



## Ontario Recruiting 25 Conservation Officers New Officers will Help Ensure Safe and Sustainable Use of Province's Natural Resources

The Ontario government is enhancing the protection of the province's precious natural resources and ensuring public safety by recruiting additional conservation officers.

"Ontario's natural resources are world class; to maintain that standard, we promised to hire more conservation officers to protect our natural resources," said Premier Doug Ford. "Today, we're making good on that commitment."

"We are incredibly fortunate to have a wealth of natural resources in Ontario. Our government is committed to ensuring that our children and grandchildren will see the benefits of these resources," said John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. "That's why I am delighted to announce that we are hiring more conservation officers."

Recruitment is now open for 25 additional officers across Ontario. These officers will help the ministry increase focus on its sustainable resource management and public safety goals, such as:

- promoting hunting safety
- preventing illegal hunting
- preventing illegal trade and commercialization of Ontario's animal and plant species
- preventing the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species.

"We're looking for 25 extraordinary individuals who are passionate about the outdoors to join the team," said Mike Harris, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. "Whether you're from a small town or a big city, a long line of conservation officers, or you're the first in your family to pursue this rewarding career, we encourage you to consider applying." Apply By: Monday, May 24, 2021 11:59 pm EDT <https://www.gojobs.gov.on.ca/>

## CoVid Shots - Robert Burcher

Shannon Fry, the pharmacist at Pharmasave prepares to jab Sheila Prentice at the clinic in the front of the store with the AstraZeneca vaccine. Over 640 people have received their shots in this location as of April 25th. Pharmacies and primary care settings can book appointments for AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines for eligible people ages 40 or older in 2021, however Pharmasave has quite a large number currently booked and are waiting for their next shipment. Those who are 55 years of age or older in 2021 may book through the provincial system and beginning May 6th will include those 50+



through the provincial system and beginning May 6th will include those 50+ <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine> or call 1-888-999-6488



Saturday April 24, 5pm - Following the rules in our little ghost town on a warm Saturday afternoon. The harbour is currently closed to traffic. *photos by Robert Burcher*



## Grey Bruce – Marinas and Boat Launches

During the current Shutdown, marinas are addressed by Ontario Reg. Schedule 2. Marinas are permitted to repair or service watercraft, place boats or watercraft in the water to be secured to a dock and carry out other services to support commercial and government operations or services and enable individuals to access their place of residence or other property. A marina may not be used for recreational boating purposes except those mentioned above.

Boat launches are not specifically required to be closed by the regulation and are therefore open to a different interpretation than marinas. Municipal amenities such as boat launches are considered municipal infrastructure, similar to a park or playground. Boat launches are not closed, but anyone using them must abide by other shutdown restrictions currently in place, including the Stay-At-Home order. Launching a boat would only be permitted for purposes allowed under the order.



## Election Voting Public Survey

The next Municipal & School Board Election is October 24, 2022.

A public survey has been launched to gain feedback regarding the preferred method(s) of voting for the 2022 Municipal and School Board Election. The Town is considering a hybrid method that could include more than one method of voting.

- Online • Mail • Telephone • In Person

Survey Closes May 31, 2021  
[www.thebluemountains.ca/survey](http://www.thebluemountains.ca/survey)

Paper Copies Available: 519-599-3131 ext. 282



## Swan Song/ Not! by Robert Burcher

It has been interesting to see stories of wild life coming back into urban areas as we evacuate them due to Covid restrictions. Well right here in "River City" we have a lovely little case of nature returning. I was told by a local fisherman of a Mute Swan that has taken up residence on the little island in the Beaver River where the footbridge crosses at the harbour. A local person had provided a bale of hay for the nest so Mrs. Swan was quite content.

There was a worry that fishermen would scare the bird off her nest. In fact, on the first day of fishing season I checked and sure enough there was some respectable sharing of the space between Mrs. Swan and fishermen.

By the way the phrase Swan Song comes from the fact that Mute Swans were supposed to sing beautifully just before they died. Apparently that is not true. So, don't hang around waiting for the curtain call, but do watch for the cygnets when they emerge.

Then, here is the best news of all. They love to devour the invasive plant called Phragmites Australis, eating up to eight pounds a day. New hope for our shorelines!

# THE BLUE MOUNTAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY MAY PROGRAMS & EVENTS



## Sideroad 7B: Exhibit Launch

May 4 - July 2

The Gallery at L.E. Shore

Sideroad 7B features large and small paintings interpreting the landscapes of Thornbury and the surrounding area. Brought to you by artists Joel Loblaw, Tanya Zaryski and Marq Quarrie.

## 360 Video Master Class

May 4, 11, 18, 25 | 1:00pm

Creator Space | Registration

Join cinematographer Tom Strnad on this multi-session workshop that will explore the entire 360 video production & post-production process. More courses available on our Event Calendar.



## Author Talk with Sheila Balls

May 18 | 7:00pm

BMPL Zoom | Registration

Local author, Sheila Balls, shares inspiration and insights from her most recent novel. All Right So Far is the true story of an ordinary couple, at a not so ordinary time in the life.



## Nutrition & Lifestyle Strategies for Burnout

May 25 | 7:00pm

BMPL Zoom | Registration

Learn easy nutrition and lifestyle strategies to keep stress down, prevent and recover from feelings of burnout with Registered Dietitian and Nutrition Health Coach, Alexa Jackson.

## Need Help Booking a Vaccine Appointment?

Give us a call at 519-599-3681

Don't have a computer? Need help booking a vaccine appointment? If you are having difficulties calling into the registration portal, and do not have access to internet, then give us a call and we can assist you with this process.



# Blue Mountain Legacy Fund

Helping The Community

FOR INFORMATION VISIT  
[www.bluemountainlegacyfund.ca](http://www.bluemountainlegacyfund.ca)

Sign up for the  
Weekly E-Newsletter  
of The Review at  
[www.visitblue.ca](http://www.visitblue.ca)  
or receive 25 issues  
by Canada Post - \$50  
[info@visitblue.ca](mailto:info@visitblue.ca) or  
call 519-599-3345

# The REVIEW

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

Publisher Linda Wykes, printed by Riverside Press, 22 Louisa St. E., Thornbury. Your events, stories and photos of interest to our community can be emailed to [info@visitblue.ca](mailto:info@visitblue.ca) for inclusion in the newsletter by each Friday. Advertising rates are available by calling 519-599-3345 or [www.visitblue.ca](http://www.visitblue.ca)

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

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

## REGULAR PROGRAMS

### Seniors Exercise

Mondays | 10:00am  
BMPL Facebook & YouTube



### Bedtime Story Time

Wednesdays | 7:00pm  
BMPL Facebook & YouTube



### Virtual Story Time

Fridays | 11:00am  
BMPL Facebook



### Museum From Home

Mondays | 12:30pm  
CHD Facebook & Twitter

### Local Fact or Fiction

Thursdays | 12:00pm  
CHD Facebook & BMPL Insta

### Favourite Fossils

Fridays | 5:00pm  
CHD Facebook & Twitter

### Cluesday Tuesday

Tuesdays | 12:30pm  
CHD Facebook & Twitter

### Digital Book Club

Thursdays | 1:00pm  
BMPL Facebook

### Trivia Game Night

Fridays | 7:00pm  
BMPL Facebook

### Kids Clubhouse

Tuesdays | 4:30pm  
BMPL YouTube



### Teen Group

2nd Thursday | 5:00pm  
BMPL Zoom | Registration



### Photo Feature

Saturdays | 11:30am  
BMPL Instagram



### Wired Wednesday

Wednesdays | 1:00pm  
BMPL Facebook & YouTube

### Tween Advisory Group

4th Thursday | 7:00pm  
BMPL Zoom | Registration

### Monthly Scavenger Hunt

L.E. Shore Library & Craileith Heritage Depot

For more information, visit the **Event Calendar** on our website



# In Appreciation

## A racing car driver here in Thornbury?

No, but sharing such a once famous name has been an amusing way for our **JACKIE STEWART** to make a memorable first impression on everyone she meets. Whether engaging clients as VP Marketing for AMJ Campbell Van Lines or soliciting volunteers to a myriad of projects to benefit our community, all will agree it has been a memorable encounter.



After years of world travel and more than two decades skiing and socializing on the shores of Georgian Bay, Jackie and Craig acknowledged their love for the area, and chose to make Thornbury their permanent home, throwing themselves in to "all things community".

An early interest was Jazzmania, a natural fit given their love of Jazz and music in general, and their frequent patronage of the local restaurant scene. Volunteering and giving back to the community she loves, is very much a part of Jackie's DNA. Whether in a leadership role or part of a team, she is always up to her elbows in every venture; her name is synonymous with getting things done (and having fun while doing so)! Here's a glimpse of the many organizations and initiatives that have benefitted from Jackie's generous giving of ideas, time and energy:

- The Blue Mountains Community Health Centre – Jackie worked tirelessly to fundraise for the clinic's construction, and to attract desperately needed physicians to our community;
- Communities in Bloom and CAUSE – both programs focused on Beautification of the town, with Jackie involved in all aspects, including fundraising, and spring plantings which have continued to this day!
- Beaver Valley Outreach – part of so many programs: eg. packing Christmas Hampers, sorting donations, bottle drives, serving kids breakfasts, and more;
- Pancake Chef - For years she could be found flipping pancakes at annual breakfast fundraisers;
- St George's Anglican Church – Prepping and serving lunches and pandemic dinners, to name a few;
- Cancer Research Funding - all forms of local fundraising, including annual Daffodil Days, door-to-door campaigning, etc;
- Blue Mountains Animal Shelter, and recently fundraising events and sales volunteer for Grey Bruce Animal Shelter/Cat's Meow
- Blue Mountains Grants and Donations Committee

Co-founder of the newly formed Blue Mountain Legacy Fund, because in her words, *"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate action of it's members. Since my husbands passing several years ago, I have been investigating the best vehicle to set-up a Trust in our names that would support our community. I was looking for something to simplify and streamline the process. The Community Foundation Grey Bruce with the Endowed Fund program was the answer. The Blue Mountain Legacy Fund will give our residents an opportunity to support the Blue Mountains charitable causes in perpetuity."* [www.bluemountainlegacyfund.ca](http://www.bluemountainlegacyfund.ca)

## Best Wishes, Bev by Robert Burcher

Bev Byrne is now retired. After 30 years of dedicated work in the Thornbury Post Office and leaving at the top of her game as Post Mistress, Bev has punched out.

Now with her retirement, she will be able to dedicate herself to being a full-time actress. Many of us will know she was a key participant in the Thornbury Community Theatre, now on hiatus because of COVID-19.



Take Care and Stay Safe, Bev.

**Barb Blaser**  
Broker





**Janet Nielsen**  
Sales Representative



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## Virtual concert, adventure series to help raise the roof

Meaford United Church has teamed up with classically trained fusion electric violinist Victoria Yeh in a fundraiser that is both a unique experience and a bright note during these long days of isolation. Yeh has created a six-part Travel by Sound Virtual Concert & Adventure Series, six virtual concerts that she describes as a “ground breaking musical adventure.” Travel by Sound features six different bands and more than 20 world-renowned artists. Yeh invites her viewers to join her on bold adventures to explore the hidden gems of the Bruce, Grey, and Simcoe Counties while she learns to fly fish on the Rocky Saugeen, snowshoes on the Bayview Escarpment, kayaks the Beaver River, flies over Lake Couchiching and Lake Simcoe in a float plane, and performs in the Orillia Opera House, Collingwood’s Simcoe Street Theatre, Southampton Town Hall, Meaford Hall and the Heartwood Hall in Owen Sound.

Yeh is offering six virtual concerts and adventures for \$60 to view at home on demand with unlimited replays until the end of 2021, with 92 per cent of the sales to go to the Meaford United Church’s Raise the Roof Campaign.

The iconic church is 112 years old and its roof trusses need to be replaced, according to the campaign committee chair Ross Kentner. “The Raise the Roof Campaign was launched in 2018 with a goal of 250-thousand dollars to replace the roof trusses, to fit the church for its next 100 years,” he says. “We’re on the home stretch and expecting the work to be done later this year.

To purchase passes to the Travel by Sound Virtual Concert & Adventure Series, contact the Meaford United Church at 519-538-3416 or email muc@bmts.com.



## Situation Report #411 COVID-19 - May 2nd

Grey Bruce is part of the province-wide emergency shutdown effective Saturday April 3, and enhanced measures on April 17th. The government intends to keep this shutdown in place until May 19, 2021.

### Testing and case counts reported as of 23:59 hrs, May 3, 2021

- 1 new cases reported in past 24 hours in Grey Bruce
- *“Thank you Grey Bruce communities; keep up the great work! The number of cases continues to decline. What is most reassuring is that about half of the new cases were previously identified as close contacts. As such, they have been in isolation during the past week prior to being identified as a positive case. Having already been in isolation means there will be no secondary transmission from these cases to others. Also, almost all the new cases have been very accommodating in providing complete and detailed information on where they have been and whom they contacted. That information further ensures our Case and Contact management team is better able to further minimize the risk of any additional transmission from these cases.”* Dr. Arra
- 1219 confirmed cases
  - Includes 290 cases of Variants of Concern (VOC), 36 active
  - 51 active cases
  - 184 active high-risk contacts
  - 1163 resolved cases
- 4 confirmed case(s) hospitalized in Grey Bruce due to COVID-19
  - +9 case(s) transferred from other Health Unit’s to local Intensive Care Units; all cases remain with the transferring Health Unit and are not reflected in local case counts
- 3 deaths in Grey Bruce
  - +1 death related to a Grey Bruce resident that acquired the infection and was treated outside of Grey Bruce
  - +1 death related to a Grey Bruce resident that acquired the infection in Grey Bruce however passed away outside of Grey Bruce
- 93 cases reported in health care workers living in Grey Bruce and working both in and outside Grey Bruce
- Vaccine shipment week of May 3, 2021, 4680 doses received
  - 6546 COVID-19 vaccines given in the past 7 days
  - 61,343 total doses of COVID-19 vaccine administered in Grey- Bruce

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## Grey Bruce – Local Vaccine Booking is First Dose Only

Provincial direction requires a four-month (16-week) interval between the first and second dose of COVID-19 vaccines. As such, the the Grey Bruce Health Unit local booking system for other eligible groups will allow for booking FIRST DOSE ONLY, at this time. Individuals who have already received a first dose will be flagged in the system and cancelled as well as turned away from the clinic. There is only one vaccine product on site for each first dose clinic.

The provincial online booking system will automatically book the second appointment when making the first appointment. The second appointment is booked at least 16-weeks after the first dose. This system only books both appointments and will not book single appointments.

There are very few exceptions to the 16-week second dose interval, based on specific health criteria. If you are eligible to receive your second dose at the 21 or 28-day interval, please book into the immunocompromised/pregnancy clinics. More of these appointments will be made available, as we go forward.

For information on Eligibility and Booking through the **Provincial system** and a detailed FAQ, and

For information on eligibility and booking through the **Grey Bruce Health Unit’s booking system** and a detailed FAQ please visit:

<https://www1.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca/COVID-19/Vaccines>

For More Information:

Dr. Ian Arra, MD MSc FRCPC ACPM ABPM

Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

To arrange to speak with Dr. Arra, please contact Drew Ferguson at:

519-376-9420 or 1-800-263-3456 ext. 1269 or

d.ferguson@publichealthgreybruce.on.ca



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photo courtesy of provenwinners

## BMRA Town Talks III: Planning for TBM's Future



The third of the BMRA's "Town Talks" virtual member forums was held on Tuesday, April 27. Following a theme of "Planning for TBM's Future", TBM Director of Planning Nathan Westendorp and Councillor Jim Uram joined us for a discussion of the key planning issues facing TBM. Some of the session highlights included:

**Control of Growth** – The pace of growth is probably the highest concern of TBM residents. TBM's rate of growth is largely driven by Provincial mandates. The Province dictates that Grey County must forecast how much growth will occur in the next 25 years. Grey then divides that growth across the various Municipalities. The BMRA is engaging with both County and TBM Planning Departments to better understand how that process works, and to what extent TBM can influence how that growth is to be accommodated. Effective growth planning needs to be informed by good data. The 2021 census will provide more guidance in this regard, but given the ongoing shift from part time to full time residents, additional information will be required to give us the full picture.

**Public Involvement in Town Planning** – Nathan and Jim both spoke to their receptiveness to well considered public input on development proposals. There is currently an insufficient level of understanding when and how the public should engage. They stated that written input on projects can be submitted until such time as the Council decision on approval is confirmed. Verbal comments can only be accepted at a formal public meeting, and social media comments are not recognized. Public input should be constructive, specific, and clearly explain on what basis objections are being made. Applications can be followed on the Town's Development Projects interactive website. In the future, residents will be able to sign up for updates on applications of interest to them.

**Sustainability of our Community** – Sustainability was discussed as being related to a multitude of factors. Collingwood's moratorium on new development approvals due to water supply capacity was raised. It highlights the need to build out our infrastructure to support future development, which given our growth will be a challenge. That is an issue that warrants further investigation with the Town. Nathan also spoke to the fact that sustainability includes the economic vitality of our Town, and that clear strategies regarding the Town's areas designated for employment are required. Encouraging economic diversity to supplement the recreation tourism segment is beneficial.

**Official Plan Review** – The five year review of the Official Plan is starting in 2021. The review will be looking at issues related to conformity with Provincial & County Plans, growth forecasts, density and design guidelines. This will be a critical opportunity for the public to weigh in on their vision for TBM's future. A staff report on the Review process is to be tabled at a May 4 Committee of the Whole meeting, accessible to the public.

A recording of the Town Talks session is posted at our website, [www.bmra.ca](http://www.bmra.ca). Stay tuned for details of upcoming Town Talks.  
Your BMRA

**Renew your membership or join at [www.bmra.ca/join-renew](http://www.bmra.ca/join-renew)**

## Responsible Pet Ownership



When it comes to caring for a pet, there is a lot to consider. Your veterinarian should always be your first point of contact when there's a concern regarding your pet, however, I am happy to share some general care tips on how to keep our pet happy and healthy!

### Microchipping

The purpose of a microchip is to identify a pet when a microchip scanner is passed over the pet. It's important that you keep your pet's microchip information updated so that you are easily reachable should your pet go missing.

### What to do if your pet goes missing

- Search your home and immediate surroundings or the area in which your pet went missing. Check under porches, decks, cars, in the garden, under trees, in the backyard, etc.
- Make a poster with a picture of your pet and your contact information and post it near the area in which your pet went missing and the areas in which you think your pet might visit.
- Contact all veterinarians in your community to report your lost pet.
- Post your pet's photo and your contact information to social media. There are many regional lost and found pages on Facebook.

### Keep unwanted pests and illnesses away

It's important to establish a relationship with a veterinarian as soon as you become a pet owner. They will provide you the best advice on how to keep your pets healthy and free from disease. Prevention is key!

### Don't forget about behaviour

Training your pet to correct unwanted behaviours is important. Not only will working with your pet help curb the behaviour in question, it also makes for a happier pet and happier owner. With time, appropriate resources and a whole lot of love, you can give your pet the very best life!

*Anna Schuett is the Communications & Marketing Coordinator at the Georgian Triangle Humane Society. (705) 445-5204*

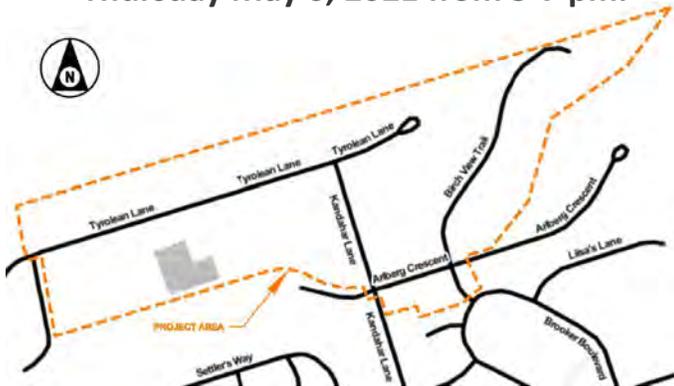




# NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE WATERMAIN REPLACEMENT AND SANITARY SERVICING IN TYROLEAN VILLAGE

Contract # 2020-60-P-OPS

Thursday May 6, 2021 from 5-7 pm.



## Project Overview

A large portion of the watermain in the area known as Tyrolean Village is at the end of its useful life and requires replacement. Furthermore, there are areas on Birch View Trail and Tyrolean Lane between Arlberg Crescent and Kandahar Lane that are currently not serviced by sanitary sewers. The proposed works will include the following:

- Replacement of approximately 1,000m of watermain on Tyrolean Lane, Kandahar Lane, Arlberg Cres. and Birch View Trail including water services to property line.
- Construction of 500m of new Sanitary Sewers on Tyrolean Lane from Arlberg Cres. to Kandahar Lane including sanitary service connections to property line.
- Construction of 450m of new low-pressure sanitary sewer forcemain on Birch View Trail from the end to the intersection with Arlberg Cres. including sanitary service connections to property line.
- Restoration of disturbed areas to match existing surfaces.

The watermain component of the project is financed through the capital budget. The sanitary sewer is a local improvement and will be paid by landowners with frontage on the new sanitary sewers if the project is deemed affordable under the requirements of the Affordability Policy for Water and Wastewater Service Extensions (POL.COR.17.02). The criteria for division and payment of these costs will be discussed in the Public Information Centre.

The Town intends to proceed with this construction project in the summer of 2022. For more information, please visit the Town's website at: <https://www.thebluemountains.ca/tyrolean-watermain-replacement-ww-servicing.cfm?is=27>

## VIRTUAL PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

A Virtual Public Open House is being held to gather input from stakeholders. All those interested in the project are invited to attend the Virtual Public Open House on **Thursday May 6, 2021 from 5-7 pm.** Contact [icpc@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:icpc@thebluemountains.ca) to register for a link to connect to this event.

If you are unable to attend or require further information, please contact, or provide comments to:

Jamie Witherspoon, P.Eng.  
Project Manager  
WT Infrastructure Solutions Inc  
Phone: 519-400-6701  
[Jamie.witherspoon@wtinfrastructure.ca](mailto:Jamie.witherspoon@wtinfrastructure.ca)

Kevin Verkindt, C.E.T.  
Senior Infrastructure  
Capital Project Coordinator  
Town of The Blue Mountains,  
Phone: 519-599-3131 ext. 304  
[icpc@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:icpc@thebluemountains.ca)

Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

## The Corporation of the Town of The Blue Mountains Notice of Public Meeting Proposed Telecommunication Tower

Property Location: 416359 10<sup>th</sup> Line, Clarksburg, ON  
(Town File P2983)

Public Meeting: **Monday May 17, 2021 at 5:00 pm**  
(Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams)

### What is being proposed?

**Xplornet Communications** has proposed a 45.0m tall lite duty steel lattice style communication tower and related radio equipment on private property at 416359 10th Line, Clarksburg. The proposed structure will enhance internet and data coverage and capacity for the areas between Heathcote and Victoria Corners.

The geographic coordinates for the proposed site are as follows: Latitude: 44.495048 & Longitude: -80.455338. The facility is proposed in a rural/agricultural area and will occupy a ground area of approximately 3m x 3m.

**THIS NOTICE** serves as an invitation to any interested members of the public to submit comments/ questions to the individuals listed below by **May 15, 2021**.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** the approval of this site and its design is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Government of Canada through Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED). For more information on the federal process pertaining to these installations please contact the local ISED office at: [ic.spectrumswodo-spectrebdsoo.ic@canada.ca](mailto:ic.spectrumswodo-spectrebdsoo.ic@canada.ca)  
OR Tel: 1-855-465-6307.

### FB Connect

Cyrus Ghassabeh  
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Oakville, ON L6J 2X6  
Phone: (905) 808-0073  
Email: [cghassabeh@forbesbrosLtd.ca](mailto:cghassabeh@forbesbrosLtd.ca)

### Town of The Blue Mountains

Travis Sandberg, Planner 1  
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Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0  
Phone: 519-599-3131 ext. 283  
Email: [tsandberg@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:tsandberg@thebluemountains.ca)

### Public Meeting Information

To help limit the spread of COVID-19, this Public Meeting will be held in a virtual (online) format. You are encouraged to provide your comments or questions in writing using email or regular letter mail to the Town Clerk in advance of the Public Meeting. Written comments will be circulated to Council. Comments received at least two (2) days in advance of the Public Meeting (by May 15, 2021 by 10am) will be read by the Town Clerk at the Public Meeting.

Anyone wishing to speak on this matter at the Virtual Public Meeting is encouraged to pre-register early, and no later than five (5) days in advance of the Meeting (by May 12, 2021, 10am). For those without a computer, a dial-in number is available. Contact the Town Clerk to pre-register at [townclerk@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:townclerk@thebluemountains.ca) or by calling the Town at 519-599-3131 extension 232.

### Where do I find more information?

For more information about this matter, please visit the Town's Development Project page on the Municipal website (<https://www.thebluemountains.ca/bell-mobility-telecommunications-tower.cfm?is=2>).

## President's Report

by Don DeGrandis

As spring is arriving and winter departs, we can all reflect on the great success that resulted from the Town of The Blue Mountains' decision last fall to spend the money to purchase equipment and provide staff to groom the Trail over the winter season. As a result, many more people enjoyed the Trail without the worry of navigating an uneven surface or deep snow. The Trail was fully groomed from Collingwood through The Blue Mountains. We hope that winter grooming will continue in the years to come and we will now focus our attention on encouraging Meaford's Council to follow suit and groom that section of the Trail as well.

We are also pleased to advise that two bicycle repair stations on the Meaford section are scheduled to be installed in early May. The station just west of Christie Beach has been sponsored in memory of Stan Feldman, who was an avid cyclist and Trail user. A plaque encourages users to "ride until you can't"...good advice for us all. The other station is to be located at the Trail's end, at the Meaford harbour, and is currently unsponsored.

I would also note that with the assistance of our Association, Meaford will be installing Trail etiquette signs in their segment. We will now have etiquette signs along the entire length of the Trail to remind users to be respectful of others. Also, following the retirement of two Directors, we will be planting two trees in recognition of their many years of volunteer service. You will be able to see them along the Trail in Meaford and Collingwood in the coming weeks.

Lastly, the Association has made a generous offer to fund Trail improvements in areas of concern, some of which were noted by respondents to our fall survey. In response, the municipalities have agreed to work together to make the best use of up to \$80,000 in Association funds. We are currently awaiting their proposal and will keep you posted on developments.

In closing I would advise that we are always looking for people to serve as a Director. If you are interested, please let us know by emailing us at [georgiantr.info@gmail.com](mailto:georgiantr.info@gmail.com). Have a great trail season and get out there!

## Georgian Trail Operations Report

This report is presented annually to each of the three participating partners - Municipality of Meaford, Town of the Blue Mountains and Town of Collingwood - to update them on the maintenance and operations of the Georgian Trail.

The Trail continues to see increased usage. Combined data from four counters installed last fall indicated that there was a total of more than 60,000 users in November and December. Year over year data is expected in future reports.

All three municipalities undertook monthly inspections, washout repairs, grass cutting and regular garbage collections.

*Georgian Trail costs were incurred as follows:*

Meaford - \$ 8,000 (14.9% of total)

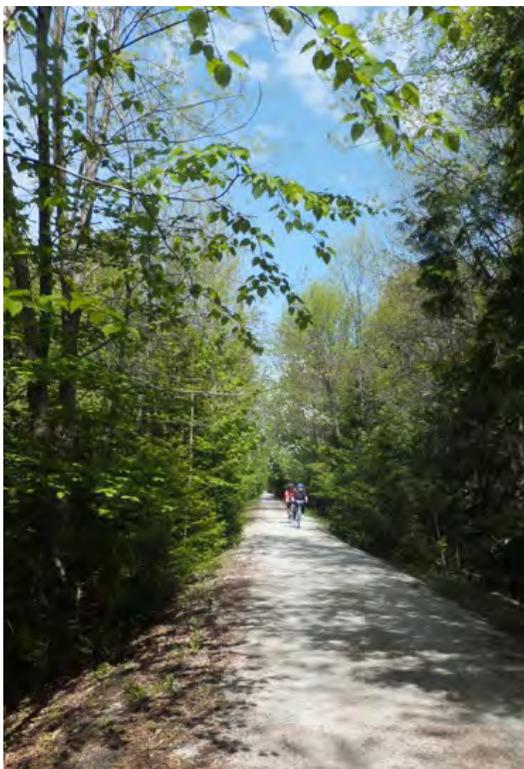
The Blue Mountains - \$42,982 (80.4% of total)

*Included in this was \$25,587 for the removal of ash trees.*

Collingwood - \$ 2,500 (4.7% of total)

Total cost \$53,482

The **Municipality of Meaford** (Kilometers 1 - 7.2 or 22% of the trail) lifted tree canopies twice between Swarthmore Drive and Christie Beach Road, refurbished stone paths around bridges, and contracted for 2 concrete pads for bicycle repair stations.



*Funding support will be provided by GC&STA this year to upgrade and widen trail surfaces*



*Winter grooming this year made it more usable for a wide range of winter activities.*

### The **Town of The Blue Mountains**

(Kilometers 7.2 - 27.7 or 62% of the Trail) removed dead trees and ash trees affected by the Emerald Ash Borer and implemented a noxious weeds program. Winter trails were groomed daily when there was adequate snow and privies were placed at three locations. Increased signage relating to safety was installed and sections of the Trail were top dressed.

The **Town of Collingwood** (Kilometers 27.7 - 33 or 16% of the Trail) carried out monthly grass cutting and trimming and contracted weed spraying. Fallen or hazardous trees along the Trail were removed. Winter grooming also took place when there was adequate snow.

The Georgian Cycle and Ski Trail Association has offered financial support to all three municipalities for enhancements to the Trail. Some of these enhancements will reflect responses received in our member survey. The GCTA supports the councils' objectives of the responsible use of resources, restoration of nature and the fostering of a quality lifestyle for residents and visitors of all ages.



## Board of Directors 2020-2021

Doug Brenner, Don DeGrandis, Janet Findlay, Steve Gorton, Murray Knowles

*Your comments and ideas are welcome!*

Please send them to: [georgiantr.info@gmail.com](mailto:georgiantr.info@gmail.com)

- Celebrate
- Contribute
- Enjoy

## Summary of Responses to Georgian Trail Survey

The Georgian Cycle & Ski Trail Association sent out a Mailchimp survey to subscribers on October 24, 2020, asking for feedback on the condition of the Trail. We received 82 responses from a total of 283 subscribers (a response rate of 29%). 78% indicated their satisfaction with the surfacing of the Trail.

Subscribers were asked what parts of the Trail would benefit from widening, and why? Most respondents indicated satisfaction with the width of the Trail. We received the following suggestions for widening, focussed on areas where there is the most traffic:

Thornbury West: 6 comments

Lora Bay: 2 comments

Thornbury East and Georgian

Peaks: 3 comments

Macdonald's Furniture to Harbour  
in Meaford: 1 comment

Respondents were asked if there were any other Trail improvements required. By far the most comments received (nine) suggested improved signage to remind cyclists to stop at intersections and slow down/share the trail with walkers.

A few additional comments referred to specific sections of the Trail needing better signage, such as the rerouted section in Meaford.

Three respondents mentioned problems with poop and scoop. One respondent said that the garbage problem has improved since the installation of trash cans (in the Blue Mountains) but more are needed.

There were three comments about the dangerous crossing at Highway 26.

Lighting was mentioned three times, with two people calling for lighted sections of the Trail and one concerned about light pollution.

One person suggested more benches and another mentioned replacing the older benches.

A final question asked if there were any suggestions for improvement to the newsletter, trail map or website. We received many positive comments and a few suggestions, such as phone app, a printed newsletter, and donation boxes.

GC&STA will be acting on the results of the survey. Thank you to all respondents for this valued input!

## Winter Trail Grooming

This year, as part of a plan to increase outdoor recreational activities in these pandemic times, the Town of The Blue Mountains decided to groom the snow on the Georgian Trail. The concept was not new, as winter grooming has been proposed in the past but the necessary funding was not allocated to it. Equipment, in the form of a tracked tractor unit, was already available. However the grooming rig, to be towed behind, had to be procured at a cost of approximately \$4000.

Grooming the snow into a flat, packed surface makes the trail more easily usable for walking while also providing a suitable surface for snowshoes, x-country skis and fat-tired bikes.

The Town's goal was to groom the full length, within the boundaries of The Blue Mountains, as often as daily if snow conditions permitted.

On a typical day, the groomer left the Rec facility (at Tomahawk) on the 10th line about 6.30am, proceeding west along the trail as far as Christie Beach Road. It then turned about and groomed beyond Grey Road 21, before returning back along the trail to the 10th line. The full circuit took approximately 6.5 hours depending on conditions. Beyond this point, the trail was groomed by Collingwood to a similar standard, as were many of the Collingwood trails.



*The grooming has been universally well-received by trail users of all kinds and has resulted in a safer surface and markedly more winter use.*

## The GCSTA Provides Trail Upgrade Funding

The Georgian Cycle & Ski Trail Association (GCSTA) has been an active partner in the maintenance and enhancement of the Georgian Trail since the trail's inception in 1989. Over the years, the GCSTA and our many donors have helped to fund numerous enhancements to the trail such as bicycle repair stations, bench additions, interpretive signage, large map boards, and other wayfinding signage. These projects were all done with the goal of improving the trail's attractiveness and safety.

In recent years we have noticed that the width of the trail has narrowed as nature has encroached. The trail, originally designed to be roughly 12 feet wide, now has numerous locations where this width has shrunk considerably – in some cases to only 5 feet. In addition, there are sections of the trail that require resurfacing. We feel that it is essential that the Georgian Trail surface be widened to its original design standard and appropriately maintained so all users - whether they be cyclists, pedestrians, skiers, runners, or dog walkers – can safely co-exist on this world class multi-use trail as trail usage continues to increase.

In order to help with this vital work, the GCSTA has agreed to contribute \$2500 per kilometre to each municipality for the length of trail within its jurisdiction to assist with the upgrading and widening of the trail surface in 2021. This funding amounts to \$84,000 - \$18,000 for Meaford, \$51,000 for The Blue Mountains, and \$15,000 for Collingwood.

At the time of printing, the three municipalities had agreed to work together to develop a common approach to complete this work, and the GCSTA will work with all municipalities to identify and finalize the trail sections that would benefit most from this funding. Many thanks to our loyal donors who have provided us with the financial resources to make this contribution.

## Please Donate to the Georgian Cycle and Ski Trail Association

Donations are welcomed and needed to:

- Help with the cost of maintaining the Georgian Trail
- Enhancing the Trail experience for users
- Investing in trail surface improvements and drainage
- Keeping donors and the public informed and updated.

Income tax receipts are issued for donations of \$20 or more. (issued under the charitable organization registration #0813576-56) Our Trail Map is available at various locations around Town, however supporters now receive a digital copy of the newsletter by email.

Donate on-line at: [www.GeorgianTrail.ca](http://www.GeorgianTrail.ca)

# In Memoriam

## GRACE LAMBE

In her own home, and with her family by her side, Grace Lorraine Lambe (nee Almond) passed away peacefully on Monday, April 12, 2021 in her 93rd year.

She was pre-deceased by her parents Charles and Barbara Almond, husband and love of her life Gordon Lambe, her brother Maurice Almond (Ida), daughter Barbara Cann, and granddaughters Andrea Cann and Kristy Smith.

Grace was raised on the 4th line of St. Vincent Township and moved "below the hill" to the Lambe family farm where she and Gord raised their children and lived out their lives.

Grace was a kind soul, a well-loved pillar of the community, and friend to everyone she met. She will be a sorely missed Mom and Mother-in-law to Darlene and Garry Smith, David and Sue Lambe and Larry Cann; Grandma Grace to Natasha and Dean Smith, Marsha and Darryl Moland, Amy Cann and Murray Fife, Blake and Stephanie Lambe, and Cailey Lambe and Tom McDonald.

Her twelve Great-Grandchildren were blessed to have her and will carry forward happy memories of stories, hugs and treats: Heather, Reegan and Reid Smith; Tessa, Gwen and Ethan Lambe; Hunter McDonald; Emma, Julia and Grant Moland and Hartley and Indigo Fife. She will also be missed by dear friends including Jane, Charlie and Marjorie and many neighbours, nieces and nephews. Grace was the matriarch and "Grandma Lambe" of the family business. She combined her natural talents and resourcefulness with her ability to make every person around her feel special into a very successful business. Neighbours and friends, new and old, knew they could look forward to a smile, a visit and a heartfelt connection when they came into the store.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Hudson and Grace's caregivers Cathy, Diane, and Rhonda and to her nurses Carrie, Glenna and Wes, not only for the care they provided Grace, but the support they extended to the family during this difficult time.

A private memorial will be held for immediate family and a celebration of her outstanding life will be planned for a later date. Expressions of sympathy in Grace's memory may be made to the Meaford Hospital Foundation or Care Partners (Cheques Only Please) through Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted. [www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca](http://www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca)



## MARGARET ALICE 'MARG' REID

Margaret Reid passed away peacefully at her home in the presence of her loving family on Saturday, April 24th, 2021 at the age of 73. Born on September 26th, 1947 in Collingwood, Ontario, Marg was a daughter of the late Ivan and Jean (nee Vickers) Brown and was the youngest sibling to Mary Keeling, Wanda Winters, and the late Fran Johnston.



She grew up in Thornbury, moved to Toronto for a few years to work, but moved back home to finish her education and marry the love of her life, Robert 'Bob' Reid and take up residence in the country. Marg is survived by her beloved husband and best friend, Bob Reid of Clarksburg. She will be remembered as a special mother and grandmother to her daughter Katherine Rowan of Oakville and her husband Patrick and their children Ethan, Dylan, and Julia; her daughter Gerri Reid of Cambridge and her husband Scott Barwell and their children Maddy and Nate; and her son Andy Reid of Clarksburg and his children Hailey and Connor.

Marg attended Teacher's College and began her career teaching at schools in Collingwood, Meaford, and Thornbury. She was a natural at teaching and an amazing educator who left an impression on countless students that passed through her many classrooms over the years. Marg retired from teaching in 2007. After her retirement from teaching, Marg kept herself busy working at Goldsmith's Fruit Market until Bob convinced her to run their own fruit market on the farm. Marg became an expert at all things "apple" and made the best cider in town along with her famous glorified sauce and delicious pickles. She also kept herself busy with her many craft projects. She learned how to spin wool and loved knitting sweaters, mitts, hats and socks. Making teddy bears out of old fur coats became a favourite past time and scrapbooking also filled her time, as she loved

to take pictures and savour the memories. Her final obsession was creating and sewing beautiful quilts. She spent countless hours designing and sewing quilts to sell, display and give to her grandchildren.

Marg was the life of the party. Over the years she loved going to hockey tournaments with the "Old Timers" and instead of cheering on Bob's team, she preferred spending time shopping, gambling and enjoying wine with the ladies. She also filled her time with various crafting retreats, from scrapbooking to quilting, and always had a funny story to tell upon her return.

Her favourite things were dinners out and a good party where she could catch up with friends, new and old, and potentially dance with Bob. Marg loved the hot weather and a good vacation to a tropical destination was at the top of her list. She travelled with friends and family to many destinations and always brought home a piece of the culture to remind her of her favourite places. She was the glue that held her family together and was an amazing friend to all that had the pleasure of getting to know her; Marg made sure that every birthday and holiday was celebrated to the max and made it special in her own way. From her extravagant Christmas celebrations right down to her famous Easter egg hunts that had her children and grandchildren searching for eggs all over the farm. If any of her family members needed her she was there at the drop of a hat no matter how far she had to drive to get there. Marg's enthusiasm and positivity was infectious and will last long beyond her years. A celebration of Marg's life will be held in "The Shed" at a later date when the health restrictions have lifted and it is safe for family and friends to gather. As an expression of your sympathy, donations to the Meaford Hospital Foundation or Care Partners (Cheques Only Please) would be appreciated in Marg's name and may be made through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted. [www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca](http://www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca)



Original framed painting by Heather Adams. 24 x 30. \$350.00. Proceeds to support the Blue Mountain Legacy Fund. To make an offer call The Review at 519-599-3345



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## MURIEL CATHERINE ESSERY

Having heard the Easter music of Faure's Requiem and Handel's Messiah a final time, Muriel Essery passed away on April 3, 2021 in Meaford, Ontario.

Muriel was born on September 9, 1925 in Meaford to Harold and Catherine Brown.

From an early age, her talent and passion for music were evident. She'll be remembered as an outstanding organist at Knox and Grace United churches, an alto singer in the G Clef Choir, a pianist performing Two Pianos Eight Hands concerts, an accompanist and a composer of anthems. Although capable in many other ways, music was her voice, her satisfaction and her gift to others. Muriel was a kind and gentle soul, strong-willed and constant, caring and compassionate, encouraging and supportive. Her quick wit and facility with language were hard to match. She was a rock and a soft place to fall. Her influence on the lives of her grandchildren cannot be overstated.

Muriel was predeceased by her parents, her husband Gordon Essery, her brothers Wilfred Brown (Nona) and Mac Brown (Ruth) and her infant sister Isabelle. She is survived by her daughter Susan Newton of Kenora, son Dan Essery (Karen) of Brighton, ON; her grandchildren Mike Newton (Teika) of Kenora, Jodi Essery (Attila Clemann) of Gatineau PQ, and Ben Essery (Corinne) of New Westminster, BC and great grandchildren Maya and Sam Newton, Leif and Dorian Clemann and Hazel Essery. She is survived as well by special cousin Grace Risk (Mervin), several nieces and nephews, including special niece Phyllis Fleming (Therese Samuel), her sister-in-law, Mae Essery, and her brother-in-law Ed Burchart.

Muriel's family is most grateful to Dr. Alexandra Collins and the entire staff of Meaford Long Term Care Centre for their exceptional care of Muriel during her final months.

Donations in Muriel's honour can be made to the Kenora District Festival of the Arts, the Meaford Culture Foundation; or to any animal rescue of your choice. (Cheques only please) through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, N4L 1B9.

## CLARA 'MURIEL' HEWGILL

Mon. April 13, 2020  
*Your life was a blessing, your memory a treasure. You are loved beyond words and missed beyond measure.*  
Islay, Brian, Donald and Joanne and family



## BIRTHE CHRISTENSEN

Birthe was born January 4, 1931 in Copenhagen, Denmark and died peacefully in Thornbury, ON on April 16, 2021 at the age of 90. Birthe came to Canada in 1957 with her husband Gunnar and her son William to start their life in Canada. She was the beloved wife of the late Gunnar Christensen and mother to William (Karen), Gunnar (Elaine), Thomas (Vanessa), and grandmother to Grace, Martin, Emily, Jack and Emma who were the pride and joy of her life. Later, with her partner Kaj Jensen, his daughter Liane and son Kris, she was a caring step grandmother to Braden, Simone and Griffin.

Birthe, who was better known as Mrs. C in the community, will be remembered as a loving and caring individual with deep kindness that was sometimes overlooked by her strong opinions and thoughts on life. The legacy of Birthe's spirit, zest for life and love of all things in the kitchen and in the garden will live on through them. Birthe was an amazing cook hosting many parties and Danish smorgasbords. She experienced great joy with her garden with its huge flowerbeds and all kinds of bushes and trees around the house.

She was a talented seamstress, crocheter and knitter and made many kinds of sweaters for family and friends. She loved doing needlepoint the most. Gunnar and Birthe started the Little Mermaid Health Club in Clarksburg in 1977. She ran this for about 10 years where adults were rejuvenated and many children learned how to swim. While she loved her home, she also travelled a number of times back to Denmark to visit relatives as well as numerous times to the Caribbean. She will truly be missed.

A celebration of Birthe's life will be held at a later date when it is safe for family and friends to gather. Expressions of sympathy may be forwarded to the family on the funeral home website below.

The family would like to express their immense gratitude to all employees at Errinrung Nursing Home who helped with Birthe's care. As your expression of sympathy, donations to the Alzheimer's Society would be appreciated and may be made through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted. [www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca](http://www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca)

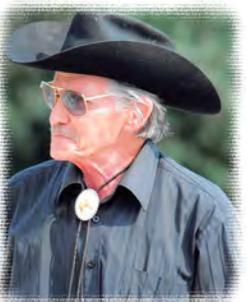


## LLOYD JAMES 'JIM' WHITE

Jim passed away peacefully on Monday March 29, 2021 after a courageous battle with ALS. His loving wife, Lisa White (nee Cann), was by his side caring for him every day until he found peace. Born on December 30, 1947 in Collingwood, ON, Jim was a son of the late Inez Plummer (nee James) and Lloyd White. He was predeceased by his younger sister Sally Riemersma. Jim was the proud Dad and Pops of April White (Roger), Amber Knott (Dennis), Tyler White (Jennifer), and Tim White (Jess). He was the proud Step-Dad of Nicole Long (Dave) and Sean Stokes (Linda). He will be forever in the hearts of his Grandchildren Aspen, Tyrese, Landon, Dawson, Parker, Caleb, Cody, Mackenzie, James & Olivia whom all lit up his world. His sense of humour will never be forgotten. His one-liners and quick wit had the people around him laughing every day. His crooked smile and mischievous look will be fondly remembered by his loved ones.

If you were lucky enough to know Jim, it was evident that family was everything to him. If you weren't family, he would treat you like you were. Many of his children's friends were welcomed with open arms into the family like they were his own and those bonds never ended. His role as father-in-law to his children's spouses and to his step-children made the family continue to grow with all the love he had to share. His love also overflowed to all of the animals that he came into contact with. They recognized his kindness and many animals found refuge, love and a happy home with Jim throughout his life. It was rare that he did not have an animal companion or two at any time throughout his life. His courage throughout life and even after the ALS diagnosis will never be forgotten by his loved ones. Jim lived life, not without struggle, but always with courage and kindness and most often a smile. He was a machinist of almost 50 years with various companies, including Teledyne, Petro-Canada and BTI, before his retirement. Jim was a farmer, volunteer firefighter and avid hunter in his younger years.

A special thanks to the wonderful caregivers who helped after his diagnosis - his family will be forever grateful for your kindness, your smiles and your desire to join in on our everyday laughter that got us through the hard times. Scott Clock, you will always be in our hearts for your special connection with Jim. He just couldn't wait for you to come to share the new joke or one-liner he had thought up for you for the day. You brought a little sunshine to a very difficult journey. A private family service will be conducted at Lakeview Cemetery in Meaford. In Jim's honour, expressions of sympathy can be made to Heidi's Horse and Hound Retirement by cheque or directly at [www.heidishorseandhoundretirement.com](http://www.heidishorseandhoundretirement.com) or the ALS Society of Canada through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted. [www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca](http://www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca)



## STAN COWAN

Stan died on Sunday, December 14, 2020, 88 years.

He loved and was loved by wife Alice, son Crispin and wife Nancy, and son James.

Stan believed in science and life-long learning. He was an ardent sailor and skier, who loved the land and the sea, and was instrumental in the passing of the law "what you carry into Algonquin park, you must carry out". He was an avid reader with an incredible memory, and a keen interest in weather and astronomy. He taught for 38 years at the Canadian Power and Sail Squadrons, a volunteer organization dedicated to safety on the water. Music and animals enriched his life. Stan lived most of his dreams; built a little ski cabin at Craighleith; member of Reef Boat Club; skied on far mountains and sailed on the ocean in waves as high as a house. James came home to ski with his father and work in this community. Crispin, from afar, and James here, helped take care of their father through six cruel years of dementia.

*Now finale to the shore,  
Now land and life finale and farewell,  
Often enough hast thou adventur'd o'er the seas,  
Cautiously cruising, studying the charts,  
Duly again to port and hawser's tie returning;  
But now obey thy cherish'd secret wish,  
Embrace thy friends, leave all in order,  
To port and hawser's tie no more returning,  
Depart upon thy endless cruise Old Sailor.*

Walt Whitman



## JAMES COWAN

James, cherished son of Stan and Alice Cowan, died unexpectedly and peacefully on holiday Mon., Feb 15, 2021.

He was a 313 A-Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Systems Mechanic at Clarksburg Contractors, where he valued his friendships with his fellow workers.

He was a city child but he found profound beauty in the countryside which he drove through between jobs. Often someone would answer his knock with, "you are Stan Cowan's son". James had a special gift of communication with animals and volunteered at the Georgian Triangle Humane Society for five years, where he contributed to the rehabilitation of troubled animals as he cleaned their rooms. He came here to care for us, and he made the six cruel years of his father's dementia easier. Stan enjoyed his cheery stories each evening. James and his father had deep love and friendship for each other and shared a passion for skiing.

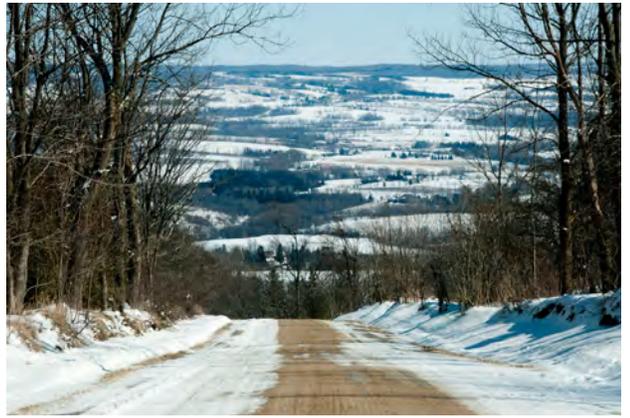
He is survived by his mother Alice, loved brother, Crispin Cowan and cherished sister-in-law, Nancy Cowan of Seattle.



## OLD MAIL ROAD

by Robert Burcher

I've always been intrigued by the existence of the original settler's road in our valley. This lifeline of the early 1800s was the route used to get mail from Barrie to Meaford and new settlers of the earliest days to arrive on. On the illustrated map of the Town of the Blue Mountains, you can see the wandering black line connecting the far east of our



area in Rob Roy going west to Ravenna, Heathcote and on to Griersville and Meaford.

It was in some form of existence by the 1840s and then mostly abandoned when the grid system of lines and concessions was finally functional by the 1860s.

During the first lockdown last year when the Bruce Trail was closed, I decided to hike the known part of the Old Mail Road from Heathcote to Griersville – yes, uphill! What a delight that was. I had forgotten the joy of walking on deserted gravel roads. With no traffic at all, I saw and heard and experienced what early settlers to our area would have. I found exciting junk piles hidden in little gullies that I would usually blast past in my car.

The best was finding a piece of antique farm equipment – a grain harvester dating to 1900. I would photograph the relics and then go on to the internet to see what it was that I had found.

Also, since we were all in fear of what the world was coming to, I would have people come out from their properties to talk to me. They were checking me out to see if I was a Covid refugee. It was a unique historical experience.

So, consider some gravel road hiking this spring. Try hiking from Griersville to Heathcote (that's the easy downhill way to go) and imagine a raucous backcountry tavern that existed at the corner of the 3rd line (former St. Vincent Township) and the Old Mail Road.

Watch for the slow unfolding of the views of the valley as you slowly saunter down the road into Heathcote. You will also come upon the Provincial Historical Plaque describing the road. At the bottom, when you reach Grey Rd. #13 you can reward yourself with a historic pioneer-style butter tart at the Blackbird Pie Company at its new location.



## Co-Vid Success Story

by Robert Burcher

Young enterprise with a social conscience! Taj Field of Clarksburg is getting through these strange Co-Vid times by having started a unique local business. He is making dog leashes from recycled climbing ropes!

An unbeatable combination, a super-strong rope that has been "retired" by climbers is being "upcycled" into lovely, soft and affordable leashes selling for \$20.00.

Then Taj takes a percentage of the profits and donates to the International Fund for Animal Welfare's Northern Dog Project. It is a win/win/win situation for all and an intense learning for an eleven-year-old on how to run a small business.



This all came about while Taj is being homeschooled because of the Covid situation. Check out the website at [www.release.ca](http://www.release.ca) and watch with envy at the dog park or on the streets of town when you see those gorgeous leashes passing by.

# What is Ecosystem Restoration and

## Why is the UN focusing on this? *by Lorraine Sutton*

Ecosystem restoration can bring benefits to the environment, the economy and society - healthy ecosystems support healthy people.

Restoration can bring benefits to society. 3.2 billion people around the globe are affected by the impacts of land degradation. Two-thirds of the world's population already experience water scarcity. Restoring land has the potential to raise groundwater levels, and healthy soils can store more nutrients and produce higher quality plants, improving food production and reducing agricultural pressure on natural systems.

### The challenge ahead

However, restoration is a process, rather than a quick solution. As well as highlighting the importance of restoration to delivering multiple SDGs, the coming decade should also feature a long-term movement towards restoration as part of the mitigation hierarchy. Efforts must have long-term visions, and approaches must be climate-resilient and sustainable. All kinds of ecosystems can be restored, including forests, farmlands, cities, wetlands and oceans. Restoration initiatives can be launched by almost anyone, from governments and development agencies to businesses, communities and individuals. That is because the causes of degradation are many and varied, and can have an impact at different scales.

### Forests and Trees make Earth liveable

They provide us with clean air and water. By storing vast amounts of carbon and moderating the climate, they are a critical defence against global heating. They are home to most of the planet's amazing biodiversity. They provide shade, recreation and a sense of well-being. And they support the livelihoods of billions of people around the world. Forest ecosystems are under intense pressure from our rising population and its hunger for more land and resources. Many remaining forests are degraded because of logging, firewood cutting, pollution and invasive pests. Even trees outside forests are disappearing to make way for houses, roads and dams.

Restoring forest ecosystems involves returning trees to former forest land and improving the condition of degraded forests. As well as planting native tree species, it can include conserving wild plants and animals and protecting the soils and water sources that are part of the forest ecosystem. Land cleared for farming that falls into disuse is ideal for forest restoration. In existing forests, native species can be planted to regenerate the tree cover. In some cases, forest trees will re-grow naturally. Forest restoration can also mean nurturing patches of forest and woodland in landscapes that also include busy farms and villages. What local projects or projects on your property in TBM could be restored?

## Municipal Tree Bylaw Update

### Survey Ends Friday, May 14th

Council is considering making updates to the current Municipal Tree Preservation By-law 2010-68 to increase tree protection and preservation in the community. The intent of the update is to consider extending the scope of the existing By-law to include a wider number of trees within the Town, potentially including the consideration of trees located on private property.

A public survey has been launched to gain feedback from residents and stakeholders. Results from the survey will assist in the Town's potential development of an update to the current tree preservation by-law and will also be forwarded to the County of Grey as input to the development of updates to the County's Forest Management By-law. Written comments can be submitted to [treebylaw@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:treebylaw@thebluemountains.ca) and you can also complete the Community Survey which will be available to submit feedback until Friday, May 14, 2021 at 11:55 p.m. <https://yourview.thebluemountains.ca>



# Unfilled Jobs and Attainable Housing *by Bruce Taylor*

For a community / society to prosper many varied and skilled jobs need to fit together like a jig saw puzzle for the benefit of the community / society. The jobs can include school teachers, dental assistants, personal service workers, nurses, chefs, cashiers at our local food stores, retail sales clerks.

Unless these people are already established in our community, they have no way of living here as there are no market rental homes nor attainable rental homes with which to establish themselves. Social housing does exist in limited numbers in our community as provided by an upper tier government, in this case Grey County whose responsibility it is to provide this type of housing.

The diagram below presents the segments of housing that attainable housing is looking to provide.



The Town of The Blue Mountains via the Blue Mountain Attainable Housing Corporation (BMAHC) is working to provide this missing affordable rental home segment with the first of a number of projects known as The Gateway located on the old Foodland site. The Gateway project will provide both affordable and market rental housing units along with retail / commercial rental space on the ground floor.

The success of the first project can be measured by occupancy of those filling the jobs mentioned above, the project being financially self-sufficient (no cost to the tax payer) and our community has the needed staff to serve our community / society better.

The project is still very much in the early stages. Before a building / developer can be selected Council must listen to citizens and debate all the issues that have been brought forth in written letters and deputations to Council (our Town does not govern by Facebook posts). The Blue Mountain Attainable Housing Corporation needs to complete and present capital cost budgets to Council as part of the Council decision process.



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## Committee of the Whole Report for May 4th

In October of 2020 the Town purchased 19 Napier Street for \$425,000. At the time no funding source was identified. Factoring in legal costs, non-recoverable HST and carrying costs, staff are recommending that the Town take out long-term debt in the amount of \$433,648.31 for this purchase.

In March of 2021 the Town purchased 125 Peel Street for \$3,450,000. At the time no funding sources were identified. Factoring in legal costs, non-recoverable HST and carrying costs, the amount requiring funding is \$3,599,393.85. Staff are recommending that the Parkland Dedication Reserve Fund be used to fund \$1,247,220.62 for this purchase with the remaining \$2,352,173.23 be included in the long-term debt with the Napier Street purchase.

The total debt that staff are recommending that the Town take out with Infrastructure Ontario is \$2,785,821.54. A 25-year loan with a current rate of 2.85% (Town's current borrowing rate) would result in an annual payment of \$191,000 with \$1.032M paid in interest over the 25 years.

The \$191,000 annual payment equates to a 1.10% increase over the 2021 tax levy. Without other funding sources long-term debt is the best option for these purchases. The Province limits how much debt a municipality can have at 25% of Net Revenues. The Town further restricts this to 15% of Net Revenues to leave room in case emergency debt needs to be incurred through its Debt Policy POL.COR.17.01. A revised ARL analysis (right) shows an up-to-date look at the remaining debt limits.

Description	Amount
Net Revenues	\$27,562,694
25% Limit as per Provincial Legislation	\$6,890,674
15% Limit as per Town Debt Policy POL.COR.17.01	\$4,134,404
<b>Current Annual Payments</b>	
Town Hall	\$255,735
OPP Detachment	\$37,375
Thornbury Water Reservoir	\$123,955
Thornbury Harbour	\$56,845
<b>Total Current Annual Payments</b>	<b>\$473,910</b>
<b>Approved Projects</b>	
Landfill Mining (completed awaiting long-term debt)	\$67,475
Thornbury West Road Reconstruction	\$195,227
Tyrolean Village Servicing	\$146,710
<b>Total Approved Projects</b>	<b>\$409,412</b>
<b>Total Annual Payments</b>	<b>\$883,322</b>
Remaining Limit (15%)	\$3,251,082
<b>Proposed Annual Payments (2021 Budget)</b>	
Fire Aerial Pumper	\$45,868
Bridge #2 and #3	\$134,090
Land Purchases	\$191,000
<b>Total Proposed Annual Payments (2021 Budget)</b>	<b>\$370,958</b>
<b>Total of All Annual Payments</b>	<b>\$1,254,280</b>
<b>Remaining Limit (15%)</b>	<b>\$2,880,124</b>



Register for a Seniors Centre Without Walls session:  
Call BVO at 519-599-2577 Ext 6

To Participate in a session:  
Dial: 1-866-279-1594 Enter the Passcode: 852340 then #  
Record your Name followed by #  
Wait to be admitted into the session.

## Seniors Centre Without Walls

## May 2021

Speaker Info	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
<b>* VON Support Group</b> Ongoing, currently full. Call BVO to join waitlist	<b>11am</b> Check-in & Chat <span style="float: right;">3</span>	<b>2pm</b> BINGO! <span style="float: right;">4</span>	<b>2pm</b> Chair Exercise & Stretching – Denise, SCWW volunteer <span style="float: right;">5</span>	<b>11am</b> Prevent Abuse of Older Adults- Episode 2 Podcast “Ye canna throw your Granny off the bus” <span style="float: right;">6</span>	<b>11am</b> Trivia– Ann G, SCWW volunteer <span style="float: right;">7</span>
<b>John Hetherington,</b> Master Gardener	<b>11am</b> Check-in & Chat <span style="float: right;">10</span>	<b>2pm</b> BINGO! <span style="float: right;">11</span>	<b>11am</b> Ready for Gardening- Part 5 John Hetherington <span style="float: right;">12</span> <b>2pm</b> Chair Exercise & Stretching– Denise, SCWW volunteer	<b>11am</b> Name That Tune - Joan, SCWW volunteer <span style="float: right;">13</span> <b>2pm</b> *VON Support Group	<b>11am</b> Name that Bird Song Lynne Richardson Rambles with Beavers – Norine B SCWW Volunteer <span style="float: right;">14</span>
	<b>11am</b> Check-in & Chat <span style="float: right;">17</span>	<b>2pm</b> BINGO! <span style="float: right;">18</span>	<b>2pm</b> Chair Exercise & Stretching – Denise, SCWW volunteer <span style="float: right;">19</span>	<b>2pm</b> Support and Resources for Prevention of Abuse of Older Adults – <span style="float: right;">20</span>	<b>11am</b> Trivia– Ann G, SCWW volunteer <span style="float: right;">21</span>
<b>Shannon Fry,</b> Pharmacist/Owner Thornbury Pharmsave	<b>11am</b> Check-in & Chat <span style="float: right;">24</span>	<b>2pm</b> BINGO! <span style="float: right;">25</span>	<b>11am</b> Ready for Gardening -Part 6 John Hetherington <span style="float: right;">26</span> <b>2pm</b> Chair Exercise & Stretching – Denise, SCWW volunteer	<b>11am</b> Name That Tune - Joan, SCWW volunteer <span style="float: right;">27</span> <b>2pm</b> *VON Support Group	<b>11am</b> Shannon Fry, Pharmacist <span style="float: right;">28</span>

# The Master Gardener's Corner

Things to do in your garden each month taken from the Ontario Master Gardener Calendar by John Hethrington, Past President, Master Gardeners of Ontario. For more information, or your copy of the 11" x 17" calendar of the full year's tips for a \$1 contribution to Master Gardeners, call 519-599-5846.



There are lots of things to do in your garden in May, now that Spring is here:

- If not done already, clean up winter debris in the garden as soon as the soil is dry enough to work. Dig in manure or compost around perennials and shrubs and weed well. An extra hour weeding now will save 3 days later in the summer. Use a line to cut sharp straight edges for your beds. For curved edges, run hot water through a hose to soften it up and lay out a smooth curve. Watch you don't chop the hose!
- Take coloured pictures of your spring bulbs in the gardens so you will know where there are any gaps and where they are when you plant more bulbs in the fall.
- Plan to plant early blooming bulbs like snowdrops and crocus in the fall at places close to where you come in and out of the house. You will then be greeted by early signs of spring.
- Add 3" to 4" of mulch to flowerbeds and shrubs to conserve moisture and discourage weeds. Shredded cedar bark is best, but expensive. Try 13/Forty Landscape Supply (519-599-1340) for 3 grades of mulch.
- Don't walk on or roll lawns that are still full of water. It compacts the soil.
- If your lawn is already compacted, rent an aerator and dig plugs out of the lawn. Let the plugs dry and rake them back into the lawn as a top dressing. Add grass seed to bare patches.
- Spread weed-free topsoil on thin patches in your lawn. Apply grass seed, roll and water. Keep seed moist, but don't flood.

- If you find moss in your lawn, the soil is acidic. Apply dolomite lime before a rain.
- When dry, rake lawns vigorously to remove dead grass and thatch.
- If you have very big or deep pots or planters, put some empty plastic water bottles in the bottom of the pot to take up space the roots will never get to. It makes the planter or pot lighter and easier to move, if needed.
- Prepare containers and pots for planting. Fill with a mixture of compost and potting soil. Add peat moss or better still, coconut coir to retain moisture.
- Place pots with culinary herbs close to the kitchen door for easy access.
- Pot up your extra perennials for spring plant sales at least 3 weeks before the sale. Use your best compost, (not garden soil), in the pots. To be really fancy, add a little bone meal to the pot before you put the plant in. Add plant labels with the name (Botanical and/or common), colour, sun exposure, height, bloom time, etc. Water well and keep in the shade.
- Harden-off seedlings for at least a week before planting. Google the last frost date for your area and allow at least 2 weeks more before planting tender transplants such as annuals and tomatoes. This year, probably into early June.
- Plant beans directly into the garden as they quickly germinate and will grow as long as the soil is warm. Maybe mid-May this year.
- Install peony rings before the plants start to grow.
- Monitor for the presence of slugs, cutworms, earwigs and tent caterpillars.
- Control weeds in the lawn by hand pulling. Use nematodes to control grubs, which eat the grass roots leading to brown patches in the lawn in summer.
- Prune roses according to type.
- Dead head faded tulips and daffodils and other spring bulbs but do not cut or pull the leaves out until they are brown and decayed.
- If you have any fritillaries or Asian lilies (day lilies are beetle free), now is the time to watch for the red lily beetle (adult, larva and eggs). So far, removal by hand is the best and only way to reduce the problem.



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2019 Honda CR-V LX	Silver	25,343km	\$24,800 + tax
2018 Honda Accord Sedan Sport	Silver	58,000km	\$24,850 + tax
2017 Honda CR-V Touring	Black	83,647km	\$25,388 + tax

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**INTERESTED IN JOINING A BAYVIEW PARK TENNIS GROUP?**

Local tennis enthusiast, Wayne Coulter, is hopeful that outdoor tennis will again become possible when the Stay at Home order is lifted. Currently planning for 3 groups.



Men Doubles - Thursday at 1pm  
 Women Doubles - Tuesday at 1pm  
 Mixed Doubles - Sunday afternoon

For information contact  
 Wayne at 519-270-3940; waynecoulter@gmail.com, or  
 Shelley Young-- sryoung543@gmail.com.

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 cooperators.ca

**ST. GEORGE'S ANNUAL PLANT SALE**

The St. George's Anglican Church annual COVID Plant Sale is planned for Saturday, June 12, at the church in Clarksburg. Starts at 7 am. 519-599-3811.

Details on the 141st Garden Party to follow

Don't Forget Chicken too!



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 lobsterfestblue@gmail.com  
 519-599-3345

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