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SHARE May 20, 2015 Vol. 6 Week 21 Issue 307

NINETY PEOPLE ENJOY BREAKFAST WITH THE MAYOR OF BLUEWATER

The Mayor's Breakfast held on the morning of May 15 at the Bayfield Town Hall offered the opportunity for the local chamber of commerce as well as many organizations to speak of their current projects. Genny Smith gave an update on the Engage Huron project which is designed to not only bring young people to the area but to find ways to retain their talents and develop new entrepreneurial businesses. Jen Pate, of Windmill Lake Eco Park (in picture), spoke to those gathered to say that she is one of those young people that have chosen to move to the area with new entrepreneurial start up businesses. (Photos by Jack Pal)

TOWN WIDE YARD SALE

Treasure seekers should mark June 6 on their calendars as the Bayfield and Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC) is promoting the first ever Town Wide Yard Sale and Village Side Walk Sale on that date.

Residents in the community are encouraged to hold a yard sale at their home on that date and local merchants will be offering up some side walk sales that day as well.

Community groups are also joining in the fun for bargain hunters to help raise funds for important area causes. One such group is Bayfield Guiding and the Camp Klahanie Friends Association. They will be hosting a yard sale in support of Bayfield Guiding and Camp Klahanie that weekend at 16 Keith Crescent.

Are you hosting a yard sale on June 6? Share the location details and times with the Bayfield Breeze! We will publish a list of locations in our June 3rd issue. Please submit by Sunday, May 31 at 4 p.m. to be included.

COUNCILOR'S CORNER

The Bayfield and Area Chamber of Commerce (BACC) held their 2015 Mayor's Breakfast at the Bayfield Town Hall on May 15. Approximately 90 attended the event including Mayor of Bluewater Tyler Hessel, Deputy Mayor of Bluewater Jim Fergusson and Bluewater council members.

Other dignitaries in attendance were: MP Ben Lobb, MPP Lisa Thompson, Mayor of Central Huron Jim Ginn, Warden of Huron County Paul Gowling and CAO Bluewater Gary Long.

The event is generously sponsored by the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation (OLG) and a number of OLG guests were in attendance.

Leanne Kavanagh, co-president of the BACC, thanked OLG for their continued support and noted that "this is a great event, as it allows the Chamber to bring Chamber Members and the business community together with area service club representatives, area council members, county and senior level politicians."

MPP Lisa Thompson (far right) announced at the breakfast the receipt of a Trillium Grant for the Bayfield Farmers' Market and associated improvements in Clan Gregor Square. She presented Mayor of Bluewater Tyler Hessel, BACC co-president Leanne Kavanagh and Joan Brady, of the Bayfield Farmers' Market, with a commemorative plaque from Trillium.

Dave Jewitt brought a welcome from OLG and talked about the employment generated locally by OLG through OLG Slots at Clinton Raceway and the investment in the community through support of local community events and purchasing goods and services from local and regional vendors.

MP Ben Lobb brought greetings as well and noted he had driven overnight from Ottawa to attend the event. Many Chamber members thanked Ben for his support of the Bayfield Harbour and the recent Bayfield Harbour improvement announcements.

MPP Lisa Thompson, also brought greetings and was able to announce the receipt of a Trillium Grant for the Bayfield Farmers' Market and associated improvements in Clan Gregor Square. She presented Mayor Hessel and Joan Brady, of the Bayfield Farmers' Market, with a commemorative plaque from Trillium.

Mayor Hessel offered greetings from the Municipality of Bluewater and talked about the progress that council has been able to make to date.

He said, "As a municipality, we are aggressively looking for opportunities to make improvements across Bluewater. We are especially pleased with some of the cost sharing initiatives with our neighbouring municipality, Central Huron."

Kavanagh gave an update on the past and coming year's activities including the Girls Getaway Weekend, the new Wind and Water Festival to be held July 11 and First Friday events that are planned for this spring and summer. She also made particular mention of the work done by BACC member Erin Samuel (A Simple Photograph www.simplephoto.ca) to provide a complete creative rebranding of the village.

The 3rd Thursday of the month has rolled around again and that means it's time for Councilor's Corner, May 21.

Bill Whetstone, Bayfield Ward councilor, notes that spring brings with it the start of project season for the municipality so there is much to share. Topics include, planning, budgeting, green spaces, downtown revitalization, projects, parks, and more.

This month there will be a special guest at the session that has been hired by the municipality to help in the strategic development plan for Bluewater.

Whetstone encourages all to come hear what council has been up to and voice their opinions. The evening will be held in the Bayfield Arena starting at 7:30 p.m.

COMMUNITY LUNCH

Mark Monday, May 25th, on the calendar because the Bayfield Town Hall Heritage Society will be hosting their Third Annual Community Lunch on that date.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the community to come together and hear about what's been going on at the Town Hall as well as learning about upcoming events. Anyone who has attended before knows that the lunch is delicious and the presentation informative. The luncheon begins at 11:30 and space is limited so people shouldn't wait to get their tickets.

The cost is $10 and tickets are available by calling Sandy Scotchmer at 519 565- 2830, Margo Robeson at 519 565-2827 or Pat McDougall at 519 565-2572.

HURON CENTENNIAL

Huron Centennial School supporters are working to raise funds for new playground equipment at the school near Brucefield. On June 6, they will be hosting a fundraising barbecue at Bayfield Foodland from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

KNIT 1-2-3

"World Wide Knit in Public Day" is the largest knitting event in the world, and Bayfield's Knit 1-2-3 has registered to be part in the event.

On June 13 from 10 a.m. to noon some members will be showing off their stitches and answering any question passersby may have outside the library on Bayfield Main Street North and all are invited to come and meet the group and say "Hello". They are bound to spin a good yarn!

SAFE HARBOUR RUN

Also in attendance were representatives of area service clubs and community groups. Mike Dixon, of the Bayfield Optimists, gave an outline of Optimist events, most notably the Victoria Day Weekend Duck Race. Jack Pal, of the Photography Club of Bayfield, gave an outline of the photography club, and the third annual Fall Foto Fest to be held this October. Pal also gave an update on the Bayfield Lions' events and in particular the upcoming Lions' Walk for Dog Guides to be held on June 7 in Clan Gregor Square to raise money for dog guides.

Genny Smith gave an update on the Engage Huron project , www.engagehuron.com, which is designed to not only bring young people to the area but to find ways to retain their talents and develop new entrepreneurial businesses. Jen Pate, of Windmill Lake Eco Park, said that she is one of those young people that have chosen to move to the area with new entrepreneurial start up businesses.

Donations in support of the Bayfield Food Bank (Feed My Sheep) were collected at the breakfast. Rev. Wayne Malott, (second from left) representing the Food Bank spoke of the needs in the community and thanked all for the donations. Approximately $400 and some food donations were collected. Joining Malott for a photograph were l-r: Deputy Mayor of Bluewater, Jim Fergusson, Mayor Tyler Hessel, MPP Lisa Thompson, MP Ben Lobb, Co-presidents of the BACC, Judy Keightley and Leanne Kavanagh and Huron County Warden, Paul Gowling.

Ray Letheren spoke for the Blue Community Group, noting that Bayfield along with San Francisco, USA and Zurich, Switzerland have been awarded Blue Community status. Letheren noted that he was "delighted with the support of the community and that some 30 community groups signed on in support of Blue Community." He also noted that Maude Barlow, an internationally recognized spokesperson on water, will be in Bayfield June 19-20 in support of Bayfield's recent designation.

Judy Keightley, co-president of the BACC, also spoke and gave an update on new businesses this year.

"This will be an exciting year for the village, as we have 13 new businesses starting up, many being young entrepreneurs."

Donations in support of the Bayfield Food Bank (Feed My Sheep) were collected at the breakfast. Rev. Wayne Malott, representing the Food Bank spoke of the needs in the community and thanked all for the donations. Approximately $400 and some food donations were collected.

Rev. Malott said, "Thank you so much for the support the Chamber has provided for the Food Bank these last few years."

BACC members and events are listed on the BACC website www.villageofbayfield.com and Facebook - My Bayfield.

TRAIL ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISER HAS MANY GREEN BENEFITS

Hundreds of people will descend on Bayfield on the morning of June 21 for the annual Safe Harbour Run that raises funds for the Huron Women's Shelter.

Registration and awards: Bayfield Community Centre and Arena - 5 Jane St. Race day registration and race number pickup is held at the Bayfield Arena starting at 7:30 a.m. Awards are also handed out at the arena following the run.

There are four runs held all starting and finishing at Clan Gregor Square. The Kiddy Trot kicks off the day at 8:50 a.m. followed by a 2 KM at 9 a.m., a 10 KM at 9:30 a.m. and a 5 KM at 9:40 a.m.

BACP

The Bayfield Arena Community Partners will host their second annual Slap Shot Golf Classic on May 30 at the Bluewater Golf Course.

For $200 teams can enjoy nine holes of golf and a hot lunch. The shotgun start begins at 10 a.m. Single players are welcome to register.

For more information or to register call Bill Whetstone at 519 955-0682.

OPTIMIST CLUB

The members of the Bayfield Optimist Club, together with sponsor Nahuel Painting, are pleased to announce a new location for their 10th annual golf tournament. For the first time participants will get to try their swing at the Bayview Golf and Country Club in St. Joseph.

The tournament format will be a four-person scramble with a shotgun start. It will be held on June 6 with a tee off time of 11 a.m. Registration begins at 10 a.m.

The cost is $80 per player. This includes 18 holes of golf, a cart, prizes and contests as well as a chicken dinner with all the trimmings and dessert from Pineridge Barbecue Co., of Hensall.

All proceeds from the tournament will support children and youth projects in the community.

To register call Jane Gillman at 519 482-7478 or Jay Fisher at 591 482-5557.

KIDS IN THE KITCHEN

Summer is just around the corner, and so is the "Kids in the Kitchen" traveling summer day camp. Across Huron County, six United Churches will host the program, which teaches children ages 8-12 years basic cooking skills through a morning of preparing fun-filled, healthy recipes.

The Bayfield River Valley Trail Association is selling the Green Cone Digester, including Kitchen Caddy and Accelerator Powder for $100 including HST as a fundraiser. (Submitted photo)

The Bayfield River Valley Trail Association (BRVTA) is selling the Green Cone Digester, a nifty alternative to composting, while cutting back on garbage, saving the landfill as well as on garbage tags.

The cost of the Green Cone, including Kitchen Caddy and Accelerator Powder is $100 including HST. Anyone who places an order before May 31 can pick their Green Cone up in Bayfield on June 26 in Clan Gregor Square between 3-7 p.m.

Orders can be made on-line through the BRVTA website: bayfieldtrails.com/events or ordered manually by downloading the order form from the website. These forms can then be mailed along with a cheque to the Bayfield River Valley Trail Association, P.O. Box 531, Bayfield, ON, N0M 1G0.

A sample Green Cone is displayed in the entrance of the Bayfield Library, where order forms are available as well. For further information contact Helen Varekamp 519 565-5442 or Margaret McBride 519 565-4067.

Here are 15 great reasons to use a Green Cone:
• Takes on all food waste including meat, bones, dairy, oil, pet waste and seafood scraps.
• Uses solar heat absorbed to inner black wall to circulate air and heat down to digestion chamber.
• Low odor profile, uses aerobic digestion by millions of micro and macro organisms.
• Does not attract vermin, is raccoon-proof, and very bear resistant.
• Keeps garbage smaller, lighter, drier and smelling better.
• No stirring or frequent emptying required.
• Ninety per cent of digested food waste is absorbed as compost tea by surrounding soil; great for plants.
• Contains healthy mulch if interrupted, if ignored, a usable residue every few years.
• On-site handling means no transportation costs and emissions from expensive truck pickup.
• A sustainable system for a one-time cost.
• Use in a raised bed/container for digestion on any surface, parking lots, roofs, apartment balconies.
• System comes with 4.5 liter kitchen caddy and accelerator powder.
• Optimally digests more than 1 KG or more than 2 lbs. every one to two days in summer, slows in winter in northern climates.
• Green Cones have been documented in use for 25 years.
• Made in Ontario, Canada from durable mostly recycled plastic.

Don Vance, of Bayfield, concluded, “When I lived in Toronto I used a Green Cone for 20 years and I never had to empty it."

KEIGHTLEY JOINS DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE

A local committee devoted to protecting municipal drinking water sources will soon have some new faces around the table. There are six new members, including one Bayfield resident, becoming part of the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Drinking Water Source Protection Committee (ABMVDWSPC). They will join nine members who are continuing on the committee. The new members replace six members who will be stepping down as part of a scheduled rotation of membership.

Local municipalities selected two of the new representatives and the other four new members come from different interests in the community (industry; commerce; property owner and resident associations; environmental sector). The nine continuing members of the committee represent municipalities (3); agriculture (3); public-at-large (2); and environment (1).

It is positive to have renewal in the membership of the committee while still retaining people with experience, said Laurence Brown, committee chairman.

But there’s more to this weeklong program than just cooking and eating: thoughtful discussions about where our food comes from, what is really “healthy” food, games, stories and more. The last day will feature a Master Chef cooking challenge for all participants, which will be shared with the parents over lunch.

Additionally, the traveling day camp is offering another program for older youth, ages 10-15 years, called “MasterChef: The Ultimate Diet.” More advanced cooking skills will be introduced and the themes and discussions will focus on critical thinking and exploration of current “diet” trends such as Paleo and Veganism. To accommodate potential summer jobs, this program will be held in the evening at two church sites – one at Blyth United and the other at Lakeshore United in Goderich.

Both of these half-day programs ask for a $20 donation for the week to help cover grocery costs. Registration is advised and participants are encouraged to contact the church nearest them to attend.

Kids in the Kitchen, Traveling Summer Day Camp will run in the following churches: July 6-10, Blyth United Church, 519-523-4224; July 13-17, Grand Bend United Church, 519 238-2402; July 20-24, Clinton United Church, 519 482-9553; July 27-31, St. Andrew’s United Church, Bayfield, 519 565-2854; Aug. 4-7, Brucefield Community United Church, 519 233-7225; and Aug. 10-14, Lakeshore United Church, Goderich, 519 524-2103.

For more information call Kathy Douglas at 519 523-4380 or one of the numbers listed above.

TOUCH THE TRUCK

Kids will get a chance to get up close to trucks they often see but rarely get to touch at the seventh annual “Touch the Truck” event on June 20.

What child doesn’t dream about getting behind the steering wheel of a fire truck, an ambulance, a road grader or a dump truck? Their wildest dreams will come true when they get up close to the real rigs at this popular event!

They will find the big vehicles, rain or shine, from 9 a.m. until noon at Lavis Park, located on Hwy. 8 in Holmesville.

Children, and the young at heart, will be able to see, touch and learn about the mighty machines, farm equipment and emergency vehicles at this family friendly event. Admission is free, but participants are asked to bring a non-perishable food item and help fill a loader bucket for the Salvation Army in Clinton.

There’s nothing like a big hunk of metal to attract a little child like a magnet. Road graders, tractors, dump trucks and many more vehicles will be available for children to explore while parents learn

"We have been pleased to have the expertise of all the previous members of the committee who have completed terms of reference, assessment reports, and source protection plans," he said. "We wish our retiring committee members well and we look forward to working with a talented group of new members."

The new members of the source protection committee are:
• Myles Murdock, Goderich town councilor, representing the region's North municipalities (Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh; Goderich; Huron-Kinloss; South Bruce).
• Mark McKenzie, former Wellington County councilor, representing the region's East municipalities (Howick; Mapleton; Minto; North Perth; Perth East; Wellington North; West Perth).
• Bruce Godkin, P. Eng., representing Industry. Godkin is President of G-Force Management Group Ltd. in Walton, where he provides strategic business development services to Ontario-based manufacturing organizations.
• Philip Keightley, M.Sc., P. Eng., representing Commerce. He has forty years of experience in management, design, and construction of municipal, civil, and structural engineering projects in Canada and overseas. He is Principal Civil Engineer and Vice-President of Bosher Keightley Letham Ltd. (BKL Engineering).
• Kerri Ann O'Rourke, representing Property Owner and Residents' Associations. She is a former Perth East and Perth County Clerk who now works in her family's business focused on agriculture and transportation.
• John Graham, representing the Environmental Sector. He is a Project Manager with Veolia Water Canada Inc. He is responsible for managing 10 municipal drinking water system, 15 potable water distribution systems, and four wastewater treatment plants.

The approval of locally developed source protection plans, in early 2015, started a process that required at least one third of the 15 members on the committee to step down. The six members leaving the committee volunteered to move off the committee after having served since the committee's inception in 2007. When formed in 2007, the ABMVDWSPC was the first source protection committee formed in Ontario. The members from the industry, commerce, property owner association, and environmental sector interests were selected through an interview process. The new members are to take part in the next meeting of the source protection committee, scheduled for Sep. 30.

The ABMVDWSP committee is comprised of 15 people who live, work, or rent or own property in the region. In fulfillment of the requirements of the Ontario Clean Water Act, 2006 and Ontario Regulation 287/07, one third of the source protection committee membership is now changing.

The Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) approved source protection plans for the Maitland Valley and Ausable Bayfield source protection areas on Jan.19. The source protection plans include policies to address 21 activities that can pose a threat to municipal drinking water sources in certain circumstances, for example, in certain locations and in certain quantities.

Source protection plan policies address activities in four types of vulnerable areas: wellhead protection areas (groundwater) around municipal wells; surface water intake protection zones; significant groundwater recharge areas; and highly vulnerable aquifers. People may find the maps of these areas by visiting sourcewaterinfo.on.ca. Threat activities may be assessed as low, moderate or significant threats to municipal drinking water sources. In this region, significant threats to drinking water are only found in wellhead protection areas (WHPAs). The policies in those relatively small vulnerable areas reduce risk by using tools ranging from education and outreach, to risk management plans, to restricted land uses, to prohibition of some activities.

Anyone located close to a municipal well who would like to learn if plan policies apply to them, or how they can protect local drinking water sources, are asked to visit the website at sourcewaterinfo.on.ca or phone toll-free 1-888-286-2610, or email info@sourcewaterinfo.on.ca.

NEXT GENERATION OF PERFORMERS JOIN BLYTH FESTIVAL SINGERS

how to incorporate more literacy activities into all of their child's interests.

A pedal tractor course, bale maze, a large gravel play area and a chance to build or paint a letter are just a few of the many activities organized by Huron County Children's Services staff for this special family literacy event.

Please find us on www.huroncounty.ca or the Huron Ontario Early Years Facebook page.

Lavis Contracting Co. Ltd., County of Huron, and the Municipality of Central Huron are the sponsors of this event.

For more information call Huron County Children's Services at 519 482-8505 or toll-free 1-888-371-5718.

REGIONAL RIDESHARE

The Regional Rideshare website (www.regionalrideshare.ca) is a free service offered to interested carpoolers that matches drivers and riders who want to share rides to work, school, medical appointments or special events.

"I am very pleased with the leadership and cooperation shown by all the partner organizations involved in the launch of this program," said Huron County Warden Paul Gowing. "Transportation in rural areas is a longstanding issue, and Regional Rideshare offers a practical solution to get people where they need to go."

Connecting with interested carpoolers along a travel route has never been easier. Interested people can sign up on the website and enter their home and destination details, driving preferences, travel times, if they're a rider or a driver and how many seats they have available. The site then automatically searches for compatible carpoolers who live in their neighborhood or on their route. It is then up to the individual to send the matching carpoolers a suggestion to share the ride.

"With Perth and Huron County covering over 5,500 kilometers squared, travel is an inherent challenge, to many," Ryan Erb, United Way Perth-Huron's executive director, said. "Companies out there need workers, and people want to work, but owning a car is not a reasonable expense for them. Rideshare is a much needed service in our communities."

PASSPORT CLINIC

MP Ben Lobb is helping area residents with becoming proud passport holders by hosting Passport Clinics in area communities including Bayfield.

Ben Hearn (Submitted photo)

When people hear the phrase "The Next Generation", Star Trek and a future civilization inevitably come to mind. Well, the future is now as the Blyth Festival
Singers host their "Next Generation" Cabaret Concert and Silent Auction on May 30.

The Blyth Festival Singers have "beamed up" a half dozen fresh voices for the show - the "next generation" of young musicians from Huron and Perth
County. Four of these young vocalists won trophies in the recent Kiwanis
Music Festival held in Stratford. All of them not only took first place in at least one class of competition but all are also multiple ribbon winners, finishing in the top three of each class. They are certainly a force to be reckoned with!

The "Next Generation" vocalists ages 11 to 18 years will be performing solos and duets from their Movie, Popular and Musical Theatre repertoire and joining the choir for a number or two.

Benjamin Hearn and Carly Schelken are two of the six young performers to participate in the concert.

Carly Schelken (Submitted photo)

Hearn is a Clinton resident and hails from a family well known for their musicianship. He is a Grade 12 student at Central Huron Secondary School (CHSS) in Clinton. He began singing at a very young age and was a member of the St. Marys Children's Choir. He welcomes any opportunity to sing, dance and act. He has performed in various theatrical productions locally, his favorites being "Young Tommy" in the Blyth Festival Theatre's production of "The Ballad of Stomping Tom Connors" and as "Wilbur" in the Foundation for Education's production of "Charlotte's Web". This year he was awarded Top Male Musical Theatre Award in his Division in the Stratford Kiwanis Music Festival and an Acting Merit Award at the Sears Drama Festival. Hearn is looking forward to a number of exciting vocal performances this spring.

Seaforth native Carly Schelken is 18 years old and currently completing her senior year at CHSS. She has sung in various choirs and studies voice under Brittany Lyon. She also takes dance lessons with Dance Techniques. Her first theatre experience was at the age of seven in "Acting Out." Since then she has been on the Stratford stage with the Starbright Festival and Stratford Community Players. She won first place in the Musical Theatre Duet category along with Ben Hearn in the recent Stratford Kiwanis Festival. In addition to music and performance she spends her time working as a lifeguard at the Vanastra Recreation Centre. She is looking forward to the opportunity to perform in the Cabaret.

Also taking part in the show is Ava Hill, 11, of Exeter; Zander Neilsen, 11, of Stratford; and Isla Romano, 12, of Tavistock; and Sam McEwan, who is in Grade 11 at South Huron District High School in Exeter.

The Blyth Festival Singers themselves will be performing a light-hearted and popular repertoire to bring their season to a close in true celebratory fashion. And the audience will be in for a special treat. The cornerstone piece of the concert is the new medley arrangement by Ed Lojeski of the popular musical "Les Miserables." Solos, duets and small group performances of popular tunes by the choir will round out this fabulous program.

"The Next Generation" will be performed at the Varna Complex on Mill Road west of Varna. Doors open at 6 p.m. with dinner at 6:30 p.m. and the concert, and gala silent auction to follow. Adult tickets are only $25 for dinner and a show and children 6-12 only pay $12. Tickets are

On May 21, the Bayfield Town Hall will be the site of a Passport Clinic from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Staff will be available to assist local residents in either renewing or becoming a first time passport holder. The passport applications will then be couriered directly to Passport Canada through the Lobb's office.

Passport Canada application forms can be picked up at Lobb's closest constituency office in Goderich, the local Post office, or downloaded from Passport Canada's website: www.ppt.gc.ca.

For more information on the Passport Clinics please call 1-519-524-6560 (Goderich) or 1-519-832-2999 (Port Elgin) or visit www.benlobb.com.

For a first time adult application, people must bring a photocopy of both sides of their driver's license or government issued photo ID with signature. Please note their guarantor must sign and date the photocopy.

They also need to bring an original Birth Certificate (or Canadian Citizenship Card) and two passport photos. Anyone applying for their passport in an assumed relationship surname that is different from the name on their birth or citizenship certificate, must also submit their marriage certificate, along with their birth or citizenship certificate.

Their Guarantor must hold a valid passport and have known the applicant for two years; sign the Passport Application as well as the back of one of the photos as well as sign and date the copies of the government issued ID.

For a simplified renewal, all applicants' need is new photos and a current passport.

Anyone wishing to renew or apply for a children's passport is asked to call MP Lobb's office in advance as regulations have recently changed.

PIONEER PARK

Friday, July 10th is the date for the 68th Annual Pioneer Park Rummage Sale.
After more than two thirds of a century, it has become a deeply entrenched tradition. It is as much a part of the summer as the park is a part of the community.

The rummage sale allows the public to participate in the perpetuation of the park's health and vitality. The funds collected from the Rummage Sale will be used for the ongoing needs and upgrades to the many park projects. Once again this event will be held at the Bayfield Arena from 7-9 p.m. with the "outside" sale beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The public is vital to the success of this endeavor. Organizers are asking members of the community to donate whatever they can. During spring-cleaning of homes, garages and trailers think of the rummage

available through any Blyth Festival Singer or through the Blyth Festival for the Arts at 519 523-9300 or www.blythfestival.com. This popular Dinner Cabaret is certain to be a sell out once again, so be certain to get tickets early.

ST. ANNE'S CONCERT BAND BRINGS HOME THE GOLD FROM NATIONALS

The St. Anne's Catholic Secondary School Concert Band, under the direction of Josh Geddis, of Bayfield, brought home the gold after a competition at the Music Fest Nationals on May 13 at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music. (Submitted photo)

The St. Anne's Catholic Secondary School Concert Band, under the direction of Josh Geddis, of Bayfield, competed at Music Fest Nationals on May 13 at the University of Toronto Faculty of Music and received a gold standing. This is the first gold standing that the band has ever been awarded at the national level.

In order to attend this festival, bands must qualify with a high standing at a regional competition. The 56 members of the St. Anne's Concert Band performed three extremely difficult pieces in the national B300 Class and received fantastic feedback from their adjudication panel. The judges specifically enjoyed the piece, "Songs of Karegnondi", which was commissioned by and composed specifically for the St. Anne's Concert Band. This piece explores themes regarding the Great Storm of 1913.

After playing three pieces on stage at the university, the band went into an intense one hour adjudication session which required band members to sight read a piece they had never played before. They worked with Dr. Leah McGray who was their adjudicating clinician.

Dr. McGray is the director of Instrumental Studies for the Department of Music at Rhodes College. He is also the conductor of the Memphis (TN) Symphony Orchestra. Dr. McGray had fantastic compliments for the band.

The band closes out their performance season with a performance of "Songs of Karegnondi" at the Faces of the Fury event being held in remembrance of the Wexford on May 26 at the Blyth Festival Theatre starting at 7 p.m.

AUTHORS PRESENT "READINGS IN THE COUNTY" AT TOWN HALL

Huron County is set to celebrate the short story form in the landscape that inspired Nobel Laureate Alice Munro. The Alice Munro Festival of the Short Story, from June 4-7, will present readings, book signings, presentations, and masterclasses with some of Canada's most respected authors and literary figures, culminating in the Jubilee Gala at which the Adult and Youth Short Story Competition Awards will be presented.

Writers and readers alike have the opportunity to partake in writing masterclasses and facilitated discussions with celebrated Canadian authors. Heather O'Neill (2007 Canada Reads winner) will present a reading of her new collection of short stories, "Daydreams of Angels"; best-selling author and Wingham native Andrew Kaufman will present a "Story Structure of the

sale. Large and small items will be accepted. But please note that clothing, shoes, magazines, textbooks, televisions, large appliances, building materials, mattresses or soiled or broken items will not be accepted. All baby items as well as electrical and sports equipment must be CSA approved.

This year there will not be a large item pick-up. A "drop-off" location is available and can be accessed by calling Art at 519 565-2783. In addition, donations can be brought to the arena on July 9th starting at 11 a.m.

Another part of the sale will be the Silent Auction with an array of wonderful selections donated by community members and local business. Bidding will be held during the sale hours. This year, Carl Humphries is looking after the auction.

Please call Humphries at 519 671-4795 or 519 433-4794 or email him at carl.humphries@hotmail.com to arrange for the pick up of any items generously donated.

The Pioneer Park Committee appreciates the donations from the public and the assistance of the many volunteers who make this yearly event possible.

ONE OF A KIND SHOW

Following the success of last year's show, the Bayfield Town Hall will be hosting a One of a Kind Show again this summer. The date has been set for July 4 to coincide with Bayfield VetteFest Weekend.

The Bayfield Town Hall Heritage Society members are hoping to expand the number of vendors this year – making more use of the beautiful Town Hall grounds. Any local artists or craftspeople who are interested in renting a space are encouraged to call 519 565-2830 or 519 565-2827 or by email at bayfieldth@gmail.com for more information.

ONE CARE

One Care offers many fun exercise and socializing opportunities in Bayfield. There is something happening almost every day! There is a schedule on the arena door and the bulletin board by the library and more information available inside the library. Call 519 565-2202 for more information or to receive monthly information via the Wave to Wellness email. They can also be found on Facebook at Bayfield W2W; Fitness and Leisure. Urban pole walking is also a popular part of the One Care program in the village. They too now have a Facebook page and residents can learn more about their activities at Bayfield Urban Poling.

DINING FOR SENIORS

Lisa Moore is just one of the authors to participate in the "Readings in the County" series as part of the The Alice Munroe Festival of the Short Story on June 7 at the Bayfield Town Hall. (Submitted photo)

Screenplay" masterclass among other appearances; Man Booker Prize-nominated Lisa Moore is the Jubilee Gala keynote speaker on the theme of women and the short story in Canadian literature and a masterclass; Governor General's Literary Award-nominated Merilyn Simonds will facilitate a book club discussion on reading Alice Munro stories; and Giller Prize-nominated Caroline Adderson will present two masterclasses - "Writing Linked Short Stories" and "Writing Narrative Scenes".

The Alice Munro Festival of the Short Story reaches across Huron County with the "Readings in the County" series: June 4 at the Clinton Town Hall with Heather O'Neill, and June 7 at the Bayfield Town Hall with Lisa Moore, Caroline Adderson, and Merilyn Simonds. "Readings in the County" are free events, although guests must confirm their attendance through the box office.

The Festival's Short Story Contest has been in existence since 2003, and in 2014 drew over 250 entries in the Adult and Youth categories from across Canada and the USA; finalists were from Ontario, BC, PEI, New York, and South Korea. Lisa Moore (Adult) and Andrew Kaufman (Youth), will be judging the short story contest finalists this year. The 2015 awards will be presented at the Jubilee Gala at the Wingham Knights of Columbus Centre on June 6. The event features a keynote presentation by Lisa Moore and a homemade local buffet dinner.

The Township of North Huron, Huron County Libraries and Cultural Services, Municipalities of Morris Turnberry and Central Huron and Employment Ontario are generous supports of the festival.

Full masterclass and event descriptions, schedules, and ticket prices are available at alicemunrofestival.ca or by calling the Blyth Festival box office at 1 (877) 862 5984 or (519) 523 9300.

GUEST WILL SPEAK OF PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH DOG GUIDES

This year's Bayfield Lions' Dog Guide Walk takes place on June 7 starting from Clan Gregor Square. As mentioned in last week's Bayfield Breeze, the event has been expanded to provide a number of activities and presentations all having to do with dogs including: the London Police K9 unit, Therapy dogs, Rescue Dogs, Dog grooming, Dog agility and Dog health as well as hot dogs! However, the keynote of the day will be a presentation by Lion Larry Wainwright.

Wainwright has been visually impaired since 1976 and blind since earlier this year. He graduated with the Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guide "Otis" in April 2014. Otis will be accompanying Wainwright during his presentation.

Since 1977, Wainwright has had a long illustrious career with the Lions and his involvement with the Bayfield Lions dates back to 1981. He has held many leadership positions and earned numerous awards for meritorious service nationally and internationally. While in Bayfield, he was also a charter member of the Bayfield and Area Chamber of Commerce and its second President from 2000-02. Before living in Bayfield, Wainwright was a very active community member in Fergus. He served as councilor and held many other leadership positions resulting in being named citizen of the year in 1981. He left Bayfield to move back to Fergus in 2002.

Wainwright is an accomplished public speaker and talks from the heart especially when it regards issues about which he is passionate. People will not want to miss this opportunity to learn about the vision and history behind the Dog Guide program from someone who was strongly involved from its inception and who has personal experiences to share.

Bayfield Dining for Seniors meets every Thursday for lunch at noon in the Bayfield Community Centre.

Chef Peggy Cunningham is looking forward to once again providing patrons with her amazing home cooked meals.

New diners are always welcome but Bayfield Dining for Seniors is not just about the meal, it offers a social gathering that promotes fellowship and friendly conversation. The meal is provided for a nominal fee of $8.

Anyone interested in joining for lunch is asked to please contact Dianne Argyle at 519 565-2800.

Volunteers are a necessary component to assist with both meal preparation and table service. Anyone interested in volunteering should please contact Bud Robinson at 519 565-5322.

THE BUS

THE BUS comes to Bayfield every Tuesday as part of the Rural Response for Healthy Children (RRHC) programming.

The playgroup at the Bayfield Library occurs every Tuesday morning from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and includes an opportunity for toy lending.

THE BUS offers its lending services to community daycares and Full Day Early Learning classrooms throughout the county on a mutually agreed upon schedule.

FLEA MARKET

Bayfield has been home to a Country Flea Market for several decades. In more recent years, it has found a new home in Agriculture Park; a home that offers plenty of parking as well as some green space for children to run carefree.

The Bayfield Agricultural Society provides this home for the market that is open on Sundays from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (maybe a little longer depending on the crowds). There are all kinds of unique items for sale such as antiques, furniture, books, tools, and sports collectibles. The market is also a good spot to pick up fresh produce and plants.

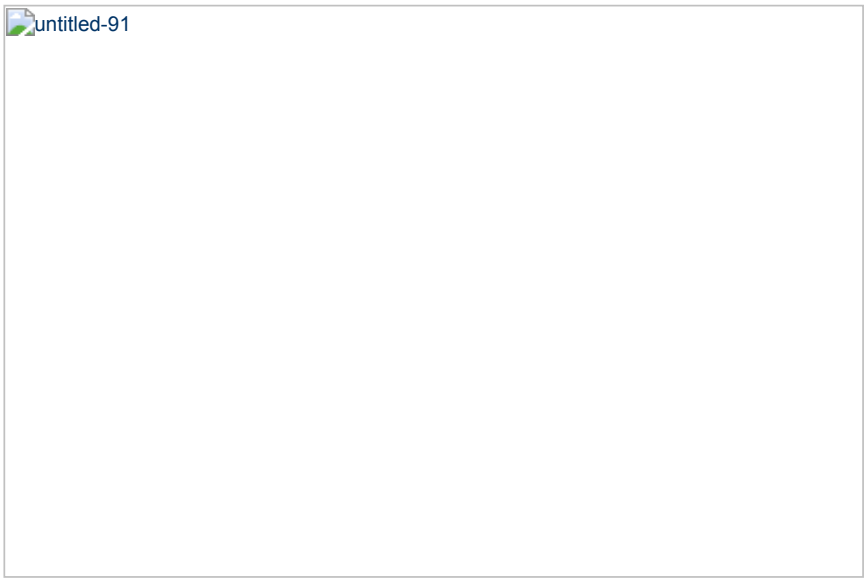
HEARING CLINIC

A monthly hearing clinic has been established in the village at Pharmasave Michael's Pharmacy. The next date for the clinic is June 16.

The Kincardine Hearing Clinic will be offering their services on the third Tuesday of every month from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mark June 7 on the calendar. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with the walk starting at 9 a.m. Pledge forms are available from most merchants in Bayfield and any Lion. Those who wish can also donate online by going to: https://www.purinawalkfordogguides.com/locations/walk.cfm?ID=328.
Please contact Lion Jack Pal at 519 565-5340 for more information.

LIONS' CLUB'S HOME AND GARDEN SHOW HELPS LOCAL FOOD BANK



Rev. Wayne Malott, of the Bayfield Food Bank (Feed My Sheep) that is located out of Trinity Anglican Church leads the way as food bank volunteers and Bayfield Lions' Club members parade the five grocery cart loads of non-perishable donations from the arena to the church following the Home and Garden Show held Apr. 24-26. Those who attended the show were asked to bring a food item to support the food bank. (Photo by Dianne Brandon)

The Bayfield Lions' Club's 18th Annual Home & Garden Show was held from Apr. 24-26 at the Bayfield Arena and Community Centre. From patios, flowers and pools to communications, security and retirement homes, this show offered a very diverse selection of exhibitors and the over 1,700 people attending were able to find something of interest for many applications.

The five demonstration booth presentations were well attended. This year Wood carver, Mary-Ann Jack-Bleach; Carol Steckle, of Huron Ridge Acres; Deb Grasby, of Cabin in the Woods Design; Devin Tabor, of Bon Vivant Chef and Catering; and a representative from Stonefield Garden Centre and Market shared their expertise.

Admission was free for attendees but new this year people were encouraged to bring non-perishable food items or make cash donations to the Bayfield Food Bank (Feed My Sheep). The Lions' members were pleased to donate five grocery carts full of food as well as a cash donation to the food bank that operates out of Trinity Anglican Church in Bayfield.

Everyone who attended could enter their name into a draw to win a barbecue donated by Bayfield Garage or gift cards to shop at Bayfield Foodland, the latter donated by Bayfield Foodland and Royal LePage Realty. Angela Durand was the lucky winner of the barbecue.

The clinic will offer: hearing aid adjustments and repairs to all makes and models, no cost hearing tests, new prescription of hearing aids, wax removal, hearing aid battery sales as well as hard of hearing assistive devices. Please call Shannon Gould at The Kincardine Hearing Clinic at 1-855-396-6026 to book an appointment.

ANTIQUE SHOW

Spring has arrived and summer will be here before anyone realizes. For that reason, the congregation of Trinity Anglican Church is turning their thoughts to their Bayfield Antique Show and Sale to be held in August.

Coordinators are hoping to get people thinking about it and maybe even considering volunteering at the event to be held Aug. 7-9 at the Bayfield Arena. Students are most welcome to volunteer, as are people outside of the Anglican Church family – it truly is a community event.

The Antique Show and Sale now in its 30th season is a wonderful boon to the village and help from both residents and summer folk is needed to make it a continued success. There are a variety of tasks to choose from when volunteering, helping with set up, serving in the tearoom, security and front door admission sales are but a few examples, jobs are as varied as the people required to fill them, there is a position for all.

To learn more about this great community event please call Joan Cluff at 519 565-2974 or email her at cluffy@tcc.on.ca.

IN MEMORIAM

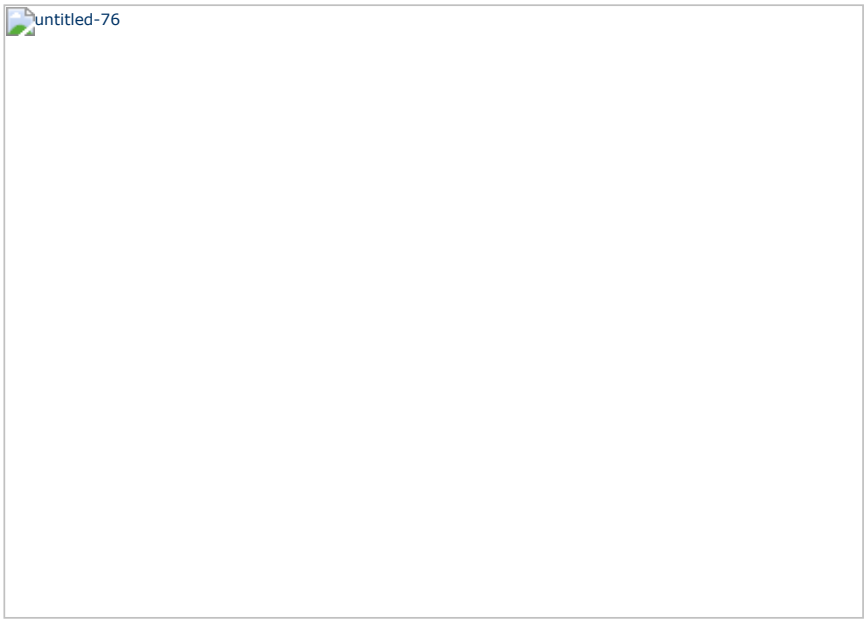
The community will be saddened to learn of the passing of a part time resident.

John Warren "Jack" O'Rourke, of Bayfield and St. Marys, died peacefully on May 11 at the age of 66.

He was the beloved father of Ryan O'Rourke, and his wife Katie, of Loveland, Colorado, by way of Florida. Dear brother of Jane Peters (O'Rourke) and her spouse, Don Henry, of Campbellford, ON, and uncle to her two children, Allyson and Curtis. He was the son of Wilbert (Bill) and Vernetta O'Rourke; both deceased. He was also an amazing friend to countless others.

A private family service has taken place. A Celebration of Jack's Life will be held in St. Marys, in August. Details will be forthcoming. In lieu of flowers or donations, the family simply asks that everyone reading this find more time to spend with family and friends.

Arrangements entrusted to the Andrew L. Hodges Funeral Home in St. Marys, 519 284-2820, with



Lots of groceries and some cash donations were collected for the Bayfield Food Bank (Feed My Sheep) during the Bayfield Lions' Home and Garden Show. Lions' club members and food bank volunteers gathered for a picture at the end of the event. BR l-r: Tony Van Bakel, Geordie Palmer, Rev. Wayne Malott, Larry Simpson, Dave Nearingburg and Brad Maidment, representing Bayfield Foodland. FR l-r: Penny Overboe, Elaine Scrimgeour, Terry Boa-Youmatoff, Mayor of Bluewater Tyler Hessel, John Reeves and Tom Grasby. (Photo by Dianne Brandon)

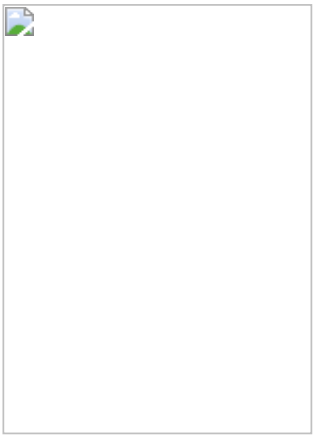
Joyce Scotchmer, of Goderich, (far left) waits for Chef Devon Tabor to add the dressing to the salad during a cooking demonstration at the Bayfield Lions' Club's Home and Garden Show held at the end of April. (Submitted photo)

Deb Grasby, of Cabin in the Woods Design, was one

The wives of Bayfield Lions' members kept the visitors to the Home and Garden Show from going hungry and thirsty. They were l-r: Pat Pal, Linda Cox, Willy Simpson, Nellie Van Bakel and Linda Steenstra.(Submitted photo)

online condolences at www.hodgesfuneralhome.ca.

END OF ERA



Jonny Kalisch (Photo courtesy of Tavistock Gazette)

The community will be saddened to learn that Jonny Kalisch died on Apr. 25 at the age of 86.

Kalisch, was the owner of Jonny's Antiques in Shakespeare. He and his late partner, James Bisback (died March 5, 2014), were known for putting the village on the map with their renowned antique shop that drew like-minded souls to the community establishing it as the "antique mecca" for Southwestern Ontario.

Kalisch started his business in Toronto in 1964 prior to the move to Shakespeare. He and Bisback opened a second location in the 1980s, where they sold fine porcelain and antiques to celebrities around the globe from a small gallery within the Four Season's Hotel in Toronto. In 2011 they purchased The Gordon House on Clan Gregor Square in Bayfield and after restoring it the gallery was opened. They had intended to retire in the village.

"As many of us said, the couple, who put Shakespeare on the map, was a bit like salt and pepper. James was the quiet one and Jonny was the showman," said Janis Bisback, a relative of James.

Kalisch had developed Alzeheimer's Disease and remained at his home for as long as possible being cared for by former staff who he knew and who understood his unique personality.

According to Bisback, the hospice, Sakura House, in Woodstock, where he spent his last week had a large breakfront in the hallway filled with antique porcelain that the former homeowner had purchased from Jonny's Antiques years ago.
In an interview with CTV news in 2008, Kalisch himself said that you either owned "an antique shop or a reproduction shop, that is all that counts really." And he also believed that "everything was made to be used."

"Jonny was a young man when he was separated

of five presenters at the Bayfield Lions' Clubs Home and Garden Show held recently. (Submitted photo)

Every year as part of the home and garden show the Lions' organize a draw. Angela Durand was the winner of the barbecue donated by Bayfield Garage. She was presented her prize by Lion Bill Steenstra (left) and Lion Tom Grasby. (Submitted photo)

from his family during the second world war, he made his way to Canada with very little and eventually found his mother and he was so proud to show her the renowned antique business that he and James had created," said Bisback. "After 50 years, an era has ended."

IN MEMORIAM

LOCAL RESTAURANT OWNER AND ARTIST LEAVES MANY LEGACIES

In the summer of 1992, he moved to Provincetown, Massachusetts where he met Carlos who would become his partner, both in business and in love.

That fall they moved to Cancun, Mexico where they opened La Comidita restaurant. In Doug's true style he managed to wrangle a contract with a newly opened factory to serve their employees lunch each day. In addition, the restaurant quickly developed a reputation among locals for Doug's "Canadian" lasagna.

In 1994, they sold the successful business and moved back to Provincetown. Five years later they opened Doug Marr Gallery, which featured Doug's oil paintings of Provincetown and the surrounding landscape and Carlos' photographs. Doug soon developed a reputation as a renowned artist, with a very unique style. His originals were in high demand

Doug Marr (Submitted photo)

The community will be saddened to learn that a local restaurant owner and artist has died.

After a hard fought battle against cancer, Doug Marr, died on May 13 at home in Bayfield with his life companion, Carlos Marguia, his sister Terry Marr and niece Katherine Marr, by his side.

Doug was born on November 22, 1950 in Toronto, ON to Gerald and Jane Marr. He grew up in Waterloo, ON and attended Kitchener Collegiate Institute, which was more of a social event for him than a means to an education.

During high school he developed an interest in painting which years later, would prove to be one of his legacies.

In the 1970s, Doug, along with his father and a business partner, launched The Athlete's Foot in one tiny store on King Street in Waterloo. It was the first-of-a-kind concept in Canada – a store that focused solely on athletic footwear and clothing, which other large corporations soon copied. The business grew to become a national chain of stores that also included The Boomer Club, The Frat House and Copper Mountain Lodge.

In the early 80s, Doug decided he was going to get into modeling and true to his nature, he became a success, appearing in magazine and television commercials for companies such as Eatons, Players Tobacco and Molsons.

With the economic recession in the late 1980s the Athlete's Foot Ltd. closed and Doug decided that becoming an artist was the way he would now make a living. It was a typical decision that Doug would make. Take a risk, come up with a plan, dive in full force and just go for it.

He moved to Hawaii and began painting. In order to sell his art he hired a Hawaiian to pretend to be the artist. This was the beginning of Doug's artistic success..

internationally with pieces being purchased by people all over the world

In 2007, Crlos and Doug returned to Canada, and opened DaVinci Ristorante and Gallery in Bayfield. They grew a small café into a successful restaurant where many customers became much more than "just customers".

Doug continued with his art and once again, locals commissioned him to paint originals for them.

Doug's style of painting developed over the years, reflecting his stages of life. Many of his early pieces featured bright vibrant colours, while in the later years, he painted scenes that projected a sense of calm and peace.

Although he was a very private man, Doug had an incredible sense of loyalty and caring for those he loved. If you were important to him, you knew it because of his kindness and the meaningful little things he did to make you happy. Doug wanted everyone to be happy and have fun. He also had an amazing sense of humor and his quick whit made everyone laugh. His warm smile will be missed.

Doug is survived by Carlos; his mother Jane Marr of Waterloo, who he dearly loved; his brother John (DJ), of Montreal, and John's children, Katherine and David; his brother, Jamie, of Hamilton; his sister, Terry, of Kitchener; and Terry's daughter, Claire Copland, who will miss "Bub".

A celebration of Doug's life will take place May 23 at 4 pm in Pioneer Park, Bayfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made by cheque to Pioneer Park Association through Falconer Funeral Homes - Bluewater Chapel, Goderich. Messages of condolence for the family may be left at www.falconerfuneralhomes.com.

SHARE PHOTO STORY

BAYFIELD OPTIMIST CLUB

SIXTH ANNUAL RUBBER DUCK RACE FASTEST SELL OUT YET

Spectators checked their tickets for winning numbers during the race including: (l-r) Christine Calderwood, of Goderich, Elaine, Laurie and Tim Steinson of Clinton. (Photo by Melody Falconer-Pounder)

Volunteers Jane MacLaren and Dave Gillians dump the ducks in the water off the MacLaren boat at the start of the Bayfield Optimist Club's Rubber Duck Race held on the afternoon of May 17. (Photo by Gary Lloyd-Rees)

STORY BY MELODY FALCONER-POUNDER

Tickets for the Bayfield Optimist Club Rubber Duck Race held on the afternoon of May 17 sold out faster than normal this year with all 750 ducks being claimed by noon on Saturday more than a full day before the ducks hit the water.

A generous crowd gathered, under sunny skies and warm temperatures, at the South Pier of the Bayfield Harbour to view the first five plastic waterfowl cross the finish line.

Those five ducks, #194, #106, #410, #332 and #500, translated into some fabulous prizes. Beverley Pounder, of Bayfield, took first prize, a stainless steel barbecue valued at $400 and donated by Bayfield Garage. Matt Miklovic, earned second prize, a Norco BMX Bike donated by Outside Projects and a friend of Optimism. It was also valued at $400. Barb Beecroft, of Bayfield, was awarded third prize, a Worx Whipper Snipper valued at $180 and donated by John Bettridge. Alan Wilbee, won fourth prize, a Next Book 8 Tablet valued at $125 and donated by Brian Coombs' Remax Reliable Realty. John Townshend should enjoy fifth prize, an overnight stay at the Albion Hotel with breakfast. It was donated by Kim Muszynski, of the Albion Hotel, and was also valued at $125.

The club is indebted to those friends of Optimism who helped with the race, including, Jane and David MacLaren, who provided their boat from which to launch the ducks. Dave Gillians, Laura Gillians and Oliver and Carolynne Leonard joined them on board to aid in the dumping of ducks.

Luke Shanahan, Jenny Allan and their son, Weylin, as well as brothers Sam and Ben Gundy and Leanne Kavanaugh and Sean Henry acted as rubber duck wranglers at the event ensuring no duck was left behind at the end of the race.

The Bayfield Optimist Club's Rubber Duck Race was once again a sell-out this year with all 750 ducks being sold by noon on Saturday - a whole day before the race. It was the fastest sell-out ever! (Photo by Melody Falconer-Pounder)

With a strong river current and favorable winds the race went off faster than normal. Rubber Duck Wranglers, Sean Henry, Leanne Kavanaugh and Sam and Ben Gundy waited for the first five ducks to cross the finish line. (Photo by Gary Lloyd-Rees)

After the winners had crossed the finish line, Luke Shanahan, Jenny Allan, and their son, Weylin, worked to collect some of the 750 ducks that were dumped in the river for the race. (Photo by Gary Lloyd-Rees)

Money raised from the race will go toward the Optimist Club's many "friends of youth" projects.

Volunteer Laura Gillians poured a tub of rubber ducks in the river at the start of the race. (Photo by Melody Falconer-Pounder)

When the sun came out in the early afternoon spectators were treated to a beautiful day to watch the race. (Photo by Melody Falconer-Pounder)

Optimists Duck Race-7421.jpg

Jane and Dave MacLaren (far left and right) aided the Optimist Club during the race by providing their boat as the launch for the 750 rubber ducks. Joining them in preparing for the race were Dave Gillians, his daughter Laura Gillians, and his grandchildren, Oliver and Carolynne Leonard (not pictured). (Photo by Gary Lloyd-Rees)

The MacLaren's dog, Willie, oversaw the launch of the ducks into the river for the Rubber Duck Race held on the afternoon of May 17. (Photo by Gary Lloyd-Rees)

Sam and Ben Gundy were two of the volunteers who wrestled with the ducks following the race. (Photo by Melody Falconer-Pounder)

Money raised from the sixth annual Rubber Duck Race will go toward the Optimist Club's many "friends of youth" projects.

BAYFIELD OPTIMIST Friend of Youth
HAY MUTUAL Insurance COMPANY 519-236-4381
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Registered MASSAGE THERAPY On the Square 519.565.4711
Ben Lobb, M.P.

NEW BUSINESS

THE ASHWOOD INN AND BOURBON BAR TO OPEN MAY 21

The road sign, signs about the buidling and the Inn's room key chains were all created by Metal Work Artist Heather Church, owner of Gestalt, located in Bayfield.

"One person that deserves some serious credit is Robert MacFie who has been working 90 hours a week since January to get us where we are now," said Kirsten Harrett, of her life companion. The couple took a moment to pose in front of the reclaimed church doors that now herald the entry to The Ashwood Bourbon Bar and then MacFie was back to work in preparation for an early opening, May 21.

PHOTOS AND STORY BY MELODY FALCONER-POUNDER

There once was an empty field next to a woodlot on the corner of Bayfield River Road and Hwy. 21.

John Pounder had a dream to create a family friendly, yet economical, resort on the northern outskirts of the village. The dream was realized in the form of the Bayfield Village Inn. After more than three decades a desire to pursue other interests and to see the property rejuvenated led to the sale to neighboring cottage resort owner Kirsten Harrett, of Deer Park Lodge, early in 2015.

Five months later, after an extensive renovation, the 22 room resort with indoor pool, restaurant and bar is reopening its doors and tuning up the sound system on a new dream, this one the vision of Harrett and the property's manager and musical director, Peter Meades. The Ashwood Inn and Bourbon Bar will open May 21 with an evening concert by Sal's Alley starting at 7:30 p.m. Dinner will be by reservation only with two seating's, the first at 6 p.m. and second at 6:30 p.m. Call 519 565-4444 to make a reservation.

The building is not the only thing being given a second life – the wood from several Ash trees has been repurposed as a front desk, shelving, a bar top, table tops and bathroom vanity tops. Twenty-three Ash trees once stood proudly on the Deer Park Lodge property but were devastated by the Emerald Ash Borer and were cut down.

"At Deer Park we built a kiln using a shipping container, had the wood milled and dried the lumber over the winter so the trees now have an opportunity to live on," said Harrett.

Perhaps the most impressive legacy created by the Ash trees is the Inn's massive front desk. It is literally part of an Ash tree trunk that weighs in at approximately 2.5 tons. Merners Contracting Ltd

The Ashwood Bourbon Bar manager and musical director, Peter Meades (left) and Craig Cousins, assistant bar manager, are excited to get creative with the bar's star ingredient, bourbon.

The keys to 22 newly renovated rooms. The tags were created by Metal Work Artist, Heather Church, of Gestalt, located in Bayfield.

The Inn offers two spacious king suites for guests to enjoy.

were tasked with moving the tree from Deer Park to the Inn and the glass entranceway to the building had to be removed to get it in. David Loerchner, of D.L. Creations, of Bayfield, finished the front desk, and created all of the Ash accents in the building. In a lot of pieces Loerchner accentuated the work of the Emerald Ash Borer for all to marvel at.

Harrett describes the renovated rooms at The Ashwood Inn to be “Bayfield in the summertime – fresh and comfortable with white bead board accent walls.”

Combine the Inn’s accommodation with that of Deer Park Lodge and there is room for 150 guests in 53 rooms making it a great venue for weddings. Deer Park and its beautiful sandy beach has become a destination-wedding venue for couples but not during the peak season of July and August. Plans are in the works to put up a permanent tent at the south end of The Ashwood Inn to allow for weddings during those two months as well. Guests at both locations will have the opportunity to enjoy the private beach or stroll the future trails in the woodlot adjacent the Inn.

The Inn offers 10 rooms with two queen sized beds, five loft rooms with three queen sized beds, five rooms with queen sized beds and two king suites. To view prices and to check availability visit www.theashwood.com. A full hot breakfast is currently being made available to room guests only, although not included in the room rate, and there is potential to open up to the public in the future.

The Ashwood Bourbon Bar will be open for lunch (11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.) and dinner for the public (starting at 5 p.m.) with Chef Robert Whyte and his team offering up a “farm fresh gastro pub”menu.

Whyte describes the food to be “not your standard pub grub. We want to present our food not in a fashion that everybody sees everyday but rather in an upscale bistro style in a pub atmosphere.”

He plans to create his menu using ingredients from farms within a 100 KM radius of the Inn. He was also pleased to have some input in the design collective for the new kitchen and restaurant layout.

The chef graduated from the Culinary Arts program at Liaison College in 2002. He apprenticed at the Toronto Granite Club and worked at Wolfgang Puck’s first Canadian restaurant also in Toronto. He teaches in the Humber College’s culinary arts program and has a second home in Bayfield.

“My staff and I are stoked. We are getting geared up and really hungry to open. Once the chits start rolling in I will be living in the moment, can’t wait,” said Whyte.

Another person excited to see The Ashwood Bourbon Bar open would be Peter Meades. One of the people behind the Bayfield Concert Series,

THE Ashwood Inn's indoor swimming pool is filled with salt water.

The renovated rooms at The Ashwood Inn are described to be "Bayfield in the summertime – fresh and comfortable with white bead board accent walls." This is an example of the five loft rooms available for guests to enjoy. (Photo by Richard Fitoussi, Aperature Photo)

Combine The Ashwood Inn's accommodation with that of Deer Park Lodge and there is room for 150 guests in 53 rooms. (Photo by Richard Fitoussi, Aperture Photo)

Meades vision of a venue constructed with live concerts in mind was the inspiration behind the design of the bar, stage and sound system.

And in keeping with the vision Meades has booked a number of acts from the end of May, starting with a sold-out concert by The Skydiggers on May 30, right through to Labour Day. In addition a regular weekend highlight will be Bluegrass Brunch Sundays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. To check out some of the great Canadian talents coming to Bayfield and to secure tickets visit The Ashwood Inn website.

Harrett gives credit to Meades for the bourbon concept as well.

"Pete calls it the next generation, scotch alternative," said Harrett. "It offers up a cool vibe and bourbon in general lends itself to a lot of different cocktails."

So with live music and creative cocktails along with the usual classic favorites as well as beer and wine The Ashwood Inn and Bourbon Bar is sure to become a place where visitors can have a great night out. Harrett stresses that she wants people to have fun but to stay safe as well and for that reason they are making a shuttle service available.

"We don't want anyone to drink and drive. We have our Ashwoody Van that will pick people up at their door and take them home. We are not promoting alcohol but a safe, enjoyable evening out. As soon as you step on the van it feels like you are ready to have some fun," she said. "Dial 519 565-4444 for pick up."

The Ashwood Inn will be open year round and plans are underway to make it a four-season destination with not just weddings but corporate retreats and stay and play packages in mind as well.

"One person that deserves some serious credit is Robert MacFie who has been working 90 hours a week since January to get us where we are now," said Harrett, of her life companion. "We have had an incredible team of people on this project and we have hired between 40 and 50 people to work for the summer months."

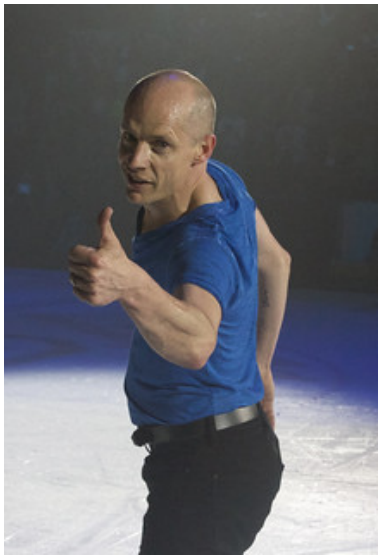
And now with opening day just hours away it is time to toast to new beginnings at The Ashwood Inn… with bourbon, of course.

This van, known as The Ashwoody, is sure to become a familiar sight around the village this summer.

SUBMISSIONS

Melody Falconer-Pounder

On May 10, I, and a good friend, took in the 25th anniversary performance of the Stars on Ice gang at Budweiser Gardens in London. Now if you are a dedicated reader you know that I love watching figure skating…truth be told I love photographing figure skating even more. So you can imagine how excited I was when I discovered our ice surface seats were along the blue line. The show was incredible. It was directed and choreographed by my favorite Kurt Browning. It showcased our Canadian talent and paid homage to the skaters that created a legacy of memorable tours. I took over 400 images in the 1.5 hour program and am pleased to say captured many incredible moments but for me the best one came right at the end of the show.


A moment with Kurt Browning. (MFP photo)

Kurt was at the far side of the ice surface about to make a pass down the blue line directly in front of me and I said to myself now is your chance to get a good picture as other times during the show I had missed a few chances too busy being mesmerized to actually click the shutter. As he skated toward me he noticed the crazy woman with the camera and suddenly he was smiling into my viewfinder giving me a big thumbs up. The voice in my head said, “Just push the button!” And I prayed he was in focus even though my knees were shaking.

This tour marks 25 years for Kurt on the Stars on Ice tour. The May 10th performance marked the 25th time I have seen the “Kid from Caroline” skate live. Amazing timing I’d say and yes the image was in focus and you can see it here. Thank you Mr. Browning. – Melody

Ideas and contributions to the Bayfield Breeze are always welcome.
Deadlines for submissions are Sundays at 4 p.m.

Please email me at bayfield.breeze@villageofbayfield.com or call 519-525-3830.

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Credits:

Writer, editor, photographer: **Melody Falconer-Pounder**
Web publisher/Graphic Designer: **Dennis Pal**
Advertising Sales: **Mike Dixon**
Logo Design: Kyle Vanderburgh, **Goderich Print Shop**
Special thanks to the **Bayfield and Area Chamber of Commerce**
Breeze Committee: Mike Dixon, John Pounder, Dennis Pal, Melody Falconer-Pounder

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