



Winter has arrived. photo by Robert Burcher

New Resident Parking Pass Registration System Launched

The Town of The Blue Mountains would like to advise residents that the resident parking pass program will be transitioned to a **new online registration** system for 2024.

The new system will allow residents to register vehicles directly through the Town website. Vehicle registration can also be completed in person at Town Hall Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. **The traditional rearview mirror parking passes are no longer available and will not be mailed to residents.**

All residential property owners and residential tenants in the Town can register vehicles for free. Multiple vehicles, subject to proof of ownership, can be registered per resident. Registered vehicles can park for free at all Town-owned paid parking locations.

Photo identification, proof of residency and vehicle registration are required to register a vehicle, whether online or in person. Existing 2023 resident parking passes and vehicle registrations will remain valid until March 15, 2024. Vehicles not registered as of March 15, 2024, will be subject to a fine when parking in a paid parking lot location without paying. Residents must register their vehicles for parking on an annual basis.

Non-resident parking passes are available to residents of the Municipality of Meaford, Grey Highlands, Clearview Township and the Town of Collingwood for \$100.00 + HST.

To register your vehicle(s), complete the online registration form or visit Town Hall Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To learn more about paid parking in the Town, visit the Parking webpage. www.thebluemountains.ca

For more information, please contact:

By-Law Enforcement, Town of The Blue Mountains
(519) 599-3131 ext. 249

New Exhibits at Craigleith Heritage Depot Feature History of Skiing In Our Area

Craigleith Heritage Depot has opened three new exhibits on skiing in the Craigleith and surrounding areas. Included are displays on the evolution of skiing and snowboarding equipment, the history of local ski clubs, and the running of the Craigleith Ski Train, as well as information on the history, culture, and nature of The Blue Mountains.

The Museum is located on Lakeshore Road East at the junction of Grey Road 19 and Highway 26.

The Museum is open Thursdays and Fridays from 12:00 to 5:00; Saturdays 10:00 to 4:00; and Sundays 12:00 to 4:00.

Nomination Deadline is January 31, 2024

Complete Your Application Today!

We're looking for nominations from groups or individuals who made a positive social, economic or environmental impact in our community in 2023 - such as a local environmental initiative, a fundraising drive, or a refugee sponsorship program, for example.

Get your group nominated or nominate yourself for a chance to win one of four \$1,000 awards. Visit www.bvo.ca



Grey Bruce CSWBP Community Safety & Well-Being Planning

Action Tables Launched to Address Community Concerns in Grey and Bruce Counties

The Community Safety and Well-Being Plan (CSWBP) is proud to announce the development of two new action tables to serve the Grey and Bruce communities. The Crime Prevention Action Table and the Mental Health Action Table both launched in December 2023 as collaborative efforts to address priority risk areas. The Action Tables are led by invested community partners who use local data and evidence-informed best practices to implement upstream interventions to address concerns in the community.

The Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, through community feedback, consultation, and local data, developed a total of five priority risk areas inclusive of: **Crime Prevention, Mental Health, Addictions/Substance Use, Housing and Homelessness and Poverty and Income.** Each of the five priority risk areas has a dedicated action table that is focused on collaboration, information sharing,

continued on page 2



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are being offered beginning Tuesday, February 13, for 10 weeks. Classes are free.
Located at First Baptist Church, Thornbury.
Please use the Alice Street entrance.
For information call:
Maryann @ 519 599 2680 or Pat @ 519 538 0020.

BID EUCHRE

Wednesday & Thursday 12:50-3:30pm; \$2.00 per day
Small Hall, Beaver Valley Community Centre
Lessons Available - Bev 705-507-0563 or Dorothy 519-599-5044

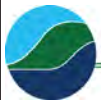
DROP-IN BRIDGE

MONDAY 1PM-3PM; \$2.00 PER PERSON
St. George's Anglican Church, Clarksburg

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Cor 519-538-0232



The REVIEW

Blue Mountains: Thornbury, Clarksburg, Craigleith, Heathcote, Ravenna

E-NEWSLETTER - Use the subscribe form on our website to receive the weekly E-newsletter. www.bluemountainsreview.ca

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER This edition is mailed to residents in The Blue Mountains the first week of each month

DONATE - by e-transfer to info@visitblue.ca or by cheque to Riverside Press, Box 387, Thornbury, N0H 2P0

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: We ask that letters be no longer than 250 words, and adhere to standards of fairness, accuracy, legality and civility. Beyond that, we select letters on the basis of timeliness, relevance and diversity and reserve the right to not publish.

ARTICLES are from media releases or those that are submitted acknowledge the author.

Publisher Linda Wykes, printed by Riverside Press. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our community can be emailed to info@visitblue.ca for inclusion in the newsletter by each Friday. Advertising rates available on the website or call 519-599-3345

continued from page 1

and performance measurement in-line with the Ontario CSWBP Framework. The Action Tables work with multiple stakeholders in the community to address root causes of complex social problems and implement collaborative strategies to accomplish shared goals.

What is the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan (CSWBP) Grey-Bruce?

Building on a long history of cross-sector collaboration, the process of Community Safety and Well-Being Planning has allowed over 70 community partners in Bruce and Grey – from Municipalities, police services, police service boards, education, health, community and social services – to come together to discuss resident perceptions and begin to explore local data related to safety and well-being, with the goal of identifying and reducing risk factors that contribute to safety and well-being issues, using cross-sector strategies and focusing on the social determinants of health.

Want to Learn More?

One of the goals of CSWBP is ensuring a coordinated approach that leverages existing work and expertise, avoids duplication, and identifies opportunities for further action. As we work together to ensure our communities meet the needs of safety and belonging, we always welcome ideas, suggestions, and feedback from members of the community.

If you have an issue you would like to see addressed as part of this planning framework or are interested in learning more about our action tables, please visit <https://cswbp.brucecounty.on.ca/contact>.

Homelessness Response Table

Concerns / Indicators

Below are some of the key Housing and Homelessness indicators and concerns highlighted in local data. Action Tables will explore these in order to inform the creation of specific CSWBP Action Plans, as well as to monitor progress and improvements.

- Compared to Ontario and Canada, this region has more owned dwellings and fewer rental dwellings.
- Some areas have more subsidized housing (Owen Sound, Meaford, Kincardine, Southgate).
- Over 15% of homeowners and almost 50% or renters in Bruce and Grey spend more than 30% of their monthly income on shelter costs, a situation that leaves them only 1-2 paychecks away from not paying their mortgage/rent.
- Average housing prices are increasing but are lower than Ontario.
- Seasonal housing numbers are high in North Bruce Peninsula, Town of The Blue Mountains and South Bruce Peninsula.
- Very low rental vacancy rates in our region are similar to Ontario.
- Housing Wait Lists are increasing as are calls to 211 for housing issues.

Community Perceptions

This category ranked fourth highest (#4) overall in the Bruce and Grey CSWBP Community Engagement Survey (overall, by Bruce County, by Grey County). It was ranked in the top 3 areas of importance by 29% of respondents overall but especially in Owen Sound, North Bruce Peninsula and Kincardine. When asked which areas were of particular concern in this category, affordability of housing, availability of housing, and access to housing were noted, followed by homelessness. Several comments in the survey mentioned concern about the lack of affordable housing in communities, the lack of variety (e.g., smaller, more affordable homes), need for more education of tenants and landlords on rights, and the concern that many individuals or families stay in unfit, unsafe housing because there are no other options available to them (3).

Locally, the following organizations, programs and committees are already working to address concerns related to housing and homelessness across Bruce and Grey:

The Bruce Grey Poverty Taskforce; RentSafe; Habitat for Humanity; Giiwe and The Indigenous Supportive Housing Program; YMCA Housing; Safe N Sound Grey Bruce

* This list is not all-inclusive.



Grey Bruce
Public Health

Increased Influenza A Activity Prompts GBPH To Remind Residents To Get The Flu Shot

Elevated Influenza A activity has prompted Grey Bruce Public Health to underscore the importance of receiving the flu vaccine.

Surveillance data indicates a surge in Influenza A cases at both local and provincial levels, leading GBPH to remind residents that there is still time to protect themselves from the respiratory virus by getting this year's publicly funded flu vaccine.

Dr. Rim Zayed, GBPH's Physician Consultant, emphasizes that the influenza vaccine – which is readily available at numerous participating pharmacies and through primary care providers in Grey-Bruce – continues to be the most effective defense against severe complications associated with the flu.

Dr. Zayed encourages residents to proactively protect themselves and contribute to the overall well-being of the community by getting vaccinated.

In addition to influenza, COVID-19 and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) are actively circulating in the community.

Public Health Ontario (PHO) is currently reporting a "moderate" test positivity rate in the province for influenza, which is based on the most recent data from the week ending Dec. 30, 2023.

PHO anticipates that influenza activity will continue to increase over the short term, while COVID-19 activity – now considered high – is expected to remain stable, and RSV activity is projected to decrease.

The risk of severe illness due to respiratory viruses is currently high for people 18 years of age and under and very high for adults aged 18 to 64, according to PHO. The risk is expected to increase in the short term for both age groups.

In Grey-Bruce, surveillance data also shows an increase in influenza activity with over 130 confirmed cases since the start of the respiratory illness season in September. Nearly 70% of those cases were reported in the past two weeks, including 40 cases reported in the past week alone.

Given the heightened risk, flu testing is prioritized for those at highest risk of developing severe complications from the virus.

Two Influenza A outbreaks have also been declared at local long-term care and retirement homes in recent weeks. One of those outbreaks has been declared over.

Both the flu vaccine and latest XXB.1.5-containing COVID-19 vaccine are recommended for individuals aged six months and older.

Grey Bruce Public Health has developed an online map of pharmacies that are providing both vaccines. (Thornbury Pharmasave)

Public Health advises a multi-layered approach of protection to prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses, including vaccination, staying home when sick, cleaning hands and disinfecting high-touch surfaces frequently, and practicing coughing and sneezing etiquette.

For More Information:

To connect with the Medical Officer of Health or the program manager, please contact:

Denis Langlois, Communications Co-ordinator,
Grey Bruce Public Health,

519-376-9420 or 1-800-263-3456 ext. 1315,

Communications@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca

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- Pensions

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Eat Local Grey Bruce is a cooperative farmer's market with two types of members: eaters and producers.

www.eatlocalgreybruce.ca

Producer members are the core of the cooperative providing locally grown and produced foods and specialty products, all available for purchase in the Eat Local Grey Bruce online store.

Eater members have access to our online store where producer members list the food they have available each week. Members can make orders through the online store and then Eat Local collects all the food from our producer members, packs it at our warehouse in Meaford, and delivers the orders across Grey, Bruce, and parts of Simcoe county to drop off locations or directly to members' doors.



TIMELINE

Friday-Sunday: online orders are accepted through the web store

Monday-Tuesday: food is collected from producers based on the orders

Wednesday-Thursday: orders are packed at the warehouse

Thursday-Friday: orders are delivered to pick up location or directly to members

LOCAL PICKUP LOCATIONS

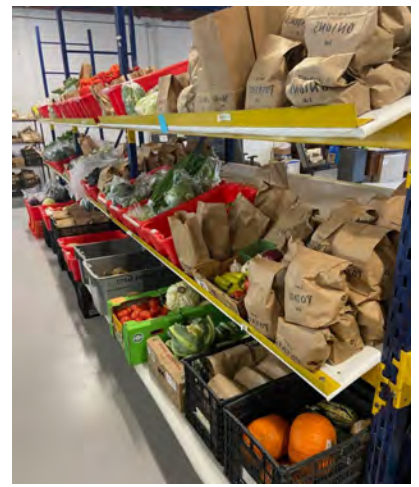
Wednesdays from 3-5pm

Daisy Mart, 200 Marsh Street
Clarksburg

Thursdays from 10am-5pm

Meaford Warehouse
278 Cook Street, Meaford

Becoming an ELGB eater member is easy: you sign up online through our web store for \$40/year and that allows you to make weekly orders.



FUNDRAISING

Eat Local Grey Bruce has received a donation commitment from an anonymous corporate sponsor to match dollar for dollar to kick off the new year.

The last year has been a roller coaster for Eat Local Grey Bruce, a community based non-profit co-operative that delivers farm fresh food to members across Grey and Bruce counties. This time last year, they were launching a massive crowdfunding campaign to keep the co-op from declaring bankruptcy. Thanks to the community, ELGB was able to keep its doors open and started down the path of restructuring to leaner, more simplified operations.

Throughout the year, volunteers have shown up for the co-op to provide time and energy because they love the service: ELGB connects community members with local food producers giving them access to fresh local food every week. Simple in concept, but challenging to execute with over 8000 square kilometers in their service area, ELGB has successfully maintained profitable operations through the year and is ready to take on 2024.

The co-op announced on their website and social media accounts that 2024 is indeed starting off on the right foot with an anonymous corporate donation for up to \$1000 to match donations from the community. That means for every dollar donated between now and the end of February, ELGB can double the funds to help ensure the co-op continues to thrive. And in addition, ELGB is offering a draw for everyone who donates over \$10 for the chance to win \$25 in store credit.

"This is a really great opportunity for us to start off on the right foot in the new year", says Kel Smith who chairs the ELGB Board of Directors. "After the financial strain of the last year, this is an opportunity for the community to come together again and really make a difference for the co-op. We're so proud to have such amazing membership across the counties and I mean it quite honestly when I say that we would not be in operation without their exceptional ongoing support. I also want to extend just so much gratitude to our corporate sponsor for participating as well."

If you're interested in donating, you can visit the Eat Local Grey Bruce website to read the blog post at <https://eatlocalgreybruce.ca/donation-matching-campaign>

Contact : Kel Smith / Steve Kenny

278 Cook Street, Meaford, Phone: 519-538-1231
info@eatlocalgreybruce.ca

BRIAN SAUNDERSON

MPP, Simcoe-Grey

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Stayner Office

7317 Hwy 26, P.O. Box 820, Stayner ON L0M 1S0 (705) 428-2134

Connect With Me:

✉ Brian.Saunderson@pc.ola.org
🌐 www.briansaundersonmpp.ca

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Ontario Launching New Long-Term Care Home Investigations Unit

New investigations team will strengthen oversight and resident safety

TORONTO — The Ontario government has created a new Investigations Unit to ensure every long-term care resident lives with dignity and experiences the quality of care they deserve. Supported by an investment of \$72.3 million, the new 10-person unit will be an effective deterrent and tool when escalated enforcement is needed to improve compliance and ensure resident safety.

The new unit is now active and will investigate allegations such as:

- failing to protect a resident from abuse or neglect,
- repeated and ongoing non-compliance,
- failing to comply with ministry inspector's orders,
- suppressing and/or falsifying mandatory reports, and
- negligence of corporate directors.

The newly appointed investigators completed comprehensive training over 19 weeks which consisted of in-class training, self-study modules and field experience. The training covered all aspects of the inspections program, the relevant legislation and regulation, investigative techniques such as interviewing, search warrant and report writing, as well as court procedures.

The new unit's investigators are designated as Provincial Offences Officers under the Provincial Offences Act and will investigate allegations of offenses under the Fixing Long-Term Care Act. While inspectors identify and address non-compliance under the Act, investigators determine if there are grounds that an offence under the Act has been committed, which if prosecuted could result in fines and/or imprisonment.

The work of the Investigations Unit will complement Ontario's existing robust inspections program and is in addition to a wider suite of changes the government introduced over the last two years to strengthen compliance and enforcement in the long-term care sector. These new measures include doubling the number of inspectors in the field, implementing a new and more efficient IT system for inspectors to track their work, and introducing new compliance and enforcement tools like administrative monetary penalties and re-inspection fees.

The government is fixing long-term care to ensure Ontario's seniors get the quality of care and quality of life they need and deserve. The plan is built on four pillars: staffing and care; quality and enforcement; building modern, safe and comfortable homes; and connecting seniors with faster, more convenient access to the services they need.

Quick Facts

- Ontario is now a leading province in terms of inspector per long-term care home ratio in Canada, with one inspector for every two homes in the province.
- The new Investigations Unit works apart from the inspections stream (however the two complement each other). Also, investigators will only look into allegations around the 11 provincial offences listed in the Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021.
- The Investigator and Senior Investigator positions will investigate allegations of offences under the Fixing Long-Term Care Act and make recommendations where appropriate for enforcement action, up to and including prosecution.
- The Ontario government is providing up to \$1.25 billion this year to long-term care homes to hire and retain thousands more long-term care staff. This is part of the government's historic four-year, \$4.9 billion commitment to increase the average direct care time

provided by registered nurses, registered practical nurses and personal support workers to four hours per resident, per day, by March 31, 2025.

- The government is investing \$1 billion over three years to expand and improve home care services across the province and \$100 million for community services. The 2023 Ontario Budget accelerated investments to bring home care funding in 2023-24

Ontario Taking Next Steps in Plan to Further Reduce Wait Times for Surgeries and Diagnostic Procedures

Community surgical and diagnostic centres connecting people to faster, more convenient care with your health card

MISSISSAUGA — As part of the next steps to implement Your Health, a plan for connected and convenient care, the Ontario government is proposing regulatory changes that, would name Accreditation Canada as the inspection body responsible for ensuring the highest quality standards and strong oversight of the 900+ current and all future community surgical and diagnostic centres, effective April 1, 2024.

"When it comes to reducing wait times for surgeries, we aren't accepting a status quo that leaves too many people waiting too long for care," said Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health. "Instead, our government is expanding community surgical and diagnostic centres so we can reduce wait times by doing more surgeries in state-of-the-art, convenient and safe facilities, always paid for by your OHIP card never your credit card."

Given its national leadership role in this type of work for over 65 years, Accreditation Canada has been chosen to develop an enhanced oversight and quality assurance program for current and future community surgical and diagnostic centres that will have the same strong requirements as public hospitals in order to improve quality standards at facilities and ensure consistent patient safety and quality health care. Over the coming weeks, the province will consult extensively with health care sector partners, regulatory colleges representing providers, and patients and families on the development of the new oversight and quality assurance program.

Beginning in Spring 2024, the government will also take the next step in expanding the number of community surgical and diagnostic centres licensed in the province to deliver additional OHIP insured services to people closer to home, including more MRI/CT scans, GI endoscopies, and orthopedic surgeries.

Through the actions taken to date as part of Your Health, Ontario is connecting more people to surgeries and diagnostics care and reducing wait times. Progress over the past year includes:

- Achieving the shortest surgical wait times of any province in Canada in 2023, with nearly 80 per cent of people receiving their procedure within clinically recommended target times;
- Reducing the surgical waitlist since its peak in March 2022, resulting in 16,000 fewer people waiting for the surgeries they need;
- Eliminating the backlog of cervical cancer screening tests at the end of August 2023. Testing turnaround times returned to the pre-pandemic standard of 10 to 14 days;
- Completion rates of pediatric surgeries are reaching 112 per cent of pre-pandemic levels, as of December 2023; and
- Increasing diagnostic imaging capacity by an additional 97,767 MRI and 116,443 CT operating hours.
- As Ontario continues to make progress implementing Your Health, the government will continue making bold, innovative and creative changes to make it faster and easier for people to conveniently connect to care closer to home.



Notice of Complete Applications and Public Meeting

Applications for Zoning By-law Amendment (P3359) and Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium (P3358)

Property Location: 516681 7th Line

Public Meeting: January 30, 2024 at 9:30AM Hybrid Format (In-person AND Virtual via Microsoft Teams) Town Hall, Council Chambers 32 Mill Street, Thornbury, ON

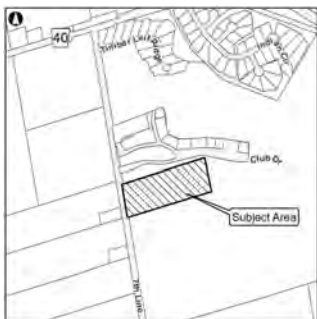
What is being proposed?

Complete applications for a proposed Zoning By-law Amendment and Draft Plan of Vacant Land Condominium have been received by the Town and the County respectively. The purpose of the applications is to:

- re-zone the subject lands from the Development (D) Zone to Residential Type One (R1-1) and Open Space (OS) Zones of the Town of The Blue Mountains Zoning By-law 2018-65 ; and
- create a 22 residential unit draft plan of vacant land condominium.

The effect of the applications is to permit the development of the lands for 22 single detached residential dwelling units (3.71 HA), private street (0.6 HA) and open space (0.51 HA) where currently the subject site is a forested significant woodland occupied by a residential dwelling and accessory structures.

Key Map



Questions? Want more information? Ask the Planner!

Adam Farr, Senior Planner

Phone: (519) 599-3131 ext. 283 or Toll Free (888) 258-6867 **Email:** planning@thebluemountains.ca

How do I submit my comments?

Written Comments – You are encouraged to provide your comments or questions in writing using email or regular letter mail to the Town Clerk.

Written comments received by January 24, 2024 will be read by the Town Clerk at the Public Meeting and will be included in the record of the Public Meeting.

Comments can be faxed to 519-599-7723, or emailed townclerk@thebluemountains.ca.

Your written comments may be sent to the County: 595 9th Avenue East, Owen Sound, ON, N4K 3E3 **Fax:** (519) 376-7970

Email: planning@grey.ca

Any submitted comments become part of the public record, including names and addresses.

Verbal Comments – This Public Meeting is a hybrid meeting, allowing the public to attend the meeting in person or virtually. Those that wish to make verbal comments virtually are required to pre-register with the Town Clerk, no later than five business days in advance of the Public Meeting, by 12 noon January 26, 2024.

Anyone wishing to provide their verbal comments in person at the Public Meeting, can attend the Town Hall, Council Chamber. Those providing their comments in person, are required to follow the Public Health Guidelines of the Town, as recommended by the Grey Bruce Health Unit.

Contact the Town Clerk to pre-register or submit comments to townclerk@thebluemountains.ca or by calling the Town at 519-599-3131 extension 232 or Fax: (519) 599-7723

Comments by mail: Town Clerk, Town Hall, 32 Mill St. Box 310, Thornbury ON, N0H 2P0

What happens at the Public Meeting?

The Public Meeting is your chance to hear more about the proposal and make your views about it known. You may also speak at the meeting or submit written comments. Information from the public will help Council in their decision-making process, so make sure to have your say!

Any person or agency may attend the Public Meeting and/or make verbal or written comments either in support or in opposition to the proposed amendment.

Where do I find more information?

Our website contains background studies, reports, plans and drawings. They are available for viewing or download at www.thebluemountains.ca or www.grey.ca

Or come visit us in Planning Services, Town Hall during regular office hours Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or contact the planner for this file.

When will a decision be made?

A decision on this proposal has NOT been made at this point and will NOT be made at the Public Meeting. After reviewing the application and any comments received, Town staff will bring a recommendation on this project to a future Council meeting.

Volunteer Fair and Recognition Program

National Volunteer Week is celebrated annually during the third week of April and this year it will be observed from April 14 to April 20. This week-long celebration is about placing a spotlight on inspiring figures whose invaluable seeds of kindness through volunteering are bettering the community and our world in general.

This significant celebration which was established in 1974 provides the perfect opportunity to say thank you. It also challenges us to do better and look for ways to be active participants, joining hands to impact our local communities and calling for more support.

In 2023, the Town partnered with the Seniors Network Blue Mountains to host a volunteer recognition event, immediately followed by a volunteer fair at the Beaver Valley Community Centre.

In 2024 the Town will be partnering again with the Seniors Network Blue Mountains, on **Wednesday, April 17th.**

After feedback and looking at opportunities from the 2023 event, it was proposed in the debrief that during the week might be a better fit for the fair and following with the awards in the evening might result in higher attendance than on the weekend.

The volunteer recognition program recognizes individual volunteers and community groups in a specific category for their contributions to the community. One individual award and one group award is available per category unless otherwise stated.

Award Categories

1. Arts & Culture Award
2. Sustainability Award
3. Heritage Award
4. Sports and Recreation Award
5. Good Neighbour Awards
6. Blue Mountains Community Builder Awards (adult 26 and over, youth 25 and younger):
7. Outstanding Community Group Award



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DRAW: FEB. 10, 2024 - 7 PM
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**1st Prize A - Two Tickets for Toronto Maple Leafs
Feb. 13th, 2024 GOLD SEATS!!**
Two Gold seat tickets for the Toronto Maple Leafs vs. St. Louis Blues on
Tuesday February 13th, 2024 at Scotiabank Arena, Toronto.
Section 112 row 12 seats #6 and #7. Min. face value of \$300



**1st Prize B - Two Tickets for Toronto Maple Leafs
Feb. 13th, 2024 GOLD SEATS!!**
Two Gold seat tickets for the Toronto Maple Leafs vs. St. Louis Blues on
Tuesday February 13th, 2024 at Scotiabank Arena, Toronto.
Section 112 row 12 seats #8 and #9. Min. face value of \$300



**2nd Prize - 65" Samsung Smart TV - Retail for
\$799 CDN**
This TV uses Crystal Processor 4K system to deliver the sharpest 4K
Ultra HD picture, with MR120 motion enhancement for blur-free
details. Connect to voice assistant to enable easy access to your
favourite content.



**3rd Prize - \$500 gift certificate for Leons
plus Tempur-Pedic Pillow valued at \$189**
A \$500 gift certificate at Leon's furniture store in Owen Sound,
Collingwood or Orillia and a Tempura-Pedic Pillow included

To purchase tickets
www.eventsfor.life
Lottery Licence # 861722



3 tips for protecting yourself against phishing scams

1. Look closely at the sender's email address and any web addresses in the email for deviations from the official name of the business or sender.
2. Use two-factor authentication for your accounts and change your email password (and any other related passwords) if it's caught in a data leak.
3. If a message claims a business is urgently trying to reach you, you can call or reach out to the business by looking up their contact information online.

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Emergency First Aid Training (EFAT) as a Red Cross training partner, has provided first aid training to individuals, businesses and fire departments throughout the area. EFAT knows that emergencies can happen at any time, and they are proud to teach the lifesaving skills necessary to respond quickly and with confidence.

Mike Molloy 519-477-5392 mmolloy@ctdfibre.ca



Melody Fox
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Fee for Service offering Primary Care Services and Dermatology Services which include full skin survey, cryotherapy and skin biopsies.



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*Sales Representatives

2023 Tax Season Is Here!

Its the time of the year when we need to get compliant with tax laws. Its important to start collating information, documents and other tax information required for filing the statutory returns for this tax year.

We have put together for you, a checklist of all tax information you may need to get ready for the preparation of your tax return.

General Items

- 2022 notice of assessment
- T4 (employment); T4A (commissions and self-employed); T4E (employment insurance)
- T4 OAS (old age security)
- T4A (pension income); T4A(P) (Canada Pension Income)
- T5 (investment income); T3 (income from trusts & mutual funds)
- T5007 (workers' compensation and social assistance payments)
- T5013 (partnership income); T5018 Contract Payments
- T4RSP/T4RIF (retirement savings plan income)
- RRSP contribution slips
- Medical receipts – pharmacy summary
- Charitable donations
- T2202(A) (tuition fees/education amount– self and dependents)
- Interest paid on student loan(s)
- Professional & Union dues
- Monthly details of foreign investment and real estate holdings, - including those in Canadian Investment accounts and related income
- Paid interest on Investment Loans
- Child and Spousal support income/payments – supporting documentation
- Separation agreement (if it is the first year)
- Child care expenses
- Property taxes/rent paid and to whom they were paid
- Details of stock transactions T5008 (shares sold and cost of those shares)
- Mutual Fund annual statements, showing transactions during the year and tax summary information
- Details of any cottage or investment property sales
- Attendant care expenses
- Sports Activities – Arts Activities Credits
- Transit passes
- Healthy Homes Renovation expenses
- Dependents (Names, Dates of Birth, SIN)

Rental Property

- Address and number of units
- Mortgage interest
- Repairs and maintenance
- Insurance
- Other rental expenses
- Rent collected per unit
- Property taxes paid
- Utilities
- Advertising
- Moving expenses

Movers Bill

- Truck rental
- Temporary Accommodations, Storage
- Meals
- Cost of selling old home
- Cost of buying new home
- Expense reimbursement from employer

Commission, Employment & Travel

- Signed form TL2 (transportation employee meal allowance)
- Signed form T2200 from employer (*declaration of conditions of employment*)
- Summary of auto operating costs (or receipts)- *Fuel, Repairs, Insurance Lease/Buy Info, Expense Reimbursements from Employer, Mileage Summary*
- Advertising and promotion
- Cellular Telephone
- Hotels and Travel Costs
- Other expenses relating to earning this income
- Summary of Home Expenses including *Insurance, Taxes, Repairs, Utilities, Mortgage Interest*

US Citizen

A reminder that US Citizens must tax file returns regardless of residency.

Snow Birds

You need to track all your days present in the US during the year so we may determine your US Filing requirements.

Business and Farm Income

For details of what documents you should get ready, please contact Client Services, JSC Global Accounting Services 437-925-8344.

Do you need help with submitting your tax return for 2023?

We would be glad to be of service.

Call us today at: 437-925-8344

or

Book a 45-Minute FREE Consultation

info@jscglobalone.com

www.jscglobalaccountingservices.com



NEXT CLOTHING DROP OFF

EFL IS ACCEPTING
DONATIONS FOR THEIR
NEW AND GENTLY
USED DESIGNER
WOMEN'S CLOTHING
SALE HAPPENING ON
MAY 11, 2024
AT THE BVCC

WHEN?
SATURDAY
JANUARY 27TH
10AM - 12PM

WHERE?
BLUE MOUNTAIN
STORAGE UNIT H5
369 CLARK ST
CLARKSBURG, ON

LOOK FOR THE EFL FLAGS AND VOLUNTEERS BEHIND
THE LARGE BLUE BUILDING

WHAT TO BRING?
SPORTSWEAR
SEASONAL CLOTHING
FORMAL WEAR
SHOES/BOOTS
PURSES
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Open Houses Scheduled for Natural Asset Inventory and Natural Heritage Study Projects

The Town of The Blue Mountains would like to advise that two Open Houses have been scheduled to receive public input for the Natural Asset Inventory and Natural Heritage Study projects.

The natural environment is closely tied to the identity of the Town. As such, the Town is taking action to identify, protect, and manage its natural environment to ensure the services and functions it provides remain healthy and sustainable long-term.

The Town and the project consulting team will seek public input through two open houses. Registration is required.

Open House #1 - Natural Environment Data & Preliminary Directions

January 25, 2024, 5-7pm | Town Hall & Virtual via Microsoft Teams
This session will illustrate the natural environment data being used and discuss preliminary directions, approaches and next steps.

Open House #2 - Draft Outcomes & Recommendations

April 11, 2024, 5-7pm | Town Hall & Virtual via Microsoft Teams
This session will present and seek feedback on draft project outcomes. Results of the natural asset inventory and draft targets, criteria and recommendations for natural heritage management will be presented.

For more information, please contact: The Blue Mountains Planning & Development Services Department
(519) 599-3131 ext. 263

Get tech help on Wired Wednesdays

At 1pm every Wednesday, Ashley posts an instructional video to YouTube and Facebook. Here are the topics for January:

January 17: Android app updates and installation

January 24: Apple app updates and installation

January 31: Phone contacts: adding, editing

From 2-4pm on Wednesdays, drop-in tech help is available at L.E. Shore Library. There will be no tech help drop-in on Jan. 24.

ACC Presents: Scottish Sojourn with Ken Haigh Tuesday, January 23, 7-8pm, L. E. Shore Library

Join Ken for a Scottish adventure on the island of Iona! Ken volunteered for three months at the restored medieval abbey on Iona, which is now an ecumenical Christian retreat centre. The Iona Community hosts visitors from around the world who wish to experience life in community and to work together for social and environmental justice and world peace. This is a free event, but registration is required.

519-599-3681






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Owen Sound

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Saturday, January 27th
9am-12pm

Bring broken items for free repair and enjoy a snack.

Go **Green** for a better **Blue!**
www.repaircafethebluemountains.ca

Saturday, January 27, 2024
11am-2pm

Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre
Owen Sound, Ontario

Admission: By Donation
Soup Tasting Tickets
\$20 for 6 samples
(Cash or Credit Card Only)



Pottery tasting bowls made by local potters will be available for \$20. (limited quantity available)

This event will focus on bringing the community together and showcasing local eateries under one roof.

For more information contact:
alzheimer.ca/greybruce/en
or 519-376-7230

A soup competition featuring local eateries, silent auction, entertainment and children's area in support of:



BEAVER VALLEY PIPES & DRUMS
FUNDRAISING CONCERT

CELEBRATE THE MUSIC & POETRY OF ROBBIE BURNS

SATURDAY JAN 27 2024, 2:00 PM

HIGHLAND DANCERS | CELTIC MUSICIANS
& BEAVER VALLEY PIPES & DRUMS

ADULTS \$32
CHILDREN (12 & UNDER) \$25
CASH OR E-TRANSFER

ADDRESS TO THE HAGGIS
A SAMPLING OF SCOTTISH FARE
50/50 DRAW, SILENT AUCTION & BAR

THE MARSH STREET CENTRE
187 MARSH ST, CLARKSBURG
Doors open at 1:30
Entertainment 2:00 TO 4:30

EMAIL
beavervalleypipeband@gmail.com
PHONE
705-606-1493



Owen Sound Memoir Series

Blue Mountains Library is now a partner of the Owen Sound Memoir Series, a new initiative that will bring nationally recognized Canadian memoir authors to Owen Sound. If you enjoy hearing Canadian stories, want to participate in conversations with Canadian writers, or are interested in writing your own memoir, visit owensoundmemoirseries.com for more information. You can also follow the Memoir Series on Facebook and Instagram.

The Owen Sound Memoir Series is thrilled to announce its first monthly event weekend at the Owen Sound public library featuring Ali Hassan, the multi-talented stand-up comic, actor, CBC Radio & Television host, and memoir author.

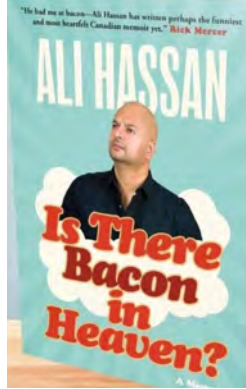
On **Friday, February 2, at 7:00 p.m.** Mr. Hassan will read from his memoir *Is There Bacon in Heaven?* and discuss how he wrote his hilarious and poignant book. Attendees can look forward to an evening filled with humour, insight, and personal anecdotes. At the end of the evening, Mr. Hassan will participate in a Q&A with the audience.

On **Saturday, February 3, at 1:00 p.m.** Mr. Hassan will lead a memoir-writing workshop for local writers who are working on their own memoirs and anyone who is interested in the memoir-writing process.

Ali Hassan is a familiar voice on CBC Radio as the host of "Laugh Out Loud" and "Canada Reads." As a seasoned comedian, Hassan's work reflects a keen understanding of the human experience, delivered with his signature wit and charm.

Tickets are on sale at www.owensoundmemoirseries.com.

Both events will be held at the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library, 824 1st Ave W., Owen Sound.



GO GREEN for a BETTER BLUE



!! RECRUITING TBM PARENTS !!

COME and JOIN US for a **CLIMATE ACTION** FOCUS GROUP

Provide your **ADVICE** and **THOUGHTS** in a 2-hour focus group
February 6, 2024 – THORNBURY (6:30-8:30PM)
or February 28, 2024 – RAVENNA (6:30-8:30PM)

CLIMATE ACTION NOW NETWORK (CANN)

is developing a

FAMILIES FOR CLIMATE ACTION

program to enable TBM families to increase their climate action and reduce their carbon footprint. We would appreciate your input to build the program.

10 people maximum, limited to 1 parent per household

Note that these are focus groups. The full program for up to 40 TBM families is expected to be rolled out in the coming months.

E-MAIL US AT CANNTBM@GMAIL.COM FOR DETAILS

CANN! We are a volunteer group in Town of the Blue Mountains. Our goal is to reduce the carbon footprint of the area and work together towards a more sustainable community.



FRIDAY NIGHT

PUB NIGHTS

ARE BACK!  Snacks   

Friday February 2nd
6 to 9pm

JH JENNY HOWES DUO

Husband and wife acoustic duo. Having fun, playing your favourite songs acoustically!



Live Music - \$10 cover donation at the door

Thornbury Sparks, Embers, Guides & Pathfinders



Thinking Day Bake Sale & Tea

68th Anniversary

Saturday, February 24, 2024 • 2 to 4 pm

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
165 Russell St E, Thornbury



TICKETS: \$4.00

Bring your own reusable bag

THORNBURY JAZZWORKS

PRESENTS THE RETURN OF

THE GEORGIAN SOUND BIG BAND



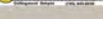
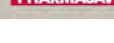
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2:00 PM
Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg

ADMISSION \$30

PROCEEDS SUPPORT STUDENT MUSIC EDUCATION
www.thornburyjazz.com

Purchase tickets by email - thornburyjazz@gmail.com
or at these locations

Thornbury Pharmasave, 45 Arthur Street W., Thornbury
Gabriele Photography, 133 Hurontario St, Collingwood





DISTRICT 'E'

INVITES YOU TO ENTER THE 6th ANNUAL

SENIORS 55+ LITERARY COMPETITION – OPENING JANUARY 1, 2024

LIKE TO WRITE??? EXERCISE YOUR IMAGINATION !!!

WRITE A POEM, ESSAY, SHORT STORY, MEMOIR

PLUS NEW CATEGORY DESIGNATED 'VETERANS ONLY'

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS ONLY – NO HARD COPIES ACCEPTED

COMPETITION DEADLINE - SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024

1. Open to all Ontario resident seniors aged 55+
2. Must complete and attach official registration form
3. Must be original, written by the contestant and be unpublished
4. Must be submitted in English or French
5. Must not exceed the line or word limits specified
6. Must be ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION. Name on application/entry form and title page only
7. Contestants may submit only one entry in any / each category
8. Submission must include a cover page stating the title, author's name and entry line/word count
9. Biographies that are submitted must include written consent from the subject, if living.

Entry forms are available upon request at <DistrictEseniorsliterary@gmail.com>

Submissions must be received at DistrictEseniorsliterary@gmail.com

by **MARCH 17, 2024** and clearly marked SENIORS LITERARY COMPETITION

PRIZES TO BE AWARDED TO WINNERS IN EACH CATEGORY AT THE AWARDS LUNCHEON SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024

POETRY — maximum 32 lines

SHORT STORY - word count maximum 4,000

ESSAY — word count maximum 1,000

MEMOIR — includes biographies, autobiographies, and travel writing — word count max. 5000

ENTRANT - DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME ON YOUR ENTRY - USE THE APPLICATION TO IDENTIFY YOURSELF

Srs Lit Comp App Rules Etc 2024-Dec 1 2023



MAKEOVER 2024

Announcing: Marsh Street Centre's

Building Improvement Fund for necessary upgrades

Please donate today!

Donate at www.Canadahelps.org and search for **Marsh-Makeover**

Visit www.marshstreetcentre.com for details and how you can get involved, or Email: Makeover@marshstreetcentre.com for more information

Tax Receipts for donations



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www.torontoskiclub.on.ca
memberservices@torontoskiclub.on.ca

ROAD CONDITIONS

Grey County Road Conditions are now live on roads.grey.ca. Check out road conditions, and the interactive map to inform your drive before you head out.

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National Gross Sales

Royal LePage 2022
Top 1% National Gross Sales 2022
Top 10 National Individual

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THORN BURY MEAFORD COLLINGWOOD



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