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Apr. 21, 2021 Vol. 12 Week 17 Issue 615

MEMORIAL FOREST AT HURON HOSPICE CONTINUES TO GROW

Huron Hospice is once again doing its part to reduce the carbon footprint in Huron County and promote environmental awareness.

Tomorrow, Apr. 22nd is Earth Day in more than 193 countries. The history of the day dates back to 1970 in the United States as an effort to promote ecology and the respect for life on the planet as well as to encourage awareness of the growing problems of air, water, and soil pollution. In 1990 the Earth Day movement went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage.

Earth Day is a time of environmental consciousness and is celebrated by individuals, families and groups who undertake environmentally friendly activities such as picking up roadside trash, taking part in recycling and conservation programs, or eliminating single-use containers and bags. People often plant trees as a part of recognizing Earth Day and reducing the carbon footprint of the planet. Every tree actually consumes 21.8kg of carbon each year. It takes up to

PLANNED BAYFIELD

planned BAYFIELD

Community consultation on Planned Bayfield continues. A video explaining “What We Heard & Early Ideas” has been posted. Once people have

seven trees to reduce an individual's carbon footprint to zero.

"At Huron Hospice, we pride ourselves on being part of a compassionate community that looks after each other when a need arises. We also do our part to look after the environment," said Helen Varekamp, a hospice volunteer.

In 2020, Huron Hospice planted 11 new trees in the Memorial Forest at the hospice residence on Hwy #8 near Clinton. This 6-acre forest can sustain up to 1,250 trees and consists of a mix of deciduous and evergreen trees, focusing on indigenous species such as Sycamore, Sugar Maple, Autumn Blaze Maple, Tupelo Black Gum, White Pine, Sweetgum Worplesdon, Pin Oak and Red Oak.

The hospice grounds have also received recognition as a Certified Monarch area through www.monarchwatch.org.

Verbeeks Farm and Garden Centre, of Clinton, planted 11 new trees in the Memorial Forest at Huron Residential Hospice in the Fall of 2020. (Submitted photo)

The forest was launched in 2019 with the planting of ten new trees while enhancing the Tranquility Trail through the woods. The Tranquility Trail is available for hospice residents and their families as well as the public. Each tree planted is a living memorial that will grow and flourish for years, attracting wildlife and reducing the carbon footprint.

"This year you too can make a positive impact on the environment by planting a tree in memory of a loved one at the Huron Hospice Memorial Forest," said Varekamp.

Those who donate a tree may also participate in an annual dedication service in the forest. Huron Hospice recognizes the memorialized person on a commemorative sign at the forest entrance. Trees are ordered through the Huron Hospice website and professionally planted by Verbeeks Farm and Garden Centre. A donation for a tree amounts to $345 which covers the cost of the tree, a five-year warranty, planting, and installing the name of a loved one on the memorial plaque at the entrance to the forest. Huron Hospice issues a tax receipt for the donation.

For more information email infohospice@tcc.on.ca. To order a tree, visit www.huronhospice.ca/memorial-forest.

"This Earth Day, you too can get involved. Consider supporting your local community with a litter pick up, or evaluate how you can reduce garbage. You could also plant a tree in memory of a loved one in the memorial forest at Huron Hospice," concluded Varekamp.

COVID FRIENDLY WALK FOR DOG GUIDES SET FOR EARLY JUNE

The Bayfield Lions' Club is pleased to announce that they are planning to hold their annual Walk for Dog Guides on Sunday, June 6.

"I am sure you will be as pleased as we are that we are able to continue our support of this cause this year and still meet all COVID-19 protocol," said Lion Karen Scott, one of the event organizers. "Unfortunately, we will not be able to gather after the walk for our usual refreshments and presentation."

Participants will need to walk their dog with members of their household only. Registration will watched the video, they are asked to provide feedback in the Second Round Survey.

What is Planned Bayfield? It is the development of a Secondary Plan for Bayfield; a document which will provide more detailed direction for future growth and change in Bayfield.

Public consultation on this project is hosted at connectedcountyofhuron.ca/bayfield-secondary-plan. Public input is critical to the successful development of the Plan – visit this link and have a say in Bayfield's future!

Anyone with questions, comments or concerns, is asked to please email Denise Van Amersfoort, Senior planner, at dvanamersfoort@huroncounty.ca.

FARMERS' MARKET

People may not be aware but the Bayfield Farmers' Market didn't close up shop at the end of Thanksgiving – the online store is still operating with bi-weekly pickups or contactless delivery. The next market pick-up day is scheduled for Friday, Apr. 23.

People can place their orders by visiting openfoodnetwork.ca/bayfield-farmers-market/ from Apr. 18 at 8 a.m. to Apr. 21 at 8 p.m. Shoppers will be directed to pick up their items up on Apr. 23 sometime between 3-5 p.m. at Shopbike Coffee Roasters on Bayfield's Main Street. They will receive an email confirmation (Thursday) with the approximate time of delivery on Friday afternoon.

Orders can be paid online with credit card or email transfer. Organizers are pleased to offer delivery within 15 KMs of Bayfield for a flat fee of $5. Shoppers can select their preference at checkout.

be held at 9:30 a.m. at the gazebo in Clan Gregor Square. Masks must be worn while at the registration desk.

Anyone who would like to take part but not walk the day of can pre-register, walk, and then submit their pledges prior to June 6. People who don't wish to physically participate but would still like to contribute to the cause can do so by pledging and donating. The preferred method of payment is through E-transfer to the Bayfield Lions at blc.etransfer@gmail.com.

For pledge sheets or further information please call Karen Scott at 226 441-2042.

BAYFIELD RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION SEEKS NEW MEMBERS

After an extended hiatus the Bayfield Ratepayers Association (BRA) is back. A new Board of Directors was established in 2020 to inform Bayfield residents of the major items of concern for the current growth and future of Bayfield.

As there are several important issues being discussed at this time, the Board is seeking support to represent community views on such important issues as: Revitalization of Main Street, Bayfield Settlement Area Secondary Plan and Wastewater Treatment Facility expansion.

"It is essential that when the BRA communicate with elected representatives that they believe they truly represent the Bayfield Ratepayers. While the BRA doesn't always agree on the solutions to the issues, they can at least get all of the opinions on the table," said Godfrey Heathcote, chair of the BRA.

The BRA Constitution supports three membership classes: Property Owners, Tenants and Associate Members. There is a limit of two eligible members per household or residence and members must be at least 18 years of age.

Property Owners, may be either absentee, seasonal or a resident in the Ward of Bayfield; and Tenants have their principal place of residence within Bayfield. Associate Members are those who do not own property in Bayfield, and do not reside in the ward, but have a genuine interest in the welfare of Bayfield. Associate Members have to be approved by a majority of the Board of Directors. Associate Members are not entitled to be an officer or director of the Association, or to vote at the Annual General Meeting or general meetings of the BRA.

BRA current membership rates are $20 for two years and $40 for five years. They no longer offer lifetime memberships. As a result of the COVID-19 disruption, the Board has decided to waive membership fees until the next general meeting of the Association, hopefully in the fall of 2021.

"2020 was a very unusual year for all, but as 2021 rolls out things are beginning to open up

Anyone who would like to receive a reminder to shop the market when it opens is invited to join the Bayfield Farmers' Market email list. People can do so by visiting: eepurl.com/g1lpZ5

BLUEWATER NEWS

The office of the Municipality of Bluewater Council has submitted the following to the Bayfield Breeze as highlights of their regular meeting of council held on Apr. 6.

• Received a presentation from GM BluePlan on the Solid Waste Management Master Plan and directed staff to bring forward recommendations for future options for landfill management.
• Directed staff to provide annual spring green waste collection every Tuesday in April to urban residents in the Municipality.
• Adopted By-Law 31-2021 Being a By-Law to authorize the Corporation of the Municipality of Bluewater to enter into an Agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in right of Ontario for the purchase of electronic equipment and manuals for training for the Bluewater Fire Department.
• Adopted By-Law 33-2021 to amend By-Law 127-2019 to update fees for waste collection carts for rural residents with bi-weekly pickup.
• Adopted By-Law 30-2021 Being a By-Law to authorize a Highways Closure and Disposition of Land Policy and repealed By-Law 117-2020.
• Approved By-Law 32-2021 Being a By-Law to establish the rate of remuneration for Council for the 2021 and 2022 fiscal years and repealed By-Law 5-2009.
• Agreed to forward a request from the Bayfield Historical Society's Admiral Bayfield Project Committee to name the newly created landscaped space in front of the post office and southwest corner of the archive building to the Bluewater Heritage Advisory Committee.
• Declared surplus one 1992 Emer Rescue Truck and directed it be disposed of through a public disposal process.

OPTIMIST CLUB

People often ask if they can add an engraved brick to the path around the Splash Pad in Clan Gregor Square and members of the Optimist Club of Bayfield are pleased to announce that there is further opportunity to have a name added to the circle in 2021. But time is running out. The deadline to order a brick is Friday, Apr. 30.

again. As I am sure you have seen from the residential construction in and near town, the previously mentioned three important issues have come to the forefront again," said Heathcote. "The BRA seeks to represent the majority consensus of Bayfield residents at Bluewater Council on the above three major issues and all other community concerns."

All in the community are invited to become a member of the BRA so that their voices will be heard. For more information visit bayfieldratepayers.ca or email bayfieldratepayers@gmail.com.

"We welcome all classes of membership and look forward to a large turnout at the Annual General Meeting later this year...date to be determined and announced," concluded King.

BAYFIELD PACC SUGGESTS COVID-19 SAFE COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

The current provincial COVID-19 safety guidelines permit people to exercise outside and walk their dogs. To this end, the Bayfield People and Canine Community (PACC) asks community members to consider picking up litter while they are taking a walk on their own or with a canine companion over an extended Earth Day, Apr. 22-24. Much litter has accumulated over the winter and if individuals can clean up along the way, eveyone can still make a difference together while apart. Personal exercise and dog walking are vital activities and can be done safely if people all heed the proper guidelines.

This is a great opportunity for some quiet reflection on how fortunate residents are to call Bayfield their home. Although the in-person social aspect of Earth Day is missing this year, the Bayfield PACC membership has also been cultivating an active online community on Facebook at "Bayfield P.A.C.C".

"We encourage you to engage with us online by posting your 'Clean Up Selfie' to our Facebook page by Sunday evening, Apr. 25th. The photo with the most 'likes' representing the Earth Day clean-up will be awarded a small prize along with the title "P.A.C.C. Member of the Month". We hope to share an update in the next issue of the Bayfield Breeze," said Suzan Johnson, a Bayfield PACC member. "In related news, keep an eye out for our new signage that encourages dog owners to keep our community clean on an ongoing basis. Let's stay safe and celebrate our Earth by acting locally here in Bayfield!"

Community members are invited to join the group's Bayfield PACC Facebook page or visit their website at bayfieldpacc.com to learn more.

CAVE ART ENTHUSIAST NEXT SPEAKER IN LIBRARY SERIES

Friends of Bayfield Library (FOBL) and the Huron County Library are pleased to co-sponsor another speaker in the "Virtual Saturdays at the Library" Speaker Series

Margot Sippel's topic will be "Back in the Caves". In her talk, Sippel will explore how some recent discoveries have deepened the mysteries of prehistoric cave art. Archaeologists and researchers now believe they may have been off by thousands of years in some of their

The engraved pavers in Clan Gregor Square are a reminder of how great area residents and visitors are when it comes to supporting such projects as the Playground and the Splash Pad.

"In Memoriam" stones for loved ones as well as "just because" stones can be ordered with the work being done on site later in 2021 using the same two brick sizes that are already installed around the Splash Pad. The cost of these engraved bricks will be medium, $70; and large, $90. The plan is to have the bricks engraved in late May and/or early June.

Anyone with an interest in adding a brick can contact Mike Dixon via email at mikedixon@tcc.on.ca or by calling 519 955-5254 for further information.

BACPA

COVID-19 restrictions continue to cause havoc with best laid plans.

Ticket holders please note that the Bayfield Beer and Food Festival, organized by the Bayfield Arena Community Partners Association (BACPA), scheduled for May 15 has been postponed until Sept. 11

BAFB

The generosity of the community continues to brighten the lives of the people who look to the Bayfield Area Food Bank (BAFB) for support.

The BAFB is currently in need of donations of personal care products, such as, feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, small shampoos, toilet paper and facial tissues.

Anyone in need of assistance at this time, is asked to please reach out through either an email to bayfieldareafoodbank@gmail.com or phone/text 519 955-7444. All enquiries are handled with complete confidentiality.

For anyone wanting to drop off a non-perishable food donation or personal care items, the outdoor bin

theories about the beginnings of art. This new information has them asking what might have led to the rush of creativity more than 50,000 years ago?

Sippel is an Art Therapist, cave art enthusiast, and Bayfield resident. Anyone who has heard her speak about prehistoric cave art before knows what a fascinating talk this will be!

All are welcome to join the ZOOM meeting on Saturday, Apr. 24 starting at 10:30 a.m.

Those wishing to participate are asked to pre-register for the Zoom meeting by visiting:us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ck6BipdeT22ZJg-vP138XQ

Margot Sippel is an Art Therapist, cave art enthusiast, and Bayfield resident. (Submitted photos)

ONLINE EDUCATION PROGRAMS HELP KEEP THE BRAIN ACTIVE

Looking for ways to keep the brain active while at home? Or interested in learning more about dementia and brain health? The Alzheimer Society of Huron County has Spring and Summer Online Education Programs lined up and ready.

People can find the dates and times and register for these programs by checking out the Alzheimer Society of Huron County's Education Hour on their website at alzheimer.ca/huroncounty/en/help-support/programs-services/dementia-education-huron-county/education-hour

located at Trinity St. James Church on Keith Crescent, can be found at the north entrance of the parish hall. This red bin is sitting next to the recycling container at that doorway facing the parking lot, and is emptied frequently.

KNOX, BAYFIELD

Knox Presbyterian Church, Bayfield invites people to join their weekly church services, available anytime, online with YouTube and Facebook. The online links are available on the Knox, Bayfield website: pccweb.ca/knoxbayfieldpc/

Rev. Lisa Dolson will host a new book study mid-May and all will be welcome to join the discussion. Please contact Rev. Dolson at 519 572-8529 for more information.

ADOPT-A- BFF

Enzo-2 (Submitted photo)

Bayfield Forgotten Felines (BFF) has helped hundreds of feral and abandoned cats find their forever homes but many are still waiting.

Enzo-2 is the Adopt-A-BFF featured cat of the week.

Enzo-2 was found by his rescuer in a puddle on the side of Hwy. 21. He was very thin and sick. She nursed him back to health and got him vetted. Unfortunately, this sweet loving boy has been diagnosed with Feline Herpes, not a serious illness but it is contagious to other cats. Due to this condition it would be best if Enzo-2 is adopted as an

The Dementia Basics series covers the topics the Society addresses most frequently - “Ten Warning Signs”, “Brain Changes and Dementia”, “Types of Dementia” and “Communication Changes”. These programs are currently running on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. They will run again on Thursday mornings in June at 10 a.m.

The “Brain Health 101” session covers lifestyle choices to keep the brain functioning at its best. And, hot off the press, the presentation, “What is Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI)?” will clarify what this diagnosis is and what resources are available. These education programs will be offered at various times in the upcoming months. Please check the Society’s website for available times.

The “Memory and Aging Program” is an engaging series that helps describe age related memory changes, brain health lifestyle choices and practice new memory strategies. The $25 program fee includes a workbook. Participants will be meeting on ZOOM from 10 a.m. to noon on the first four Wednesdays in June starting on June 2. People can register for the Memory and Aging program by visiting: us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpdeitqDwjHdMWZ5qobiteNN1LT3hM-NgY

Sign up for any of these courses by clicking “Learn More” on the Education Hour at www.alzheimer.ca/huroncounty. Individuals can also register by contacting the Society’s office at 519 482-1482 or 1-800-561-5012 or email jeanette@alzheimerhuron.on.ca.

only cat. He will have no problem with this since he loves people and wants nothing more than to cuddle on your lap or play. He is very good with small children. The vet estimates him at five-months-old.

Anyone who thinks Enzo-2 could be “the one” should contact Bayfield’s Forgotten Felines at bayfieldsforgottenfelines@gmail.com.

The cost of a vet visit is $150 per feline, a lot more for cats with special needs. Donations are always appreciated. E-transfers can be sent to the email above or email to arrange for a drop off or pick up of donations. Cheques can be mailed to Bayfield’s Forgotten Felines, P.O. Box 33, Bayfield, ON, N0M 1G0.

OVER ONE MILLION DOLLARS DONATED IN SUPPORT OF CPH

PUBLIC HEALTH

The Huron Perth Public Health website is updated regularly with confirmed case counts received.

“Our online case reporting is not a real-time tool but is meant to keep the community informed on trends we are seeing,” explains Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Miriam Klassen.

For the latest statistics on COVID-19 cases in Huron and Perth Counties please visit: www.hpph.ca

CONNECTEDNESS COACHING

How are you coping with this lockdown roller coaster? Join members of the community on Apr. 26th at noon and spend the lunch hour learning and sharing coping strategies. Let’s ride this roller coaster together.

Program Coordinator for Connectedness Coaching with Gateway Centre for Rural Excellence (Gateway), Sarah Versteeg, said, “We welcome anyone to participate in this community exchange to help develop their own personal resilience and add to the

The Clinton Public Hospital (CPH) Foundation recently presented Huron Perth Heathcare Alliance (HPHA) with a cheque for $1,009,410.12 for the 2020-21 disbursement to CPH. The image is encircled by photos of the current CPH Foundation Board of Directors. Holding the cheque are Andrew Williams, HPHA President and CEO Andrew Williams and HPHA Manager Surgical Services, Lori Merner. In front are CPH Foundation Coordinator Darlene McCowan and CPH Foundation Chair Darren Stevenson. (Submitted photo)

Throughout the 2020-2021 fiscal year, Clinton Public Hospital (CPH) Foundation transferred $1,009,410.12 to CPH for capital equipment and various projects. While the pandemic saw the cancellation of the Foundation's 2020 Biennial Gala, that didn't stop individuals, organizations and businesses of Clinton and surrounding areas from ensuring that the hospital was able to move forward with planned capital purchases and projects.

"Phenomenal! In a year of uncertainty, it is fantastic to see the generosity and commitment that our community has for their hospital," said CPH Foundation Chair Darren Stevenson. "The Foundation made a commitment to the Huron Perth Healthcare Alliance (HPHA) to support the costs of some large projects at CPH this year, including the refresh of both the Medical Devices Reprocessing Department and the Operating Room, a new Bone Mineral Densitometry Unit and Suite, and various other equipment and projects. We are so fortunate to have a community that comes together to ensure our hospital has what it needs to provide quality healthcare to the patients of Clinton Public Hospital. An investment of this size in our hospital, ensures the viability, strength and future of the Clinton Public Hospital."

The CPH Foundation is committed to the advancement of healthcare and well-being of those served by the CPH through the raising, managing and distribution of funds for equipment and infrastructure to the CPH. The Foundation Board of Directors meet regularly with the HPHA Management staff to review the need for capital equipment and upgrades to infrastructure at CPH. This past year, several larger projects were identified and the Foundation made the commitment to support these.

HPHA President and CEO Andrew Williams said, "The support of our Foundation, and therefore our community is incredible. Facility improvements and equipment investments like the ones we are celebrating today are clear examples of the important partnership between the Hospital and Foundation and the role this partnership plays in the continued delivery and strengthening of high quality, local health care."

Funds raised throughout the 2020-2021 fiscal-year supported the following projects and equipment at CPH: COVID relief and Personal Protective Equipment including: Negative Air Pressure Machine, Portable Air Pressure Monitor, Isolation Carts, Ante Room Panel Kits, iPad for screening/audits, Protective Screens, Workstations on Wheels and Vital Signs Towers, $45,000; Operating Room and Medical Devices Reprocessing Department Refresh, $729,000.86; Slit Lamp for Eye Trauma, $17,413.02; ECG Machine, trolley and cart, $15,545.11; 15 Single Channel IV Pumps, $34,922.80; Bone Mineral Densitometry Unit and Suite, $114,529.51; Emergency Department Equipment, $50,000; and Microsoft Surfaces and Charging Stations for Patients, $2,998.82.

Foundation Coordinator Darlene McCowan shared, "Words cannot convey how heartwarming it is to see our donors continue to support their hospital and healthcare at such great lengths. I won't hide that the kindness and compassion shown by our community throughout the past year has brought happy tears to my eyes on more than one occasion. Thank you does not seem enough to express the tremendous gratitude we have to our donors. Each of you are amazing! You are our community heroes!"

Donations throughout the year were provided by individuals, organizations and businesses throughout Southwestern Ontario. The Auxiliary to the CPH also contributed $20,000 this year in support of the ECG machine and IV pumps. Donations were made in direct response to COVID-19 and requests for support for various projects, while other funds were provided through grants and from Planned Giving Bequests left by individuals in their Wills.

STRANG FAMILY ANNOUNCED AS

resiliency of our communities. Please join us to connect, listen, share, and inspire others as we exchange coping strategies to build hope in our communities."

Connectedness Coaching Project Lead Sheila Schuehlein added, "This event is designed to provide a safe place to share challenges and to learn new coping strategies to help us face the ups and downs of living in this current lockdown."

Hosted by the Connectedness Coaching Program, this latest Call to Action is one more way the program aims to inspire intentional acts of kindness to reduce social isolation and improve individual wellbeing, and empower community members and organizations to explore and enhance their resiliency through appreciative inquiry and meaningful engagement in the larger community.

To register for this free ZOOM event, visit letsridetogether.eventbrite.ca.

For more information about this and other upcoming events and learning opportunities, visit www.gatewayruralhealth.ca/connectedness-coaching.html and follow the Connecting Together Seeding a Smile's Facebook Group @ConnectingTogetherSeedingaSmile.

Also, anyone who is, or knows someone who is, struggling with loneliness and isolation, and are interested in serving or being served in Lonely No More's peer support program, is asked to please feel free to check out Lonely No More's website at www.gatewayruralhealth.ca/lonely-no-more.html The website contains details on how to become a Lonely No More volunteer. People can also call Lonely No More's Coordinator directly at 519 292-6862.

FIRE SERVICES FUNDING

Huron-Bruce MPP Lisa Thompson has announced that the Ontario Government is investing $83,500 to help local fire services throughout the riding address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding will enhance fire safety training and support safety inspection programs to ensure compliance with the Ontario Fire Code.

"Fire safety training has always been an important component for keeping local communities and our dedicated fire fighters safe," Thompson said. "But during the pandemic, it has become a much more invaluable tool."

The list of fire services receiving funds include: Bluewater Fire, $6,300; Elmwood Fire (Brockton),

CONSERVATIONISTS OF THE YEAR

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority's Conservationsts of the Year for 2021 are l-r: Keith Strang, Jeff Den Otter, Mike Strang and Geoff Strang, of Strang Farms. They are shown in front of a constructed wetland at Geoff Strang's property. The agricultural producers from this family farm at RR 3 Exeter build soil health and prevent soil erosion by using cover crops, crop rotation, vegetative cover as well as innovative conservation tillage, variable seeding, and fertilizing. They also share their experiences with peers and have restored a wetland and established watercourse buffers. (Submitted photos)

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Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) has announced the winners of the Conservationist of the Year Award. The winners, in 2021, are Keith, Geoff and Mike Strang of RR 3 Exeter. ABCA will present the award later this year.

Keith Strang, and his sons Geoff and Mike, are very interested in preserving the land which they farm. The Strangs use cover crops, crop rotation and vegetative cover to build soil health and prevent soil erosion. They have also established watercourse buffers and restored a wetland. This local farm family is innovative with conservation tillage, variable seeding, and fertilizing. These local agricultural producers are also generous with their time in speaking to their peers at events related to agriculture and soil health.

The fourth and fifth generation of the Strang family are farming near Exeter. Strang Farms works about 2,400 acres in the area. Their growth strategy is to employ "conservation farming practices with the latest crop sciences and advanced technologies."

$6,900; Central Huron Fire, $6,400; Goderich Fire, $6,400; Howick Fire, $5,500; Huron East, $6,800; Lucknow Fire (Huron-Kinloss), $6,300; Kincardine Fire, $7,400; North Huron, $5,800; Saugeen Shores, $7,900; South Bruce, $5,900; South Huron, $7,000; and St. Joseph, $4,900.

The funding is part of a $5 million provincial investment to help municipal fire services respond to the local impacts of COVID-19 which created risks and unprecedented challenges for fire departments to conduct training and fire safety inspections. This one-time funding will enhance in-person and online educational instruction needs by increasing access to additional training.

It will also support updates to specialized critical equipment, such as high-speed internet, to enhance virtual training and enable remote options to support fire safety and compliance with Ontario's Fire Code while minimizing exposure to the virus.

"Our government has listened to fire services across the province and recognizes the impact COVID-19 has had on their operations," said Solicitor General Sylvia Jones. "This funding will enhance opportunities for training and support fire safety inspections needed to keep our communities safe. We are grateful to these brave, dedicated individuals for their commitment to protecting Ontarians as the fight against COVID-19 continues."

SCHOOL BOARD FUNDING

School boards in Huron-Bruce will receive more than $8.4 million in funding to upgrade infrastructure at local schools and protect against COVID-19. The funding comes from the governments of Ontario and Canada through the COVID-19 Reliance Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP).

Funding will support building retrofits, updates and upgrades to their schools and co-located child care facilities. Projects can include HVAC renovations to improve air quality, installing water bottle refilling stations to improve access to safe drinking water, and space reconfigurations such as new walls and doors to enhance physical distancing.

The distribution of funding per school board is as follows: Avon Maitland District School Board, $2,974,509; Huron Perth Catholic District School Board, $1,700,000; Bluewater District School Board, $3,447,500; and Bruce-Grey Catholic District School

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) will present the award later this year.

“We are proud to announce Keith, Geoff and Mike Strang as this year’s winners of the Conservationist of the Year Award,” said Doug Cook, chair of the ABCA Board of Directors. “They are leaders in their industry and they put best management practices into action to the benefit of water and soil in this watershed.”

The award recipients are to receive a handcrafted award made by Bob Hutson, of Windbreak Farm (windbreakfarm.ca) Custom Woodworks near Fullarton, ON. The engraved dual-purpose board is a piece of art on one side and a serving tray on the other and is made from beech wood. In addition to the prize, ABCA is donating towards a tree and plaque at a Commemorative Woods.

ABCA has presented the Conservationist of the Year Award since 1984. Winners have included community organizations, companies, nature groups, rural landowners and residents, agricultural producers and farms, service clubs, and municipalities. Each winner is a business, organization, farm, or person residing in the watershed or having done conservation work there.

Learn more about the conservation awards at:
www.abca.ca/community/conservationistoftheyear/

PROVINCE TO INVEST IN BLUE WATER REST HOME UPGRADES

Huron-Bruce MPP Lisa Thompson announced that the Ontario government is investing $318,249 in one-time combined federal-provincial funding to the Blue Water Rest Home in Zurich to improve safety and make upgrades.

It’s part of a $100-million investment to install heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems, and make retrofits or repairs to fire sprinkler systems, in 95 long-term care homes across the province. These investments will help provide care, comfort and safety to residents.

“Our government puts the safety and well-being of long-term care residents at the heart of everything we do," Thompson said. "When it is safe to do so, I look forward to making a visit to the Blue Water Rest Home to recognize this important investment with both staff and residents.”

The investment will help:
• Mitigate the spread and exposure to bacteria and viruses and to help maximize infection

Board, $305,532.

“This pandemic has turned our world upside down and makes every day a challenge and every week uncertain. These funds will help us get back to a more regular regimen sooner,” said Huron-Bruce MPP Lisa Thompson.

“Today’s announcement of support for Ontario’s schools will help provide critical infrastructure to keep students, teachers, and staff in Huron-Bruce and across the province safe through the pandemic and into the future,” said Huron-Bruce MP Ben Lobb.

The investments build on the more than $1 billion the Ontario government has invested since 2019 in new schools and child care spaces. Supported by provincial funding, 95 per cent of Ontario schools have reported upgrades or enhancements to their air filtration systems, with over 40,000 HEPA filters and other ventilation devices in classrooms.

“Ontario’s government is focused on protecting the lives of students, staff, and their families. We put a plan into action that leads the nation — delivering air ventilation improvements to over 95 per cent of schools, 7,000 additional staff, and improved cleaning, testing, and stronger screening,” said Minister of Education Stephen Lecce.

“This one-time investment will help improve the safety of schools, building upon Ontario’s annual investment of over $1.4 billion to maintain schools and $550 million to build new schools. We also recognize that in addition to these school-based infrastructure investments, Ontario’s plan to defeat this pandemic includes vaccines for school staff. We have prioritized education staff in high priority communities and all special education staff across the province, and will expand to all staff as supply becomes available,” Lecce added.

The Government of Canada is investing up to $525.2 million towards these projects through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. The Government of Ontario is contributing $131.3 million to the projects.

SUMMER COMPANY

Applications are now being accepted for the annual Summer Company program. All students, aged 15-29, that are looking to start their own businesses are eligible to apply. Successful applicants will receive up to $3,000 in start-up funds and business coaching throughout the summer of 2021.

prevention and control.
• Improve air quality in the existing building (retrofitted home area) by replacing the heating ventilation and air conditioning system.
• Improve the safety of the existing building (retrofitted home area) by installing a fire sprinkler in a non-sprinklered zone.
• Improve the security of the existing building by installing security cameras.

“Our Government is reversing decades of neglect and underfunding by repairing and rebuilding long-term care in Ontario like never before,” said Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, minister of Long-Term Care. “Today’s (Apr. 15) investment in homes across the province is another part of our government’s plan to ensure our loved ones live in comfort and with the safety, dignity and respect they deserve.”

This funding is part of a combined federal-provincial investment of up to $1.05 billion to build or renovate health and safety related projects in long-term care, education and municipalities through the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream (CVRIS) of the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP).

In addition to helping communities build the necessary infrastructure to keep Ontario’s long-term care residents, families and staff comfortable and safe, this investment will create hundreds of local construction jobs, and support local businesses and suppliers.

SHOPPING IN CLINTON AS EASY AS PRESSING A BUTTON

Everyone can identify with this challenge: struggling with bags and boxes, maybe a stroller, to get in the front door of the next shop on the “to-do list”. If it is that hard for an able-bodied person, imagine the struggle of those who use assisted living devices like canes, crutches, and wheelchairs.

That is exactly why the downtown merchants of Clinton decided to do something about it. The need to improve the “shop-ability” of the commercial core was essential, especially after having added 11 new businesses to the retail area after the highly successful “Win This Space” program.

Angela Smith, Community Improvement coordinator for the Municipality of Central Huron identified the need early on and took to the streets herself to experience the issue.

“I recently researched this firsthand by taking a stroller and trying to go in and out of every shop in town. It was beyond frustrating, and I gave up after only six stores. If I gave up, so will our prospective patrons.”

There had also been a recent tour by Huron County native and accessibility champion Julie Sawchuck and MPP Lisa Thompson, identifying that “towns that are easy to shop in attract those with disabilities, as well as those with small children.”

In addition, COVID-19 had begun to further complicate issues. The need to reduce points of contact is essential and ensuring the minimum 6 ft distance between patrons is a challenge given our ingrained politeness to hold the door.

Smith stepped in to research the initiative of installing accessibility buttons and quickly discovered the cost may be prohibitive to businesses and property owners.

“Each door opener was estimated at $1,850 plus tax and with unforeseen installation challenges; meaning the cost would vary at each location.”

Always an innovator out to improve the community, Smith applied to the Huron County

The County of Huron, in partnership with the Province of Ontario, will award up to five students the chance to start their own companies this summer.

“The Summer Company really changed everything, I couldn’t have done it without it,” stated Brody Nesbitt, owner of Brody Builds, a participant in the 2020 program. “They helped me overcome getting started, get the ball running and get going. The start-up costs really helped.”

Applications for the Summer Company program are open now through May 23. To apply, individuals must determine if they are eligible and submit an online application inquiry. They will be connected with the local program provider, Huron County Economic Development, who will support individuals in submitting an online application, which includes a business plan and cash flow projections. All submitted applications will be reviewed and applicants may be contacted for an interview before being approved for the program.

To learn more about the eligibility requirements and to apply, please visit www.ontario.ca/page/start-summer-company-students.

For more information about the Summer Company program, please visit ecdev.huroncounty.ca or contact Entrepreneur and Business Coach, Patrick Donnelly at 519 524-8394 Ex. 3307 or by email at pdonnelly@huroncounty.ca.

MOVE FOR MENTORING

From May 1st-15th community members are invited to “Move for Mentoring” by getting active, having fun, and helping to ignite the power and potential of young people in the area in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron (BBBSSH).

BBBSSH provides their services to Ailsa Craig, Bayfield, Brucefield, Centralia, Crediton, Clinton, Dashwood, Exeter, Grand Bend, Hensall, Huron Park, Lucan, Parkhill, Seaforth, Vanastra, Zurich and surrounding areas.

They provide a variety of quality mentoring programs that are supported by professional caseworkers, ensuring their programs meet agency and national standards while ensuring safe, positive and healthy relationships between Big and Little. These programs, the support, and professional case work, are offered at absolutely no charge to young people and their families. The agency relies primarily on funds raised through The Little Shop (their children’s consignment store), grants, fundraisers, sponsorship and individual donations, to provide programming.

Economic Development Supporting Local Economic Development Program for funding. Coupled with the Municipality's Façade Funding program, meant that businesses willing to participate would only be required to fund the balance.

The Central Huron BIA and Community Futures Huron also added their support to the pro-active initiative and a few months later 12 businesses in the downtown core have installed accessibility buttons for their entryways.

"With a nudge of your elbow, it's easier to shop in Clinton!" said Smith. "There's no need to struggle with strollers, juggle bags, or have difficulty with mobility devices – you can literally shop at the press of a button!"

ONLINE CONSERVATION DINNER AUCTION ENDS TOMORROW

Each year for 30 years, more than 400 people gathered in person to support their community at the gala Conservation Dinner auction event. In 2021, the Conservation Dinner is an online event. Hundreds of people can't be in the same room this year but there are still fun ways to enjoy the festivities and support local community conservation projects.

The #VirtualConservationDinner online auction runs for one week, from now until tomorrow, Earth Day (Apr. 22). This year, the Conservation Dinner Committee hosted a one-hour livestream online and TV broadcast on Apr. 15 and will do another at 7 p.m. on the last day of online bidding tomorrow. To watch the livestream broadcast, visit the new livestream page at conservationdinner.com/livestream/. This one-hour simulcast TV show is to be broadcast on social media.

To bid on the many wonderful online auction items, during bidding week, visit the online auction page at: conservationdinner.com/online-auctions/

Other ways to support the Virtual Conservation Dinner, organized by the Exeter Lions Club and Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation (ABCF), include direct donations; purchasing online 50-50 raffle draw tickets at ExeterLions5050.com (with the prize growing every day); and purchasing special take-out meal entrées during specified dates as part of 'dining for your community.' To find out more, visit conservationdinner.com.

The Conservation Dinner is a partnership of the Exeter Lions Club, ABCF and other community partners. It has raised more than $1.2 million for projects in local communities over 30 years.

This fundraising event supports projects in local communities. Projects include parks and conservation areas; accessible nature trails in Bayfield, Clinton, Parkhill, Lucan, Arkona, Exeter, and Varna; outdoor nature education; a $1,000 student environmental bursary for students in local communities; a summer job at Ausable Bayfield Conservation for a senior secondary school student; turtle monitoring in Port Franks and Ailsa Craig; aquatic habitat studies in Old Ausable Channel at Grand Bend; and other projects.

Move for Mentoring is a simple and fun way to help support BBBSSH. People are invited to challenge themselves (and each other) to be active while raising pledges to support area young people. During the first two weeks of May participants will commit to a movement of their choice – walking, running, cycling (one, two or five kilometres) or holding a one-hour dance party are but examples, participants are encouraged to get creative on how they can Move for Mentoring. The next step is to let everyone know about the challenge completion by tagging Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron on social media with photo or video evidence of the challenge as it happens or after it happens using the hashtags #BBBSSH #BiggerTogether

People can sign up as an individual or part of a team. To register visit: southhuron.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca/event/move-for-mentoring. Register by Apr. 24 to receive a branded BBBSSH bandana to wear while moving, sponsored by Canadian Tire. Participants will also have a chance to win a daily draw prize, sponsored by Tim Horton's, from May 1st-15th on Facebook: Big Brothers Big Sisters of South Huron.

Participants are asked to collect pledges using their online fundraising page. Paper pledge forms are also available. Donations will be accepted until May 31st.

For more information, or to register, please contact the BBBSSH office at southhuron@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca or call 519 235-1780, or visit their web-site at southhuron.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca, or reach out on Facebook.

SHARE

Huron County Museum and Historic Gaol

REMEMBER THIS

The Huron County Museum is home to thousands of artifacts that illustrate the history of both the rural and urban populations of the area. Space dictates what wonderful curiosities the public regularly gets to see when they visit the museum located at 110 North Street in Goderich (temporarily closed). But where there is wifi, there is an opportunity to time-travel with over 3,000 pieces of the museum's collection now available to view online at https://huroncountymuseum.pastperfectonline.com.

"Remember This" highlights items from the collection of the Huron County Museum and Historic Gaol. Items that have shaped the fabric of the county and the people who have lived here since before the county became the county in 1835 up until more recent times.

In honor of tomorrow's Earth Day, we are sharing painted interpretations of the wonderful world around us, a fine legacy left by some talented, local artists. These works are no doubt a prized part of the Museum's collection…

CARROLL PAINTING

This is an acrylic painting of Goderich Harbour circa 1870 depicting the Harbour looking south with sailing and steam vessels. Buildings, and the lighthouse on the bluff, are in the distance. It was painted by artist Paul Carroll and was the 2017 Huron County Art Show first place winner. He felt the depiction was an appropriate way to honor maritime roots at the time of Canada's 150th.

Carroll shared the following, "In the 1840s through 1870s, 'Goderich Harbor' was a bustling community of industrial, commercial, and residential activity. It had become a busy river mouth harbour. The community surrounding the basin was known as 'Lower Town'. There were hotels and taverns, lumber mills, tanneries, a cooperage, a ship chandlery, fishing operations, boat-building activities, etc... The lake banks had been stripped of their timber for fuel wood for the many residents who lived here, in small houses and shanties, year-round. The fishing fleet alone included 40-50 'Huron Boat' schooners of various sizes, most of them built right here.

"This acrylic painting -- laid out with a palette knife, finished with brushes, and fine detail added in ink -- is my contemporary interpretation of an ancient photo engraving, published a century

MCLAREN PAINTING

This is an oil painting of a fishing fleet docked in the Bayfield Harbour on Lake Huron; painted by J.W. (Jack) McLaren, of Benmiller. The painting depicts several fishing boats moored in the Harbour. The green boat on the left is the "Douglas T", next is the "Blue Fin", "Binnie S", and "Stewart S". There was no name for the boat on shore. The red building with the high roof was owned by Bill Jowett and they rented bathing suits out of it. His daughter Ethel Poth had the task of washing the bathing suits.

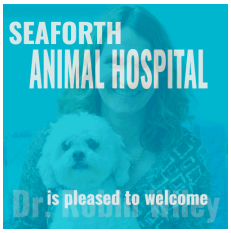
JACQUES PAINTING

This is a landscape painting inside a gilded ornate

and more ago, to show the extent of the community a few years after Confederation."

frame. The painting, created around 1900, depicts a waterfront at sunset, with a man fishing in the background. There are two cows on the waterfront beside the fisherman, and there are four boats floating in the water. In the background, there are four ships sailing across the water and giant green mountains.

It was painted by Margaret Nay Jacques (1873-1939). She lived her entire life in Howick Twp. Her three children were born from 1903 to 1908. Margaret's husband was George Hubbard and was a member of Huron County Council circa 1924-1929.



SHARE PHOTO STORY

PIONEER PARK ASSOCIATION

PARK STAIRS AND BEACH ACCESS CLOSED UNTIL AUTUMN

Apr. 2021 - The Pioneer Park Association Executive would like to make everyone aware that they have had to unfortunately close the park stairs and beach access until the Fall of 2021.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Pioneer Park is a very special place, and along with its lake views and spectacular sunsets, has inspired many a photograph. This week we share a few of these images that we have collected in "Pixilated". Thank you to all of the photographers for their contributions.

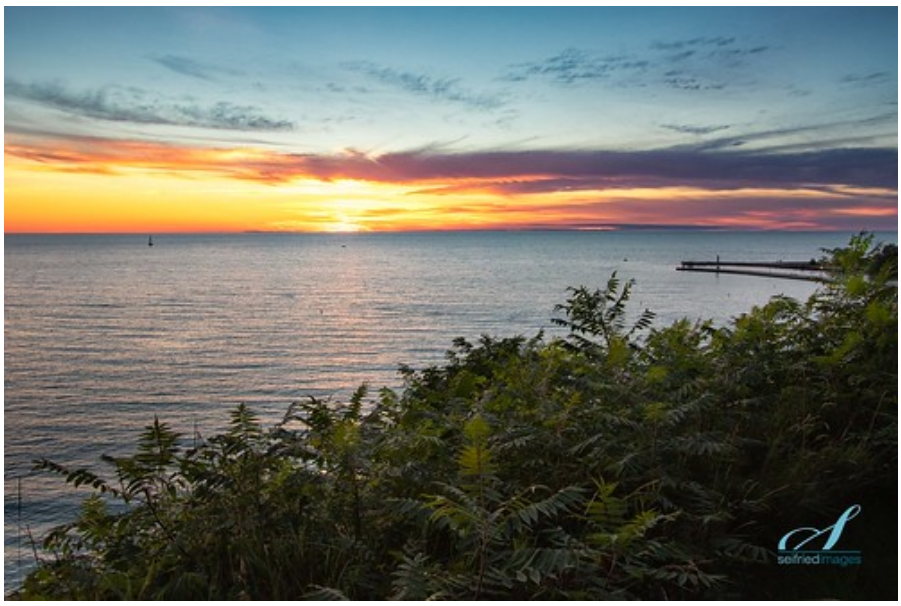
The Pioneer Park Association Executive would like to make everyone aware that they have had to unfortunately close the park stairs and beach access until the Fall of 2021.

As part of an erosion control project on the Pioneer Park bank in the Fall of 2020, the bottom section of the stairs to the beach were removed at that time. Additional erosion has since occurred on the south side of the bank which requires remediation and impacts replacement of the bottom section of the stairs. A detailed erosion project is currently under development and additional funding will likely be required.

"We are hopeful that once the project is completed we will be able to reopen the stairs to the beach safely," said Pioneer Park Association

Oct. 2020 - Pioneer Park view from the end of the pier. (Photo by Gary Lloyd-Rees)

Jan. 2021 - Pioneer Park stairs. (Photo by Jack Pal)



President Peter Brent.

Pioneer Park Association Secretary Pattie MacDonald added that donations to Pioneer Park would be gratefully accepted at this time.

“As many of you know, we are unable to hold our annual rummage sale to raise funds for the operation and maintenance of the park for the second year in a row,” said MacDonald.

Donations via E-transfer may be sent to:info@pioneerpark.ca or cheques mailed to P.O. Box 2115, Bayfield, ON. N0M 1G0. A taxation receipt will be issued for all donations $20 or more.

June 2020 - Pioneer Park (Photo by Jane Seifried)

June 2020 - Pioneer Park bank. (Photo by Jane Seifried)

Sept. 2020 - Pioneer Park sunset. (Photo by Gary Lloyd-Rees)

Aug. 2020 - Pioneer Park sunset.(Photo by Jane Seifried)

July 2019 - Pioneer Park sunset. (Photo by Conrad Kuiper)

March 2019 - Pioneer Park stairs. (Photo by Ruth Percy)

May 2020 - Pioneer Park bank. (Photo by Sibylle Jasin)

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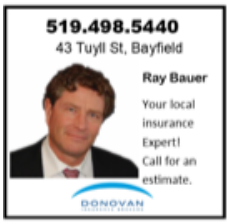
PIXILATED — IMAGE OF THE WEEK

Returning to the nest (to stay at home?)...*By Gary Lloyd-Rees*

Email your photo in Jpeg format to bayfield.breeze@villageofbayfield.com with the subject line Subscriber Photo of the Week. or...Upload your photo to Flickr.

I am looking for the Bayfield that is a delight to the eye – please share photos with a touch of whimsy, beauty, humor or a sense of fun. If you are to include people in your photos be sure to have their permission to publish their picture on-line and also send in their names and where they are from. And don't forget to tell me who took the photo for proper credit to be issued

test



SUBMISSIONS

Bayfield has lost another ray of light. Dance with the angels Carlos Murguia. - 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.

SHARE

SIGN UP FOR BAYFIELD BREEZE CLICK HERE

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Advertising Sales: **Mike Dixon**
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