



# The REVIEW

Blue Mountains: Thornbury, Clarksburg, Craigeleith, Heathcote, Ravenna  
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Vol 8 Issue 13

APRIL 5, 2022



## "A" Division Champions!

Back row (l-r): Jess Elkins (Trainer), Al Scott (Assistant Coach), Mike Boyd (Head Coach)

Middle row (l-r): Sam Elkins, Jake Boyd, William McArthur, Spencer Stroud

Front row (l-r): Mitchell Scott, Parker Yaskovitch, Colton Winch, Bentley Kenyon, Cullen Ladly

After a successful season, the U9 Rep Team from Georgian Shores competed in the Georgian Bay Minor Hockey League "A" Division Wrap-up Tournament in Owen Sound. The tournament began on Friday where Georgian Shores defeated the Collingwood Rep Team by a score of 6-3. Tournament play continued Saturday against the Elmvale Rep Team where Georgian Shores dominated with a 10-1 victory. On Sunday, Georgian Shores faced off against ORO Rep. After the first period of play, Georgian Shores was down 3-1 halfway through the second period. Georgian Shores battled hard and came back to win 11-4 to become "A" Division Champions!

Congratulations to this hardworking team of 8 and 9 year-olds from the Thornbury and Meaford area.

## The 52nd Earth Day - April 22, 2022

### Invest in the Planet

Earth Day is an annual event held on April 22nd, to highlight environmental issues across the planet and demonstrate support for environmental protection.

First held in the United States on April 22nd, 1970, it has since become the biggest secular observation day in the world, marked by more than a billion people and an opportunity to highlight the issues and environmental challenges.

The need for a clean environment continues with increasing urgency, as the ravages of climate change in Canada become more and more apparent every day.

"All worthy things that are in peril as the world now stands, those are my care." JRR Tolkien



### We invite you to be a part of Earth Day 22/22

- Celebrate the beauty of south Georgian Bay and the Beaver Valley by walking near the shore or in the forest.
- Join a Pitch-in clean up group
- Plant a tree or shrub
- Take a big drink of water from your tap and appreciate the amazing quality of our local fresh water
- Plant perennials that attract pollinators
- Enjoy the spring bird calls. Robins, Turkey Vultures, Redwing Blackbirds are back and singing
- Donate to an environmental group
- Buy nothing on Earth Day
- Let your local TBM councillor know how important a clean and thriving natural environment is to you and to the TBM area. [council@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:council@thebluemountains.ca)

## Send in your ideas.



Email the Review, images of your preference for density style housing with amenities. We will publish them in the May Edition.

When developers know what the community is looking for it makes these projects possible. [info@visitblue.ca](mailto:info@visitblue.ca)

It's time to add to the housing options and you can help.



**PITCH-IN CANADA**

**The Blue Mountains  
Community Clean-Up  
Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Meet in the parking lot at Little River Beach Park (Thornbury Harbour) at 1pm  
Garbage bags and disposable gloves provided

Please contact Heike Reck ([heike.reck@rogers.com](mailto:heike.reck@rogers.com)) for more information

Organized by CANN (Climate Action Now Network), GUC (Grace United Church) Green Team and The Town of the Blue Mountains

## Trees Need You To Protect Them Again

A subdivision proposal has the potential to result in the removal of 1,100 trees on town unopened road allowances. The development is off Lansdowne and Huron Street on the west side of Thornbury.

In an era of accelerating climate change the town needs to take tree preservation seriously and stop destroying the role that trees play in our town. Trees, too, have roots in our community and when protected, its carbon is safely stored for centuries. Residents and developers both benefit from tree preservation and the positive impact trees have on landscape, climate and stormwater drainage. Developments can be revised so that trees can be saved.

Help make it happen. Write to Council NOW and express your concerns. [council@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:council@thebluemountains.ca)

Council recently approved a process in the Thornbury West Reconstruction project to save up to 60 of the 141 trees recommended for removal by exposing tree roots that encroach upon the construction site, at which point an arborist assesses the roots and determines whether or not they may be removed without significantly damaging the tree. If all is well, the roots are removed and the tree is preserved. For a cost of \$3,000-\$3,500 per preserved tree.

## What's on at Marsh Street Centre, Clarksburg

Did you know the Marsh Street Centre is a non-profit organization? Our mission is to provide an affordable space for the community to connect, create and experience culture. This means that the venue is available for the community to rent and we have seen amazing things bloom from the creative brains of local people and groups! From a commercial kitchen, to a board room, to a recording studio and of course our concert-worthy auditorium; there's a huge variety in what the Marsh has to offer. Learn more about rentals and any of the upcoming events listed below, at [marshstreetcentre.com](http://marshstreetcentre.com)

### Seniors' Lunch and Learn

**Mondays, 11:00am – 1:30pm, PWYC**

Pre-register: [info@marshstreetcentre.com](mailto:info@marshstreetcentre.com) 519-599-7837  
Good company, light exercise, yummy lunch and a presentation to engage the mind. April catered by Chef Gilles and the Cheese Gallery (April 11). No session on April 18, Easter Monday. Presentations on: Collingwood Curling Club; all things charcuterie; and local poets.

### First Aid and CPR Certification

**Saturday, April 23 and Sunday, April 24, 9:00am – 5:00pm**

This is a two-day course; \$75 MSC Members, \$100 Public Certification by Canadian Red Cross, valid for three years. Lunch will be provided. Course meets legislation requirements for provincial/territorial worker safety and insurance boards and includes the latest first aid and CPR guidelines.

### Marsh Street Artists Show and Sale

**Opening Reception Sunday, May 1, 2:00 – 4:00pm,**

**Free Admission**

Meet the artists, watch them at work, enjoy refreshments and support this long standing local group of painters. Art to be shown throughout May.

### Thunderstruck: North America's # 1 AC/DC Tribute

**Friday, May 27, 7:00pm, \$30 MSC Members, \$35 Public**

A memorable evening and an entertaining show for all ages. This is an experienced band focused on authenticity, with a 20 year history touring across Canada and the US. Proceeds from this event will support the work of the Marsh Street Centre in your community. Let there be rock.

### Passionate Heart: Hand Shadows

**Sunday, May 29, 2:00 – 3:00pm, Admission by donation**

Please RSVP to [passionateheartdance@gmail.com](mailto:passionateheartdance@gmail.com)

A unique collaboration of dance and poetry presented by Suzette Sherman, Michele Green, and Susan Wismer.



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

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**MAILED E-NEWSLETTER** - You can also sign up to receive the E-newsletter through Canada Post; \$50 for 25 issues

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

**DONATE** - Through our website link; email transfer to [info@visitblue.ca](mailto:info@visitblue.ca) or by cheque to Riverside Press, Box 387, Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:** We ask that letters be no longer than 250 words, and adhere to standards of fairness, accuracy, legality and civility. Beyond that, we select letters on the basis of timeliness, relevance and diversity and reserve the right to not publish.

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

## Calling all Volunteers Interested in Planting Trees and Greening our Community



Help us plant trees during an upcoming community tree planting event organized by Tree Trust TBM, TC Rotary and the Town of The Blue Mountains. We need volunteers to help us plant native tree seedlings in two sections of the Georgian Trail. Please consider volunteering for a few hours on April 30 or May 7 at 10 am and/or at 2 pm – date to be confirmed once our seedlings become available.

To help us plan, volunteers are asked to register their interest by emailing [csadmin@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:csadmin@thebluemountains.ca) or by calling 519-599-3131 ext 289. When registering by email or phone, please leave a message with your contact details and the number of people who might accompany you. All are welcome – families included! We will get in touch directly with the registered volunteers with our confirmed date and locations.

We look forward to seeing you, and working together on this vital community project!

## Letter to the Editor

I commend Betty Muise and the Tree Trust for the super work they undertake on behalf of trees. I also want to bring to everyone's attention the writings of Dianna Berresford Kroeger. Her latest book **"To Speak for the Trees"** is a must read for everyone who cares for the natural world.

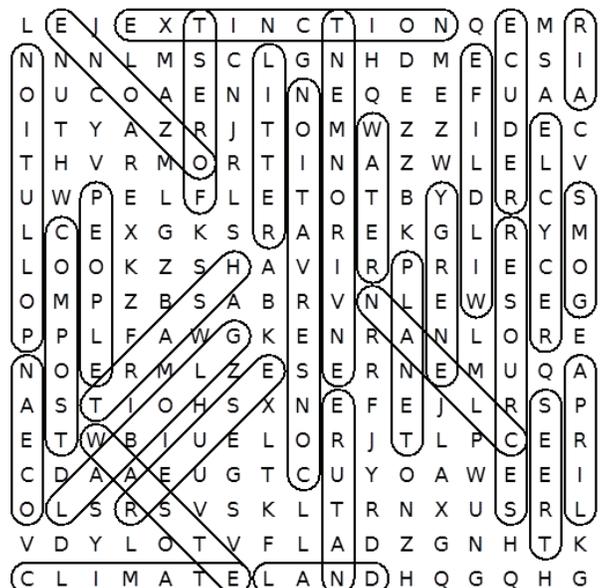
And her inspiring film **"The Call of The Forest"** makes a compelling case for our debt to trees.

In her words "I want to remind you that the forest is far more than a source of timber. It is our collective medicine cabinet. It is our lungs. It is the regulatory system for our climate and our oceans. It is the mantle of our planet. It is the health and wellbeing of our children and grandchildren."

Janis Pratt, Landscape Architect

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**Caregiver Available for Home Support, Overnight Stays, Errands**  
References available - Call Barbara 705-795-4571



## St. George's Parish to Fly the Ukrainian Flag Twice

A week ago, a gentleman turned up at St. George's 8:00 service who had not been seen in two years. After the service, he said that he was impressed, even moved by the prayers Rev Grayhame Bowcott, the priest, had led for the people of Ukraine. He was also impressed when it was said that St. George's had already raised \$6,440. through their Primate's World Relief Fund for direct support for the displaced people of Ukraine.

He asked if the parish would fly an old Ukrainian flag he had as St. George's is the only church in town with a flagpole.

The following week, the Parish Council unanimously approved the idea. However, it was discovered that flag protocol requires that a Canadian flag must fly above another nation's flag. So, the priest personally put up a Canadian flag supplied by another parishioner, with the donated Ukrainian flag below. Then the GALE WINDS of late March arrived and ruined the flag! The church now has a brand-new Ukrainian flag and will fly it in support of that country and its people. It is hoped that the people of the Blue Mountains will continue to make donations through St. George's that will provide direct support to the beleaguered people of Ukraine.

Contact the church at 519-599-3047 or by email at: [parishofthebluemountains@gmail.com](mailto:parishofthebluemountains@gmail.com)



### ST. GEORGE'S, ANGLICAN PARISH FOR THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

**Holy-Week Services - All are welcome**

Masks are required to be worn for all services.  
Social distancing is available at some services.

#### Palm Sunday, April 10th

8:00am No seating restrictions  
10:00am Social distancing at the front of the sanctuary

#### Holy Week Services, April 11th-16th

7:00pm No seating restrictions  
Holy Monday April 11, BCP Holy Communion  
Holy Tuesday April 12, Night Prayer  
Holy Wednesday April 13, BCP Evensong  
Maundy Thursday April 14, BAS Holy Eucharist  
Good Friday April 15, Meditation on the Cross  
Holy Saturday April 16, Easter Vigil

#### Easter Sunday, April 17th, BAS Holy Eucharist

8:00am No seating restrictions  
9:30am 6-foot social distancing  
11:00am No seating restrictions

For more information call the church office at  
519-599-3047, or contact our website at  
[www.parishofthebluemountains.ca](http://www.parishofthebluemountains.ca)

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Wishing you and your loved ones a

Happy Easter



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Throw it away? No way!



Let's see if we, as a community, can reduce the number of broken items going to our landfill. How? By repairing them and extending their lifespan! The Grace United Green Team is very excited to announce the launch of a brand-new Community Engagement Project called the **Repair Café**. This worldwide movement strives to preserve repair skills in society and to promote more repairable products.

We are collaborating with our community to create a volunteer-based repair team. Once a month, area residents would bring their broken items to the Repair Café, where volunteers would share their skills to help repair their items **for free**. We would also share some social time, with coffee or a nice cup of tea and cookie. This adventure will not only bring our community together to help our neighbours, but it will also lengthen the life of our landfill and save taxpayers money!

**The grand opening of the Grace United Church Repair Café will take place on the Saturday after Earth Day - April 23rd, 2022, 1-4pm**

**Kids Craft Time!**  
**Make a wildflower seed pod to take home and plant!**

At this time we are looking for volunteers to join our repair team. If you have skills to share, such as woodworking, electronics, sewing, mending, etc. and would like to get involved with this exciting project, please get in touch with Barry Tatchell at [Barry.Tatchell@rogers.com](mailto:Barry.Tatchell@rogers.com).

Go **Green** for a better **Blue!**



# Earth Day Every Day



- |              |             |           |           |
|--------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| AIR          | ENVIRONMENT | OCEAN     | RESOURCES |
| APRIL        | EXTINCTION  | OZONE     | REUSE     |
| CLEAN        | FOREST      | PEOPLE    | SMOG      |
| CLIMATE      | GLOBAL      | PLANET    | TRASH     |
| COMPOST      | LAND        | POLLUTION | TREES     |
| CONSERVATION | LITTER      | RECYCLE   | WASTE     |
| ENERGY       | NATURE      | REDUCE    | WATER     |
|              |             |           | WILDLIFE  |

## JAZZ AT THE LIBRARY

IN THE GALLERY - L.E. SHORE MEMORIAL LIBRARY - THORNBURY

**FRIDAY APRIL 29, 2022 - 7:30PM**

DOORS OPEN AT 6:45 pm

## BILL KING TRIO

Playing the music of Oscar Peterson, Ahmad Jamal, Chick Corea, and Monty Alexander, along with a few Bill King originals.



BILL KING - Piano

MARK KELSO - Drums

PAUL NOVOTNY - Bass

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Bog



Swamp



Marsh

## A Deep Dive into "Wetlands"

A picture of "wetlands" is popular for discussing conservation and climate change. But how exactly do wetlands make a difference? Some of us recently attended an on-line event by our local Sustainability Project - Climate Forum on this. We came away with interesting facts including some surprises.

Wetlands are truly magical. It seems they add value to human life from every possible point of view. One surprise is that one can calculate the annual dollar value of the services that wetlands provide. Putting a dollar value on eco-services is already being done in Ontario.

Our eyes, of course, give the first impression. Wetlands are a home for wildlife. From insects to frogs to beavers. At least 20% of Ontario's "at risk" species live there. A surprise: 1/4 of the world's wetlands are in Canada, and 1/4 of those are in Ontario. For protecting its inventory of those wetlands that were in place at the time of European settlement, Grey County ranks in the top category in southern Ontario.

For us humans, physical and social activity in "green and blue spaces" has benefits for mental health and stress relief. This translates into economic benefit. One Ontario study found that recreation in wetlands generates a value of over \$3,500 per hectare per year, which is about \$9,000 per acre per year.

Reducing the damage from flood events is high on the list of other ecological benefits. A 2019 Ontario study found that maintaining existing wetlands can reduce flood damages by 29% in rural areas and 38% in urban areas.

Intense precipitation appears to be on the increase. This affects flood risk and therefore is getting increased attention. Planning for flood management traditionally uses "the worst flood event over the last 100 years" as a base. Yet in one or other Grey-Bruce locality, four events of the "once in 200 years" kind have occurred over the last 15 years.

With regard to climate change, perhaps the most significant value of wetlands is their role in storing, or sequestering, carbon. The CO2 in the air is absorbed by plants and trees during the growing season, and gets stored in vegetation, and into the soil. In wetlands, dead vegetation decays much more slowly due to the lack of oxygen. This yields greater carbon storage per acre in wetlands compared to regular land.

For carbon storage, wetlands punch above their weight. While they represent about 5-8% of the landscape, they account for 20-30% of global soil storage. They likely account for about 50% of the carbon storage in the boreal forest.

A bit of a surprise for us was that it is much more effective to protect an existing wetland compared to restoring or building a new one in a different location. When an existing wetland is decommissioned, not only does it stop absorbing CO2, now it becomes a source of CO2 into the atmosphere. Existing wetlands typically have history, hundreds up to thousands of years, and therefore much stored carbon to release. Whereas, when a new wetland is started, it may actually be a net generator of CO2 until it becomes mature.

Written by Michael Treuman, with guidance from Norine Baron. Both are members of the Climate Action Now Network (CANN) in Blue Mountains. A video of the full event (1:45 hours) is viewable at <https://bit.ly/3Nj4vCJ>.

Please resist the urge to clean up your garden until temperatures are consistently above 50F (10C). Many pollinators are currently overwintering in the dead leaves and hollowed out stems of last year's plants. If you clear these now, you will literally be throwing away this year's butterflies, bees and other beneficial pollinators.



## How You Can Help Monarch Butterflies

[journeynorth.org](http://journeynorth.org)



### At Home

Create monarch habitat by planting a butterfly garden.

- **Plant native milkweed**  
Some non-native plants disturb migratory patterns.
- **Provide nectar plants**  
Include flowers that bloom during fall migration.
- **Avoid pesticides**  
Pesticides kill monarchs at all stages of the life cycle.

## SAVE THE BEES BY PLANTING THESE

- |   |           |   |               |
|---|-----------|---|---------------|
|  | LAVENDER  |  | SNOWDROP      |
|  | THYME     |  | GERANIUM      |
|  | SAGE      |  | ASTER         |
|  | BORAGE    |  | POPPY         |
|  | FENNEL    |  | CALENDULA     |
|  | CILANTRO  |  | SWEET ALYSSUM |
|  | HOLLYHOCK |  | SUNFLOWER     |
|  | CROCUS    |  | ZINNIA        |
|  | BUTTERCUP |  | HELIOTROPIUM  |

## The Master Gardener's Corner

Things to do in your garden each month taken from the Ontario Master Gardener Calendar by John Hethrington, Past President, Master Gardeners of Ontario.

For more information, or your copy of the 11" x 17" calendar of the full year's tips for a \$2 contribution to Master Gardeners, e-mail [john@casacarole.com](mailto:john@casacarole.com) or call 519-599-5846. *First blooms for Spring 2022*



### Things to do in your garden in – April 2022

- Do stretch and bend exercises before you start in the garden. I find skiing muscles have nothing to do with gardening muscles. Take it easy. There are a lot of gardening days before the ski season comes again.
- I hope you had a chance to spread 19-19-19 general purpose fertilizer over the snow on all your flower beds and shrub borders before the snow disappeared. It melts down through the snow into the ground as the snow goes away. It and other fertilizers are available at the Co-Op in Markdale. If you missed this step this year, plan for next winter and buy the fertilizer in the fall.
- While the snow may be gone, it may be back once or twice in April. If it is, you can still spread the triple 19 as long as it does not get on to the emerging plants, as it may burn them.
- Organize your compost pile for the new season. Start a new one with the top foot of compost from last year's pile as a base.
- As the weather warms and the ground dries, prune back perennials and ornamental grasses to 1" to 2" from the ground. Collect the dead material and put it on your new compost pile. Shred it, if you can.
- Push any plants that the frost has heaved back into place.
- Prepare garden beds for planting. Dig in compost, and/or manure, and/or other organic material around each plant. Remove any weeds that have come through from last fall. When you have cleaned up the beds, ADD 3" TO 4" OF MULCH to control weeds this summer.
- Remove rose protection. For Hybrid Teas, prune back to 6" or 8" and apply dormant oil spray before the buds break.
- Apply dormant oil spray to shrubs like euonymus that may have suffered from scale last year. Do it before the buds break.
- Prepare your vegetable garden with a good digging. Add compost, if you have it. Mid-month, plant the seeds of cool-weather vegetables like peas, spinach, lettuce, onions, beets. Plant seeds of frost resistant annuals like larkspur, sweet peas and calendulas.
- When dry, rake your lawn vigorously to remove any thatch; repair damage with weed-free topsoil. Add grass seed to bare spots. Keep moist.
- Fertilize your lawn with slow-release high nitrogen fertilizer (the first of the 3 numbers on the bag). Slow-release urea costs more, but it's worth it, as it should last until the fall.
- Apply crabgrass pre-emergence herbicide to your lawn, if required.
- When spring finally comes, plant trees, shrubs, perennials and biennials in your garden. No need to wait until May 24th for perennials, that's for annuals. It may be the first week in June before you can get frost tender annuals safely into the ground.
- Re-fill your pots and planters with compost. Put empty plastic bottles with tops at the bottom of large pots. You will need less soil and they will be lighter to move. Add slow-release plant food to the top 4 inches.
- Then plant frost-resistant pansies NOW for a little spring colour.
- Start mowing your lawn only as needed. Keep it long.

Save Saturday June 11th for the St. George's, Anglican Parish of the Blue Mountains, giant annual Plant Sale on the church grounds with over 1,200 perennials, shrubs and tomato plants to choose from, plus free gardening advice from 599 Garden Club experts.

## THE BLUE MOUNTAIN PUBLIC LIBRARY APRIL PROGRAMS & EVENTS

### Limerick Poem & Visual Art Contest

April 1-30 | Biblioboard

[LibraryPrograms@TheBlueMountains.ca](mailto:LibraryPrograms@TheBlueMountains.ca)

Celebrate Poetry Month by writing a limerick and include an image. Submissions can be emailed. Win great prizes AND be published on our website.



### Virtual Fitness Class with Lemonade Collective

Thursday April 7 | BMPL YouTube

Join us online for a FREE workout class with an instructor from Lemonade Collective, a local boutique gym. Also features a tour of their facilities.

### ACC Presents: Budapest, Vienna, Prague - A City Tour

Thursday April 7 | 7:00pm | BMPL Zoom | Registration Required

Join Michael Arkless as he guides you through a well travelled route that people take from Budapest through Vienna and ultimately to Prague. Michael will share photos of the architecture that he came across during his travels. It will be a little like a "Rick Steves travelogue".



### Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt

Saturday April 16 | 10am | L.E. Shore Library

Join us Easter weekend for a fun Easter-themed scavenger hunt for families. Find all of the Easter Eggs in the Library to win a prize!

### Beekeeping 101

Saturday April 30 | 11am | L.E. Shore Library | Registration

Beekeeping for Beginners and Bee-yond, with Janine McGowan M.Sc., Owner & Operator of Our Bee Lab - Community Apiaries. Learn about apiculture and beekeeping. A family-friendly event for all ages.



## REGULAR PROGRAMS

#### Seniors Exercise

Mondays | 10:00am  
Facebook

#### Museum From Home

Mondays | 12:30pm  
CHD Facebook

#### Wired Wednesday

Wednesdays | 1:00pm  
Facebook & YouTube

#### Story Time in the Gallery

Fridays | 11:00am  
L.E. Shore Library |  
Registration

#### Teen Group

2nd Thursday  
5:00pm  
L.E. Shore Library  
Registration

#### Teen Book Club

3rd Thursday  
6:00pm  
L.E. Shore Library  
Registration

#### Tween Group

4th Thursday  
4:00pm  
L.E. Shore Library

#### Adventures in Digital Arts

2nd Saturday | 10:00am |  
L.E. Shore | Registration  
A free tech session,  
teaching video and  
cartooning with the latest  
and coolest in tech.  
Ages 8-13 yrs.

#### Trivia Game Night

Fridays | 7:00pm  
Facebook

#### Dorothy Crysler Bird Club

3rd Saturday | 9:30am  
Zoom

For more information or to register for events visit the **Event Calendar** on our website [www.TheBlueMountainsLibrary.ca](http://www.TheBlueMountainsLibrary.ca)



Follow us on social media!



# Continuation of my grandfather's memoirs: Leaving Siberia

by Alice Otrysko

The first part of this journey of survival was concentrated on survival and hardships in Siberia. When Hitler attacked the Soviet Union (July 22, 1941) Poland and Russia became reluctant allies and my family were free again.

Hearing of the Polish army forming in the southern parts of the Soviet Union in Kazakhstan, we were determined to get there.

Together with some other Poles, we left travelling by a strange, single rail, elevated railway used to transport cut lumber.

We then loaded on a ship which took us to Kotlas, a major port and railroad centre. We took a train loaded with Poles to the southern parts of the Soviet Union.

This journey took 19 days and the wagon box-cars were equipped similarly to the ones that took us from our home to Siberia but this time we did not have armed guards with us and the doors were not locked. There were no food supplies and we were left to care for ourselves. We raided freight trains loaded with food for the army. This was a very dangerous undertaking and the penalty was death.

We eventually arrived in Uzbekistan and together with hundreds of others were taken downriver by barges pulled by a tugboat to the sea of Aral. Dozens died of malnutrition, starvation and various diseases especially typhus. People were hungry all the time.

Here Polish families were assigned farm work. Our stay lasted 3 weeks and then we left for other parts of Uzbekistan.

We arrived in another Uzbek kolkhoz called Kalinin. It was the poorest settlement in the whole region. The weeks we spent in this kolkhoz became a harvest of death.

The work here was building the canal. It was like being sentenced to hard labour. Individuals and whole families died like flies. We tried everything to keep alive, eating weeds, rough cow fodder, impure cotton seed oil and some ate dog meat if they could catch a dog which were skin and bones themselves. I travelled far and wide to search for something for all of us to eat.

After a long wait, my son Franek was called to serve in the army on February 11, 1942. He was in the Signals Unit in the 7th Polish Division stationed in Kermine, near Bukhara. On April 15, 1942, the rest of us left this poor kolkhoz for Kasan. Here there was opportunity to get food through trade.

What saved us was the foresight that we brought extra boots and sweaters and sold or traded them for food. God watched over us and Holy Mother cared for us.

We were very anxious to be near the Polish troops and after many applications we got tickets to travel from Kasan to Kermine. Here we were located in a tent close to the Polish Military Camp. We were now classified as a military family because son Frank was officially a part of the Polish Armed Forces and on that basis we began to be fed by the military kitchens. What joy!

On August 12, 1942, together with Polish troops we boarded a ship that was to take us to Persia (Iran). Saying goodbye to "Stalin's Heaven" we raised our hands in supplication and gratitude thanking our Lord for saving us.

Thinking back on the worst part of this journey it's thanks to God we survived at all. When we arrived at our camp, we went

through showers and a thorough disinfection. All our clothing was burned and we were given new summer clothing, shoes, and two new American blankets. Thus ended two and a half years of tragedy and hardships and a beginning of a new life for those who survived.

Many Polish camps, civilian and military were established around Teheran.

It was a good life; there was plentiful food and a small amount of money.

There were now thousands of Polish people in Teheran and there was a need for workers in various services.

We lived in tents sleeping over 20 people each. Men and women were in separate tents, even the married couples. The field kitchen served nourishing and plentiful food; we received a small sum of Persian money for our other needs and the family was together.

Since 1943 Teheran was occupied by the three Allies: Great Britain, the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union. We were directly under the Polish military and civilian authorities but the major decisions were made the British.

Soon we learned that all camps were to be liquidated and we were to be sent elsewhere. We said goodbye to Iran on May 27, 1944. We were among the largest group destined for British East Africa. We arrived in Dar Es Salaam on June 20, 1944. Thus began our life in Tanganyika.

Alice graduated from UofT with an Honors Masters degree. She was a teacher, a consultant to the director of education and a principal in Toronto's MSSB.

## Ontario Making it Easier to Volunteer

The Ontario government is eliminating the cost of police record checks for volunteers of all ages.

Beginning April 1, 2022, amendments to the Police Record Checks Reform Act, 2015 will remove the fee, making it easier for Ontarians to support food banks, emergency response initiatives, animal shelters, and many more organizations in their communities. Typically, police record checks, also known as background checks, cost about \$25 and serve as a screening process for an individual applying for a volunteer position.

Volunteers can also receive up to five copies of these types of police record checks for free, making it easier to apply to multiple volunteering positions.

MEAFORD THEATRE COMPANY  
presents

**A Bench in the Sun**  
by Ron Clark

April 29, 30 & May 5, 6 & 7, 2022 7:30 PM  
Woodford Community Centre, Woodford

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On Facebook check out Meaford Theatre Company and Events  
Or at <https://www.eventbrite.com/ea-bench-in-the-sun-tickets-301615589347>  
And at the door

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Kim Ransom, Director  
Phone: 226-662-0214 E-mail: [1kransom@rogers.com](mailto:1kransom@rogers.com)

Meaford Municipality of Meaford  
Meaford Culture Foundation Building the Community  
Tony and Diana Ersser  
CANADIAN TIRE  
Owen Sound

**Marsh Street Artists' Show and Sale**  
exhibit through the month of May

Opening Reception: Sunday, May 1  
Reception 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Free Admission  
Learn more about this local painters' group at [marshstreetartists.ca](http://marshstreetartists.ca)

meet the artists  
artists creating on site  
light refreshments, cash bar

MARSH STREET CENTRE, CLARKSBURG

Image credit: "Circles of Light" by Sandra Whitehead

# Town of The Blue Mountains - Campus of Care

Submitted by the Blue Mountain Ratepayers Association.

The Campus of Care is one of the largest developments ever contemplated in the TBM, and one which the BMRA is monitoring closely. We recently met with Councillor Andrea Matrasovs, Co-Chair of the Town's Campus of Care working team, to gain a better understanding of the proposal. We are appreciative of the time that Andrea made available to us, which is consistent with the open access that Town Council and Staff have provided to the BMRA.

Below is a summary of what we learned, and the key issues that will need to be addressed.

**Overview** - The Town's proposed Campus of Care will provide a continuum of senior living options, comprising a 160 bed Long Term Care (LTC) facility, an attainable housing development, retirement living accommodation, and other forms of housing and services. A primary objective is to facilitate "Aging in Place", so that town residents don't have to move away from the TBM in the later stages of their lives. Sustainability of the development will be a priority, looking at economic, environmental and social factors. An environmental study of the site is in process, which will be completed this Spring.

It is to be built on the 34 acre property at 125 Peel Street the Town purchased in 2021 for \$3.45 Million - about 24 acres will be allocated to the Campus of Care development, with the remaining 10 acres to

be held by the Town for future purposes. The cost of bringing services to the site in order to connect to town infrastructure is estimated at \$11 Million.

**How the Project is to be Structured** - The Town will not be constructing any of the buildings, nor subsidizing the operation of the LTC facility. Instead, the Town will be soliciting interested bidders through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process. The bidders will likely be consortiums including a residential developer and the prospective operator of the LTC.

**The RFP Process** - The Town is developing the RFP criteria which will be used to evaluate the submissions received. The list of the criteria and their ranking can be found on the Town's website devoted to the Campus of Care. One of the criteria to be weighed, but not mandated, will be adherence to our Official Plan, including the three storey maximum building height - a limit that is valued in the TBM. The RFP designates that the buildings could be up to 6 storeys. A key question to be addressed is the rationale for the building heights proposed by the selected bidder. It is imperative that the Town be transparent in sharing the pros and cons of the placement and form the buildings will take, including financial implications, amount of attainable housing to be provided, and impact on the operating and health protocols of the LTC facility.

**A Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) has been Requested** - An MZO has been requested of the Province by the Town to expedite the development timeline. An MZO allows the planners to override the Town's existing rezoning process to approve a project. The MZO is being used for the Campus of Care because the Province could revoke the LTC authorization if the Town is not in a position to finalize the deal with a proponent by the end of 2022. The concern with MZOs is that they limit, and often override community input on development proposals. To address this issue, Town Council must commit to a well defined and inclusive public review and feedback exercise.

**Questions Regarding Design** - The design of the buildings, in conjunction with the site plan, will have significant impact on whether they are deemed to be appealing, and consistent with Thornbury's community character. It is not yet determined what design expertise the Town will bring to bear in this process, nor the manner in which town residents will be engaged in the review of proposed designs. Councillor Matrosos confirmed that design is an issue that must be dealt with as the RFP exercise moves forward.

**In Summary** - The proposed Campus of Care development at 125 Peel Street has the potential to enhance the diversity and inclusiveness of our community. For that objective to be realized, we believe the Town needs to ensure the following requirements are met;

- A clear and credible rationale for the placement and building heights for the chosen development - in particular, if they exceed the limits currently enshrined in our Official Plan, why that decision was made, and what assurance can be given that their approval would not result in a de facto increased town wide allowable maximum building height
- An accounting for the \$15 million that the Town is projected to invest in the land purchase and servicing, and importantly the manner and extent to which those costs will be recovered from the selected bidder
- Adherence to a public engagement effort that is comprehensive and meaningful, while also facilitating timely decision making
- Building designs that will make a positive contribution to the current community character

We encourage all interested TBM residents to follow the project updates that will be posted on the Town's website. An informed public will help ensure that the Campus of Care initiative meets our collective expectations, and most effectively provides for the care of our seniors. [www.thebluemountain.ca](http://www.thebluemountain.ca)



**Our members are the lifeblood of our association**

**Please Join/ Renew Your BMRA Membership!  
Only \$25 per household.**

**Simply e-transfer to [join.bmra@gmail.com](mailto:join.bmra@gmail.com)  
(Please include your email information in the  
e-transfer message field)**

BMRA serves in an advocacy role with Town Council on behalf of ratepayers to ensure & enhance our community's quality of life.

**BE ENGAGED \* INFORMED \* SUPPORTIVE**

Please forward to your friends and neighbours who may not have already joined.

Thank you for your support!  
\*(payment can also be made by cheque)

Current membership term runs from Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2022

Blue Mountain Ratepayers Association  
Box 198, Thornbury, Ontario, N0H 2P0



## Recycle Your Spring Cleaning!



Drop off your gently used household items, clothing, books & kids' toys in our donation bins.

Visit [bvo.ca](http://bvo.ca) for a list of acceptable items  
54 King St. E., Thornbury



Making good things happen in our community!



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[www.connorwhalen.royallepage.ca](http://www.connorwhalen.royallepage.ca)

ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS NORTH BROKERAGE

## Easter's Crocus

As shafting beams gleam upon the crusted rivulets of snow and ice,  
The Sun's arcing orbit now lends her warming fingers.  
The scars of winter's rubble, scattered debris, branches severed from their maternal trunk,  
All tell that our seasons are shifting through their natural order.  
The earth is smiling back.  
It is a smile of the yellow crocus, whose embryo lay sleeping these past months, now released to bloom.  
It is a smile of the prancing daffodil, whose open face glows to the Sun's shafts of grace.  
It is a smile of the snowdrops, their fragrance and nodding portrait paint their release from winter's clasp.  
It is a smile of the bluebell clustered, its ring but echo to the glaze of Spring's gentle brushes.  
It is a smile of the lily, her nutrient found beneath the battered soil, exclaims herself trumpet-like in victory.  
Yet as we gaze upon such vibrancy of colour and hope,  
We see a tree upended, roots to all tempest exposed,  
The bark riven by human hatred, a testament to moral revolt.  
Such the Cross.  
This divine gift is the harbour for mortal wickedness,  
And as the Sun so regained the soil of its wintered exile,  
So too the Son has regained the soil of our souls.  
Look! His tomb emptied of death,  
Gives us the Easter of our delight, the warmth of hope, the glimmer of our eternal bloom.  
Humankind smiles!

Jeremy Wentworth-Stanley,  
[jeremy@officeinthebarn.com](mailto:jeremy@officeinthebarn.com)



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D & D PRESENTS... A CHARITY CONCERT IN SUPPORT OF  
LIVING BETTER WITH PARKINSON'S



Renowned Pianist  
Daniel Vnukowski



Entertainer  
Dean Hollin

AN AFTERNOON OF

## Musical Delight

SUNDAY, MAY 29TH, 2022 | 1:30PM



Living Better with Parkinson's promotes physical activity - every day. We do this by providing a safe space, excellent programs and a supportive community.



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH  
140 Maple St, Collingwood

### CONCERT

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
Doors open at 1:30 p.m. a short reception will occur after the performance

### TICKETS

\$100.00 per person Available at:  
[livingbetterwithparkinsons.ca](http://livingbetterwithparkinsons.ca)  
(Tax receipts will be issued)

Covid-19 guidelines of Trinity United Church will be followed.

Tickets available at the Review Office, 22 Louisa St. E., Thornbury



Interested in writing? Enter the  
**4th Annual Seniors 55+  
Literary Competition**

WRITE A POEM, ESSAY, SHORT STORY, MEMOIR

**ELECTRONIC SUBMISSIONS ONLY - NO HARD COPIES ACCEPTED**

**COMPETITION DEADLINE - SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2022**

1. Open to all seniors **aged 55+**
2. Must complete and attach official registration form
3. Must be **original, written by the contestant** and be **unpublished**
4. Must be submitted in English or French
5. Must not exceed the line or word limits specified
6. Must be **ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION**. Name on application and title page only.
7. Contestants may submit only one entry in any / each category
8. Submission must include a **title page** stating the title, author's name and entry word count
9. Biographies that are submitted must include written consent of the subject, if living.

Entry forms are available upon request at

[branch270seniorsliterary@gmail.com](mailto:branch270seniorsliterary@gmail.com) or [districtseniorsliterary@gmail.com](mailto:districtseniorsliterary@gmail.com)

Submissions must be received at the above email addresses by **June 18, 2022**

**PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO WINNERS IN EACH CATEGORY AT THE SENIORS' LITERARY COMPETITION AWARDS LUNCHEON - DATE TO BE ADVISED LATER.**

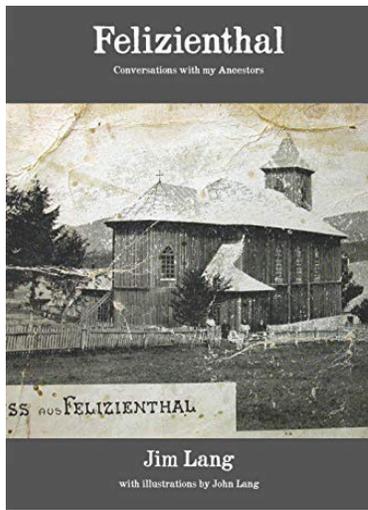
POETRY - maximum 32 lines

SHORT STORY - word count maximum 4,000

ESSAY - word count maximum 1,000

MEMOIR - includes biographies, autobiographies, and travel writing - word count max. 5000

Copies of the Registration form and scanning available at the Review Office,  
22 Louisa St. E., Thornbury 519-599-3345



**Felizienthal:  
Conversations with my  
ancestors by Jim Lang**

Based on more than a decade of research, Jim Lang's epic work of historical fiction tracks the author's German-Bohemian ancestors' migrations, adventures, joys and and tragedies across centuries, continents, and oceans. A massive work--829 pages in hard copy--written in novel form, using imagined dialogues, Jim Lang brings his ancestors and their historical contexts to life; he recreates family relationships, the horrors of war, and the challenges of pioneering on the Canadian prairies at the turn of the 20th century.

More than one thousand meticulously researched end notes, hyperlinked from the text, provide translations of German phrases and explain myriad supporting facts and contexts. Acclaimed illustrator, John Lang (johnlangart.com), provides nine full-page illustrations within the text, as well as the cover and fifteen pages of maps and genealogical charts in the appendix.

Although the book was intended primarily for family, dozens of which have volunteered positive reviews, non-family readers have been equally effusive in their endorsement of Felizienthal.

A published author of three books, retired media producer and academic, Jim Lang holds a PhD from the University of Toronto, where he served as Adjunct Professor (philosophy) and Associate Faculty, School of Graduate Studies.

<https://felizienthalbook.com>

**Local Artist Receives Another Prestigious Award**

**Harvey Bodach**, a local Landscape and Wildlife Artist has once again been recognized. This time the award is First Place for the painting **"Canada Lynx in Repose on a Moonlight Winter Night"** which he submitted and was accepted by the Federation of Canadian Artists "Animalis" 2022 Exhibition. 77 artists were accepted for this juried competition. In 2021 he won Second Place for the painting **"Custom Bank Barn Timbers with a Nesting Barn Owl."**

The painting measures 20" x 15" on masonite board. This Canada Lynx is hunting around twilight hours at night, when snowshoe hares of the boreal forest are most active. They travel on specific trails or wait in ambush beds for their prey. They are not always successful when hunting and need rest after vigorous periods of exertion, like this winter Lynx during a moonlit night.

The winter coat of this Lynx creates interesting streaming textures and deep pockets within the fur to explore. A thick silvery grey brown colour coats the fur with white tipped edges conveying a frosted icicle appearance. [www.harveybodach.com](http://www.harveybodach.com)



**BLUE MOUNTAIN VILLAGE**

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**It's Back!**

**APRIL 18**  
TO **MAY 20**  
SUNDAY - FRIDAY

**BLUE MOUNTAIN VILLAGE**

[bluemountainvillage.ca](http://bluemountainvillage.ca)

Offers and menu's subject to change without notice. Price does not include tax or gratuity. Some restrictions may apply.

# 30 Days of Grilled Cheese Goodness April 1 - April 30

16 LOCATIONS - \$12 TAKE-OUT / \$17 DINING-IN

**VOTE!** EVERY GRILLED CHEESE PURCHASED COMES WITH A RATING BALLOT. BALLOTS ARE COUNTED AT THE END OF THE MONTH AND OUR CHAMPION CHEESER WILL BE CROWNED!

**THERE'S MORE!** EVERY BALLOT IS ENTERED INTO A WEEKLY DRAW FOR SOME GREAT PRIZES FROM OUR PARTICIPATING RESTAURANTS!

presented by the cheese gallery

# THE BIG CHEESE

a friendly, but serious  
grilled cheese sammie  
**SMACKDOWN!**



## THECHEESE.CA

FOR LOCATIONS AND ALL THE CHEESY INFO

EVENT SPONSOR:



## Teenage Skier Continues a Winning Family Tradition

**Duncan Armstrong**, a sixteen-year-old competitive skier with the Georgian Peaks Club, won the Under 18 and placed second in the Under 19 giant slalom races at the Canadian National Alpine Ski Championships held in The Blue Mountains March 15-18. The event drew an estimated 220 athletes from across Canada and internationally.

According to Duncan's grandfather, Peter Armstrong, the win came exactly forty years after Duncan's father, John, captured the giant slalom title in British Columbia. "We're all extremely proud of Duncan's achievement. He has excelled in the sport over the years through guts and determination," said Armstrong.

Duncan, who specializes in slalom and giant slalom, is currently balancing his ski training (currently in a ski academy in Vermont) with school, and racing in regional, provincial and national events. In the near future, he's hoping to compete in some NorAm and FIS races and ski for a Division 1 university (with a large athletic budget) such as Dartmouth and Cornell.

His ski racing accomplishments aside, Duncan has proven himself to be a different kind of champion in The Blue Mountains community. During the pandemic, he and his Georgian Peaks ski racing teammates stepped up to support Beaver Valley Outreach (BVO), a local charity with programs and services for children, families, seniors, and individuals. They organized two events - BVO Challenge 2020 and a Ski Equipment Sale in 2021 - to raise over \$30,000 for BVO's popular Treasure Shop thrift store.

"I hope to continue supporting BVO, and I'm always thinking of ideas to do so," said Duncan. "Instead of just asking for money, my teammates and I like to be creative, and organize events that generate some excitement and benefit." BVO Chair Cathy Innes is grateful for Duncan's support. "When I think of the phrase 'friends of BVO', Duncan immediately comes to mind," she says. "The events he organized were highly successful. BVO owes a great deal to the community spirit and commitment of Duncan, his teammates, and his family."

For more information about BVO please visit [www.bvo.ca](http://www.bvo.ca) or call 519-599-2577.



## Beaver Valley Fall Fair

is looking for Market and Food Vendors to join us on September 9 and 10, as we celebrate our 150th Fall Fair. Booths are available inside the arena and outside at the Beaver Valley Community Centre.

For more information or to request an application, please contact [info@beavervalleyfallfair.ca](mailto:info@beavervalleyfallfair.ca)





# Town News & Notices

📍 32 Mill St., Box 310, Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

☎ 519.599.3131 Toll Free 1.888.BLU.MTNS

✉ info@thebluemountains.ca

🐦 @townofbluemtns

🌐 www.thebluemountains.ca

## ➤ Sign Up for Town Emails

Stay up-to-date by signing up for Town email newsletters.

[www.thebluemountains.ca/subscribe-for-updates.cfm](http://www.thebluemountains.ca/subscribe-for-updates.cfm)

## Notice - Town Launches Public Survey for Phase 1 of the Official Plan Review

The Town of The Blue Mountains has launched a public survey to gain community insight for Phase 1 of the Official Plan Review project. The survey will help the Town understand key priorities and themes to consider within the next phases of the project, where the updated vision statement and strategic direction will be confirmed.

The survey can be completed until April 29, 2022 and can be accessed by visiting the project webpage. Paper copies are available upon request by calling (519) 599-3131 x263 or through pickup at Town Hall and The Blue Mountains Public Library.

"The Official Plan Review is going to be the most important document that the Town can create to ensure that its long-term vision for growth and development is realized," says Councillor and Chair of the Official Plan Review Steering Committee, Paula Hope. "It is the basis by which Council makes its decisions on development applications, changes in land use and community improvements. The Official Plan is the blueprint to our sustainable future."

### About the Official Plan Review

The Town of The Blue Mountains is updating its Official Plan through the process themed 'The Blue Print'. The main goals of Phase 1 of the Official Plan Review are:

- Review of the Official Plan Vision, Guiding Principles and Goals and Objectives
- Growth Management, Housing, Density Height and Character
- General Housekeeping Updates and Conformity with Upper Tier

### Planning Documents

When completed, the Official Plan Review will set the vision and direction that shapes the growth, development and protection of the Town to the year 2046.

For more information about the project and to complete the survey, please visit: [www.tbmbblueprint.ca](http://www.tbmbblueprint.ca)

For more information, please contact: Shawn Postma  
Senior Policy Planner 519-599-3131 ext. 248

# THE BLUE PRINT

## OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW

A public survey has been launched to help guide the Town's Official Plan and to define the project's vision, principles, goals and objectives.

[www.thebluemountains.ca/survey](http://www.thebluemountains.ca/survey)

## Survey closes April 29, 2022

Paper copies available at Town Hall, The Blue Mountains Public Library, or by calling (519) 599-3131 ext. 263

# Notice of Public Information Centre

## Thornbury West Reconstruction Phase 1 - Proposed Parkettes for Louisa Street and Beaver Street

The Town of The Blue Mountains is reconstructing several roads in Thornbury West to address ageing underground infrastructure. Phase 1 improvements to the road network have created opportunity for two new parkettes in this established neighbourhood.

The parkettes proposed are:

- along Louisa Street West, from Elma Street South to Bruce Street South
- within a 114m section of Beaver Street South, east of Alice Street, which will be closed to motorized vehicles.

### How Do I Get More Information?

A Virtual Public Information Centre (PIC) is being held to gather input from stakeholders and residents. All those interested in the project are invited to attend. The meeting will include a public comment and question period.

**Date: Thursday, April 27, 2022**

**Start Time: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

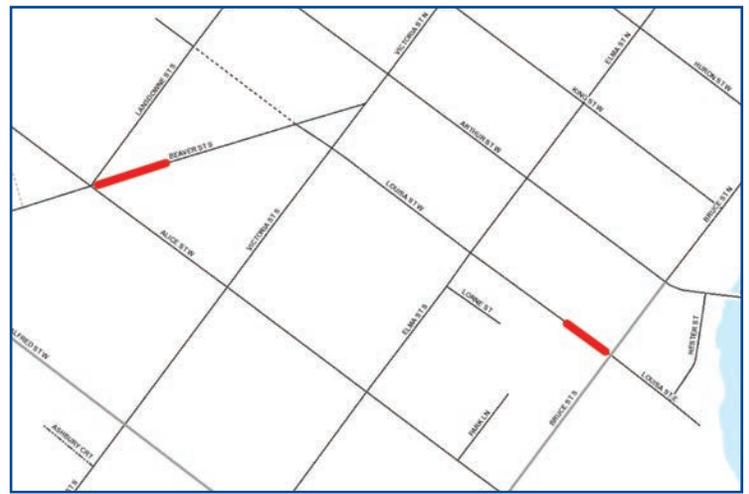
**Platform: Microsoft Teams**

Registration for the meeting is mandatory to receive a link to attend the virtual meeting. Please visit the project web page to register for the meeting and to sign up for notifications as project updates become available.

[www.thebluemountains.ca/ThornburyWestPhase1](http://www.thebluemountains.ca/ThornburyWestPhase1)

Questions and information collected at the PIC will be maintained on file for use during the design project, and, unless otherwise requested, may be included in the design documentation, and presented to Town Council which is available for public review.

*Under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001 and in accordance with Ontario's Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (MFIPPA), The Corporation of The Blue Mountains wishes to inform the public that all information including opinions, presentations, reports and documentation provided for or at a Public Meeting, Public Consultation, or other Public Process are considered part of the public record. This information may be posted on the Town's website and/or made available to the public upon request.*



### Contact Information

If you have any questions regarding the study, please contact one of the people listed below.

#### Town of The Blue Mountains

Michael Campbell, C.E.T. Construction Coordinator  
519-599-3131 ext. 275; 32 Mill Street, Box 310 Thornbury, N0H 2P0

#### Tatham Engineering Limited

Aaron Roeper, P. Eng. Project Manager, 705-444-2565 ext. 2072;  
115 Sandford Fleming Drive, Collingwood, L9Y 5A6

### Project Timeline

**Design and Engineering** - In Progress

**Construction** - 2023 (est.)

**Project Completion** - Late 2023 (est.)



**STAY ENGAGED**  
with all Town Projects & Initiatives



Keep up to date with current and future projects, share your feedback, and help shape our community!

[thebluemountains.ca/current-projects](http://thebluemountains.ca/current-projects)



**NEVER MISS AN UPDATE!**



Subscribe to the Town's Email Newsletter  
Stay up-to-date on Town news, operations & project updates by subscribing to the Town Email Newsletter.

[thebluemountains.ca/subscribe](http://thebluemountains.ca/subscribe)

# In Memoriam

## MABEL ELSIE BOWEN

Mabel passed away peacefully at Errinrung Nursing Home in Thornbury on Monday, March 21, 2022 in her 91st year.

Born in the small community of Lavender in Simcoe County on November 18, 1931, a daughter of the late Norman and Annie (nee Holden) Weatherall. Mabel was predeceased by her beloved husband William "Bill" Bowen in October of 2006. She is lovingly remembered as the dear Mom of Diane (Keith) Cornfield of Markdale, Bill Bowen (Donna Chapple Bowen) of Town of the Blue Mountains, Brenda (Roger) Hinksman of Meaford, and she was predeceased by her sons Vernon and Terry Bowen.

Mabel will be remembered as the cherished grandmother of Rod (Carrie) Willis, Robyn Willis (Derek Loughheed), Crystal (Andy) Tackaberry, David (Jill) Bowen, Tracy (John) Arnold, and Angela (Ian) Whitton, step-grandchildren; Denise Cornfield Furlong (Ian), Annette Cornfield. She was the devoted great-grandmother of Jennelle and Gabrielle Willis, Cory and Kristin Arnold, Jonathan and Austin Tackaberry, Clara and Jovie Bowen, and step-great grandmother of Maggie and Marshall Furlong, and Jacob and Josh Duncan.

Mabel was a dear sister of Winnifred "Winnie" Bowins (late Lloyd), Jean Vail (late Lorne), Al Weatherall (Alberta), and was predeceased by siblings Norval Weatherall (late Dolsie), Dalton Weatherall (late Fern), Merle Brooks (late Doug), Lorne Weatherall (late Joyce), Stanley Weatherall (late Dorothy), Wilbert Weatherall, Bessie Binns (late Mike). She will be remembered fondly by her sisters-in-law Suzanne Weatherall and Betty Fry and as a special aunt by her several nieces and nephews and their families.

Mabel loved listening to her brother Al perform locally with his wife Alberta. She especially looked forward to his 'Sunday Jams' at the Bognor Hall where she was able to get up and dance, even well into her 80's. Mabel loved her family and was so proud of her grandchildren. She will never be forgotten and will live on in their hearts forever.

A public funeral service was held at the Meaford United Church on Thursday, March 24, 2022.

If so desired and as your expression of sympathy, donations to the Beaver Valley Athletic Association or a charity of your choice would be appreciated and may be made through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted.



## RUTH MAHALA ANNE PARKS

It is with deep sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of Ruth Mahala Anne Parks at the age of 84, on Saturday, March 5, 2022, at Errinrung Nursing Home in Thornbury. She was the daughter of the late Willard and Ola (nee Rawlings) Rear.



Ruth was predeceased by her husband Mansell Parks in 2003. She was the loving mother of Bryan Parks (Geraldine) and the late Yvonne Parks Parson and Sharon Parks.

Cherished grandmother to Lisa Burns, Patricia McEwen, Daniel McEwen, Bryan Parks Jr., Melissa Miller, and was predeceased by Ryan Parks. Great grandmother to Connor Keeting, Bradley Boynton, Mahala McEwen, Damon Burns, Cole Hindle, Jacoby Burns, Adrienne Cosby, Brodi Robinson, Alex McEwen, Hayden Brown and Carter Miller.

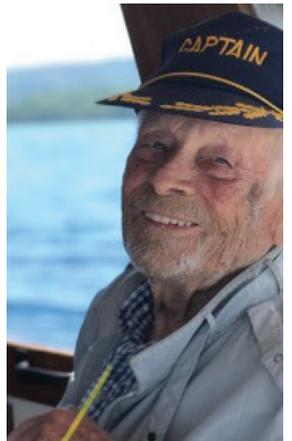
She was the much loved sister of Audrey, Brad (Diane) and the late Doris. Ruth will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by many more relatives and friends. Ruth's life legacy is her strong sense of family. Being surrounded by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren at family dinners, celebrations and holiday gatherings were by far her greatest joy in life. Ruth persevered through many challenges in life with her strength, determination and love. Her family will continue to share her memories and her legacies of what has been witnessed throughout her incredible journey. The stories throughout the community of the 'days of when Ruth used to drive my school bus' were often the beginning of many great stories shared. Her passion for hardware continued throughout her life, whether it was on the farm taking care of animals, to the apple orchard, or making memories with her grandchildren. Ruth embraced her love for fitness at curves, where she won many awards for all her goals and achievements. Ruth leaves behind many taught life lessons that will be cherished for generations to come. Ruth will be missed profoundly. The family would like to express gratitude to Errinrung Nursing Home for the exceptional staff for taking care of Ruth.

Ruth wished for her family to gather together privately to celebrate her life. A private graveside service will be conducted at Thornbury-Clarksburg Union Cemetery, where Ruth will be laid to rest beside her husband, Mansell Hughbert Parks.

As your expression of sympathy, donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or a charity of your choice would be appreciated and may be made through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford N4L 1B9 [www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca](http://www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca)

## ERLING MORRIS

Erling Morris of Thornbury passed away peacefully in his 101st year on March 17, 2022. He was the proud father of Erik Olav Morris and Nina Kristine Morris. Father in law to Kellie Casey. Loving bestefar to Jennifer and Heather, Keirsten, Shayne, Riley and Brodie.



Erling was born in Sandefjord Norway on July 11, 1921 as one of 2 children. At 97 his sister, Anne Lise, lives in Sandefjord still. He met his beloved wife Inger Lunde at 18 while playing in an orchestra. They would spend the next 80 years together. They immigrated to Canada together in 1951 after they had both supported war efforts during the 5 year occupation of Norway, and started their lives together during those early post-war years in Norway. From the time they arrived here, Erling loved Canada. It was here they raised a family and ran a family business for 31 years. In his 100 years he enjoyed many things. He very much enjoyed building his business (Norwegian Ski Shop), summers at the cottage with the family, skiing, & teaching skiing at Craigleith and Alpine ski clubs.

A huge passion for Erling was the Track Three ski program which he founded. It continues to this day at Craigleith Ski Club. Erling loved sailing, and sailed and raced throughout Lake Ontario and Georgian Bay. He was also the founder of the Thornbury Yacht Club many years ago and so enjoyed living in Thornbury. He was an avid Nordic skier as well and both he and Inger spent a great deal of time at Scenic Caves Nordic near Blue Mountain.

He loved the life and family Kellie and Erik built together. Loved family gatherings and telling stories around the table. He enjoyed people in general. He would always enjoy telling his stories or discussing politics or religion or philosophy or economics with friends and neighbours and leave the small talk to others. His spirit is freely travelling now and it's certain he has found his way to mom. The memories of a life well-lived holds a special place in our hearts.

Erling's family would like to thank Dr. Collins for keeping him strong for decades so he could live so well during his very long life.

A very grateful thank you also goes to Lorrie Marritt who was a helper and friend to both Inger and Erling for more than 30 years.

## CARMELA MAULUCCI

It is with great sadness that the family of Carmela Maulucci announce her peaceful passing on March 1st, 2022 at the age of 92. She was born on July 19, 1929 in Italy. Carmela was the daughter of the late Gennaro and Giuseppina Pedano.

She was predeceased by her husband Diego, her siblings, Isabella, Giovanna, and Agostino. Carmela will be sadly missed by her daughters Anna and Josie, together with their husbands, Domenic and Tony. She was a proud grandmother to Elena, Joseph (Amanda), Stacie (Matt), David (Jenn), and Christopher (Tessa); great-grandmother to Abbie, Claire, Nathan, Kurtis, Paityn, and Sofia. Carmela was loved and will be greatly missed by her extended family and friends.

We would like to thank the medical staff at Meaford Hospital for their tender care. We extend our appreciation and gratitude to staff at Errinrunc Retirement Residence and Long-Term Care in Thornbury.

With Carmela, everything was about family. Her happiness was all about the time she spent with family and friends. She loved being with people. Carmela's biggest passions were cooking and gardening, which she lovingly shared with everyone. She leaves behind what she has taught anyone who knew her – her strength, her perseverance, and love of family embedded in our many fond memories of her. We will truly miss her. We will keep you in our hearts. We love you!

A private service was held at Westminster Cemetery in Toronto, March 4, 2022.

As your expression of sympathy, donations to the Meaford Hospital Foundation would be appreciated and may be made through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted. [www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca](http://www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca)



## ELIZABETH (STOKLOSA) OTRYSKO

Elizabeth passed away in Thornbury, Ontario on March 22, 2022. She was born 97 years ago to Teodor and Helena Stoklosa on March 7, 1925 in Katowice, Poland. Having survived the horrors of the Second World War during Nazi occupied Poland, she married the late Marian Otrysko in Italy in 1946. She is survived by her two children: Barbara (Steven Talbot) and Christopher (Alice Sokolyk) as well as her beloved grandson Richard (Catherine Probert) Otrysko.



Since a return to a communist Poland after the war would have put his life in danger, Marian was demobilized in England in 1946 where their children were born. The family immigrated to Toronto, Canada in 1957. The parents devoted themselves to provide a university education for both their children.

Elizabeth wrote a book entitled "The Girl from Silesia" which recounts the horrors of her youth during the war. Her heart always remains with her beloved Poland.

## G. WALLACE (WALLY) LONG

Wally passed quietly in Meaford Hospital, March 3rd, 2022 after a four day stay. He was in his 92nd year and married 71 1/2 years to Eleanor McIntyre.

Wally had worked in Owen Sound at a young age, as did many in the years after the depression and WW2. In 1949 he was a mechanic in McTavish G.M. Garage in Flesherton. He was there twenty years before coming to Thornbury to operate his own garage business with wife Eleanor until their son Gary and Sharon took over in 1996. Wally was a volunteer firefighter in both Flesherton and Thornbury becoming Captain at intervals. He was a very active member of Flesherton Kinsmen and a Boy Scout assistant leader. He enjoyed hockey and ball games, especially with his sons and grandsons. Wally would recall his camping trips and friends get together. A quiet, conserved gentleman and friend to the many lives he touched. Classic cars were a priority. He cherished his one owner 75 Chev Impala. He drove to Flesherton in the fall of 2021 to store at the house he had built there over the years. Survived by 2 sons Gary and Greg and daughter Ruby, 5 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren, and his brother Wes of Maxwell, along with his wife Eleanor. Predeceased by son Grant in 1957 at 3 years 9 months and brothers Art and Vern.

To all our many sincere, caring, wonderful friends and families who sent us thoughtful hand written cards, emails, flowers and food, these gestures will remain in our thoughts for a long, long time. May God bless you. Eleanor, Gary and Sharon, Greg, Ruby and Andy Millar along with his grandchildren.

Service to be held at noon April 22nd, Maxwell Cemetery with a lunch at the Community Hall to follow.

## DOUGLAS WOODROW NORMAN

Doug passed away peacefully Feb 16, 2022 at Meaford Hospital at the age of 87. He is remembered as the loving husband of Mary Ellen (nee Cabot Ross) for 63 years, an awesome father to his sons Jeff (Melani) and Chris, grandfather to Stephen (Cailey), Patricia (Alex), Jennifer (Richard), Nova (Jonathan) and Samuel, and great grandfather to Ridley and Evie. He is also survived by his sister Connie Stinson and predeceased by his brother George.



His family are all grateful for his dedication to us, his example of how to live a quality life, and his beaming enthusiasm and smile.

He was born Dec 1, 1934 in Sudbury to George and Norma Norman (Cordingly) of Copper Cliff. There he learned to ski, joined air cadets and first learned to fly. He attended McGill University to study engineering (with a second major in bridge).

Following university he joined the RCAF and trained to become a pilot at RCAF stations: Moose Jaw, Cold Lake, and Centralia. He received his wings in Gimli Manitoba then was stationed to 428 squadron flying CF100 jet fighters. Doug also served at Falconbridge, then Parent QC during the high alert period of the Cuban missile crisis. While taking NORAD training at Centralia AFB in 1957, Doug, the exciting airforce pilot, successfully wooed Mary Ellen of St Thomas and they married in 1959.

In the mid 60's after retiring from the airforce, they moved to London where Mary Ellen worked as a nurse and Doug began his entrepreneurial business career. He developed the first coin operated carwash in Ontario, then expanded to build and sell carwash equipment across Ontario. In the 70's the business took Doug and family to Markham, then North York and into property development.

Often ahead of the curve, Doug and Mary Ellen "Retired" to Thornbury where Doug kept busy with sports, operated the local video store for several years, served as a Thornbury town counsellor, Georgian Trail founding director, and on the executive of Probus. Doug was very social and his many friends will remember him for his enthusiasm for masters ski racing, mountain biking (that was at times a bit overambitious), water sports and other adventurous activities.

A lifelong skier, Doug infused his family with the love of skiing, first at London Ski Club and Toronto Ski Club, then Georgian Peaks from 1987. He continued skiing until age 80 and cycling until he reluctantly hung up his bike at 83.

A constant thinker, tinkerer and builder, Doug created many things including building the family cottage at Lake Panache, and the chalet in Thornbury. Many thanks to Dr Collins, the medical, nursing and support staff at Owen Sound and Meaford Hospitals for the great care he received.

A celebration of Doug's life will be held at a future date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Meaford Hospital Foundation or the Beaver Valley Outreach through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted.

[www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca](http://www.fergusonfuneralhomes.ca)

# THE LONG AND VINDING ROAD THAT LEADS TO YOUR SHORE

**How a Canadian adventurer has continued the quest of a late Danish historian to confirm the true North American location of Vinland, the landing spot of Leif Erikson's expedition in 1000**

ROBERT BURCHER

**V**INLAND, oh mythical Vinland, where art thou? The most significant contest in North American archaeology has been ongoing for centuries: to find the original site of Vinland, the landing spot of Leif Erikson's expedition in 1000.

**Not L'anse aux Meadow!**

NATIONAL Geographic magazine thought it had found it a few years ago. But despite sophisticated satellite surveillance and hundreds of thousands of dollars, its best effort turned out to be an abandoned farm from the 1930s.

And archaeologists know with certainty that the Canadian Viking site L'anse aux Meadow on the island of Newfoundland is not where Erikson landed. Their work, over the last 40 years, has confirmed that women lived at L'anse aux Meadow and that domestic animals were present as well. That would indicate that the site would have been a subsequent settlement location.

Recent carbon dating research has shown that it existed in the year 1021. Erikson's voyage of 21 years earlier, when he 'discovered' Vinland, was solely to harvest timber for house building in Greenland. The sagas tell us that 30 men accompanied him. No women, no animals.

Many theories abound about the exact site of Vinland, and the most esteemed Icelandic historian even claimed the location would never be found! Magnus Magnusson stated that the Icelandic Sagas are too vague and contrary to decipher an exact geographical location.

But what if a dedicated Dane has already cracked the case? I believe that the late Niels Vinding of Copenhagen established the location of the Vinland landings in 1997. He wrote a book about it, but he died before fully proving his case.

**Stumbled upon a boulder**

MY STORY is crazy as I pretty much stumbled into one of the greatest mysteries of the last 1000 years: where is Erikson's Vinland?

I am a Canadian interested in indigenous rock art. Much of my work is discovering obscure inscriptions written in exotic scripts on hidden rock faces in the wilderness of Canada.

That search led me to the wilds of Newfoundland to see an unusual Iberian inscription near the only known Viking site in Canada. During that exploration in 2011, I was told by the head of archaeology from the local university about a recently discovered inscription boulder in southern Newfoundland with what appeared to be several Viking runic inscriptions.

I travelled to see them and was impressed by their age and the skill needed to carve them into a granite boulder. The lichen covering parts of the script spoke of hundreds of years of exposure.

A Canadian Viking runic expert who I consulted claimed to be able to read what was a vague statement about ice and cold and being stuck there for the winter. But the owner of the boulder claimed her daughter had carved them when she was a teenager. I doubted the wisdom of a teenager to know Viking runics and then the tenacity to complete such a skilled job.

I shared the images with Lisbeth Imer from the Danish National Museum, and she claimed they were recent. I later discovered that the boulder had been known about for at least a hundred years prior, but at some point was removed from its original location. I was intrigued by the discrepancies of the stories and started a broader search.

**On the same trail**

I WAS STUNNED to discover that Niels Vinding, the Dane at the heart of this story, had come to this same harbour to search for Vinland. He was looking for discarded ballast stones after learning the location from a Canadian writer who had theorised that this was the most logical place for Erikson to have landed. In his book 'West Viking', the well-known Canadian author Farley Mowat observed that discarded ballast stones would be the clue to finding



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the original Vinland.

Thus, Vinding travelled to Canada and spent the summers of 1997 and 1998 searching for unique and suspicious stones at Bellevue Beach on Trinity Bay. And he found some! The local university's geology department identified the stones as columnar basalt but of unknown origin – definitely not Canadian. No-one seemed to care to push this mystery any further. In 1998, Niels published his discoveries in a book, 'The Viking Discovery of America, 985 to 1008: The Greenland Norse And Their Voyages to Newfoundland', shortly before dying of cancer. The book was not translated into English until 2006.

**Wary of vested interests**

NOW I LOVE a good mystery, and this all seemed very logical. Viking runes – check; ballast stone – check; a well thought-out theory – check; an appropriate beach location – check.

But why wasn't anyone in Newfoundland interested in pursuing this fascinating story? I finally realised that the government has spent millions of dollars on building a replica Viking longhouse and interpretative centre at L'anse aux Meadow and was not keen on having some amateur change the paradigm. Yes, for sure, L'anse aux Meadow is still an excellent Viking site but not what it was initially claimed to be!

Since I am not an academic and had no reputation to protect, I jumped into this story and have worked on it for eleven years from all possible angles. All of the site specifics that Erikson described exist at Bellevue Beach. It is a beautiful fjord-type setting with a big sandy landing beach – more beautiful than the barren rocky shore of the

presently known Viking site. Like a lot of archaeological finds, it is hiding in plain sight! It is in a public park now overgrown with trees and scrubby underbrush.

**Sourcing the stone**

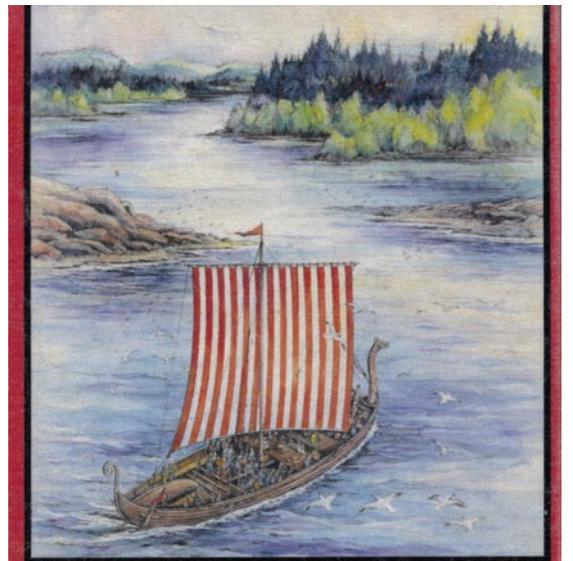
IN 2014, I TRAVELLED to the harbour for a second time and convinced the owner of one of the ballast stones found by Vinding to let me have a sample for analysis.

He obliged, and I was able to have it analysed by a high-tech lab through a process called 'Spectrographic Analysis'. Using nuclear furnaces that burn the stone at impossible temperatures, the gases that are driven off are analysed and recorded. The easy explanation is that it is like doing the DNA of a crime scene.

The problem is that I then had to find the stone's source location to get a sample for comparison. Knowing that Erikson had initially come from



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Cover of Niels Vinding's book

Iceland, I figured that the columnar basalt ballast stones were from there. After all, the main cathedral in Reykjavik is built to look like columnar basalt. I obtained a sample from Breidafjörður Bay, where Erikson lived before moving to Greenland, but to the naked eye, the internal colour was obviously different.

After struggling to make that theory work, I switched my focus to Greenland. It would make sense since that is where Erikson was living with his father Eric the Red on what was called Ericksfjord (now Tunulliarfik Fjord). He sailed from there in a knarr that he had bought from Bjarni Herjólfsson, another Icelander. Herjólfsson was the first to see a mysterious wooded island west of Greenland after being blown there during a major storm.

**Mining the truth**

MY RESEARCH started by scanning tourist photos from Greenland on Google Images. I spotted similar suspicious square boulders in a Viking church ruin called the Hvalsey Church that dates to 1000 AD.

Widening the visual search, I found a replica Viking stone and turf house at a museum in the village of Narsaq. That village sits at the end of the Tunulliarfik Fjord. I contacted the museum and was able to talk to the curator, another Dane by the name of Jesper Enevoldsen, who was quite supportive of my research. He sent me a photo of what appears to be a quarry of columnar basalt from his village. The story was a grand theory, but I still did not have conclusive evidence that the archaeological community would accept.

Having found a promising location for the rock source, I started drilling



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down through the internet concerning basalt in that area. I eventually found research carried out by the University of Edinburgh: some spectrographic analysis for mining purposes on the fjord. By comparing the two data sets, I was able to see that the list of mineral elements absolutely matched. What a relief!

**Behold the holy ballast**

IT NOW seems so easy to understand that Erikson would have ballasted his boat in his home fjord. The boat would have been very light as they sailed from Greenland to Newfoundland with no cargo, so the addition of extra weight was necessary.

The essential thing to know is that the square boulders of about three feet long, 12 inches high, and 18 inches wide were apparently then used as foundation blocks in the temporary turf houses they built in Vinland – turf houses in Iceland have a foundation of similar columnar basalt blocks crucial for moisture drainage.

As a matter of interest, one of the ballast blocks can still be seen in situ in what appears to be a turf house foundation in Newfoundland. Specialists at the Roskilde Ship Museum who I contacted were highly sceptical of this kind of sizeable square ballast. Other mariners have told me that you use whatever is available at the location you are departing from. The matching of the rocks answers that argument.

**False seeds, or perhaps berries**

ANOTHER vital part of this 'saga' that needs to be considered is the name Vinland – the land of grapes. Historians for centuries have argued that Vinland can't be in Newfoundland because grapes don't grow there and never did.

No-one, it seemed, has ever questioned the veracity of Erikson's statement that he found grapes! Was it a deliberate attempt to promote his discovery of the wonderful island, or a genuine mistake. The Greenlanders had never seen grapes growing, so you can understand the mistake.

And of course, the similarity of wild grapes to blueberries is easy to see. They are still making outstanding blueberry wine in Newfoundland.

**On the verge of greatness**

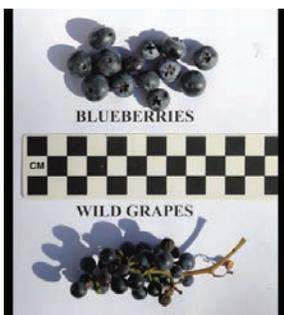
NOW THAT I have absolute scientific proof of the stones having come from Greenland, a full-on archaeological survey will most likely show a turf house ruin that still exists on Bellevue Beach. Once that is established, connecting it to Erikson will be easy, and we can say we have indeed found Vinland!

As a contemporary footnote to this discovery, the spectrographic analysis of the ballast stone indicates that they are full of rare earth Minerals. Thus my curiosity about some contentious Viking runic inscriptions has bridged a historical 1000-year-old myth with contemporary geo-political ambitions, as China has claims on the homeland of Erick the Red and Leif Erickson for mining purposes.

I only wish that Niels Vinding had lived long enough to see his work proven.



Robert Burcher is a Canadian photographer, writer and adventurer. With an interest in archaeology and native cultures he has travelled the country searching out rock art. His writings cover ancient Celtic voyages on the North Atlantic; the North American indigenous copper trade; and, more recently, his journeys following in the footsteps of John Muir, an American naturalist and founder of the Sierra Club who lived in Canada for two years in the 1800s.



ROBERT BURCHER

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After 11 years of research and multiple trips to Newfoundland, I can now say that I have a definitive answer about a suspected Viking site. Most certainly it would be where Leif Erickson landed in the year 1000AD. It's not theory any more, but scientific fact. The article published recently in a Danish newspaper tells you more. Now this summer it is once again back to Newfoundland to try and convince the experts! *Robert Burcher*

**SWEET WATER TREFOIL MEMBERS**  
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# Events for Life Centre Inc.

Enhancing the Lives of Special Needs Individuals

Events for Life Centre (EFL) is located in Thornbury. The program provides social and healthy living skills as well as a variety of recreational activities for adults 21 years and older with special needs. EFL makes life so much better for many individuals in our community!!

Learning hasn't stopped during the pandemic. EFL has had a very successful virtual program running 4 days per week with registration increasing to 30 participants! Everyone is excited to meet their friends in person having only seen each other on computer screens for the last 2 years.

March has been a hybrid program of on-line learning and two afternoons outside enjoying the out-of-doors. Starting April 4th, EFL will be back out in the community using facilities within Thornbury. Yoga, dance, music and pickle ball will be some of the highlights as well as visiting local coffee shops for their Conversation Cafe! EFL will continue to use the Blue Mountain Community Church for performing and creative arts as well as cooking hub and the EFL Centre located at Beaver Creek Farms for creative projects in the workshop and outdoor adventures on the property.

EFL is so happy to have partnered with Elephant Thoughts over the winter for virtual science programs. Going forwards Elephant Thoughts is going to provide programs 2 afternoons per week teaching robotics and cooking skills. Elephant Thoughts received a government grant to enhance learning in science and environmentally based programs and chose EFL to work with. The staff are fantastic and the participants love the program!



During the pandemic the participants have engaged in work experiences at home or at the EFL Centre. Over 2,000 stickers have been precisely placed on Pie Boxes and Pastry Bags for the Goldsmith Family Market! EFL received a very generous donation for \$500 presented by the Oakley family! Drop in to Good Grief for a coffee and pick up a "Be Kind" button. Each one created with TLC using the new button machine



EFL was able to have their first fundraiser outside at the Georgian Peaks Ski Club on Men's Day. By dropping balls from the moving chairlift, into a bucket below, EFL raised almost \$5,000! A special thank you to the Peaks and all the men who



participated in this fun event!  
**Looking forward to the return of the "Women's Clothing Sale" Saturday May 14th from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm at the Beaver Valley Community Arena.** Nearly new and gently used designer clothing and accessories with everything selling for \$20 or less! An event you do not want to miss! If you have any clothes that you haven't worn since 2019 this is a great opportunity to donate them for a great cause.

Donations will be accepted at the BVCC Arena during the month of April every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am to noon.

The spring EFL craft show will also be featured on May 14th. Participants are hard at work creating one of a kind crafts!

The community of the Blue Mountains and surrounding area has been integral to the growth and success of the EFL program.

If you would like to donate, volunteer or run a fund-raiser of your own, please go to our website [www.eventsfor.life](http://www.eventsfor.life) for more information. Questions?

Email [office@eventsfor.life](mailto:office@eventsfor.life).



## GENTLY USED WOMEN'S DESIGNER CLOTHING SALE & EFL SPRING CRAFT SALE

### Saturday May 14th '22

### 8:30am-12:30pm

Beaver Valley Arena, Thornbury



Supporting Individuals With Special Needs



**Events for Life Centre Inc.**  
[www.eventsfor.life](http://www.eventsfor.life)

The current Grey-Bruce Health Unit protocols for COVID will be followed

# Congratulations to Thornbury Clear Choice Pools and Spas Expanding and Winning Awards!



Leading up to winning the #1 World Dealer Award, Thornbury Clear Choice also won the Top 10 Dealer Award, and also the #1 Canada Dealer Award for 2021.

They also won 2nd Place in the In-Ground Pool Category for most beautiful pool. This stunning pool was built in Lora Bay working in partnership with the late Mark Higginson.

A touching tribute to his amazing work building breathtaking backyard dreams. Thornbury Clear Choice thanks the Derry family for allowing them to build such a gorgeous pool!

Pictured here is Mark Higginson's wife Sherree and daughter Tarynn accepting the award on his behalf.

Thornbury Clear Choice has also won a Service Award, in acknowledgement of 15 years of continuous, conscientious and loyal service as a Fox Pool Dealer.

2nd photo shows Preston and Sharon Owen being presented with these awards. On the left is the President of Cardinal Systems / Fox Pools, Deb Haase; Sharon and Preston in the middle; and Douglas Campbell, Canadian Sales Manager on the right.

**Thornbury Clear Choice is also excited to announce a significant expansion and renovation of their showroom.**

Thornbury Clear Choice is located at 4 Arthur St. West in Thornbury, at the north west corner of Highway 26 and Bruce St, in the same plaza as the Thornbury Post Office, Uptown Dog Grooming, and New Orleans Pizza. When Thornbury Clear Choice received word that Blue Mountain Audiology located right next door was moving out (and over to the The Blue Mountains Community Health Centre), they took the opportunity to assume the additional space and expand the showroom floor.

Now the showroom is 50% larger and boasts a large area specifically for spas. This new beautiful showroom displays eight hot tubs - which is a very good thing as Thornbury Clear Choice offers three different hot tub brands with tubs ranging from cozy two seaters all the way up to grand 9-seaters. During the pandemic, and when supply was limited, so many customers relied on pictures to purchase a spa. Well not anymore! Everyone is welcome to come and see the choices, the options



and the variety of colours available.

Hopefully soon Thornbury Clear Choice will begin to carry a fourth brand that includes...drum roll... swim spas! Preston says that the pool side of the business is absolutely maxed out, and has a long waiting list for pools for 2023. He explains that there are only a certain number of pools that can be built in a season, and simply cannot keep up with the demand. Preston is banking on the fact that swim spas may be a suitable alternative. If you don't know what a swim spa is, go talk to the staff at Thornbury Clear Choice to find out!

As for the rest of the showroom, Thornbury Clear Choice has greatly expanded their 'backyard' and 'leisure' category selection. Now in its third year selling Kamado Joe ceramic slow cooker grills, they saw the opportunity last year to expand and round out the bbq category with Coyote Outdoor grills. These grills are absolutely gorgeous and built to last. They are available in pellet, natural gas, and propane. Also available are hibachi-style charcoal grills from PK Grills, and arriving soon portable pizza ovens! If you want to cook in your backyard Thornbury Clear Choice has the selection.

But it doesn't stop there. They also sell kayaks, SUP boards and even coolers. The list goes on!

Thornbury Clear Choice has been a locally run family business for over 15 years. They have continued to be a successful business because of their loyal and continuously expanding customer base. If your neighbour has a pool or a spa, there is a good chance it came from Thornbury Clear Choice.

**And lastly, mark your Calendars!**

Thornbury Clear Choice hosts an annual charitable BBQ. This year's BBQ will be held on Saturday, May 28.



# The 43rd Ontario General Election

The election will be held on **Thursday, June 2, 2022**.

As of December 2016, Ontario elections are held on the first Thursday in June in the fourth calendar year following the previous general election.

## Register to vote for Ontario's June 2022 election

In recognition of Provincial Voter Registration Month (March) in Ontario, voters are being encouraged to confirm, update, or add their information to the provincial voters list ahead of the upcoming general election.

Canadian citizens residing in Ontario who will be at least 18 years old on election day can use [eRegistration](#) to add themselves to the voters list, or to quickly and easily confirm that their information is up to date.

To update or add your information, you will need one piece of identification that has your name and current residential address. Once the election has been called, those on the list will receive a voter information card, with personalized information about when and where to vote. <https://eregistration.elections.on.ca/en/home>

- If you're temporarily living outside of Ontario, you may be eligible to register as an absentee voter.
- Voters who aren't yet on the voters list can register in person when they go to vote.
- Canadian citizens who are 16 or 17 years old and live in Ontario can prepare to vote in future elections by adding themselves to the Ontario Register of Future Voters. Once they turn 18, they will automatically be included on the voters list.
- Elections Ontario offers a number of options for voting, including voting by mail and voting in person at the returning office or at an advance voting location.

[www.elections.on.ca](http://www.elections.on.ca)



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**National Gross Sales**  
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Top 3% National Sales 2013-2018

ROYAL LEPAGE LOCATIONS NORTH  
THORNBURY MEAFORD COLLINGWOOD



Let me advise you on buying and selling in the Georgian Triangle.

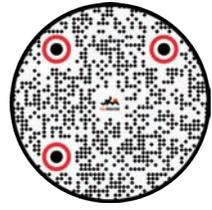


# film blue mountain festival

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**The Blue Mountains, Ontario**

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**3 Day Creative Forum**  
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**Join Us For Our Inaugural Event!**



[bluemtnfilmfest.ca](http://bluemtnfilmfest.ca)

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