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North Dundas Christmas spirit ramps up



Nevin Thurler had all the right moves as he transitioned into the one and only Elvis Presley aboard the Guy Fuels float Sat., Dec. 5 during the 19th annual North Dundas Country Christmas Parade of Lights. For more parade coverage, see page 13. *Press Photo – Van Bridger*

WINCHESTER – It was a daylong event capped by the nighttime arrival of the jolly soul in a red suit.

Yes, the 19th annual North Dundas Country Christmas Parade of Lights made its way along Winchester's streets Sat., Dec. 5, cutting a course along St. Lawrence, before a quick turn onto York and continuing on Albert until it travelled along Main Street for the final leg of the event.

More than 40 entries were featured this year, with the bright lights shining the entire time.

The evening parade closed out a day of activity, which began early with breakfasts in both Chesterville and Winchester. A successful vendor and trade fair was highlighted at the Joel Steele Community Centre, while downtown merchants offered parade day sales and other features.

It was the Winchester Lions Club that was tasked with filling the bellies of the hungry before the parade, and they did so with the help of their North Dundas Leos counterparts.

All of this led up to Santa's arrival, which he made aboard a vintage fire truck on loan from the Chesterville detachment of the North Dundas Fire Department.

Volunteers also walked the parade route in order to collect for both the Dundas County Food Bank and the North Dundas Christmas Fund.

In total, $2,224 was generated, and countless food items were collected.

"It's the most we've collected in five years," Ian McKelvie, food bank administrator, said.

MTAS putting $25,000 grant to use on ag hall renovations

by Matthew Uhrig
Press staff

SOUTH MOUNTAIN – It has come a long way from a four-walled, uninsulated shack featuring a cement floor and the familiar smell of barnyard animals.

Yes, the Mountain Township Agricultural Society Hall bears little resemblance to its old self, and that fits in well with all the best-laid plans. But, the work is far from done.

Already the facility's bathrooms have been upgraded, and the exterior of the building has had the shabby tin removed in favour of a more appealing covering.

Up next is needed upgrades to the hall's kitchen and bar area, making it more functional for the various user groups that find themselves trapped with but a single doorway in or out of the kitchen.

This is where the recent acquisition of $25,000 from Farm Credit Canada will help.

"It's a matter of making everything more functional," said Anna Smail, a longtime director with the agricultural society and the most active cog in the wheel when it comes to applying for funding. "When it's done, we'll have a kitchen twice the size."

The area will be pushed back into what was once the village's fire department location.

Nothing will be going to waste either, as the Dixons Corners Community Centre will be taking no-longer-needed chairs, and the kitchen cupboards and countertops will be going to the Habitat for Humanity Restore in Brockville. (In the summer, the tin peeled off the outside walls went to an area farmer.)

• see MTAS on next page

Mayor sponsors Winchester blood donor clinic Thursday

WINCHESTER – In this season of giving, Township of North Dundas Mayor Eric Duncan has partnered to provide what may be the greatest gift of all.

On Thurs., Dec. 10, the inaugural Mayor Eric Duncan Blood Donor Clinic takes place from 4:30 to 8:30 pm at the Joel Steele Community Centre.

According to Canadian Blood Services, knowing someone who needs blood is a common occurrence for many. It could be a person undergoing heart surgery that will need five units, or someone with leukemia who can require eight units per week during treatment.

It could even be someone who has been in a car accident, and they may need as many as 50 units of blood.

"There have been a couple of personal cases where people I know have needed transfusions, and this is a good way to raise awareness of an important cause," Duncan said.

In the past he has been asked to promote local clinics on his numerous social media accounts, but this is the first time the mayor has officially partnered with the organization.

"It is good for us to work together for a good cause," Duncan said.

The mayor plans to be in attendance throughout the entirety of the event, and hinted that Santa Claus may even make an appearance.

To book a donation appointment, visit www.blood.ca.

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Police Blotter

Impaired charge

MOREWOOD – An Ottawa woman faces impaired driving charges following a police stop on County Road 7 Sat., Dec. 5. At nearly 10 pm that night, Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry (SD&G) OPP officers intercepted the vehicle.

The female driver was noticeably under the influence of alcohol. Danielle Boyer, 59, was charged with driving a motor vehicle while ability impaired; driving a motor vehicle with more than 80 milligrams blood alcohol content; driving while disqualified; and driving while under suspension.

She is to appear in Morrisburg court Tues., Jan. 5, 2016.

Mailbox vandals

CRYSLER – Police are warning that a string of mailbox vandalism may soon catch up to other homeowners. SD&G OPP report that between Fri., Dec. 4 and Dec. 5 several mailboxes were purposely damaged along County Road 13 in the Crysler area.

A similar, though separate, incident took place on Dornie Road near Alexandria between Dec. 5 and Sun., Dec. 6.

Police continue to investigate.

Damage-filled break-in

WINCHESTER – Between 11 am and 12:30 pm Dec. 4, a Fred Street home was forcibly entered, resulting in substantial damaged within the residence.

SD&G OPP continues to investigate the incident.

Domestic assault

WINCHESTER SPRINGS – On Dec. 4, at approximately 12 am, SD&G OPP officers responded to a domestic situation at a home on Oak Valley Road. The investigation indicated that an altercation between an adult male and his common-law spouse resulted in both assaulting each other. The male also caused damage to a cellphone belonging to the female.

Matthew Clarke, 42, and Kiley McLennan, 37, both face charges of spousal assault. Clarke, meanwhile, faces a secondary charge of mischief under $5,000.

The duo is to appear in Cornwall court Tues., Jan. 12, 2016.

Near disaster

WINCHESTER SPRINGS – The Vanderlaan family had a scare Wed., Dec. 2 when an electrical panel in a barn on their property sent sparks into the night sky.

Ruth Vanderlaan reports that by a stroke of luck her daughter, Josie, came home to see what was happening, and also saw flames in the windows of the chicken pen.

Both of them grabbed a pail of water and made their way to the pen door, swinging it open to be met with what Vanderlaan called "a wall of flames."

Thankfully, the water put the fire out, and 911 had already been called.

The North Dundas Fire Department's Mountain detachment arrived to check for hotspots and ensure the panel wouldn't continue to spark. The situation, according to Vanderlaan, was under control within 20 minutes.

Damage is minimal, aside from needing to replace the defective panel, and no animals were injured, she added.

Weather-related collisions

WINCHESTER – It was dicey conditions on area roads Tues., Dec. 1. SD&G OPP officers responded to a total of 17 collisions, three in Dundas County alone, that day. Minor injuries resulted from a few of the incidents.

The bulk of the crashes, nine, happened in Glengarry County, while Stormont roads saw five.

Police remind motorists that winter driving conditions become more common this time of year, therefore it is imperative everyone ensures their vehicles are well prepared, and driving habits are adjusted accordingly.

Theft

WINCHESTER – On Dec. 1, SD&G OPP officers responded to a reported trailer theft at a County Road 31 property.

Between Mon., Nov. 30 and the day police arrived, culprits entered the commercial property and removed a black 2015 Creekbank side-by-side utility trailer.

The investigation continues.

•

Details published in the police blotter are provided by the OPP. All suspects are considered innocent in the eyes of the law unless proven otherwise in court.

MTAS

• continued from the front page

For Smail, this is the realization of three years of labour, working with others to plot out a plan for the hall, soliciting donations from various users groups, and submitting funding requests to all levels of government.

"We're excited by it all, and we want to keep going," she said. "The more [money] you get, the more you can do."

The latest round of funding comes nearly one year after the Ontario Trillium Foundation awarded the agricultural society with $88,000. Meanwhile, the Mountain and District Lions Club has pledged $40,000 throughout five years to help with the work.

When all is said and done and much more money is fundraised, all areas of the building, first opened in 1972, will have received attention, and will have been updated and modernized.



The Mountain Township Agricultural Society was on the receiving end Fri., Dec. 4 of $25,000 from Farm Credit Canada, money that will be used in the ongoing revitalization of the hall in South Mountain. Pictured are Rhonda Holmes (left), Tanya Zandbelt, Township of North Dundas Mayor Eric Duncan, Anna Smail, Richard Gilmer, Bob Williams, and Deputy-Mayor Gerry Boyce.

Press Photo – Uhrig



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Nestlé site owner planning ambitious overhaul of plant

by Matthew Uhrig
Press staff

CHESTERVILLE – The new owner of the long-shuttered Nestlé Canada plant has some ambitious plans for what the property could become.

When speaking with the *Winchester Press*, Hamed Asl, operations manager for Ottawa-based IDP Group, the firm that purchased the sprawling site, said the business' headquarters will be operational by April.

"Work has already started, and [is] on the way," he added.

The sale officially closed in late November, with IDP lifting a heavy financial burden off the Township of North Dundas.

Asl said general clean-up at the site is continuing, with much work needing done in this area thanks to scrappers having gone through and removing any material of value in recent years, and persistent vandalism.

IDP will be spending between $500,000 and $700,000 to bring the onsite warehouses into functional order, as well as the sections of the sprawling building free of damage.

According to Asl, the firm will be taking on half of the space, roughly 150,000 square-feet, while the remaining space will be leased out to other interested parties and businesses. While not sharing specifics, Asl claimed that the lease prices being pitched by IDP are less than half of what locations in Ottawa would offer.

"There will be sections available to lease to small, medium, and larges businesses," he said. "Our plan is to turn the entire plant back to operational status, grow our business within the plant, and help other businesses set up and give them growth potential based on a low and affordable overhead cost."

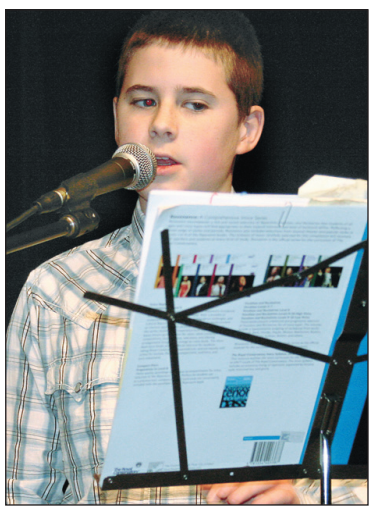
Asl enthused that the site has "great warehousing and logistics potential," on top of being zoned industrial, an ideal piece for any manufacturing or commercial use.

"Our vision is to have a booming industrial centre going in the next five years, hosting multiple businesses and operations," he added.

Since Nestlé's closure in 2006, the property has seen sparse use, and has been left, largely, to fall further into disrepair. Aside from putting nearly 300 people out of work, the closure left a hole in the region's manufacturing sector, and placed a tax burden on the municipality after the site's owner went without paying for a length of time.

After a failed tax sale, the township began to solicit offers, with only IDP's leading to a negotiating process.

In order to speed up the sale process, North Dundas politicians earlier this year agreed to reduce the taxes owing against the property to $321,000, writing off more than $230,000 in the process.





Far left: *Williamsburg soloist Benjamin Vreman hit the high notes.*

At left: *Anna Chambers (centre) was part of the five-piece performance from The Academy of Dance and Fitness' upcoming holiday feature,* The Nutcracker.

Press Photos – Uhrig

All-stars sparkle in holiday show

WINCHESTER – It was a night of high notes and high kicks at the Old Town Hall Fri., Dec. 4.

During the annual Mayor's All-Stars Christmas Benefit Show, renamed this year as a nod to Eric Duncan's yearly hosting duties, three separate performances hit the stage, before the audience belted out holiday favourites to close out the show.

This year's recipient of the night's fundraising was Guitars for VETS (Veterans Emergency Transition Services) Canada. Organization founder Jim Lowther and his wife, Debbie, were in attendance for the concert.

The Lowthers' initiative, now a federally registered non-profit charity, helps veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or any other disability by matching them with a guitar instructor for a free 10-week lesson. Upon completion, the participant receives a free guitar.



Emcee Township of North Dundas Mayor Eric Duncan.

Guitars for VETS Canada's creation came about after Lowther, himself a PTSD sufferer, was discharged from the military and found playing the guitar was the only thing that truly calmed his growing anxiety and helped make the "voices in his head" go away.

"To break that cycle, it's amazing," he said.

The program, meanwhile, is an offshoot of VETS Canada, a coast-to-coast effort that is helping homeless or at-risk veterans transition back to civilian life after their military service has completed.

Its creation came after Lowther met a homeless veteran living on the streets of Halifax. Further scouring of the streets turned up four more, and on a trip to a shelter, he found another three.

As for the guitar program, Lowther said it has been rewarding to see how much people want to help. In its first six months of operation, 150 guitars were turned in.

"We'd like to give [all veterans] a guitar, and help to ease their mind a little bit," he said.

The night's performers included Williamsburg soloist Benjamin Vreman, The Boland Family, and dancers from The Academy of Dance and Fitness, who performed five pieces from the school's upcoming performance of *The Nutcracker*.

U-turn on land tax increase welcomed

TORONTO – Opposition government members have called it a "dramatic U-turn."

Following weeks of advocacy by Leeds-Grenville MPP Steve Clark and staff at the Ontario Real Estate Association, the provincial Liberal government has done an about-face on its planned expansion of the municipal land transfer tax.

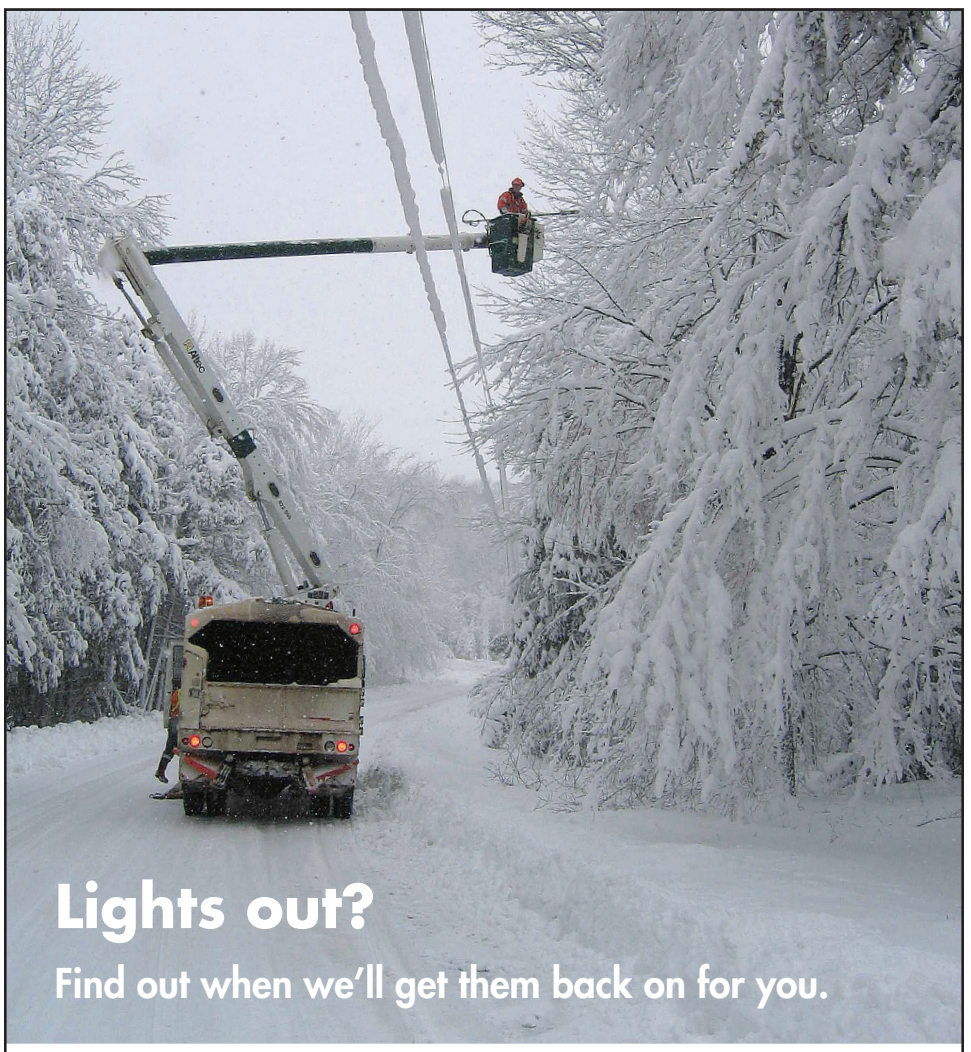
During question period last week at Queen's Park, municipal affairs and housing minister, Ted McMeekin, announced that no expansion to the tax would be taking place.

"After weeks of dodging our demands to rule out this proposed tax on home sales, the Liberal government finally gave in to public pressure," Stormont, Dundas, and South Glengarry MPP Jim McDonell said. "Ontarians are tired of paying through the nose in taxes, fees, and service cuts to pay for this Liberal government's mistakes."

McDonell said that "emails have been flooding into" his office from homeowners, realtors, and residents looking to buy a home.

"[All were] opposing the government's plans to balance the books on their back," he said. "[The tax] expansion would have hit the construction and real estate industries, and driven up the cost for young families looking to step onto the property ladder."

It was Clark who first introduced the motion to repeal the tax increase plan.



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Effort on to help struggling family

WINCHESTER – As the holidays draw near, there's no better time to spark the season of giving by helping a local family in need.

And when Elva Patterson Rutters heard that a family of three (who wish to remain anonymous) had hit hard times in recent months – financially, emotionally, and physically – she decided to do something about it.

Rutters immediately banded together a group of friends to visit the local family and bring them some food. When Rutters arrived and saw the state they were in, she was heartbroken.

"No word of a lie, they only had a can of icing and four fish sticks left – they had not eaten since the Saturday morning before," she said. "It was heartbreaking."

After that visit, Rutters worked to spread the word by creating a Facebook page explaining that a neighbouring family was in serious need of help.

"People as far away as Barrhaven and Ottawa jumped in with items without a second question," Rutters said. "[My] friend talked to her friend about the situation, who responded, 'Come on – we are going shopping,' and $220 later, sent a supply of groceries [to the family]."

Rutters, with the support of the Women's Missionary Society in Morewood, Winchester and Chesterville, is planning a Christmas Gathering Kitchen Party Fri., Dec. 11 as a fundraiser for the family.

The event will be held at Winchester's Old Town Hall from 7 to 11 pm, where patrons can enjoy an evening of music and refreshments to get into the Christmas spirit.

Donations of money or non-perishable food items will be collected at the event, and anyone who is unable to make it out to the gathering can still help out with donations by contacting Rutters at 613-448-2836.

Hospital promoting open-door approach

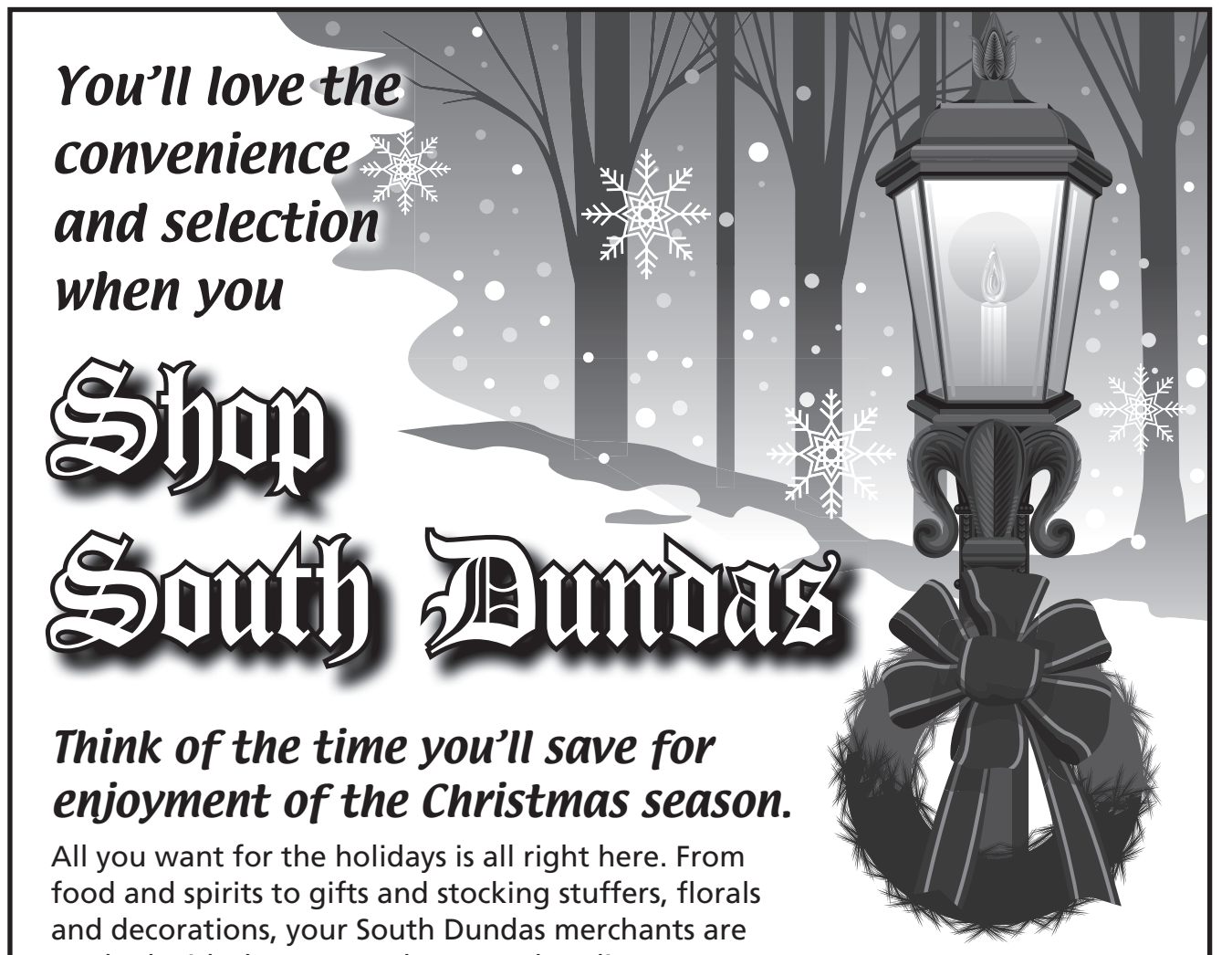
WINCHESTER – Often, it is a forgone conclusion that families want to be involved in the care of their loved ones.

With that in mind, Winchester District Memorial Hospital is moving to make visiting hours more flexible, with no restricted timeframe.

"Studies show that an open door approach to visiting is better for patients," Lynn Hall, senior vice-president of clinical services and chief nursing executive, said. "We know that family members play an important role in the healing process, and having them around can lower a patient's anxiety levels and support their care."

Visiting hours are based on the expressed wishes of the patients, unique infection control restrictions, and safety issues. The condition and care needs of all patients must be considered at all times, and visiting could be interrupted or adjusted to protect privacy. This may also be done for safety or security reasons.

As always, visitors should not be at the hospital if they are not feeling well or have an infection. "We all want to do what is best for a loved one," Hall said. "With the consent of our patients, we want families to be involved in all aspects of their care."



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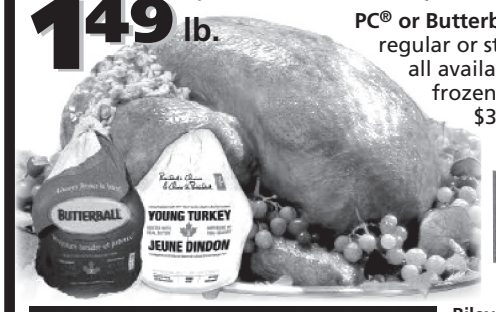

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Council notes from South Dundas

Accessibility granted

MORRISBURG – Municipality of South Dundas staff have been working hard for the past several years to make all of their services, programs, and buildings accessible.

It was noted at Tues., Dec. 1's council meeting that the municipality is up to date with the accessibility standards set by the province through the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act* (AODA).

The legislation was created to develop, implement and enforce accessibility standards throughout the province in order to achieve a fully accessible Ontario by 2025, with respect to goods, services, facilities, accommodation, employment, buildings, and structures.

The overall goal is to improve opportunities for people with disabilities by identifying, removing, and preventing any barriers that would limit them from participation.

Some of the upgrades that were completed this year included creating an accessible website with a text-only version, adding disabled parking spaces to the Iroquois Plaza, and building new accessible washrooms in both the Williamsburg and Morrisburg libraries.

"We're in compliance, it just takes time," noted municipal clerk Brenda Brunt.

Grants, not donations

The municipal grants and donations application has been revised to provide a more transparent process for both council members and community applicants.

The deadline for applications has been extended to Wed., Dec. 23 to provide applicants more time to "get their ducks in a row," while also giving staff enough time to review and accept the grants prior to allocating the next year's budget.

It will also no longer include a "donations" section – only a "grants" section – as the term would often cause confusion in the past for applicants to decipher the difference between the two.

The term of a grant will also be for one year only, unless council has endorsed a multi-year commitment.

This policy establishes eligibility requirements, identifies the types of funding available, and outlines application requirements. Preferences are given to organizations that demonstrate community support, efficient use of resources, sound business practices and develop volunteer knowledge.

It's Nash Creek now

Hoasic Creek has officially become Nash Creek.

South Dundas council members were notified by the Ontario Geographic Names Board in early November that an application for the creek's name change had been approved by the natural resources and forestry ministry.

The creek – which flows into the St. Lawrence River – was named after several generations of family who settled there in the early 1700s with a lumber and gristmill, as well as a blacksmith shop. A bridge across this creek was burned during a battle of the War of 1812.

Geographical name changes are recommended by the board and approved by the ministry, and are a "result of the interaction between people and the land they inhabit."

Dundela Rink trailer update

Groundwork to prepare for the installation of Dundela outdoor rink's 480-square-foot warming structure has begun. Work started Tues., Dec. 1, with the trailer delivered onsite Tues., Dec. 8.

As per the recommendation of recreation staff, the structure will run east to west at the north end of the property.

Meshing will be placed on the north side of the outdoor rink before the ice is ready to skate in order to protect the trailer from pucks or balls.

"Everything is going smoothly at this point," noted recreation program co-ordinator Ben Macpherson. "Everything should be ready to go, well ahead of when we're expecting any cold weather – maybe it'll just be ball hockey this year."

by Alicia K. Gosselin
Press staff

MORRISBURG – The Municipality of South Dundas is working to pinpoint exactly what the recreational needs are within the community.

But that might be a bit of a challenge until council knows what facilities and programs are being used regularly and to what extent.

Council members set aside $62,500 earlier this year to pay for a recreation master plan (RMP), but recreation program co-ordinator Ben Macpherson suggested at Tues., Dec. 1's meeting that developing an RMP would be "redundant."

After reviewing several strategies created in similar municipalities, Macpherson noted that each plan was essentially interchangeable. Each plan outlined a mission and vision statement outlining the townships' objectives, and Macpherson said it was basically "fill-in-the-blanks."

He recommended that council instead invest the allocated funds into developing a facility-needs assessment, which would be significantly cheaper at an estimated $48,500.

"Based on what I think council's intentions are, that would be the direction to go," Macpherson said. "It would include a full assessment of our parks, buildings, beaches – how often they are being used, at what capacity, what we need to either compliment what we already have, or [determine] things that could be eliminated."

The assessment would also provide council, staff and residents with a plan on how to achieve their desired outcomes, including costs associated with the recommendations. It is anticipated that going this route will be less costly than creating a master plan as it would be tendered out, and provide better insight on the future needs of recreation in South Dundas.

The last time a similar assessment was carried out in the municipality was in 2005, and according to community surveys, it was the flavour of residents to see an indoor pool developed.

According to Macpherson, there has also been talk within the last few years from residents who wanted to see a multi-use recreational facility erected.

A thorough facilities assessment would administer additional community surveys to gauge exactly what residents want to see improved or changed within recreation, while also determining what the municipality can afford based on the findings.

Although Deputy-Mayor Jim Locke indicated that he wanted to keep the funds in-house – hesitant to spend nearly $50,000 "to answer a question we could answer ourselves" – Macpherson pointed out that if council doesn't know the programs and facilities that are being used most, they won't be able to make an informed decision.

Councillor Archie Mellan agreed.

"If we do this in-house, it won't be a community mindset," said Mellan. "I think we need to bring somebody in objectively – otherwise we could go ahead and just build an Archie Mellan Arena…A multi-use facility has been brought up [by residents] for the past five years, and yes, everyone would love it, but we have to know what it costs and if we need it."

Macpherson gave an example of a small municipality that recently started building a new recreation centre costing $39 million for only 1,200 people.

"[A facilities assessment] will just tell us maybe we don't need a giant facility – maybe we need a gymnasium with some rooms on the side for groups to meet and knit, sew, or cook…rather than raising our tax levels to insane amounts for 10 years to pay for a large project," he said.

Council members decided that assessing its current facilities would be the best option going forward. Macpherson will set the scope and guidelines for the project and return to council with a report outlining the official specs of a request for proposal.

Councillors support flying in the face of Iroquois fire station's 75th in June

MORRISBURG – Next year's Eastern Ontario Firefighters Association (EOFA) Games are to be hosted by the Iroquois Fire Station to mark its 75th anniversary – and to celebrate, plans for a flyby air show are in the works.

South Dundas council members voted Tues., Dec. 1 to support plans for the sky show, which could reach altitudes as low as 500 feet.

South Dundas and Emergency Services' fire chief Chris McDonough got the idea earlier this year when the games were hosted in North Dundas, and made a request to the 1 Canadian Air Division to execute the display.

A reply was sent, along with an organizer's package, outlining the obligations with respect to participating aircrews. As the show would be a 15-minute segment prior to the opening ceremonies, guidelines set by the division stipulated that the mayor and council must approve a letter for support.

"With the 75th coming up next year, I thought it'd be nice to do something special for Iroquois and recognize the years of service," McDonough said. "Plus they are hosting the games, so I think this will be a neat thing to do."

The selection of aircraft for the show will depend on availability, and as such, McDonough expects not to know the exact planes to be part of the show until the day before – "a C130 might be an option, or F14," he added.

There is no cost to the municipality for the flyby, which will officially start the morning of Sat., June 18, 2016.


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Parade day polluters aren't welcome here

It is a painful thing to say, but Winchester residents (and you out of towners aren't getting off the hook either), you're disgusting.

Now, for some context. It is not all the kind folks of this village, the municipality abroad, and those interlopers that make the situation this way. For, at the moment, it is but a section, and it is one act in particular that leads to this outcome.

After the magic that was this year's North Dundas Country Christmas Parade of Lights, the village was reeling from its aftermath days later.

Crushed candy canes, now inedible cheese strings, countless cups, napkins, and postcard-sized placards remain just items strewn about and blowing in the wind.

You see, for as much as those either taking part in or viewing the parade could summon the desire to be part of the 19th annual celebration, they couldn't comprehend the age-old lesson that trash gets thrown in a barrel or a bin, not on the ground.

It truly is one of the first lessons a young person learns when being taught right from wrong. It's just naughty, and remember, Santa is watching.

This time, however, it is people of all ages that broke the moral code, and added insult to an otherwise excellent evening parade Sat., Dec. 5.

Township of North Dundas staffers were out in force during the day, preparing to erect the road block signs and placing trash receptacles along the route.

Did anyone happen to see the big blue barrels? It is clear that for many the answer is no.

Is promoting a handout-free parade the best way to curb this issue? That seems counterintuitive, considering it is the goodwill of those float participants that make the event all the more appealing.

At a time when the municipality is facing a momentous bill to expand the Boyne Road landfill, this is one way of keeping trash out of the dump. But, it is hardly the right way. Would you throw garbage on the floor of your home? Didn't think so.

Perhaps it is time to go back to a daytime parade, and allow for a clean-up crew at the end.

Or, better yet, hit the trash can next time.

Have some respect for your town, or at least the town you're just visiting.

Remember when…

1925

"Unless in case of accident, there should be no shutting off of the electric power without letting customers know in some way," the *Winchester Press* said this week. "The power was shut off last Saturday most of the day, and many who depended on their electric stoves to do their Saturday baking, etc. were put to no little inconvenience. The same thing happened the following Monday. Now, this is not fair to those who pay for the power and who largely depend on it."

1935

In court news: "Solomon Barkley of Morrisburg, who gave his age as 80 years, was fined $1 and costs by Magistrate John McCormick in court at Morrisburg on Friday last on a charge of driving a horse-drawn vehicle without a light after dusk."

1945

"Getting set to solo? A message to returned men planning to start up in business," was the headline of a Royal Bank advertisement this week: "Soon you will be making your final decision – to set up shop in your old line of business, to start a brand new venture, to buy an interest in a going concern… Now is a good time to talk over your plans with someone you can trust and whose judgement you respect. Call on your branch manager."

1955

"Byron Dawson, this week, tells the story of an industrious little hen that is working overtime on egg production at his farm south of Winchester," the *Press* said. "A hybrid of the Rock-Leghorn variety, the hen in mention has taken to laying extra, extra large eggs. Three of the big eggs were brought into the *Press* office this week, each measuring roughly nine inches in diameter and each containing an egg within an egg; in other words, six eggs. Except for being unusually large, the eggs are normally formed."

1965

In council news: "Promptly at 7:30 Monday evening, council convened its regular December meeting and more than four hours later, as the hands of the clock turned upwards toward midnight, the longest council session of the year closed… Biggest news coming from the council chamber was the construction on the long awaited addition to the town hall."

1975

In sports news: "Until this past weekend, every team, with the exception of Winchester, in the South East Division found out the hard way that Morrisburg Lions are indeed a first-place team intent on remaining right at the top of the standings. But, over the weekend's play, Winchester Hawks were added to Morrisburg's list of victims."



This week in 1975, Jason Dawley had his picture taken with Santa Claus.

1985

Williamsburg's Gordon Garlough was featured in this week's *Press*, as he had been a high school science teacher from 1964 to 1974, but left the profession to take up farming: "'My outlook on education didn't really agree with the outlook the ministry seemed to have. I was interested in the farm, and it came to the point where I thought if I made enough to survive on I'd be more content doing that than making what I was making in the teaching business.'"

1995

"The memorial park at Mountain is looking a little more lively lately. With a new flag flying and gates decked out for the holidays, it shows signs of a renewed community pride in the hamlet," the *Press* said. "Monday night, Mountain Township council decided to give the newly-formed Mountain Station Recreation Committee the $4,200 needed to fix the waterworks and building at the park."

2005

Four-year-old Destiny Workman-Suttle was pictured on this week's front page, as she tried out for the role of Rudolph in Winchester Public School's annual Christmas concert.

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Is an emoji worth a thousand words?



From the Other Side
by Jeff Morris

The Diva will often call me a wordsmith, but usually when I stumble and trip over the English language there is a disengagement between my brain and my lips.

But I love words. I love building my toolbox of words that I slip into this column when I can. I threw the chemicalicious can of empty Diet Coke overneath the fence. The pastor delivered pure religitainment this week. My favourite Greek God? Obviously it's Sarcasticlese, God of Sarcasm. The meatloaf was so bad I Olsen Twinned it all over the bathroom.

Okay, that one is kind of gross, but I love using people as verbs. Someone who gets a gender reassignment gets Bruce Jenner'd. Someone who gets ridiculously inebriated gets Charlie Sheen'd. If you get way beyond Charlie Sheen'd and you slip into a three day coma at a brothel, you would have Lamar Odom'd yourself. If you cut yourself off from everyone and refuse to communicate and lose your job, you Stephen Harper'd yourself.

So with this love of stretching out the English language, I always look forward to the Oxford Dictionary word of the year.

This year, in a clear attempt to gain attention, Oxford University Press chose an emoticon, or more specifically emoji, as its word of the year for 2015.

Emojis (the plural can be either emoji or emojis) have been around since the late 1990s, but 2015 saw their use, and use of the word emoji, increase hugely. The symbol of a happy face with tears of joy was the symbol most commonly used. Emoji, is "a small digital image or icon used to express an idea or emotion in electronic communication." According to Oxford, the term emoji is a loanword from Japanese, and comes from e "picture" and moji "letter, character." The similarity to the English word emoticon has helped its memorability and rise in use, though the resemblance is actually entirely coincidental: emoticon (a facial expression composed of keyboard characters, such as ;), rather than a stylized image) comes from the English words emotion and icon.

So what were some of the other words considered?

With Grey Cup fever having ripped through Eastern Ontario, a lot of people were swagged out in red and black checks. If you did this, according to Oxford, you are "lumbersexual." A lumbersexual is a young urban man who cultivates an appearance and style of dress, typified by a beard and check shirt, suggestive of a rugged outdoor lifestyle.

Have you ever heard a young person describe someone as "on fleek?" This means they are extremely attractive or stylish. In 2014, a young woman from Chicago named Kayla Newman, who calls herself Peaches Monroee online, put a video on YouTube in which she approvingly described her eyebrows as "on fleek." The video went viral, and a new phrase trended its way into our vocabulary.

With cybercrimes in the news so much, you may have heard of "The Dark Web." According to Oxford, this is the part of the World Wide Web that is only accessible by means of special software, allowing users and website operators to remain anonymous or untraceable. According to Oxford, the term "Deep Web" refers to the parts of the Internet that cannot be found using search engines, but The Dark Web refers specifically to websites which use encryption tools to hide the identities of hosts and users of a site, often in order to facilitate illegal activities. The term has been growing in popularity in media coverage of cybercrime.

Speaking of the Internet, "ad blocker" also made the runner-up list. An ad blocker is exactly what it sounds like – a piece of software designed to prevent advertisements from appearing on a web page.

And since we mentioned Bruce Jenner and that whole mess, one of this year's finalists is "they." Apparently, that is what you call someone who identifies as male or female. It is a pronoun, and although it is one of the oldest words in the language, its new use has the word trending for 2015. Along with the pronoun is the possessive "their," as in, "Did Pat bring their laptop?"

And if you are looking for a normal word that you actually have heard and understand, the word "refugee" was a finalist for word of the year. Oxford's language monitoring corpus has shown the word refugee increasing by 110 per cent, and the word migrant by 158 per cent this year compared with the same period in 2014.

Oxford added that considerable attention has been focused on the important distinctions in meaning between the two terms: a refugee is a person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution, or natural disaster; whereas a migrant is a person who moves from one place to another in order to find work or better living conditions. Oxford added that at a time when heightened rhetoric about immigration coexists with a severe humanitarian crisis, the choice of words by politicians or journalists when referring to displaced people can have serious consequences.

And if you are looking for something uniquely Canadian, young people who are on board with our new leader's social programs and his promise to legalize weed are often talking about "Prime Minister True Bro." True Bro has become globally popular for taking selfies – Oxford's 2013 word of the year – with anyone and everyone.

As for next year's word, maybe a win in the Grey Cup will put RedBlacks on the map.

Letter to the Editor

Parade day a hit because of involvement

The Editor:
On behalf of the North Dundas Parade of Lights committee, I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who helped make this year's event one of the best ones yet.

It takes months to plan this event, but it takes you – both parade participants and spectators alike – to make it a success.

First off, thanks to all the businesses and community organizations who participated in the vendor and trade show, and in the parade.

Thanks to Hugh and Diane Fawcett for once again doing a great job of announcing the parade from the main corner.

As always, we are grateful to the community organizations and businesses that offer dinners on parade day, the Royal Canadian Legion Winchester Branch 108 for hosting its annual after party, and the North Dundas Moovies committee for hosting a double feature event following the parade.

Thank you also to the volunteers who lent a hand on parade day. Whether you're walking the parade route or organizing floats at the township building, your time and effort is appreciated.

Of course, none of this would be possible without our sponsors, and for them we are truly thankful.

We are always amazed at the effort and creativity that goes into the floats every year, and the committee will be announcing float contest winners next week.

I am proud to serve on a committee of such dedicated and hard-working volunteers. Gina Welch and Martha Link-Horvath, thank you for helping to ensure this event ran so smoothly, and Aaron Dellah, for stepping in for Antonella Holmes this year.

Of course, what's a Santa Claus parade without the jolly old elf himself? Thank you, Santa, for taking time from your busy schedule to take part in our event.

And last, but not least, thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy all Sat., Dec. 5 had to offer. This event would not be what it is without all of you, and for that, we as a committee thank you.

We look forward to seeing all of you again next year.

Merry Christmas!

Sandy Burns
Treasurer, North Dundas
Parade of Lights committee
Winchester

Charities on receiving end of spirit of giving



Morrisburg Canadian Tire continued its holiday tradition on Thurs., Dec. 3 by giving to local charities. Pictured are: Karen Herman (Canadian Tire, front left), Verna Leger (Naomi's Family Resource Centre), Carol Richer (South Dundas Christmas Exchange), and Brooke Spencer (Canadian Tire). Back row: Ian McKelvie (Dundas County Food Bank, left), David Lapier (Canadian Tire Jumpstart), Brian Shaver (Morrisburg Lions Club's Angel Tree Program), and storeowner Doug Poulin. *Press Photo – Uhrig*

MORRISBURG – Five separate charitable initiatives will benefit this holiday season thanks to Morrisburg Canadian Tire's fundraising efforts.

On Thurs., Dec. 3, a total of $5,650 was handed out, with each recipient taking its share.

The store's own program, Canadian Tire Jumpstart, which has been helping local children to become involved in organized sports, received $450.

Naomi's Family Resource Centre in Winchester was given $800, while the Morrisburg Lions Club's Angel Tree Program benefitted from a $400 cash influx.

Both the Dundas County Food Bank and the South Dundas Christmas Program, meanwhile, received the largest donations, each taking in $2,000.

It is store employees that helped build up the financial total, doing so through various initiatives.

From Queen's Park
by MPP Jim McDonell



So, where did the money go?

TORONTO – The Ontario Liberals' shenanigans continue to surprise even their biggest skeptics. Government messages are scripted to deliver an image of high moral ground, as leaks and documents reveal quite the opposite.

The Hydro One sale is a case in point. The story line is all about securing funds to build needed infrastructure – the same they neglected and procrastinated on for the past 12 years. Reading the Government's financial documents, however, tells a different story. Hydro One transfers more than $700 million annually to the provincial treasury. This revenue is being forgone for what the financial accountability officer estimated to be a $1.4 billion net gain from the utility's sale. From the two-year mark – conveniently close to the 2018 election cycle – the impact of the sale on the provincial budget is expected to turn negative.

In the meantime, the government is placing revenues from the fire sale of Hydro One into its general revenue fund to make its interim fiscal figures look good. The funds have not been allocated to infrastructure spending or placed in trust for that purpose.

The provincial Liberals doubled the amount the government receives from taxes and fees since coming to power; however, they managed only to drive us deeper into debt.

Where did the money go? Billions have been wasted on major scandals such as eHealth, the ORNGE Air Ambulance Service, and the gas plant cancellations in Mississauga and Oakville. Though, the culture of waste goes far deeper. Take, for instance, spending $7.9 million to develop a prosecutors information system (still not complete) when Alberta bought Manitoba's system for $1. Another example is the dodgy payment of $3.7 million to unions for so-called "bargaining costs" when these same unions bankroll pro-Liberal advertising campaigns during elections. The Liberals sold Ontera, and spent half a million dollars more in consultants than they earned from the agency's sale.

Ontarians know the solution – nip the wasteful attitude in the bud and work to trim spending where it is needed. The Liberals, however, believe they just aren't raking in enough cash.

The dreaded Debt Retirement Charge will stay on businesses' bills until 2018 despite the charge collecting more than enough money to cover the debt it was to pay off years ago. The proposed cap and trade system will impose costs upon businesses and consumers who cannot afford them. Ontario levies some of the highest estate taxes on grieving families in the country – 115 times higher than in Quebec. Our leader Patrick Brown's bill to abolish the death tax was voted down by government members.

After starving municipalities by cutting provincial transfers, the Liberals are planning to levy another tax on homebuyers.

It is frustrating to see a government so keen to ignore independent advice and throw money to the wind. It is our duty to continue standing up for common sense policies that would bring jobs, good public services, and tax relief for all Ontarians.

•

Jim McDonell is the MPP for Stormont, Dundas, and South Glengarry and writes monthly columns for this newspaper.

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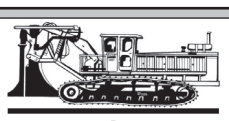

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Who's hungry?

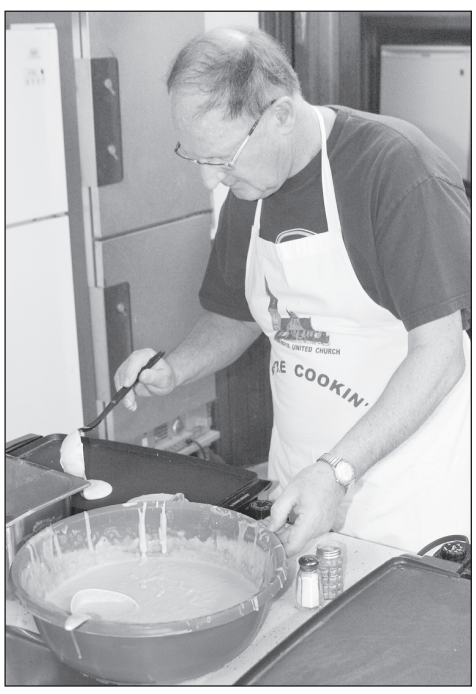
If you're going to spend the day waiting for Santa to arrive, you're going to get hungry. That was certainly the case Sat., Dec. 5 as folks descended on various meal opportunities in the lead-up to the 19th annual North Dundas Country Christmas Parade of Lights. At the Royal Canadian Legion Chesterville Branch 434, members of the village's Rotary Club hosted its annual Santa Claus Breakfast. Above, Martin Derks was one of many filling the plates of the hungry, while Karly Drew (above left) caught the ear of the big guy, filling him in on her Christmas wishes.

At left:
Before the parade, the Winchester Lions Club, with help from their Leos counterparts, hosted a meal at the organization's Albert Street location. Though not a club member, Carol Ladrew lent a hand.

Press Photos – Uhrig



At Winchester United Church, Howard Moore (above) worked the griddle, keeping a watchful on eye on the bacon, while Richard Combley (right) was tasked with flipping the flapjacks.



WDMH recognizes staff, volunteer service efforts

WINCHESTER – At Winchester District Memorial Hospital (WDMH), staff, physicians and volunteers work hard every day to provide the best patient care.

Recently, the hospital hosted several events to commend their commitments and celebrate their efforts.

Dr. Gerry Rosenquist was recognized at the annual Staff Long-Term Service Awards in late October for serving 55 years within local communities – just one of 79 staff and physicians applauded throughout the ceremony, and who, together, have contributed close to 1,000 years of service at WDMH.

The quarterly Values Excellence Awards, hosted in early November, were presented to three hospital contributors – physician Dr. Jennifer Ingram-Crooks, staff member Sherry Roberts and volunteer Kim Link.

Ingram-Crooks, who practices at the St. Lawrence Medical Clinic, was honoured for her respectful and caring approach, as well as for being a top research preceptor for medical residents.

As one of WDMH's flow co-ordinators, Roberts played a key role in supporting patients, and nominees explained that she takes the time to approach each patient and make sure they are well cared for.

Longtime volunteer and past WDMH auxiliary president Link was recognized for her ability to get people together to get things done – a real example of teamwork.

Finally, WDMH was recently recognized with a Quality Health Care Workplace Award from the Ontario Hospital Association. The award recognizes efforts made to improve the quality of work life, as well as to the quality of care delivered.



At the Long-Term Service Awards hosted at Winchester District Memorial Hospital, 79 staff were honoured for almost 1,000 years of care at WDMH. Dr. Gerry Rosenquist was recognized for 55 years of service.

"At each of these events, it's wonderful to see that our focus on quality and safety, as well as staff satisfaction and engagement, is recognized," noted CEO Cholly Boland. "We will continue to build on our success."

United Way campaign hits 50% mark

CORNWALL – With a little more than a week remaining before the campaign ends, the United Way of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry (SD&G) has hit the 50 per cent mark. The goal was set at $710,000, and the deadline to reach the target is Fri., Dec. 18.

"Every dollar pushes our thermometer higher, and we are tabulating corporate payroll deduction and personal donations constantly," Michael Galvin, 2015 campaign chair, said. "Every gift goes a long way toward improving quality of life in SD&G."

Funds raised will continue to support 17 agencies (19 programs) throughout SD&G.

"We are extremely grateful for the many champions supporting United Way right here at home," Lori Greer, executive director, said. "Wonderful things happen in our community because you give. Every donations gets us closer to reaching our goal... a little goes a long way and changes lives."

Countless donations have already been received, including $3,893.10 from the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry. Government employees committed to payroll deduction to help support the cause, while a further $3,500 was presented, with proceeds coming from the annual Warden's Golf Tournament.

"Staff at the united counties are behind the United Way 100 per cent," CAO Tim Simpson said. "We live and work in this community, and can see the benefits our contributions make to enrich the lives of our neighbours, friends, and family."

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January 4 - Normal hours resume



Carleton County 4-H members took part at the Royal Winter Agricultural Fair held last month at Toronto's Exhibition Place. Pictured are Cassidy Reaney (front, left), Patricia Caldwell, Courtney Henderson, and Nicole Velthuis. Back row: Herb Henderson (left), Chad Henderson, Justin Velthuis, Kristian McDonald, Kirkland Reaney, Logan Merrett, Philip Sullivan, and Karen Velthuis.

Carleton triumphs with Royal barn display

4-H UPDATE

TORONTO – For Carleton County 4-H members, it was worth the trip to Ontario's largest city.

The youth organization was one of many taking part at last month's Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, held at Toronto's Exhibition Place.

Carleton's entry emerged victorious from a pack of more than 50 teams to take the barn display honour, which was part of the Canadian 4-H Classic Junior Dairy Show.

It was a repeat victory for the county collective, having claimed the title in 2014.

At the end of the overall competition, Carleton finished sixth in the race for Premier County, and sixth in the group of three calves event. Show persons for that competition were Cassidy and Kirkland Reaney, and Justin Velthuis.

In the individual conformation classes, Cassidy Reaney finished second in junior calf, and Logan Merrett was 11th in the intermediate calf event.

Courtney Henderson was 21st in the intermediate calf division, and Kirkland Reaney finished fourth in the senior calf showing and 13th in intermediate. Nicole Velthuis was 13th in senior calf, Patricia Caldwell was 14th in jersey yearling, and Justin Velthuis finished fifth in junior yearling.

Herdsman Chad Henderson and Philip Sullivan helped the Carleton members prepare for their events.

SNC works to prevent decline of grasslands

FINCH – Crucial grasslands have been undergoing a steady decline in Eastern Ontario, and South Nation Conservation (SNC) is working to slowly reduce the trend through projects that promote needed restoration.

A main focus this year is 25 acres of grassland at Reveler Conservation Area near Crysler. The work involves the removal of select trees and shrubs to reduce canopy cover, increasing the amount of open grassland area.

Work for this project was completed with funding support from Ontario Power Generation (OPG). Through a three-year partnership with OPG, the SNC Biodiversity Project promotes habitat restoration for plants and animals in woodlands, grasslands and wetlands throughout the conservation authority's jurisdiction.

The grasslands component of the project aims to create or restore grassland habitat and increase biodiversity. Rural grasslands offer habitat, shelter, and food to many wildlife species, including the threatened bobolink and eastern meadowlark.

"These birds nest and forage for insects and rely heavily on grasslands for survival," Carl Bickerdike, SNC team lead for corporate services, said. "These unique habitats are sustained by pollinators such as bees and butterflies."

Through site assessments, maintaining diverse habitats at Reveler Conservation Area was identified as a top priority for 2015. This conservation area was recently acquired through a property donation.

The diversity of the habitat at the site provides a great opportunity for residents and visitors to observe many of the 109 bird species that this property supports.

"This is another example of how important gifts of property are to SNC, and to residents in our jurisdiction," Bickerdike said. "Not only is the property acquired for preservation and public enjoyment, but it's enhanced for maximum wildlife benefit."

Trails are currently closed at Reveler Conservation Area while the work takes place, though Bickerdike noted that the area will soon be open again for public day use.

NDDHS Notes

by Patricia Barlow



Dress up for Christmas Spirit Week

MAPLE RIDGE – To begin with, Happy Hanukkah! Sun., Dec. 6 marked the first day of the eight-day holiday.

This week at North Dundas District High, the school will be the host site for the Improv Finals. Our Devils' team has been hard at work preparing for this competition. Go Devils go!

Next week, from Mon., Dec. 14 to Fri., Dec. 18, will be Christmas Spirit Week at NDDHS.

The schedule is as follows: Dec. 14 is red and green day; Tues., Dec. 15 is flannel and toque day; Thurs., Dec. 17 is pajama day; and Dec. 18 is holiday hat day. Let's see lots of Christmas spirit!

Also taking place Dec. 18 is the school's annual Christmas concert. It gets underway at 12:45 pm.

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Spruit family earns farmer of the year honours

by Matthew Uhrig
Press staff

CHESTERVILLE – Joe and Kathy Spruit were the big winners at this year's Dundas Soil and Crop Improvement Association (DSCIA) awards ceremony.

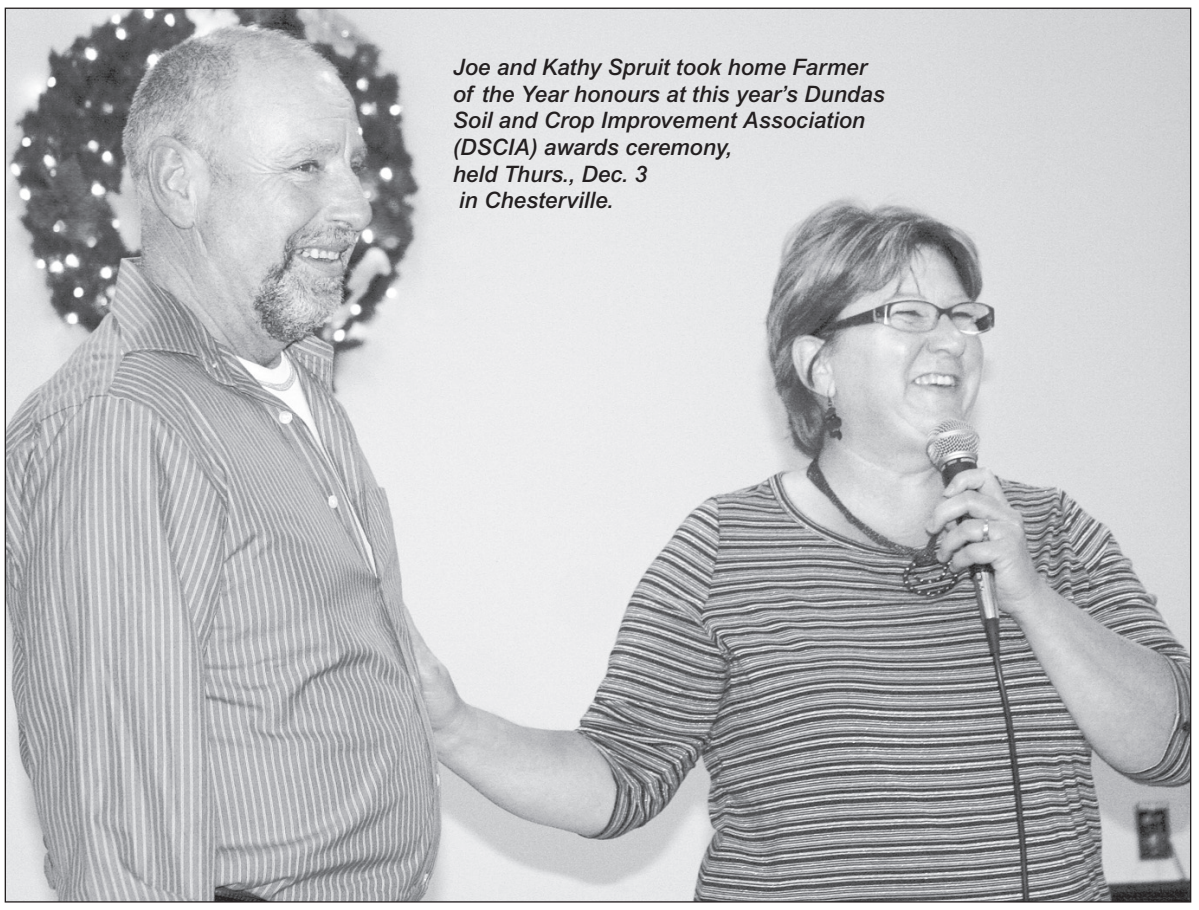
Held Fri., Dec. 4 at the Royal Canadian Legion Chesterville Branch 434, the Spruits, who own and operate Triple J Farms on the road bearing their family name just north of Winchester, were named the recipient of the Farmer of the Year (Eric Casselman) Award.

The farm was incorporated nearly 30 years ago when family patriarch John Sr. and his sons Joe and Johnny began what has become a thriving agricultural operation. The story dates back nearly 60 years, however, when Joe's parents emigrated from Holland.

Much has changed in those six decades, with the original farm comprising of just 100 acres. Holsteins were milked initially in a tie-stall barn, and later in a parlour setting. The herd was sold off in 2012, and the farm now focuses primarily on the grain elevator, with Joe as a licenced dealer.

Crops of corn, soybean, and wheat are grown on 1,900 acres, and the farm provides custom planting and harvesting services. Joe also continues to truck crops for not only his farm, but those of his customers.

Through it all, it remains as much a family operation as ever. The Spruit brothers, along with their father, continue an active role in day-to-day farming, while Joe's eldest son, Matthew, has taken a vested interest in the activities, and his sister, Maggie, manages the financial side of things, with assistance from another sister, Marie. (Randy Holmes is also a member of the farm team.)



Joe and Kathy Spruit took home Farmer of the Year honours at this year's Dundas Soil and Crop Improvement Association (DSCIA) awards ceremony, held Thurs., Dec. 3 in Chesterville.

"It is very much a team effort," Kathy said when she and her husband accepted the award.

This year's winner of the Innovative Farmer Award, recognizing those who have experimented with new farming practices, went to the Hofhuis family – Jos, Riette, and Roy.

The family's Belmeade Road farm began in 1998, with cows milked in a parlour and housed in a free stall. In 2012, a new dairy barn was built, and with it came three milking robots. The 190 stalls use dividers designed and made in Holland, increasing cow comfort.

With this, the Hofhuis' also introduced the use of a water, straw, and limestone mix to bed the cattle.

Last year, the family purchased a farm west of South Mountain, completely renovating the barn and prepping it for the addition of a milking robot. The dairy herd was divided, and 60 cows and one automated milker was brought to the new operation.

The DSCIA Award of Merit was presented to John Havekes. After a neighbour suffered a serious on-the-job injury in May 2014, the man was left unable to work, but countless friends stepped in to help.

One of those people was Havekes, who first took charge of the haylage and round baling throughout the summer, and in the fall took on morning chores a few hours a week. Even shoulder surgery didn't keep him down, because as soon as he could he was back helping the family with their 60-cow dairy herd.

Recently, the decision was made to disperse the herd, and as Art Pol said, "it's been hell."

It was a concussion, and a more serious brain injury, that felled Pol, leaving him unable to tend to the work needing done.

"My family has been blessed with a lot of people who helped us out," he said.

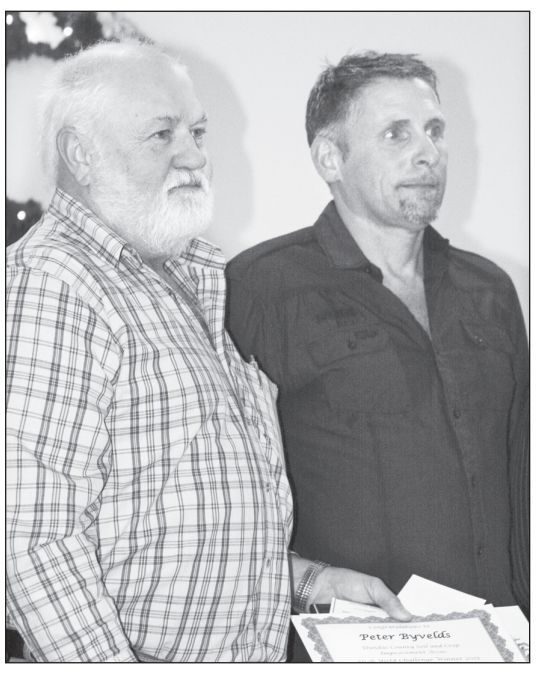
As for Havekes, he took the honour in stride.

"It's what you do when your neighbour is in trouble, you lend a hand," he said.

Other honours

In the Forage Masters Competition, Mark Tibben (Tibben Farms) took first place, followed by the Westervelt family in second. Third spot went to Brian Van Den Berg.

The top three in this year's High Yield Competition were Peter Byvelds, Tibben Farms, and Joe Jansen (C Double J Harvesting).



Peter Byvelds (left) topped this year's High Yield Competition with 278.4 bushels. He accepted his award from Mark Brugmans.



Brenda Velthuis presented a plaque from Dundas County 4-H to DSCIA president Warren Schneckenburger, thanking the group for its support of the youth organization.



Mark Tibben (left, Tibben Farms) finished first in the Forage Masters Competition, while Brian Van Den Berg (right) was third. In the middle is Pickseed dealer, and award sponsor, Ray Seguin. *Press Photos – Uhrig*

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Winter wonderland dazzles during holiday season



The 15th edition of Upper Canada Village's Alight at Night festival, featuring more than one-million Christmas lights, will run from Fri., Dec. 4 to Sat., Jan. 2.

MORRISBURG – If you've yet to see the display of lights during the holiday season at Upper Canada Village's Alight at Night festival, this is the year to do it.

With several new features lined up for its 15th season, it's no wonder the display of more than one-million Christmas lights has been recognized as one of Ontario's premiere winter events. It was also most recently named one of Canada's top 12 breathtaking sights to see in a Canadian winter by the *Huffington Post*.

This year, an 8,000-square-metre Mistletoe Maze constructed from giant bales of "reindeer hay" was added to transform the village into a winter wonderland and make the display more interactive.

"As we celebrate the 15th enchanting edition of Alight at Night, new innovations continue to be added," said Geoff Waycik, manager of Upper Canada Village. "This year the Mistletoe Maze is sure to be a fun new activity for everyone to enjoy."

The heritage site is transformed into a magical winter wonderland that can be explored by foot, horse-drawn wagon or by romantic carriage ride. It officially opened for the season Fri., Dec. 4 and will run on select nights through to Sat., Jan. 2.

Along with new additions, the family favourites will return, including the 50-foot-tall Ferris wheel where visitors can get an unprecedented view of the spectacular lights, as well as the miniature toy train that will be taking visitors for rides as part of the admission.

If you've yet to see Santa, the village may be the spot to do so. Saint Nick's Merry Mansion at Crysler Hall will greet visitors with a sound and light show featuring lights dancing to holiday songs. Inside the hall, a Victorian-style Saint Nick–adorned in a luxurious red suit with rich brocade – will be available to hear patrons' Christmas wishes until Wed., Dec. 23.

A "Fun and Lunch with Santa" will also be held at the Harvest Barn restaurant starting Sat., Dec. 12, where the jolly old fellow will be available to meet families and hear everyone's special wishes. Enjoy lunch and decorate gingerbread men.

No visit would be complete without festive dining. Follow the smell of fresh bread and cinnamon rolls baking in the wood-fired oven at the bakery.

Visitors can relax with a heartier meal at Willard's Hotel, the Upper Canada Golf Course restaurant, or the cafeteria-style service at the Harvest Barn. Traditional turkey dinners with all the fixings, along with many other menu options, will be available.

Get in the spirit of the season and join in for carol singing in Christ Church. Performers will be on site each night featuring guest choirs and solo performers to encourage all to sing along.

Complete festival details can be found at www.alightatnight.ca or by calling 613-543-4328 or 1-800-437-2233.



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The 19th annual North Dundas Country Christmas Parade of Lights went off without a hitch Sat., Dec. 5 as more than 40 entries navigated the streets of Winchester.

Far left:
The man of the hour – Santa Claus – hopped aboard the vintage Chesterville fire truck.

At left:
Farmer John Cinnamon and his lit-up machinery.

Press Photos – Uhrig, Van Bridger







Aboard the Weagant Farm Supplies entry were Stacey Corput and her sons Machar (left) and Lual.



Bandleader Joel Exner led the group of North Dundas District High School musicians.



This gang from Chesterville's Christ Church United was happy to be included in this year's parade.



Out for a rip – a boy and his bear.



The Township of North Dundas float, featuring Councillor Tony Fraser, Blyth Armstrong and her politician father, Al, and Stormont, Dundas, and South Glengarry MP Guy Lauzon, made an impromptu stop along Main Street as village resident Jan Clapp served them hot apple cider.



The bugler struck a tune.

At right:
It was a gingerbread theme aboard the O'Farrell Financial Services float.

At right, centre:
Members of the Royal Canadian Army Cadets 2951 led the way at the parade's beginning, belting out Christmas classics along the way.

Far right:
The North Dundas District High School entry featured students and educators, including Jamie Quinton (blue jacket) and Kathi Poirier (walking).







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NDDHS Devils qualify for Gore Mutual Regionals



Calling the shots

Matthew Roach is a Grade 9 student at North Dundas District High School who tested his skills as a first-year skip in the 2015 Gore Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Curling Championships, Zone 1 play downs last week (Dec. 3 and Dec. 4) at the Winchester Curling Club. Roach and his youthful team of vice Dylan Barkley, second Joey Williams and lead Brandon Scheepers qualified for the Gore Regionals in Pembroke defeating St. Mary's (Brockville) 9-5 in the "B" event final. The Devils compiled a 2-1 record in the four-school event.

Press Photo – Van Bridger

WINCHESTER – You have got to start somewhere and the North Dundas District High School curling program is building its 2015-2016 teams with youth.

North Dundas' first competition of the new season came last week (Thurs., Dec. 3 and Fri., Dec. 4) in the Zone 1 play down of the Gore Mutual Schoolboy and Schoolgirl Provincial Curling Championships held at the Winchester Curling Club. The Devils, coached by staffer April Richmire, entered a rink in the boys' event and wound up claiming the "B" side title and qualifying for the Gore Regionals to be played in Pembroke in early February.

North Dundas was skipped by Matthew Roach and consisted of two Grade 9, one Grade 10 and a Grade 11 student, all rookies at the high school level. Roach called the shots for Dylan Barkley – vice, Joey Williams - second and lead Brandon Scheepers.

The Roach rink nipped Gananoque 5-4 in their opening game on Thursday when the opposing skip's last rock came up light allowing the Devils to steal the victory.

Their second game of the season came later the same day when they faced an experienced team from Perth and District Collegiate Institute skipped by Hayden Richmond in the "A" side championship. The game ended with handshakes after four ends.

Standing at 1-1 North Dundas dropped into the "B" final against Brockville's St. Mary's. The score was tied 1-1 after and end. Roach counted four in the third and went up 5-1. Brockville closed the gap to 5-3 in the fourth and tied it 5-5 taking two more in the fifth. North Dundas counted a deuce in the sixth for a 7-5 advantage and added two more in the seventh increasing their lead to 9-5.

• see CURLING on next page

Hawks rally, shoot down Jets, lose in OT to Char-Lan Rebels

WINCHESTER – Winchester Hawks general manager Craig "JB" Smith wondered aloud how his team could rally from a 4-2 deficit, gun down the high-flying Metcalfe Jets 5-4 in OT and the next night drop a 4-3 OT decision to the cellar-dwelling Char-Lan Rebels in Williamstown.

"It makes you wonder. Play so well and beat Metcalfe and lose to Char-Lan," queried the GM. "It wasn't as if the boys didn't play well in Char-Lan. They did, but couldn't bury their chances."

Smith said he was pleased the team earned three points and stayed in the hunt for a wild card berth in the Central Canada Hockey League 2 post-season. He also passed favourable comments on two of the club's latest acquisitions: Raphael Lecours, a 6'4" 215 lb. forward from Hearst via Cambridge and Brockville's John Kalivas (via Ottawa Canadians). Kalivas has three assists in two games while Lecours has cracked two goals in as many starts.

"But, we can't fall too far behind," warned Smith. "The top three places in both divisions look to be a lock. Our goal is to earn a wild card."

On the road

This weekend the Hawks play one game, in Metcalfe on Friday (Dec. 11) for a rematch with the Jets (15-10-1-2).

• see HAWKS on next page

Devils hot on the hardwood

Juniors sweep Patriots, Dragons

CORNWALL – A pair of victories have the North Dundas District High School Devils off to a perfect start in the 2015-2016 SD&G boys "A" basketball season.

North Dundas launched their new schedule last Friday (Dec. 4) at L'Heritage where they knocked off the La Citadelle Patriotes 28-15 and destroyed the host Dragons 53-13.

Next week (Mon., Dec. 14), the Devils will be in Ingleside where they will take on the host R/O Lancers and the St. Lawrence Saints. Their home opener is a twin bill slated for Tues., Jan. 5. L'Heritage and the Char-Lan Crusaders will provide the opposition.

Jarrett Williams put together a solid day, netting 19 points against La Citadelle and another 25 in the Devils 53-13 rout of the Dragons.

Coach Deanna Corbett-White reported the team played excellent defence in both games and highlighted Williams' offensive production, as well as Curtis Barkley's team-leading assist total and long-bomb breakout passing.

Williams (19), Barkley (6) and Ian Koch (3) produced the Devils' offence in the win over La Citadelle.

Williams (25), Barkley (9), Koch (6), Caleb Jaquemet (5), Bradley McLean (4), Tyler Cole (2), Will Dunlop (2) victimized the Dragons defence for points in game two.

Pee Wee 'B' Demons sweep NGS Braves on Demons Day

WINCHESTER – A 5-3 victory by the North Dundas Pee Wee "B" Demons completed a two-game sweep of the NGS Braves and vaulted North Dundas into sole possession of first place in the Upper Canada Minor Hockey League East Division standings.

Sunday's (Dec. 6) rematch with the former first-place Braves was registered on the North Dundas Minor Hockey Association's first-ever "Demons Day." The day-long event saw 13 games featuring Demons teams played at both the Joel Steele Community Centre and Chesterville Arena.

North Dundas opened the home-and-home series in Maxville where they blanked the Braves 3-0 on Saturday (Dec. 5). Sunday the two teams clashed in Winchester and the Demons prevailed by a 5-3 count upping their first-place record to 10-2-0, good enough for a five point lead on both the Alexandria Glens (7-2-1) and NGS (7-5-1).

Jordan Papineau posted the shutout in Maxville getting the GWG from Jayman Heuff (Adam Barkley at 5:26) in the second period. Barkley then used a feed from Heuff to open up a 2-0 lead with 8:51 left in the final frame. Ben Lapier (Kieran McQueen-Ladouceur at 5:08) cashed the third and final marker.

Max Paquette won the big stick. The Demons outshot NGS 22-15.

Demons 5 – Braves 3

NGS carried a 1-0 lead into period two but relinquished five unanswered goals in the sandwich session. The Braves rallied with a pair of third-period markers only to come up short in a 5-3 decision.

Mason Carr (Joshua Broad, Barkley at 12:50), Paquette (Lapier, Owen Fetterly at 11:12), Carr (Lapier at 9:14), Lapier (GWG, Barkley at 7:09) and Barkley (PPG, Emytt Fetterly, Lapier at 5:00) cracked the North Dundas goals.

Brendan Shaver was the winning 'tender. Heuff won the big stick. North Dundas held a one shot edge (24-23) on NGS.

Demons 6 – Colts 2

North Dundas outshot the visiting Cornwall Colts 29-15 and defeated them 6-2 last week (Wed., Dec. 2).

Lapier was the offensive story for the winners firing four goals and drawing one assist. Eikelboom (GWG), and Carr supplied the singles. Henry (2), Barkley, Reise Marriner, Paquette, Carr and Lapier collected the assists.

Barkley and Carr shared the big stick award. Shaver posted the win.



North Dundas Pee Wee "B" Demons forward Kieran McQueen-Ladouceur dug away at the puck but wasn't able to poke it into the NGS net. The first-place Demons bounced the number-three ranked Braves 5-3 in Sunday's (Dec. 6) North Dundas Minor Hockey Association "Demons Day" game.

Press Photo – Van Bridger



Little rockers

A Winchester Curling Club rink skipped by Connor Tree took part in an invitational bonspiel in Manotick on Saturday (Dec. 5) and finished in third place. The Winchester foursome won two of their first three games, went into their final game in second place and lost winding up third by a single point. The team skipped by Tree (left), and consisting of third Spencer Gagnon, second Nathan Gagnon and lead Noah Wilson (middle), has been together for two years.

Novice Rep 'B' Demons edge Perth Wings 3-2 on Demons Day

WINCHESTER – Josh LaFrance's second goal of the game held up as the North Dundas Novice Rep "B" Demons nipped the Lanark-Perth Wings 3-2.

LaFrance finished a play started by Markus Bols and Ryder Minion with 1:39 left in the middle session of Sunday's (Dec. 6) Upper Canada Minor Hockey League match, which was part of a 13-game schedule presented by the North Dundas minor Hockey Association and dubbed "Demons Day." Games were played at both the Joel Steele Community Centre and Chesterville Arena.

Drew Sleeth (Michael Theos, Patrick Guy at 3:21), LaFrance (unassisted at 2:46) and LaFrance (Bols, Minion at 1:39) registered all three Demons scoring plays in the second period.

Perth cracked a pair of third-period goals but came up one short losing 3-2.

The win improved North Dundas' third-place record to 5-7-3 and left them one point behind the number-two ranked Kemptville Panthers.

Gavin Helmer and Korey Sheridan shared the goaltending chores.

Demons 8 – Bears 3

North Dundas opened the month blasting the visiting Smiths Falls Bears 8-2 on Wed., Dec. 2.

Jay-Zeus Mbarushimana led the Demons attack scoring twice and adding three assists. Bols (GWG, 2-1-3), Gavin Eikelboom (2-0-2), Sleeth (1-1-2), Guy (1-1-2), Ryan Wilson (0-2-2) and LaFrance (0-1-1) also contributed to the win.

Tied up

Wilson buried a pass provided by LaFrance with 5:05 left in the game helping the Demons tie the hometown Kemptville Panthers 6-6 on Mon., Nov. 30.

Eikelboom was a scoring machine shooting in four of the six North Dundas goals. Bols and Wilson sniped the singles. LaFrance (2) and Wilson earned the assists.

Curling

• continued from previous page

Roach then ran the opposition out of rocks in the eighth and booked North Dundas' ticket to the Regionals.

North Dundas, Perth District, Gananoque SSM and St. Mary's (Brockville) enter rinks in the boy's event.

Five schools competed for the girl's title, which was eventually claimed by Perth's St. Johns High School (Mikayla Gemmill). Perth and District Collegiate Institute (Beth Misener) won the "B" event and also advanced to the Regionals.

Hawks

• continued from previous page

Hawks 5 – Jets 4 OT

Metcalfe gained a 1-0 lead on Jordan Malette's tally. Zachary Rheaume and Carter Mallette netted the Jets other two first-period goals, which were answered by Hawks JD Samson (Andy Clarke, Franco Gagnon at 8:43) and Clarke (Kyle Richardson, Niko Roy at 16:08).

Connor Rolland upped the Jets advantage to 4-2 in period two.

Richardson (PPG, Diego Gagnon, John Kalivas at 11:10 sliced Winchester's deficit to 4-3. The newly acquired Lecours deadlocked the count 4-4 finishing a play started by Diego Gagnon and Kalivas at the 14:12 mark to send it into OT.

Kris Johnson's unassisted tally at 2:57 of the extra period gave the Hawks their victory.

Brandon Lowry stopped 46 of 50 shots for the win. Anthony Salahor (42-37) took the loss.

Rebels 4 – Hawks 3 OT

Smith praised goaltender John Gilmer for his work against Char-Lan.

"We gave Gilmer the start and he did a good job for us," he said.

Lecours (JD Samson at 3:57) rang up the Hawks first-period goal. Clarke (Franco Gagnon, John Kalivas at 4:34) connected in period two and Niko Roy (Franco Gagnon 6:17) notched the tying tally in the final frame.

Larson Payette cashed the GWG at 2:26 of overtime.

Matthew Gregoire scored twice in period two. Brian Landry also helped the Rebels gain a 3-2 lead.

Meet the HAWKS

Brandon Lowry

No. 31
Goaltender



Brandon Lowry is in his third and final season with the Winchester Junior Hawks. To this point in his career, he has amassed a 30-26-1-7 record. A resident of Ottawa, Lowry has compiled a 7-9-0-4 (1 SO) record, a GAA of 4.18 and a .901 SV% in 20 Central Canada Hockey League 2 (CCHL2) games. The 6'3" goaltender put himself in the Hawks and CCHL2 record books scoring an empty net goal in a 5-3 victory over the Ottawa Canadians on Sat., Nov. 21. O'Farrell Financial Services sponsor his No. 31 jersey.

Sandy Coburn held the winning ticket, worth $1,505, in Friday's (Dec. 4) Hawks 50/50 draw.

Brian Williams claimed $1,330 in the Hawks 50/50 Draw on Friday (Nov. 27).

The Ottawa Canadians will be the Hawks opponents in their next home game on Fri., Dec. 18. The puck will drop at the Joel Steele Community Centre at 8:15 pm.

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Pee Wee House 'B' Demons tops in NGS tournament



'A' champs

The North Dundas Pee Wee House "B" Demons outscored the opposition 9-2 on their way to becoming the undefeated "A" champions in Saturday's (Dec. 5) NGS Braves tournament. The tourney champs are: front (left) – Adrianna VanBreugel (front goalie) Amanda Shay, Cole LeBlanc, Blake Madigan, James Forrester, Josh Dagenais; back (left) – Jamie VanBreugel – trainer, John Tessier – ass't coach, Sara Sloane, Ben Weber, Liam Berry, Jade Hannaford, Noah Tessier, Spencer Billings, Peter Forrester – head coach and Laurie Forrester – manager. Missing: Des Madigan – ass't coach.

FINCH – Solid defensive work, backed by Adrianna VanBreugel's stellar goaltending led the North Dundas Pee Wee House "B" Demons to an undefeated record and the 2015 NGS Braves Tournament "A" championship.

VanBreugel turned in a flawless effort in her team's opening game in Finch on Saturday (Dec. 5) shutting out the Embrun Panthers 4-0.

Noah Tessier (Spencer Billings, Liam Berry) netted the GWG with 7:32 left in the first period. Josh Dagenais (Tessier, Ben Weber at 5:33) made it 2-0 in period two. Sara Sloane (unassisted at 1:57) upped the Demons lead to 3-0 before the session ended. James Forrester (Cole Leblanc, Blake Madigan at 0:57) cashed the Demons' fourth marker in the final minute of the game.

Demons 2 – Vikings 1

Tessier (Amanda Shay at 0.16) tied the score at 1-1 in period one of game two against Casselman. There was 3:15 left in the second stanza when Billings (unassisted) rang up what would prove to be the GWG.

"A" final

The undefeated Demons then advanced to the "A" final against the host NGS Braves and skated into a 2-0 lead on first period goals by Dagenais (unassisted at 7:41) and Billings (GWG, Dagenais at 3:54). Berry (unassisted) fired in the third and final goal in the second period.

Midget House 'B1' Demons move into first place in East

WINCHESTER – Rhyce Sherrer converted a play created by Caleb Jaquemet and goaltender Shane Rodney into the GWG as the host North Dundas Midget House "B1" Demons edged the Kemptville "B2" Panthers 4-3.

Sunday's (Dec. 6) Upper Canada Minor Hockey League contest was one of 13 games the North Dundas Minor Hockey Association presented at both the Joel Steele Community Centre and Chesterville Arena as their first "Demons Day."

Sherrer's deciding shot hit the back of the Panthers cage seconds before the final buzzer sounded and secured the 4-3 win, which improved the Demons record to 8-1-2 and moved them into sole possession of first place in the East Division, three points ahead of the Brockville Junior "B2" Braves (7-3-1).

Kemptville held a 1-0 first period lead, but fell behind 3-1 in the final frame before tying it up 3-3.

Kyle Findlay (Sherrer, Jack Messervey at 3:25) and Mitchell VanBruinessen (Messervey, Kaileigh Young at 0:16) counted North Dundas' second period tallies.

Third-period shots fired by Messervey (Sherrer at 16:42) and Sherrer (GWG, Jaquemet, Rodney at 0:12) clocked up win number eight.

Demons 9 – Lions 2

Jack Messervey (2-3-5), captain Brandon VanBruinessen (3-0-3), Findlay (1-2-3) and Owen Helmer (1-2-3) led the Demons to a sizeable 9-2 route of the South Dundas "B2" Lions last week (Dec. 3) in Winchester.

North Dundas led 2-0 after a period and 4-2 heading into the final frame.

Mitchell VanBruinessen and Zack Nelson sniped single goals. Emily Beach (2), Anthony Nelson (2), Sherrer (2), Avery Holmes, and Jaquemet provided the passes. Rodney was the winning 'tender.

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Winchester skaters earn top marks at recent competitions



Members of the Winchester Skating Club completed their busy November schedule participating in the 2015 Kingston Invitational Competition along with the Low/High Test Day in Russell. The WSC was represented by: front (left) – Jada Smirle, Chelsey Boal, Selina Landriault, Ivy Sharp, Alia McNaughton, Ava McNaughton, Ashley Wasylko-Fletcher, Shannon Arbuckle; back (left) – coach Jessica Fontaine, Keira Bartlett, Kianna Chalifour-Bowes, coach Mandy Swerdfeger, Austyn Toll, Joelle Menard, Erin Wheeler, coach Chantal Lewis, Samantha Cormier, Ella McNaughton, Ashley Wheeler, Amy Proulx, Olivia Drouin, Katie Buter and coach Leanne van der Zweep. Missing: Christie Douglas and Hannah Backs.

WINCHESTER – Joelle Menard and Samantha Cormier captured gold medals skating with the Winchester Skating Club (WSC) at the 2015 Kingston Invitational Competition.

Menard earned gold for her Bronze Interpretive and added a silver for her Junior Silver Free Skate while Cormier received her gold in Star 5 Free Skate at the Kingston event (Nov. 28 and Nov. 29).

The WSC had 21 skaters participating in Star 1-5 events, Interpretive and Free Skate in Kingston. Erin Wheeler placed fifth in Star 4 Free Skate and sixth in Bronze Interpretive. Katie Buter finished fifth in Star 5 Free Skate.

"A great weekend for all of our skaters," remarked club president Barb Menard.

Test Day

Winchester skaters also took part in a Low/High Test Day in Russell on Wed., Nov. 25.

Passing their respective tests were: Joelle Menard – Gold Free Skate – Elements, Senior Silver Free Skater Program; Ashley Wheeler – Senior Bronze Dance – Ten-Fox; Alia McNaughton – Junior Bronze Dance – Swing; Samantha Cormier – Senior Bronze Dance – European; Amy Proulx – Senior Bronze Dance – European; Madison Crober – Senior Bronze Dance – European; and Ella McNaughton- Senior Bronze Dance – European.

Rockland takes down Rockets 5-3

CHESTERVILLE – A sluggish start and three power play goals in the third period doomed the North Dundas Rockets to failure.

The visiting Rockland Nationals victimized the hometown Rockets in the final 20 minutes of Saturday's (Dec. 5) National Capital Junior Hockey League game for three PPGs on their way to a 5-3 victory.

The Nationals and Rockets were deadlocked 2-2 after a period. The sandwich session was scoreless leading to the final session, in which Rockland outscored their hosts 3-1.

Justin Cyr, captain Brandon Mullin and Justin Rutley notched the North Dundas goals, while Mullin, Jordan Ruby, Rutley, Tyson Sherrer and Harry Wyss collected the assists. Thomas Lastewka took the loss.

"Our line of Shawn Simms, Mullin and Rutley was the highlight," offered head coach/GM Robyn Sadler. "They looked dangerous on every shift."

Jeff Brett (2 PPGs), Benoit Brunet (PPG), Miguel Crispin (GWG) and Garrett Reed were Rockland's marksmen.

"We came out flat in the third period and gave up three PPGs," said Sadler. "Obviously penalty killing seems to be a team issue we have to address."

"We will keep working on the puzzle and hopefully we will have it all figured out come playoffs," added the coach.

This week

Saturday's (Dec. 12) home game at the Chesterville Arena will pit the second-place Vankleek Hill Cougars (12-7-0) against the fourth-place Rockets (5-15-0) at 7:50 pm.

Sunday (Dec. 13) afternoon, the Rockets are in Morrisburg to tangle with the Lions (2-17-0) in a 2:30 pm tilt.

North Dundas squads warm up for SD&G girls volleyball season

MAPLE RIDGE – Their 2015-2016 SD&G girls volleyball schedule opened this week and the North Dundas District High School Devils tuned up taking part in a pre-season, warm-up tournament at Glengarry District High School in Alexandria.

Both the juniors, coached by Holly Henderson and the seniors, under the guidance of Patti Hall, took advantage of last week's (Tues., Dec. 1) event to ready their respective teams for yesterday's (Dec. 8) tri-county regular season opener, which was hosted by the Tagwi Warriors.

Coach Hall reported her team defeated Tagwi 2-0 (25-22, 25-26), lost to the Char-Lan Crusaders 2-1 (25-21, 18-25, 6-15) and were swept 2-0 (13-25, 17-25) by the Glengarry Gaels.

"Although we only won three sets, we played well and learned a lot," said Hall.

"I was happy with the girls' performance as they definitely used the day as a warm-up to work out a few kinks, but otherwise their basic skills are pretty solid," added the coach.

Junior mentor Henderson said, "Overall, a very good day with lots of skill and team spirit to work with throughout the season."

The Junior Devils finished their day with a record of four wins and three losses, blanking Tagwi 2-0, losing 2-0 to Char-Lan and defeating Glengarry 2-1.

Jones, Crawford help Maulers shoot down Red Roosters

WINCHESTER – Tyler Jones and Derek Crawford combined for five goals and eight points as the Chesterville Maulers knocked off the Winchester Town Hockey League's top-ranked Red Roosters.

Jones scored three times and picked up an assist while Crawford potted a pair and set up two more goals in the fourth-place Maulers (3-7-1) 7-5 upsetting of the Roosters (7-3-1) last Tuesday (Dec. 1).

The twin bill opened with Thurler's Thunder (8-3-0) reclaiming first place after they bushwhacked the Bush Leaguers (7-4-0) 6-3.

Maulers 7 – Roosters 5

Jones cracked his first two markers in the first half and slammed in his third making it 7-5 after taking a feed from Derek Vingerhoeds 1:36 before the final buzzer.

The Roosters owned a 5-4 advantage at the half, but couldn't generate any second session offence.

Crawford converted a play started by Jones and Chris Embury into the GWG goal with 6:47 left on the clock.

Jones (3-1-4), Crawford (2-2-4), Embury (1-1-2), Vingerhoeds (0-2-2), Blair McMillan (0-2-2), Derek Miles (1-0-1), and Cody Paradise (0-1-1) supplied the Maulers offence.

Ray Smegal (2-1-3), Kyle Pelkey (1-2-3), Alex Krumins (1-2-3) and Brandon Buma (1-1-2) put the Roosters on the scoreboard.

Thunder 6 – Leaguers 3

Adam Schofield was a three-goal shooter as the Thunder doubled the Bush Leaguers 6-3.

His third tally, set up by Pete Klein-Swormink and Dustin Tinkler with 7:56 left in the game, held up as the GWG.

The Thunder led 2-1 at the half and rallied from a 3-2 deficit to clinch the victory.

Schofield (3-1-4), Klein-Swormink (1-2-3), Rob Thurler (1-1-2), Michel Thurler (1-1-2), Tinkler (2), Colton Stitt (0-1-1), Kyle Sobering (0-1-1) and Tyler Brown (0-1-1) produced the Thunder's offence.

The Leaguers goals were provided by Dean Byvelds, Steve Cameron and Travis Froats. Byvelds, Kyle Dearing, Brad Bingley, Trevor Gilmer and Matt VanDelst collected helper points.

Collins Barrow
Chartered Accountants

Please join us….

The partners of Collins Barrow WCM LLP are pleased to announce the appointment of ***Benjamin Mann*** *to Partner in the Winchester office. Please join us to extend your personal congratulations.*

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2:00 pm

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Parade floats line up at the Community Christian School on Glen Street, parade starts at 2:00 pm at the corner of Johannes and Victoria, then proceeds down Victoria to 8th Line, turns on 8th and on to the Arena.

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Panthers nip Demons 4-3

CHESTERVILLE – Cameron Robillard was unstoppable leading the Kemptville Atom House "C1" Panthers to a 4-3 victory over the North Dundas Demons.

Robillard cashed all four Kemptville markers in Sunday's (Dec. 6) 4-3 victory. The Upper Canada Minor Hockey League game was part of the North Dundas Minor Hockey Association's first-ever "Demons Day."

The Demons skated into a 2-1 first period lead on goals by Ethan Guy-Legendre, who scored from Wyatt Watson and Ben Forrester with 0:46 seconds left in the first period. Just 21 seconds later, John Gordon van Kessel completed a play started by Guy-Legendre, handing North Dundas a 2-1 advantage.

Robillard fired in the next three shots putting the Panthers ahead 4-2 with 9:25 left on the clock.

North Dundas sliced a goal off of their deficit when Thomas Van Bridger and Cam Ouellette gave Ryan Antille the opportunity to score and he buried the chance closing the gap to 4-3. The Demons lifted goalie Nadia MacLean in favour of an extra skater, but were unable to net the tying tally.

The Demons (4-11-0) have fashioned a 3-3-0 record in the last six games and hold down fifth place (seven teams) in the West Division standings.

Central Canada Hockey League
Tier 2

RECENT RESULTS
Dec. 1: Ottawa Canadians 5 - Char-Lan 0
Dec. 2: Prescott 5 - Brockville 2
Casselman 9 - Clarence 2
Dec. 3: Ottawa West 4 - Metcalfe 1
Casselman 3 - Athens 0
Dec. 4: Winchester 5 - Metcalfe 4 OT
Renfrew 8 - Prescott 5
Westport 5 - Perth 2
Arnprior 4 - Clarence 2
Ottawa 4 - Stittsville 3
Dec. 5: Alexandria 5 - Prescott 4 OT
Char-Lan 4 - Winchester 3 OT
Dec. 6: Casselman 5 - Metcalfe 2
Alexandria 5 - Clarence 2
Westport 3 - Arnprior 2 OT
Stittsville 4 - Ottawa West 3
Perth 12 - Brockville 0
Char-Lan 10 - Renfrew 3

STANDINGS

Martin Division	W	L	LOT	GF	GA	PTS
Casselman	22	3	1	147	76	45
Ottawa West	16	9	1	116	100	34
Alexandria	15	6	3	108	75	33
Metcalfe	15	10	3	114	106	33
Winchester	9	11	5	94	110	23
Ottawa	10	14	1	74	89	21
Char-Lan	7	15	5	100	138	19
Clarence	8	17	5	78	117	17

Richardson	W	L	LOT	GF	GA	PTS
Perth	20	3	2	139	67	42
Stittsville	19	5	1	131	96	39
Westport	14	11	1	93	100	29
Arnprior	13	10	1	79	74	27
Athens	11	9	1	68	73	23
Renfrew	11	12	1	101	116	23
Prescott	9	15	4	91	119	22
Brockville	5	22	0	64	141	10

TOP SCORERS

Winchester Hawks	G	A	PTS
JD Samson "A"	9	13	22
Isaac Barr	10	10	20
Andy Clarke	11	8	19
Kyle Richardson "C"	5	14	19
Tanner Schroeder	12	5	17
Franco Gagnon	4	12	16
John Kalivas	5	10	15
Bryden van Kessel "A"	6	7	13
Kris Johnson	5	8	13
*Shawn Simms	10	2	12
Erik Starcevic "A"	3	7	10
Niko Roy	4	6	10
Joey Driscoll	2	6	8
Nichola LeGuerrier	1	7	8
Diego Gagnon	2	5	7
David Ouellette	2	4	6
*Liam Morrow	0	5	5
*Brandon Welk	1	2	3
*Josh Kurish	1	3	4
Raphael Lecours	2	0	2
*Michael Monette	1	1	2
Nicholas Pilote	1	1	2
Brandon Lowry	1	0	1
*Dillon Clemen	0	1	1
*Justin Cyr	0	1	1
Ian Ogden	0	1	1
Nicholas Tsiobanos	0	1	1

Goaltenders
Brandon Lowry W 7 L 9 OTL 80 GAA 4.18
*Logan Gauthier W 2 L 1 OTL 0 GAA 3.30
ap Shane Rodney W 0 L 0 OTL 0 GAA 0.00
John Gilmer W 0 L 1 0TL 1 10 GAA 4.92
ap E. Lamontagne W 0 L 0 OTL 0 GAA 6.00
*** Inactive player**

WINCHESTER HAWKS HOME GAME
Fri., Dec. 18, 8:15 pm
vs. Ottawa Canadians

Winchester Town Hockey League

RECENT RESULTS
Dec. 1:
Thurler's Thunder 6 - Bush Leaguers 3
Chesterville Maulers 7 - Red Roosters 5

STANDINGS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
Roosters	6	2	1	64	50	13
Thunder	6	3	0	63	46	12
Leaguers	7	3	0	75	56	14
Maulers	2	6	1	48	59	5

TOP SCORERS	G	A	PTS
Dean Byvelds, BL	23	16	39
Steve Cameron, BL	15	22	37
Brandon Buma, RR	18	15	33
Rob Thurler, TT	16	11	27
Dustin Tinkler, TT	15	11	26
Nik Paas, RR	12	14	26
Trevor Gilmer, BL	14	9	23
Derek Crawford, CM	10	12	22
P. Klein-Swormink, TT	8	14	22
Scott Baldwin, CM	7	14	21


Winchester Press SPORTS Scoreboard

National Capital Junior Hockey League

RECENT RESULTS
Dec. 4: Cumberland 5 - Gatineau 3
Embrun 8 - Morrisburg 1
Dec. 5: Rockland 5 - North Dundas 3
Cumberland 6 - Morrisburg 0
Vankleek Hill 6 - Papineauville 3
Dec. 6: Papineauville 8 - Gatineau 6
Rockland 7 - Outaouais 1
St. Isidore 4 - Vankleek Hill 1

STANDINGS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
North Division						
Papineauville	16	2	1	114	61	33
Rockland	12	6	2	93	74	26
Cumberland	10	8	3	80	73	21
Gatineau	8	10	3	100	103	19
Outaouais	4	15	1	50	91	9
South Division						
Embrun	16	3	0	106	46	32
Vankleek Hill	12	7	0	82	65	24
St. Isidore	8	10	0	77	66	16
North Dundas	5	15	0	64	110	10
Morrisburg	2	17	0	26	103	4

North Dundas Rockets	G	A	PTS
Justin Rutley "A"	8	14	22
Brandon Mullin "C"	9	10	19
Ryan Romans "A"	6	11	17
Mackenzie Bacon	3	9	12
Jordan Leight	7	4	11
Kyle MacDonald	5	6	11
William Fawcett "A"	4	6	10
Sheldon Holmes	1	9	10
Josh Hansen	3	6	9
Tristan Staff	4	3	7
Owen Bourgeois	3	4	7
Owen Salmon	3	2	5
Justin Cyr	4	0	4
Tanner Brady	3	1	4
Tyson Sherrer	0	4	4
Justin Cyr	3	0	3
Harry Wyss	0	3	3
Jordan Ruby	1	1	2
Brett Hayes	0	2	2
Dallas Dunn	1	0	1
Mitchell Melenhorst	1	0-	1
Dakota Boulanger	0	1	1
Dylan Lavallee	0	1	1
Mason Durant	0	1	1
Dillon Clemen	0	0	0
Goaltenders			
E. Lamontagne	3-10-2	GAA 5.38 GA 77	
Thomas Lastewka	1-3-0	GAA 4.81 GA 23	

NORTH DUNDAS ROCKETS HOME GAME
Sat., Dec. 12, 7:50 pm
vs. Vankleek Hill Cougars

Winchester & District Ladies Hockey League

RECENT RESULTS
Dec. 6:

NO GAMES SCHEDULED

STANDINGS	W	L	T	GF	GA	PTS
KC's	7	0	2	19	4	16
Bridals	4	2	3	13	8	11
WS Trucking	3	2	4	11	13	10
Cooper	4	4	1	18	14	9
Foodland	1	6	2	8	19	4
Annable's	1	6	2	4	15	4

TOP SCORERS	G	A	PTS
Katrina Holmes, KC's	10	2	12
Edith Dagenais, CP	7	4	11
Isabelle Dagenais, CP	2	6	8
Vicki Van Hoof KC.'s	7	0	7
Jessica Hendrikx, WST	3	3	6
Jenna Warren, CP	3	3	6
Kaila Beckstead, Bridals	2	3	5
Michelle Drouin, Bridals	2	3	5
Amy Fraser, Bridals	1	4	5
Natalie Boulianne, KC's	0	5	5
Cinnamon Boulanger, CP	1	3	4
Tanya Barnhardt, WST	1	3	4
Laura McDonnell, WST	1	3	4
Pyper Weiss, Bridals	0	4	4
Andrea Francis, Reds	2	1	3
Kristyn Winges, Reds	1	2	3
Chantal Penk, CP	1	2	3
Natalie Jamieson, CP	1	2	3

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39-40c

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39-40

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Coming Events

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40-41

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK SUPPER AND PARTY
Ormond Harmony Cloverdale Recreation Association, Sat., Dec. 12, 6:30 pm, Morewood Community Centre. Potluck supper, games, crafts and Santa visit.
40c

SANTA AT McHAFFIE'S
Santa will be at McHaffie Flea Market on Sun., Dec 20 from 11 am-2 pm. All welcome.
40-41c

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER
Will be held at the Joel Steele Community Centre (upstairs) on Fri., Dec. 25 from 11:30 am-1 pm. To offer food, help or music, or for more information please phone 613-447-8167.
40-42

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It will be known as:
Dr. Ed Semph DC Chiropractic & Wellness Clinic
Licensed in Ontario since 1987 and practising in Nepean for the past 18 years, Dr. Semph is looking forward to serving the public in the Winchester area.
The clinic will open Tuesday through Saturday. Please call **613-774-3944** for exact hours.
www.frequencyspecific.ca

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SATURDAY LANDFILL HOURS FOR DECEMBER 12

The Boyne Road Landfill will be open this **Saturday, December 12** from **8 am till 11:30 am**.

Any questions, please contact:

Doug Froats
Waste Co-ordinator
613-774-5157

HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Township of North Dundas Municipal Office will be closed on Thursday, December 24, 2015 at noon and will re-open Monday, January 4, 2016 at 8:30 am.

For **Road Emergencies** please call **613-229-3552** or **613-297-9183** or **613-223-2126.**

For **Water and Sewer Emergencies** in the Villages of Winchester and Chesterville please call **1-800-342-6442**.

Please remember, emergencies can happen at any time. You and your family should be ready to take care of yourselves for a minimum of 72 hours.



Test your generator and have a safe and happy holiday.

Merry Christmas from Council & Staff

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

The Boyne Road Landfill will be **CLOSED Friday, December 25, Monday, December 28 and Friday, January 1.**

Curbside recycling and garbage pick-up from Tuesday, December 22 to Friday, December 25 will be picked up one day prior to your regularly scheduled pick-up day. Example: if your regular pick-up day is Wednesday, December 23, your actual pick-up day will be Tuesday, December 22 instead. Please note that pick-up that is regularly scheduled for Monday, December 21 will stay the same. There is no change to curbside recycling and garbage pick-up for the week of Monday, December 28 to Friday, January 1, it will take place on your regularly scheduled day that week.

Any questions, please contact:

Doug Froats
Waste Co-ordinator
613-774-5157

SOUTH DUNDAS
Municipality of South Dundas
34 Ottawa Street, P.O. Box 740
Morrisburg, ON, K0C 1X0
613-543-2673 | southdundas.com

Notice to Residents

Municipal Office Hours

December 24	8:30 am -12:00 Noon
December 25-January 1	Closed
January 4	8:30 am -4:30 pm

Emergency Number – After Hours and/or Holidays
Municipal Water/Sewer, Roads or Recreation Facilities 613-652-4028
United Counties of SD&G Roads 613-930-3578

Garbage/Recycle Schedule
December 25 will be picked up December 26
January 1 will be picked up January 2

Disposal Site Hours
The Matilda site will be closed December 25, December 26 and January 1.
The Williamsburg site will be closed December 26.

2016 Dog Tags
Tags are now available for sale at the Municipal Office.

Council Meeting
The next regular Council Meeting will be Tuesday, January 19, 2015, everyone welcome.

Municipal Grants Application
The 2016 Municipal Grants Application is now available on www.southdundas.com. All applications are due by Wednesday, December 23, 2015.

From Council and Staff of the Municipality of South Dundas, have a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Obituary

Ida M. Kenney

Ida Kenney (nee Beckstead) of Winchester passed away peacefully at Dundas Manor on Thurs., Dec. 3, 2015, in her 89th year.

She was the beloved wife of the late Glenn Kenney. Ida was predeceased by her sisters, Lola Snow, Ruth Armstrong, Hilda Pittman, Fannie Levere, and Greta Straight, and her brother, Albert Beckstead. She will be fondly remembered by her many nieces and nephews.



Family and friends paid their respects at Hulse, Playfair and McGarry, Daniels Chapel in Winchester on Sat., Dec. 5 from 1 pm until the time of the service at 2 pm with Rev. Christine Lowson officiating. Interment at South Gower Cemetery followed the service.

Donations may be made to the Dundas Manor Activity Fund, c/o Dundas Manor, Winchester, Ont. K0C 2K0.

Condolences can be made online at www.danielsfuneralchapels.ca

OBITUARIES
which appeared in the
Winchester Press
from 2002-2015 are archived
on our web site at
www.winchesterpress.on.ca

~ IN MEMORIAM ~

MURPHY

In loving memory of Jim, who passed away December 3, 2009.



We miss you in so many ways,
We miss the things you used to say,
And when old times we do recall,
It's then we miss you most of all.
If we could have one lifetime wish,
One dream that could come true,
We'd ask with all our hearts
For yesterday and you.

Love, Mom and Boys

A Time to Remember,
... a Time for Hope.

For many people, Christmas can be a difficult time of the year as they grieve the death of someone they love, or the loss of a dream, a job, a relationship or unrealistic family expectations.

We invite you to join us at
St. Clare's Anglican Church
2530 Falcone Lane, Winchester,
Wednesday, December 16
at 7:30 pm
for a time of quiet worship, hope and fellowship.
Come alone or with a friend.
All are welcome.

Church Directory

ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Winchester
Office: 613-774-3333
A warm welcome awaits everyone
Minister
Rev. Bruce Kemp
Sunday
10:00 am - Divine Worship
26tfc

WINCHESTER WESLEYAN CHURCH
537 Main St., Winchester
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Rev. Thurland Brown
Sunday Services
10:30 am - Worship Service and Children's Church
613-774-3137
44tfc

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Church 613-535-2227
Office 613-535-1882
www.williamsburgcrc.org
Pastor: Rev. John Noordhof
Sunday
9:30 am - Worship Service
7:00 pm - Evening Service
Please be our guest this week
1tfc

COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
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613-652-2400 (Church)
Sunday
10:00 am - Morning Worship Service
Join us!
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WINCHESTER BAPTIST CHURCH
Traditional Music-centred Services
Sunday
10:00 am - Adult Sunday Bible Study
11:00 am - Worship Service
Everyone Welcome
Pastors
Bud McKibbon
Mollie McKibbon
28tfc

WINCHESTER UNITED PASTORAL CHARGE
Office: 613-774-2512
www.winchesterunited.net
Rev. Christine Lowson
Office 613-774-2512
Sunday
WINCHESTER SPRINGS
9:30 am - Worship Service and Sunday School
WINCHESTER
11:00 am - Worship Service, Sunday School and Nursery
40c

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Dare to Flash A 'Stache

Together, we pledge to fight prostate cancer.

Thank You

The E.O. Prostate Cancer Awareness Committee would like to thank all who supported the "Flash A Stache" event in November. We wish to express appreciation to our sponsors as well as the individuals, businesses, organizations and our local newspapers who supported or participated in the event. Also thank you to the Winchester District Memorial Hospital Foundation for all their assistance with the event, and to the Township of North Dundas.

To date we raised in excess of $140,000 in four years. Please note that the money donated is divided equally to support the Cancer Navigator Program at the Winchester District Memorial Hospital and the Prostate Research program of Dr. Luke Lavalee at the Ottawa General. All donations stay local.

Donations can be made until the end of December through the WDMH Foundation.

Thank you again everyone. You are helping to make a difference!

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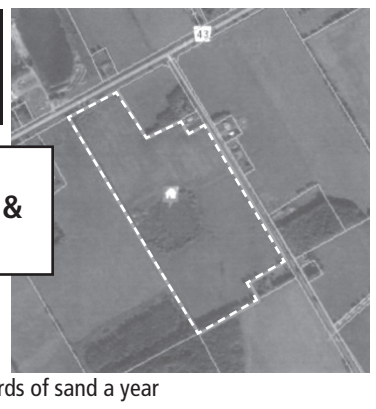
Corner of County Rd. 43 & Ball Rd.



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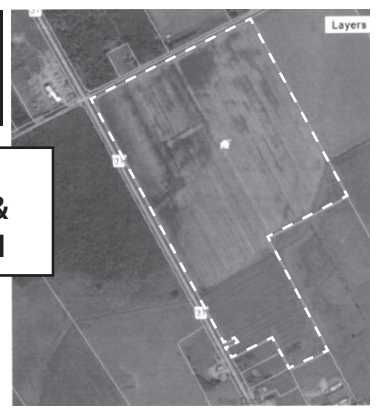

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WINCHESTER - Four-unit with gross $33,600 and in-your-pocket net over $21,200. Spacious 3-bedroom upstairs and 3 bachelor/one-bed units on the main (senior friendly!) 2015 nat-gas furnace, updated windows and roofing and a private and spacious yard. MLS 961739 **$274,500**



WINCHESTER - Triplex in the heart of town with 3 resident tenants and the possibility of future commercial use. Gross $24,480 and net $18,000+. Nat-gas furnace 2014. Separate hydro meters. Metal roof and updated windows. Bachelor, 2-bedroom and a 3-bedroom. MLS 967439 **$185,000**



WINCHESTER - Duplex with 3-bedroom on the main and 2-bedroom upstairs. On town water/sewer and nat-gas and with a large yard! This cash-flow positive property brings gross over $20,000 & net over $14,000 with tenants paying their own hydro. MLS 973861 **$165,000**



CHESTERVILLE - Side-by-side duplex in Chesterville. Step into your first investment or come live in it while the other side pays majority of the mortgage. Big yard with mature shade trees provides a great place to enjoy. Gross $12,048 and net ~$8,001. MLS 939128 **$99,900**



WINCHESTER - High-volume car and foot traffic side of the village for this 3-unit res/com building. ~1,620 sq. ft. retail/office and large 2-bedroom with giant balcony. Great returns (gross $28,165, net $18,887) or build your business while others pay the mortgage. MLS 946225 **$225,000**



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OTTAWA - Super location close to Woodroffe and College Square transit and Queensway. Opportunity to make this your own home and style it your way. Hardwd floors, brick fireplace, finished basement, 3+1 bedrooms and more. A great location! MLS 978599 **$335,000**



MOUNTAIN - Spacious 4-bedroom, 1.5-bath on 2.65 acres of treed land with inground pool. 2,000+ sq. ft. with fresh paint, spacious kitchen, hardwood floors, updated propane furnace, wood fireplace insert, pellet stove, and detached shop/garage - can't miss! MLS 979275 **$348,500**

New owner plans modernization of Durant's Flowers

by Matthew Uhrig
Press staff

WINCHESTER – It's time for a refresh at Durant's Flowers.

New storeowner Kelly Windle has been onsite for weeks now, updating the St. Lawrence Street location and increasing the number of items the store has in stock.

It is a significant change for the decades-old business, as the Winchester store is now the only one in the Durant's chain. Longtime owners John and Marg VanBruinessen recently retired after more than 40 years in the business, and at the same time shuttered the Chesterville store, which operated adjacent to their home.

As for Windle, she's spent 15 years as a florist, working in both Ottawa and British Columbia, before settling with her family in South Mountain.

"I started looking for business opportunities, and when I Google searched the area, the Durant's name popped up," she said. "I did some more investigating, and felt that [John and Marg] had a nice spot here in Winchester. Two locations was too much to take on, and I think this spot is in a more high traffic area."

Her first order of business was a modernization of the shop, reshaping some of the more dated displays and redesigning the walk-in display area.

She's also increasing the stock, bringing in more "live goods" such as houseplants and arrangements for all seasons.

As well, she's dabbling somewhat in a giftware line, including lotions, soaps, and bath bombs.

The current staff roster will remain the same, as Windle said, "they know the clientele," while the traditional delivery radius remains unchanged.

As well, updates will be made to the Durant's webpage, and its social media networks.

"I'm very excited about the opportunities, and so far the people that have come in have liked the change," Windle said.



Kelly Windle is the new owner of Durant's Flowers, which has dropped to a single location in Winchester. *Press Photo – Uhrig*

Mountain Seniors gather for November meeting

by Huguette Shaver

SOUTH MOUNTAIN – Jack McCargar opened the late November meeting of the Mountain Seniors by leading those present in the singing of "O Canada" and recitation of the "Lord's Prayer."

Club secretary Mavis Graham read the minutes of the October meeting, which were approved by the collective. David Scharf then gave a detailed financial update.

A get well card was signed by all members, and was ultimately forwarded to Irene Crowder.

"Grace" was said, and all members enjoyed a potluck luncheon. Meanwhile, club participants are to meet today (Wed., Dec. 9) at Yefsi Restaurant in Iroquois for the annual Christmas meal.

McCargar then amused the group with jokes, and best wishes were extended to those celebrating anniversaries and birthdays in November.

The group now breaks for December, not meeting again until Wed., Jan. 27, 2016 at the fire hall in South Mountain. The meeting gets underway at 11:30 am.



Sweet treats

Little houses made of gingerbread sprung up throughout South Mountain Sun., Dec. 6 during the Friends of the South Mountain Library's annual sugar-filled workshop. Ayden Barresi was one of many taking part, putting his talents to use – and, naturally, sampling some of the treats available. For more coverage of the event, see the *Winchester Press'* upcoming *Christmas Greetings* supplement, which publishes Wed., Dec. 16. *Press Photo – Uhrig*

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Happy Birthday to the Birthday Boy

2015 BABIES of

The *Press* will feature the babies born this year in our special keepsake issue to be published in January 2016.

(Babies born in Nov. & Dec. 2014 are also welcomed.)



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Feb. 11, 2015

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James Jonkman motored around on a miniature four-wheeler as a "Celtic Grinch," representing the Celtic Bikers Club.



Rick Brousseau from the Karnak SD&G Cornwall Shriners Club drove the Thomas the Train, promoting their fundraising efforts for the Shriners Hospital for Children in Montreal. Parade organizer George Davies said that the Shriners are among his most beloved charities.



Here comes Santa Claus!

MORRISBURG – Although his reindeer were replaced with gears, the jolly old fellow brought Christmas cheer to the streets of Morrisburg Sat., Dec. 5 in true Santa style.

The Morrisburg Santa Claus Parade continues to be an annual tradition, with each year proving better than the last.

George Davies, longtime organizer of the event, said that the 22nd parade was one of the best, with more than 50 floats – some old, some new – that were decorated to participate.

"I never know how it's going to turn out – some people show up the day of with their decorated floats, and I'm more than happy to have them," said Davies, who added that one truck driver travelled all the way from Chicago the day before to participate. "We have many floats who turn up every year though because of how much fun they have."

Davies also mentioned that he saw participants extending themselves further this year to beautify their displays with festive decorations. But they weren't the only ones extending themselves – just five weeks before the parade, Davies had a stroke that put him in the hospital.

"I told the doctors that I needed to be out in time [for the parade]," he chuckled. "I have to be there."

The Davies' family has been heavily involved with organizing the parade from the beginning, and it certainly has come a long way from the first display. According to Davies, the first village Santa Claus Parade only had a decorated snowplow and a garden tractor touring the Morrisburg streets.

"I'm really pleased with the number of people who came out to see the parade [this year]," he said. "I don't know if it was the weather, but the streets were filled with people – even the little side streets. It was great."

Plans for next year's parade are already in the works, with several early bird floats set to participate.



Above: *The little ones were enamoured with the Ice Princess float.*

Left: *The parade wouldn't be complete without the jolly old fellow himself, along with Mrs. Claus, whose float finished off the parade.*

Press Photos – Gosselin



The members of the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps 338 Defiant were escorted by three of *Sesame Street*'s furry friends to help ring in the Christmas season.



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