I especially liked the Lady Virginia character, whose efforts to discredit the family and bring them down made me want to shout warnings at the pages.

These books will keep you reading and hooked all summer long, are readily available at the library, or as talking books to make the trip to the cottage fly by, and even keep the car idling after you arrive, to hear the end of a chapter!

From Sandy Proudfoot, Copeland Creek "Death at Breakfast," by Beth Gutcheon

I'm happy to pass on a recommendation for books by the author Beth Gutcheon. I met Beth years ago at a quilt conference I sponsored in 1977 at York University following the publication of her classic "Perfect Patchwork Primer". She has gone on to write a short list of novels, the last of which, "Death at Breakfast", is a fun read. Following that, "Leeway Cottage" makes for heavier histor-

ical reading, but takes the reader into the characters' lives with both compassion and humour.

From Bruce Henderson, Wymbolwood Beach "Hero of the Empire", by Candace Millard

The Boer War (1899-1901) in South Africa marked Britain's last great battle of the Victorian era. Britain sat atop the world as a colonial power that ruled the seas with the most dominant navy in the world. On land, her armies were respected, if not feared, for their steadfastness and courage. It came as a great shock to the British Empire when the Dutch Boer settlers in the Transvaal and Orange Free State of South Africa decisively defeated the British army on numerous occasions.

The young Winston Churchill was a war correspondent for a London newspaper and witnessed these defeats. He wanted to avenge them. While riding on a train heading for the front lines, he was captured, imprisoned, and subsequently escaped. The story of his solitary trek through enemy territory, his sojourn in a safe house deep underground in a coal mine, and his arrival in Portuguese East Africa, is spellbinding.

"The River of Doubt", by Candace Millard

Theodore Roosevelt was U.S. President from 1901 to 1909, and both before and after his presidency acquired a reputation as a tough and aggressive outdoorsman who revelled in ranching in the Dakotas and big game hunting in Africa.

In 1914, looking for more adventure in unexplored parts of the world, he organized a party of compatriots to explore the deepest interior of the Amazon rainforest by canoeing down the River of Doubt, a tributary of the great Amazon River. The party encountered conditions that they had not anticipated and for which they were ill-prepared – dugout canoes that were too heavy to portage, raging rapids, torrential rains, malaria carrying mosquitoes and insufficient food supplies. Accidents, near mutiny and murder compounded the natural obstacles. Roosevelt survived – barely – and gave speeches about the ordeal once he returned to the U.S. This is a page turner.

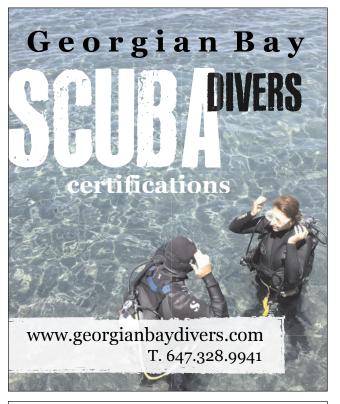
"Destiny of the Republic", by Candace Millard

James Garfield was President of the U.S. for only six months in 1881. He was shot and severely wounded by a would-be assassin in July of that year, and died of complications in September.

Candace Millard's book recounts in detail the events of that six-month period when doctors were probing for the bullet which they speculated was lodged somewhere near his abdomen. In the end, the conclusion of medical experts who examined the corpse was that Garfield died not from the bullet wound, but from the germs introduced by the doctors' probing with unsterilized fingers and instruments. Illustrious figures like the British surgeon Joseph Lister and the inventor Alexander Graham Bell figure prominently in the story. Alas, their efforts were to no avail due to the domineering leadership of a Dr. Willard Bliss, who headed the medical team. This book reminds us just how much medical science has advanced in the last 136 years.







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Parking Strategy

BY JUDITH GRAN

The Parking Program that will be in place this coming summer has been carefully worked through stage by stage in the fall and winter months. On November 1, after considering written comments about the previous summer's program and discussing a comprehensive report by Steve Harvey (Tiny's Chief Municipal Law Enforcement Officer), Council felt that the pilot parking strategy (conversion of open parking to permit parking from Concession 8 to 12) was generally a success and that it should be expanded throughout the Township as deemed appropriate.

In January, Council decided that signs would be installed at Kitching Lane indicating "No Stopping."

On March 2, Council decided that open parking would be converted to permit parking from Archer Road in the south to Concession 20 West in the north (later to Concession 21 West and East), extending inland to the Nipissing Ridge and in some areas to County Road 6. This expansion will not affect any of the township's settlements. Signs (larger than the ones used in 2016) are to be posted about the change on each road used as an entry or exit point to the area. The entrance signs look like this:



Visitors are limited to pay parking in areas at, or near, the five major beach parks along the western shore – Woodland Beach, Bluewater Beach, Jackson Park, Balm Beach, and Lafontaine Beach. Township residents may purchase two \$15 permits per household to use in permit and pay parking areas. (To be consistent with practice at other major shore parks, pay parking has been instituted at Bluewater Park and Lafontaine Park. At Bluewater, the permit parking along Concession 5 West and Trew Avenue has been converted to pay parking, while at Lafontaine, the open parking within the off-street parking lot and permit parking along the road has become pay parking.)

For visitors almost all pay parking rates are the same as last year's and are in line with those in neighbouring municipalities. They will be enforced from May 15 to September 15, from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. The one significant change is at Jackson Park. There, visitors parking both car and boat or trailer must pay for two spaces, not one. A resident just has to display one permit.

One final point – no parking areas remain "No Parking."

A letter detailing the changes was sent to every township property owner on April 24. It included a map showing the extent of the 2016 Pilot Parking Strategy and of the 2017 Parking Program. The map also shows the locations of the 24 entrance signs and of the ten 2' by 3' signs along the western shore. The latter are almost identical to the entrance signs, except that the phrase "BEYOND THIS POINT" is omitted. The information and map are also available on the township website. As with the 2016 pilot parking program, written comments about this summer's parking arrangements will be accepted until the end of September. Council will then consider whether to make changes to this year's parking program.





July 6th to August 24th

Thur, July 6th at the Midland Cultural Centre
Tom Allen's - Bohemians In Brooklyn

A delightful mixture of cabaret, nostalgia, theatrical comedy and phenomenal music, featuring singer Patricia O'Callaghan.

Fri, July 21st On board the Miss Midland Huronia Hot Strings Boat Cruise featuring Leslie Dawn Knowles

Gypsy Jazz

Swinging Gypsy Jazz is back with Huronia Hot Strings and sizzling hot eclectic Violinist, Leslie Dawn Knowles. (Fundraiser Includes: finger food, silent auction and cash bar)

Thur, July 27th at the Midland Cultural Centre Valdy, Nadina & Karel

- Folk to Baroque

Nadina Mackie Jackson and folksinger Valdy blend Folk and Baroque, and serve it on a score of be-bop and swing.

Thur, Aug 17th at the Midland Cultural Centre Philip Chiu, Pianist

- Of Church and State
Philip Chiu, first recipient of the Prix Goyer- Canada's
largest prize for an emerging classical artist.

Thur, Aug 24th at the Midland Cultural Centre Louise Pitre - Chasing Rainbows

You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll laugh again as Canada's 'first lady of Musical Theatre' weaves tales around the songs of Judy Garland.



3rd Annual Tiny Township Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament

By DICK WESSELO



This year's Mayor's Charity Golf Tournament is in support of several local charities that focus on seniors and youth and on healthcare. Pre-determined amounts are set aside for Hospice Huronia, the Georgian Bay General Hospital Foundation, the Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre and the Township of Tiny Bursary Program. The balance of the proceeds will be split evenly among Wheels 4 Wheels; the Barn Buddies Equine Assisted Wellness Program; We Are The Villagers; the combined Penetanguishene and Midland Guides, Brownies, Sparks, Scouts, Cubs and Beavers; Community Reach; and the Quest Art School.

The aims and objectives of Hospice Huronia, the Tiny Township Bursary Plan, the Georgian Bay Cancer Support Centre, the GBGH Foundation and the scouting troops are generally known within the Community. Some of the others, however, may not enjoy similar name recognition.

Wheels 4 Wheels is the wheelchair accessible transportation service of the Huronia Seniors' Volunteer Care Team. Even though the name implies a focus on seniors, any wheelchair-bound individual can use this service, subject to driver availability. W4W provides transportation to medical appointments and a wide range of social and family events and opportunities. The service is operated by volunteers and 100% of the donations received go towards the service.

Barn Buddies provides equine assisted wellness activities and visits with trained miniature horses. The organization's all-volunteer staff and their four legged "Barn Buddies" visit nursing homes, schools, hospitals, libraries and community events. Barn Buddies will also visit critically or terminally ill individuals who might benefit from the contact and love of a special "ambassador of love".

We Are The Villagers helps children participate in extracurricular activities. Whether the child fancies a particular sport, music, art or other special interest, the organization endeavours to sponsor those children whose families can't afford registration fees and equipment costs.



Community Reach provides volunteer transportation and housing programs to those in need. They help people build the skills they need to maintain their current homes and provide resources that help the homeless obtain permanent housing.

And, finally, Quest Art is a volunteer organization that offers quality visual arts education programs and exhibitions. It works to engage and enrich the community through dynamic art activities. The Tournament will help support its youth art camps and classes.

Sponsorships are an integral part of a Tournament's success. Various levels of sponsorship are available. If you are a golfer, consider getting a team together. Don't worry if only one or two of you are interested in participating: the organizers will create foursomes.

The Tiny Cottager has contributed to the success of the day once again by becoming title sponsor.

Please visit the Township's website, tiny.ca for sponsorship, golf and dinner registration and for general information about the event. If you have a question the website does not answer, please contact Maggie Off, the Township's Community Engagement Leader at 705-526-4204 or by email at moff@tiny.ca. Save the date and hope for great Tournament weather! See you at the Brooklea Golf & Country Club on July 14th!

www.tinycottager.org





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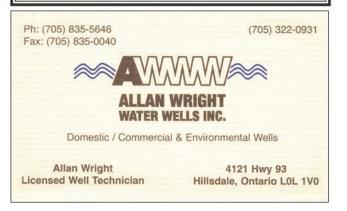
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Bridging the Generation Gap @ the cottage with Social Media



We hear a lot about social media and much of it focuses predictably on the biggest platform, Facebook. However, according to Adweek, 16 % of all Canadians are on Instagram and amongst younger Canadians between 18 and 34 years old, the percentage rises to 32%. What exactly is Instagram and why are so many young people intrigued by it?

It used to be that most cottages were unplugged zones. However, now that many people have smart phones which are connected to the internet all or most of the time, cottages are like everywhere else in that family members will spend at least part of the day checking their screens. While getting outside and living IRL ("in real life") is always the goal when we're in Tiny Township, Instagram is a social media platform that can actually bring families together, at the cottage and also throughout the year, especially if family members are geographically scattered.

Instagram was originally invented by two friends in their 20s who had met while studying at Stanford University and then started working together. In 2010, they created Instagram as a way to add filters to photos to make them look like instamatic snapshots from the

1970s and then share them with friends. The word Instagram comes from instant camera and telegram and their first logo looked like an instamatic camera.



Instagram continues to be a visual experience focused on photos that have a word or two of description (or nothing at all). You will never have to read political diatribes by your crazy cousin Clara or endless Blog postings by your boring former classmate about his vacation in Hawaii.

All you need to be on Instagram is a phone with internet (either an iPhone or any smart phone that uses Android). Joining is easy and only involves one decision - private or public. Unless you want to use Instagram to promote a business or an organization, a private account is the best of both worlds - you can see everything that is public and the photos of those you follow who have private accounts but only the people you authorize to follow you can see your pictures. Facebook is like shaking hands - it only happens if you both stick out your hands but Instagram is like waving from afar someone can wave but you don't have to wave back. You request to follow people with private accounts and they request to follow you - and you accept them or not. So the number of people you follow can be quite different from the number of people who follow you. Prince William and Kate and Prince Harry share an official Instagram account @kensingtonroyal and they have 1.7 million followers but they only follow 66 accounts. (You can tell that an account is official when it has a little white checkmark in a blue circle beside the name).

Public Instagram accounts and photos can be searched using key words which are called hashtags and always start with the symbol #. For example if you're thinking of visiting the Butter Tart Festival in Midland on June 10th, you could type #midlandbuttertartfestival into the search line and see some delicious photos and get a feel for the atmosphere of the event.

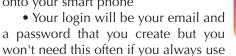
Many of our favourite photos are taken at the cottage and Instagram gives us a free and easy way to share

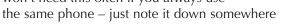
them instantly with each other cousins, aunts, uncles, parents, grandparents and siblings along with a few of our favourite friends (or in this case followers!). And we can show our appreciation for photos we love by clicking on the little heart icon to "like" it.



Tips for setting up your Instagram account:

- Follow the steps: www.wikhow.com/Create-an-Instagram-Account
- Make sure you download the original Instagram app with this logo onto your smart phone

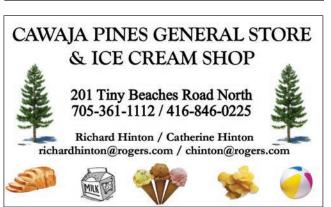




- Choose your username carefully because it will be visible to others @janesmith
- If your name is already taken or you don't want to use your own name, you can be more creative @whisperingpines
- Once you're comfortable posting photos, you can also branch out into videos
- If you are already on Facebook, Twitter or Flickr, you can also share your Instagram posts on those plat-
- Public accounts that you might like to follow for example: organizations, companies, activities, publications or cultural centres. Instagram can be a great way to find out what is happening around you:

@cottagelife @wyemarsh @hobiecatcompany @midlandculturalcentre

See the Fall *Tiny Cottager* for an article assessing the character, value, virtues, dangers of other social media.









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Airbnb Basics

What is Airbnb?

Airbnb is an online marketplace and hospitality service, enabling people to list or rent short-term lodging including vacation rentals, apartment rentals, homestays, and hotel rooms; it has over 3,000,000 lodging listings in 65,000 cities and 191 countries, and the cost of lodging is set by the host.

There are a surprising number of listings in Tiny and throughout cottage country.

Airbnb has experienced explosive growth since its inception as part of the new, shared economy much like Uber, and not without controversy.

Pros and Cons

Airbnb can benefit both hosts and travelers. Hosts meet people from around the world while making a little extra money, and travelers can often stay for less than the cost of a hotel room.

Despite the benefits, there are concerns. Perhaps the biggest risk for hosts is that their property will get damaged and unwanted noise will earn them the ire of their

The biggest concerns for guests may be that the property does not match the description, or that the host is unresponsive to their needs by being absent.

The Bottom Line

Airbnb provides an online marketplace that connects people with rooms to share with people who need a place to stay. In the past, such services have been used

largely by thrifty tourists looking for the cheapest place they can find in a particular area - much like the traditional bed and breakfast (B&B).

Renting to offset increasing high costs of hydro and taxes allows owners to maintain the property and make some extra money. However, one lake area has banned short-term rentals, citing noise and unwanted intrusions. Many local associations are discussing the issue.

There will be an increasing number of rentals in all areas of cottage country as Airbnb replaces the past practice of renting to people one knows, who often come back year after year, becoming part of the fabric of cottage communities, perhaps buying at some point.

Some owners have gone the Airbnb route rather than selling and have an avatar do the opening, closing and cleaning up. In this way properties are removed from the market, driving prices up.

Traditional bed and breakfasts in the area use Airbnb and have had a positive experience. But of course the owners are on site. One reported that 60% of its increased business was a result of Airbnb. B&B owners pay taxes as a business. Private individuals (Airbnb hosts) do not.

Currently Tiny does not have any regulations in place regarding Airbnb rentals.

One thing is for sure, we are going to see and hear more about this in Tiny in the future, as we have in the GTA with daily positive and negative news items in the media.

Short Term Rental Issues

There is a lot of consternation and debate about the online platform Airbnb that allows individuals to rent out their homes, condos, apartments, or rooms to visitors. There is a concern that Airbnb and other online service providers will become a dominant player in connecting property owners in outlying recreational areas with visitors interested in short-term stays.

The heart of the short-term rental issue is not connectivity, but co-existence and conflict.

Nearly a century ago people from large cities sought out escapes from urban density, poor air quality, and work life. While more affluent people were able to develop retreats where they could relax and entertain guests, others sought solitude and relaxation by camping or building small cabins. People learned to co-exist with nature, and conflicts were minimal. With the advent of the automobile and the development of road systems throughout Ontario, more people travelled to spend more time in the out-of-doors. Small campgrounds along shorelines transformed into compounds that rented small cabins or trailer spaces. However, due to the concentration of people in confined spaces, problems such as noise, theft and other issues occurred. Property owners instituted 'rules and regulations' for everyone to abide by to foster co-existence and minimize conflict.

More and more private retreats were built. The seasonal cottages were in most cases fully utilized during the summer months by family groups. Rowboats and canoes provided transportation on the water and motorboats were very small. Music was associated with singsongs around a campfire. Kerosene lamps provided outdoor lighting. Fishing was done at the end of a dock and only enough for a meal would be caught. When problems occurred neighbours would try to resolve differences through discussion and compromise. People learned to co-exist and minimize conflict.

Flash forward to the year 2017. The demand for recreational properties is great. People who are retiring are choosing to live in a four-season home by a waterbody rather than in an urban center. Watercraft have become specialized in the form of high-speed pleasure craft. Mega-sound systems on boats or on land pump out current melodies. Personal drones are being used to photograph activities. Fewer families are spending the summer at the cottage as both parents work. Property owners are renting their recreational properties during periods of non-use to generate revenue to offset the cost of owning a secondary residence. Some enterprising people purchase recreational properties as a rental investment.

The subject of short-term rental is a very hot topic and vigorous debates have divided communities. One group advocates a 'community spirit' model that brings people together, strengthens neighbourhood bonds, and promotes a sense of community and belonging. This group believes that the unmanaged short-term rental phenomenon has transformed community dynamics. Another group who represent business interests oppose short-term rentals, as they would undercut their bed and breakfast, campground, trailer park, and motel businesses. Others support short-term rental because they use their property only occasionally or they purchased the property for future retirement use.

Caught in the middle of the short-term rental opponents and supporters is the Township of Tiny that has to respond to complaints about short-term rentals. It is not known if the Township has been tracking and categorizing complaints related to short-term rentals, but other jurisdictions have identified common complaint types such as boisterous parties, trespassing, music, general noise, fireworks, unwanted guests, and traffic/parking. Unsafe boating, illegal fishing and hunting, and campfires during fire bans could also be included in the list of complaints about short-term rentals.

To consider this subject properly, we need to determine the current level of issues while assessing the impact of short-term rentals if they become commonplace without any municipal oversight. To determine the need for legislation, Township Council could assess short-term rental concerns in a workshop setting.

The fundamental question is -- Can short-term vacation rentals co-exist with communities?

The answer may lie in a Township by-law that balances the desire of property owners to rent to short-term tenants and the desire of residents to preserve the peaceful character of their residential neighbourhoods. This balance could be achieved through short-term vacation rental permits, renter education on community etiquette, township by-laws (regarding noise, fire bans, fireworks, ATV and motocross vehicles, and the like) and federal/provincial laws (such as boating, fishing, and hunting regulations).

Through cooperation and compliance, short-term rentals could co-exist with communities.





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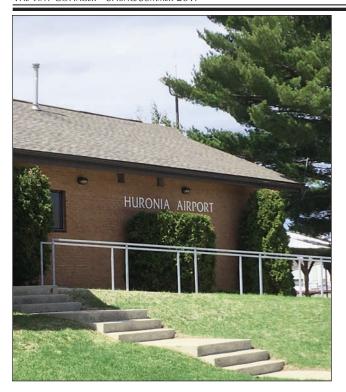


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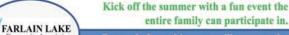
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Huronia Municipal Airport

Do you have a young person in your family who would like to learn to fly?

On June 17th, the Huronia Municipal Airport is the site of COPA for Kids – a free aviation programme that puts COPA member pilots together with youth aged 8 to 18 years to show them what aviation is all about. COPA is the Canadian Owners and Pilots Association - a group of aircraft owners and aviation enthusiasts anxious to share their skill and knowledge with the pilots of tomorrow. Preregistration is required. See huroniaairport.com/public/copa_17.pdf

Other exciting upcoming events include the Canadian Vintage Motorcycle Club Swap Meet on May 27th (vintage bikes, vendors and a fly-in held by COPA) and the Recreational Aircraft Association (RAA) Northern Regional Fly-in on July 8th (vintage aircraft, sightseeing flights, educational activities).

These are just some of the exciting happenings at our local airport. The Huronia Municipal Airport on the 8th Concession East in Tiny was established in 1965 with a 1,500-foot-long turf runway and no terminal building. Ownership is shared among Midland, Penetanguishene and Tiny and the airport has grown to have a 3,996 foot runway capable of handling most multi-engine turbo props and many small to medium sized executive jets, with 75,950 square feet of paved ramp, a modern 3,000 square foot well-equipped terminal building and 35 tie-down spaces. The airport also owns several maintenance, commercial and recreational hangers, many built in the past five years. The Terminal Building has full emergency power backup, and is used as a disaster relief facility.

Two aircraft are pictured here. The one with the marking Snowbirds is a Canadair CT-114 Tutor. This aircraft served as the Canadian Forces primary jet trainer from the early 1960s to 2000. It is currently used by the Snowbirds aerobatics team.

One of the commercial operations at HMA is Zenair Ltd., the Canadian branch of Zenith Aircraft Company. 'Zenith' is an anagram of (Chris) Heintz - a noted aircraft designer. In January 2016 Zenith Aircraft announced that it had purchased the SAM design from the SAM Aircraft Company and was planning to produce kits alongside the existing Chris Heintz designs. The other plane pictured is a SAM aircraft.

As well as facilities for business and recreational aircraft, the HMA provides support for Medevac flights and Search and Rescue Aircraft - particularly for Georgian Bay.

Suffice to say IT'S A BUSY PLACE!

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Keeping the Cottage in the Family

BY IRENE WILSON

The world is changing at break neck speed, so we love to escape to that peaceful retreat called the family cottage in order to recharge our batteries. On arrival, time stands still and floods the mind with special memories: great bonfires, romantic starry nights and hearty Thanksgiving dinners. The cottage can be that one location that attracts family members from scattered corners to reconnect and share heartfelt moments and celebratory occasions. How can you maintain that continuity by passing the cottage to the next generation?

If mom and dad declare it as their principal residence, then it can pass to the next generation without any capital gains tax. When it is a secondary dwelling, it will be subject to capital gains taxes regardless of whether you pass it on now or as part of an estate. These can be quite substantial depending on the value of the property and the length of time that it has been owned. If the estate does not have sufficient liquid funds available to pay the tax liability, the intended beneficiaries may have to sell this asset. A solution can be the purchase of a life insurance policy that will provide a tax free death benefit to cover these expenses The Canadian Revenue Agency charges hefty penalties on outstanding taxes. If this is a secondary dwelling, it is important to keep receipts of any improvements or additions, as these can be claimed as expenses against the capital gain.

Substantial property taxes, skyrocketing hydro costs, heating plus telecommunications services can total thousands of dollars per year. Is the next generation willing or able to take on this financial responsibility, and provide the time and energy required for general maintenance? This topic should be reviewed annually





to ensure that all family members are in agreement with any long term plans. Adult children may be living too far away to access the property on a regular basis, plus in today's busy world, commuting times both to work and the cottage are becoming longer and more stressful. Frank discussion can result in a plan outlining which children are interested in future use and ownership so that accommodations can be made in estate planning, including the establishment of reserve funds to cover expenses such as potential capital gains taxes and operating costs.

It would be prudent to consult an expert to explore what alternatives are available. There are various strategies that can be employed such as trusts, co-ownerships and gifting the property now. They all come with risks and benefits and it is important that you understand the various options and their financial impacts on both you and your family.

Cottages hold a special place in our hearts which makes them fertile ground for emotional battles when there are any major life changes. Planning and communication can facilitate a smooth transition, so that your family can continue building fond memories for generations to come.

This article is not intended to provide professional estate planning or tax advice. Appropriate professional advice should always be sought.





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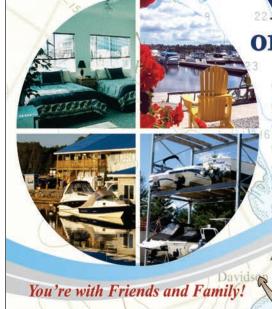
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