



## Aberfoyle Mill closes its doors

By Anne Day

Like many Puslinch residents, I was shocked and saddened to learn about the closing of the Aberfoyle Mill – a restaurant that, as a family, we frequented to celebrate special occasions like birthdays and anniversaries.

I reached out to owner John Manolis to learn more. While John has owned the restaurant for 35 years, he's actually worked there since 1987 and then purchased it in 1992.

Closing the restaurant and declaring bankruptcy was really tough and a painful end to a meaningful meeting place in Puslinch.

Not only has John lost his business but his home too as he lived at the Mill.

While often the main dining room appeared full, the rest of the building was not, and 350 seats would be empty. But the decline started with COVID, which negatively impacted many businesses.



That, coupled with rising costs, the maintenance of an 1860 building and the downward turn in the economy, all resulted in the business becoming unsustainable.

Accessibility was also an issue. One corporation, for example, had booked the space for an event, but had to cancel because of the lack of accessibility.

Right now, John's focus is on making sure his staff and clients with gift certificates and weddings are reimbursed appropriately, but that rests with the trustee, not John.

"The impact on wedding plans is the hardest, shares John. We kept going as long as we could. "

Since the closure, John has heard from former staff and many clients expressing their sorrow that the restaurant has closed.

John's hope is that someone will purchase the building and return it to the vibrant restaurant it once was.



Now 68, John is not sure what the future holds for him. Right now, he is seeking some closure to this sad ending to his lifetime's work.

Seeing an iconic local restaurant close suddenly, speaks to the fragility of the current economy, and John is not alone in facing and making such hard decisions.

I hope he finds the peace he deserves, with the knowledge that many of us valued and truly appreciated the service he provided at the Aberfoyle Mill.

# Editorial

This issue reflects our lives just now with the ups and downs of living and working in a complex world, but it also focuses on the future – our youth.

This month, it's a combination of loss and endings – with the stories about the Aberfoyle Mill and Lynne O'Brien's retirement from Sunrise. Lily (page 15) reflects on what she misses from her activities prior to COVID, but recognizes that she was fortunate to have had those experiences, and that attitude is part of her moving forward.

Right now, we are dealing with the uncertainty in the world, we have mentioned a couple of books that may help you move forward. Crieff Hills is also hosting – Hope in Disarray on May 2.

On a more positive note, we highlight the success of the recent Easter Bunny breakfast hosted by Whistle Stop Preschool and for which the community rallied around.

We also provide information on summer camps and learning opportunities for our youth, as well as scholarships available through the Optimist Club of Puslinch.

You may not know much about Focus on Nature, but it is an innovative program that introduces children to nature and arms them with cameras to capture the beauty of what they see. Subsidies for the camp fees are available so no child misses out. In a later issue, we intend to showcase some of the photos that the children have taken.

PS. Pleased to report I received my British passport at the end of March.

Anne Day

# Our Mission

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

## Publishing Policy

The *Puslinch Pioneer* does not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed in articles or Letters to the Editor.

We reserve the right to edit lengthy articles, or to refuse items or advertisements that are deemed not in keeping with our Mission Statement, are racist or promote hate.

## Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should include your name and phone number and be submitted by five p.m. on or before the deadline to [editorpuslinchpioneer@gmail.com](mailto:editorpuslinchpioneer@gmail.com)

## Deadline

Unless otherwise stated the deadline for submissions is on or before the 2nd Friday of the month.

Next deadline is **5 p.m. Friday, May 8th, 2026.**

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# Council Clips

## **Puslinch Tract:**

GRCA transfers 265 acres of land known as the Puslinch Tract to the Township for \$1.6 million. There is a need for parkland and recreation space in the western area of Township.

## **Fire Department:**

Aaron Ferraccioli appointed to the position of Interim Deputy Fire Chief.

## **Borrowing By-law:**

Council passes by-law authorizing temporary borrowings of \$1,500,000 in 2026.

## **Puslinch Historical Society:**

Currently focusing their work on ancestry and reviewing an inventory of historical books.

## **Remuneration & Expenses Paid:**

To members of Council during 2025 total \$174,264 and to committee and local board members \$15,353.

## **Strategic Plan and Community Improvement Plan:**

Council continues review of each document.

## **Proposed CBM Aberfoyle South Pit Expansion:**

Township maintains its objection to the Class A licence application and recommends this matter be referred to the Ontario Land Tribunal unless Township advises MNR that applicant has satisfactorily addressed the issues outstanding.

## **2025 Asphalt Program:**

Request for proposal for asphalt resurfacing and drainage upgrades on Concession Roads 1 & 2, Nicholas Beaver Road, Farnham, Carter and Cooks Mill Roads.

## **Brock Road:**

Mayor requests County staff to consider speed humps on Brock Road in Aberfoyle as a replacement for speed cameras to combat speeding.

## **Brock Road:**

County has engaged Dillon Consulting to study Brock Road between Wellington Road 34 and Sideroad 23 to determine the most cost-effective way to slow traffic.

There will be two rounds of public engagement this spring and fall.

## **Trucks Prohibited on County Roads:**

Large truck traffic may be prohibited on two County roads Wellington Road 29 south of Hwy 7 and Wellington Road 37 east of Wellington Road 41.

## **Gordon Street/ Clair Road to Maltby Road:**

Council requests presentation from City regarding Environmental Assessment and Infrastructure Preliminary Design Study specifically with respect to traffic coming into Puslinch.

## **Aberfoyle Mill Restaurant:**

The Aberfoyle Mill closed its doors on March 29.

## **Community Mural Designs:**

As part of Aberfoyle/Morrison beautification project two large community murals will be installed in the downtown areas of each community. Residents are invited to share their ideas and help shape what these murals could look like.

# Mother's Day Brunch



This Mother's Day, step into the serene beauty of Crieff Hills.

We're hosting an exquisite farm-to-table brunch designed to honour the mothers, grandmothers, and nurturers in our lives with fresh flavours and a peaceful countryside atmosphere.

Treat her to a seasonal menu crafted with care by Chef Matthew Foote, featuring locally sourced ingredients that celebrate the best of the spring harvest.

**Date:** Sunday, May 10

**Sittings:**  
10:00am, 12:00pm, 2:00pm

## **All-Inclusive Pricing:**

- Adult \$74
- Child (6-12 yrs old) \$36
- Child (5 and under) Pay what you can

*Pricing is transparent and includes all applicable fees and taxes.*



**TOWNSHIP OF PUSLINCH**  
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## **Council and Committee Meetings** **(519) 763-1226**

Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting:  
May 4th at 1pm  
Youth Advisory Committee Meeting:  
May 4th at 6pm  
Council Meeting: May 6th at 10am  
Committee of Adjustment and Planning and Development Advisory Committee Meeting:  
May 12th at 7pm  
Council Meeting: May 27th at 10am  
Public Information Meeting: May 27th at 7pm held at the Puslinch Community Centre  
Please check the Council Calendar at <https://puslinch.ca/calendar/> 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](http://www.wellington.ca/Library).

## **Optimist Recreation Centre Rink**

The rink remains open, weather permitting! Please check our website and social media channels for the most up-to-date information on hours and operations. To view the rink schedule, please visit our Recreation and Leisure Calendar page at <https://puslinch.ca/culture-recreation/recreation-and-leisure-calendar/>

## **Drop-In Gym Times**

The Township offers the following complimentary Drop-In programs in the gymnasium: Parent and Tot - Wednesdays 9am-11am Youth - Thursdays 4pm-5pm.

## **Seniors Drop-In Programming**

The Township is offering drop-in seniors programming in the Alf Hales Room weekly every Thursday from 1pm-2:30pm. Join us for our current activity — Euchre! To view the program schedule, please visit our Recreation and Leisure Calendar at <https://puslinch.ca/culture-recreation/recreation-and-leisure-calendar/>

## **Rental Request**

Looking for a facility to host indoor recreation activities or a children's birthday party? Consider renting the Optimist Recreation Centre Gymnasium! Click on the following link to submit your facility rental request form <https://puslinch.ca/forms/rental-request-form/>

## **Historical Society Archives**

Saturdays 12 noon - 3 pm or for appointment email [ardyne.farm@sympatico.ca](mailto: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)

# Farnham Cemetery Open House: "Open Gate" Community Invitation

By Barb Jefferson and Glenna Smith



Farnham Cemetery invites the community to attend our open house event, "Open Gate," Sunday, May 31st, from noon to 3 PM.

Situated just south of the City of Guelph, 430 Arkell Road, Puslinch Township, Farnham Cemetery offers a peaceful sanctuary beneath towering pine trees.

The cemetery originated from a land parcel granted to John Arkell in 1931, with the intention of establishing a planned English community known as "Farnham Plains" in Puslinch Township.

Although the community itself did not flourish, the need for a cemetery and church endured. The earliest recorded burial dates back to 1837.

On the day of the open house, the cemetery grounds will be open to all visitors.

Stop by the volunteer table at the Chapel to pick up a history booklet, which will help you identify various points of interest marked along the roadways.

The pioneer section offers much to explore, from modest limestone crosses to grand family obelisks.

Particularly poignant is the miniature lamb on a child's grave. The Arkell family plot commands attention with its substantial engraved headstone and surrounding privacy fence.

The original church site from 1840 is

commemorated by a wall and stone bench—a tranquil spot for reflection.

At the rear of the cemetery, visitors can view discarded markers and headstones embedded in concrete, showcasing the symbolism and artistry of earlier memorials.

In the newer sections, monuments are adorned with laser-engraved images and personalized designs, providing glimpses into the lives and passions of those honoured there.

These include musical notes, meaningful quotations, mountain sunsets, favorite vehicles, and even whimsical scenes such as a hobbit fishing.

After touring the cemetery, guests are invited to enjoy lemonade and sweets at the Chapel entrance, where volunteers will be available to answer any questions.

Farnham Cemetery serves as a final resting place for loved ones and as a tranquil setting for contemplation and reflection. We invite you to come and experience its beauty and history.

# Oratorical Contest

By Don McKay

The Optimist Club of Puslinch is proud to recognize the participants in this year's Oratorical Contest held on Tuesday, March 24th.



From left to right:

*Skhya (1st Place), Maahi (3rd Place), Fiona (Participant), Declan (2nd Place), Lucas (Participant)*

Congratulations to all of the participants!

# Moon talk

By Anne Day



Many of us were watching with awe as Artemis 11, after all its delays, finally launched on April 1st.

For me, it was a flash back in time to the Apollo 11 mission in 1969.

Back then, my father, based in Edinburgh, came up with this idea of having postcards and first day edition stamps to originate from Cape Canaveral as a collectors' item.

It was a big hit, and he ended up on Scottish television sharing the story.

# Ruth Laking is turning 90!



All are welcome to celebrate with her on June 7th at the Badenoch Community Centre, for a come and go, 1:30 to 4 pm.

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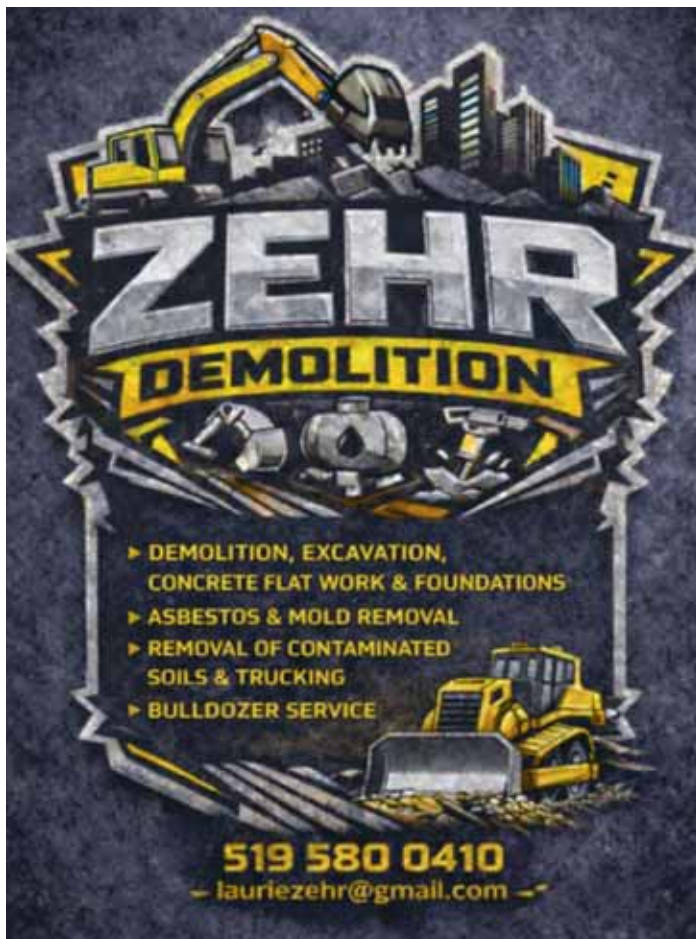
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“Consultation bestoweth greater awareness and transmuteth conjecture into certitude. It is a shining light which, in a dark world, leadeth the way and guideth. For everything there is and will continue to be a station of perfection and maturity. The maturity of the gift of understanding is made manifest through consultation.

In all things it is necessary to consult . . . [Consultation] is and will always be a cause of awareness and of awakening and a source of good and well-being.

Say: No man can attain his true station except through his justice. No power can exist except through unity. No welfare and no well-being can be attained except through consultation.”

From the Bahá'í writings  
bahaisofpuslinch.ca



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**THE PUSLINCH PROFILE FEATURES:**


## The Danish Place

Nestled on a historic property in Crieff, The Danish Place offers a unique dining experience rich in heritage and charm. Located on land once owned by Lt. Colonel J.B. Maclean, the original 1845 building has been beautifully restored. The site also holds a royal connection - during a 1967 visit, Queen Margrethe II of Denmark and Prince Consort Henrik planted two beech trees on the grounds, a lasting symbol of Danish tradition.



This family-run restaurant serves a wide range of authentic Danish cuisine, from fresh soups and salads to classic smørrebrød and hearty entrées. Rooted in the Danish concept of hygge, comfort, connection, and well-being, The Danish Place offers a warm, inviting atmosphere where guests can slow down and enjoy good food and company.

Proudly supporting the local community, The Danish Place encourages residents to shop local and stay connected. They look forward to welcoming guests for their Danish Constitution Day Celebration on Sunday June 7, and are excited to now offer full-service wedding catering and a beautiful venue at Sunset Villa for special occasions.



✉ [thedanishplacerestaurant@gmail.com](mailto:thedanishplacerestaurant@gmail.com) ☎ 519-824-0539 🌐 [thedanishplace.com](http://thedanishplace.com) 📍 7150 Concession 1

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# Optimist Club Scholarships

The Optimist Club of Puslinch is once again offering scholarships to assist youth and families of the Township of Puslinch with educational expenses and to promote the Club as an organization committed to the advancement of education.

This year three scholarships of \$1500 each will be awarded to qualified applicants commencing in September 2026 for the 2026-2027 school year.

This is the 25th year that the Club has offered the scholarship program. The three scholarships will be split into three streams.

One scholarship will be awarded to those students who are pursuing a university degree, one scholarship will be awarded to those students who are pursuing a community college degree, and one scholarship will be awarded to those students who are pursuing a vocational-technical apprenticeship/ diploma.

To be eligible to apply for any of the scholarships the applicant must be; a resident of the Township of Puslinch; 21 years of age or younger in the year the award is given; entering their first year of post -secondary education; and enrolled in either a university, a community college or a vocational-technical school or undertaking an apprenticeship.

The due date for this year's submission is June 26, 2026.

For further information and application forms please go to our website [www.optimistclubofpuslinch.com](http://www.optimistclubofpuslinch.com) and go to programs/scholarship; contact your high school guidance department;

or Don McKay (519) 822-2984, [donmckay@golden.net](mailto:donmckay@golden.net)

## Campsite reservations



With 2,200 campsites in eight Grand River Conservation Areas, it is easy to find the perfect place for your camping vacation. Both individual sites and group camping sites are available from May 1 to October 15.

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- The 2026 online camping reservation system is now open. <https://www.grcacamping.ca/>
- Group Camping reservations can also be made online. Our Group Camping fee structure has changed. Please see our Conservation Area Fees page for more details.
- If you are a new user to our online reservation system, you will need to create a new customer profile before booking.
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# Fish Fry

Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Puslinch Community Centre

Adults \$25, Children under 12 \$15

### TICKETS

- Purchase from your favourite Optimist Club Member
- Reserve by calling Dave at 519-831-5920
- Buy online at [www.optimistclubofpuslinch.com](http://www.optimistclubofpuslinch.com)
- Limited tickets will be available at the door
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\*Based on rural and farm properties sold in Centre Wellington, Guelph-Eramosa and Puslinch as reported from Jan 1, 2016 - Dec 31, 2025. Calculation based on 680 PropTix and Cornerstone agents.

## Canadian film maker

By Betty Andersen



Graeme Ferguson developed the IMAX film process. He lived in Puslinch on Concession 1, as did his parents, Grace and Frank.

Frank Ferguson taught school at Galt Collegiate, after moving here from Saskatchewan where he was a minister in small towns.

This documentary is about the life of Graeme Ferguson, and I thought an announcement of its release might be of interest to *Puslinch Pioneer* readers.

It was sent to me by Munro Ferguson, Graeme's son, and also a noted Canadian film maker.

## Summer Solstice night market

Saturday June 27, 6-10pm

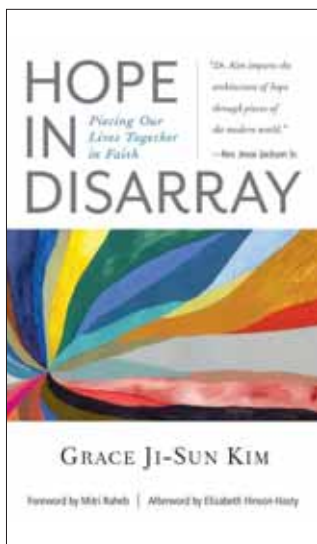
This new market is coming to the Guelph Farmers' Market on Saturday June 27, 6-10pm.

Celebrate the season with local food, night vendors, live music and an awesome community!

We're accepting vendors for the following: art, prints, ceramics, vintage and antiques, upcycled and hand-made clothing and accessories, artisan goods and community and activity tables.

Email - [events@10carden.ca](mailto:events@10carden.ca)

## Hope in Disarray



Join author and public theologian Dr. Grace Ji-Sun Kim for a transformative day of reflection at Crieff Hills.

Drawing from her acclaimed book, *Hope in Disarray*, Dr. Kim invites us to engage the world's pain with the conviction of God's goodness.

The day includes:

- Two Keynote Sessions with Dr. Kim
- Guided Group Discussions on faith and culture
- Silent reflection on the beautiful Crieff Hills grounds
- Farm-to-table lunch, snacks, and beverages

### REGISTRATION DETAILS

Saturday, May 2 9am - 4pm

Cost: \$80+HST (including lunch)


To register, go to

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-CA/ticketing/hope-in-disarray-a-one-day-re-treat-with-dr-grace-ji-sun-kim>

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# THE PUSLINCH PROFILE FEATURES:

## Krissy Thompson Photography

After the sudden loss of her father to cancer, local Puslinch photographer Krissy Thompson made the courageous decision to step away from the family business to pursue her lifelong passion for photography. A graduate of Toronto Metropolitan University, she built her foundation working alongside corporate, wedding and family photographers to gain real world experience. It was during the pandemic, after the birth of her son, that she discovered her heart was firmly rooted in family photography - capturing genuine, meaningful moments that families will cherish for years to come.

Today, she specializes in family sessions that blend the best of both natural light and studio photography. Her studio lighting is thoughtfully designed to replicate the look of natural light, softly enveloping her subjects and creating timeless images that can be captured year round. During the warmer months, clients can also choose outdoor sessions at her private, forest surrounded property, offering beautiful green space, privacy and flexibility.

A strong believer in shopping local, Krissy intentionally collaborates with nearby farms and small businesses for specialty sessions, creating shared exposure and strengthening community ties. The upcoming Mother's Day Mini Experience sessions are being held on May 9 at The Saol Project, set inside a charming spring greenhouse. Visit her website at [www.krissythompsonphotography.com](http://www.krissythompsonphotography.com), or reach out to Krissy at [hello@krissythompsonphotography.com](mailto:hello@krissythompsonphotography.com) to book your session today.



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# Sunrise director retires

By Anne Day



This May, Lynne O'Brien leaves her position of Executive Director at the Sunrise Therapeutic Riding and Learning Centre.

She has held that position for ten years as well as playing different roles within the organization since 1992.

She has also been very much a part of Sunrise's development from the farm on Guelph Lake to its current location on Concession 1.

Lynne was also involved for seven years with the Canadian Therapeutic Riding Association, working with staff who operated similar centres from across Canada.

"It's been such a privilege to work with

the families and volunteers." shares Lynne. They are so joyful, giving and loving."

It is the children, adults and volunteers that she will miss the most.

When asked what Lynne plans to do next, she laughed and replied that after years of working every summer at the camps at Sunrise, she intends to just chill and enjoy her free time.

However, she knows that she will be volunteering – it's part of her DNA.

We wish her well and thank her for her years of dedication to the families at Sunrise.

## Family Activity

By Julia Preston



Long ago, May was a time of celebration. The weather was warm. The sun was shining. Plants were growing. People rejoiced.

The relief we feel at the end of winter and the approach of summer is the same today.

Take inspiration from our ancient relatives and dance and sing your way through the month.

Have a backyard dance party. Sing your own songs or queue up an energetic playlist. Bonus points for dancing around a May pole or tree.

Fire was another element of traditional celebration. Have the first bonfire of the season and enjoy the sun's presence into the evening.

Mother's Day and Victoria Day are their own special celebrations this month. Incorporate some May Day traditions to make memorable occasions.



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## Book Shelf

### A love affair with the unknown by Gillian Deacon



Gill Deacon's faith in the future is put to the test when a mysterious illness robs her of the life she knows and trusts.

She explores and investigates uncertainty and how we can choose to draw on our innate resilience and learn to thrive in an ever-changing world.

### Finding hope in a dark place by Clarence Shuler



In his candid book, Clarence Shuler shares his own story of depression and his learning to effectively manage it. His story will help you receive grace in your own struggles.

He draws on his faith in God to realize that hope is possible and worth pursuing.

## Who do you call?



The Cambridge and District Humane Society (CDHS) has been providing animal control services for residents in the Township of Puslinch since 2019.

Puslinch Residents can call CDHS at (519) 623-6323, 24/7 including statutory holidays for the following animal control services and report the following:-

dogs at large, injured dogs and cats, aggressive dogs, deceased domestic pets, injured wildlife or exotic animals.

The Cambridge Humane Society is located at 1650 Dunbar Rd. Cambridge ON. For more information visit the Cambridge Humane Society website.

## Downsize & Declutter with Ease Workshop For Seniors



### Your Journey to Downsizing Begins Here!

Upcoming Dates:

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- Where to Sell or Donate Your Possessions
- What to Expect When Selling Your Home
- Current Real Estate Market Trends
- What is Stress-Free Independent Living
- Tour Guelph Lake Commons

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# The sport that saved me

**By: Lily Matheson-Peck**

There are some things you don't realize mean everything to you until they're gone. For me, that was cheerleading.

Cheerleading wasn't just a sport. It wasn't just routines, competitions, or sidelines. It was the place I felt most like myself.

It gave me structure when everything else felt messy, confidence when I didn't have much, and a sense of belonging I didn't know I needed.

It saved me in ways I didn't fully understand at the time.

There's something about being on a team where everyone depends on each other—literally.

You trust people to catch you, to lift you, to be there at exactly the right moment.

And they trust you just as much. That kind of connection is hard to find anywhere else.

Then everything just stopped.

When COVID hit, the world shut down, but it didn't feel real at first. Practices were cancelled "temporarily".

Competitions were postponed. There was this quiet assumption that things would go back to normal soon.

They didn't.

Days turned into weeks, weeks into months, and suddenly something that had been a part of my every day life was just...gone.

No practices, no routines, no team. Just silence where there used to be noise, energy, and purpose.

And just when it felt like there might be a chance to come back, my body had other plans.

An ankle injury made the decision for me. Even if the world reopened, even if cheer came back, I couldn't return to the way I was before. I tried just coaching for a while, but it was never the same.

That's the hardest part—losing something you love not because you chose to, but because you had to.

People don't always talk about that kind of loss. It's not as visible. It's not something you can easily explain. But it stays with you in small moments.

Hearing music that reminds you of routines, seeing a team practice, or even just thinking about the person you used to be when you were in it.

Cheerleading gave me more than just skills and memories. It gave me a version of myself that was confident, supported, and alive in a way that's hard to recreate.

And even though I had to leave it behind, that part of me didn't disappear.

I still carry it—in how I push myself, how I connect with others, how I handle challenges. Cheerleading may

not be part of my life anymore, but what it gave me still is.

And even now, I still miss it.

Not just the sport, but the feeling of being exactly where I was meant to be.

## Municipal elections in October

Thinking of running for office – on Council, as Mayor or a school trustee? Nominations start on May 1 and end on August 21, 2026.

To run for a position on council, you must be eligible to vote in that municipality. On the day you file your nomination, you must be a Canadian citizen aged 18 or older, and qualify as a resident or non-resident elector.

To run for a trustee position on a school board, you must be a resident within the jurisdiction of the board and you must be eligible to vote in a school board election.

On the day you file your nomination, you must be a Canadian citizen aged 18 or older and you must meet any other qualifications to vote for the school board (for example, being a Roman Catholic, or holding French language rights).

When you fill out the nomination form, write down your name as you want it to appear on the ballot.

To learn more, download the 2026 Candidates' Guide from [www.puslinch.ca](http://www.puslinch.ca)



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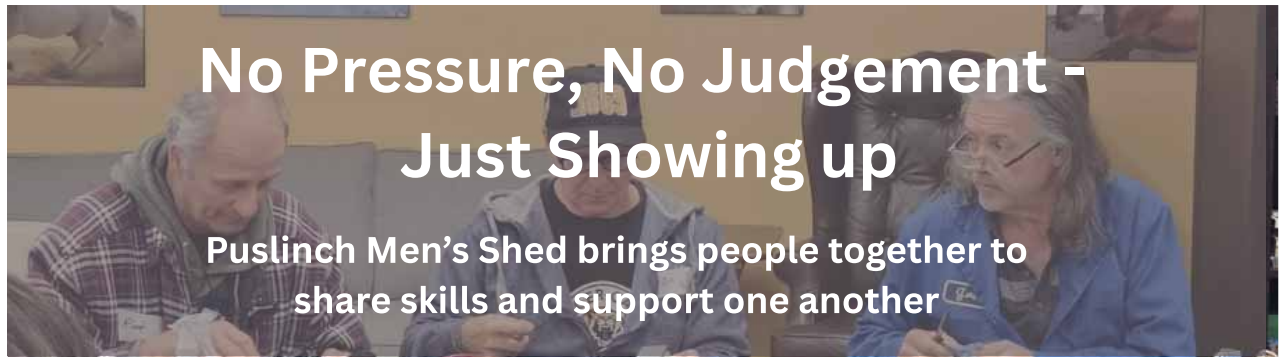
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## Puslinch Men's Shed at Cedarlane Farmstead AD



In Puslinch, people are used to lending a hand and getting on with things. The Puslinch Men's Shed follows that same approach—offering a place where men can spend time together, work on projects, and enjoy a bit of company.

There's not much formal structure to it. Some come to build or fix things, others come for the conversation.

Either way, it's a place where showing up is enough.

### Why It Matters

Mental Health Awareness Month in May brings attention to something many people experience quietly—feeling disconnected or on their own. And as we get older, it gets harder to make friends and stay active.

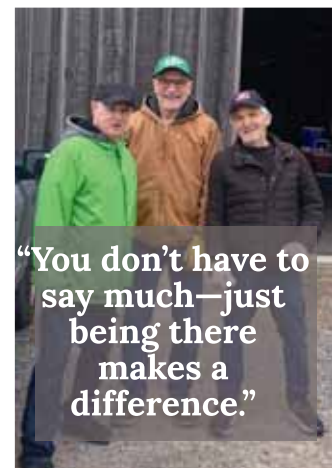
The Shed offers a simple way to counter that. Time spent working side by side or chatting over coffee can go a long way. It's not formal support, just a place where people notice each other and keep in touch.

### About the Puslinch Men's Shed

Our Shed is part of a global movement that began in Australia to reduce isolation and build community connections. The number of Men's Sheds globally is approaching 3,000, operating in 12 countries, with over 170 in Canada and more than 30 in Ontario.

Whether it's working in the wood or auto shop, planting a garden, playing cards, or informally sharing a meal, you are welcome. No experience is needed, and there's no expectation to take part in any particular activity.

**Reach out and schedule a tour, or for more information and a listing of our events, visit:**  
**[puslinchmensshed.com](http://puslinchmensshed.com) or email: [info@puslinchmensshed.com](mailto:info@puslinchmensshed.com)**



# Why does my skin break out?

By Dr. Laura M. Brown, ND



Skin breakouts, or acne can be from hormonal excess or shifts (puberty, menstruation, menopause), emotional stress, insulin dysregulation, microbiome imbalances, liver or lymphatic burden or poor gastrointestinal health and food sensitivities.

The health of the skin is an overall reflection of the health of the entire body.

The skin is one of the largest organs and along with the liver, lymph, lungs, kidney, gastrointestinal tract and

emotions, one of its roles is to detoxify.

The skin, however, is the most visible marker of system overload.

For lasting results, it is generally best to work from the inside out! That's because poor hygiene is not the cause of acne.

Over washing or use of abrasive cleansers aggravate the skin and cause further inflammation.

Strong antimicrobial soaps disrupt the natural flora. Daily rinsing with mild natural soap and a rinse with cool water is often enough.

It helps to keep hands and hair away from face and avoid makeup and don't pick at the skin.

When treating acne, it is important to stimulate bile flow, improve bowel regularity and frequency, work on liver function and lymphatic drainage – this all helps clear excess hormones and toxins from circulation.

Emotional regulation and adaptation to stress may help relieve anxiety, tension and depression.

Natural boosts for emotional (and overall) health include fresh air, drinking natural pure water, sunshine and walking in nature.

Additionally, there are lovely botanical medicines to help calm the nerves and boost mood.

Anti-inflammatory dietary measures include reduction of dairy, sugar, red meat, unhealthy oils and refined carbohydrates.

Liver loves bitter, so bitter greens and herbs are helpful and foods like cucumber, melon and aloe are cooling.

Fat soluble vitamins are important (A, D, E, K). Vitamin C and collagen, zinc and B6 are also key contributors to rejuvenate the skin.

As always, dose, timing, safety and duration are critical, thus an individual professional consult is key.

*This article is not intended for individual medical advice. It is for educational purposes only. If you or a loved one suffer with skin issues like acne, and you have any questions, please feel free to ask at [info@dr.laurambrown.com](mailto:info@dr.laurambrown.com)*




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# DISCOVERING PUSLINCH



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There's something magical about spreading out a blanket, unpacking some fresh local finds, and soaking in the sunshine.


Especially when you're surrounded by the natural beauty our area has to offer. **Grab a basket. Go for a picnic.**

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# A breakfast, a bunny and a community that rallied together

By: Jessica Ferlaino

*"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." — Margaret Mead.*

Each year, the Whistle Stop Preschool hosts its highly anticipated Breakfast with the Easter Bunny fundraiser, which serves as the perfect opportunity to bring the community together to celebrate the season and raise money for the preschool, and this year it exceeded expectations.

For the fourth consecutive year, the event sold out and with an expanded program of activities, the children and the families in attendance were abuzz...

But that could have been the copious amounts of sugar at their fingertips thanks to the addition of cotton candy and a bake sale, complete with delectable treats just in time for the holiday (calories don't count during the holidays, right?).

In addition to the delicious breakfast which consisted of pancakes, eggs, bacon, yogurt and beverages, the event also featured a face painting station, crafts and activities, games of chance, and of course, the Easter Bunny himself hopped into town to hand out treats and take photos with the children.

Everyone left with full tummies, smiling faces and warmed hearts thanks to the great turnout and support, with kindness that reached beyond the Whistle Stop Preschool to another organization that is working to uplift young people in the community.

Any additional food and foodstuffs were donated to a very grateful Wyndham House, which means that two very deserving child/youth empowerment organizations benefitted from the effort.

So, kudos to the attendees, the event planners and teachers, and most importantly the gracious community partners whose sponsorship made all the difference.

A very BIG thank you goes out to:

The Township of Puslinch, Puslinch Optimist Club, Puslinch Youth Advisory Committee Members, BJC Architects and Associates, Elevate Law, Sarmazian Brothers, Troy's Toys, Brant County Tire, LMS Real Estate Group, Godinho Family, Wagyu and Seiko, Longo's, P&H Milling, Organic Meadows, Zehrs, Food Basics, Metro and NoFrills, Whistle Stop Preschool Families and Teachers.

It was a Breakfast with the Easter Bunny to remember, and we look forward to what is to come next year!

From the teachers, children and families of the Whistle Stop Preschool, we hope you had a happy Easter and wish you a warm welcome to spring!

For more information about Whistle Stop Preschool: <http://whistlestop-preschool.com>.

# Scams and frauds



Did you know that as of June, 2025, reports of fraud reached 24,411, with 17,094 victims and \$342M lost to fraud.

We all need to be cautious and careful.

Here are some signs of a scam:

- Emails you a link and asks you to open it
- Demands immediate payment
- Uses threatening language
- Asks for personal or financial information

Scammers often pretend to be from Service Canada, Canada Revenue Agency or Immigration, Refugees, Citizenship Canada.

If you don't recognize the name of the person sending you an email asking for payment, or an invoice or receipt is attached, go to source at top of the email, click and you often see that it's not someone in an official capacity.

Do not open file. Delete. These scammers can be persistent but continue to ignore and delete.

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## Focus on Nature



Want your child to get into nature, learn to take photos?

Consider the Focus on Nature camp this summer which is for 8-12 year olds.

They are offering five weeks of camp in Guelph out of the J.C. Taylor Centre at the Guelph Arboretum.

Participants will spend each day on guided photo walks, enjoy outdoor games, and engage in nature-themed activities led by staff and an Arboretum Naturalist.

They'll also learn how to edit their images, create a slideshow, and take these memories home.

Every camper receives a camera and a laptop for editing.

If campers are familiar with your own camera, they are welcome to bring it!

Camp hours are from 9:00 am – 3:30

pm, with extended care available before and after camp.

Cost for the camp is \$300-425 per week.

Similar camps are also offered in Cambridge.

You can find more information and register on their website at <https://focusonnature.ca/guelph-summer-camps>.

## Events - Trade Tracks

Be part of something that builds more than skills. It builds the future workforce.

Trade Tracks is a dynamic, hands-on event connecting local trade professionals with the next generation of talent.

This is your opportunity to step out of the shop and into the spotlight, showcase your craft, share your expertise, and inspire students through real, interactive experiences.

From demonstrating tools to guiding hands-on activities, your knowledge can spark interest, confidence and career pathways in youth.

It's May 22 and 23 at the Sportsplex, Fergus.

At Trade Tracks, we know skills are learned from people not just programs.

By participating, you're not only promoting your trade, you're helping shape a skilled, motivated workforce for tomorrow.

Event Timing: Friday May 22nd 10:00 AM-4:00PM and Saturday May 23rd, 10:AM-2:00 PM 2026

Event Address: Centre Wellington Sportsplex and Event Grounds

550 Belsyde Ave, Fergus ON N1M2W5

Contact us at 519 831 5436 or [tradetracks.swcl@gmail.com](mailto:tradetracks.swcl@gmail.com)

**Please be aware this is an outdoor event.**

## ArtsEverywhere Festival

### May 7-10

The ArtsEverywhere Festival is the place where conversations, ideas, and artistic experiments are presented in Guelph.

Over four days, the festival offers lectures, conversations, music, artistic performances, circle gatherings, literary readings, exhibitions, and much more.

All the events are free except for The Guelph Lecture – On Being 2026 which is \$25. Tickets are through River Run Centre.

To get the full schedule, go to [ArtsEverywhere.ca](http://ArtsEverywhere.ca)

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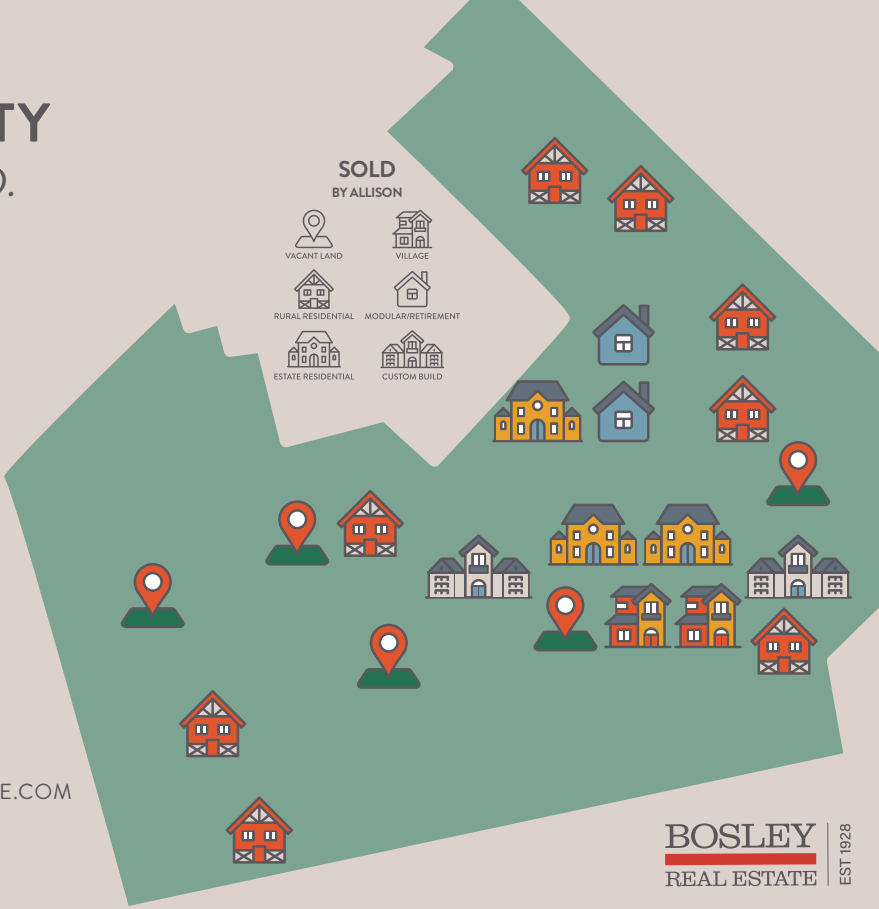
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# Puslinch Branch, Wellington County Library

For current hours and services, please call the Puslinch Branch at 519.763.8026 or visit us online at [www.wellington.ca/Library](http://www.wellington.ca/Library).

**Book Club – First Friday (Adults)**  
Meet with members of your community and join our discussion of books and ideas. Please register.  
Friday, May 1 at 1-2:00 pm

**Scavenger Hunt – Cosmic Quest (All Ages)**  
Blast off and explore outer space in this planetary scavenger hunt! May 5 to 16, during branch hours

**After School Adventures (Kids/Tweens)**  
Whether it's crafting new things, playing games, or doing experiments, join us for some after school fun! Please register. Wednesdays, May 6 and 20 at 3:00 – 3:45 pm

**STEAM Story Time (Preschoolers)**  
Bring your preschoolers to explore Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math using stories and hands-on activities. Please register.  
Thursdays, May 7 – 28 at 11:00 – 11:45 am

**Sew Savvy – Crumb Quilting (Tweens/Teens)**  
Use leftover scraps of fabric to make a new project. This programme is tailored to sewers who already have some experience using a sewing machine and are ready to handle more advanced projects. All materials supplied. Please register.  
Saturday, May 9, 10:30 am -12:30pm

**Scrabble Club (Adults)**  
Join us for casual word building entertainment. Drop in. Wednesdays, May 13 and 27 at 1:00 – 3:00 pm

**Dungeons and Dragons (Teens)**  
Join fellow fantasy fans to build characters and explore new worlds. Please register.  
Thursdays, May 14 and 28 at 5:30 – 7:00 pm

**Book Club – Third Tuesday (Adults)**  
Meet with members of your community and join our discussion of books and ideas. Please register.  
Tuesday, May 19 at 2- 3 pm

**Craft and Create - Watercolour Workshop (Adults)**  
Experiment with watercolour paint and techniques to create a project. All materials supplied. No experience necessary. Please register.  
Tuesday, May 26 at 1-3 pm

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Tell us what you love, and we'll hand-pick a selection of titles for you to borrow. For more information, visit [www.wellington.ca/JustForYou](http://www.wellington.ca/JustForYou).

While you're waiting for Just for You selections, check out this list of new books at the library.

## Fiction

- |                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Connelly, M       | Ironwood                  |
| Finlay, Alex      | The Anniversary           |
| Gilmore, Laurie   | The Daisy Chain           |
|                   | Flower Shop               |
| Jardine, Quintin  | Dead Man's Tale           |
| Johnson, Craig    | The Brothers McKay        |
| Kawaguchi, T      | Before I Knew I Loved You |
| McFadden, F       | The Divorce               |
| Penny, Louise     | The Last Mandarin         |
| Roberts, Nora     | The Final Target          |
| Strout, Elizabeth | The Things We Never Say   |

## Non-Fiction

- Barnett, Mac  
Make Believe: On Telling Stories to Children
- Black, Rod  
Cut to Black: A Legendary Life in Sports (and Maybe a Few Beers)
- Bradford-Scott, Leslie  
The Liar's Playbook: A Memoir of Family and Crime
- Conti, Paul  
What's Going Right: A Powerful New Method for Optimizing Your Mental Health
- Cornwell, Patricia  
True Crime: A Memoir
- Durham, Emily  
Clock In: No-BS Advice for Getting Ahead in Your Career (Without Losing Your Mind)
- Kamb, Steve  
How to Try Again: A Practical Guide to Embracing Failure, Accepting Reality, and Making Change That Sticks
- Macfarlane, Robert  
The Book of Birds: A Field Guide
- Sedaris, David  
The Land and Its People: Essays
- Winter, Jesse  
Wild Fire: Dispatches From a Country Ablaze



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# Cook's Corner

By Matthew Foote

Do you have an herb garden? If you do, you'll likely see tiny shoots of chives poking through the soil this month, and perhaps some new green leaves on the parsley plants too.

If you don't, now's the time to head out to your favourite local garden centre.

Even a large pot of herbs on the porch can provide you with some lovely flavours this spring and summer.

To get you started here are two fresh, herby recipes that will taste great—but also look beautiful. Happy spring!

## Roast Lamb Leg with Salsa Verde



### Ingredients:

boneless lamb leg  
½ bunch flat leaf parsley, washed  
generous bunch basil leaves, washed  
10 mint leaves, washed  
1 clove fresh garlic  
1 tbsp. grainy mustard  
juice and zest of 1 lemon  
6 tbsp. extra virgin olive oil  
Preheat oven to 300F.

### Lamb:

Let lamb leg come to room temperature and season generously with salt and pepper.

Sear in a medium hot oven-proof pan on all sides until golden brown.

Bake in 300F oven until internal temperature of 130F is reached.

Remove from the oven, tent with foil and rest for 20 min.

### Salsa verde:

Rough chop all herbs. Place in a food processor with garlic, mustard, lemon juice/zest.

Puree until smooth. With motor running, slowly add olive oil and process until smooth. Adjust seasoning as necessary.

To serve: Carve lamb and drizzle with salsa verde.

## Spinach and Chive Soup



8 cups spinach leaves, rough cut  
4 peeled, rough cut russet potatoes  
2 Spanish onions peeled, sliced  
4 cloves garlic peeled, sliced  
4 L vegetable or chicken stock  
1 cup 35% cream  
2 tbsp extra virgin olive oil  
salt and pepper

Place large heavy bottom pot over medium heat and add olive oil.

When hot, sweat onions and garlic. Add potatoes and stock. Bring to a boil; reduce to simmer.

When potatoes are fork -tender, remove from heat.

Transfer to a heat proof container, reserving pot for final cooking.

Puree the soup in food processor (careful to only fill halfway as hot soup expands!).

Add spinach a handful at a time until smooth. Using reserved pot, return soup to heat.

Add cream and adjust seasoning.

Serve immediately to preserve colour. To serve later, cool immediately over an ice bath and store in the fridge.

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## Ask the expert

### Your Garden Should Hold You, Not Hold You Back

By Kiki Alwan

How Can You Make Your Garden a Source of Joy Instead of Stress?

Spring has finally arrived - and with that joy comes a familiar feeling for every gardener.

Once the pollinators have safely emerged, of course, there's leaves to rake, shrubs to prune, oodles of plant matter to stuff into yard-waste bags in time for tomorrow's pickup.

Then summer will be here, with weeds to pull, grass to cut, and we mustn't forget to water that one little hosta.

Routines aside, it's worth asking yourself - what was the original goal for your garden?

A place to relax and unwind? A steady stream of colourful flowers? Fresh raspberries and snap-peas for the kids? Or a 'garden', keeping the place nice so the neighbours are happy?

Whatever the intention, many gardens slowly become an obligation.

What once was fun and manageable is now a constant struggle with nature - invasive plants, overgrown shrubs, and trees slowly shading out sun-loving perennials.

And while it would be nice to have

a dedicated gardener who comes to care for your garden just how you like it, this is sometimes not feasible.

You can hire local kids to help with edging the flowerbeds and digging up dandelions, but often, a more effective shift is to sit back, remember what your original goals were, and then start to plan accordingly for a reset.

Some potential solutions:

**Inspiration** - think of the gardens that make you smile. What's there that you like? How can you start implementing that?

**Design** - creating structure in a garden starts with the 'hardscaping' elements like the existing buildings, patios, pathways, decks, etc., followed by 'soft-scaping' such as trees, shrubs, and, naturally, a variety of plants.

Choosing focal points and then using plants to complement those points is a lovely place to begin.

**Right plant, right place:** Regrettably, without a time machine, sometimes this means removing the goliath shrubs that you are constantly fighting to keep small.

Any plant will always try to grow to its eventual size - and give you a sore back in the meantime! If replacing these troublemakers, always choose dwarf varieties, or ones that will fit the space.

**Mulch** - while it suppresses weeds, regulates soil temperature, and retains moisture for plants, it's really a



problem solver for empty space.

The 'chop and drop' method (using your existing fallen plant material, including leaves, as the mulch) is a fantastic way to reduce costs.

Or fill in the spaces with a low-and slow-growing plant such as carpet juniper (*Juniperus horizontalis*) for full sun, or Canadian wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*) with velvety heart-shaped leaves for shade.

Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*) is adorable - ask your local garden centre to stock it.

For those feeling especially overwhelmed, focusing on one area for even a few hours is a great start.

And many hands make light work, whether from friends and family, a local student, or a gardening professional.

A garden should - and can - support the life you want to live in it. It should offer rest, interest, and enjoyment.

# Michael Chong

Member of Parliament  
Wellington-Halton Hills North

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## Elora Festival

Now in its 47th season, the Elora Festival has established a reputation as Canada's international choral festival, presenting world-class choirs and vocal ensembles from July 10-26.

The Festival's ensemble-in-residence is The Elora Singers, one of Canada's finest professional chamber choirs.

The choir performs throughout the three weeks of the festival, both with solo concerts and in collaboration with guest artists and ensembles.

### Family events

#### **Peter and the Wolf – July 18, 10.30am Melville United Church, Fergus**

Bring the whole family for an unforgettable music adventure as Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf is brought vividly to life.

Children will delight in meeting each character, from the brave Peter to the sly wolf, while adults will savour the wit, charm, and brilliance of Prokofiev's timeless score.

#### **Barn Dance – July 26, Gabriel Barn, Elora**

Kick up your heels at the Elora Festival's lively Barn Dance, a joyful evening of music, food, and community celebration.

The Barrel Boys bring their infectious energy and virtuosic playing to the stage, joined by the voices of The Elora Singers for a uniquely Elora musical experience.

Whether you're an experienced dancer or trying it for the first time, everyone is welcome. The crowd is guided through fun, easy-to-learn dances.

With delicious local food trucks on site and a festive atmosphere under the summer sky, this is an evening made for friends, families, and anyone ready to dance.

Come hungry, bring your dancing shoes, and celebrate together at one of the festival's most spirited nights!

For more information on the festival go to [elorafestival.ca](http://elorafestival.ca)

## Black tie bingo

Celebrating 30 years, the annual Black Tie Bingo returned to the University of Guelph Event Centre on Saturday, March 28, 2026, for a milestone evening in support of Guelph General Hospital.

Presented by Co-operators and Meridian Credit Union, the evening brought together sponsors, donors, volunteers and guests in support of exceptional local healthcare.

The fundraising gala raised \$464,000 in net proceeds, supporting Phase Two of Guelph General Hospital's new Speedvale Campus, which will house endoscopy and the orthopedic fracture clinic and further expand care to the growing Guelph-Wellington community.

Together, contributions from the gala will fund the construction of the first orthopedic fracture exam room at the Speedvale Campus, while also making headway on the further needs of the new facility.

The thirtieth anniversary brought together both long-time attendees and many first-time guests, all in support of Guelph General Hospital.

The evening ended on a high note when former GGH staff member Flora Anderson surprised the room with a \$50,000 donation.

At the gala, the Foundation also presented this year's Inspirational Philanthropist Award to Ruth Thatcher, recognizing a legacy of giving back over 50 years. Ruth's volunteerism began at Guelph General in 1948, and she continues to be a part of the Guelph General Hospital Volunteer Association to this day.

Her role as a volunteer member on The Foundation of Guelph General Hospital's board of directors saw her



play a pivotal role in launching the first Black Tie Bingo.

Honouring Ruth on Black Tie Bingo's milestone 30th anniversary was a meaningful way to celebrate the lasting impact of her decades of service and dedication.

The Foundation also extends heartfelt thanks to the many businesses, community partners and volunteers whose support helped bring the event to life.

Their generosity continues to ensure that Guelph General Hospital can invest in urgently needed equipment and expand access to care for the growing community.

Since its inception in 1997, Black Tie Bingo has raised more than \$5.3 million in support of Guelph General Hospital, helping fund more than 100 essential pieces of patient care equipment. From IV pumps and specialized ICU beds to advanced surgical and diagnostic tools, the event's impact has been felt across every area of the hospital.

To learn more about The Foundation of Guelph General Hospital or to support local patient care, visit [gghfoundation.ca](http://gghfoundation.ca).



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# GRCA to transfer Puslinch Tract to the Township of Puslinch

On Friday, March 27, 2026, the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) Board approved the transfer of 265 acres of land known as the Puslinch Tract to the Township of Puslinch for \$1.6 million.

The Puslinch Tract is located along the south side of Highway 401, east of Wellington County Road 32, adjacent to the ON Route service station.

The Township of Puslinch has identified a need for parkland and recreation space in its western area. This transfer will allow the Township to continue to provide recreation opportunities to the community.

"Council is very pleased to see the transfer of the Puslinch Tract move forward. This is a meaningful opportunity to enhance parkland and open space for our residents on the west-side of the Township, while continuing to protect the natural features that make this property so special," says Puslinch Mayor James Seeley.

As we begin updating our Recreation and Parks Master Plan, we look forward to working with the community to shape how this natural asset can best support recreation, stewardship, and enjoyment for years to come."

The Puslinch Tract consists of a mixture of naturalized forest plantations, deciduous and coniferous forests, meadows, ponds and several wetlands.

The environmental features of the property will continue to be protected under applicable municipal planning policies and by-laws, and provincial legislation, as well as regulated by the GRCA under the Conservation Authorities Act (Ont. Reg 41/24).

The Township is in the process of updating its Recreation and Parks Master Plan, and through this process will engage with interest holders on the future of the Puslinch Tract.

## Call for volunteer camp counsellors

Join in the fun at Arts Explosion camp as a counsellor!

We are seeking energetic volunteers for July, 2026. Individuals can volunteer for one week (Monday-Friday) or multiple weeks.

This is a great opportunity to fulfill High School volunteer hours for those interested in the arts and working with children (ages 4 to 13).

Volunteers must be minimum 14 years of age, or starting grade 9 in September 2026.

With a high energy group of campers, volunteers will:

- exercise leadership skills
- be creative and encourage creativity
- lead activities in large and small groups
- assist teaching artists
- build relationships with campers, peers and instructors

Creativity, strong communication, leadership and interpersonal skills are considered an asset.

Camp takes place at River Run Centre, 35 Woolwich St., Guelph

For more information go to <https://guelphdance.ca/camps/camp-volunteers/>

## 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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### BAHA'I FAITH

[www.bahaisofpuslinch.ca](http://www.bahaisofpuslinch.ca)  
• You are invited to join us in our study of Reflections on the Life of the Spirit. This is a course leading to a greater understanding of the spiritual nature of human beings. Call 519-767-0636 or email [Isapuslinch@gmail.com](mailto:Isapuslinch@gmail.com) for particulars of dates, times and locations.

### CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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[www.calvaryguelph.com](http://www.calvaryguelph.com)  
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Chinese 2:00 pm  
• Children's Worship: Sunday morning program held during main services.  
• Calvary Youth: For Jr. & Sr. High programs - please go to church website for more information.  
• Adult Bible Study: Thursdays 10:00 am.

### CROSS ROADS BIC CHURCH

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Music Director: John Zadro  
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## MOUNT CARMEL-ZION UNITED CHURCH

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Email: [morristonunitedchurch@gmail.com](mailto:morristonunitedchurch@gmail.com)

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Reverend Rambie Bernardino  
Website: [www.stjamesang.ca](http://www.stjamesang.ca)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stjamesang>

• Sunday Services  
8:30 am Holy Eucharist - Traditional  
10:00 am Holy Eucharist 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays  
Morning Prayer 3rd Sunday  
Sunday School & Nursery at 10 am Service.

## 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.*

## ABERFOYLE FALL FAIR ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ & SILENT AUCTION

Thursday, June 11th, 5-7pm at the Puslinch Community Centre. Dine-in or take-out. Meal includes half chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, roll, dessert, and beverage. Cost: \$25.00. Fundraiser for the Aberfoyle Agricultural Society. Tickets, volunteering, or silent auction donations: Jenn Deter 519-837-5913 or any Fair Board member.

## BADENOCH MUSIC NIGHT

Friday, May 1st, 7pm Badenoch Community Center Music Nights at 4217 Watson Rd. S, Puslinch. First Friday of the month going forward. Everyone welcome!

## BADENOCH WELCOME WEDNESDAY

'The Badenoch Welcome Wednesday' is hosted weekly every Wednesday from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Badenoch Community Centre. Bring a craft along, play cards or spend an afternoon sharing conversation. Enjoy a cup of tea - ALL are welcome. For more info call: 519-763-0353.

## COMMUNITY LUNCH AT ARKELL UNITED CHURCH

Tuesday, May 12th at noon till 2 pm. 600 Arkell Rd. at Watson. Soup, sandwiches and dessert, cards and music. Freewill offering. Everyone welcome. Contact Deb Bell at 519-400-2643 for any further information.

## EUCHRE

Friday, May 1st & May 15th at 7 pm. Freelton Strabane United Church, 1565 Brock Rd., Strabane. For information, call 905-659-3380.

## FARNHAM CEMETERY OPEN HOUSE "OPEN GATE"

Farnham Cemetery invites the Community to our "Open Gate" Open House, **Sunday, May 31, 2026**, noon – 3 p.m. Stroll through this peaceful space while admiring the memorials, old and new. Bring your Spring plantings to freshen up a loved one's gravesite. Board members will be available with information and refreshments. Contact: Barb Jefferson, 519 766 6502.

## FREE EXERCISE CLASSES FOR 55+

The Victoria Order of Nurses offers a free exercise class for individuals 55+ who want to maintain their health and independence. The class focuses on aerobic endurance, balance, flexibility and strength. This class is Monday and Wednesday at 9:15am and Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30am located at Duff's Presbyterian Church. For registration please contact Danielle 519-803-0144.

## HAM AND SCALLOPED POTATO DINNER

Friday, May 8th at Knox Presbyterian Church, 7156 Concession 1, Crieff. Ham and Scalloped potato dinner and all the fixings. Dinner at 6:00pm, Adults \$25, children 6 to 12 \$10. For tickets: Email [kpccrieff@gmail.com](mailto:kpccrieff@gmail.com) or call Rochelle Barber 519 763-0563. Take out is available.

## HOOTENANNY

At Arkell United Church, 600 Arkell Rd. at Watson on **Friday, May 29th**, 7 to 9 pm. Sign up for your time in the spotlight or just sit and listen to the music. Contact Rob Stark at 519-994-4996 for further information.

## "IT'S SEW FUN" SEWING GROUP

**Mondays at 12:00 – 4 p.m.** Freelton Strabane United Church, 1565 Brock Rd., Strabane. For information, call Linda at 289-962-6737.

## LINK UP WITH DUFF'S

**Saturday May 23rd** in support of Mental Health Waterloo Wellington and Hospice Wellington. Enjoy 18 holes of golf or euchre plus a wonderful BBQ steak dinner. Live & silent auctions, and door prizes. For tickets, information and donations please call 519-763-0309 or 519-767-2462. All are welcome!

## MEN'S BREAKFAST

**Saturday, May 2nd**, 8am sharp at Ebenezer United Church on Guelph Line north of Brookville. Bring your Dad, son, brother, cousin, neighbour or friend for a delicious breakfast and a time to get to meet other men in your community. 90% of proceeds go to a charity in our community. Free will! All men/boys welcome. For information please call 519 763 7707.

## OPTIMIST CLUB OF PUSLINCH ANNUAL FISH FRY

**Thursday May 7th** 5:00 TO 7:30 pm. at the Puslinch Community Centre. Adults \$25.00, Children \$15.00 Tickets available online at [optimistclubofpuslinch.com](http://optimistclubofpuslinch.com), from a member, at the door or reserved through Dave at 519-831-5920. Takeout is available, please indicate that choice when purchasing. Get your tickets early to help us prepare for the event. Thank you.

## SENIORS TALK & LUNCH

**Wednesday, May 13th** at 11:30 am at Freelton Strabane United Church, 1565 Brock Rd., Strabane. Doors open at 11 am. Guest Speaker is a Rep. from Medigas who will speak about Sleep Apnea & Home Oxygen. Please call 905-659-3314 to register by Monday, May 11th. Free will lunch to follow.

# Inside the Back Page . . .

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### SWEETS & SONGS

**Saturday, May 2nd** at 6:30 pm at Freelon Strabane United Church, 1565 Brock Rd., Strabane. Enjoy a decadent dessert buffet & be entertained as local musicians cover the songs of folk & folk-rock artists. \$20.00 per person. For tickets, call Dot at 905-315-8706 or Morag at 905-659-5720.

### SUNRISE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Assist as a Volunteer Leader or Side Walker in therapeutic riding lessons for children and adults with special needs taught by certified Instructors. Weekdays, evenings and Saturdays. 1.5 hours per week minimum commitment. Ages 14+, training provided. To apply, contact Fiona at 519-837-0558 x35. Call now to register for our next training clinic.

### TECH TUESDAYS FOR SENIORS

**Tuesday, May 5th** at 1 pm. at Freelon Strabane United Church, 1565 Brock Rd., Strabane. Are you a Senior wanting to feel more confident using your Smart phone, tablet, laptop or other devices. Come to our help sessions! Pre-registration required, please call 289-880-1218.

### WHEEL OF FITNESS

Freelon Strabane United Church, 1565 Brock Rd., Strabane. **Thursdays** at 10 am. "Flamborough Connects" Trained Instructor. Pre-registration required, call 905-689-7880 or email [admin@flamboroughconnects.ca](mailto:admin@flamboroughconnects.ca).

## 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 [infoguelph@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca](mailto:infoguelph@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca) or visit us online at [www.bbbsg.ca](http://www.bbbsg.ca).

### BOOKING AGENTS

#### ARKELL UNITED CHURCH

Contact Laurie Rector at 519-766-0329 or [laurierec@outlook.com](mailto:laurierec@outlook.com) or <http://www.arkellunitedchurch.ca>

### BADENOCH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Inquiries call Ami DeVries at 226-979-0355 or email [badenochccrental@gmail.com](mailto:badenochccrental@gmail.com)

### DUFF'S CHURCH

Contact the church office at 519-763-1163 or email [office@duffschurch.ca](mailto:office@duffschurch.ca).

### FRELTON STRABANE UNITED CHURCH

1565 Brock Rd. (Brock Rd & 8th Conc W), Strabane, ON. Church Office at 905-659-3380.

### HISTORIC ELLIS PIONEER CHAPEL

Charming historic pioneer chapel for weddings, baptisms, small concerts. Visit [ellischapel.ca](http://ellischapel.ca). Contact Brenda Law at 519-767-2462 or [brendalaw@hotmail.ca](mailto:brendalaw@hotmail.ca)

### OPTIMIST RECREATION CENTRE AND PUSLINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Call 519-763-1226 or email [facilities@puslinch.ca](mailto:facilities@puslinch.ca)

### CROWN CEMETERY PUSLINCH

Crown Cemetery Puslinch is located north of Murrinston 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](http://www.crowncemetery.ca) or contact Darlene Harrietha at 519-822-0874 or email [darleneharrietha@gmail.com](mailto:darleneharrietha@gmail.com).

### EarlyON

Is a free drop-in program for parents and caregivers with children birth to 6 years. It runs on Tuesdays at the Puslinch Community Centre from 9:30-12pm. Check the EarlyON Guelph Facebook page for up-to-date cancellations.

### FRELTON LIONS CLUB

We are looking for new members and volunteers, men and women for our club. We sponsored a number of charities over the years. If you are interested in helping or joining please contact Jim Munday at 905-921-0095 or email [jkmunday@bell.net](mailto:jkmunday@bell.net).

### THE FRIENDS OF MILL CREEK

Meet at 7152 Concession 2, CBM Aggregates Aberfoyle Regional Office at 2:00PM on the 4th Thursday of the month(except August and December). If you share our passion for protecting this precious resource for future generations and in developing the creek for the next

generation of conservationists, come and join us. For more information <http://www.friendsofmillcreek.org> or call Don McKay 519-822-2984.

### 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.

### 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](http://www.optimistclubofpuslinch.com) and fill out an application or call Ken at 519-763-0309 or contact any club member.

### 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.

### PUSLINCH LOAN CUPBOARD HOME HEALTH CARE EQUIPMENT SERVICE

is located in Duff's Presbyterian Church.

For assistance call:

Gary Will	519-820-7832
Fred Law	519-767-2462
Alan Fairweather	519-824-5726
Jenn Deter	519-837-5913

### THE ROTARY CLUB OF GUELPH SOUTH

Meets 3 or 4 times a month. Check out <https://guelphsouthrotary.ca/> for more information. Contact Celia Clark for membership inquiries: 519-766-1097.

### METAL RECYCLING BIN - SUNRISE FARM (6920 Conc. 1, Puslinch)

Drop off 'unwanted' metals, e.g. stainless steel, aluminum, copper, tin cans, wire, metal rods, fencing etc. in the 'Gerdau Ameristeel' recycling bin situated in our parking lot. For more info, contact Lynne O'Brien Sunrise 519-837-0558 x31.

### WHISTLE STOP PRESCHOOL

Licensed Preschool Program for Children 2.5 - 5 years. Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 9:00am-11:30am at the Puslinch Community Centre. For more information visit our website [whistlestoppreschool.com](http://whistlestoppreschool.com) or Contact Sandra Gunson 519-239-9878 or email [whistlestopteacher@gmail.com](mailto:whistlestopteacher@gmail.com).

## Automotive

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## Health

**Dr. Laura M. Brown,**  
Naturopathic Doctor  
info@drlaurambrown.com 519-829-9817

## Heating/AC

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