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The Review Mirror

Thursday, November 2, 2023

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Vol 141, No. 42 \$1.50

Perth News Found on Page Three



Fall shot of the Greater Portland Area. Photo Credit: Thomas Sled.

Rideau Lakes Township Council Adopts Proxy Voting

By John Fenik

At the Township of Rideau Lakes Municipal Services Committee meeting held October 23, 2023 an amendment was made to the township procedural by-law that would allow proxy voting. The amendment was tabled by councillor Jeff Banks and seconded by councillor Paula Banks. A proxy vote is a ballot cast by one person on behalf of another.

In conducting research for the preparation of this report, staff identified a number of municipalities that have considered the concept of implementing Proxy Voting. Out of the 444 Municipalities in the Province of Ontario, only two have exercised their capacity to utilize proxy vot-

ing: Strathroy-Caradoc and the Region of Peel.

Further, Clerk Mary Ellen has concerns that proxy votes can't change even when new information on an issue is tabled on the day and time of the vote." In her report, the clerk gave her recommendations, noting the following:

"It is not recommended that Council implement proxy voting for Council meetings at this time. Staff are concerned that the rules in Section 243.1 of the Municipal Act do not address the impact on Council decisions where a proxy vote is cast and the Member subsequently discovers that they have a pecuniary interest in that decision under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act. For example, if the vote on a matter is a close

vote (e.g. 5 to 4), if a pecuniary interest is subsequently discovered that could call into question the legitimacy of the whole vote and any actions taken in response to the decision."

As with all controversial issues at the Township table the final vote fell along entrenched lines. Councillors P. Banks, J. Banks, C. Dunfield, Linda Carr, and Debbie Hutchings all voted to implement proxy voting. The Mayor Arie Hoogboom, Deputy Mayor Ron Pollard, and other two councillors Marcia Maxwell and Joan Delaney voted against proxy voting. The amendment passed.

Videos of all township meetings can be found on the township website.

Better Trail Heads and Services to Attract More Walkers

By Suesan Saville

Unlike its popular counterpart, Spy Rock, not many people visit Old Bob's, a rock lookout projecting over Sand Lake in Westport. "Poor Old Bob," said Randal Goodfellow, "You'd have to know it is there."

Goodfellow is a member of the community-based Westport Tourism Group (WTG). He is working to improve access to Old Bob.

Old Bob can be reached from a trail that starts at Sand Lake beach but it is a challenging climb. As part of the Rideau Trail, it crosses property owned by the Westport Lions. Goodfellow met with

them on October 25, 2023, to discuss the creation of a trailhead a bit further along the trail. A trailhead is a location with a parking lot, signage and information about trail etiquette to protect the natural environment. A better trailhead location would improve access, especially for less experienced walkers. Eventually Goodfellow would like to see the creation of a walking loop.

It is part of a broader strategy to attract more walkers to the area he is exploring with Mark Snider, another member of the WTG.

Westport sits at the intersection of two major trails: The Rideau Trail which ex-

tends 300 km from Kingston to Ottawa and the A2A, a 640 km trail from Algonquin to the Adirondacks. Goodfellow says it presents a unique opportunity.

"We are at the overlap of two world heritage sites. We have the Rideau System and the Frontenac Arch Biosphere. So we have both a water and land component but it is obviously special land, geographically, for hiking and other activities," said Goodfellow.

"There are all sorts of

Continued on Page 3



Neighbours Helping Neighbours

Notes from the Farmer's Daughter A.K.A. Tanya Hammond

Recently, I was made aware of a local gentleman and his wife who have generously acted as "guardian angels" by anonymously gifting to those struggling during the holiday season.

The gentleman, no stranger to hardship in his past, feels blessed in his life now and in 2019, he and his wife began a tradition of giving back to the community by delivering handmade Christmas cards containing \$500 to ten local homes. Those who received

the gifts were "families, seniors, single parents, it did not matter; just people who needed a helping hand in the community," I am told.

This heartfelt gesture came from remembering simpler times when neighbours helped neighbours, people took time to bake cakes to welcome new residents, and farmers helped each other with the harvest. The kind couple kept up their secret gifts from 2019 until 2021, when they saw an even greater need, especially during the pandemic.

In December 2022, the concerned couple contacted St. Luke's Leeds Anglican

Church to create a partnership to encourage others to donate and ensure the donors and receivers would remain anonymous. "The church, well positioned in the local communities with connections with other organizations, knows where the need is the greatest," and so makes the perfect partner, says the pair.

Upon developing this partnership in December 2022, the number of recipients tripled, and donations of various amounts were delivered. The local man and his wife who initiated the partnership still make the

Continued on Page 3

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What's up in Morton?!

By Tanya Hammond

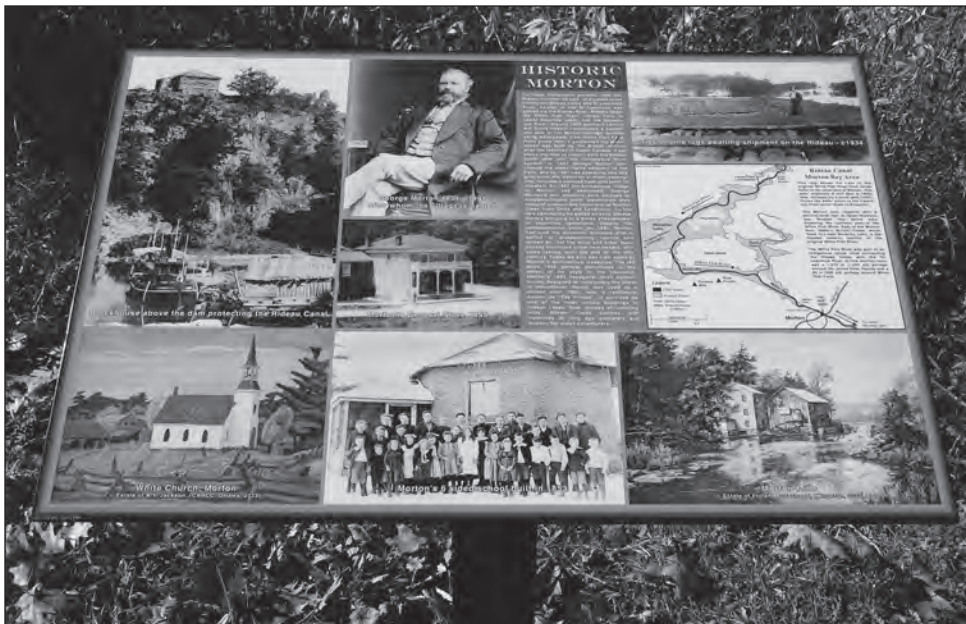
Morton is a happening place in the hall, on the map and in the heart!

The Small Halls event featuring Old Man Luedecke on October 22nd was hugely successful, with a sold-out crowd.

The recent unveiling of the Heritage storyboard recognized Morton's cultural and heritage significance as a historic community. The storyboard initiative is thanks to the Rideau Lakes Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee (MHAC) and is an important way to help preserve our area's history.

Next in Morton is a Free Crafters' & Makers' Demonstration at Morton Hall on Sunday, November 12th, from 1 – 4 p.m. An exciting lineup with fabric painting, wool spinning, scrapbooking, sewing, herbal remedies and cheese-making demos is planned. The Sunflower Bake Shop will also provide a special baking demonstration at 2 p.m. There will be light refreshments available during the event. Drop in at 13 Judd Street, Morton for an enjoyable afternoon of learning.

Chair Yoga at Morton Hall will also begin Monday, November 13th, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Toni Brown, an experienced instructor who knows how to put the FUN into Yoga, will



Heritage storyboard recognized Morton's significance as a historic community

lead the Monday sessions from November 13th to December 18th. Yoga is a great way to help increase your well-being and relaxation

while decreasing anxiety and inflammation; for more information, call 613-928-3088.

Follow Morton Hall on

Facebook at www.facebook.com/MortonCommunityHall to see what they have planned next.

Free Flu Shot and New COVID-19 Vaccines Available for All Ontarians Six Months of Age and Older

Starting tomorrow, October 30, Ontarians will be able to receive their free flu shot and the new, most recent COVID-19 vaccine at local pharmacies, public health units and primary health care providers across the province. Staying up to date on vaccinations continues to be the best way for people to stay safe and healthy this respiratory illness season and avoid unnecessary visits to the hospital.

“Getting your COVID-19 vaccine and flu shot is the best way to keep yourself, your loved ones and your community healthy,” said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. “Our government is ensuring you have access to the tools you need this fall respiratory season by making COVID-19 vaccines and flu shots available in convenient locations close to home, at no cost to Ontarians.”

It is safe and convenient to receive both a COVID-19 vaccine and flu shot at the same time, reducing the need for multiple visits. The new COVID-19 vaccines now available are specifically designed to target the XBB variant and were approved by Health Canada earlier this fall.

All Ontarians six months and older can receive their

next COVID-19 dose if it has been a recommended six months since their last dose or confirmed COVID-19 infection. Ontarians are encouraged to speak with a health care professional to help determine their appropriate vaccination schedule.

“With the expected co-circulation of influenza, COVID-19 and RSV over the fall and winter, I encourage Ontarians to get their COVID-19 vaccine and flu shot as soon as they can,” said Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health. “Especially those who are elderly, immunocompromised, or have medical conditions that make you particularly susceptible to harm from respiratory illnesses.”

To reduce the risk of spreading illness, individuals are advised to wash their hands often, cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze, clean surfaces and shared items regularly and stay at home when sick.

Through Your Health: A Plan for Connected and Convenient Care, the Ontario government is ensuring communities across the province have the tools they need to stay safe and healthy this fall and winter while ensuring hospital beds are available for those who need them most.

Watersheds Canada sheds light on sustainable fisheries

Wild Around Westport
Margie Manthey

Watersheds Canada recently hosted its 22nd annual Lake Links Workshop at the Perth Civitan Club. This year, the event was entitled, “Hooked on Habitat: Sustainable Fisheries for the Future” and included presentations by various guest speakers.

Dr. Steven Cooke, Professor of Fish Ecology and Conservation with Carleton

University, discussed how anglers can support fish and the fishery by practicing proper handling techniques and through a discerning harvest. He described how telemetry research has helped scientists learn more about fish dispersal post tournament events (i.e., after weigh-in, it can take months for displaced bass to return to their home range) and that bass mortality is relatively low during well-run events. Dr. Cooke's telemetry studies also show how fish relate to sanctuary sites throughout the year.

Also attending the work-

shop was Joffre Côté, MNRF Management Biologist for Fishing Management Zone 18, who touched on the challenges of creating prudent regulation while managing many different fisheries throughout the zone, which spans a sizeable geographical area. Walleye, lake trout and brook trout are of particular concern. To thrive, these species have specific requirements -- i.e., brook trout need higher concentrations of dissolved oxygen and colder water -- and have experienced an overall decline due to factors including overharvest, invasive species, and climate change. To support a sustainable fishery, Joff encourages anglers to release larger fish, as they are the most valuable reproducers -- especially the big females which lay larger eggs, producing more robust fry with higher survivability.

A sobering talk on aquatic invasive species threatening eastern Ontario fisheries was given by Robert McGowan from the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters. His presentation reached beyond Eurasian Milfoil and Zebra Mussels to warn of other looming threats like Mysterysnails, Grasscarp, Round Gobies, and Starry Stonewort, among other invaders. Water Soldier, an

aquatic plant native to parts of Europe and most of Asia, was accidentally introduced into the Trent River via a garden escape. The plant, which forms large, dense stands, isn't just spreading -- it has arrived, and was recently confirmed in Red Horse Lake. Furthermore, DNA for Water Soldier has now been detected in neighbouring Charleston Lake. It is absolutely critical for people to clean, drain and disinfect/dry their boats, jet skis, kayaks and other recreational equipment after outings to prevent the spread of invasive species.

Representatives from area conservation authorities described ways that lake associations and waterfront residents could partner up on worthy projects and/or take advantage of programs geared to supporting fish populations through shoreline restoration, sinking brush bundles for fish habitat, and spawning bed restoration. Melissa Dakers, Lake Steward Coordinator for Watersheds Canada and M.C. for this year's workshop, explained how, even in winter, work towards sustainable fisheries continues. She described projects where loads of rock are trucked in over lake ice and then laid out in appropriate areas. At ice out, the

rocks sink to form desirable spawning substrate for fish like walleye. How cool is that?

I was also privileged to speak at the workshop about the Wolfe Lake Association's “Let's Get the Lead Out” program. Lead fishing tackle fatally poisons loons, swans, ducks, bald eagles and other aquatic wildlife and is also shown to negatively impact fish health, behaviours, and survivability. Many attendees were shocked to learn that lead -- a powerful, deadly neurotoxin harmful to all living things -- is in 90 per cent

of the fishing tackle sold today and commonly used by anglers across Canada. An estimated 545 tonnes of toxic lead sinkers and jigs are lost in Canada's water bodies every year. Anglers can help protect our natural resources and support a sustainable fishery by switching to lead-free tackle, especially for lead jigs and weights one ounce and under. That's a good start! More info, including sellers of lead-free tackle, can be found at fishleadfree.ca.



Sellers of lead-free tackle, can be found at fishleadfree.ca



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CALL TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT

Perth News Briefs

By John Fenik

Halloween Comes Early to Perth

By John Fenik

On Saturday, October 28th, 2023 from 1:00 – 4:00 the merchants in downtown Perth gave out free candy.

Approximately four hundred children, dressed up in all sorts of Halloween attire were anxious to take part in the downtown “trick or treat” event.



Merchants handed out candy for the trick or treaters



Parents and children enjoyed the beautiful weather on Saturday

Case Management Conference Set Regarding Proposed Subdivision

The Town of Perth has recently received an update from the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) that a virtual Case Management Conference (CMC) has been scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023, at 10 a.m.

The CMC pertains to the appeal submitted to the OLT by CAIVAN (Perth GC) Limited (Case Number OLT-23-000534) regarding its proposed development in the Town of Perth.

The Conference serves to:

- identify issues raised in the proceeding;
- identify facts or evidence that may be agreed upon between the two parties;
- provide direction for disclosure of information;
- discuss opportunities for resolving issues in proceedings and possible use of other dispute resolution processes;
- establish dates and determine the order of presentation of submissions; and

- determine the length and schedule of a hearing.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Case Management Conference virtually. Individuals who wish to seek participant status must review the OLT Hearings Guide and submit their required application to the assigned OLT Case Coordinator/Planner by email.

As the matter is now one of a legal capacity, Town staff and Council are not able to make public comment. Furthermore, Town staff and Council no longer have the ability to make a final decision on the subject as a result of the appeal; this decision will be made by the Province through the OLT. The Town continues to work with its solicitor in preparation for the Case Management Conference.

For more information regarding the Appeals Process and Hearings, please visit the Ontario Land Tribunal website.

Coalition of Angels donations

Continued from Page 1

same donation each year and are grateful to those who have joined them in what is known as the Coalition of Angels.

The Coalition is a partnership of donors, volunteers, and St. Luke’s Anglican Church who ensure all the funds donated go to those in need within our local communities. I am told, “There are no administrative fees or costs; amounts donated go back out to those who need it most – neighbours helping neighbours.”

“A recipient’s only requirement is to be a member of the community – does

not matter where – Elgin, Seeley’s Bay, Lyndhurst, Athens, all the rural villages and farm communities in our area.”

If you would like to help, you can:

- Drop your change in a Coalition of Angels donation box when you see it locally. Currently, there are boxes at Lyndhurst Home Hardware, The Junction Family Restaurant Seeley’s Bay, Blanchard’s Garage Athens, and JJ’s Country Diner Athens.

- Donate at the St. Luke’s Leeds table at various

events or where you see the jar displayed.

- Send a donation to St. Luke’s Leeds and indicate it is for the Coalition of Angels – etransfer to donate.stlukeleeds@gmail.com.

Tax receipts may be provided at the end of the year on request. If you have questions, please email stlukeleeds@ontario.anglican.ca or call 613-507-3311.



It was an exceptional evening at the Old Town Hall in Delta as The Festival of Small Halls recently presented Ben Caplan. Local volunteers were much appreciated for keeping the Small Halls concerts coming each year. The talented entertainer played both the keyboard and the guitar. Caplan is a Canadian folk musician from Halifax and has recorded 3 albums. Small Halls makes it possible for rural community spaces in our area to be able to host extraordinary entertainment!

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Leading in trail services

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trails in the area, some very major ones run through here, but we haven’t made anything of it. If we have more people coming here and accessing the trails then the rest of the tourism piece comes together.”

Goodfellow has experience as a long-distance trail walker in Europe. “If you go to Europe, you have trail services. Instead of carrying your 60 lb. pack you have someone who arranges to pick it up at the last place you stayed and moves it forward to the next place, you just take a day pack.”

“There is no reason we can’t we do something like that in Canada,” he said. “There are increasing numbers of people trail walk-

ing, especially among those ages 45 to 70.” He envisions Westport as a service hub that would provide long-distance walkers with food, repairs or replacement equipment, a place to sleep.” Eventually, a network of service hubs could be developed. “If we lead, other communities may follow,” he said.

Other than the Bruce Peninsula Trail which has some infrastructure in place to support walkers Goodfellow said there is not much out there yet. He sees the potential development of service hubs as linked to economic opportunities.

“Walkers extend the tourism season; they are active from spring through fall. There is also the possibility

of extending the use of the trails for cross-country skiing,” said Goodfellow.

The Village of Westport draft Official Plan, which was the subject of a public meeting October 25, 2023, appears to support that perspective. It refers to the development of recreational trail systems as an important resource providing opportunities for tourism, active transportation, and recreation among other activities. The Village plan references future nature trails around the Westport Pond to connect Westport Sand Lake and Upper Rideau Lake, as well as opportunities for improved access to the Rideau Trail and Foley Mountain Conservation Area.

Part of the work Goodfellow does is outreach to partners with a stake in the vision to attract and support walkers. He has secured the support of The Rideau Trail Association, who have existing trailheads in Kingston, Perth and Ottawa as well as the A2A trail and the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, where Old Bob is situated. As for sprucing up Old Bob in the short-term? He’ll be looking better by next summer, for sure said Goodfellow, who will soon be a trail warden for the Rideau Trail, “even if I have to do it myself.”

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The Review Mirror OPINION PAGE

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Ph. 613-273-8000 • 1-800-387-0796
editor@review-mirror.com • www.review-mirror.com
• PAP Registration No. 01601
• Printed in Toronto, Ontario
• The Review-Mirror is published Thursdays.
Subscriptions: \$33.84 online; \$54.50 locally;
\$65.00 elsewhere in Canada; \$150 in the U.S.

Proxy Voting Undermines Democracy

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express concern about the Township of Rideau Lakes Council's Oct 23rd decision to allow for proxy voting at Council meetings. When Councillor Paula Banks and Councillor Jeff Banks argued for proxy voting so they could ensure their positions are represented when they cannot attend meetings, Council asked the Clerk to provide information on proxy voting. The Clerk's excellent report, provided to Council on Oct 23rd, outlines the following important problems with proxy voting (<https://pub-rideaulakes.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=3295>):

"Municipal Councils are mandated to conduct business in a manner that is open and accessible to the public. The open meeting provisions set out in The Act are founded on the principle that members of the public are entitled to witness local decision-making in a way that is accessible, accountable and transparent and that decisions are made with integrity. Of paramount importance in the decision-making process is the opportunity for decision makers to explore new ideas through debate, the exchange of ideas through questions and responses, and also includes the potential for amendments to a recommendation to be heard and considered by all voting members. One important consideration for proxy voting is that any member not in attendance will not have the benefit of any new information introduced at the meeting which may have influenced their position on any one topic, including but not limited to staff elaboration on reports, response to questions and any amendments to recommendations that may result. The proxy holder would not have direction on the new information and would need to exercise their discretion without any voting instructions provided by the absent member."

In other words, proxy voting undermines democratic governance. The Ontario government decided to introduce provisions for electronic participation in meetings and proxy voting in July 2020 as part of its efforts to help Municipalities cope with challenges presented by COVID-19. As the Clerk noted: "Out of the 444 Municipalities in the Province of Ontario, only two have exercised their capacity to utilize proxy voting," and neither of these has actually implemented the procedure.

On the basis of her report, the Clerk recommended to Council that proxy voting NOT be implemented at this time. Councillors Maxwell, Delaney and Polard questioned the need for proxy voting, given that councillors have the option of attending meetings virtually. Mayor Hooenboom noted that if and when a Councillor cannot even attend virtually, he has been willing in the past, and will continue

to be willing in future, to defer important decisions until everyone can be present. (<https://pub-rideaulakes.escribemeetings.com/Players/ISISStandAlonePlayer.aspx?Id=c515d143-7127-4f9e-a717-9b1fe4ab-45cc-40:45-1:07:30>)

In spite of all this, Councillors P. Banks, J. Banks, Dunfield, Carr and Hutchings all voted to implement proxy voting, so the resolution passed in a vote of 5 to 4. These five Councillors did not address the above concerns about proxy voting and did not take the carefully considered advice of staff. They just insisted that there would be times when they could not attend even virtually and wanted the option of appointing a proxy. Councillor Carr said proxy voting is allowed provincially and federally; I have found no evidence that this is true. Two of these councillors said they are comfortable appointing a proxy because they take their positions prior to attending meetings, based on what taxpayers want (as though this is knowable for every decision), and so would not be influenced by debate or information brought forward at the Council table anyway! This would suggest that proxy voting could contravene the Code of Conduct for Councillors, which states: "Members of Council shall uphold a high standard of ethical behavior to ensure that their decision making is impartial, transparent and free from undue influence" (Schedule 'B' to By-Law 2019-17, section 5.3). It's hard to say that a proxy vote is impartial when it has not taken new information or debate into account.

There is a pattern here with these five councillors. They ask the staff to do a lot of work, researching and preparing a report, then disregard staff's well considered, professional advice. Is it any wonder that we have lost three senior staff in the last four months?

There seems to be a lack of understanding of the fundamental role of a democratically elected representative: gather and analyze all the data you can (mostly from professional staff), debate the issues with your fellow representatives, and then make the wisest decisions you can. The goal is NOT to attempt to second-guess what taxpayers want, because taxpayers will always disagree among themselves. And taxpayers do not have the time or access to analyze all the data; they are busy at their own full-time jobs. We hope to elect open-minded representatives who will listen to different views and do the hard work necessary to make intelligent, well-informed decisions. I believe proxy voting undermines this process. It's only useful when people are unwilling to change their minds.

Jane Willms

Thank You to Howard French

Dear Editor,

Thank-you Howard French for your thoughtful letter on the role of Council, the importance of long-term planning and effective governance. I'm deeply concerned by the exodus of several senior staff and what appears to be block voting by 5 members of the current Council rather than independent thought based on facts. Are citizens aware that this group wishes to pass a bylaw that would allow proxy voting.

I was a strong supporter of the Portland Hub but given the recent Treasurer's report believe neither it nor the Council preferred Library/Hall should proceed until we have our house in order.

Citizens of Rideau Lakes, it's time to put social media aside, become informed of the actual facts and speak up before it's too late.

Joan Duncan
North Crosby

Ways of Death, and Life

Dear Editor,

Terrorists. They target civilians first, without care for life. Russia is a terrorist state under president Putin, who has been indicted by the International Criminal Court for war crimes. Ukrainian citizens and civilian structures are everyday casualties. Other countries using terrorist tactics include Syria, Iran, and North Korea.

Militant groups identified as terrorists by most countries include Hamas, Hezbollah, and Islamic Jihad, among others in the Middle East. Terrorists hide among civilians, and Hamas has fighters and command centres in tunnels below mosques, residential buildings and even under hospitals.

In his editorial "Israel War" 2 weeks ago, John Fenik identifies extreme intolerance of terrorist factions that are determined to "push Israel into the sea". In 1948, that same resolve to annihilate Israel caused neighbouring Arab countries to attack, after rejecting the

United Nations resolution (which passed by more than 70% majority) which established the state of Israel then and would have secured Palestine too. Israel survived those attacks and later wars, defensively occupying some territory which otherwise would have been part of the new Palestine, if that UN declaration had been accepted by Palestinians and Arab countries 75 years ago.

What can possibly be the foundation of peace, in that region? Jordan and Egypt did make peace with Israel; even the PLO — former but ineffective rulers of Palestine — recognizes Israel, with Saudi Arabia near to that. But if your house is regularly attacked by embedded fanatics who will not even recognize your right to exist, how can trust grow, leading to peace?

Mr. Fenik dusted off his family Bible, and prayed. We would all benefit from heeding the messages of its Author and the Bible's leading man, who tried to show us the ways of love and forgiveness for enemies.

It now seems impossible for Israelis and Palestinians to live as neighbours. They both feel hatred at times, each with searing histories of inflicted exile, suffering, violence, and genocide. The holocaust, and inhuman hatred which encouraged it, will not soon be forgotten. Now zealots on both sides are supposedly fighting to do God's will, saying "Lord, Allah, Jehovah, look what we do in Your name!" Surely the sad response might be: "I never knew you!"

Jesus overturned tables and decried hypocrisy, on occasion. If Israelis and Palestinians cannot allow each other to exist, living in peace, how can they receive blessings of this life, with banquet tables unspoiled?

The man of anger and hate seeks to murder innocents, for his faith. Innocent Jesus sacrificed himself, for us, to his death, by faith. Which path leads to real life?

Doug Gander

Letter of Apology from Sean and Alex Price

Dear Editor,

We would like to personally apologize for our absence from Saturday's concert Oct. 21st; "Canadian Women of Rock". We were dismissed by the director due to voicing that the show should showcase women, rather than be closed by

men. We believe in giving credit where credit is due, to the women that ticket holders have paid to see should have been showcased as the show-closers. Unfortunately, due to a difference of opinion - I was not allowed admission into the church that we have been serving

for 20 years, I was physically stopped, we were then unfairly dismissed. It wasn't right, it was really low.

Again, we apologize for our absence; we apologize to the women of the show and all the ticket holders.

Sean and Alex Price

Letters to the Editor

The Review-Mirror accepts Letters to the Editor. Letters may be edited for content, space and libel. Please include a phone number for confirmation.
Email editor@review-mirror.com

Publishers

A Conversation with Councillor Marty Crapper

There may be Villagers who are unaware that it is almost a year into the term of the current council. At this time last year, the Village was awash with election signs. Residents were probably having their doors knocked on by the various candidates. There was excitement in the air as election day approached.

Your columnist wondered about the experience that, in particular, the first-time, ultimately successful candidates (Marty Crapper and Joe Aragona) have been through in the last year.

To get some first-hand information I made an appointment to spend time with councillor Crapper. What was scheduled for an hour resulted in an almost two-hour wide-ranging discussion about the first year in elected life.

For Councillor Crapper year one of a four-year term involved a steep learning curve and the curve never ends. As with all municipalities, there is seemingly no end to what is required by the province, for communities to manage on behalf of their populations. For Councillor Crapper, his education to the “political world” began when he was door-knocking. People, for the most part, know what is going on in the Village. Councillor Crapper, by his own assessment, is a “people person.” The conversations at the doors convinced Councillor Crapper he should be running for a council seat although he did admit that throwing his “hat into the ring” might have been impulsive.

Over the first year in office Councillor Crapper has developed an appreciation for the Village staff which he sees as committed to providing the best information and service possible to the residents. When asked, Councillor Crapper did not express any concern about the growing bureaucracy at the Town Hall. The writer can remember when Village staff consisted of the Clerk and an employee at what was to become the Rideau St. Lawrence office. In those days services required by the Village were secured through tender or contracting out. For Councillor Crapper the bureaucracy provides services that the Village now has control over. There are contractual guarantees written into tender awards but there is nothing like having a service (say public works) that works for the Village and will be there in an ongoing role. For Councillor Crapper it costs money to run a municipality and it is council’s role to ensure that the tax money council spends results in value for dollars spent.

Councillor Crapper defines himself as



Mike McIntyre

“open-minded and curious”. It doesn’t bother Councillor Crapper if he comes to a meeting with a certain mindset on an issue and may leave a meeting with a different view. For Councillor Crapper the “system” has worked as it should – information has been provided – his council colleagues have debated an issue and his mind has been changed. For Councillor Crapper the important thing is that there are no restrictions on the exchange of ideas and opinions.

One of the most important requirements for a councillor is to be engaged. Be engaged with council colleagues, be engaged with constituents, and be engaged with staff. For Councillor Crapper the never-ending pursuit of information is part of his job as a councillor. As the councillor said, “There is no shortage of information courtesy of Google.”

For Councillor Crapper “partnerships” are important and afford an opportunity to get things done. Councillor Crapper mentioned the partnership that the Village is always working on with the Upper Rideau Lakes Association (URLA). The Village has worked in conjunction with the URLA to make sure that what goes into the storm sewers and ultimately into the lake is not any more contaminated by improperly functioning septic systems than is absolutely necessary. URLA has helped the Village to come to grips with stormwater management in the new subdivision and the older main part of the Village.

Councillor Crapper sees the councillor role as an opportunity to expand his horizons. The learning curve he spoke of is never-ending and he is excited about the opportunity to meet new people and learn about new opportunities for the Village. Councillor Crapper is absolutely the right man for one of the councillors jobs – he has the time and the energy to do the research that is required to come to meetings having done his homework. Councillor Crapper respects his council colleagues and appreciates the information that is shared with him by constituents.

There is no hesitation in the writer stating that Councillor Crapper was a good choice for Village councillor.

joymikechloe@gmail.com



A fun Halloween display of inflatables has been created at 145 Osborne Rd near Athens. “We only get 10 trick-or-treaters,” remarked Rosalyn Insley. “Why not bring your kids, grandchildren or even just your inner child for a drive by to see our Halloween display!” She also invites anyone interested to visit her studio at the same time.

Farmers call for quick resolution to Seaway workers’ strike

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is joining Grain Farmers of Ontario, Fertilizer Canada and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce in urging the federal government to ensure critical shipments of grains, oilseeds, fertilizer, and other products and resources like road salt continue to flow through the St. Lawrence Seaway in light of the ongoing strike by Seaway workers. As winter approaches and fall harvest is in full swing, time is of the essence to keep grain shipments moving before the Seaway closes for the winter. Provincial grain storages are filling up quickly, with some having already reached capacity – a situation that will rapidly become worse if the strike isn’t resolved quickly. “This is an absolutely crucial time for the grain harvest in Ontario and the closure of the St. Lawrence Seaway could not come at a worse time

for farmers and the Canadian food supply chain,” says farmer and OFA director Steve Brackenridge, who is also owner-operator of a grain elevator near Peterborough already dealing with major grain shipment backlogs. “We can’t overstate the urgency of this situation as the locks in the Welland Canal and the St. Lawrence River will close in late December/early January due to annual freeze and will remain closed until late March.” Late last week, OFA, the Ontario Agri-Business Association and Grain Farmers of Ontario called on Canadian Labour Minister Seamus O’Regan and the government of Canada to take every approach available to ensure any potential labour disruption does not further damage the Ontario agricultural industry and the wider Canadian economy. “We seek the support of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Transport Canada,

the Canada Industrial Relations Board, Unifor and the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Company to explore all opportunities to bring a swift end to this strike,” adds OFA President Peggy Brekveld. “The Seaway is part of Canada’s critical supply chain infrastructure and an essential artery for the export of grain shipments the world depends on, as well as the arrival of vitally important fertilizer and road salt shipments for Canadians.” The Seaway supports more than 66,000 Canadian jobs and is responsible for \$34 million in economic activity a day, as well as the flow of more than six million tonnes of grain annually. In an average month, between 600,000 and 700,000 tonnes of grain travel through the Seaway to Canada, Europe, South America, the Caribbean, the Middle East, and more.

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This morning the EAHS welcomed the RDHS Grade 10 history students and Mr. Matthew Lundvall to the Red Brick School. The students toured the heritage classroom, the displays in our large room and Heritage Park. These students were great ambassadors for RDHS.



Build a Mountain of Food Campaign Kicks Off

The 2023 Build a Mountain of Food Campaign The Build a Mountain of Food Campaign is about to embark on its 17th year of collecting food and cash donations in support of local food banks through out the region. This campaign started by Hugh Colton in the town of Perth. The following year he hit all 11 communities. He is the reason this Build a Mountain of Food Campaign exists today! Title sponsor, RCL Automotive, along with participating media partners, Lake 88 Radio, Your TV, Hometown News and Hinton Auto Group have once again joined forces to support area food banks to help fill the shelves this holiday season. Area food banks continue to play a vital role, providing necessary assistance to many faces of hunger in our communities, including seniors, single parents, the working poor and unfortunately

many children. These past couple of years we all have seen an increase in everything around us and food banks are in higher demand. Again, this year, Build a Mountain of Food Campaign will take place in 11 local towns and villages in support of local food banks. The communities include Almonte, Carleton Place, Perth, Lanark, Smiths Falls, Westport, Elgin, Portland, Merrickville, Athens and Delta. A number of food blitz days are scheduled at area grocery store locations to help Build a Mountain of Food. Volunteers, along with our participating media partners, will be asking people to help fill the vehicles with food to support our local food banks. We pride ourselves on the fact that 100% of all food and money collected in your community stays in your community. You give where you live. You can follow along


with Hometown News in their paper and online paper. They will feature our updates and stories showing the progress of Build a Mountain of Food. Lake 88 will provide ongoing promotional support and weekly on-air interviews and live on-location reports with our food bank representatives. Your TV will also provide ongoing coverage through out our campaign. The Hinton Auto Group will be providing vehicles for donation drop offs. Extensive video coverage of the campaign can be found on our face book page (www.facebook.com/buildamountainoffood), including Facebook live streaming coverage from all of the Build a Mountain of Food locations, as well as special video interviews from our many campaign stops.

Legion 542 Euchre
Oct. 26: Draws: Marj Norwood, David Moore, Sally Rathwell; first, Gilles Gervais, 107; second, Wayne Derbyshire, 98; third, Bob Dowdall, 97; most lone hands, Gilles Gervais.

Westport Lions Calendar Winners

Week of October 23		
Pat Lowery		Louise Haughton
Parham \$20		Godfrey \$20
Susan Pam		Kevin Rogers
Montreal \$20		Toledo \$20
Joanne Quinn		Todd Wright
Noonan		Rockview County Ab
Westport \$20		\$40

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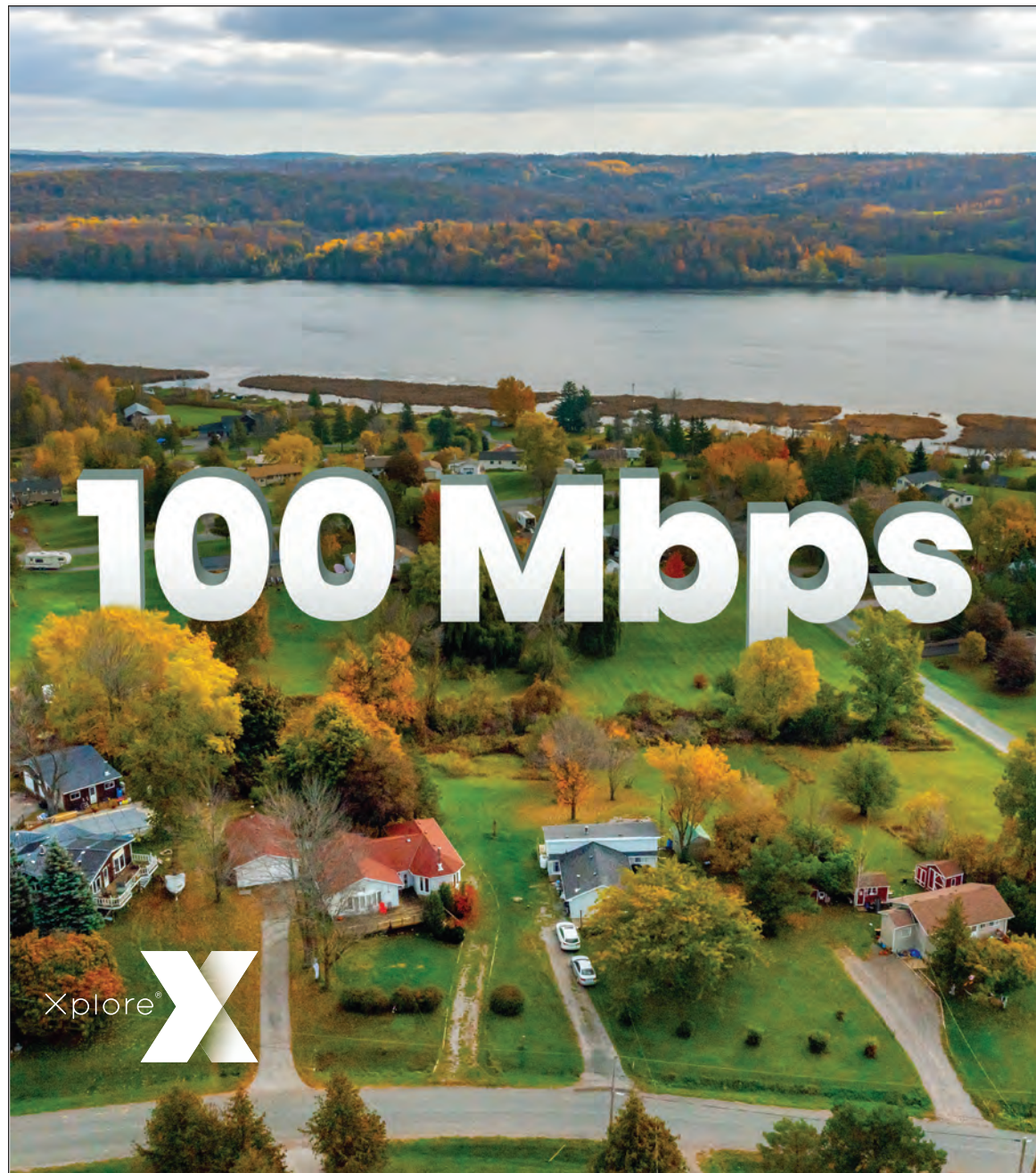


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A New Lyndhurst Community Organization

By Tanya Hammond

A newly formed Not-for-profit group called Lyndhurst Community Organization has started with the hope to carry on the work of the recently disbanded Lyndhurst Rejuvenation Committee (LRC). Directors Mary Jo Sibbald, Martha Harvey, Arlene Baxter and Ken Davies recently hosted a drop-in to gain feedback from community members and gather ideas.

Over a few hours one evening, approximately a dozen and a half residents stopped by to provide input and discuss their thoughts with the organizers. Leeds and the Thousand Islands representatives, Tracy Holland, Communications and Community Engagement Supervisor and Angela Kelman, Ward 2 Councillor, were also present to talk with group members and interested residents.

Ideas discussed included suggestions like a community garden, recreation opportunities, an outdoor rink, a free amnesty day at the dump, dock replacement on Lyndhurst Lake, signage, park plans for the property at the entrance of



Lyndhurst Community Organization will work to engage local residents

the old stone bridge and more. When asked about the group's intentions, directors Mary Jo and Ken stated that "the group is here to support the community and help Lyndhurst be an even better place to live and do business in."

Councillor Kelman quickly commented that "the work of the LRC was very much appreciated,"

saying, "It would be great to see this group pick up there and continue."

The turnout might not have been as large as one had hoped; however, the feedback was positive, and the pages of ideas obtained are a great starting point for the group to gain insight into what is important to area residents.

As a Lyndhurst resident,

I attended to ensure my voice was heard around the suggestion table and to offer my support. For those who wish to get involved or provide their thoughts, contact Lyndhurstcommunityorg@gmail.com.

It takes a village!

UCDSB Expands Special Education Support

The Upper Canada District School Board has made another significant investment in special education, allocating an additional \$2.5 million in Ministry of Education funding to hire new special education teachers to support students across our district.

These new special education teachers will be allocated to schools based on need. The hiring process is in the beginning phases with the UCDSB looking to have these new staff in place by the end of November.

This new influx of support is in addition to the 19 special education teachers that were added to the system at the end of the 2022-23 school year.

"The fact that we have been able to add 44 new special education teachers over the last eight months speaks volumes about our dedication to our students," says Jennifer Perry, Superintendent of Student Wellness and Special Education. "We know the need is there and we are working with schools, families and students to develop a circle of support for them, both at school and home, to help them to thrive."

In addition to these teachers, the UCDSB has made a \$500,000 investment in Corrective Reading materials. The Corrective Reading program provides intensive and accelerated reading intervention through carefully sequenced and planned lessons that gives students the structure and practice necessary to become fluent readers.

All 78 schools will receive this intensive reading program alongside professional development to ensure each school has at least one trained teacher.


"The investment in staff and the investment in capital resources is really an investment in our students," says Director of Education Ron Ferguson. "Having specialized teachers and specialized programming in place will set our students up for success. We know that reading is the foundation required for students to succeed in writing and math as well. Building these essential skills now will help students be more successful in school and beyond."

The Rideau Lakes Horticultural Society (RLHS) extends its condolences to Ross Carruthers, long-time Board member, on the recent loss of his wife, Jackie, whose many years of service to the Society are remembered with great fondness. Jackie joined the Society's Board in 2007. She then served as Vice-President in 2008 and 2009, President in 2010 through 2014, and Past President in 2015 and 2016. She also produced the Society's newsletter, The Lilypad, in 2009.

Her years at the helm were characterized by, among many other activities, hosting workshops in her own home to create bouquets for Society events – always with delicious refreshments for volunteers. Her Board meetings were personable yet efficient – a feat in itself. She knew well the value that volunteers bring to an organization and made them feel that respect and gratitude in all her dealings with them. Too soon gone.

RLHS welcomes one and all to its Annual General Meeting (AGM) Thursday, November 2nd. This year, the format for the AGM will be a little different. The usual business – voting on the annual financial statement, appointment of financial reviewers, annual budget, and election of officers to the Board – will occupy the first half-hour or so of the meeting. This will be followed by small moderated group discussions on what those in attendance see as the Society's role in the community, and what they would like to see the Society accomplish through 2024, and in the longer term. It's an opportunity for all members of the community to bring their perspective to bear on the Society's future.

The AGM will be held at the Elgin Municipal Complex (47 Main Street), as well as virtually. If you would like to participate remotely, email rideaulhs@gmail.com. For those attending in person, networking and refreshments are at 6:30, with the meeting starting at 7:00. All are welcome. Admission is free.



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Thu. Nov. 2 CHRISTINE GRAVES (Original Folk, Perth) 5-8pm

Fri. Nov. 3 YOUNG PETTY STONES: The Music of Neil Young, Tom Petty & The Rolling Stones! 7-11pm
\$85 Dinner + Show

Sat. Nov. 4 DOUG VANDERHORDEN
(Folk/Rock, Guitar/Piano, Kingston) 5-8pm


Thu. Nov. 9 Dennis Bouwmann (Original Alt-Country/ Folk, Kingston) 5-8pm

Fri. Nov. 10 Sean Pinchin (JUNO Nominee, Blues/Folk/Rock Slide Guitar Singer/Songwriter, Kitchener) 6-9pm \$10 Music Cover

Fri. Nov. 17 BLUES AT THE COVE with **RICK FINES & SUZIE VINNICK BAND** (JUNO + Maple Blues) 7-11pm \$100 + HST & Gratuity (Dinner, Show + Charity)

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Portland

Saturday, November 11
10:45 a.m. Rideau Lakes Legion Branch #231

Saturday, November 11
3 p.m. Portland Cenotaph (Hwy.#15)
Light lunch & refreshments at Branch #231

Elgin

Saturday, November 11
1:30 p.m. Red Brick School House

Delta

Sunday, November 5
9:30 a.m. Church Service
11 a.m. Cenotaph, in Stone Mills Park
Light lunch afterwards at Legion Branch #207

Toledo

Saturday, November 11
11 a.m. Cenotaph
Light lunch afterwards at Legion Branch #475

Lyndhurst

Saturday November 11
11 a.m. Legion #504.

Seeley's Bay

Saturday November 11
10:45 a.m. Legion Social and light lunch after ceremony

Perth

Saturday November 11
10:40 -11:30 Perth Great War Memorial Hospital

Westport

Saturday November 11
10:50-11:30 a.m. Cenotaph

Newboro

Saturday November 11
12:55 -1:30 p.m. Cenotaph Fellowship reception at Legion Branch #542 after each service

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October was Fire Prevention Month

By Sally Smid

October was Fire Prevention Month and its goal is to raise fire safety awareness and help ensure homes and family are protected. Local fire departments are raising awareness and educating families, students and communities. Many area schools will be considering fire safety as well. Front of Yonge Fire

Dept. posted that the leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking. If you are simmering, baking or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

This Fire Prevention Month, First Alert is also celebrating 65 years of being a fire safety partner. It

is dedicated to encouraging families to discuss fire safety. Throughout the entire year it is important to have functioning alarms which are the first line of defense in fire prevention. Smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms should be placed on every level of the home, including the basement, as well as inside and outside each bedroom. Fire extinguishers should be on

every level of the home, especially in the kitchen and garage.

Be sure not to overload circuits. Residential and business fires are often related to the misuse of extension cords. Outdoor cords should not be used indoors and it is important to check for any damage to a cord and proper power bars are a must. Lighting can also be an issue. For example

a 100 watt bulb should not be inserted into a 40 watt fixture.

If you send a video of you testing your smoke alarms (each alarm is a separate entry) to fireprevention@townshipleeds.on.ca or text to 613.503.5884, you and your child will be entered into a draw to win a ride to school (or work!) in a fire truck! Coolest ride ever! There will be one draw a week until the

end of October, so get those entries in. The first winner was Everleigh-Dawn. She was thanked for checking her smoke alarms!

Taking time to discuss fire safety with your family will help them feel more confident and prepared in the event of an emergency.



Sophia enjoyed a fire safety themed event recently at Athens Library's Toddler Time program




Students of Front of Yonge School paid a visit to the local fire department to learn more about fire safety

Rideau Lakes welcomes Malcolm Norwood to role of Manager of Development Services


The Township of Rideau Lakes is pleased to announce that Malcolm Norwood has been selected to fill the position of Manager of Development Services, which includes the building department and planning services. Responsible for dealing with all applications under the Planning Act and the Ontario Building Code as well as providing current and long-range planning for the Municipality, the Department of Development Services is also accountable for ensuring compliance with the Township's Official Plan, Zoning By-law, and other Municipal By-laws. Norwood will be starting in his new role early next month, as the current Manager of Development Services, Brittany Mulhern, will be moving on from the Township after more than a decade of working with Rideau Lakes. Norwood is a familiar face at the Township Office as he currently works as the Manager of Facilities and Parks. In that role, he has successfully managed several capital projects - and is now poised to seamlessly take on the tasks at hand. Rideau Lakes Mayor, Arie Hoogenboom, said that Norwood comes to his new position already well-versed in Township matters, as he has been with Rideau Lakes for almost seven years. "The Township is pleased there will be a smooth transition for property owners who are developing the housing and services needed by our communities," Hoogenboom said. "We are very grateful to


Brittany for her long-standing, excellent service with the Township and wish her well in her new endeavours." During Mulhern's tenure with Rideau Lakes, she created the Township's Development Review Team Program which helps to streamline large development projects, led the Comprehensive Zoning By-Law Update, spearheaded multiple Community Improvement Plans (CIPs) and modernized the Development Services Department through electronic application submissions, online payments, and online mapping through the creation of Ride-

au Lakes MapIT. Mulhern has also been a key member of the Rideau Lakes Lake Association Committee. Continuing these programs, Norwood will be building on previous experience in the Planning Department. Norwood first started with Rideau Lakes as an Associate Planner, then moved up to Senior Planner followed by an Acting Manager of Development Services position, before entering into the role of Manager of Facilities and Parks. Norwood will start as Manager of Development Services on November 6, 2023.



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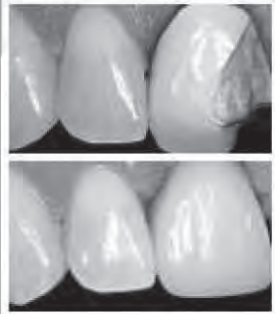



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Local Sports Roundup

South Crosby Win

Congratulations to our Cross Country Team! Yesterday they became the middle size school champions at the Upper Canada Cup which makes it 2 years in a row! All of the runners did an amazing job and everyone is so proud of their hard work. Congratulations Team!



Cross Country Win!



Our senior girls' basketball team participated in a tournament on the weekend in Smiths Falls, playing Smiths Falls, Carleton Place, and Arnprior. They won all their games in the round robin, and fell to Arnprior in the finals to claim a silver medal. Way to go girls! #lionsbewinning #lionsbeplayful #lionslikebasketball #golions #ucdsb



St. Edward's Night at WTC Communication Centre National Capital Junior Hockey League - NCJHL Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario St Edward Catholic School, Westport

Rideaus' special teams and offense dominate as win streak extends to three

By Ryan Luttkhuis

The Westport Rideaus, hot off a two-win weekend the week prior, welcomed the North Dundas Rockets into town for the first time this season Friday night. Despite a somewhat depleted lineup with several players either injured or serving suspensions, the Rockets came into Friday night with a 5-2 record, while Westport sat just behind them in the standings at 4-5. However, the game proved to be the tale of two teams heading in opposite directions, with Westport riding the momentum of some back-to-back stellar performances into pure domination mode, while North Dundas found themselves on the wrong side of some penalty troubles and dug a hole that only seemed to get deeper and deeper as the game wore on. As the fans celebrated St. Edward Catholic School night, their Rideaus would cruise to a 7-1 win in convincing fashion, extending the win streak to three.

Fresh off his win against the Inferno in Almonte last Saturday, Spencer McCann once again got the nod in net, while coach Steve Merkle led with the energy line of Ben Peladeau, Reagan Donnelly, and Liam Simpson up front, backed up by Lucas Thompson and captain Matthew Leaver. The starting lineup generated some shots right off the opening faceoff, but the Rockets were quick to get some breaks headed the other way, and McCann had to be sharp early to keep things even at zero. The coaching staff of both teams started to roll their lines as some choppy play up and down the ice resulted in a lot of stoppages early, and eventually everyone had checked into the game before too long. The once again stellar turnout of fans began to get restless for some action, and the Rideaus nearly provided

it about 7 minutes in. With Peladeau parked behind the net, a quick centering pass up front bounced off a Rockets defenseman and towards the net, and at least three Rideaus players put their hands up in celebration thinking it went in. Just as the crowd began to cheer, the puck was back on the move and cleared out of the Rockets zone, and the game remained scoreless.

Then, about halfway through the period, Brock Seed was assessed a 2-minute minor for boarding, and the first powerplay of the game was awarded to North Dundas. It didn't take long for their powerplay to draw first blood either, as Andrew O'Connor dropped the puck to Parker Lefebvre, who then skated in from the top of the circle and sniped far side for the 1-0 lead. Less than 30 seconds later, Matthew Ullmann took a penalty for roughing that sent North Dundas right back to the powerplay, and things were in danger of getting a little out of hand. After some early zone time, McCann made a nice glove save to slow things down and get the whistle. Off the ensuing faceoff, Robert Onion made a great play to intercept and clear the puck, after which he turned the jets on and nearly buried a short-handed goal at the other end with a strong power move to the net. Not too long after, with the penalty killed and a faceoff in the offensive zone, Ullmann, Anora Hughson, and Cole Smith applied some strong pressure to keep the puck deep. As the puck found its way to Smith along the boards, he made an excellent backhand no-look pass from deep in the corner right out to Hughson in the slot, whose stick was already tickling the rafters as he wound up for the one-time bomb and found nothing but net. Ullmann picked up the secondary assist and the Rideaus were off and running.

Ullmann and Smith almost connected again right off the next faceoff, as Ullmann made a good rush before dishing to a streaking Smith down the wing, who rang it just off the post from the hash marks. Westport would continue to mount the offensive pressure, and they broke through a second time with 5:39 to go in the first. Seed put in some good work along the boards in the defensive zone to get the puck free, which was then picked up by Onion and left for Jack White, playing in only his second game since signing with the team two weeks ago. White drove down the left wing before feeding the puck back into the slot, hitting a cruising Onion who buried it for the 2-1 lead. After a couple more chances both ways, Lukas Hannah drew a cross-checking penalty out of North Dundas with 50 seconds to go, putting the Rideaus to the powerplay for the first time this game. While they didn't convert, the Rideaus could still be happy going into the first intermission knowing they had a 2-1 lead and 1:10 of powerplay time still to come at the start of the second. That being said, it was still anybody's game, as the shots were fairly close at 12-8 in favour of Westport.

It did not stay that way - the second period was all Westport. While the powerplay was unsuccessful, the Rideaus would score again almost immediately after it expired, with Hannah winning a faceoff back to Jack Leonard, who walked across the slot and fired a wrist top corner to double their lead. It was about here where everything started to fall apart for North Dundas, as the Rockets

"Just as the crowd began to cheer, the puck was back on the move and cleared out of the Rockets zone, and the game remained scoreless."

would begin a parade to the penalty box that would eventually snuff out any chance they could've had at a comeback. The parade began with a hooking call drawn by Seed off a good rush, and while there was some great work done by Leaver and Avery MacCuaig on the backend to quarterback some chances, the powerplay still couldn't quite break through. However, the continued pressure by Westport caused North Dundas to take another penalty with 13:37 to go in the second, this time a 4-minute double minor for kneeing. Not even a minute later, the Rockets would take their third penalty of the period, spotting Westport a full 2-minute 5 on 3 and a glorious opportunity to put this game out of reach.

Impressively, North Dundas was able to kill it off, keeping the Rideaus largely to the outside and not giving up any cross-seam or backdoor plays, allowing only point shots which their goalie was able to handle. If the Rockets could just kill off the last minute of the double minor, they were set for a full on momentum swing. Brock Seed had other plans. Starting in Westport's end, Thomas McLean moved the puck up to White, who dropped it in turn to Seed. After being momentarily held up by a Rockets defender, Seed rushed over the blue line and wired a shot from the circle that took a wicked deflection off a Rockets player's stick and found mesh on the far side. Although perhaps unconventional, finally the powerplay had converted, and it was now 4-1. The penalties only continued from there. A Westport high-stick followed by a North Dun-

das interference came just 11 seconds apart around the ten minute mark of the period, which led to some 4 on 4 action and some more quality chances by the Rideaus to add to their lead. With 6:22 to go in the second, Westport were shorthanded again as Smith picked up the extra two for slashing after he and a Rockets player were both sent off for roughing. However, the Rideaus turned in an aggressive penalty kill, not allowing the Rockets to generate a single thing. Then, right after the penalty had expired, Peladeau poked the puck up ice, springing Donnelly on a breakaway just as he had stepped off the bench. Donnelly tried a drag move, and just as the Rockets goalie poked it away, Peladeau was there on the rebound to lift the puck over the outstretched netminder for the 5-1 goal.

And they weren't done there. The Rockets took yet another penalty with 3:13 to go, and after about a minute of working the puck around, finally Hughson managed to find some space behind the net, and he wasted no time hitting Leaver sneaking in from the point for the one-timer. That was Leaver's fourth goal and eighth point of the season, tying him for the team lead with Leonard, while Ullmann also picked up another assist on the play. As if to add insult to injury, North Dundas would pickup one more penalty with 14 seconds to go in the second, and at the second intermission, it was utter domination all around by the Rideaus: a 6-1 lead, a mind boggling 28 (!!) shots in the second period alone for a 2-period total of 40 compared to the Rockets' 15, and a powerplay that was 2 for 7 with 1:46 still to go on their eighth to start the third period.

Not even a minute in, after North Dundas fumbled a clear near the blue line, the puck found its way to Smith

in the slot, and he beat the Rockets goalie five-hole to net the Rideaus' seventh goal and third powerplay goal of the game. At this point it was all over but the crying, and the referees continued to call the game tight to keep the rough stuff to a minimum. Evan Rice was assessed a 2-minute minor for head contact, which also carries with it a 10-minute misconduct. Not too long after, Rockets' Marty McLeod picked up a 5-minute major for slashing and was ejected from the game. Westport had a lot of good looks on their lengthy powerplay, but ultimately North Dundas was able to weather the storm. The Rideaus took three more penalties over the final 5:45, but no additional damage was done, and they once again saluted their fans as they celebrated a dominant 7-1 win, with the final shots totalling 54-20. This win improved the Rideaus' record to 5-5, which tied them with the Rockets in sixth place with 10 points. Ahead of them: Gatineau in first with 18 points (9-2 record), Vankleek Hill in second with 14 (7-2), Cumberland in third with 13 (6-2-1), St-Isidore (6-4) and Morrisburg (6-5) tied at fourth with 12. The Rideaus still have some work to do to undo their early season loss streak, but they're quickly catching up in the rear-view mirror of the teams ahead. This Friday - a chance to gain some more ground as they welcome the Vankleek Hill Cougars to town, 7:30pm at the WTC Communications Centre.

Shoutout to Ric and MJ Stoness of Stoness Construction for sponsoring Friday's game against the Rockets.

Rideau DHS Qualifier

Early and exciting news from today's EOSSAA cross country meet in Kingston. Lauren Givogue has qualified for OFSAA! More details to come.

Jon McLurg Live Buzz @ The Cove

By Seamus Cowan

If you have seen Turpin's Trail, you have seen Jon McLurg. Jon is the brother-in-law of fellow Turpin's Trail frontman Chris Murphy and has been on the Kingston folk music scene for almost two decades. With four solo records to his name, he is adamant about documenting his art. Like a workhorse with a steady and even composure, his shoegazer folk style draws you into his private circle. Once in, it's a kaleidoscope of the history of folk, bluegrass, country and celtic. For an evening of gentle song and visceral lyrics, look no further than Jon. Catch him live at The Cove as November's performer of the month at the Monday Musical Residency at The Cove 5-8pm. Please be generous with our musicians.

Seamus Cowan: **You are synonymous with the old school in the styles of music you play: country, folk, bluegrass and celtic. What inspired you to take that path at a young age.**

Jon McLurg: I would say my dad was my first inspiration. I always thought he had an ear for a good song and my earliest musical memories are of riding in the car, he and I listening to FLY FM and FOX 960 in the late 80's. I got my interest in singers and songs from him. Sincerity in music was valued over pizzazz. A good song needed strong bare-bones. This is where my interest in roots genres came from.

I was always inspired by the records my dad had collected. I liked to listen to many types of music as a kid, but folk music really stuck with me the most. Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, and Mississippi John Hurt were singer and songwriters I came to admire as a teenager. These were all artists my dad had seen live, and hearing stories about them made me want to learn more. My guitar teacher Tom Mawhinney made a big impression, and directed me to a lot of great music. For a few years in my mid teens I played in a group called Cantus with my sister Heather and two friends, Mac Freeman and Donna Brown. We played a lot of stuff one would call roots music. My dad was manager. I absorbed a lot during those few years.

In my later teens I met Chris when he and my sister started to see each other. He was playing around the area with The Shores of Newfoundland. They were a very busy band with a vast repertoire of folk songs from Canada's east coast, Ireland, Australia, etc, and they did popular songs as well. Chris asked me to join on bass when the line-up was changing and gave a quick primer on bass fundamentals and reading numbered chord charts. So this way I happened into a fine

working band and my first paid regular gig at the Merchant Tap House in Kingston. I've learned a lot from all the guys connected with that band — supportive, entertaining and fun people to learn from. Chris is a tremendous multi-instrumentalist and singer with a deep knowledge of east coast music and trad music in general, and I learned a lot from him in the early days and in the years since. Glenn Foster was in the band, and at that time living in Westport. He's an excellent folk musician and teacher and he introduced me to the early recordings that inspired stars of the 50's, 60's, 70's. Grateful Dead, Dylan, Led Zeppelin and many others all grew out of these foundational blues, folk and country records. He stoked my interest in musicology, old field recordings and obscure, earthy, celestial and strange music. Music that seemed unselfconsciously real.

There were more inspirations in my youth and early 20's, but these are key ones.

The New Jersey Folk Festival must have been a trip to be selected to play at a young age. What came of your performance opportunities down there?

It was great fun to be invited to play at the New Jersey Folk Festival. Though it was a good long drive for a set, the sense of reward I felt from the crowd response made it worth it. People were very warm, welcoming and open to songs I'd written. I learned the value of a taking a bit of journey for an opportunity like that. That experience also taught me the importance of checking your email junk folder. A few years after that appearance, I was invited to return for a showcase of encore performances. Sadly, the invitation sat in my junk folder until several months after the event had passed. I did email to say I did not mean to ignore them.

My friend Chris Morris, who I play gigs with often, has assisted me with booking and general organization over the last couple of years. It's been a big help.

Turpin's Trail has undergone changes over the years, starting out as Crooked Wood. Can you tell us a bit about the evolution of the band?

Crooked Wood was a trio of Chris, his childhood friend Steve Kennedy, and me.

Steve is a naturally gifted singer and a fine, thoughtful songwriter. The two of them were a duo finishing up an album when I joined and we played steadily as a trio for about 6 years at pubs, private events and festivals. Around 2012, Chris and two other fine musicians, Brian Flynn and Noah St. Amand, got a regular gig at Blu Martini in Kingston. Pretty soon Steve and I were

playing with Turpin's Trail as well. We released a couple of albums as a 5-piece. Changing focuses and commitments made Steve and Brian depart on friendly terms. The band just welcomed Jess Wedden as our new fiddler quite recently. She brings such energy and skill to each performance and has at least three bands that keep her busy touring in North America and Europe. We feel really fortunate to have her on as a member. We also periodically have our friend Joe Sexton join us with some superb Newfoundland style accordion playing.

You site some seminal songwriters as your main influences. What musician would you love to play with if you could have one chance to jam?

I'd say Mississippi John Hurt. He wasn't as much a songwriter as a brilliant and unique interpreter of songs and a highly original and evocative guitar player. He could take a folk or even a pop song of his day and remake it as his own, totally drawn into his style. That is in a way more amazing to me than writing a new song. But if I had to pick a person to jam with that did not require a bodily resurrection I would say Neil Young, with 12-string guitars.

You continue to create and collaborate at a very steady pace. What's next for Jon McLurg? Another axing album?

I recently released an album of country classics, so I'm working on promoting that. I have an album of folk songs coming soon, as well. Last of all for traditional song albums I'll do a disaster ballad collection called "Oh, the Humanity!" Then I'll have to stop making excuses and finish writing and recording an album of my own lyrics. My highly talented and patient engineer/producer Matt Baetz at Longshot Records has been very understanding of all this stalling. I think I can feel the inspiration coming back! For the next year I'm looking forward to some smaller scale tours around Ontario and lots of playing around the local region with good friends. I'm hoping to make my way into more folk festivals, too.

I appreciate the chat, Seamus. Looking forward to returning for another Cove residency!



Even though Delta Mill is closed for the season, things stay busy behind the scenes. Recently several large artifacts were moved from a barn out of town where they had been stored since 2008 in Art Cowan's barn. The millstone will be kept and displayed, but it is planned to dispose of the scale and a very heavy smutter as well as several other odds and ends.

COMMUNITY PREVIEW

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

You're Invited to An Informal Community Conversation on Aging in Place - share your views on services our seniors need to age safely in their community. 2-4 p.m., Westport Lions Beach House, 63 Mountain Rd., Westport.

Drop In - (every Wed.) 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Westport United Church Hall. Cards, conversation, coffee.

Weight Watcher Meetings - 5:20 p.m., Perth and District Pool. Check in 30 minutes before workshop. Info. 1-800-651-6000.

Weekly Bingo - (every Wed.) 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Joshua Bates Centre, Athens. Refreshments. In support of Athens Fire Dept. and Lions.

CPHC Day Program - (every Wed.) 9-3, Athens Christian Reformed Church, Athens.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Beginner Boot Camp - ABC Hall, 5 p.m. \$50./10 classes or \$7 drop-in. Classes are 45 minutes. All ages. Register/Info.: <https://abchall.ca/health-fitness/>

An Informal Community Conversation on Aging in Place - share your views on services our seniors need to age safely in their community. 6-8 p.m., Westport Lions Beach House, Westport.

Weekly Bingo - (every Thurs.) doors open 6 p.m., Elgin Lions Club Hall.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Hooks and Books - (every Fri.) 1:30 p.m., at the Newboro Library.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Westport Lions Diabetes Information Tag Day - 10 a.m. - noon, Westport's Beer Store, Liquor Store & Circle K.

The Lombardy Agricultural Society - hosting a Trivia Night, 6 p.m. \$15 per person and you can have 6 at a table.

Snow Road Snowmobile Club Breakfast - 8-11 a.m., at Clubhouse, 1106 Gemmills Rd., Snow Road Station.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

St. Edwards Sacrament Preparation - after 11 a.m. Mass. Info. email: stedswestport@gmail.com or call the Church at 613-273-2806.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Beginner Knitting Classes - with Nancy and Jennifer, 2-4 p.m. at the Westport Public Library. Register: Pam 613-273-2332.

Seniors Gentle Fitness Classes - Registration 2 p.m. at Shillington Park in the hall. Sponsored by Community Primary Health Care (CPHC). Classes are free, donations accepted and classes begin Thurs. Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. Info. Diana 613-273-9354.

Weight Watcher Meetings - 9:30 a.m., Perth and District Pool. Check in 30 minutes before workshop. Info. 1-800-651-6000.

Bridge - (every Mon.) - 1 p.m., United Church, Westport. Info. Doreen Northcott 613-273-3056

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Duplicate Bridge - (every Tues.) 1 p.m., United Church, Westport. Info. Eileen Dunleavy 613-273-2954 or Sally Steeves 613-273-3212.

Athens Museum - Open Tues.-Sat. 9-4. New exhibits, kids activities. Archival Research Room. By donation only.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Pre-Order your Christmas Tourtieres - from Portland United Church before Nov. 11. Two sizes: 8" and 4". Frozen and ready to bake. To order call Sheila 613-272-3531 or MJ 613-222-9070.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #231 Remembrance Day Service - 10:45 a.m. Rideau Lakes Legion Branch #231, Portland; 1:30 p.m. Red Brick School House, Elgin; 3 p.m. Cenotaph, Portland (Hwy.#15). Light lunch and refreshments at the Branch.

The Elgin and Area Heritage Society invites visitors to view the WWI Elgin Platoon: Two Soldiers' Display in the Red Brick School before or after the Branch #231 Canadian Legion's Memorial Service (1:30 p.m. in Heritage Park). School will be open 1-3 p.m. Refreshments available.

Snow Road Snowmobile Club Roast Beef Dinner - 5:30 p.m. at Clubhouse, 1106 Gemmills Rd., Snow Road Station. Reserved Tickets Required. Limit to first 100 Sold. Contact Ruth Wark 613-278-0477.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Tins of Assorted Homemade Squares For Sale - at Athens United Church, 17 Church St., 10 a.m. First come first served.

Snow Road Snowmobile Club Breakfast - 8-11 a.m., at Clubhouse, 1106 Gemmills Rd., Snow Road Station.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Save the Date! - 60's Music Concert by the Two Old Guys (TOG's) at Westport United Church. More info. to come.

The Community Preview is for non-profit organizations to promote upcoming events. Send them to editor@review-mirror.com

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ON BEHALF OF Fred, Krista and Connor Kelly we would like to thank everyone for their help and generosity during our time of need. A special thanks to Paul Younge for arranging the benefit and all his hard work in making it a great success. Thank you to Eric Uren for the wonderful music he played, it was enjoyed by all. Many thanks to everyone who supplied food. We would like to thank the following businesses for their raffle donations. Herlehy Home Hardware (Sno Racer); Westport Home Hardware (Benchmark 20v grass trimmer and blower kit); Tangled Garden (Variety of gifts); The Lost Penny Pub (Variety of gifts); Rideau Lakes Golf Course (Golf package); Lake Effects (Snow Globe); Village Green (Gift Basket); Darlene Muldoon & Sarah Patterson (Pampered Chef Gift Basket); Circle K (Cash donation); The Dollar Store (Cash donation); and The Northern Edge (Toronto Maple Leafs banner). Thank you to everyone for your support.

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The deadline for applying to this position is November, 10, 2023.

Please visit "Employment Opportunities" at www.rideaulakes.ca or contact Yvonne Robert, interim CAO, at yrobert@rideaulakes.ca for more information

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Thank You

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all who supported our mother this past year.

To the staff of Lombard Manor thank you for the care and kindness you showed to our mother during her stay there.

Dr. Shiozaki and staff: A thank you for meeting our mother's health care needs for being kind, caring and compassionate to our mother and all visiting family members.

A thank you to the following: Diana Kemp for supporting us in so many ways. Ruth Lemke for the lovely music at the funeral service. Reverend Marianne Emig Carr for conducting the funeral service. A thank you to Lyons Funeral Home, and all those who sent words of condolence, flowers, donations and food.

With gratitude, The family of Beryl Bresee

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It is the 30th Anniversary of the Distress Centre of Lanark, Leeds and Grenville which was recently honoured. It was also a chance to celebrate the Resilient Communities Fund Grant. \$136,300 was awarded from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

The Rideau Lakes Horticultural Society

The Rideau Lakes Horticultural Society (RLHS) extends its condolences to Ross Carruthers, long-time Board member, on the recent loss of his wife, Jackie, whose many years of service to the Society are remembered with great fondness. Jackie joined the Society's Board in 2007. She then served as Vice-President in 2008 and 2009, President in 2010 through 2014, and Past President in 2015 and 2016. She also produced the Society's newsletter, The Lilypad, in 2009.

Her years at the helm

were characterized by, among many other activities, hosting workshops in her own home to create bouquets for Society events – always with delicious refreshments for volunteers. Her Board meetings were personable yet efficient – a feat in itself. She knew well the value that volunteers bring to an organization and made them feel that respect and gratitude in all her dealings with them. Too soon gone.

RLHS welcomes one and all to its Annual General Meeting (AGM) Thursday,

November 2nd. This year, the format for the AGM will be a little different. The usual business – voting on the annual financial statement, appointment of financial reviewers, annual budget, and election of officers to the Board – will occupy the first half-hour or so of the meeting. This will be followed by small moderated group discussions on what those in attendance see as the Society's role in the community, and what they would like to see the Society accomplish through 2024, and in the longer term. It's an opportu-

nity for all members of the community to bring their perspective to bear on the Society's future.

The AGM will be held at the Elgin Municipal Complex (47 Main Street), as well as virtually. If you would like to participate remotely, email rideaulhs@gmail.com. For those attending in person, networking and refreshments are at 6:30, with the meeting starting at 7:00. All are welcome. Admission is free.

ALUS Lanark officially launches at Montague farm tour

Local farmers, politicians and sustainability advocates came together with a common goal on Saturday, Oct. 21: to celebrate a new program supporting farmers in Lanark County.

ALUS Lanark was officially launched at Milkhouse Farm + Dairy in Montague during the sheep farm's popular Open Farm event.

Officials from Lanark County, Climate Network Lanark, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA) and Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority (MVCA) joined Lanark-Frontenac-Kingston MPP John Jordan, Ducks Unlimited staff, neighbouring farmers and other guests to tour the farm and learn more about its new ALUS project, one of the first to be completed in the county.

Milkhouse owners Cait and Kyle White worked with ALUS Lanark to add two new wetlands in areas where it was already too wet to mow or graze their sheep. ALUS Lanark covered construction costs and will provide annual compensation for the ecosystem services the wetlands provide, such as cleaner air and water.

"We saw an opportunity to create some habitat that would contribute to a more interesting and diverse farm," said Kyle White, who sells their cheese, grass-fed lamb and wool products at



ALUS Lanark was launched in Montague during the Open Farm event.

the Ottawa Farmers' Market. "It's been great for us. We always wanted to create these wetlands, but we needed the financial support to get it done."

Guests could see the completed wetlands were already hard at work storing runoff, filtering contaminants and providing flood storage.

"This is really a win-win for everyone," said Derek Matheson, ALUS Lanark co-ordinator for RVCA. "Farmers can put otherwise marginal land to work while supporting better water quality and a healthier environment."

ALUS is a national non-profit organization that works with local farmers to help them undertake envi-

ronmental stewardship projects on their farms. ALUS communities are overseen by local partnership advisory committees (PACs) and administered by local organizations. In the case of ALUS Lanark, RVCA and MVCA administer programs on the ground alongside their other longstanding stewardship programs.

The push to bring the program to Lanark County was spearheaded by Climate Network Lanark, which got Lanark County officials on board before approaching the conservation authorities to administer the program. Since the program was officially created in January 2022, ALUS Lanark has recruited a PAC comprised

of local farmers, business owners and residents, and set project priorities for the county.

Matheson and his MVCA counterpart Marissa Okum have already sought out and approved 26 projects to receive ALUS funding, for a total projects value of more than \$202,000. More than half those costs have been covered by ALUS Lanark, with RVCA, Ducks Unlimited and Environment and Climate Change Canada covering almost everything else.

To learn more about ALUS Lanark or to apply, visit www.rvca.ca/stewardship-grants.

Open Doors for the Clay Studio Collective!

A weekend of celebrations is planned for the much-anticipated opening of the Clay Studio Collective pottery studio. An Opening Reception will be held on Friday, November 3rd (6:30pm – 8:30pm), featuring a pottery exhibition of local artists, studio tours

and live music by Pat Johnson.

After months of planning, renovations and generous support from the Athens and surrounding community, the Collective is celebrating with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday night and an Open House

on Saturday, November 4th (1:30pm – 3:30pm) that will feature studio tours, wheel throwing demonstrations, a pottery sale and tile/sculpture pick up.

The Clay Studio Collective is a group of ceramic artists who have united to share ideas, resources, and

support in a fully equipped pottery studio in Athens, Ontario. Membership is either monthly, hourly, or event-based to attend classes and workshops.

For additional information, call 613-797-4269 or email at claystudiocollective@gmail.com

REDUCE - REUSE - RECYCLE

Operation Christmas Child

Do you want to make a difference this Christmas? Pack a shoebox - change the life of a child, a family and a community. Let us show you how.



Operation Christmas Child is a hands-on project of Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and development organization. Canadians are able to bless the lives of children living in the developing world by packing gift-filled shoeboxes with a variety of toys, school supplies and hygiene items.

Shoeboxes available at Olivet Baptist Church, Westport
 Please pick one up and fill it up or bring items to the church and we will pack them.
 Call 273-2012.
Deadline Sunday, Nov 12th, 2023.
 For more, go to www.SamaritansPurse.ca