



The Blue Mountains celebrated Canada Day's 150 with numerous events including a Canada Day Eve Party hosted by the Blue Mountains Library and their partners on Friday evening followed by fireworks. Saturday morning the pancake breakfast at the Legion sold out, the Beaver Crawlers were racing against the clock and the parade leaving Clarksburg at 11am almost filled the village to capacity. The rain stayed away long enough for Gord's Air Show. Music and entertainers throughout the Town celebrated this special weekend. The committee would like to thank all those who took part. It was a great united effort and special thanks to Shawn Everitt for being the Town contact and managing all the logistics.

photos by Debbie Crosskill & Robert Burcher



## Town Unveils Canada 150 Mosaic Mural

Approximately five to fifteen communities per province and territory across Canada created sections of an overall mural that will connect Canada through art. Each participating city or town created a section of the mural made up of 400-750 individual tiles that symbolizes their community.



Each of these sections will stand alone as a mural for that particular community. Then, each of these sections of the mural will become one of the many storybook pages within the overall mural to form the ultimate visual time capsule and create a legacy for a proud nation.

Throughout the Country, this equates to a total of 80,000 tiles that will comprise an overall image of train cars connecting Canadians from far and wide!

The Blue Mountains mural can be viewed in the park by the Town Hall on Hwy. 26. Over 400 of the tiles were painted by residents at workshops held in May. Partners on the project include The Town, Thornbury BIA and Beaver Valley Outreach. [www.canada150mosaic.com](http://www.canada150mosaic.com)

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

To be included in this listing post your event on [www.visitbluemountains.ca](http://www.visitbluemountains.ca)

DETAILS SUBJECT TO CHANGE- CONFIRM WITH ORGANIZERS

### L.E. SHORE LIBRARY GALLERY

**2nd Annual Summer Invitational - July**

Seven established local artists were approached to represent a cross-section of styles and mediums. Participating artists Derek Scott, Ofra Svorai, Mary McTaggart, Dianne Cruttenden, Bonnie Dorgelo, Karen Cameron, and Umberto De Boni. Opening Reception: Sat, July 8, 2-4 p.m

July 5 to 9

[www.peaktoshore.ca](http://www.peaktoshore.ca)

5 Days. 20 Venues.

40 Free Concerts.



### JAZZ BY THE BAY.CA

**Sundays 6:00-8:00pm**

Bayview Park, Thornbury

July 9 - William Sperandei Trio

July 16 - Aura

July 23 - Johnny Max Band

July 30 - Quisha Wint

August 6 - Lance Anderson

August 13 - Fraser Melvin Band

Rain location call 519-599-3345

Bring your lawnchair, by donation

Picnic suppers available

### ROCK UNION CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

**Sunday, July 9, 2:00pm**

Sideroad 12 & 13, Conc 6, Ravenna Annual church service with speaker Beth (Gould) Nolson; special music by quartet "The Shoretones" with accompanist Ann-Marie MacDairmid; picnic to follow at the home of James and Joan McKinlay. All are welcome. [jmckinlay@bmts.com](mailto:jmckinlay@bmts.com) 519-599-6236

**Hey Kids!** Come and visit the free MAKER FUN FACTORY, "created by God--built for a purpose", at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Thornbury, on July 17 - 21, from 9am to Noon each day. All kids ages 4 - 11 are welcome! To pre-register, phone 519-599-6645, or by email, [stpaulsthornbury@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsthornbury@gmail.com).

### THE NORTH FACE ENDURANCE CHALLENGE

**Saturday, July 15 - Sunday July 16**

Blue Mountain Village

Featuring live music each day

[www.bluemountainvillage.ca](http://www.bluemountainvillage.ca)

## BOOK LAUNCH

**Saturday, July 15, 3pm - 5pm**

L.E. Shore Library Gallery

Local author, Norman Paterson, will introduce his new novel, *The Case of Mary-Rose*, a drama featuring Leonard Stevenson, leading character of *Finding Mildred*. Set partly in this area, most of the action of the book takes place in Central America, where Leonard comes to the aid of the lovely but impetuous Mary-Rose, and winds up face-to-face with some unscrupulous characters and corrupt politicians.

## COUNTRY CROSSROADS

**Saturday, July 22 - Sunday, July 23**

Blue Mountain Village

Dig out your cowboy hat and boots and get ready for some of Canada's hottest country bands featuring country recording artist Marshall Dane, Rebecca Rain...

## 4th Annual..UGANDAN PAPER BEAD JEWELLERY SALE

**Sunday July 23 11am-4pm**

at Holy Crow Beads "Safari-Style"...lots of fun, make a paper bead safety pin bracelet, enjoy the country side south of Duncan with the abundance of African animals... painted. New designs, come and support these enterprising designers from northern Uganda Follow the signs south of Thornbury or Ravenna. 519-599-5697. 355380 The Blue Mountains Euphrasia Townline, holycrowbeads.com

## Craigleith Heritage Depot

**Wednesday July 12 at 7:00 pm**

Celebrate with filmmakers Tom Strnad and Tracey Johnston, owners of Mountain Goat Film Company. Their documentary film, *SNOW PEOPLE*, was awarded 1st Place for Best Places in History Tourism Film at the Finisterra Arrabida Film Art and Tourism Festival in Portugal. Tracey and Tom had the honour of representing Canada and The Blue Mountains region. This unique festival celebrates the best of tourism based filmmaking and 56 countries were competing in front of an international jury of 20 members which awarded prizes for the best of the best.

Hear about the excitement of presenting at the festival, see the award and celebrate with Mountain Goat Film Company, and learn of their new projects which put The Blue Mountains on the International stage.

The Craigleith Heritage Depot is launching a Film Club to tap into the deep interest our community has in film. Learn about this new club and find out how to join. Tom Strnad and Tracey Johnston will be your guides. Refreshments will be available. For info 519-599-3681



## Take the Reins on Cancer

The little event that could! With only 5 weeks to plan and execute, we're happy to announce that Take the Reins on Cancer was a huge success! It truly takes a village to make something like this happen. Take the Reins on Cancer, brought to you by Sunbridge Equestrian, was a grass roots effort to raise money and awareness for Wheels of Hope in Grey-Bruce Counties. Wheels of Hope provides much needed transportation for patients and families needing assistance with transportation to and from related medical appointments. All funds stay right here too. Our goal was to raise \$4,000 and we're proud to announce we raised \$6,500!! There are so many people to thank, from all our volunteers, and all the amazing donations to the silent auction & raffles, to our attendees, to our amazing food & beverage folks and to Mother Nature - she sure cooperated. A very special thank you to our hosts, The Farmers Pantry. The venue was the perfect place to have a ton of fun in the early summer sun. Farmers Pantry opens for the season on Canada Day, so be sure to visit! This event was such a success that our thoughts are already focused on Take the Reins 2018. For those who were part of such a special day, we thank you.

## WEEKLY EVENTS

**Daily - Monday-Friday**

**Coffee Klatch** - 10am to noon  
Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg

**Mondays**

**Bridge** 1pm. St. Georges Anglican Church,  
\$2.00 includes refreshments

**Tuesdays**

**Toastmasters** 7pm. Marsh Street Centre

**Wednesdays**

**Taoist Tai Chi Arts™** Beaver Valley Com.  
Centre. Beginner Classes 9am-11am;  
Continuing Classes 10-noon; 519-377-0652  
**Events For Life Coffee Nook** 9:30-10:30am  
Come and enjoy coffee and muffins at Grace  
United Church www.eventsfor.life

**Wednesday and Thursday**

**Bid Euchre** 1:00 pm Beaver Valley  
Community Centre, \$2.00 - 519-599-2209

**BVO**  
BEAVER VALLEY OUTREACH  
**Summer FUN Day Camp**  
JULY & AUGUST  
Register at [WWW.BVO.CA](http://WWW.BVO.CA) or call 519.599.2190  
Making good things happen in our community!



## The Blue Mountains Review

Thornbury, Clarksburg, Craigleith, Heathcote, Ravenna

Published monthly, copies are mailed throughout the Blue Mountains. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our community can be emailed to [info@bluemountainsreview.ca](mailto:info@bluemountainsreview.ca) for inclusion in the newsletter. Advertising rates are available by calling 519-599-3345 or from our website. [www.bluemountainsreview.ca](http://www.bluemountainsreview.ca)



## Thornbury-Clarksburg Rotary Golf Tournament

Steven Schofield, T-C Rotary President with the Winning Mixed Team

The big winners of this year's Thornbury-Clarksburg Rotary golf tournament were Events for Life, receiving a cheque for \$5000 and Home Horizon/Barbara Weider House, receiving \$2500 (the first instalment of a 4 year pledge of \$10,000).

**The golf participant winners were:**

**Overall Winners - Men's Team:** David Glass, Gord Davies, John Johnson and Tom VanNatter

**Top Mixed:** Rob Dors, Cheryl Dors, Cathy Coburn and Rob Coburn

**Top Womens:** Marilyn Douglas, Kathy Houghton, Shirley Hines and Heather Dickson

**Women closest to the pin:** Shuna Kindness

**Women longest drive:** Cathy Butler

**Mens closest to the pin:** John Johnson

**Mens longest drive:** Scott Eagles

The weather was perfect and many thanks to the golf staff, cooking staff and serving staff at The Club at Lora Bay for a job well done. The Thornbury Clarksburg Rotary Club truly appreciates everything that the Lora Bay staff do for us to make our event the success that it is each year. We would also like to thank the many businesses who sponsored holes or donated prize table gifts.

## In Memory

*Those we love,  
don't go away,  
they walk beside us  
every day, unseen,  
unheard, but  
always there, still  
missed, still loved, still very dear!*



### MARJORY ELINORE READY

Born in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan on December 31, 1921, a daughter of the late Clarence and Pamela (nee Baxter) Maimann, Marjory passed away at the Meaford Long Term Care Centre on Wednesday May 31, 2017 at the age of 95. Marjory was predeceased by her beloved husband Clark Ready in February 2015 and is remembered as a loved mother by her daughter Elinore Ready of Etobicoke and son Donald Ready and his wife Moira of Kimberley. She was predeceased by a son Murray Ready of Grey Highlands in June 2015 and will be fondly remembered by her grandchildren Michael, Laura, Erica, Sara, Claire and Paul and by her great-grandson Clark.

### KATHARINA MARZ

Born in Hungary on May 27, 1924, a daughter of the late Johann and Katharina (née Ruppert) Marz, Katharina passed away at Errinrunc Nursing Home in Thornbury on Monday June 5, 2017 at the age of 93. Following her marriage to George Marz they resided in Germany for some time before immigrating to Canada in 1954 with their son John settling in the Delhi area before moving to Toronto. Later Katharina moved to Wasaga Beach and then retired in Thornbury where she was a resident at Errinrunc Residence. She is survived by her son John of Craighleith and by the family of her sister who predeceased her in Germany.

### RONALD DOUGLAS HINDLE

Born in Duncan on July 1, 1927, a son of the late Ruthven and Grace (nee McKeown) Hindle, Ron passed away at the Meaford Hospital on June 12, 2017 in his 90th year. He was a dear brother of Dorine and her husband Ralph McGuire of Duncan and Dennis Hindle (late Shirley) of Westhill. Ron will be fondly remembered by nieces and nephews Janice McGuire and her partner Gail Green, Glen McGuire and his wife Alison and their sons Ian and Mason, Corey Cameron and her sons Jordan and Evan, and Craig Hindle and his wife Krista and their daughters Zoë and Ryenn. Ron

enjoyed a lengthy teaching career starting in a one room school at Cape Chin in 1946 and concluding at Beaver Valley Community School in 1980. He enjoyed the outdoors – fishing, hiking and gardening. Ron was a founding member of the Bruce Trail in this area. He was an avid historian and co-edited several local history books and in 2010 he published his own book, "The Story of Duncan".

## New BVO Program: Money Smarts for Seniors

Are you a senior or caregiver looking for information on everyday finances, housing options, community support, government funding or other money matters? Money Smarts for Seniors is a financial information program being developed by Beaver Valley Outreach to go along with its existing Answers 4Seniors and New Territory for Seniors programs.

As a first step, BVO would like to learn more about the financial information needs of seniors and caregivers in The Blue Mountains. A survey has been developed to find out what the community thinks should be included in the Money Smarts for Seniors program. BVO wants to hear from everyone - seniors, caregivers (formal and informal), service providers, medical and business professionals, and others.

Money Smarts for Seniors is working with the support of community partners such as The Blue Mountains Public Library, Grey-Bruce Seniors Safety Network and Elder Abuse Ontario. The project is also receiving funding support from New Horizons for Seniors and Service Canada's Citizen Services and Program Delivery Branch.

For a copy of the survey or to volunteer in this initiative, please contact BVO Answers for Seniors Coordinator Pamela McDermid at 519-599-2577, ext 29 or email seniors@bvo.ca. Visit [www.bvo.ca](http://www.bvo.ca) to access the survey online.

**Jumbo Flagstone  
Walkways  
General Landscaping  
519-599-6194  
[amaxwell25@rogers.com](mailto:amaxwell25@rogers.com)**



## Year End for Thornbury Guiding Units

On Wed. June 7th the Thornbury Guiding units and their girl's families gathered at the Community Center. The theme this year was Canada's 150th Birthday. All the girls advancing to the next level received "birthday hats" signed by the girls in the unit they were leaving. Starting with 15 Sparks, the girls walked a balloon path to the stage to receive their final badge, Advancement certificate and Friendship pin. 5 Brownies advanced to Guides, receiving a flower, certificate and pin. Emily Jack received a gift for selling 12 cases of cookies. Two Guides, Summer McDonald and Sophie Reid were presented with their Completion Pin, Certificate and a "goodie" bag of items, each with a purpose as they move to Pathfinders.

Additionally, 2 Guides, Summer McDonald and Cheyenne Dickie, were recognized for selling 18 and 26 cases of cookies, respectively! Also, Sophie Reid was presented with the Lady Baden Powell Award. This is the highest award in the Guide Program and takes two or more years to complete. It is designed to be an extra challenge, providing an opportunity to learn more about Girl Guides while gaining a deeper understanding of what Guiding stands for. The award is worn on the Pathfinder uniform with pride!

The current Guiders were introduced and presented with a rose in appreciation of their work and, after our unit closings, everyone was invited to share a Canada Day birthday cake.

This was the final meeting for this year, but registration is already open for the coming year, which will begin Sept 20th. All those registered by the end of August will be eligible to attend the Canada wide Guiding "Birthday Bash" coming up Sept. 30th

The units are in need of volunteers to assist as Guiders. No experience is necessary; just a desire to volunteer. To register a girl or Guider, go online to [www.girlguides.ca](http://www.girlguides.ca) or call 519-599-3968.

# Tree Green Team

## Live Edge Furniture



**174 MARSH ST, CLARKSBURG  
705.607.0787 [www.treegreenteam.com](http://www.treegreenteam.com)**

## GBHS Board Approves Staff Recommendations Re. Surgery Program at Meaford Hospital

Board members reviewed feedback from hundreds of individuals and organizations, including staff, physicians, members of the public, municipalities, and Indigenous leaders before making their decisions on which hospitals would continue offering elective day surgery.

Currently, the elective surgery program runs at GBHS hospitals in Markdale, Meaford, Owen Sound and Southampton. The government-approved plan for the new Markdale hospital does not include surgery. Of the total number of elective day surgeries done at GBHS, 4 percent is done in Markdale, 5 percent in Meaford, 88 percent in Owen Sound, and 2.5 percent in Southampton.

The Board of Directors endorsed the following actions:

- Maintain the operating room at Meaford hospital and integrate it fully into the GBHS surgical program, ensuring consistent corporate oversight and management.
- Discontinue elective day surgery at Southampton Hospital and Markdale Hospital over the course of the next 12 months.
- Upgrade infrastructure and equipment in the Medical Device Reprocessing Department and the Surgery Department at Owen Sound Regional Hospital.
- Engage internal and external stakeholders in the development of a sustainability plan for GBHS, which will include, among other things, defining the roles of each hospital and strategies to strengthen the resilience of each, and leveraging opportunities to enhance the strength of the five foundations supporting the six hospitals.
- Continue to identify and

implement internal efficiency/cost savings initiatives that maintain quality of patient care with minimal staffing disruption.

• Continue to advocate, in conjunction with stakeholders and community partners, for sustainable changes to the Provincial funding model that reflect the rural realities of Grey Bruce and the unique challenges of the GBHS operating model.

"All six of our hospitals are critical to the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors, and contribute to the economic vitality of the communities they serve," said Lance Thurston, President and CEO of GBHS. "With this suite of initiatives now moving forward, we can focus on building the resiliency of our health care system across Grey Bruce."

## Volunteer Drivers Needed in Meaford/Thornbury area To Give their Neighbours a Lift

Volunteers at Home and Community Support Services of Grey Bruce often provide hours of support to their neighbours. When asked why they do it, a common response is "I may need this help someday" or "I have met so many interesting people".

"Several Volunteer Drivers have retired in the Meaford and Thornbury area recently," said Team Leader, Cindy Zettler. "If people have a couple of hours each month or week, you will find rewarding work with us" she added. Drivers help get clients to appointments, to shopping, and they help people get to and from our Day Program. Volunteer drivers are reimbursed to help with vehicle expenses.

"Our agency has been providing rides to residents of Grey Bruce for almost 25 years", commented Andy Underwood, Executive Director for Home and Community Support Services of Grey Bruce.

Home and Community Support Services of Grey Bruce is a non profit, charitable organization with the Mission "We are a team of caring staff & volunteers who provide community based services to support independence and enhance the quality of daily life for seniors & their families."

Movin' GB Transportation, Meals on Wheels, Day Away, Overnight Relief, Dining Club, and Volunteer Visiting services are provided from several offices of Home and Community Support Services. In addition, Housekeeping services are provided by paid staff. For more information about becoming a Volunteer Driver, or other volunteer opportunities or services call 519-372-2091 ext. 2821 or email Cindy Zettler at [czettler@homecommunitysupport.com](mailto:czettler@homecommunitysupport.com)

[www.route26.ca](http://www.route26.ca)

Music events listing for venues along Hwy 26 from Meaford to Thornbury/Clarksburg & Collingwood



Dr. Alyson Munkley  
NATUROPATHIC DOCTOR



- Modern Diagnostics
- Personalized Treatments
- Safe, reliable, and effective natural health solutions

519-599-3400 23 Arthur St. Thornbury  
[www.alysonymunkley.com](http://www.alysonymunkley.com)



Help put good food on tables.

ADD 25¢ OR MORE TO YOUR PURCHASE AT FOODLAND THORNBURY

[WWW.BVO.CA](http://WWW.BVO.CA)

Making good things happen in our community!



JOSH DOLAN  
REAL ESTATE BROKER  
[joshdolan.com](http://joshdolan.com)

TOP 3%

National Gross Sales  
Royal LePage 2013, 2014, 2015 & 2016



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

ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS NORTH

Thornbury Meaford Collingwood Wasaga

[josh@joshdolan.com](mailto:josh@joshdolan.com)

705-446-8404

"SERVING OUR COMMUNITY SINCE 2005"



DR. MIKE BUDREWICZ, DDS · DR. LANCE BURNHAM, DDS  
NEW PATIENTS WELCOME, EMERGENCIES SEEN PROMPTLY  
PROVIDING COMPLETE DENTAL CARE INCLUDING AESTHETICS, DENTAL IMPLANTS, INVISALIGN, ENDODONTICS AND DENTURES



DR. MIKE BUDREWICZ

519-599-9962 · 115 KING STREET EAST, THORNBURY · [THORNBURYDENTAL.CA](http://THORNBURYDENTAL.CA)

## Town Continues With Record Breaking Growth

A message from Greg Miller, Chief Building Official for Town of The Blue Mountains.

I am pleased to report that the Building Services team has had the busiest first six months in the Town's history for permits and inspections. The first 6 months we have:

- Issued permits valued at \$81.3 million in construction value which is up \$28m or 52% over this time last year. The previous record was in 2006 at \$72.1m
- Issued 320 permits versus 236 this time last year; an increase of 84 permits or 36%
- Issued 145 new dwellings which is up from 80 issued this time last year; an increase of 81% (with another 18 ready to be issued). We issued 196 dwellings for all of 2016.
- Conducted 1,354 requested building inspections versus 855; an increase of 500 or 58%
- Over the past 12 months there have been 229 accumulated dwelling starts valued at \$136.7m which is up 160% the past two years
- Our volume continues to increase at an unprecedented rate with 360 applications received versus 249 this time last year; a 45% increase – and they continue to pour in
- Zoning Requests or "RFI's" are up 95% at 150 versus 77 this time last year
- We have responded to 1,845 property inquires received via email, telephone and the front counter - up substantially from 915 inquires during the same time last year; a 102% increase.

These numbers do not include any Building Code Act enforcement such as issuing Orders, site meetings or complaint follow ups.

We continue to operate at a high performing level and have been ahead of the curve in Ontario by implementing our electronic permit service in 2016 and our electronic mobile inspections 9 years ago – no other municipality in Ontario has achieved this to my knowledge.

I would like to thank the Building Services team for continuing to perform at a high level and for their dedication to excellent customer service.

Greg Miller, BSSO, CBCO, C.E.T.  
Chief Building Official  
Town of The Blue Mountains  
Planning & Development Services  
Department

## Town Honors Robert B. Waind as Senior of the Year

The Town of The Blue Mountains Council honoured Robert B. Waind as the Town of The Blue Mountains, Senior of the Year for 2017 at the council meeting held Monday June 19th. This award is part of a Provincial program that gives each municipality in Ontario the opportunity to honour one outstanding local senior, who after the age of 65 has enriched the social, cultural or civic life of his or her community.

Bob moved to the Swiss Meadows area of The Blue Mountains with his wife, Georgina, in 1981. He has been a very active presence in our community and his commitment and time investment in the issues important to him, earned him this recognition.

Bob has always been very passionate about preserving the heritage of the Town. As a former Council member, he developed the Heritage Cemeteries Program which encouraged residents to adopt a cemetery to ensure that these heritage properties were maintained. He took on the maintenance of Banks Cemetery, something he has continued to this day.

He has also been an enthusiastic ambassador for the Town, spending over 30 years on the board of the Georgian Triangle Tourism Association (GTTA). Mr. Waind first joined the GTTA in an official capacity, but was asked to continue on as a "member-at-large". He believes that the region must work together if the Town and its neighbours were to become a true four season destination.

Bob is also Chair of the Nottawasaga Watershed Improvement Project (NWIP), an arms-length committee that was established with members from the public at large. This committee has been able to secure over \$400,000 in federal and provincial funds over the past 7 years which were used for stream bank fencing, stream relocation, tree planting, and more. Because of his NWIP experience, Bob was asked to join the board of the Beaver River Watershed Alliance, helping them draft a constitution and by-laws. He sat on the board until they were up and running.

When the F2 Tornado hit the Town in 2009, Bob was there for the Town again. As one of the Town



appointees to the Grey County Tornado Disaster Relief Fund, set up by the Province to manage restoration fund disbursements, the committee spent 2 years processing funding applications.

This committee helped get people back to work, back to business and most importantly, back to their homes.

Bob has contributed to this Town as a tourism advocate, a board expert, a historical preservationist and a protector of the environment. Council wants to thank him for his countless contributions to the Town of The Blue Mountains.

## How walkable is our community?

Take a walk and decide if we have a walkable community

Everyone benefits from walking. The benefits include: improved fitness, cleaner air, reduced risks of certain health problems and a greater sense of community. But walking needs to be safe and easy. Take a walk by yourself, with your

family, or with a group of friends or colleagues and use this checklist to decide if your neighbourhood is a friendly place to walk. Please complete a Walkability Checklist to voice your opinion. The Town wants to hear from you.

### Getting started:

First, you'll need to pick a place to walk, like the route to school, a friend's house, a bit of an adventure or just somewhere fun to go. The second step involves the checklist. Read over the checklist before you go, and as you walk, note the locations of issues you want to highlight. At the end of your walk, give each question a rating. Then add up the numbers to see how you rated your walk overall. After you've rated your walk and identified any problem areas, the next step is to submit your checklist to the Town and staff can figure out how best to improve the score.

You can pick up your Walkability Checklist at any of the following locations. Town Hall; Beaver Valley Community Centre; L.E. Shore Library; Craighleith Heritage Depot; or Thornbury Harbour Office [www.thebluemountains.ca/activetransportation.cfm](http://www.thebluemountains.ca/activetransportation.cfm)

# JULY 22 2017

# ARTSBURG DAY

Edible Art

Art Shows

Live Music

Art Demos

11-5 Clarksburg

[artsburgday.com](http://artsburgday.com)



MATILDA SWANSON  
GALLERY

nverside  
graphics inc



Shabby Shack  
Interiors



## Grey County - Blue Mountains Relationship

A Special Educational Meeting of Town Council was held at the Beaver Valley Community Centre on Thursday, June 29th to inform Council and the public on the issue of how much of our taxes we send to Grey County and to advise the Town as to its range of options as it considers its relationship with Grey County. This was an opportunity for all members of our community to learn about this important issue as the Town's Special Committee continues to work with Grey County on a solution.

The meeting consisted of a presentation by John Matheson and Michael Fenn of StrategyCorp, followed by questions from Council and the public. StrategyCorp is a firm of Toronto consultants who bill themselves as "Canada's trusted public affairs, communications and management consulting advisors".

StrategyCorp's presentation was titled "Improving fairness in allocating the cost of municipal services, A review of the options" and focused on two broad approaches to the issue that the Blue Mountains pays more than it should to the County. Two possible solutions were considered: 1) Change the Structure of Grey County or 2) Work with Grey County to ensure the Blue Mountains gets a "fair" deal.

It was clear from the presentation and the discussion that followed that there was no simple, easy solution to this issue, and that any resolution will take a lot of negotiation and the co-operation of the rest of Grey County.

### Upper tiers have always existed with these goals in mind...

Create governance units of sufficient size to leverage capabilities

### Pooling:

- Resources
- Capacity
- Consolidated delivery of provincial services

### Matters of shared regional interest

- Major roadways, other infrastructure, human services, often regional planning
- Although there are legal processes for restructuring, implementing

## A look at the numbers:

To calculate the taxes on a property, you take the value set by MPAC for the property multiplied by the mill rate. There are two parts to the levy that need to be considered. The mill rate is one but the second is the total assessed value of property in the municipality set by MPAC. That assessment is divided by the Town's budget which determines the mill rate.

### Value of a typical home for 2017 from [www.aboutmyproperty.ca](http://www.aboutmyproperty.ca)

The assessed value of a typical residential home in

The Blue Mountains is \$403,000. and waterfront \$857,000.

Grey Highlands is \$229,000. and waterfront \$476,000.

Meaford is \$245,000 and waterfront \$492,000.

Owen Sound is \$204,000. and waterfront \$303,000.

The following chart presented at the Educational Meeting shows the permanent population of the Blue Mountains being comparable to Grey Highlands and Meaford, however the number of households in the Blue Mountains is higher. Grey Highlands and Meaford show approx 2 persons per household with Blue Mountains having approx 1, using the permanent resident figure. From the Town's Citizens Satisfaction Survey 60% of part-time residents envisioned becoming full-time residents at some point with 28% believing this would happen in the next five years. A 2012 Blue Mountains staff report suggests that the total population of The Blue Mountains is closer to 21,000. Those that own property and may not live here also contribute to the tax levy. Therefore \$14,135,410 divided by 21,000 residents = \$673 per capita. (Information from the 2016 census)

Town	Municipal County Levy	% Of total	Households	% Of total	Per Household	Permanent Population	% Of total	Per Capita
Blue Mountains	\$14,135,419	26%	6,477	13%	\$2,182.40	7,025	7%	\$2,012.16
Grey Highlands	\$6,393,994	12%	5,299	11%	\$1,206.64	9,804	10%	\$652.18
Meaford	\$6,220,217	11%	5,590	11%	\$1,112.74	10,991	11%	\$565.94
Owen Sound	\$7,810,487	14%	9,607	20%	\$812.99	21,688	23%	\$360.13
Grey County	\$54,340,235		47,560		\$1,142.56	93,830		\$579.13

these processes proves difficult due to the impact of political obstacles

- The process is challenging for the province,
- And is typically unpopular at the local level
- The provincial signals are pretty clear: "Sure you can restructure...if you can agree on it."

**Grey County Council** has 18 members who represent the county's nine local municipalities (two from each). County Council is led by a Warden who is elected each year by council. County Council makes decisions and oversees a number of projects and services delivered by county staff.

### County Services

- 911 Civic Addressing
- Affordable Housing
- Agricultural Support
- Child Care and Development
- County Forest Management
- County Trails Management
- Construction and Maintenance of

Roads, Bridges and Structures

- Economic Development
- Emergency Management
- Grey Roots Museum and Archives
- Homelessness Prevention
- Information Technology
- Land Use Planning and Policies
- Long-Term Care Homes
- Ontario Early Years
- Ontario Works
- Paramedic Services
- Provincial Offences Administration (Court)
- Tourism Development and Promotion

A few options to debate going forward could include

- More service for the same price
- Less service for a smaller price (municipality)
- Less service for a smaller price (county-wide)
- Service migration from County to lower tier in exchange for a lower county rate (as a result of removal of a county-wide service)

## Crop Walk

Grey County Soil & Crop are hosting a "Crop Walk" on Friday, July 14, at 10:00 A.M. in the Holstein area. Meet at the Egremont Optimist Community Hall in Holstein (392137 Grey Rd 109). This Crop Walk will provide an excellent opportunity to walk a variety of crop fields which will include peas for export to India, new hybrid rye, corn, beans, cereals and forages. This is a great opportunity to obtain current crop updates.

Tour will include fields at Lewis Land and Stock, and the Solar Farm

Pizza lunch will be served at the Egremont Optimist Community Hall in Holstein at noon, where a Q and A session will also take place.

Cost for the lunch will be \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members.

Refreshments will be served at the start of the day, break and lunch.

Thanks to our Sponsors: Sprucedale Agromart, and North Wellington Co-op. Everyone is invited to participate! For info and to register please email [info@greyagservices.ca](mailto:info@greyagservices.ca) or call 519-986-3756. We look forward to seeing you on the Crop Walk!!!!!!

# Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

## Citizens Hold Community Roundtable Discussion to Brainstorm Communications Issues



**"I want to be heard.  
I want to know I've been heard.  
And I want to find ways of being heard."**

This plea from Kimberly Edwards, a young mother, was echoed by many concerned residents at a lively grassroots Roundtable June 20th at the Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg.

Sponsored by the Citizens' Communication Committee (CCC), the open forum, a seminal event in our area, drew around 80 diverse stakeholders and voters.

(The CCC, an offshoot of Citizens' Corner, is tasked with addressing communications issues with the Town. A delegation from the five-member committee have met three times to date with Town staff to assess current communications efforts, and will present suggestions from the open forum to the Town.)

The evening was facilitated by Andres Paara, a local Real Estate Broker and member of the CCC, who set a non-combative tone, along with a panel of five community representatives: Kimberly Edwards of Free Spirit Gardens, representing young working families; John Milne, a media consultant and former board member of The Blue Mountains Public Library; Peter Bordignon, president of the Blue Mountains Ratepayers' Association (BMRA); Linda Wykes, editor and publisher of The Blue Mountains Review, and Rosemary Gosselin, retired journalist and psychotherapist, and member of the CCC. (Alar Soever, founder of Citizens' Corner and editor of Citizens' Pages, was unable to attend the meeting, as was panelist June Porter.)

In his opening remarks, Andres said, "This is a chance for us all to brainstorm our ideas about how we can improve communication with Town Council and Staff", and cautioned against getting into what one wag has called "Gripes of Wrath".

If you want to really explore issues in depth, come to the Citizens' Corner at the Corner Café & Grill every Monday from four to seven."

He reminded the audience that the Mayor, when he ran for election, recommended an open mic for comments from the public at the close of Council Meetings, and cited

one Councillors' scolding, published in a local paper, about "the public is not to be trusted."

He welcomed Councillors Michael Seguin, Joe Halos, John McGee, Deputy Mayor Gail Ardiel and "the Town's Unofficial Mayor, James Hindle."

Peter Bordignon emphasized the need to know the facts, and "focus on causes, not cases," while media expert John Milne outlined the rudiments of good communication, getting a laugh when he said, "omitting adverbs and adjectives helps the process."

Kimberly Edwards, former Chair of the now-defunct Sustainability Committee, told the audience "we were supposed to be a liaison between the Town and the public." (The committee was formed to foster goals laid out in "The Blue Mountains Sustainable Path", a pricey 2010 publication detailing aspirations and goals set with extensive community collaboration.) Kim pointed out that to appeal to her cohort, technology and terminology requires more zing.

Rosemary Gosselin added, "There is so much more to care about here in this ancient and beautiful landscape than simply development. "An old war-horse activist", she commended the community for its warmth and caring, and "capacity to mobilize when we're blindsided by decisions that affect our lives". She also advocated for an all-inclusive Communications Workshop at Town Hall.

Linda Wykes of Riverside Graphics, recalled "40 years ago helping my father put together the local paper - The Valley Courier." The Blue Mountains Review which she publishes monthly, recently sent out their 30th edition to 3000 households in The Blue Mountains and partners with the crowd-funded Citizens' Pages. The bluemountainsreview.ca site has also been upgraded to post news items as they happen and welcomes community input. She encouraged people to use VISITBLUE.ca as a community hub which links to websites for local businesses, organizations, volunteering, events and local news. (continued on next page)

## Welcome to the Citizens' Pages

This is the eighth monthly issue of the Citizen's Pages, a citizen funded insert into the Blue Mountains Review. This insert allows for an extra four pages of news about what is going on in our Town.

**If you like reading us, please follow the link below and make a donation to keep us going.**  
<https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review>

Donations can also be made to the Citizens' Pages care of The Blue Mountains Review and be dropped off at Riverside Graphics in Clarksburg.

**We can't do it without your support! We have managed to raise enough to survive for our first eight issues, but we are surviving month to month.**

All of the funds we receive go towards printing and distribution. All content and editing is provided by citizen volunteers.

Alar Soever, Editor

This insert is brought to you as a public service to provide citizens information about issues facing their Town. It is funded by the citizens of the Town through online contributions. If you like this page and would like to keep it going, please donate by following the link <https://www.gofundme.com/Citizens-Page-in-the-Blue-Mts-Review> To contact us with your letters, comments, ideas, and suggested content please e-mail [tbcitizens@gmail.com](mailto:tbcitizens@gmail.com)

# Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

## Citizens Hold Community Roundtable Discussion to Brainstorm Communications Issues (continued)

### CITIZENS' REMARKS AND SUGGESTIONS

For a large cross-section of stakeholders, the chief complaint was the failure of Town officials to reply to, or even acknowledge letters.

"This 'policy' of not responding to constituents' letters leaves a huge gap to be filled with conjecture", attested one panelist, " and leaves the sender feeling futile.

"Nothing fuels anger like feeling helpless and unheard, especially after spending time and thought into writing a letter about an issue affecting your life."

Others noted "The buck stops at the top. The Mayor sets the example."

Some creative solutions were voiced. "What if each query was assigned a number", offered Celine Szoges, echoed by Lynne Marriott. "If you haven't heard back, ask to have your request traced. Quality management would be key..."

While letters were the main target, Council members protested vociferously that they were "very approachable" and "happy to return phone calls and talk with constituents." But they didn't explain why letters weren't replied to.

Casey Thomson, who serves on the Town's Economic Development Committee and owns The Cheese Gallery, agreed. "I can call any of the Councillors and get their ear."

Paula Hope, Chair of the BMRA Communications Committee and resident of Lora Bay recalled, "When the developer was going to take away our recreation centre, we fought to retain it, and we got it back. I found the Councillors totally approachable."

Part-time resident Karen Feyer recommended instituting the Ward system here: " In Toronto, I have my own Ward representative. We have a good relationship and I know I have her ear."

Debbie Crosskill, long-time resident, artist and on the Beaver River Water Initiative Management Team, expressed a wish for more courteous dialogue: "It matters to me how we talk with each other."

Paul Wilson, author, journalist and chair of VOCAL (Voices of Community for Accountable Leadership) observed: "We seem to be very thin-skinned in this town...too quick to take offence. We should be able to disagree vigorously but civilly, and then go to a local pub and have a drink together!" "And we need a really good community paper to provide unbiased coverage and reflect the community back to itself." He cited the Meaford Independent as a good example, praising editor Stephen Vance's thorough analysis of library issues as "influencing a positive outcome in which the Meaford Library Board quickly got back on track."

Meaford was mentioned more than once. The Meaford

Council videotapes its sessions, and when a local resident brought this to John McGee's attention, he promoted it in Council. "We're looking to the Fall to videotape our sessions here too. Maybe that will help with communication."

Ron Hartlen mentioned an experience with the communication gap. Some years ago, in responding to a staff-initiated routine survey about water, Ron added an enquiry as to which INDIVIDUAL staffer was ultimately responsible for water quality. No reply was forthcoming at that time. It was suggested from the Forum Floor that perhaps Councillors in attendance might speak to the issue. Deputy Mayor Ardiel and Councillor Halos informed the attendees that, to paraphrase " WE ARE ALL responsible, because it's the LAW". So Ron got an answer...but not to the very specific PRACTICAL question asked some years ago..."

There was a bid from the floor to add a phrase to the Code of Conduct about responding to mail from constituents. Apparently Meaford has a protocol for this. Deputy Mayor Ardiel responded that the Code of Conduct is a Provincial matter and "You'll have to ask the Premier."

Mike D'Abramo led the call for Town Hall meetings, seconded by Rosemary Mesley who recently moved from Clearview Township where she participated in Town Hall meetings and found them very effective. Clearview also has a Ward system.

When several community members complained about the difficulty in navigating TOBM procedures , Town Hall regular Paul Mitchell urged fellow citizens to attend Council meetings. "That's where you'll learn the ropes about how things work in this Town. It's the best way I know of to educate ourselves."

Peter Bordignon offered to task the BMRA with asking the Mayor, Council and Staff for a clear policy on communications, and to follow up with other ideas from the public.

A fellow-panelist said she appreciated his response, as the Citizens' Communication Committee is committed to this work, and "a collaboration with BMRA would be useful in moving forward with the evening's consensus."

### CONCLUSION

In closing, Andres Paara asked for a show of hands in response to three questions:

- Should we continue with our objective to improve communication and collaboration with the Town?
- Should we hold another open forum like this to address the next relevant questions, and to continue to build on this initiative?
- Would you like us to go to the Town and present the results from this evening?

The room was a sea of hands.

The open forum was a model of healthy community dialogue, warmed by applause for each speaker. The event ended with a time for networking, the Marsh Street Community Centre buzzing with conversation and connection.

## Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

### Staff Suspect Water Leaking into New Cell at Landfill Causing Huge Cost Overrun

A Special Meeting of Council was held on June 26<sup>th</sup> to receive [Staff Report CSPW.17.077, "Request for Leachate Budget Increase"](#) and for Council to approve increasing the 2017 landfill operation Budget for leachate management by \$180,750 from \$236,250 to a total of \$417,000.

The \$180,750 increase includes, \$87,500 for the leachate haulage contract with Region of Huronia Environmental Services, \$81,250 for the 2017 landfill operation Budget for leachate treatment and \$12,000 for odour treatment and manifest fees.

The new landfill cell completed October 2015 uses a liner and leachate collection system. Collected leachate (rain water and moisture from incoming waste) is removed from the cell by tanker truck and hauled for treatment at the Craigeleith Waste Water Treatment Plant.

The anticipated annual production of leachate, as identified during the site design process, was 7,000 cubic metres per year, however in 2016, a total of 25,000 cubic metres was hauled. As a result, the budget for leachate haulage and treatment was increased for 2017 to 17,500 cubic metres. This volume has already been trucked and treated as of the end of May, 2017.

Town Staff is investigating the source of the additional leachate. Rainfall this year has been above the historical average for January to May, but not enough to account for the increase in leachate.

The focus is being placed on the open end of the cell where the lined cell will be expanded. A change in the liner design during construction may be permitting groundwater to infiltrate at the southern boundary of the cell.

Staff will be meeting with the design engineer and contract administrator June 27, 2017 to understand how and why the field modification was made and to develop a plan to correct as necessary the installed works this fall.

The original design concept involved the liner flap positioned on top of a berm. This elevated position would block groundwater flow. The flow from the adjacent waste mound would be naturally attenuated. During construction a design change was made that possibly permits groundwater to enter the lined portion of the cell.

Staff will provide a detailed report to Council once further information is available.

Looking ahead to 2018 an estimated budget increase, based on an additional 12,500 cubic metres of leachate haulage and treatment, of \$180,750 will represent a 1.24% increase over the 2017 taxation levy. During the budgeting process Staff will be looking at ways to reduce this impact to the tax rate.

### What is Citizens' Corner and what happens there.

Citizens' Corner is an informal discussion group that meets every Monday (except on Holiday Weekends) from 4 to 7 pm at the Corner Café.

Since its inception in November 2016 it has grown to a group of about 20 regular attendees, with several more people who drop in from time to time. There is no membership fee and no paperwork to fill out. All citizens of the Town of Blue Mountains are welcome to drop by for some socializing and friendly discussion on the issues facing the Town,.

The Citizens' Corner has become the go to place for groups who want to have their concerns heard. We have had the Woodland Park residents, the West Harbour residents, the Cameron Street residents and the Mill Pond residents all present information about their issues.

The evening starts off at 4 pm or shortly after with some socializing, getting to know each other, as well as general discussion about a wide variety of topics.

At 5 pm we start a formal agenda, which covers the topics on the agenda which has been sent out the mailing list. The Agenda is also post on the Citizens' Pages page on the Blue Mountains Review website.

Usually discussion of the agenda items is finished by 6 pm, after which some people stay around for more socializing and discussion.

### Citizens at the

**THE CORNER**  
CAFÉ & GRILL

**Come out and meet people who are interested in what is going on in the Town, and what is before Council. All citizens are invited to drop in at the Community Room at Corner Café on most Monday nights between 4 and 7 (except for holiday weekends) for some socializing and friendly discussion on the issues facing the Town and what is on the Council Agenda.**

**Come, meet new friends, listen, and have your say.**

**Rules: Be polite, respect other people's opinions, and if you don't agree with them, just remember: They have the right to be wrong.**

### Know your businesses

#### This Month's Business Royal Harbour Resort

1. What did the factory produce that was located on the site of the Royal Harbour Resort?
2. Does the Royal Harbour Resort have local fitness memberships? Yes or No.
3. Does the Royal Harbour Resort offer accommodation to non-members? Yes or No.



# Citizens' Pages in the Blue Mountains Review

## Special Educational Meeting of Town Council On the Town/County Relationship

A Special Educational Meeting of Town Council being held at the Large Hall, Beaver Valley Community Centre, 58 Alfred Street West, Thornbury, ON on Thursday, June 29, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

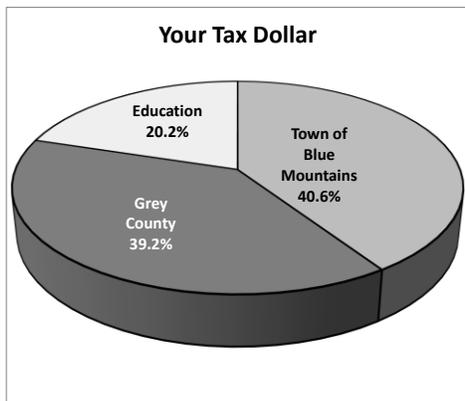
The topic of discussion will be the financial burdens facing our Town, particularly with respect to the County levy.

Under the current arrangements, the Town is required to pay a disproportionate share of the costs of Grey County.

Today, even though we are less than 7% of the permanent population of Grey County, the current formula requires us to pay 26% of the costs of operating the County.

This is an increase from 20% at the time of amalgamation of the TBM, Last year we sent \$13.8 million of our tax dollars to Grey County, far more than the next largest contributor, Owen Sound at \$7.7 million.

Of your tax dollar 40.6% goes to the Town (Tier 2 government), 39.2% goes to the County (Tier 1 government) and 20.2% goes to the Province of Ontario for Education.



Although we pay 26% of the County expenditures we only have two votes on the 18 person County Council, so very little say on how this money is spent.

The TBM Council has raised this matter at County Council, and at our request, County Council recently created a committee to study this situation. To prepare for this process, Council is holding a special educational session to gain better insight into the issues, and to solicit advice on the options available to the TBM.

This will be a workshop session, for which the Town has engaged a firm with expertise in local government and finance.

This is an opportunity for all members of our community to learn about this important issue, and we encourage you to attend this special meeting where there will be an opportunity for public participation.

## Changes at Library Herald a New Era of Openness and Consultation

Recent changes at the Town of Blue Mountains Library including the appointment of new Library Board Members and the firing of the CEO, and the appointment of an interim CEO, seem to be bringing refreshing change to this cherished institution.

Cindy Weir has been appointed of Interim CEO. Cindy holds a Master of Library Science, and has a long and successful career in the public library field. She has earned special recognition among her peers across the province, particularly in the areas of Children's Rights in the Public Library and has been very active in the Ontario Library Association (OLA). She is a former member of the OLA Board and was president of the Ontario Public Library Association. She has been a highly successful CEO in Sault Ste. Marie, Owen Sound and Orangeville.

Cindy grew up in the South Georgian Bay area and has always had family in the area, including her great-grandfather who had a farm on the eighth line near Victoria Corners. Cindy now lives with her husband in Owen Sound.

The Board has embarked on the search for a new CEO which is a critically important task that may take some time.

On June 7th, the Blue Mountains Library Board adopted the following single Strategic Plan goal: "The Blue Mountains Library Board, together with our CEO, Staff and Community Members, will work collaboratively to strengthen, build and maintain positive, respectful relationships and communications."

The Library is now in the process of consulting with all of its stakeholders (staff, patrons, advisory groups, etc.) to collect suggestions on how we can action and achieve this goal together. You are invited to participate by sharing your suggestions on or before July 6th:

(a) Use the library website: [libraryinfo@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:libraryinfo@thebluemountains.ca)

(b) Write us a note and drop it in to L.E. Shore Memorial Library, or the Craigeleith Heritage Depot.

(c) Attend and participate in person at one of the following Community Meetings:

Monday, June 26 at 6:00pm at L.E. Shore Memorial Library  
Thursday, June 29 at 2:00pm at Craigeleith Heritage Depot  
Sunday, July 2 at 1:00pm at Craigeleith Heritage Depot  
Sunday, July 2 at 2:00pm at L. E. Shore Memorial Library  
Tuesday, July 4 at 10:00am at L.E. Shore Memorial Library  
Wednesday, July 5 at 6:00pm at Craigeleith Heritage Depot

## Answers to Know Your Businesses The Royal Harbour Resort

1. Skate Blades
2. Yes. You can buy fitness memberships to use the facilities at the Royal Harbour Resort. No need to drive to Collingwood.
3. Yes. You can do a nightly rental at the Royal Harbour Resort.