

Aberfoyle Farmers' Market plans to open in May

By Jayme Mast

Plans are underway to open the 2021 market season soon. It will be every Saturday, 8am-1pm, from May 29 through to October 30.

The pre-season has been busy for us as we pull together all the preparations for Opening Day on Saturday May 29.

We anticipate the market to have a slightly different look and feel this year, compared to what the community has been accustomed to in our pre-COVID days.

I am happy to report that there will be a number of familiar faces present for the season as many of previous vendors will be joining us again for the 2021 season.

We refuse to let the market stay closed for two years in a row and remain committed to opening for the 2021 season!

With much appreciated financial support from both the Township of Puslinch and Wellington County, the market team put together an aggressive vendor recruitment plan to satisfy the gaps in product offerings for the 2021 season.

I am thrilled to share that we will be welcoming a number of new local vendors this year across multiple product categories – produce, meats & cheeses, baked goods, etc.

Staying true to our core values, our dedicated team of volunteers juried each new vendor to ensure their products are authentic and locally made by them.

We refused to sacrifice our guiding principles, despite the challenges we faced in "rebuilding" the market.

While our rental agreement with the Township has to be finalized, we have secured Public Health approval, and been working closely with them to refine our COVID protocols.

Our primary focus will be the health and safety of our customers, vendors and market team.

Face masks will be mandatory for all, and we will be enforcing a one-way flow of foot traffic throughout the market.

Hand sanitizer will be made available for all who attend the market, and we expect to have a reduced capacity on the market floor.

We'll be encouraging our vendors to promote cashless transactions, but given the nature of the business, we don't expect all vendors to have this capability.



For that reason, we anticipate that the ATM will remain accessible to customers. At this time, we will not be putting picnic tables out on the market floor, and customers will be encouraged not to linger. It's unclear if we will have buskers.

Of course, all of this could evolve as the season progresses, and restrictions could change to allow a more relaxed environment. Only time will tell.

It was a bittersweet start to the year when we received news that three of our long-time, loyal vendors would be stepping back from the market.

Sadly, we learned that Tigchelaar's, Vandenbroek's, and Warner's will not be returning to the market. In some cases, it was a form of semi-retirement, and for others, they've found it better to sell their produce from their own farm stands.

We are saddened to lose all three, and we know the community will be too. We're thankful for all the years they spent as part of our "market family" and wish them all the best in their new endeavours.

All of these changes aside, one thing remains the same: our continued focus on supporting and promoting the purchase and sale of locally grown produce, farm products, and hand-made goods.

Staying positive, we look forward to welcoming the community back to the market.

Editorial

Now that the warmer weather has finally arrived, you can tell that we are all more than ready to be outdoors.

From safe barbecuing to planting ideas for the garden, we are focusing on our lives this summer.

Yes, COVID is still with us, but thanks to the hard work and diligence of WDG Public Health, over 50 percent of the population in Puslinch has received at least the first vaccination.

Without doubt, the pandemic is impacting us all locally, but groups are getting creative and working around the restrictions as you will read in Romp from Home and the proposed opening of the Farmers' Market. The fate of the Fall Fair has still to be determined.

And Ellis Chapel is reaching out asking for your support as it works to cover its overhead costs in maintaining this historic part of our community.

We also learn more about our Volunteer of the Year, Jeannette Caswell, the more-than-worthy recipient of this award.

We've also included a couple of updates – one from the Mayor on our ongoing negotiations with the aggregate industry and we also hear from the Puslinch Highspeed Committee. So it's a full paper!

Stay safe.

Anne Day

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Our Mission

The *Puslinch Pioneer* is a monthly publication produced by local volunteers to provide an authentic source of local information about the social and political activity within the community, and to encourage participation in community events.

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Interim Chair
Barbara Bulmer 519 658-2243
chair@puslinchpioneer.ca

Editor
Anne Day 519 767 9383
editor@puslinchpioneer.ca

Advertising & Sales
Dianne Churcher 519 763 6564
advertising@puslinchpioneer.ca

Church/Community Notices & Circulation
Stella O'Krafka 519 658 4767
churchcomm@puslinchpioneer.ca

Board members
Barbara Chillingsworth, Karen Harding, Genny Ribalko.

The *Puslinch Pioneer* does not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed in articles or Letters to the Editor. We reserve the right to refuse items submitted and to edit all material. All advertising is accepted in good faith.

SUBMITTING ARTICLES Items of interest to Puslinch residents are welcome. Letters to the Editor must include a telephone number.

We ask that articles be submitted by email and adhere to the Writers Guidelines which can be downloaded from www.puslinchpioneer.ca

Unless otherwise stated, the deadline for submission is the 2nd Friday of the month. Next deadline is **Friday, June 11, 2021.**

Because of the increased interest we cannot guarantee inclusion, especially those received after deadline.

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Council Clips

Fire and Rescue:

Council awarded contracts for a Cab-Over Rescue Truck at the tendered amount of \$562,593 and Self Contained Breathing Apparatus for \$231,401.

Mini Lakes:

Council authorized an exemption to the Noise By-law to permit the use of a scare gun to scare away geese at the Mini Lakes Resident Association for the time periods indicated.

Grow the Greenbelt:

Council believes the proposed Greenbelt expansion plan will severely curtail economic growth impacting the Township's sustainability.

Council requests the Province to not consider expansion unless certain conditions are addressed.

Conservation Halton:

Councillor Bailey advises that the Puslinch Library will have two Conservation Halton passes that can be signed out and allow access to the various parks.

Aberfoyle School:

Council directs staff to report back, with sufficient time to facilitate the hiring of a crossing guard at Brock Road and Old Brock Road intersection, for the September school start date.

Sideroad 10 North:

Council receives the delegation regarding concerns relating to parking, speed, and signage on Sideroad 10 N and directs staff to report back on how parking can be better managed.

Guelph Junction Railway Arkell Crossing:

Requests Council, City of Guelph and Guelph Junction Railway to consider all issues. Representatives met to address the complaints and ongoing discussions continue.

Fire Safety Grant Funding:

Funding from the Office of the Fire Marshall in the amount of \$6,400 is available to assist in addressing challenges associated with training and virtual fire safety inspections.

Temporary Borrowing By-law:

Council passed a by-law authorizing external temporary borrowings of \$1,500,000 in 2021.

Cambridge District Humane Society:

Council enters into another two-year term for Animal Control Services with the Cambridge Humane Society.

Invoiced \$833.33 per month & mileage \$.45 per km.

Work from Home Policy:

Council approves a Work from Home Policy where space needs can be significantly reduced by options such as office space being shared by individuals with alternate work arrangements and individuals working remotely on an ongoing basis.

Slovenski Park:

A request has been received to remove the holding provision from the subject lands to expand to a maximum of 100 trailers, an addition of 40 trailers on site.

Municipal Insurance Renewal:

Council authorizes the renewal of the insurance contract to Marsh Canada Limited for the 2021 Policy Term, fees quoted \$81,454, an increase in premiums of \$7,551.

Road Resurfacing Tender:

Council's approval to award the 2021 asphalt program to Cox Construction for \$855,209 and Concession Road 7 Resurfacing to Capital Paving tendered amount \$393,902.

Roszell Road Pit:

Council is requesting CBM to temporarily cease below water table extraction at Pond C while water level thresholds are reviewed.

Municipal Address Sign Replacement:

The Township is replacing and upgrading the majority of municipal address signs beginning in May and completing work over the summer.

Beyond digestion

By Marjorie Clark



Puslinch naturopathic doctor, Laura Brown, has written a fascinating book about the connection of the digestive system to many health conditions.

Illustrating various problems and resolutions through stories of patients and drawing on her own issues, Dr. Brown explains the many ways in which your digestion relates to the

overall health of your mind, body and soul.

She focuses on stimulating the body's natural mechanisms to repair damage and rebuild health. Through 279 pages, she gradually leads us, in a conversational tone, to an understanding of this interconnectivity.

Dr. Brown is a registered naturopath with a HeartMath certification. She is also a level 2 certified Gluten Free practitioner. She holds the designation of ADAPT Trained Practitioner from the Kresser Institute.

Her office is at Southend Natural Medicine, 17 Goodwin Drive, Guelph. Check out the website at <https://southendguelph.ca>.

Her book has been published in hardcover, paperback and e-book formats and is available on Amazon.

Would you like to know more? Dr. Brown's book, *Beyond Digestion*, is on Amazon.



TOWNSHIP OF PUSLINCH
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Council Meetings (519) 763-1226

Wednesday June 16 at 10am, followed by a Public Information Meeting on June 16 at 7pm.

Please check the Council Calendar at www.puslinch.ca as meetings may be subject to change.

Library Hours (519) 763-8026

For current hours and services, please call Puslinch Branch at 519.763.8026 or visit us online at www.wellington.ca/Library.

Optimist Recreation Centre Hours

All Municipal buildings including the Optimist Recreation Centre remain closed due to the current Provincial directives. Please visit the Townships COVID-19 page on their website (www.puslinch.ca) for facility updates and media releases.

Historical Society Archives

Saturdays 12 noon - 3 pm or for appointment email ardyne.farm@sympatico.ca or 519-822-8559. WDG COVID restrictions apply.

Waste Facility (519) 837-2601

Open Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays 8 am - 4 pm. Located at 6922 Concession #4 between County Rd. #35 and Hanlon (Hwy #6)

Remembering the past at Ellis Pioneer Chapel

By Barbara Bulmer

You might be expecting to read about a tradition that began in 1861 when Ellis Chapel was built. Or you might expect stories from fifty-eight years ago when the chapel was restored by volunteers and opened to four, non-denominational summer services in its original tradition.

The Past in this case is just one year ago when Covid-19 brought all chapel activities to a shuddering halt: no services, no weddings or christenings, no public openings for travelers, no concerts; ergo, no income.

Ellis Chapel is a building of local historic importance. A plaque was erected on the property in 1963 by the Historic Sites Board of Ontario to honour the pioneers of Puslinch. This is the only property of its kind in the Township.

In 2000 The Puslinch Municipal Heritage Committee (formerly LACAC)

presented Ellis Chapel with a Millennium Plaque, recognizing it as a significant historic building in the Township.

The chapel and gardens are managed by three Trustees and a volunteer Board of Management. One of our honorary volunteers, now over 100 years of age, has warm memories of attending Sunday School at the Chapel.

Though the Chapel isn't open to visitors again this year, you can enjoy the gardens.

The iron fence across the front of the property was made in England and formed the balcony railing at the old House of Providence in Toronto.

The cobblestone cairn was erected to preserve the few remaining headstones of early pioneer families.

Memorial benches in the Chapel grounds identify those persons, past and present, who have been connected directly, and have contributed greatly, to the maintenance and preservation of the property.

Volunteers do the gardening, and cleaning of the chapel, following provincial protocols. But each season



some major structural repairs are needed to the chapel building and these require money.

Brenda Law, Board Chairperson, says that even though the Board has been very fiscally responsible the lack of income due to the pandemic is beginning to stretch resources.

Ellis Chapel has been a part of the Puslinch community for 160 years. If you would like to help preserve this unique, random-field-stone, historic gem, any donation of \$20 or more will be issued a receipt for tax purposes. Please accept our sincere thanks for your generosity.

Here's how: mail your cheque: Ellis Chapel Treasurer, c/o Sheila Fletcher, 6681 Ellis Road, Cambridge, ON N3C 2V4 Or by credit card: payellischapel@gmail.com

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Message from the Mayor

It is my pleasure to provide an update to the Community. We have entered into another lockdown in Ontario and I would request that everyone continue to do his or her part through these very struggling times.

The last update I received stated we in Wellington County were at 50.3 percent vaccination. As more vaccines continue to arrive to our Health Department, we will inch closer to normalcy. Now everyone 16 years or older can register for vaccinations.

Our Municipality has encountered some difficulties due to mailing address being "RR2 Cambridge" or appearing to indicate that your residence is located in a neighbouring Health Department and thus not allowing you to register.

If you encounter difficulties as described above, Wellington County Library staff are assisting residents with registering. If that is not an option to you please email the Township at admin@puslinch.ca or call the Office at 519-763-1226 extension 206.

On a positive note, Wellington County received their ruling on their appeals to aggregate operations.

Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) works on four year cycles. The cycle for 2012-2015 was appealed by the aggregate industry, resulting in municipalities having to provide a refund and in our case, around \$600,000 was re-reimbursed to the industry, with little or no input from municipalities.

Wellington County appealed the 2016-2020 assessments and received a modest win. For those years, aggregate operations will pay more tax.

In the previous cycle, through the Ontario Sand Stone Gravel Association (OSSGA) the industry lobbied and paid class 5 farm land rates (next to zero) paying in some cases less than a single detached home in Puslinch and this has now been slightly corrected.

The industry now will also pay industrial rates on their operations as soon as they strip the topsoil off and on the area their berms occupy. They will also have to pay on all the lands they use for their piles of processed materials.

In the past on their self-reporting documents, the industry would report "crop circles" of industrial land used and ignore the roads that were also utilized to approach the product.

An analogy would be a factory only paying tax on the floor space where the machine is placed and not on the aisles throughout the factory floor.

Wellington County also appealed these aggregate assessments and received a modest win on assessments and how the industry must self-report.

Puslinch, along with other major producers of aggregate, are members of a group called Top Aggregate Producing Municipalities of Ontario (TAPMO) and I am a member of the executive that guides the group.

Through this group, we have identified the tax imbalance of the aggregate industry as well.

TAPMO recently hired a speciality company – UPSTREAM - to advocate to the Provincial Government to fix the methodology further.

OSSGA and the industry self report on their taxes and the tribunal didn't recognize the land value of aggregate operations next to the 400 series highways and current industrial lands within Ontario.

Aggregate operations were valued under the new decision at \$10,000 an acre, while lands in Puslinch that are used for industrial purposes are more appropriately valued at \$100,000 per acre minimum.

UPSTREAM will be advocating for the payment of proper industrial rates and the removal of the self-reporting mechanism.

You may ask, "Well how does this affect me?". The simple answer is, when the industry pays less tax, then as residents of Puslinch, we have to pay more.

I understand this is an enormous amount of information and it is my hope I have explained it well. If anyone desires further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at jseeley@puslinch.ca or by phone 519-400-7984

Check vaccine status

WDG Public Health has launched a tool for residents to check their pre-registration status.

Built by Public Health for residents of Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph, the new "Check My Pre-registration Status" tool is for people who have not yet received an appointment invitation or their first dose of the vaccine.

This new tool helps people check that their pre-registration was successful and ensure there are no delays to booking their vaccination appointment as soon as one is available to them.

Please visit wdgpublichealth.ca/check-registration to check your pre-registration.

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Cook's Corner

By Barbara Paterson

This chicken dish cooked in a crock-pot is so easy and delicious.



Hawaiian Chicken

- 2 lbs. chicken breasts
- 1 cup pineapple juice
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup soy sauce
- 1 tsp. ground ginger

1. Place chicken breasts in crock-pot.
2. Mix rest of ingredients together and pour over chicken.
3. Cook on low until chicken is tender. I set the crock-pot for 8 hours on low but it was done in 5 1/2 hours.

During baking, this old-fashioned cake-pudding separates into layers of sponge and custard. Wonderful served warm with vanilla ice cream or a dollop of whipped cream.

Rhubarb Sponge Cake-Pudding

- 1 cup white sugar
- 2 tbsp. flour
- 1 tbsp. softened butter
- 2 egg yolks
- 1 cup milk
- 1 cup diced fresh rhubarb
- 2 egg whites
- 1/4 tsp. salt

1. In a medium sized bowl, mix sugar and flour.



2. Cut in butter until fine
3. Beat egg yolks slightly; add milk and stir.
4. Add to sugar mixture along with the rhubarb.
5. Beat egg whites with the salt until stiff. Fold gently into the rhubarb mixture.
6. Place into an 8" square baking dish. Set baking dish in a larger pan containing about 1" of water.
7. Bake at 375°F oven for 35 to 40 minutes or until the top is golden brown.

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It's barbecue season

By Peter van Oordt

June is a great month to be outdoors late into the day. With the sun setting around 9pm, there is plenty of daylight left in the evening for spending time on a back deck or patio this time of year.

And what better way to enjoy this time of year than enjoying grilled food hot off the backyard grill? There is something primal about food cooked over an open flame.

As we head into peak barbecue season, this is a good time to remind ourselves of some of the best safety practices for outdoor grilling.

Most people know that operating a grill indoors is extremely dangerous due to both the potential for carbon monoxide poisoning and it being a fire hazard.

However, some people may not know that even using a grill too close to a doorway, or just inside a garage door opening, or in an outdoor enclosure, can also be very dangerous for the same reasons.

Grills should only be used when they are well away from the home, deck railings, trees, fences, and other combustible materials.

It is a good practice to clean your grill periodically and remove the fat and grease that builds up in the trays below the burners. If you are using a propane or natural gas grill, use soapy water to inspect the hoses and fittings for leaks.

If you find a leak, shut off the gas immediately and do not use the grill until it is properly repaired.

Remember that propane tanks must be stored in an open environment and should never be stored inside your home or garage.



Assuming the pandemic lockdowns ease this summer, many of us will likely be having people over for outdoor barbecues.

It is important to keep people, especially young children, a safe distance from the barbecue while it is in use to avoid them getting burned.

Similarly, the grill operator should use long utensils and protective oven mitts to avoid burns. It is also a good practice to have a connected garden hose and / or a fire extinguisher nearby while using the grill and to never leave a hot grill unattended.

By following these best practices, we can significantly decrease the probability of a barbecue-related emergency ruining what would otherwise be an enjoyable summer evening with good food, family, and friends.



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Volunteer of the year

By Susan Fielding

Congratulations to Jeannette Caswell for being chosen as Volunteer of the Year for Puslinch Township! Jeannette has been a resident of Puslinch for 32 years.

She raised four children in the community with her late husband, Steve. She is the proud grandmother of five.

Jeannette's formative years began far from Puslinch, in Western Canada. She was born and raised in Regina, Saskatchewan. She moved to Calgary and began nursing school at Foothills Hospital where she graduated as a Registered Nurse.

Jeannette met her husband, Steve, while on a vacation. He was from Ontario and after many trips between here and Calgary, Jeannette moved permanently to Ontario to build a life with Steve.

Jeannette nursed at the Sick Kids ICU, the ICU at St. Joseph's in Guelph and then she ended her distinguished career at the Guelph General Hospital in diagnostic imaging, from where she retired in 2014.



Jeannette has been volunteering in Puslinch since she became a resident in 1990. Listed below are her volunteer accomplishments.

- Aberfoyle School parent volunteer, organizing the teacher's appreciation luncheon yearly, and assisting with the Grade 8 graduation ceremonies
- Served the Whistle Stop Preschool in various roles on the executive
- Fundraised for the preschool to put the fence in the playground at the community centre
- Re-established the Beaver and Cub groups in Puslinch
- Active as a volunteer with Puslinch Minor Soccer
- Enthusiastic participant in the Township Clean Up, Remembrance

Day Services and Fall Fair on an annual basis

- Volunteered for Puslinch's Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion which fundraised to help with spinal cord research and funded the automatic door openers at the Community Centre and Township office
- Volunteer in 24hr Hot Foot Happening to benefit St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph
- In retirement, Jeannette spends many hours each week volunteering at Hospice Wellington.

Every Monday evening, she visits and gives support to residents. Every other Wednesday she participates in the Palliative Day program. This is a program for individuals in the community with a progressive life limiting illness.

- She also volunteers at the Hospice for yearly events, such as Hike for Hospice, Handbags for Hospice and Tree of Remembrance.

Jeannette embodies the spirit of what makes Puslinch such a wonderful place to live. She is an inspiration to others to give of themselves. Without fanfare, she is quietly there for her community and for those in need.

And for all of these reasons, Jeannette Caswell is a very deserving recipient for Puslinch Volunteer of the Year.

Michael J. Marinavic

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Why does Puslinch have so many sites?

Nature decides where gravel is found.

Puslinch has some of the best deposits in the Province – used locally and close to important areas of growth in the Greater Golden Horseshoe. Puslinch is helping Ontario grow in an environmentally smart way!

Why is close important? If every gravel truck had to travel even one extra km to its jobsite it would release an additional 7,000 tonnes of greenhouse gases into the environment each year. That's not good for anyone.

The aggregate industry continuously rehabilitates sites that have been extracted. In 2020, more than 173 ha, or the equivalent of 326 football fields, were returned to agriculture, aquatic or natural areas in the MNRF Guelph District area alone.

There's a lot to know about gravel.

Find out the facts at GravelFacts.ca



WHAT *LOCAL* REHABILITATION LOOKS LIKE



Puslinch Highspeed Committee Update

By Glenn James

Over the last several months our committee, made up of volunteers from Puslinch, including Councillor John Sepulis, has continued to work to accelerate the spread of highspeed Internet service in Puslinch. You can learn more about our committee at www.puslinchhighspeed.ca.

Some recent highlights:

- We helped two Internet Service Providers (ISPs) put together funding applications to the federal Universal Broadband Fund (UBF).
- We have no word on when or if funding decisions will be announced for these projects.
- If one of these projects receives UBF funding, it'll mean that a good portion of the northwest area of the Township could be getting fiber Internet service.
- Standard Broadband continues their work to install fiber in the eastern side of the Township. You can learn about their detailed de-

ployment plans at www.standard-broadband.ca/fibre-projects/.

- We continue to moderate our "puslinchhighspeed" Facebook group page. It's a valuable exchange of information on what's happening in Puslinch regarding high-speed Internet.
- In fact, one of our Committee members is a very engaged Starlink customer and has been posting about his experiences.
- If you'd like to read about and exchange information about Internet service in Puslinch, please join the Facebook group page.
- We have developed informal relationships with some similar groups in Ontario. One such group is the Rural Halton Citizens for Broadband, who share many of the same challenges as we do here in Puslinch.
- One of our members is working with an ISP located southeast of Puslinch to encourage the provision of service to southeast Puslinch in the near future.

Overall, we're pleased with the progress that has been made.

Of course, Internet projects (especially fiber-based projects) never happen as quickly as we'd like.

However, since our committee's inception we have drawn a lot of attention to the poor Internet service in our Township. As a result of that work:

- Standard Broadband has made a multi-million dollar commitment in the eastern side of the Township without the aid of government funding.
- Puslinch Township engaged with a consulting company to create a Puslinch Broadband Initiative Findings and Recommendations paper. This was key in helping to spell out investment opportunities to prospective ISPs.
- Several ISPs have submitted federal or provincial funding applications for projects in Puslinch – we keep our fingers crossed on these funding applications.
- Other ISPs have shown an interest in working to provide service to the poorest-served areas of the Township.

Please feel free to contact us through our Facebook group page or our website if you have any questions about our committee, about the work that we're doing, or about the state of Puslinch high-speed internet service.



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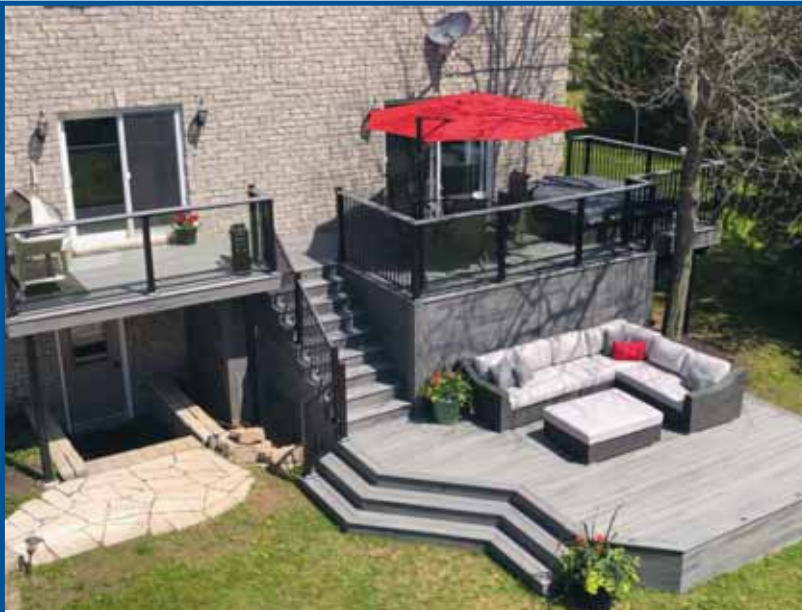
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Aberfoyle Agricultural Society Contest

By Margaret Hauwert

As you read this article we will still be in a provincial holding pattern. It is for this reason that board members will decide on June 9th if there will be an in person fair.

With that in mind, it was felt that there was a need to continue to promote an awareness of agriculture. It has been noted that all across the province there has been an increase in the usage of many social media platforms.

The Aberfoyle Agricultural Society wanted to ride that wave and are pleased to announce the 1st Virtual Agriculture Adventure Contest.

With ongoing COVID 19 restrictions across the province, participants are being asked to use this time to take a road less travelled.

While on this journey seek out and photograph some or all of the list of agricultural items and submit them on line.

One of the requirements for your photograph is to list the location. It is the Society's goal that participants will learn more about agriculture, especially where food is grown and how it is produced.

There will be three age categories and the winners will receive a gift card from local businesses in the Puslinch area as follows;

10 and under

1st \$40, 2nd \$25, 3rd \$25, 4th \$25

11 to 16

1st \$40, 2nd \$25, 3rd \$25, 4th \$25

17 and over

1st \$100, 2nd \$75, 3rd \$55, 4th \$40

All entries must be inputted through Assist Expo.ca on or before September 10th as that is when the judging will take place.

The second weekend in September would normally be the fair weekend.

The virtual event will run regardless of an in-person fair.

For a complete list of rules and the list of photo categories-contact the Agricultural Society in one of the following ways:

Email
aberfoyleagriculturalsociety@gmail.com

Websites
Google Aberfoyle Agricultural Society and AssistExpo.ca

All enquires can be answered by the head of Home Craft, Gayle at 519-821-8973

It is very important to be mindful of private property; take ALL pictures from the roadside unless you have written permission from the owner to be on their property.

The Aberfoyle Agricultural Society accepts no liability. **All pictures will remain the property of the Aberfoyle Agricultural Society and may be used for promotional purposes.**

Thank you to our financial sponsor Klassen Wealth Management located in Morriston for helping with this event.



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IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM SOLID WASTE SERVICES

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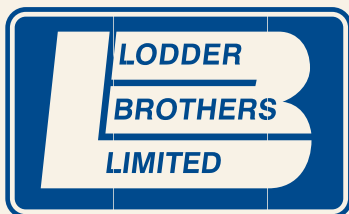
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Unclaimed bank accounts

By Debbie Stanley

Recently, I found a twenty-dollar bill in my coat pocket. Lost treasure!

But as someone who works with estate executors, I know we can also find hidden treasure in the estates of our loved ones.

Part of the executor's role is to determine the deceased assets at the time of death, from searching pockets to checking with the Bank of Canada's unclaimed balance search.

Running a search through this website ensures that the Executor took all necessary steps to find any unknown and unclaimed bank accounts.

The hunt for unclaimed funds in dormant bank accounts does not have to be limited to Executors of an estate only; this search can be conducted by anyone following up on monies and visiting bank-banque-canada.ca/en/Property/SearchIndex.

After an account has been inactive for ten years, and the owner cannot be contacted/found, the unclaimed bank balance is transferred to the Bank of Canada.

Apparently at the end of 2019, approximately 2.1 million unclaimed balances, worth \$888 million, were on the Bank's books!

It is essential to point out that not all accounts can be found using the online inquiry.

If you are searching for an account that holds any of the following, they may require different methods:

- U.S. dollar accounts and other non-Canadian currencies
- Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) and Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF) accounts
- Life insurance policies
- Credit union accounts
- Unclaimed balances at utilities and other companies
- Gold or silver certificates
- Safety deposit boxes
- Stocks and dividends

As I mentioned, it takes ten years for an inactive account to move into the world of unclaimed balances. Once the Bank of Canada holds the funds, balances of less than \$1,000 can be retained for 30 years, and balances of \$1,000 or more are held for 100 years!

Time is on your side....I suppose. Monies that are unclaimed at the end of the prescribed custody period are transferred

to the Receiver General.

If an Executor discovers that there is an unclaimed account for the deceased, then they will be required to submit a claim to redeem the funds payable to the estate.

Based on the type of claim, the claim form must be completed, along with the supporting documents:

- An original bank statement, if the claim is for an account
- Proof of investment
- Proof of address for the deceased
- Two forms of valid ID for each claimant, one which must bear the claimant's photo and current address.

You will also have to provide evidence that the Executor is authorized to act on behalf of the estate, such as the death certificate, last will and testament and certificate of appointment of Estate Trustee with a Will/Without a Will.

Once the claim package is prepared and sent off via "old fashioned mail postage services," the waiting game begins. Currently, the wait times are listed as approximately six to eight months. So don't pre-celebrate those newly found funds just yet!

Debbie Stanley is a professional Estate Consultant and President of ETP Canada/etpcanada.ca

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Puslinch Branch, Wellington County Library

For current hours and services, please call Puslinch Branch at 519.763.8026 or visit us online at www.wellington.ca/Library.

Virtual Author Visit: Basil and Kevin Sylvester



Join Wellington County Library and Eden Mills Writers' Festival in celebrating Pride Month!

Co-authored by child-parent duo Basil Sylvester and Kevin Sylvester, **The Fabulous Zed Watson** is a vibrant and enormous-hearted story about friendship, identity, and belonging, based on Basil's experience as a non-binary teen.

Visit www.emwf.ca to register for this free event for school groups, online learners, and families.
Tuesday, June 15 at 10:00 am

Take-and-Make Activity Kits

Get creative with activity kits for pre-school, school-aged children, teens, and adults!

Contents may include a hands-on activity, activity sheets, and suggestions for additional library resources. Quantities are limited. Pick up at your local branch on a first-come, first-served basis.

Just for You from WCL

Wondering what to read, watch, or listen to next? Wellington County Library staff are here to help!

Visit www.wellington.ca/justforyou, tell us what you love, and we'll hand-pick a selection of titles for you to borrow. While you're waiting for your Just for You bundle, check out this list of new books at the library.

Fiction

Barclay, Linwood	<i>Find You First</i>
Bohjalian, Chris	<i>Hour of The Witch</i>
Cohen, Leslie	<i>My Ride or Die</i>
Fuller, Claire	<i>Unsettled Ground</i>
Mcfarlane, Mhairi	<i>Just Last Night</i>
Patterson, James	<i>21st Birthday</i>
Quick, Amanda	<i>The Lady Has a Past</i>
Shipstead, M	<i>Great Circle</i>
Weir, Andy	<i>Project Hail Mary</i>
Yates, Maisie	<i>Confessions from The Quilting Circle</i>

Non-Fiction

Bilodeau, Michelle
The New Wedding Book: A Guide to Ditching All the Rules

Burns, David
Backyard Beekeeping

Caldesi, Katie
The 30-Minute Diabetes Cookbook

Fleming, Jory
How to Be Human: An Autistic Man's Guide to Life

Fogarty, Catherine
Murder On the Inside: The True Story of the Deadly Riot at Kingston Penitentiary

Gilbert, Michael
Surviving Adolescence: Helping Teens Endure the Roller-Coaster Ride

Jaku, Eddie
The Happiest Man On Earth: The Beautiful Life of an Auschwitz Survivor

Nyamayaro, Elizabeth
I Am a Girl from Africa

Smith, Ian
Fast Burn! The Power of Negative Energy Balance

Turliuk, Jennifer
How to Figure Out What to Do with Your Life (Next)



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ASK THE EXPERT

By Judy Brisson

Q My daughter just bought her first home, a townhouse with a small front yard about 5m by 5m. I suggested a lilac but she wants a native tree. Can you recommend a tree?

A Designing a small garden can be challenging! You will need to consider the mature size of the tree, the sun exposure and soils.

Another factor is multi season interest – in a small garden each plant needs to earn its place. A lilac is stunning for two weeks in the spring but has little charm the rest of the year. For a small space, every plant should provide interest for at least three seasons.

Serviceberries (*Amelanchier*) are excellent plants for small gardens with four seasons of interest. This group of small trees and shrubs all have large, fragrant white flowers in spring, followed by edible berries in June.



Their leaves turn yellow orange for fall interest while the gray bark and multi-stemmed forms will catch your eye in the winter.

Native to North America with several species native to Ontario, serviceberry flowers attract pollinators in the spring.

The berries will bring Cedar Waxwings, Robins and other fruit eating birds to your garden in June. The berries resemble blueberries and are just as tasty out of hand, in baking or for jam.

Downy Serviceberry (*Amelanchier arborea*) is the most common species found in garden centres. A multi

stemmed shrub, it will grow 3-4 m high with a similar spread.

The berries are large and, being less sweet than those of other species are best for jam, jelly or pies. Downy Serviceberry tolerates pollution, will grow in sun or part shade and is suited to most soils.



Allegheny Serviceberry (*Amelanchier laevis*) is the tallest serviceberry, growing to about 7m with a 4m spread.

Also tolerant of pollution, it is less tolerant of drought and may need watering during dry summers. It grows in full sun to part shade. Allegheny Serviceberry fruits are sweet and juicy for eating out of hand.

The cultivar Cumulus Serviceberry (*Amelanchier laevis* 'Cumulus') is a smaller selection that grows to a maximum size of 3m high and 2m wide.

A number of named hybrid Serviceberries (*Amelanchier x grandiflora*) have been developed. The cultivars vary in size, spread, form, autumn colour and flower colour.

These hybrid Serviceberries grow in full sun to part shade in average soil. All are small trees and as hybrids, will have fewer berries. If you don't like a "messy" tree, the hybrids may be for you.



Serviceberries are low maintenance garden plant. They may form root suckers that are easily trimmed in the spring.

Cedar Serviceberry Rust disease can be a minor issue and a few insects may cause minor damage. Birds may be a pest if you want to collect the fruit for yourself.

Congratulate your daughter on her new house – perhaps a Serviceberry tree will be the ideal housewarming gift for her.

photos from Judy Brisson

Crafts from home



Let us bring the Wellington County Museum and Archives to you with our Museum on Your Doorstep program!

Weekly craft kits and virtual tutorials are delivered for free to anyone living in Wellington County. Perfect to keep the little ones busy during the Stay At Home Order! Best suited for ages four to 12.

Here is how it works:

Register online for your craft kit at www.wellington.ca/museum

Watch for your craft kits arrival! No matter where you are in Wellington County, we will deliver the kit to you!

Once your kit arrives, follow the online tutorial to make your craft at home! Videos will be emailed to all participants and published on the County of Wellington YouTube channel. Have fun!

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Latest on Astra Zeneca

**By Dr. Matthew Tenenbaum, MD
CCFP MPH FRCPC
Associate Medical Officer of Health**

On May 11, the Province of Ontario announced a pause in the use of AstraZeneca for COVID-19 vaccine first doses in Ontario.

I want the more than 20,000 people in Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph who have received this vaccine to know two things:

1. You made the right choice. Getting AstraZeneca means you were vaccinated earlier than you would have been had you waited for another vaccine.
2. That you protected yourself and the people around you from COVID-19 and helped move our community toward the end of this pandemic.

You have likely heard a lot about the risk of blood clots associated with the AstraZeneca vaccine.

While our understanding of this vaccine is evolving, you should also know that this side effect is considered very rare. Putting this vaccine on hold is the right choice until we know more.

We want our health system to be guided by science and use an abundance of caution when it comes to protecting us. Complications from the AstraZeneca are serious but unlikely. If you have any questions or concerns, please seek the guidance of your primary care provider.

While severe side effects with this vaccine remain rare, if you received the AstraZeneca vaccine in the previous four to 28 days and developed the following signs or symptoms, contact your doctor or visit an emergency room immediately:

- persistent and severe headache,
- difficulty moving parts of your body,
- seizures,
- blurred or double vision, shortness of breath, or
- back, chest or abdominal pain, or
- significant changes in a limb — pain, swelling, redness, a pale appearance or cold feeling in an arm or leg.

No one wants to hear that a medical treatment they've received might put them at risk. But, the surveillance system has done what it is supposed to do – take new scientific information and adapt our practices accordingly.

I know many of you now have concerns about what this means for your second dose. Please rest assured we will follow Provincial and Federal direction on future

vaccinations, guided by the best and most up-to-date information.

Romp from home

The annual Spring Rural Romp is switching gears this year.

Instead, residents can find a list on the Taste Real website outlining tips and ideas on how to engage around local foods during spring.

The public is invited to participate in virtual farm tours, learn about agriculture, find virtual cooking classes, and order a local food box delivered to their home.

The list also highlights seasonal businesses such as local plant farms and greenhouses, and other farm and food businesses currently open to the public.

The Taste Real Local Food Map is available at local libraries and at participating businesses in June. In the meantime, residents can order their free copy to be mailed to their homes.

Families are invited to participate in a Local Food Map treasure hunt contest which is open until June 18.

For more information on the Rural Romp or Local Food Map visit www.tastereal.ca.

"The world of humanity has two wings – one is women and the other men. Not until both wings are equally developed can the bird fly."

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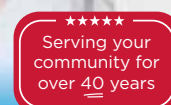
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NATURALLY SPEAKING

The willows – pussy willows (*Salix discolor*)

By Marion Robertson

The Willow species is one of the most important plant species for North America. When I state one of the most important plant species, I am talking in terms of food values for entire ecosystems.

Insects comprise the base of the food pyramid for all our land ecosystems and without insects, creatures such as birds, would starve and whole ecosystems would collapse. In fact, willows are only second to the oaks for the number of insects calling the willow its host plant.

So let's follow this through. I am not talking about insect infestations but rather long evolved plant-insect relationships.

A huge array of insects use the leaves for meals or for host plants. Some Lepidoptera using the Willow species as its host plant are Mourning Cloaks, Viceroy's, Hairstreaks, Sphinx moths, Comma moths, Red spotted purple, Eastern tiger swallowtail, and Compton's tortoiseshell.

Of course, this creates caterpillars

which is the most highly prized high protein food for birds. Without insects we destroy the base of the food chain and birds starve. In fact, overall bird populations have declined by over 50 per cent.



The Pussy Willow furthers the food value of the Willow species by means of its early reproductive cycle. It is the earliest of all the Willows to bloom.

This early bloom in March to April is crucial for overwintering pollinators. They awaken from hibernation desperate for food and Pussy Willow offers high quality protein in the form of pollen.

In fact, pollination experts rate Pussy Willow as 'special value' to native bees. For birds it's a win-win combination. They feast on the pollinators drawn to the flowers and to the caterpillars feasting on its leaves.

But it doesn't end there. I found out that the willow buds are eaten by ruffed grouse and tree squirrels. The fallen leaves are eaten by wood and snapping turtles. The bark is eaten by

muskrats, beaver and rabbits.

The beaver also use the willow wood for dam and lodge construction. Deer love to munch on its leaves and branches. And lastly, the yellow and warbling vireos use it for nesting.

Pretty impressive, right? Not done yet. The Willow has tremendous rehabilitation value. This water-loving species has the ability to grow rapidly and produce extensive root systems that bind the soil and decrease soil erosion.

It also has the ability to improve water quality by filtering and removing nutrients and sediments especially associated with agricultural operations.

To tie it all up in a bow, the Pussy Willows are gorgeous to look at. The origins of its name comes from their flower.

This is a dioecious species, where male and female are on separate trees. The male produces those adorable pearl gray catkins that resembles the pads on a cat's paw.

I can never just walk by a Pussy Willow in bloom without touching their silken catkins.

So maybe the Willows should be more on our planting radar.

Marion Robertson is co owner of Bee Sweet Nature co. We specialize in native and Carolinian trees, shrubs and wildflowers. We also have natural honey and honey by products.



Michael Chong

Member of Parliament,
Wellington - Halton Hills



michael.chong@parl.gc.ca[866- 878 5556](tel:866-878-5556)www.michaelchong.ca

HERITAGE MATTERS

In Grave Danger

By Mary Tivy

Rows of marble headstones are the trademarks of pioneer cemeteries in Puslinch. These emblems of the past are quietly and steadily disintegrating from the effects of vegetation, water, air pollution and vandalism.

Vegetation permanently stains marble. Lichens attach to stones, and the acids they produce eat the marble.

Because marble is soft and porous, stones set directly into the earth wick up ground water. Water weakens the stone as it expands and contracts during freeze and thaw cycles. When water evaporates from the stone, a carbonate crust is left, obscuring the carving.

Sulfuric acid from burning fossil fuels turns this crust into gypsum, blackened by dirt and soot. It blisters and crumbles away. The lamb and carving on this 1862 stone in the Farnham cemetery shows the affects of lichens, gypsum crusting and acid rain.



Photo: Bardwell gravestone with staining, lichens and gypsum crust.

Acid rain and fog also cause "sugar decay" of marble. Sulfuric acids eat away the binder in marble causing the surface of the stone to loosen and erode to a granular texture like sugar.

Carved images and lettering gradually became indistinct and disappear.



2 Photos: Farnham Cemetery. An 1861 floral carving in almost pristine condition and a similar design from 1896 showing the effects of sugaring and gypsum crusting.

Sinking and shifting ground can cause marble stones to fall and break, but the major cause of broken and demolished stones in our cemeteries is vandalism.

It is heartbreaking to see burial monuments destroyed with little regard to the meaning they hold for a person, family or community. It is also against the law.

In just one night alleged biker gang disturbed and demolished several stones in the Killeen cemetery. This cemetery is now closed to visitors other than family members of the deceased.

Damage at the closed Howitt cemetery is equally distressing. Here we can see a partial, and rare 1857 carved limestone grave marker for Nancy Harris that has been broken



Photo: Howitt Memorial Cemetery Nancy Harris 1857 broken stone.

Conserving Stones

Very gentle brushing (never with metal bristles) or cleaning with a special monument cleaning solution can delay further decay of old stones, unless they have sugared to a point where brushing furthers erosion.

Fallen stones need to be re-set into a lime mortar rather than directly into cement. Additional repair and restoration of marble gravestones requires trained conservators.

Cemeteries usually have maintenance trust funds for restoration, but the work is labor intensive and expensive if a restoration stonemason is hired.

The Ontario Genealogical Society (OGS) offers limited funding to historic cemeteries for rehabilitation of grave markers damaged by vandalism, while the Ontario government provides a technical guide for those undertaking this delicate work, Landscapes of Memories: A Guide for Conserving Historic Cemeteries <http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/cemeteries/>



Photo with Caption: Farnham Cemetery, partially cleaned twin stone of James and Charlotte Carter, 1856.)

Religious Services

In these ever-changing times, it is wise to double-check the website to determine if in-person services are happening or the event is taking place.

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Rev. Deborah Deavu

Until further notice, there are no Sunday worship services at the Church. See the church's website for updates. To receive weekly services via email, send a message to arkellunitedchurch@hotmail.com.

BAHA'I FAITH

www.bahaisofpuslinch.ca.

- You are invited to join us in our study of – *Reflections on the Life of the Spirit* – a course on the spiritual nature of the human being. During the pandemic, this study will be conducted via the Zoom video conference platform. Call 519-767-3135 or email lsapuslinch@gmail.com for particulars of date, time and Zoom link.

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www.calvaryguelph.com

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Chinese 11:30 am
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- Calvary Youth: For Jr. & Sr. High programs - please go to church website for more information.
- Adult Bible Study: Thursdays 10:00 am.

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Pastor: Melissa Richer

Sunday Worship @ Home: YouTube "Cross Roads BIC"

www.youtube.com/channel/UCMKYAskvq1HdGsTiA7UQFsg.

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Music Director: John Zadro

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155 Freelon Rd. at Douglas Street,
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(905) 659-3380

www.freeltonstrabaneuc.ca

Minister: Rev. Will Wheeler

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7156 Concession 1, Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
(519) 824-8757

www.pccweb.ca/knox-crieff/

Minister Rev. Michelle Yoon

- Sunday Worship at 10 am.

While the pandemic remains our weekly services are posted on Facebook look for Knox Presbyterian Church, Crieff.

MOUNT CARMEL-ZION UNITED CHURCH

in Morriston at the corner of Church &
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NOB 2C0

Minister: Rev. Margaret Ruggles

(519) 822-8610

www.morristonunitedchurch.com

Email: morristonunitedchurch@gmail.com

We are continuing to remain closed but are holding online services every Sunday at 10:30 am on our Facebook page. "Mount Carmel-Zion United Church". Be sure to "follow us". Stay tuned for news on re-opening!

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Community Events

At the Puslinch Pioneer, we like to promote community events and we ask for your co-operation in keeping them under the 50 word count so we can accommodate as many as possible. If your event is taking place outside of Puslinch, or is a for-profit venture, there is a \$25 charge for the listing.

"LINK UP WITH DUFF'S"

GOLF TOURNAMENT & BBQ STEAK DINNER SATURDAY JUNE 5TH

Come out & play and or have a curb side pick up, bbq steak dinner 18 holes of golf at Victoria Park Valley Golf Course starting at 1:00 pm. Dinner 6-7:00 pm, curbside pick up - Duff's Church, Gordon & 401. 50/50 draw - draw for door prize. Golf & Dinner, incl. cart - \$95.00. Dinner only - \$40.00 Tickets & Info. 519-763-0309, 519-767-2462

Rotary Pasta Picnic Al Fresco: Friday, June 18th at the Puslinch Community Centre.

Reserve Tickets: Contact Celia at celia@digitalfrog.com or 519 766-1097. You will be able to pick up your meal outside the Puslinch Community Centre, then enjoy it sitting at a picnic table or on your own blanket. Proceeds support Sunrise Therapeutic Riding & Learning Centre, and other community charitable organizations.

Community Announcements

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GUELPH

Learn to be a kid again! Volunteer mentors needed for local children. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph has five programs with varying levels of time commitment. Call (519) 824-5154, email info@bbbsg.ca or visit us online at www.bbbsg.ca.

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BOOKING AGENTS

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or email melabj@rogers.com.

BADENOCH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Inquiries call 519-822-5232.

DUFF'S CHURCH

Contact the church office at 519-763-1163
or email office@duffschurch.ca.

FREELTON UNITED CHURCH

Contact Ray McConachie at 905-659-3033
or email rayjo1819@hotmail.ca.

OPTIMIST RECREATION CENTRE AND PUSLINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Call (519) 763-1226 or email rentals@puslinch.ca

CROWN CEMETERY PUSLINCH

Crown Cemetery Puslinch is located north of Morriston at Brock Road and Highway 401. It is a non-profit cemetery operated by a volunteer board of managers and a secretary/treasurer. We welcome all denominations for burials. For more information please visit our website at www.crowncemetery.ca or contact Darlene Harrietha at (519) 822-0874 or email darleneharrietha@gmail.com.

THE FRIENDS OF MILL CREEK

Meet at the Puslinch Community Centre at 3:30 pm. on the third Wednesday of every month (except August). If you share our passion for protecting this precious for future generations and in

developing resource the next generation of conservationists, join us. For more information <http://www.friendsofmillcreek.org>

THE MILL CREEK SUBWATERSHED COMMUNITY LIAISON TEAM

Holds its monthly meetings the second last Thursday of each month at 1:00 PM at the Community Centre in Aberfoyle. The public is invited.

OPTIMIST CLUB OF PUSLINCH

Is one of the most active clubs in the Township. Our focus is youth. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. Visit www.optimistclubofpuslinch.com and fill out an application or call Ken at 519-763-0309 or contact any club member.

OPP.

If you have a concern about a police matter, please phone 1-888-310-1122 and request to meet an OPP officer at the Puslinch Township office.

PUSLINCH FIDDLE GROUP

Meets the 3rd Sunday of each month at Duff's Church, Nanson Hall, from 1 - 4 pm. Come out and bring your fiddle, guitar, etc. and join in some good old fiddle music. Call Paul McDonald (519)763-9764.

PARENT-CHILD PLACE

Is a free drop-in program for parents and caregivers with children birth to 6 years, running September -June. It runs on Tuesdays at the Puslinch Community Centre from 9:30-11:30.

PUSLINCH LOAN CUPBOARD HOME HEALTH CARE EQUIPMENT SERVICE

is located in Duff's Presbyterian Church. For assistance call:

Gary Will	(519) 763-3958
Fred Law	(519) 767-2462
Dianne Hersey	(519) 824-6304
Carolyn Vandenheuvel	(226) 962-1173

THE ROTARY CLUB OF GUELPH SOUTH

Meets every Thursday at 7:30 am. Check out www.rotary7080.org/guelphsouth for more information. Contact Celia Clark for membership inquiries: (519-766-1097)

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