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Duncan sets pace for busy year in township

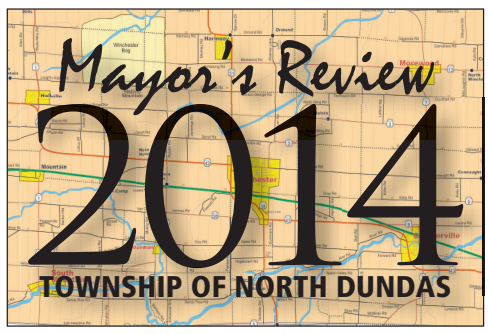
by Matthew Uhrig
Press staff

WINCHESTER – What does 2015 hold for the Township of North Dundas? That's an unknown, truly, at this point, but the municipality's mayor has an idea of where the lower-tier government will be aiming its attention.

During his annual sit down with area media, Eric Duncan did his best to prognosticate for the coming year, while also leafing through highlights of the year that was.



Township of North Dundas Mayor Eric Duncan predicts a busy year for the municipality in 2015.
Press Photo – Uhrig



Standouts

"Personally, for me, having the opportunity to serve as warden was a real positive experience," Duncan said.

In December 2013, North Dundas' so-called "boy wonder" was enshrined into the ranks of warden for the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry (SD&G). In doing so, he became the youngest person, at just 26, to hold the title in the 163-year tradition of installing a politician at the head of the upper-tier's table.

Flash forward to December 2014, and he is again being feted. Following a six-six deadlock, which saw county councillors clearly divided in their support, Duncan's name was plucked from a hat – the luck of the draw that made him warden once more.

"The work at the regional level is fulfilling… We're certainly moving some projects along there," he said. "Having the opportunity to come back for a second year is rewarding."

Duncan was also vocal as a cheerleader for the region at the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus.

• see DUNCAN on page 3



Mom, don't let go!

With the weather being as unseasonable as it is, the only true sign of winter may be indoors at Winchester's Joel Steele Community Centre. That's where Andrea Thompson brought her children Mon., Dec. 28 during one of the Township of North Dundas' public skating sessions. She is pictured here trying to coax young Jacob to set forth on his own.

Press Photo – Uhrig

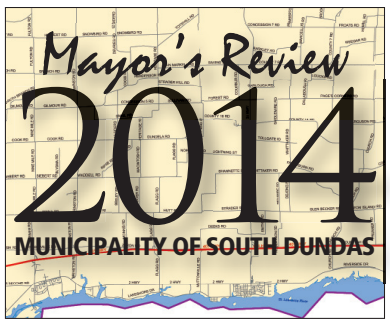
'Head and heart' to lead South Dundas, Delegarde says

by Sandy Casselman
Press staff

MORRISBURG – A new year is dawning in the Municipality of South Dundas, and with it, a new term of council replete with new blood, new ideas, and a new mayor.

In 2014, former councillor Evonne Delegarde made history when she became the first female mayor in a landslide victory against the incumbent, Steven Byvelds. Inaugurated on Tues., Dec. 2, Delegarde led her first council meeting Tues., Dec. 16, with a lengthy agenda and a packed house.

Armed with an electronic tablet



and copious notes, she came prepared to the December end-of-year meeting with local media, ready to provide a summary assessment of 2014's projects and issues, as well as a fluid road map outlining the direction she and her new team wish to go in the coming year.

Looking back

The mayor said the "highlight" of 2014 was undoubtedly the completion of the Iroquois Wastewater Treatment Plant.

"That was a big thing this year," she said, adding that the only task left is a final walk-through.

There were also many items left unfinished.

Five draft bylaws – parking, signs, exotic animals, entrance permits, and sewer use – are to be passed by council in mid-January, she said, while the Campbell Street extension in Morrisburg's Industrial Park recently received a green light. The project had been on hold for more than a year, awaiting approval from the Ministry of Natural Resources for the removal of an endangered butternut tree rooted in the centre of the planned roadway.

"We have some interest. We've sold some property [and] we want to pursue that," Delegarde said.

The mayor noted South Dundas needs an awareness campaign, a tool to "sell our municipality," as it is in need of all sorts of housing – residential, low income, seniors, young seniors, condominiums, and single family subdivisions.

"We have to get some more developers in and commercial is always a tough sell," she said. "We have the space for it and the buildings… I would like to reinstate the economic development advisory committee with representatives from all different sectors."

Meanwhile, the new Williamsburg branch of the Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry (SD&G) County Library is set to welcome visitors beginning Tues., Jan. 13, 2015, while the Morrisburg branch of the Dundas County Food Bank is scheduled to open near the end of February.

• see DELEGARDE on next page

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Police Blotter

Theft

RUSSELL – On Sun., Dec. 28, Russell County OPP officers responded to a theft complaint at Russell Meadows Retirement Home.

At the location, it was reported an employee might be responsible for the theft of various items. Police investigated the complaint, ultimately apprehending an employee.

Lauren Laviolette, 40, of Ottawa has been charged with theft under $5,000. She is to appear in L'Orignal court Wed., Jan. 21, 2015.

Unwanted guest

WINCHESTER – On Sat., Dec. 27, at approximately 12:46 am, SD&G OPP officers responded to a report of an unwanted male at a residence on Maple Ridge Road.

The investigation indicated that an adult male had entered the above noted home uninvited, causing damage within. Upon being confronted by an occupant of the residence, the suspect made motions to assault the male holding a hammer. No injuries resulted.

Jason Servage, 28, of South Dundas was arrested and charged with assault with a weapon, mischief under $5,000, and break and enter a dwelling.

Servage is to appear in Morrisburg court Tues., Jan. 20, 2015.

Booze bandit nabbed

SOUTH MOUNTAIN – Following an ongoing investigation into a reported theft of liquor, SD&G OPP have identified and charged an adult male.

On Sat., Dec. 20, at approximately 6:03 pm, police responded to a report of a theft at Rick's Gas Bar in South Mountain. The investigation indicated that at 4:58 pm, a male suspect removed a quantity of liquor bottles without paying.

On Tues., Dec. 23, Christopher Thompson, 23, of Kemptville was arrested. He faces a charge of theft under $5,000.

Thompson is to appear Tues., Feb. 3, 2015 in Morrisburg court.

Details published in the police blotter are provided by the OPP. The Winchester Press *typically publishes information about alleged crimes occurring in and around Dundas County, as well as other information of interest to our readership. All suspects are considered innocent in the eyes of the law unless proven otherwise in court.*

Delegarde

• continued from the front page

The Parks Building, which served as the food bank's headquarters, along with community buildings in both Dunbar and Winchester Springs, is slated for eventual demolition. The substance surveys for the properties have been completed, and it has already been determined that the cost of rehabilitating the buildings "can't be justified." As for what will become of the land, Delegarde said it has yet to be decided, but she has ideas of what she would like to see done. She also said she is looking into having a synopsis of all municipally owned buildings and land drafted.

The first payment on the South Dundas Municipal Centre (SDMC) is slated for 2015, she said, which will come into play at budget time.

When asked if she thought residents might see an increase in municipal taxes in the coming year, Delegarde said it was "hard to say," and listed several situations where additional municipal funds are required, such as infrastructure work needed at the Morrisburg Plaza, the completion of the Campbell Street extension, and cost of living increases for staff.

Unlike last year, the 2015 budget consultations will not get underway until March due to packed schedules in February, Delegarde said. However, she would like to see it moved to as early in the new year as possible beginning in 2016.



Municipality of South Dundas Mayor Evonne Delegarde led her first meeting as the township's top politician Tues., Dec. 16.
Press Photo – Casselman

Moving forward

"I think we're all pretty gung ho to build all the relationships and work with the residents, organizations, and the groups that are out there," Delegarde said. "And with staff too – to get everyone working together again."

The mayor said her council colleagues also see this as a priority.

"We want to think with our head and our heart," she said. "We're sensitive to everybody."

This, however, does not mean residents will necessarily get their way on certain issues, as Delegarde admitted it is not possible to please everyone. The potential Lakeshore Drive grain elevator poses one such situation, as Delegarde said she "personally, with that beautiful Lakeshore Drive, I think [the grain bins] will be overwhelming," but she made it clear that if the permit application meets all legal criteria, "then they'll happen."

As for the possible addition of noise bylaws for wind turbine operation, Delegarde said there is no plan on the books, but if someone were interested in that, they would need to bring it forward to council.

Decisions, when they are made, are to be based on a combination of research, facts, and input from the public, she added.

Delegarde said she is looking into the possibility of including some "relaxed" council sessions, whereby council and staff meet to brainstorm ideas and share information, saving the decision-making for formal council meetings.

"I really want everybody to feel free to speak," she added. "[There will be] no one-pony shows. I'm not a one-pony person."

In fact, members of council and staff are slated to participate in a visioning session early in the new year.

Residents are not to be left out of the conversation, the mayor said. While there has not been an opportunity to discuss the issue formally as a council yet, she confirmed the possibility of a regular question and answer session during every meeting is to be "seriously considered" at an upcoming session. If politicians decide not to go that route, Delegarde said the fall open houses are to continue.

As well, carrying on from a practice she started as councillor, the new mayor intends to keep regular office hours at SDMC, and she has encouraged her colleagues to take advantage of the mayor and council office to do the same, if they wish.

Since being elected, Delegarde said she receives on average three to four messages per day from residents.

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Moving on

The *Winchester Press* is saying goodbye to one of its own this week. Connie Hart, who for 40 years has served as the publication's office manager, is set to retire. Hart started at the *Press* in 1974, beginning as a clerk before being tasked with leading the business' administrative staff in 1981. "I am very grateful to the management and staff of the *Press* for making my 40 years here a pleasure… I can't believe how fast these years have gone," she said. Her first foray into retirement life will take her to Hawaii in February, and she said more time will be spent with her three grandchildren.

Press Photo – Uhrig

Duncan: Busy year ahead for North Dundas

• continued from the front page

The massive broadband Internet project – the Eastern Ontario Regional Network – was a key file for politicians in the area, as was the consistent condemnation of the provincial government and its handling of OPP contracts.

On the policing side of things, however, SD&G is expected to save upwards of $1 million next year as the new provincial billing model dropped the counties output to $11.5 million (down from $12.5 million in 2014).

The cost-savings, Duncan said, will allow county politicians more options during budgeting sessions; positive news as demands for increased services and enhanced infrastructure are weighty.

Locally, the mayor said North Dundas' 2014 was a positive one padded by "moving a lot of different things forward."

"Every year now with our group seems to be a busy year," Duncan added. "Both arena projects are done… The second pool, in Chesterville, getting done is going to be a positive that is not good for only this term of council, but for 25 or 30 years for the next councils; the next generation really."

Recreationally, the municipality spent roughly $1.4 million between Winchester's Joel Steele Community Centre and the Chesterville Arena as the aging facilities were in need of updates. Leaking coolant lines caused staff headaches as they worked to keep facilities efficient, while concrete slabs at the two arenas were crumbling and the dasher boards needed repairs.

The work at Chesterville's pool, meanwhile, will mirror that of the Winchester Centennial Pool, as the aquatic facility's base is leaking. A preliminary budget allocation has $225,000 set aside for the project.

Going forward

Duncan is talking tough when it comes to a key mandate of 2015 for North Dundas' politicians.

The challenge is facilities, and more specifically, the number the municipality is subsidizing.

"It is the number that we have for the use that we have… Number of facilities we have versus the amount of times they're being used," Duncan said. "We're subsidizing from the general tax base tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, a year for facilities literally being used seven per cent of the time. If somebody in business had a facility they used seven per cent of the time and paid out the cost and they managed that, they'd be fired."

To combat this, North Dundas will be introducing a new user-fee system in January, aimed at better offsetting costs.

"This is not us trying to impact anything," Duncan said. "We have wonderful groups doing great things, but is there a different way to offer what we offer? This is what we have to figure out. We're not going to go out and make blanket statements; we have the finances down to the dollar. People are stunned at how much it actually costs in utilities and capital… People think the halls we have are used way more often than they are."

Another target for North Dundas in 2015? Residential growth.

"That is one area we do need to pick up on," Duncan said. "We need to make sure [contractors] get shovels in the ground, get moving, and get the houses built."

At the moment, "residential numbers aren't what we want them to be," the mayor added.

"We have to make sure we have people coming in and building," Duncan said. "It, obviously, will help with population, but will help our businesses too."

As a smaller, rural community, North Dundas is handcuffed some, he acknowledged, not having wealthy developers coming to "cut a cheque."

"It is a very large job for builders here to come up with the money, but those coming in have kept our planning department busy," Duncan said.

Because of the need for housing growth, the mayor was left frustrated earlier this year when a 132-dwelling project was met with bellyaching from neighbours. The build, if approved, will take place in east end Winchester, spanning from Fred Street north to Victoria Street.

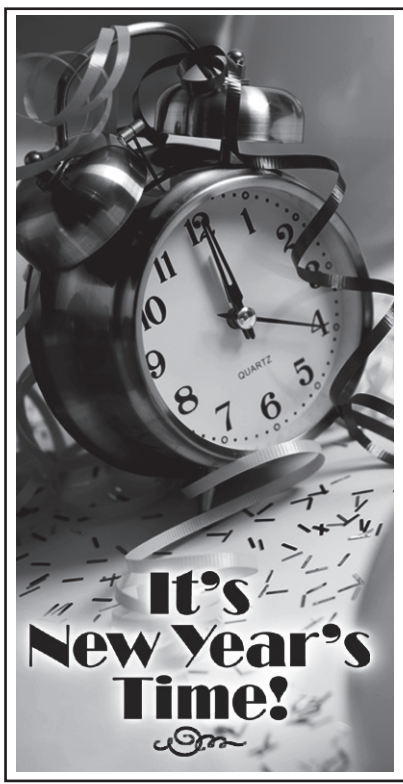
"Subdivision proposals are not new, and you learn to get less bitter [about the backlash]," Duncan said. "Most people understand the process and have things they want to address, but some, no matter what you say, they're not going to be happy."

Looking ahead to 2018

Having been given another four-year mandate to work with (through acclamation in September), Duncan will be looking to flex some more municipal muscle alongside his returning council members.

He has filled his plate, and said he intends to work through as much as possible in the time given. But when it runs out, that's it.

"I said [in 2010] that I'm not going to run [federally] and didn't, and I'm not going to run in 2015 either," Duncan said. "But I look at that, and say the same thing, I have aspirations, but don't plan things too far ahead… Don't get caught in things, as I have enough on my plate right now. At the end of 2018, however, I will have been on council for 12 years and that is likley the end, on the municipal side of things. I'll step aside and allow someone else to have a chance at it."



As the clock strikes twelve, we'd like to wish you lots of good times in the year ahead.

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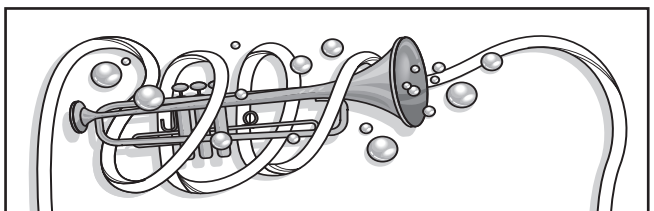

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WINCHESTER PRESS

A LOOK BACK

2014: THE YEAR IN REVIEW



January

• The new year began with the tragic news that the body of South Mountain resident Ralph Dowdall had been discovered mere steps from his home's front door. Dowdall was declared missing in mid-December, and a police tracking dog found his remains buried in the snow outside his Main Street residence. His death was ultimately deemed non-suspicious.

• Osgoode's Karen and Ken Buck welcomed son Jonathan into the world this month, with the little guy registering as Winchester District Memorial Hospital (WDMH)'s first baby born in 2014.

• This month also marked the official opening of the nomination period for October's municipal election. Vernon resident Kim Sheldrick was one of the first to file in the City of Ottawa's Osgoode Ward, while incumbent Deputy-Mayor Jim Locke and Iroquois resident Bill Ewing did so in the Municipality of South Dundas. Deputy-Mayor Gerry Boyce was also seeking re-election in the Township of North Dundas.

• The North Dundas District High School (NDDHS) Devils senior boys basketball team swept the competition this month during the educational facility's invitational basketball tournament. The squad defeated Pembroke's Fellowes Falcons 56-31 in the championship game.

• The Township of North Dundas was celebrating one of its best years for construction starts this month, with $19.7 million in declared costs being registered in 2013. The total was second to just 2010, when the value of new builds was nearly $21 million.

February

• It was announced this month that the 2013 Christmas Wish Tree campaign marked a historic moment for the WDMH Foundation, as the year's initiative brought in $111,170 for the medical facility's fundraising arm, up more than 30 per cent from 2012. Funds were earmarked for the purchase of new beds at the hospital.

• North Dundas councillors set the municipality's 2014 tax increase at 2.26 per cent this month, with the municipality expecting to collect $117,971 more, going from $5.2 million the year previous to $5.3 million.

• Surprising news came out of Osgoode Ward this month when political veteran Doug Thompson announced he would not be seeking re-election in the fall's municipal election. Instead, Thompson chose to close the book on his 31-year career, which saw him serve as both a councillor and mayor of the former Township of Osgoode before joining city council following amalgamation in 2000.

• Members of Winchester United Church's congregation were swallowing a bitter pill this month when it was revealed the religious facility would require upwards of $1 million in rehabilitation work in order to keep the church useful.

• Dundas Federation of Agriculture members this month were joining the call of their provincial counterparts to have natural gas connections made available to all Ontario farming operations.

March

• WDMH CEO Cholly Boland was on the hot seat this month as he defended changes at the hospital that resulted in the cutting of 14 beds – nine from the medical/surgical unit and five from the complex continuing care ward – and the elimination of nine staff positions. According to Boland, hospital staff began noticing vacant beds, and a five-month consultation process noted an occupancy rate of only 50 to 60 per cent, which justified the change.

• Riders of Wubs Transit would soon find themselves out of a transportation option after the firm announced this month it would be shuttering its shuttle service. Nanda Wubs said that the family business would be halting operation due to low usage. (Ultimately, Newington's Evans Bus Lines purchased the service.)

• It was a shock to the region this month when it was announced the University of Guelph's Kemptville campus would be closed by 2015. Facing a $32.4 million budgetary deficit, the university chose to close the North Grenville-based agricultural school and its campus in Alfred.

• The Ontario Council of Hospital Unions and the Canadian Union of Public Employees joined forces late this month to stage a protest outside of WDMH. Demonstrators were on hand to denounce the recent closure of 14 beds and elimination of jobs at the village medical facility.

• The Winchester Skating Club marked its 40th anniversary this month when it presented the organization's 2014 ice show, dubbed "Decades – Frozen in Time."

April

• It was announced this month that the province's list of $100,000 (or more) per year earners continues to grow, up nine per cent from the previous year, with 96,500 names on the list. Locally, WDMH's high-priced earners rose by half since 2012, going from six to 12 salaries, accounting for $1.5 million. CEO Cholly Boland topped the list, netting $230,002.65.

• At this month's Ontario Community Newspapers Association, the *Winchester Press* had a silver finish for general excellence in the organization's 2013 Better Newspaper Competition. It was the paper's third honour in as many years, having finished first in 2012 and second in 2011.

• Despite fashioning a dismal six and 19 regular season record, the Chesterville Maulers emerged from the 2013-2014 Winchester Town Hockey League playoffs with four wins in six starts and their name engraved on the historic Melvin Cup.

• Then provincial health minister Deb Matthews touched down at WDMH this month to announce the launch of the Upper Canada Health Link, a service that is to offer seniors and high-risk patients better care through personalized aid plans and more support through a team of secondary providers.

• Two walkers made a gruesome discovery this month while travelling along Steen Road south of Morewood. Human remains were found in a ditch running along the roadway, which led to the launch of a homicide investigation. In the days following, Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry OPP announced it was investigating a murder, as a post-mortem examination determined the adult male's death was a result of foul play.

May

• Facing mounting pressure to crack down on student drinking or drug use prior to school-sanctioned events, administration at NDDHS, with input from the Upper Canada District School Board, announced this month zero tolerance would go into effect prior to the educational facility's prom. All students attending were required to undergo a breathalyzer test before being admitted into the celebration.

• **continued on next page**

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• NDDHS seniors Connor Findlay and Connor Zersch were top performers for the school's track and field team during this month's National Capital Classic. Findlay tied for second place in the pole vault clearing 3.20m, while Zersch ended up in the third spot in the shot put event hitting the 12.11m mark.

• Brandi Krystyna Edwards, 29, was charged this month following her involvement in a crash north of Metcalfe that killed an off-duty Ottawa Police Services officer in November 2013. On the afternoon of the accident, Const. Mike Robillard was travelling on 8th Line Road en route to work with the police force's east division. Edwards' mini-van hit Robillard's car head-on near Parkway Road, killing the officer instantly. Edwards was charged with failure to drive in a marked lane under the Highway Traffic Act.

• NDDHS track star Jake Quinton finished the 2014 SD&G Track and Field Championship this month with a pair of gold medals. Quinton, a long distance specialist, won the 1,500m in 4:40 and followed up with a win in the 3,000m in 10:17.

• Osgoode Township High School was celebrated this month for offering 60 years of education during a weekend-long event, which featured an open house with memorabilia from the various decades the school has in been operation, a pub night, rounds of golf, a dinner and dance, and a pancake breakfast.



WINCHESTER PRESS

A LOOK BACK

2014: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

• North Dundas was dealing with the hand dealt by "old man winter" this month, having to make efforts to cover cost overruns not budgeted for. In 2013, the township allotted roughly $2.9 million for transportation services, but blew past the total by more than $380,000. The breakdown showed heightened expenses for snow plowing, and salting and sanding made up much of the excess.

• Metcalfe resident Brenda Rushton was left "flabbergasted" this month as she and her husband discovered vandals had ripped up freshly planted flowers recently planted at her son's headstone at the village's United Union Cemetery. The culprit(s) also targeted the gravesite of her son-in-law, who died at work a year earlier following a massive heart attack. "I'm just so heartbroken about this," Rushton told the *Press*.

• Stormont, Dundas, and South Glengarry MPP Jim McDonell bucked an Ontario trend this month as he reclaimed his Queen's Park seat in the provincial election. It was less than good news for his Conservative party, which again fell to opposition status as the ruling Liberals were given a dominant majority government. Nepean-Carleton MPP Lisa MacLeod was also re-elected.

• Three local Lions Clubs – Winchester, Mountain, and Chesterville – announced a partnership this month that saw the groups join forces to host a mass North Dundas Canada Day celebration at South Mountain's fairgrounds.

June

• It was announced this month that Winchester would be the host site for the 2015 Eastern Ontario Firefighters' Association Games. Locations for competition include the 100 Club Park and the neighbouring Joel Steele Community Centre.

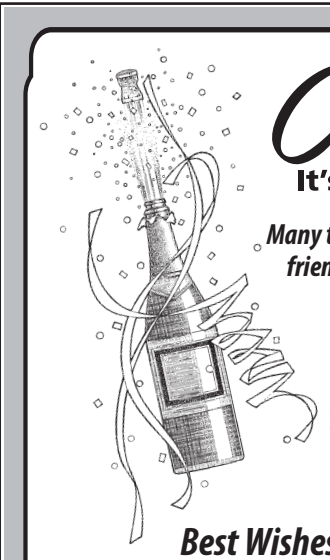
July

• Longtime Winchester veterinarian Dr. Lawrence "Larry" Gray called it a career this month after more than 60 years of animal care. Located in the west end of the village, Gray's practice had become an institution in the region, after getting its start in the late 1950s.

• While not considering it significant in the grand scheme of things, it was a shortfall nonetheless for the WDMH this month, as the medical facility announced an anticipated deficit of $499,199 for hospital operations in 2014-2015, and an overall debt of $627,278.

• Can an outdoor music festival survive in Winchester? That was the hope of the organizing committee behind the first-ever Winfest Summer BBQ Jam hosted at Winchelsea Events this month. Five bands took the stage throughout the evening event, with funds being raised for the Dundas County Food Bank.

• continued on next page



Cheers,
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Many thanks to our members and friends for a wonderful 2014!
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• It was announced this month that Lyle Vanclief, longtime Liberal MP and former minister of agriculture, would be appointed as facilitator of ongoing discussions between the Kemptville College Renewal Task Force and other parties focused on keeping the agricultural school operational.

• Winchester residents Thurland and Lorraine Brown were prepping for the adventure of a lifetime this month as they approached departure on the Way of St. James, most commonly known by its Spanish name, El Camino de Santiago. The 800-kilometre route meanders through the French countryside en route to the shrine of the apostle St. James the Great, located at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostella in Galicia in northwestern Spain.

August

• WDMH announced this month that 30-year nursing veteran Linda Johnson had been named the village medical facility's new cancer care navigator, helping to support patients through their cancer journey and connect them with other local resources.

• North Dundas Mayor Eric Duncan ended the speculation this month, announcing he would be seeking re-election in October's municipal campaign. First elected in 2006 as a councillor, Duncan landed in the mayor's chair in 2010 and was hoping for another four-year term.

• The race for mayor in the Municipality of South Dundas was officially set this month when incumbent Steven Byvelds jumped into the race. He was challenged by council colleague Evonne Delegarde who was looking to bypass the deputy-mayor slot, going from councillor to the top job.



WINCHESTER PRESS

A LOOK BACK

2014: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

• North Dundas this month was looking to recoup unpaid tax dollars from the owner of the once booming Nestle property in Chesterville. By way of Municipal Act guidelines, the township was forcing a sale to gather back $482,337.54 in money owed.

• Winchester's Dundas Manor was in the midst of a staffing shakeup this month as the third administrator in five years had left the long-term care home. Joanne Sidorchuk, a 10-year veteran of WDMH, exited as the top staff member, and at the same time vacated her role as the hospital's vice-president of seniors' services. Few details emerged following Sidorchuk's departure.

September

• Rather unceremoniously, Leslie Disheau, viewed as a legitimate contender in South Dundas' deputy-mayor race, dropped out of contention. She gave little reason for the departure, saying only that a "personal issue requires my full attention."

• The Dundas County Food Bank was moving forward with a new administrator this month, a change in direction after the sudden departure of Donna Quesnel earlier in the year. Reids Mills resident Ian McKelvie is now leading the organization, coming to the job after a lengthy career in magazine publishing.

• In North Dundas, it went down this month as the election that was not to be. Mayor Eric Duncan and councillors Al Armstrong, Tony Fraser, and John Thompson were acclaimed to their positions for another four years after no nominees came forward to run against them.

• Plans were announced this month for a residential development plan on a scale not seen for some time in Winchester. The applicant, Woods Construction and Development, has projected the construction of 132 separate dwellings, of mixed use, for an area in the village's east end.

• The closure of Metcalfe's Continental Mushrooms, one of Osgoode Ward's largest employers, forced more than 200 people out of work this month. Rumours had been circulating for weeks about the business' demise, and the company was petitioned into receivership by Farm Credit Canada.

• continued on next page

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS
There's no better time to offer you our best wishes for a happy and prosperous future. Thank you for spending time with us this past year.
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It's a New Year, Baby!
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October

• A fallen Dundas County farm boy was honoured this month by modern comrades with the Vancouver Police Department. Inkerman's John McMenomy was just 22 when he was killed in the line of duty. He is buried at Knights Cemetery near Inkerman, where officers laid a memorial stone noting his service.

• Area Anglican parishioners celebrated this month the unveiling of the name of Winchester's new church, St. Clare's, on Falcone Lane.

• Winchester resident Lisa Williams fulfilled a lifelong dream this month when she opened her store, Main Street Clothing Company, next door to Milano's Pizzeria.

• The dairy industry lost one of its true leaders this month with the death of Sam Ault. Not only did Ault help to revolutionize Winchester with his business acumen, employing hundreds at Ault Foods before it was sold to Parmalat, he was also a staunch community supporter, helping with the development of the 100 Club Park, and the ultimate construction of a new high school and the village's arena.

• Jean Paul (JP) St. Pierre, the gregarious and outgoing mayor of Russell Township, died suddenly this month. Emergency crews were called to his home, though the affable municipal politician was pronounced dead before being taken to hospital.

• The municipal election campaign ended this month, with North Dundas Deputy-Mayor Gerry Boyce given a second term, while Evonne Delegarde defeated Steven Byvelds for South Dundas' mayorship. Deputy-Mayor Jim Locke was also re-elected in the south, while the councillors selected were Archie Mellan, Marc St. Pierre, and Bill Ewing. Osgoode Ward's new councillor was George Darouze.



WINCHESTER PRESS

A LOOK BACK

2014: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

November

• Controversy surrounded the WDMH Foundation this month with the sudden departure of executive director Troy Cross and board chair Arnold Scheerder. Three board members, Al Armstrong, Elaine De Rooy and Tom Deacon, also resigned, while Christina Enright, the foundation's manager of community engagement, quit later in the month. No official statement was made about the staff shuffling.

• SD&SG MP Guy Lauzon put the retirement rumours to rest this month when he was announced as the Conservative nominee in 2015's federal election.

• Though it was a whirlwind visit, Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence touched down at Crysler's Battlefield east of Morrisburg on Remembrance Day. He and Princess Anne arrived in Ottawa the day previous, and managed to attend more than 10 events before departing later in the day Nov. 11.

• NDDHS OSAID members and the local OPP partnered this month to KISS (Keep It Safe and Sober) the community during the holiday season. The effort was part of the police force's Festive Ride campaign, which aims to curb incidents of impaired driving during the holiday season.

• Findings published by Health Canada this month showed there is no definitive link between exposure to wind turbine noise and adverse health effects. Launched in 2012, in collaboration with Statistics Canada, the study explored the relationship between ailments reported by, and measured in, people living near wind energy sites and the turbines themselves.

• continued on next page

TO OUR VALUED PATRONS AT THE NEW YEAR

Whether you view the new year as a beginning or an end, we know that we had fun serving you all the days in between, and look forward to being a part of your life again in the year ahead.

We hope that 2015 brings much health, happiness and prosperity to you and your family.

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To our families, friends and neighbours, we wish each and every one a safe and

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NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS

At this festive time of year we'd like to take time out to express our sincere gratitude and warm wishes to all our patrons and friends. Thanks!

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Hope It's Filled With Joy

There's plenty of excitement in the air as we count down to 2015, and we hope the brand-new year holds all good things for you!

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2015

WINCHESTER PRESS

A LOOK BACK

2014: THE YEAR IN REVIEW

December

• The Mountain Township Agricultural Society was on the receiving end of $80,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation this month. The money is to be used to make upgrades to the organization's aging facility in South Mountain.

• It was announced this month that 2014's Dare to Flash 'A Stache fundraiser surpassed the $30,000 mark, helping to generate funds for prostate cancer research at the Ottawa Hospital and the cancer navigator position at WDMH.

• Eric Duncan was reappointed to the warden position for the United Counties of SD&G this month after his name was drawn from a hat. Council members were locked in a six-six tie, with Duncan ultimately being selected over Jamie MacDonald, deputy-mayor in North Glengarry.

• A tragic house fire claimed the life of Winchester resident Robert Gibson, 61, this month. Firefighters arrived at his home just before midnight Dec. 10, and ultimately found Gibson's body after the flames were extinguished. Investigators from both the Ontario Fire Marshal's office and the office of the provincial coroner attended the scene.



• The future of the University of Guelph's Kemptville campus was summed up in a 35-page document released this month by facilitator Lyle Vanclief. The report made just one recommendation, however: transfer the endangered facility to the Municipality of North Grenville. Both the Kemptville College Renewal Task Force and the township government were in agreement this is the best way forward, allowing each side to focus on educational offerings and keeping the school functional. The Ontario government, meanwhile, has yet to announce next steps in the process.

There's No Place Like Home for the HOLIDAYS

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~ Angela Coleman, Crysler

Greg's Quality Meats
~ Brenda Chambers, Winchester
~ David McClenaghan, Winchester

Agora
~ Shirley Stewart, Winchester

Winchester Autopro
~ John Mellan, South Mountain

Seaway Valley Pharmacy
~ Bev Lapierre, Winchester

Weagant Farm Supplies
~ Allison Miller, Kemptville

Annable's Jewellery & Gifts
~ Carolyn Dawson, Winchester

Town Vintner
~ Polly Hill, Winchester
~ Shawn Walker, Winchester

Winchester Print
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Durant's Flowers
~ Debbie Heuff, Morewood

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~ Roxanne Harris, Chesterville

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Andy's Foodland
~ Charlie Lanoue, Winchester

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~ Jane Campbell, Chesterville
~ Renee Lacasse, Winchester

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SPORTS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2014 PAGE 9

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Learning to roar

This group of novice curlers enrolled in the Winchester Curling Club's first ever Adult Learn to Curl program and received instruction in the skills and strategies involved in playing the 'Roaring Game'. The program was so popular the WCC is offering a Beginner League beginning on Mon., Jan. 5. Instructors and students gathered for a group photo during their final session on Mon., Dec. 15: front (left) – Leeann Chamberlain, Janet Levere, Alison Summers, Amy Doyle, Catherine Kelly, Janet Douma, Maaike Grotenhuis; back (left) – Trish Barkley, Gloria Summers, Michel St-Marseille, Sharon Shaver, Tim Mark, Cam Willis, Phil Klein-Swormink, Ken Summers, Larry McMillan, Don Grotenhuis, Melissa McMillan, Greg Chamberlain, Abe Douma, Wendy Gagnon and Linda Laverie.

Press Photo – Van Bridger

Learn to Curl program an early success

WINCHESTER – Rural curling clubs are struggling to meet their everyday operating expenses, including electricity bills, which are spiraling out of control and threatening to drive them out of existence.

In order to help offset their costs these non-profit organizations are actively recruiting new members. In some cases the clubs need to inject significant numbers into their memberships to sustain their recreational facilities.

The Winchester Curling Club (WCC), established in 1927, has joined a growing number of clubs around the region in offering an Adult Learn to Curl program in the hope of attracting new curlers.

The Getting Started in Curling for Adults program came into existence about 10 years ago at the Ottawa Curling Club. There are now new resources available for all clubs to use, courtesy of the Canadian Curling Association.

WCC president Alison Summers, who announced the new program in early October, said, "The WCC was very fortunate to have received some funding from the Ottawa Valley Curling Association (OVCA) to assist us in our inaugural year."

The president noted that OVCA's mandate is to develop, maintain and support the development of curlers and curling clubs within the Ottawa Valley through programs that are dedicated to curling development and the betterment of curling clubs.

Summers and her committee were extremely pleased with the number (23) of participants who registered and the enthusiasm they displayed during the 12 weekly sessions.

"The program was a great success with lots of positive feedback," she said. "We will continue a Beginner League starting on Mon., Jan. 5 (7:30 pm)."





Rockin' it

Wendy Gagnon (left) and Maaike Grotenhuis practiced their deliveries and turns during the last class of the first-ever Adult Learn to Curl Program offered by the Winchester Curling Club. The 12-week introduction to the sport featured both on and off-ice instruction involving the basic skills and strategic approaches to playing the roaring game.

Press Photos – Van Bridger

New league

The president reported most of the Learn to Curl class have expressed a desire to take part in the new league and any novices wishing to get an introduction to the sport are welcome to register as well, and should contact Summers (613-774-2724). It should be noted that instruction will be provided during games.

Summers explained each class during the fall session included on and off the ice instruction and the program helped entry level and novice curlers get progressively better through continued weekly instruction and skill development.

Prior to offering the introductory program, coordinator Linda Laverie, along with Michel St-Marseille and Mandy Peddle had to enroll in the OVCA's Train the Trainer, which guided them through the establishment of the program in Winchester.

Laverie noted several Ottawa and area clubs reported full registrations in their first sessions and will repeat the program in 2015.

She said the Winchester beginners were very involved and looked to be having fun learning the game.

Laverie was pleased to see younger people taking part, pointing out that Phil Klein-Swormink, who came up through the junior ranks in the WCC and competed in provincial championships at the high school level, was one of the instructors and was well received by his students.

"We had four people who took up the sport last year join and, after a week or two, told us that this course was a big help and wished they had received this type of instruction before they started to curl," added Laverie.

The instructional staff included St-Marseille, Klein-Swormink, Tim Mark, Summers and Janet Levere with back-up support supplied by Judy Somerville, Janet LaPierre, Greg Chamberlain and Peddle.

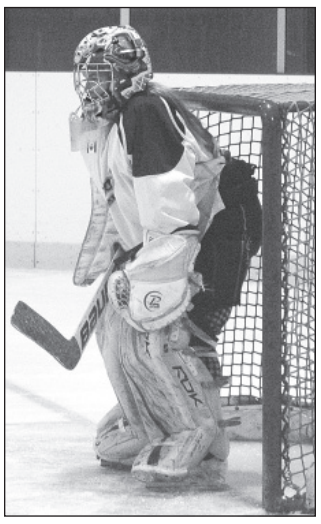
Up next

The club's next in-house event is the popular Dairy Bonspiel, which will be held on Sat., Jan. 24.

Baldwin busy, plays in all three ladies hockey league matches

WINCHESTER – Cashelle Baldwin saw plenty of playing time tending nets in all three Winchester District Ladies Hockey League games.

Baldwin, who also guards the twine for the Dundas County Midget "C" Girls Lions team, opened Sunday (Dec. 28) morning's triple header replacing Sonja Bradley in the Annable's Jewellery Blues (4-6-2) cage and posted a 3-2 win over the number-two ranked KC's Lawn Maintenance crew (4-2-6). She then blocked shots for her own team, the top ranked Cooper Physio Pinks (5-1-6), and tied Andy's Foodland Reds (3-6-3) 1-1. Baldwin finished up by taking Sam Faith's spot in the Stewart Trucking Company's (2-5-5) net and helped them earn a point in a 1-1 draw with the Country Girls (5-3-4).



Cashelle Baldwin, who tends net for the Dundas County Midget "C" Girls Lions, and the Winchester District Ladies Hockey League's Cooper Physio Pinks, played in all three league games on Sunday (Dec. 28) morning. She recorded a win and two ties in those three appearances.

Press Photo – Van Bridger

Blues 3 – KC's 2

Dawn Montgomery converted a feed from Elaine Maisonneuve into the GWG 3:13 before the final buzzer sounded as the Annable's Jewellery Blues nipped KC's Maintenance 3-2 in the 8 am game.

Tory Feyko handed the Blues a 1-0 edge scoring from Brina Whitley at 14:50 of the first half. KC's pulled even when Roxanne Backes finished a play started by Laurena Matthies 16 seconds before the half ended.

Tabbitha Derue netted a pass sent to her by Montgomery at 15:20 establishing a 2-1 lead for the Blues only to have Kelly Zeran tie it up completing a play engineered by Diane Lapier at the 13-minute mark. That set the stage for Montgomery's GWG.

KC's Amanda Rylaarsdam was named player of the game.

Reds 1 – Pinks 1

Andy's Foodland Reds tied the game 1-1 with the Cooper Physio Pinks when Kaila Beckstead scored after picking up a pass from Anita Gilmer one minute before the half-time intermission.

Katrina Holmes had given the Pinks a 1-0 lead when she scored on an opportunity created by Vicki Van Hoof with 5:25 left in the first half.

Kat Lauch (Reds) and Baldwin were the opposing goaltenders.

Reds defender Emma Fraser was named player of the game.

Girls 1 – Stewart 1

The Country Girls and the Stewart Trucking Company traded second half goals and finished deadlocked at 1-1.

Country Girls shot blocker Jenna James and Baldwin played through a scoreless first half before any goals were tallied.

Francine Brisson got things started giving Stewart a 1-0 lead after taking a relay sent to her by Karen Benoit at 17:45 of the second session. Mireille Drouin (player of the game) evened the score burying a pass provided by Pyper Weiss with 15:38 left on the clock.

SPORTS SCOREBOARD

EASTERN ONTARIO JUNIOR HOCKEY LEAGUE

Rideau - St. Lawrence Conference

RECENT RESULTS

Dec. 27: Morrisburg 3 - Gananoque 2
Brockville 4 - Athens 2
Prescott 6 - Westport 4
Dec. 28: Athens 3 - Gananoque 2
Char-Lan 5 - Akwesasne 4 OT

Next Winchester Hawks home game - Wed., Jan. 7 vs Char-Lan Rebels - 8:30 pm.

STANDINGS

Rideau	W	L	LOT	GF	GA	PTS
Prescott	24	6	2	113	87	50
Brockville	14	12	3	92	93	31
Athens	12	14	2	96	94	26
Gananoque	12	18	1	89	121	25
Westport	11	18	1	111	130	23
St. Lawrence	**W**	**L**	**LOT**	**GF**	**GA**	**PTS**
Casselman	24	2	2	157	70	49
Alexandria	15	10	1	122	108	31
Winchester	13	10	3	119	111	29
Akwesasne	11	13	4	82	105	26
Char-Lan	10	14	1	106	122	21
Morrisburg	8	18	1	98	144	16

TOP SCORERS

Winchester Hawks	G	A	PTS
Josh Stubbings "C"	14	26	40
Stevie Ray Adams	17	15	32
Kyle Richardson "A"	6	23	29
Bryden van Kessel	13	12	25
Austin Rothe	10	14	24
Costa Georgitsos	5	14	19
Patrick Morin	8	9	17
Shawn Simms	6	8	14
Franco Gagnon	7	5	12
Eric Starcevic	0	11	11
JD Samson	2	8	10
Luke Scott "A"	1	9	10
Tim Conlin	6	3	9
Tom Fingler	4	5	9
Guellaume Taupeir	3	5	8
*Simon Corriveau	2	6	8
*Alex Sifton "A"	5	2	7
Mason Durant	1	6	7
*Alex St. Marseille	3	2	5
Kris Johnson	2	1	3
*Tommy Abrams	2	2	4
*Steven Savage	0	3	3
Ben McAllister	0	1	1
*Perry Goulet-Blight	0	0	0

Goaltenders

Daylon Courchene W 1 L 1 SOL 0 GAA 7.26
Brandon Lowery W 11 L 7 SOL 1 OTL 1 GAA 3.77
*Leif Hertz W 1 L 2 LOT 1 GAA 4.04

* - **inactive player**

Metro - Valley Conference

RECENT RESULTS

Dec. 27: Shawville 10 - Almonte 2
Stittsville 7 - Renfrew 5
Dec. 28: Shawville 10 - Arnprior 6
Stittsville 5 - Perth 2

STANDINGS

Metro	W	L	LOT	GF	GA	PTS
Ottawa West	19	9	1	124	106	39
Gatineau	17	13	0	133	113	34
Canadians	15	12	3	104	103	33
Clarence	12	14	1	101	104	25
Metcalfe	11	15	3	106	118	25
Valley	**W**	**L**	**LOT**	**GF**	**GA**	**PTS**
Renfrew	20	6	2	127	95	42
Stittsville	19	9	1	140	102	39
Shawville	14	10	4	138	109	32
Arnprior	15	12	1	118	116	31
Almonte	8	19	1	89	149	17
Perth	7	21	0	71	136	14

National Capital Junior Hockey

North Dundas Rockets next home game Sat., Jan. 3 vs. Cumberland Bandits - 8 pm.

STANDINGS

	W	L	OTL	GF	GA	PTS
Embrun	18	5	0	120	66	36
Papineauville	15	5	3	134	90	33
St. Isidore	15	6	1	106	70	31
Vankleek Hill	15	7	1	112	84	31
Gatineau	14	11	0	96	105	28
Cumberland	9	11	5	98	111	23
North Dundas	7	15	2	82	122	16
La Peche	6	14	1	89	135	13
Rockland	5	17	0	73	127	10

North Dundas Rockets	G	A	PTS
Kyle Adams "A"	11	16	27
Dustin Tinkler "A"	10	10	20
William Fawcett	6	13	19
Kyle MacDonald	9	9	18
Liam Morrow	6	12	18
P. Klein-Swormink "C"	5	12	17
Owen Salmon	4	9	13
Stefan Wyss	1	9	10
Ryan Byers	2	7	9
Adam Douma	3	4	7
Nicholas Wysman	3	4	7
Brent Simms "A"	1	6	7
Austin Carruthers	4	2	6
Dillon Lapier	2	4	6
Sean Brown	3	2	5
Harry Wyss	3	2	5
Adam Douma	2	3	5
Dylan Marshall	1	4	5
Perry Goulet	1	3	4
Evan Mullin	0	2	2
Mitchell Melenhorst	1	0	1
L-O Desbiens	1	0	1
Tyson Sherrer	1	0	1
Brady Tanner	0	1	1
Toby Mullin	0	1	1

Goaltenders

James Hanley 4-6-0 GAA 5.43 GA 46
Thomas Lastewka 2-7-1-1 GAA 4.40 GA 57
Daylon Courchene 1-2-0 GAA 5.93 GA 17

Winchester & District Ladies Hockey League

RECENT RESULTS

Dec. 28:
Annable's Jewellery 3 - KC's Maintenance 2
Andy's Foodland 1 - Cooper Physio Pinks 1
Country Girls 1 - Stewart Trucking 1

STANDINGS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Cooper	5	1	6	20	15	16
KC's	4	2	6	18	11	14
Country Girls	5	3	4	25	19	13
Annable's	4	6	2	15	18	10
Andy's	3	6	3	18	25	9
Stewart Trucking	2	5	5	18	25	9

TOP SCORERS	G	A	PTS
Pyper Weiss, CG	6	4	10
Katrina Holmes, CP	8	1	9
Edith Dagenais, AR	3	5	8
A. Rylaarsdam, KC's	6	1	7
Kathy Kerr, AR	5	2	7
Vicki Van Hoof, CP	4	3	7
Tabbitha Derue, AB	5	1	6
Stephanie Scott, STC	4	2	6
Amy Fraser, AR	3	3	6
Laurina Matthies, KC's	3	3	6
Kelly Zeran, KC's	3	3	6
Mireille Drouin, CG	3	3	6
Nataile Brundige, STC	3	2	5
Jessica Grisel, CP	3	2	5

Winchester Town Hockey League

RECENT RESULTS

Dec. 23:
Bush Leaguers 13 - Heuff's Doggers 2
Red Roosters 7 - Maulers 4

STANDINGS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Leaguers	10	1	2	97	97	21
Roosters	6	6	1	81	72	13
Maulers	6	7	0	65	72	12
Doggers	4	9	0	62	91	8

TOP SCORERS	G	A	PTS
Dean Byvelds, BL	30	23	53
Steve Cameron, BL	26	20	46
Nik Paas, RR	20	18	38
Adam Schofield, BL	11	24	35
Derek Crawford, CM	16	10	26
Mark Mitchell, HD	15	9	24
Ben Wachoviak, RR	13	11	24
Clayton Kohn, RR	6	17	23
Brad Bingley, BL	13	9	22
Kyle Sobering, HD	12	6	18
Rob Thurler, CM	9	9	18
Cory Brown, BL	8	10	18
James Gilmer, RR	8	9	17
Derek Miles, RR	11	5	16



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I Wish You and Yours the Best of Health, Happiness and Prosperity in the New Year

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John Thompson
Councillor, Township of North Dundas
61 Main St. N., Chesterville, Ontario, K0C 1H0
613-448-2963 jthompsonelect@hotmail.com

Happy New Year



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Collects six points

Paas leads Red Roosters to second place in WTHL

WINCHESTER – Captain Nik Paas scored once and set up five of his team's six other scoring plays leading the B&C Masonry Red Roosters to a 7-4 victory over the Chesterville Maulers.

Last week's (Tues., Dec. 23) decision moved the Roosters (6-6-1) into sole possession of second place with 13 points, one more than the Maulers (6-7-0).

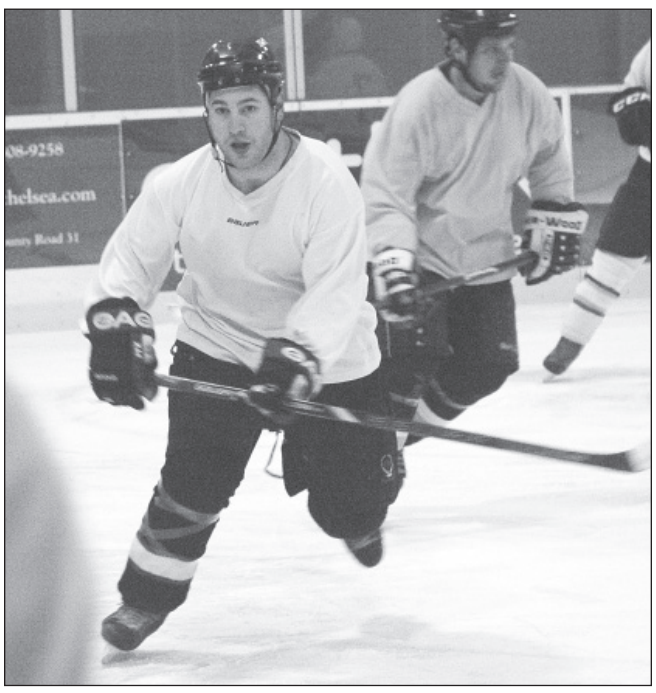
The other half of the Tuesday twin bill went into the records as a win for the first place Bush Leaguers (10-1-2) who destroyed the Heuff's Carpentry Doggers (4-9-0) 13-2.

James Gilmer potted a pair of goals in the Roosters win and added three assists for a five-point game. Paas (1-5-6), Ben Wachoviak (1-1-2), Clayton Kohn (1-1-2) and Dwyer Penk (1-1-2) also contributed to the win.

Rob Thurler scored twice for the Maulers and added an assist. Tyler Jones and Scott Baldwin cashed the other markers. Mitch Shay, Matt Baker and Derek Vingerhoeds picked up assists.

Leaguers win big

Dean Byvelds and Cory Brown rang up hat tricks as the Bush Leaguers tore up the Doggers 13-2.



Set-up man

Adam Schofield drew three assists helping the first-place Bush Leaguers trim Heuff's Doggers 13-2 in last week's Winchester Town Hockey League game. Schofield now leads the league in assists with 24. Overall, he stands fourth with 11 goals and a total of 35 points.
Press Photo – Van Bridger

Jamie Wyatt produced seven points scoring once and drawing six assists. Brown (3-2-5) and Brad Bingley (2-3-5) each chipped in five points. Byvelds (3-1-4), Trevor Morozuk (2-1-3), Steve Cameron (1-2-3), Adam Schofield (0-3-3), Alex Krumins (1-1-2), Billy McRoberts (0-2-2), Kyle Pelkey (0-2-2) and Kyle Dearing (0-1-1) rounded out the offensive production.

Doggers Craig Christophersen and Travis Leach fired pucks into Matt Larabie's net. Justin Heuff picked up a helper point.

Meet the Hawks

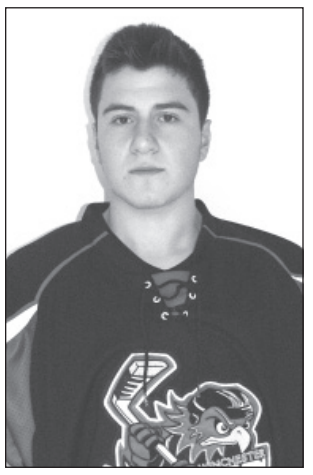
Costa Georgitsos

No. 27, Forward

Costa Georgitsos is a 17-year-old rookie forward with the Winchester Junior Hawks. The Ottawa native has played two games with the CCHL's Nepean Raiders and is affiliated with that club. In his 21 games with the Hawks, Georgitsos has accumulated five goals (one GWG) and 19 points, good enough for sixth place on the team's scoring list. He was also named to the St. Lawrence Division's prospects team. Troy Wilson Automotive of Williamsburg sponsors his No. 27 jersey.

The Winchester Junior Hawks next two home games are scheduled for Wed., Jan. 7 vs. Char-Lan Rebels at 8:30 pm and Fri., Jan. 9 vs. Akwesasne Wolves at 8:15 pm.

Next Hawks 50/50 draw will be held on Fri., Jan. 9.



Sherrer buries winning goal, Midget Demons edge Braves 2-1

FINCH – Rhyce Sherrer's unassisted goal held up as the game winner for the North Dundas Minor Midget "B" Demons as they shaded the NGS Braves 2-1.

The narrow one-goal decision, posted in Finch, marked the final game of 2014 for North Dundas which boosted its third-place record to 9-5-3, good enough for 21 points, one less than the 22 collected by the second-place South Grenville Rangers (10-2-2). The top-ranked Brockville Junior Braves (12-2-1) have earned 25 of a possible 30 points.

The Demons resume their Upper Canada Minor Hockey League schedule in Kemptville on Sun., Jan. 4 where they will meet the Panthers (5-7-2). Their first game at the Joel Steele Community Centre is slated for Thurs., Jan. 8. The winless Cornwall Colts (0-15-0) will provide the opposition at 7:30 pm.

There were 43 seconds left in the first period when North Dundas got on the score sheet. Cameron Reid made it 1-0 finishing a play engineered by Calahan Bilmer and Sherrer.

Sherrer's unassisted GWG opened up a 2-0 lead early (13:50) in the second stanza. The Braves bounced right back and cut their deficit to 2-1 on a Mathew Mainville marker at 11:17 of the same frame.

That was the only goal Aaron Turcotte surrendered in the 2-1 victory.

Happy New Year, Everyone!
In this season of festivity and promise, we resolve to renew our commitment to serving you in the year ahead. Your patronage makes us proud, and your friendship makes us feel truly blessed. Happy New Year and many thanks!
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Coming Events

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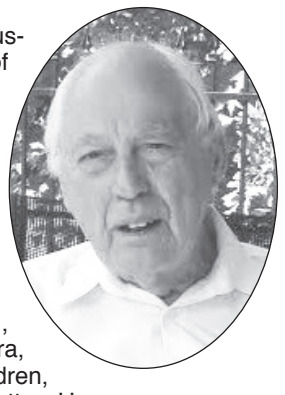
DEATH NOTICE

Cecil C. Simpson

Former plant manager of Ault Foods

Cecil Simpson of Winchester passed away peacefully at Winchester District Memorial Hospital, surrounded by family, on Sun., Dec. 28, 2014, in his 89th year.



He was the beloved husband of Margaret Simpson of 64 years. He was the loving father of Wayne (Lyne) of L'Original, Bruce (Elaine) of Greely, and Stuart of Toronto. Cecil was the dear brother of Murray (Lois) of Cobden. He will be fondly remembered by his grandchildren, Chad (Tara Lynn), Trevor (Kate), William (Lisa), Cooper, Stuart, and Alexandra, and by his great-grandchildren, Spenser, Brett, and Charlotte. He was predeceased by his brothers, Donald and John.

Family and friends may pay their respects at the Daniels Funeral Chapels Inc., 472 Main St., Winchester on Thurs., Jan. 1 from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 pm. The funeral service will be held in the chapel of the funeral home on Fri., Jan. 2 at 11 am followed by interment at Maple Ridge Cemetery in Chesterville.

Donations may be made to Winchester District Memorial Hospital (www.wdmh.on.ca), St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Winchester, Ont. K0C 2K0, or the Ottawa Heart Institute (www.ottawaheart.ca).

Condolences can be made online at www.danielsfuneralchapels.ca

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The sites are:
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Morewood R.A. Centre
South Mountain Fire Hall
Hallville Recreation Park

Christmas trees should be unbagged and free of decorations.

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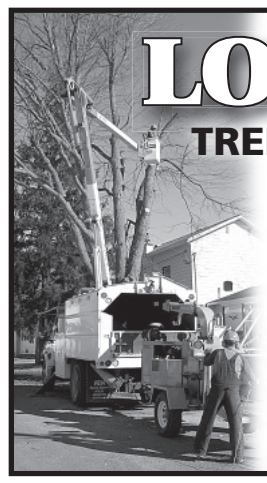

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PICKS OF THE WEEK



WINCHESTER: Winchester's largest townhouse! With 1,255 sq. ft. with 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and attached garage! Features honey toned hardwood and tile floors, h-e nat-gas furnace with central air, 2-piece bath on main floor and no rear neighbours! A great view over fields to the rear and only 2 blocks from shopping. Heat just $520/yr! MLS 925041 **$239,900**



RURAL IROQUOIS: Rare and beautiful property! All renovated stone home on a pretty 2.27-acre lot with tree-lined driveway, 36x72 steel outbuilding features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, huge eat-in kitchen, big living room, family room, huge insulated 2-car garage and more! Perfect for anyone - family, big toy/RV storage, workshop! MLS 925263 **$315,000**



MOUNTAIN: A delight on 10 acres - a very private spot! Home features 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 'like new' shop/garage (24x30 with loft and a 16 x 28), all in very well-maintained condition. Parklike private setting - let the kids run free. Great workshop - not to be missed. Come enjoy some country R&R. MLS 925221 **$349,900**

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IPM seeks local artists for poster competition

FINCH – Local artists are invited to submit original artwork for the Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry (SD&G) 2015 International Plowing Match (IPM)'s official poster contest.

Open to all residents of the tri-counties, Cornwall, and Akwesasne, the artwork must showcase the rural lifestyle of the counties – with an emphasis on plowing – and incorporate the IPM's tagline, "Link to the past… Look to the future."

"The contest will be an excellent way for all local artists to showcase their work and illustrate the great community we live in," Shauna Baggs, contest co-ordinator, said.

The event is expected to draw more than 75,000 people to the area, providing a unique opportunity to showcase SD&G, its businesses, attractions, and artists. While the grand prize poster winner is to receive a cash prize of $1,500, all of the artwork is to be displayed in a silent auction during the four-day event, from Tues., Sept. 22, 2015 to Sat., Sept. 26, 2015.

Posters can be painted, pencil, pastel, or photography, but must be vertical 18 by 24 canvas. Entry forms are due by midnight Sat., Jan. 17, 2015, while the final submission of original artwork must be delivered to the IPM office in Finch (9A John St.) between 9 am and 1 pm Sat., Jan. 31, 2015, along with a $25 entry fee.

For more information, contact Baggs by phone (613-534-3933) or email (ipmposter@gmail.com), or visit www.plowingmatch.org.

Putting 2014 into the books



From Parliament Hill

by MP Guy Lauzon

OTTAWA – Parliament's work for 2014 drew to a close in early December when nine additional bills were given the royal assent by the Governor General, thus becoming law.

Although you might not believe it by watching daily question period or listening to the media, there is a lot of work that actually gets done on Parliament Hill.

Though the past 12 months have been eventful and emotional for the House of Commons, they were equally productive to the benefit of all Canadians, including people living right here in Stormont, Dundas, and South Glengarry (SD&SG).

In 2014, our government saw 42 bills make it into the statute book, breaking our government's record of 40 new laws, set last year, following the 38 bills passed in 2007.

With our legislative priorities in Parliament, we were able to deliver on job creation (1.2 million new jobs), lower taxes, and free trade. In addition, our new laws will also help to tackle crime, keep Canadian families and workers safe, strengthen the value of Canadian citizenship, improve the conduct of elections, honour our international agreements, get farmers' products to market quicker, and add to our national parks system.

Aside from passing these bills, the House of Commons handled a number of other important items of business this year, including paving the way for the Family Tax Cut, enhanced benefits for families, including a significant expansion of the Universal Child Care Benefit, and increasing the child care expense deduction.

The house also received addresses from three distinguished world figures, stood up to Russian aggression in Ukraine, gave its support to the international counter-terrorism mission against ISIS, agreed to confer honourary citizenship on Malala Yousafzai, and endorsed the implementation of the Canada-European Union free trade agreement on the terms negotiated by our government.

Running our country is a serious business that requires strong leadership. In Parliament, our government has set out to do that through a hard-working and productive House of Commons.

And it is not just the government's bills that have been successful – in 2014, another 25 private member's bills and motions were adopted and became law.

Since the last election, 32 private member's bills, sponsored by MPs from all parties, have passed; 52 have become law since 2006 under our government. These numbers underscore the empowerment of regular MPs to champion ideas and issues important to them and their constituents, despite what pundits might otherwise claim.

Looking ahead to 2015, we know that our job is still not done and Canadians expect our government to focus on maintaining our country's relative economic strength. In the new year, we will continue to build on our record for hard-working Canadian families.

The House of Commons is scheduled to resume on Mon., Jan. 26, and with an election coming in October, I am sure it will be another exciting session.

Stay tuned!

•

Stormont, Dundas, and South Glengarry MP Guy Lauzon submits regular weekly columns to the Winchester Press. *His provincial counterpart for the riding, Jim McDonell, submits monthly columns.*

Church sees packed house for Christmas Day dinner

WINCHESTER – Christmas Day dinner at the Winchester United Church saw a dining room filled to capacity.

Since its inception in 2009, the annual "food, fellowship, and music" event has seen the number of participants double.

Food, fellowship and music

"Everyone in the area seems to support the idea, and many of them want to participate by donating and cooking the various items needed to complete a Christmas dinner," event spokesperson Clara Edwardson said. "This year was no exception. 'Thank you' does not express the gratitude we feel to this generous community."

Organized by a community of like-minded individuals throughout Dundas County and its bordering villages – with volunteers from "all walks of life" – this year's Thurs., Dec. 25 dinner, like those before it, featured music and carols prior to dinner. Once again, Paul MacMillan volunteered to be the pianist, while Randy Lacey brought his guitar and voice. In addition, there were two choir singers and a young female soloist.

"One family came from another village to help, and [they] did all of the deliveries to shut-ins," Edwardson said. "[It was a] very kind gesture."

The holiday gathering is a free event, and those who wish to donate money do so discreetly. Most of the people in attendance are helpers, donators, or musicians who appreciate the concept.

Township of North Dundas Mayor Eric Duncan and Deputy-Mayor Gerry Boyce attended the event, greeting guests as they arrived.

Edwardson noted that Al and Shawna Luimiss deserved a "special thanks" for organizing the fundraiser for this event.

"If you brought food and didn't see it out, we apologize," she said. "Trust me that no food gets wasted or goes astray. We have connections within the township to make sure that food ends up where it is needed."

With an abundance of helpers this year – many of them first-timers – the workload was made light, Edwardson said.

"[We] hope you enjoyed the day enough to come again next year," she added.

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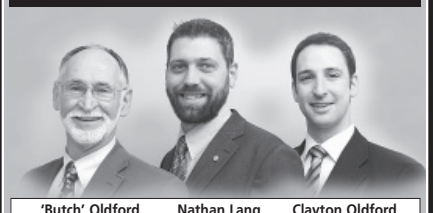
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COMING EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2015
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Diners Meals' Monday, Wednesday, and Friday - Cost: $6.00, Non-Senior: $8.00

THURSDAY, JAN. 1: CLOSED for Holiday
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 7: Footcare – Call to make your appointment
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 7: 1:00 pm Caregiver Café Support group for caregivers. Call for information.
THURSDAY, JAN. 8 & 29: Health & Wellness Clinics at Millview Apt. - 1:30-3:30 pm
FRIDAY, JAN. 9: Hearing Aid Clinic – Call 613-233-4374 to make an appointment
TUESDAY, JAN. 13: Shopping Trip leaving at 9:45 am. Call to reserve your seat.
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14: Footcare – Call to make your appointment
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14: Breakfast – 9:00 am – Entertainment by Riq Turner
THURSDAY, JAN. 15 & 29: Health & Wellness Clinics at Beachcroft Apt. - 8:30-11:30 am
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21: Footcare – Call to make your appointment
TUESDAY, JAN. 27: Shopping Trip leaving at 9:45 am. Call to reserve your seat.
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28: 4:15 pm – "After Four" Book group
THURSDAY, JAN. 29: Footcare – Call to make your appointment. Office closed at 1:00 pm on Dec. 31 and all day Jan. 1.
BID EUCHRE on Thursday at 1:00 pm. Tai Chi classes every Wednesday at 11:00 am, for more information call 613-258-4346. Pat's EXERCISE CLASS every Wednesday at 9:30 am. EVERYONE welcome to Coffee Time at 9:00 am, Coffee/Tea & Treats every Friday.

NELSON LAPRADE CENTRE - CHESTERVILLE, ON
TUESDAY, JAN. 6: Soup, Roast Pork, Brownies – Entertainment by John Foster
TUESDAY, JAN. 20: Soup, Captain Chicken, Muldoon Cake
Please call 613-774-6109 to reserve your meal each week.
TUESDAY, JAN. 13: Shopping Trip leaving at 9:45 am. Call to reserve a seat.
THURSDAY, JAN. 15 & 29: Health & Wellness Clinics at Nationview Apartments 12:30-3:30 pm
Every Thursday - Euchre at 1:00 pm and Tai Chi classes at 2:30-4:00 pm at the Nelson LaPrade Centre in Chesterville.

AGRICULTURAL HALL - SOUTH MOUNTAIN, ON
THURSDAY, JAN. 1: CLOSED for Holiday
THURSDAY, JAN. 8: Soup, Roast Pork, Applesauce Cake– Entertainment by Judy & The Drifters
THURSDAY, JAN. 15: Soup, Salisbury Steak, Trifle - Health & Wellness Clinic
THURSDAY, JAN. 22: Soup, Captain Chicken Muldoon Cake
THURSDAY, JAN 29: Soup, Sweet & Sour Meatballs, Peach Keuchen
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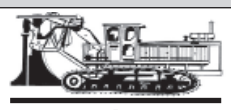
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