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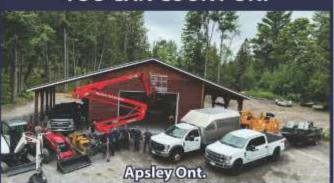
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From The Editor's Desk JULY 2025

HAPPY CANADA DAY!

This is a free magazine that publishes 8 times a year. Copies are distributed by Canada Post and for local pickup from Lakefield to Bancroft, Paudash, Cardiff and Coe Hill region including all of the Apsley area. If you don't receive one in your mail box, you can pick up a copy at one of several local merchants in and around Apsley, along the delivery routes or sign up for a paid subscription!

You can catch up online at apsleybackroads.com

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Subscriptions are available for \$55.37 (HST included). Makes a great gift! Mailed to your door, Eight times a year.

Summer is officially here, school is out and local trades and businesses are gratefully busy.

July is another action packed month with various sports happening over the summer months, Lions Flea Market on the 19th and all the lakes having fun events for our community - including the Annual Kids Fishing Derby (at both Lakeview Marina and

Anchorage Marina) and Jack Lake MusicFest

A bugg congratulations to many members of our community! | See "Around

A huge congratulations to many members of our community!! See "Around Town "(page 26) for updates on the recent Apsley Gaming Night Fundraiser, Local Teen Alex McMann, and details on recent Business Award Winner - Nancy Wiskel of Dan Joyce Clothing

This month I reflect on perspective.

The above picture was taken at a Women's Retreat I facilitated a couple of workshops at in June. I have attended these empowering weekends a few times over the last 6 years. When was the last time you did something for yourself? Dug deep and reflected on what is good, what needs work and what might be in your way to living your best life?

Sometimes things happen in our lives, things we can't control, but one thing for certain - we have control over how we respond to it. Are you going to face it head on or run from it? Whether it's an opportunity or a difficult mountain to climb...are you ready? If you haven't done the work, or looked after yourself will you be ready for your next big thing?

Have a wonderful July everyone, welcome back cottagers! Let the fun in the sun begin! Happy Summer!!

Helena

Cover Photo Credit: Unsplash

Helena McMann

Publisher, Editor, Owner

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apsleybackroads.com

JULY 2025



| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| | HAPPY CANADA DAY Parade and Fireworks LEGION BBQ 11am | AUGUST 2-3 Jack Lake Regatta AUGUST 2 - CLPOA Fireworks Chandos Beach AUGUST 4 Civic Holiday AUGUST 21- 23 Jack Lake Film Fest SEPTEMBER 1 Labour Day SEPTEMBER 5-7 Creekside Music Ahead | | | FISHING DERBY Lakeview Marina and Anchirage |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Fall Prevention Exercise Class 10-11am NKCC Darts 6:30pm, LEGION Pickle Ball (\$2) 6 to 9pm NKCC (not Stat 7 | Table Tennis 7 to 9 pm NKCC Euchre 7:00pm Woodview | Fall Prevention Exercise Class 10-11am NKCC Pickle Ball 11:15am-2pm Craft Class 2- 4 pm. NKCC ShuffleBoard 1 pm, LEGION 9 | Playgroup 0-6yrs 10am-12 NKCC Pot Luck Lunch Canasta or Darts 12:30pm Woodview Pickle Ball (\$2) 6-9pm NKCC 1st,3rd, 5th | Duplicate Bridge 12:30pm NKCC Music Jam Session 4pm, LEGION | HERMANAS BOUTIQUE 5th Anniversary! 4pm to 9pm See Ad pg 2 |
| Fall Prevention | Shuffle Board | Exercise Class, | Playgroup | Duplicate | LIONS FLEA |
| Exercise Class 10-11am NKCC Darts 6:30pm, LEGION Pickle Ball (\$2) 6 to 9pm NKCC (not Stat 14 | Cornhole then Lunch, Euchre/Canasta Starts 10:30am NKCC Table Tennis 7 to 9 pm NKCC Euchre 7:00pm 15 | then Pickle Ball, then Craft Starts 10am Mtg & Luncheon 11:30am GlenAlda ShuffleBoard 1 pm, LEGION 6 | 0-6yrs 10am-12 NKCC Pot Luck Lunch Canasta or Darts 12:30pm Woodview | Bridge 12:30pm NKCC Music Jam 4pm, LEGION | MARKET 8:30am-2pm NKCC JACK LAKE MUSIC FEST Forest Glen Marina LEGION OPEN 19 |
| *SUNDAY 20th LIONS FLEA MARKET 9am-Noon NKCC LIONS MEAT DRAW!! | Table Tennis 7 to 9 pm NKCC Euchre 7:00pm Woodview | \$5 Lions Club, NKCC Fall Prevention Exercise Class 10am NKCC Pickle Ball11:15 Craft Class 2pm ShuffleBoard 1 pm, LEGION23/ | Playgroup 0-6yrs 10am-12 NKCC Pot Luck Lunch Canasta or Darts 12:30pm Woodview Pickle Ball (\$2) 6-9pm NKCC 1,3,5th Thurs | Duplicate Bridge 12:30pm NKCC Music Jam Session 4pm, LEGION | LEGION OPEN |
| Fall Prevention | Table Tennis | Exercise Class, | Playgroup | Duplicate | |
| Exercise Class 10-11am NKCC Darts 6:30pm, LEGION Pickle Ball (\$2) 6 to 9pm NKCC (not Stat 28 | 7 to 9 pm NKCC Euchre 7:00pm Woodview | then Pickle Ball, then Craft Starts 10am Mtg & Lunch 11:30am GlenAlda ShuffleBoard 1 pm, LEGION 30 | 0-6yrs 10am-12 NKCC Pot Luck Lunch Canasta or Darts 12:30pm Woodview | Bridge 12:30pm NKCC Music Jam Session 4pm, LEGION | |



by Jim Empringham, Apsley and District Lions Club

Summer is in full swing and with it, many activities for young and old.

We had a successful hot dog/sausage sale at Sayers store on the Saturday of the May holiday weekend. Thanks to all who bought our product and especially to Sayers family for generous support of the Lions Club.

Canada Day is three weeks away as of this writing. A bicycle rodeo was added to Park activities that day with two bikes as prizes. We hope this was fun for the kids and parents. Your feedback will be appreciated as we consider it's value to the day. Thanks to Linda Patterson for leading the rodeo. Thanks also to Jody Topping for organizing the kids games in the ball park. Thanks to Evan Rodgers for setting up the music for the adults. As always, the fireworks are a great way to end the celebration.

The Annual Giant Flea Market is coming soon. It is always the third Saturday in July so this year that Is July 19. NKCC doors open at 8:30 am until 2:00 pm. Be sure to line up early to get the best opportunity for finding a treasure. The live auction of particularly interesting items begins at 10:00 am in the Community Hall. Sunday, July 20 will be a bargain hunter's dream where items not sold on Saturday will be available for best offers. This has become a popular day and saves items from going to the landfill.

Doors open on Sunday at 9:00 am and close at noon. This great community event cannot happen without volunteers. Each year over the course of set-up and the sale we have nearly 50 volunteers helping. Come out and enjoy the fun and contribute to the success of the Flea Market. This is a great opportunity for high school students to achieve hours towards the volunteer hour

requirement for graduation. Set-up will happen July 9-11 and July 14-18 from 9:00 to noon each day. Just come to NKCC, sign up and we will find a job for you. If you want to help at the sale, call Brenda Lenson (705-656-9254) so we can organize supervision of areas of the sale. Drop off of



gently used items will continue at the Park July 5, 9:00 to noon. Following that, items can be dropped off at the rear of the arena from 9:00 to noon July 9-11 and July 14-18.

Lions are sponsoring a Meat Draw to be drawn on Sunday, July 20. Tickets are \$5. There will be first, second and third prizes of meat packages valued at

\$189, \$270 and \$335. Tickets can be purchased from any Lion, from Blair at the Home Hardware service desk, Bordertown Café, from Charlie at Kemps and at the Flea Market. This is a great way to save on grocery bills and support your community!

We will be at the Jack Lake Regatta on the Civic Holiday weekend serving up super food and smiles. We hope to see new and old friends there.

Evan Rodgers for setting up the music for the adults. As Work on our Park continues with plans in place for always, the fireworks are a great way to end the creating a soccer field through the fall. We are in discussion with a group made up of young families to The Annual Giant Flea Market is coming soon. It is identify possible components that can be added to

the Park. The revitalization of the Park is a work in progress. Our aim is to make the Park enjoyable for a wide range of people in our community. We will only be limited by our imagination and funds being

available. Your support will help us make it happen.







Get Ready for the Chandos Lake Fireworks Show!

The Chandos Lake Property Owners Association is thrilled to once again host our much-anticipated community event that is open to everyone in North Kawartha Saturday, August 2nd, during the Civic Holiday long weekend. The fireworks will begin at 9:30 p.m., launched off Chandos Beach. If weather doesn't cooperate, we'll move the event to Sunday, August 3rd. Should both dates be rained out, we'll make every effort to reschedule the show for the Labour Day weekend.

Planned and executed by Supernova Fireworks, a Peterborough company known for producing spectacular shows across the region.

Chandos Beach and its parking lot will be open to the public, providing a great spot to take in the show. A reminder: parking on the shoulders of Highway 620 is not permitted. This event wouldn't be possible without the generous support of our sponsors. A heartfelt thank-you goes out to: Clark Breuls - RE/MAX Country Classics Ltd, Apsley Home Hardware, Tuckers Marine, Ash-Tec Roofing &; Construction, Cottages 4 Sale Team - Bowes & Cocks, Kawartha Docks, Sayers, Shantilly's Place, Conlin Premier Construction, Cottage Toys, Anthony Halcovitch / Kawartha Fun on the Water, Monaghan Lumber, R&J Machine -Marine Docking & Lifts, Tania Rightmyer -Ball Real Estate Inc Brokerage, Waddell Custom Homes, and all CLPOA members. See you there!





JACKS LAKE KIDS FISHING DERBY SAT JULY 5th FISHING 9AM-11AM

LOCATION ANCHORAGE MARINA 1031 JACK LAKE RD. APSLEY

REGISTRATION STARTS JUNE 21⁵⁷ IN PERSON AT ANCHORAGE MARINA OR FOREST GLEN MARINA. REGISTRATION DEADLINE JULY 1⁵⁷

RULES: MUST BE AGE 4-12 ON DERBY DAY. ALL ANGLERS MUST BE WITH AN ADULT THAT CAN VERIFY ANGLERS NAME AND AGE. ALL FISH MUST BE ALIVE AND SWIMMING IN A CONTAINER AT MEASUREMENT TABLE BY 11:30. ALL FISH TO BE RELEASED AFTER MEASUREMENT.

WINNERS: BIGGEST CATCH IN BLUE GILL, CRAPPIE, LARGE MOUTH BASS, LAKE TROUT, PERCH, WALLEYE, PUMPKIN SEED, ROCK BASS, SMALL MOUTH BASS

ACTIVITIES

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MEASURE CATCH
LUNCH
GROUP PHOTO
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TUCKERS MARINE



Chandos Lake 7th Annual Fishing Derby

Chandos Lake will host their 7th Annual Kids' Fishing Derby on Saturday, July 5th. It will be a great event for all who attend. About 75 children between 4 and 12 registered last year and fished in this fun-filled day. We are hoping for even more young anglers this year. Many parents, grandparents and younger siblings also came out to enjoy the special day at Lakeview Cottages and Marina. A huge shout out to Lakeview Cottages and Marina for hosting us again this year.

All children who registered in this fishing event received Chandos Lake fishing t-shirts donated by Apsley Home Hardware. Each of those children also started off the day with a goody bag with lures & treats donated by Gilmore Bay Marina, Kids, Cops & Canadian Tire, and our Chandos Lake Property Owners' Association.

There were plenty of experiences to keep everyone entertained when they all got back with their catch and this year will be great!.



Kristen and Matthew Morgan are bringing their Birds of Prey exhibit "The Eyrie", to not just entertain everyone but to instill r e s p e c t a n d

knowledge about raptors. Thanks to the sponsorship of Clark Breuls, Re/Max, for bringing the Birds of Prey to the Fishing Derby. We are also hoping to have the Ministry of Natural Resources bringing out a Learning to Fish display and one of the Ontario Provincial Police with their marine unit to tell us about safe boating and ways to enjoy the water safely.



We express our thanks to all of you who volunteered and participated in the 6th Annual Chandos Lake Kids' Fishing Derby. Success for an event like this takes a great deal of planning and support. It would not have been possible without the wonderful volunteers. All of these contributions made a very special day for many children on our lake and in our community.

At this time, we are looking for donations and volunteers to help with this event. We need voluteers to set up on Friday night, register the kids Saturday morning, measure the fish when they come in, cook lunch, shuttle people to boats, clean up, take pictures and so much more. If you would like to participate, please contact me. We welcome high school students who are working on their volunteer hours to get in touch with us.

Lynne Moore, Fishing Derby Chair HLynne Moore@rogers.com or 416-347-0536













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COUNCIL'S CORNER

by Mayor Carolyn Amyotte, Township of North Kawartha



Please visit <u>www.northkawartha.ca</u> for all things municipal in North Kawartha. If you would like to receive regular municipal updates you may also subscribe to North Kawartha's email alerts via the website as well. If you would like to watch the Council meetings, please subscribe to the Township's YouTube Channel. For those of you that are active on social media please follow me @MayorAmyotte. It is my intent to share positive, factual and timely information about issues, events and

happenings that impact our community and residents. To contact me directly, my phone number is (705) 931-1342 and my email is mayor@northkawartha.ca.

Pat Beck North Kawartha's Senior of the Year for 2025



We've had our eye on Pat for this award for several years now. It is so fitting that the president of the ABC Seniors is North Kawartha's Senior of the Year. Under Pat's leadership the ABC Seniors is thriving. Pat can be found almost daily here at the Community Centre, either organizing and implementing the current weekly events or preparing and getting organized for the upcoming weekly gatherings. She also does a lot of work preparing for the lunches. Not just coordinating the caterers or volunteers but also doing the actual meal prep as well. Making pasta salad for nearly a hundred people is no small feat. Pat has

listened to the Club Members and has been diligent in securing guest speakers and presentations on a variety of topics that are of interest and importance to our Community Seniors. Thanks to Pat's dedication and commitment during her tenure, she has increased the membership of the ABC Seniors to nearly 200 members. And it seems the growth in membership has not stopped. What a clear testament to her leadership.

Pat is also a master at applying for and receiving grant money. At the monthly local service groups meeting which Pat attends, she will find out what other organizations need for financial support and will often help by applying for grants. Our library has been the recipient of one of these grants and I recall attending a Seniors virtual town hall as a guest speaker once back in the COVID days. Pat is obviously self-motivated, resultsoriented and has a strong desire to achieve and meet the Club's short-term goals and long-term objectives, on behalf of the members. And if that's not enough, Pat will also volunteer her time with other community organizations too. Overall, Pat has created many wonderful partnerships and community connections in her role as the ABC Seniors President.

Over the years, many of you have heard me say that the greatest asset of any community is its people. It's people like Pat Beck who prove this to be true. Pat, on behalf of Council and the entire community of North Kawartha, we are pleased to present you with this year's Senior of the Year award. Thank you for all that you do for our community. We appreciate you very much.

Congratulations!

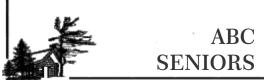


By Winston E Ralph, Bancroft, ON The Seaway A Pain But No Gain

When the coffer dam blew open on July 1st fifty-eight Its a sound most people there have come to hate The area was flooded yes where folks called home And so never again those fields they can roam Many communities were affected that were there for years Yes to see the past gone filled their eyes with tears While half of Morrisberg was levelled oh what a shame The U.S. side had villages that are no longer around Where they were is all water now not have ground Sacred sites were obliterated water covers Crysler's farm So how many received money for suffering this harm Everything there before is buried including most graves But thank God some buildings someone said we must save Where are the pictures of these villages along St Lawrence shore So others can see what they looked like years before Roads and islands there now have a name of a lost town But to see the old canals etc we have to drive down Residents were expropriated and went to Ingleside on Long Sault Some were happy to move others not but move they had to do The St Lawrence Seaway was the biggest industrial project of its time As government leaders knew taxpayers wouldn't bother to whine Long Sault Rapids were gone ocean vessels came to the great lakes While the hydro dam at Cornwall water from lake St Lawrence it takes The mega project was a source of great national pride And since it never lived up to expectations its too big to hide It was called the Manchester of the North this "Ruhr" of the area too But freight is hauled by expensive truck yes must they do The Queen and U.S. president Eisenhower opened it in fifty-nine Although the folks still awaiting...the better economic times Upper Canada Village was opened to please some local folk While the Crysler farm battles isn't on Ottawa banners what a joke Sure progress isn't without inconvenience or sacrifice But to expropriate peoples property destroy buildings etc isn't nice The zebra mussels have cleaned the water to see things again So its time Ottawa gave money to ease these folks pain Its great Lost Villages Historical Society keeps villages memory alive And we've enjoyed the museum at Long Sault on FranLaFlamme Drive







Contributed by Maaike Berg-Nonnekes

"If I had my way, I'd remove January from the calendar altogether and have an extra July instead." - Roald Dahl

July ushers in some change. Instead of the usual weekly Tuesday lunches, there will be one lunch per month for July (July 15) and August (August 12). This allows for a welldeserved break over the summer for the fantastic kitchen volunteers and still satisfies the group's desire for catchingup over a delicious meal.

Even though the lunches may be on hold till September, Tuesdays at NKCC will be a great place to stay cool during the hot July days.

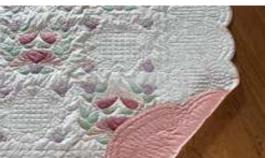
Shuffleboard and Corn Hole start at 10:00 a.m., followed by a social time enjoying home-baked treats and coffee. At 1:00 p.m. the cards are dealt: Euchre, Canasta, Bridge, Cribbage and some may crack open a chess board!

Kawartha Senior of the Year! Well-deserved.

Awesome.

ABC member. The prizes https://211ontario.ca/

Raffle tickets (\$2.00) for years young!







Congratulations to our President, Pat Beck, are a double hand-stitched quilt, a wood framed stained glass piece for being honoured as the 2025 North "Cardinal in the Birch Trees" or a regulation size Corn Hole game. Activities in the past month included an outing to Cruise Night at the Congratulations to our member, David Lean, Craftworks near Fowler's Corner. It was a beautiful evening with for his induction into the shopping, friends, supper, live music and, of course, the car show! Peterborough and District We finished the season with a BBQ lunch prepared by the Legion and Sports Hall of Fame! another afternoon Bingo. Also, we hosted former member, Bob Cottrell's, book signing event. Another great accomplishment at 94

> our annual Bazaar on Do you know what 211 is all about? It's a helpline that easily November 1 are available connects people to the social services, programs and community on Tuesdays or from any supports they need. Call or text 211 for more information.



If you are interested in learning more about the ABC Seniors Club or joining, please visit us on Tuesdays at the NKCC at 10:30 a.m. to find out! Contact:

abcseniorscommunications@gmail.com



Contributed by Kim Tucker and Lisa Mace

Beginners Neurographic Art Workshop. Saturday, July 5th, 10am – 11:30am -Woodview Branch

What the heck is neurographic art? Simply put, it's a calm, meditative form of doodling. Work alongside visual artist, Lisa Mace, as she encourages you to relax and simply enjoy the process of creating. You do not have to be "good" at art. You simply need to be willing to try. We will be making lines and forms and allowing our minds to calm. This class is intended for adults, all materials are included, and there is no cost. Limited spaces. Pre-registration is required.

Please call Kim at 705-654-1071 or email <u>k.lefebvre@northkawarthalibary.com</u>

Game On!

Saturday, July 5th, 12:30pm – Woodview Branch

Hey Kids! Tired of juggling a handful of game cards? This hands-on project is just what you need. Join us and build your own custom card holder using MakeDo TM tools and cardboard. It's fun, functional and easy to make! This project is suitable for children ages 6 and up. Please bring your parent. This is a free workshop with limited spaces. Pre-registration is required. Please call Kim at 705-654-1071 or

email k.lefebvre@northkawarthalibary.com

How and What Pollinators See

Wednesday July 9th, 6:30pm – Apsley Branch

Have you ever wondered what bees and butterflies see through those amazing eyes? Well, come to the library for this special presentation by Kathy Gingerich and learn how they view a world that is different from humans. No registration required.

The Ups and Downs of Self-Publishing July 19 th 11:00 am – Woodview Branch

In this talk, author, Emma Couette will cover the basic steps of self-publishing a novel, while also detailing the mishaps she made along the way. The author journey is always about improving your process, be it the written word or finding your readers. Emma Couette is from the Kawartha Lakes region of Ontario. She is the proud author of one young adult dystopian series and one young adult epic fantasy series. She also dabbles in short stories and poetry when the inspiration strikes her.

When not writing, you might find her at the gym or going on an adventure. No registration required. Free to attend. Call Kim for more

information 705-654-1071

Little Explores! – Stories and Sensory Play For children Ages 0 to 5. Tuesday, July 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th from 11:30am to Noon – Apsley Branch

Join us for this four-week session, perfect for our littlest patrons. Each week will include the reading of few fun books, followed by themed Tuff Tray sensory play! From squishy textures to colourful scenes, children will explore, imagine, and create while developing early literacy and fine motor skills. No cost. Limited spaces. Pre-registration is required. Call Lisa at 705-656-4333 or email I.mace@northkawarthalibrary.com

Book Buddies! Children Ages 6 to 9. Tuesday, July 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th from 12:30pm to 1:30pm – Apsley Branch

Join us for a weekly hour of fun where we dive into different stories, get creative with hands-on crafts, and play games inspired by the books we read. It's the perfect place to make friends and, grow our imaginations. No cost. Limited spaces. Pre-registration is required. Call Lisa at 705-656-4333 or email Lisa



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at the North Kawartha Community Centre 340 McFadden Road in Apsley The Page Turners! – a no pressure, creative, book club for tweens and teens ages 10 to 13.

Tuesday, July 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th 2:00pm to 3:15pm – Apsley Branch

Each week we'll read out loud a few pages from the book Fiddle Is Missing by local author Donna Reid—then hang out, chat about the story, and dive into a hands-on craft or art project inspired by what we've read (like making dragonfly lanterns!). You're also welcome to bring along your own book picks—if you're reading something awesome at home and want to share it, we'd love to hear it! No pressure though—just come for the fun, the creativity, and the friends. In Week 3, meet Donna Reid herself! She'll read from Fiddle Is Missing as well as, the book she wrote when she was just 10 years old! She will then lead us in a fun, low-key writing workshop to help you discover the story within you. No homework, no pressure—just stories, art, and imagination. No cost. Limited spaces. Pre-registration is required.

Call Lisa at 705-656-4333 or email

I.mace@northkawarthalibrary.com





Five Staples, Three Appetizers: Effortless Summer Appetizers!

Thursday, July 10th – there are TWO locations to choose from: 1. Glen Alda Community Centre 1pm to 3pm OR Woodview Library 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Join us for a deliciously simple, summer workshop featuring Lonnie from The Grape and Wedge! In this hands-on demo, Lonnie will show you how keeping just five versatile ingredients on hand—halloumi cheese, tomatoes, chicken, sausage (Italian or chorizo), and tortillas—can transform your summer snacking.

With a few quick techniques and creative flavor twists, you'll learn how to make three crowd-pleasing appetizers perfect for warm weather entertaining or easy weeknight meals:

- Hot Honey Grilled Halloumi & Tomato Skewers
- Pulled Chicken Tacos with Chive Pico de Gallo
- Savory Sausage & Drtilla Cups

The cost is \$30 and includes all ingredients and take away boxes. If cost is a barrier to your participation, please contact Lisa. Limited spaces. Pre-registration required. Email Lisa at

I.mace@northkawarthalibrary.com or call

The Ecology and Natural History of Fish in the Kawarthas.

Thursday, July 17th @ 6:30pm – Apsley Branch

The Kawarthas are home to over 70 fish species, all with interesting life history strategies. Since they are usually invisible to us, concealed underwater, fish are often unappreciated for their behaviours, and role in the environment. In this presentation, Jacob Bowman, an M.Sc. Student at Trent University, will discuss the major groups of fish found in the Kawarthas while highlighting ongoing scientific research, opportunities to observe and interact with fish, and conservation issues. No preregistration is required.

The Paddling Puppeteers!
Rabbit and Bear Paws – The Way.

Saturday, July 26th 11:00am *Please be on time, no late admission permitted.

For the past 20 years, The Paddling Puppeteers have been touring Canada with their nature, history-based, musical puppet shows. For this interactive presentation, they will retell the story of how the Turtle carries our world on her back and how the tiny muskrat succeeds in giving all of us the greatest gift of all. A place to call home, Turtle Island. There is no charge for coming to the show and, no pre-registration is required.

North Kawartha Public Library Booksale Fundraiser! Friday July 25, 9:30am- 4:30pm and Saturday July 26, 9:00-1:30pm

Mark your calendars, this year our book sale fundraiser is going to be fabulous! We've had so many wonderful donations, including many new releases, popular authors, hardcovers, paperbacks, DVD's, and hidden gems. There is something for every age. We are actively seeking volunteers to help with this 2 day event. Please call 705-656-4333 if you are interested.



Garden tour at Deer River Farmstead! Wednesday July 30, 6:30pm

Go on a garden tour at the Deer River Farmstead with the Apsley Garden Club.

Maeda Welch and her family welcome you to come visit their mixed perennial and annual food garden and join the conversation around gardening! As a family, they steward a farmstead tucked along the Deer River in beautiful Coe Hill. They are now in their 6th year of running a market garden while

producing meat, eggs, maple syrup and seedlings.

Using ecological farming practices, their no-till vegetable garden produces food for multiple families through a Community Supported Agriculture model (CSA), providing weekly boxes of seasonal produce. Location to be announced on our website calendar week prior July 30th.

Home Alone Course.

Thursday, July 31st 10am - 2:30pm - Apsley Branch

Led by Alyssa Heffernan from Heffernan First Aid, this class is recommended for children ages 10 and up. Topics include establishing a routine, entering and exiting home, stranger danger, the phone is your lifeline, feeling scared, dealing with emergencies, basic first aid review, and internet safety. This course normally costs \$74 but, we are offering it here at the library for FREE! Thank you to the incredibly generous support of our two sponsors: Mary Brown & Team from Bowes and Cocks Limited Brokerage, and Haultain Service! Together, they have made it possible for children to attend this course completely free of charge! We are so grateful. "It takes a village to raise a child".

Gazebo Ukulele

Wednesdays in July, 1:00pm, Apsley Branch

Join us for a relaxed hour of ukulele strumming under the library gazebo! This welcoming gathering is open to all ages and skill levels—whether you're just starting out or have been playing for years. It's a fun way to connect with others and enjoy the music together. Don't have a ukulele? No problem—the library has a few extras you can borrow. So, mark your calendar and drop by to strum with this friendly group!



GAZEBO UKUELE Wed 1pm Apsley

*Saturday 5th 10-11:30am - Woodview BEGINNERS NEUROGRAPHIC ART

*Saturday 5th 12:30pm, Woodview GAME ON!

*Wednesday 9th 6:30pm Apsley
HOW AND WHAT POLLINATORS SEE -

*Saturday 19th 11am Woodview
UPS AND DOWNS OF SELF PUBLISHING -

*Tues's 8th, 15th, 22nd 11:30am -Apsley LITTLE EXPLORERS/SENSORY PLAY 0-4 yrs

*Tues's 8, 15, 22 29 - 12:30 pm - Apsley BOOK BUDDIES AGES 6-9 Yrs

*Tues's 8, 15, 22, 29 2-3:15pm Apsley PAGE TURNERS -Teen Book Club. 10-13yr

*Thurs 10th 6:30pm Woodview 6:30 pm or Glen Alda Community Centre 1pm EFFORTLESS SUMMER APPETIZERS \$30

*Thursday 17th 6:30pm Apsley ECOLOGY/ HISTORY OF FISH IN KAWARTHAS

*Fri 25th 9:30am to 4:30pm Apsley BOOKSALE FUNDRAISER

*Sat 26th 11:00am Apsley PADDLING PUPPETEERS

*Wed 30th 6:30pm Garden Club Roadtrip GARDEN TOUR DEER RIVER FARMSTEAD

*Thurs 31st 10am to 2:30pm Apsley HOME ALONE COURSE



VIEW FROM THE CABIN

by Rick de Haan

A Windy Day

trees as great breaths of wind rushed up the cliff from the I screw up, the last thing I would want around me is a lakeshore below. The cabin walls stood fast, but the crowd of curious onlookers. windows shuddered in the heavier gusts.

The lake's surface fairly danced with whitecaps, warning the unfinished painting like a frisbee into the treeline. any canoeist to stay ashore.

like hunkering down; that cozy feeling of having to stay minutes later after I calmed down. put. A windy day is a good day to get some stuff done around the place, like splitting wood. Or, I could just sit on busy painting on a small boat upon the River Epte near the porch, read a book, and listen to the tempest lashing his home in Giverny, France. He got so frustrated by through the trees. I could watch the gulls and the vultures the ever-changing light conditions that in a fit of rage as they enjoyed soaring high overhead through the wind he threw the whole kit and caboodle overboard. His torn sky. Or watch as zephyrs of wind chased themselves paint box, his palette, and his brushes, all sunk to the round and round on the forest floor, rustling up whirls of bottom of the otherwise peaceful waters of the Epte. dead leaves from the previous fall.

I decided instead to get my paints out and try to capture the view from the cabin. But first, I prepared a hearty impressed, but a little frustrated too with the wind's breakfast of fried eggs, bacon, and toast. And then, of propensity to change the light conditions upon my course, a steaming mug of coffee. No day would ever start subject. The clouds were piled up in the distance, the without that!

thought of the French painter, Claude Monet. Now known oozing creatures flowing over the forested hills and as the 'father of impressionism', Monet lived from 1840 to islands. 1926. He'd once hired a 'porter'—a local chap who needed some extra cash. The old man would carry Monet's the screened porch where it was more habitable. It still equipment to his painting site, then hold his easel down afforded me a decent view of the lake so I could finish while a hearty wind buffeted the seaside cliffs upon which the painting without being blown about. Monet stood painting the rugged coastline before him.

tethering system and hoped it would keep everything finer bits, including a 'repoussoir'; a little gnarly tree from blowing away. Having some poor sap hold the whole feature in the foreground that would hopefully show a works down for me as the wind howled about us would bit of depth and interest, and lead the eye into the vast only make me nervous and feel rushed. Besides, the small landscape beyond. talk I would feel obliged to indulge in would be too



distracting and ultimately inhibit what little creativity I could muster in those extreme conditions.

I enjoy being alone and would never be able to paint in the presence of other people. I don't know how these portrait artists who frequent tourist traps did it-people milling about, standing behind them, I heard it before I got out of bed; the roar through the watching every stroke of brush or pencil. Not for me! If

A few years ago when I was painting in a meadow, I There would be no venturing out on the water today, got so frustrated with my artistic ineptness that I flung Something I'd never be free to do in the presence of a I was okay with that. Blustery days always made me feel gaggle of spectators! I did retrieve the artboard a few

> That incident reminded me of Monet when he was He later had to purchase all new equipment.

Looking out over the scene before me, I was closer ones racing across the sky. Moving cloud As I was anchoring my easel with rope and tent pegs, I shadows crept over the distant hills, looking like dark,

Having had quite enough of the wind, I moved into

After having brushed in the main elements, I started I had no such luxury, but employed instead my with some rough detailing, and then finished with the

> The painting was finished, and it was almost noon. Time flies when you're engrossed in something like that. Having been totally into my work, I forgot all about my mid-morning coffee! Oh well, better boil the kettle for a cup of java and heat up a muffin to tie me over to lunch!

> Now I could put my feet up and relax on the porch. No phones, no distractions, just the roar of the wind in the trees, the beauty of dancing whitecaps on the lake, clouds racing by casting their marvelous shadows over the landscape, and the mesmerizing whirls of last fall's leaves.



RECIPES

Denise Dunford & Helena McMann

Sour Cherry Pie for July!

Crust

2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour 1 tbsp granulated sugar 1 tsp salt

1/2 cup cold lard, cubed 1/2 cup cold unsalted butter, cubed

1/2 cup ice-cold water **Filling**

1 cup granulated sugar 5 tbsp cornstarch

1/4 tsp salt

5 cups pitted, fresh sour cherries, drained in fridge overnight (about 3 pints), juice reserved

1/2 tsp almond extract

Instructions

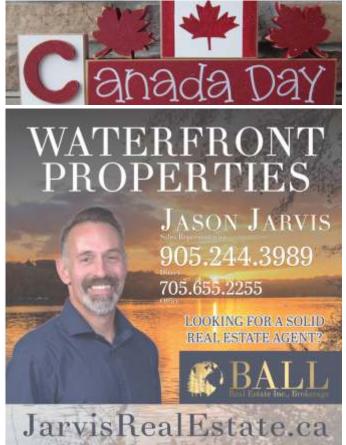
Crust: Whirl flour with sugar and salt in a food processor until combined. Add lard and pulse 12 times until fine. Add butter and, while pulsing 7 or 8 times, quickly add ice water through the feed tube until dough just comes together. Divide in half, wrap each with plastic, then flatten into discs. Refrigerate 1 hr.

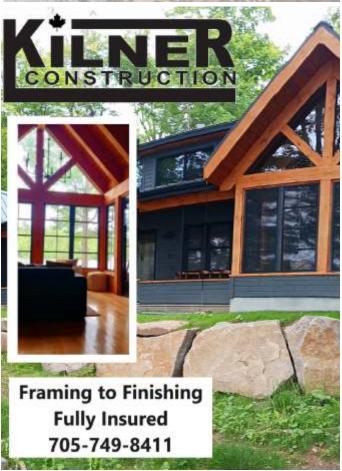
Roll 1 disc on a lightly floured surface into a 13-in. circle. Transfer to a 9-in. pie plate. Press dough over bottom and sides of plate, leaving an overhang. Roll second disc into a 13-in. circle and place on a baking sheet. Use a large maple leaf-shaped cookie cutter to cut a piece out of centre. Refrigerate both discs for 20 min.

Position rack in bottom of oven, then preheat to 425F. Filling: Stir granulated sugar with cornstarch and salt in a large bowl. Add cherries and almond extract. Toss to coat. Add filling to pie plate. Drizzle with 5 tbsp sour cherry juice. Place dough circle over filling, with the maple leaf cut-out centred on pie. Trim off overhanging pastry, then use your thumb to press down around the edge to make a thinner crust. Crimp edges with a fork, then trim off overhanging pastry again. Brush top of pastry with beaten egg. Sprinkle with coarse sugar.

Set pie on a baking sheet and bake for 20 min. Rotate pie 180 degrees and reduce heat to 350F. Cover with foil if browning too quickly and continue baking until filling is bubbly, 55 to 60 more min. Let stand until cool, at least 3 hours or overnight.







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Gayle Davis, Freelance

The River Otter

'Play' is the operative word with these fun-loving creatures. If you are near a river or a pond, you have probably seen a sleek, aquatic creature gliding effortlessly through the water, surfacing at will and then disappearing only to pop up a few feet away – or not at all! Large ripples on the pond accompanied by bubbles breaking the surface hint at the existence of something beneath the dark waters. A mini version of the Loch Ness monster? No. You have just witnessed the amazing aquatic skills of the North America River Otter or lontra canadensis.

The pond and creek at my daughter's home offer a delightful glimpse at some of the wildlife that inhabits our area.

Beavers, ducks, geese, blue herons, as well as otters have all made an appearance. Most just stop by for a brief visit, resting before they resume their journey. But the beavers and otters quite often stick around and make themselves at home.

Members of the weasel family, river otters spend a good deal of their time in the water travelling while hunting for food, venturing on land to rest and play. Their thick, waterproof coats keep them dry and warm in any season. Their habitat choices are numerous and varied, but generally they inhabit areas with easy access to water and food.

Otters inhabit abandoned burrows under fallen logs, or in riverbanks in areas surrounded by vegetation and trees.

Sometimes they will move into a vacant beaver lodge. They are found pretty much across North America except for polar regions and mountainous areas. Interestingly, Australia and Antarctica are the only two continents on the planet where otters are not found.

The otter's diet consists of anything that's available near ponds or rivers, feasting on frogs, clams, crayfish, turtles, birds' eggs, small birds and mammals, as well as some small plants. Even prey with outer shells are no



problem as otters come equipped with small, very sharp teeth. Additionally, their long, sensitive whiskers allow them to detect prey while swimming in even murky water by picking up underwater vibrations. Their boundless energy taps into an extremely high metabolism, requiring them to consume large quantities of food. An adult river otter can eat 1 to 1.5kg of fish per day! Now, that's a voracious appetite!

Mating season for the river otter occurs from late winter to early spring. After mating with one or more females, the male otters spend their time with other males. Female otters birth and care for the babies themselves, forming a family unit of four or five. Remarkably, female river otters can delay the implanting of fertilized eggs for up to a year. Otter pups arrive 60 to 63 days after actual implantation occurs.

Humans take delight in the playful antics of otters. I could watch them for hours! Is there another animal that has so much fun? Seemingly in nonstop motion, otters love to swim and dive, slide in mud or snow, or chase each other in the water. Otters can dive up to 60 feet and remain under water for an impressive eight minutes before surfacing for air, enabling them to hunt for food or escape predators. Unlike sea otters, river otters do not swim on their backs; however, they can swim with just their head showing out of water, often craning their heads, or 'periscoping,' to observe their surroundings. With a seasonal range of 30 to 40 kilometers, male otters have been known to travel up to 6 km in one night. Even though their back legs are longer than their front legs, river otters are quite agile on land and can move very quickly despite an odd humping gait. They are also very capable tree climbers.

Although otters seem to live an idyllic life, they do have predators. Otters are quite often taken by bobcats, coyotes, and larger birds of prey. Their agility in the water helps them to escape an attack while their vigilance on land helps them to avoid being attacked. When confronted, otters can fiercely defend themselves and their young, with a mother otter sacrificing her own life to save her babies.

So, check out your pond or river. You just might see otters frolicking in the water or scurrying across land. Take a few minutes to observe these amazing creatures. Otters are very social and entertaining, and they absolutely love an audience for their hilarious shenanigans.







Contributed by Lori Brock

We are pleased to announce that this summer we have horseshoe pits available after a long hiatus. Thanks to Neil Whitmore of Lasswade Landscaping for making this possible. We will be open two Saturdays in July- The 19th and 26th, all of our activities will be available. Darts, Shuffleboard, pool tables and of course now the horseshoe pits! No better time to check out what the legion has to offer. Enjoy a drink on the patio or inside with our AC. We will also be holding on to the tradition of our Canada Day BBQ and hope to see you July 1st 11am to 3pm.





We are pleased to announce the results of the 2025-2026 term for Branch 381, YOUR local legion!

Thank you to everyone who came out to vote, and to those stepping into/retaining leadership roles for this term.

President Dvlinna Brock 1st Vice President Brenda Mills 2nd Vice President Ion McColl Secretary Alicia Joyce Sergeant at Arms Andrew Auger Treasurer Beverly Rogers **Executive Committee** Roseann Latchford Amber Mather Frank Pacheco Carol Kerr Jack Knowler Mike Mills Cinda Mckeen





By Helena McMann, AMHA Board Secretary

Hockey Season maybe over but there's still LOTS happening behind the scenes:

Car and Bike Show Fundraiser in August, then stay tuned for our annual AMHA Raffle starting in September.

Registration is now open for players - don't wait... some levels already have waitlists.

Thinking of coaching this season? Applications are open and we need volunteers!

More details on our website: https://apsleyminorhockey.com/

Maple Bacon



Ingredients 12 ounces bacon slices maple syrup 1/4 cup brown sugar

Instructions

Line two baking sheets with foil. One pan will be used to prep the bacon. Place a baking rack into the other

pan and spray with cooking spray. Set aside.

Separate bacon strips and line up on the pan without the rack. Drizzle maple syrup over the slices and using a pastry brush, evenly distribute it over the top all of the slices. Flip the slices and repeat.

Sprinkle about 2 Tablespoons of brown sugar evenly onto the tops of the maple coated bacon. Use the pastry brush to distribute it evenly. (The sugar will begin to mix with the syrup already on the bacon.) Flip the bacon over and transfer the slices to the baking pan with the rack. Sprinkle another 2 Tablespoons of brown sugar over the tops of the bacon, using the pastry brush again to distribute.

Place baking sheet into a cold oven on the middle rack. Set oven temperature to 350 degrees F. and allow to come to temperature while the bacon is in the oven. Check at 15 minutes, then every 2-5 minutes until bacon is deeply browned and shiny. Keep an eye on it so that the sugar doesn't burn. Mine took between 25-30 minutes.

Remove from oven. Allow to cool for a couple of minutes, then serve. Store covered in refrigerator up to 3 days. You can reheat the bacon in the microwave, loosely covered with waxed paper or plastic wrap, for a few seconds per slice.





Master Electrician

ECRA/ESA#7012657



THINK TURTLE CONSERVATION

by Kelly Wallace

Nesting Site Fidelity

Turtles often return to the same area to nest, and more often than not, it's because it's where they were born. The snapping turtle in this photo is a perfect example of that and quite the character, too, as the picture suggests. Every year, she comes back to the same spot to lay her eggs in the Bancroft area. And when she's done, she wraps things up with a grand finale, leaping off the nearby bridge into the water below like she's done it a thousand times. A belly flop into the water, and she swims off. I've seen her do it three times myself, and locals say she's been at it for years.

What Prompts Nesting Site Fidelity?

Freshwater turtles, like Blanding's and Snapping Turtles, are the ultimate creatures of habit. But why is that? A few key factors help shape this instinctive behavior:

Imprinting: As tiny hatchlings, turtles pick up on chemical, magnetic, and maybe even visual cues from their birthplace. It's like their first GPS coordinate gets burned into memory, and they'll stick with it, even decades later.

Navigational Cues: Turtles can detect the Earth's magnetic field and use it like a built-in compass.



Imagine having a Google Maps app in your shell, just with a few more detours and fewer updates.

Evolutionary Programming: Over thousands of years, turtles have remained faithful to reliable nesting sites where they have successfully nested. So basically, nature said, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it," and the behavior stuck.

How Does It Benefit the Species?

Environmental Familiarity: Familiar ground means fewer surprises. Turtles know the lay of the land, or at least, they did before the land got turned into a Casino or parking lot.

Proven Nesting Sites: Returning to a spot that worked in the past is a solid evolutionary strategy. If it produced hatchlings before, it could do the trick again, like going back to your lucky lottery ticket store.

Genetic Continuity: When turtles show nesting site fidelity by returning to the same locations where they were born, they help preserve local adaptations. Genetic continuity supports species survival by ensuring that traits well-suited to local conditions, such as shell color for camouflage or the optimal timing for hatching, are passed down through generations. Sticking close to home allows offspring to inherit traits that are fine-tuned to their specific environment, improving their chances of survival.

How Does It Work Against Them?

Unfortunately, turtles didn't get the memo that their ancestral nesting grounds had been turned into residential neighborhoods or commercial developments.

Habitat Destruction: Areas that turtles once used for nesting are often now paved, plowed, or posted with "No Trespassing" signs. Still, turtles return faithfully because evolution doesn't come with an "update location" feature.

Increased Mortality: To get to their nesting sites, turtles often cross roads. And unlike video games, they don't get extra lives. Nesting season is also the peak season for roadkill.

Predator Ambush: Raccoons, foxes, and skunks have figured out the turtle schedule better than

some biologists. It's a buffet every June, and the menu remains the same each year.

Ecological Traps: Some nesting spots appear fine to turtles but are full of hidden dangers, such as compacted gravel shoulders, heat-soaked soil, heavy foot traffic, or rip-rap, which can be a death trap for turtle hatchlings. The turtles don't know the odds have turned against them.

Final Thoughts

What was once a life-saving instinct has, in many cases, become a serious vulnerability. Nest site fidelity, the ancient behavior of turtles returning to the same nesting grounds year after year, now places them at risk in a rapidly changing world. As natural spaces give way to roads, subdivisions, and commercial developments, many turtles return to find their nesting sites gone or altered. Some lay eggs along the edges of parking lots, driveways, road shoulders, or in construction zones, places where few, if any, hatchlings will survive.

That's why conservation efforts often focus on protecting or restoring known nesting areas and on raising public awareness about how habitat loss, land conversion, and fragmentation are forcing turtles into increasingly unsuitable and unsafe locations. Each spring and summer, people

encounter turtles in unexpected places, not because the turtle took a wrong turn but because their nesting habitat has disappeared.

We all share a responsibility to support species at risk. With time, care, and commitment, we can help protect the deep-rooted connection turtles have to their habitats and ensure it endures for future generations.

After all, the turtles aren't lost. They're retracing ancient paths guided by instincts passed down through time. They return to the same nesting grounds and home ranges they've always known, not just out of memory but because their story is written in the land and water. And turtles like the one in the photo carry that story forward, year after year.

If you have a question about a turtle or nest, please phone or text Think Turtle Conservation Initiative at 647-606-9537. For more information about turtles and actions you can take, visit our website at www.thinkturtle.ca.or.follow.us.on.Facebook.



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THE BEAST

by Roy Anderson

Chapter Nine

The wailing continued for what seemed an eternity, probably for fifteen or twenty minutes.

A voice, that of a male low and with authority spoke, "that is enough Patricia Anne, come with me right now, we must leave now."

A stillness overcome the farm house, then footstep sounded not just one set but those of adults and children, going along the hallway, then down the stairs. Terrified, I like Ken returned to my room, but rather than going to bed, walked across the room to the window, pulled back the curtains and stared out. The moon full and illuminating the A mist slowly from the front verandah slowly moving across the yard towards the wooded area and then to the path to the cemetery. As the mist neared the shrubs and trees it evolved into figures, two adults and three or four children. As the group was about to enter the trees on the path, a figure turned, staring directly at myself. The figure to my horror, raised their arm and waved goodbye to me. It was the girl Patricia Anne.

School, oh yes starts on Monday. The start of the last week of the school year before the family leaves the farm. Finishing breakfast, last as usual. My older brothers already left early as usual, leaving me to walk by myself. "Oh did I say walk?" In the old days we walked to school. No school bus in the good old days. You had legs and of course feet. The school trustee would say "use them. Be good for you."

On this particular morning as I walked two miles by myself, a car approached, slowed down, then stopped beside me. Now one would think, "great a ride." The front passenger door opened and to my surprise out jumped Bethany. In the same move slamming the car door shut,

exclaiming or rather shouting "Fine" The car moved off to the next farm field gate, turned around returning the way it came.

Standing beside Bethany on the side of the road as the car drove slowly by us, Bethany's mother with the driver's window rolled down, stuck her hand out the open window, wiggling her fingers, very distinctively exclaiming "Toodles." You would of thought that Bethany would have reacted differently, rather than the response, she spoke "Toodles to you mommy, Have a nice day." Bethany then turned towards me, with a smile on her face, grabbed my hand exclaiming, "Lets go, its a long walk to school."

After a short distance the episode with Bethany and her mother was not even a memory. Bethany and myself no longer holding hands, walking in step with one arm wrapped around our waist, looking like conjoined twins. This entire happening to myself was a very strange mental emotion I had never experienced before. The best part was it was quite enjoyable.

Looking back we must have been quiet a sight. Walking and laughing at silly things, then facing fear about large snakes living in the rocks at the bottom of the cedar rail fences. The entire walk that day to school was in my way of thinking anyway was the best one ever.

When the school came in sight, Bethany pulled away from myself and at the same time spoke, "If the kids at school see us they will tease us and laugh at us all day long."

Myself, I really wouldn't have cared.

As we parted on arriving at school Bethany in a whisper spoke, "when we walk home, I want to show you my very favorite spot. I go there to just shut the world out."

To me, there was no need to shut the world out so of course I nodded "ok".

The day dragged on and on, seemingly whatever the teacher was teaching and I know some of us would be surprised to realize in the "Old days", teacher's did teach. Who would believe. The day at school seemed to last an eternity, having started at nine o'clock in the morning and ending at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. As the class rose to dismiss and Bethany waved to myself and called out, "we may have a ride." When walking out to see there was no car, no ride. But the highlight of the day was the teacher's announcement that shock for the rest of the week would end at noon. "Wow" for a whole three or four days. What is that rhyme? I remember, "off to school with my books. The three things to learn. Reading, writing and arithmetic. Ignore the teachers concern."

Anyways when recess came I met Bethany quietly under a large maple tree. I guess discussed nothing really, silly talk and lots of giggling. Recess ended to soon and as girls lined up on one side and boys on the other.

With a bit on maneuvering Bethany and myself managed to end up side by side until all hell broke loose. We are all aware of that one person who has to blurt out something that does not concern them. Bethany standing beside me, leaned over towards me and in a low voice "if we are leaving school early, I want to show you a place in the woods. A special place."

This person the "blurter out" was named Maely. Maely was standing

behind Bethay and of course heard what she said. Not thinking but in a very loud voice, spoke out "Bethany and Richard are meeting in the woods." Rather than let it go, Maely continued, "kissy, kissy and oh yes "then a loud laugh.

The entire line was silent. As I looked over at Bethany, I could see her eyes go cold, the her skin turned red. The temper was rising. Suddenly Bethany turned to face Maely. Hands clasped on her hips, legs apart in a fighters stance. Then a voice rather sharp and hard Bethany uttered "Shut up."

Now Maely not realizing she had crossed the line, started to make facial expressions and mock Bethany with words like "oh the little baby has her feelings hurt," and several other taunts. Putting it politely, "the shit hit the fan."

Bethany turned a little half turn to her left, leaving her feet firmly planted, without any warning delivered a left hook to Maely left eye. The hit sounded, like a side of pork being dropped on the floor. To say Maely was a little surprised, did not react as one would expect, just stood there. Bethany turned a little to her right, in the same stance delivered a right hook to Maely's right eye.

If there was a sound made from that contact it was drowned out by Maely's high pitched scream. The same sound one would hear from a wounded beast. Maely hit the ground rump first. Bethany just stood there. The teacher Mrs. Watts shot out the front door of the school like a track star. At the same time questioning "What happened?"

After a full one minute investigation, Bethany was ordered into the school and after a few steps, Mrs. Watts stopped, turned looking at me, then said "Richard you come too."

I was more that willing to accompany Bethay and Mrs. Watt into the school, for some reason I had to ask "What did I do?" The answer from Mrs. Watts was crisp and clean. "You were there. Meaning don't ask."

Once inside the school. Mrs. Watts in a quiet voice said. "Bethany you and Richard gather up your books, and lunches and other belongings and go home. "I will not be contacting your parents, that is your responsibility."

Mrs. Watts had a stern look on her face, her eyes gave away a bit of compassion.

Just as we turned to gather our books and belongings, Mrs. Watts spoke, "Bethany come here." Bethany terrified, walked slowly to Mrs. Watts. Mrs. Watts reached out with both arms and hugged Bethany, stating "I'll see you in the fall." Then turning to me she spoke, "you Richard lots of luck in the future. I know you'll succeed," then turned and walked away.

After gathering our belongings, Bethany and I walked slowly out of the school, only to be greeted by the rest of the students gathered in the yard. In my mind, we were being subjected to a "walk of shame." Then one single hand clap echoed, then the entire school yard erupted into applause. The applause suddenly stopped with the appearance of Mrs. Watts, who cast a glare over the school yard. In the silence that followed only the plaintiff wailing of Maely could be heard in the school sick room. Mrs. Watts stood in the door way, then raising her hands clapped, the entire school followed as Bethany and myself made our get away.

Was it the walk of shame or the walk of blame at that point who cares.

Bethany and myself walked slowly towards home when I asked, "If we go home this early won't our parents know something happened?"

Bethany informed me, "we are not going home. I want to take you to my special place in the woods. When things go bad, I go there to just sit and think.

You will love it. There is a waterfall and a pond. The water is crystal clear because the creek flows out. The bottom is stone."

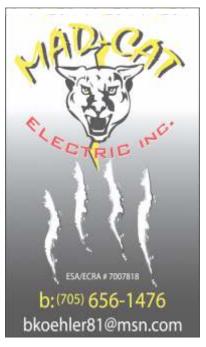
About half way home Bethany stopped and looked in both directions. Then taking my hand led me down a path through the Maple woods, by the sugar shack. Then a creek suddenly appeared and after a short walk beside the creek, the pond appeared just as Bethany described it.

After sitting in the shade of the Maples for a while, having our lunch, Bethany stood up and removed her shoes, and walked into the water barefoot. Looking back at me said "we can go for a swim you know."

I stopped "I don't have a bathing suit."

The reply from Bathany simply and innocently was, "do you take a bath with your clothes on?"

The farm had taught me a lot about life, paranormal, wildlife and the relationship with Bethany. It also taught me life can change very suddenly and the hell I was about to face overnight and the next day would be beyond reason.





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Down the Road and Over the Fence



Local Business Owner inducted into Junior Business Hall of Fame and earns Finalist spot for Retailer of the Year

We're excited to share some wonderful news from DJC Casual Clothing (Burleigh St, Apsley) Owner Nancy Wiskel was recently inducted into the Junior Achievement Peterborough Business Hall of Fame—an incredible honour that celebrates her commitment to small business and community. Nancy was also named a finalist for the Peterborough and Kawarthas Chamber of Commerce Retailer of the Year award in both 2022 and 2024. Now in our fourth summer season on Apsley's main street, DJC Casual Clothing is proud to bring style, comfort, and confidence to women 35+ in cottage country.





Apsley Gaming Night Raises Annual Volunteer Over \$16,000 for Local Community



Community Care Peterborough's Apsley service office, in partnership with the Apsley and District Lion's Club, proudly hosted its fourth Annual Apsley Gaming Night on Saturday, June 7, 2025. The evening was packed with excitement—featuring casino-style games, delicious food, hearty laughter, and a wide array of fantastic prizes.

This year's event welcomed more than 100 attendees from the Apsley community and surrounding area, and proved to be a major fundraising success, generating \$8,052 in support of local programs and services. Thanks to a generous anonymous donor who matched the total, the final amount raised soared to an impressive \$16,104.

"We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our sponsors and community members," said Katie Bryck, Community Development Coordinator in Apsley. "Their sponsorships and donations helped us cover event costs and contributed more than 25 amazing prizes, generously provided by local businesses, volunteers, and residents."

Community Care Peterborough extends its heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers, sponsors, and donors who made the night such a resounding success. "We simply couldn't do it without our dedicated team and the ongoing support of the community," Bryck added. Special thanks to our event sponsors, including RE/MAX (Clark Breuls), Rockers Landscaping, BALL Real Estate, Chandos Lake Property Owners Association, Paxton Trucking, Woody's, and The Grape and Wedge, whose support helped make the evening possible.

Appreciation Breakfast for Community Care

Last Thursday, May 22nd, we hosted our Annual Volunteer Appreciation for both our Apsley & Lakefield Service Offices. It was a fabulous morning at Burleigh Falls Inn, their team generously served our volunteers a delicious breakfast! A special thank you to Jennifer and her team for such a delightful morning at the Falls! We had Mayor Carolyn Amyotte in attendance, showing her appreciation for all of the time and caring support that our Apsley volunteers provide to our community.

We gave out Apsley Volunteer Service Awards for 2025: 2 Yrs Derek McCanse

5Yrs Laurie Bahen, Deborah Vanderheyden, Onkar Johal 10 Yrs Sue McKinlay

Congratulations to all recipients and thank you for your dedication to our community and our clients!

Your kindness and generosity is so appreciated and important within our community. You all MAKE WAVES.







Down the Road and Over the Fence

Last month, we shared an article about local teen, **Alex McMann** and his music and football adventures. Well, Alex got the news that he didn't make the Final 40 players for Team Ontario Football and he had the following to say about it:

"I've felt good about every step I've made it to. From over 800 people at the beginning, down to



250, to 90!...how cool is that!? I got to experience a kind of training and level of football I've never done before. I know what I need to work on. Hardly any of the people that made the team were first year U18 players - most of them are 2nd yr. I'll try again - sure it sucks I didn't make it but I don't feel bad about it." As for Alex's music, he had an incredible first performance at Woodys on June 13th! Thank you Jaime and Grant Wakelin for having Alex play - and so happy for all of you that it was the biggest crowd for live music you have ever drawn in...shout out to everyone that came out and supported Alex, especially the rockstar hockey moms!! Stay tuned - Alex is booking more dates at Woodys over the summer



LOW, Michael James Russell

Passed away suddenly as the result of a heart attack on Thursday June 12th, 2025. Mike Low of Lakefield in his 57 th year. Mike was born in Port Hope but spent most of his life in the Apsley area. He had a great love of sports and was a big fan of the Toronto Maple Leafs, Toronto Blue Jays, Pittsburgh Steelers and NASCAR. Mike spent much of his professional career in both the federal and provincial governments, working in the Office of the Minster of International Trade, acting as Chief of Staff in the Office of the Minister of Natural Resources, and Director of Strategic Planning for the

Office of the Premier of Ontario. He also was the Manager of Government Relations for the Certified General Accountants of Ontario from 2000-2006. Since 2016, he was Senior Policy Advisor with Land Claims and Treaties for the Ministry of Natural Resources. Mike was a member of the Peterborough Kawartha Rotary Club and the Warsaw Lions Club. He is loved and missed by his wife Michelle McLean, mother Patricia Low of Lakefield, brothers Chris Low (Maggie) of Rockland, Pat Low (Cathy) of Arizona, Doug Low (Donna) of Cold Lake, Alberta, and many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. He is also remembered by the McLean family: his in-laws Bryce and Margaret McLean, and brothers-in-law Mark McLean (Kerrie Hansler), Steven McLean (Shelley) and their families. Mike will be dearly missed by many close friends that have provided support and guidance to Mike over the past years. A funeral service to celebrate Mike will be held at THE HENDREN FUNERAL HOMES, LAKEFIELD CHAPEL, 66 Queen Street, Lakefield on Saturday July 5, 2025 at 1:00 PM. Visitation two hours prior to the service. A reception will follow in the Heritage Room of the Funeral Home. Memorial donations may be made to the Heart & Stroke Foundation of Ontario or the P.R.H.C. Foundation as expressions of sympathy and may be made by contacting the funeral home at www.hendrenfuneralhome.com or by calling 705-652-3355.

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2025 Kids' Saturday, July 5th

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Family fishing week

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For more information contact:

HLynneMoore@rogers.com or 416-347-0536

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Birds of Prey Exhibit - The Eyrie sponsored by Re/Max - Clark Breuls.



ANGLERS AGED 4-12

Must be accompanied by an adult Bring a lifejacket!

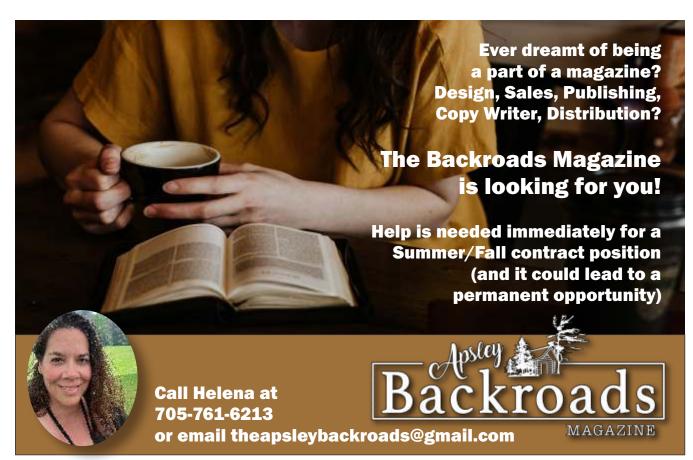
Living fish only to compete for prizes.
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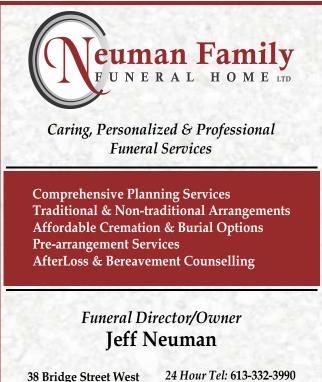
CLPOA.ca/Events Page/Fishing Derby and arrive between 8:30 - 9:00 AM

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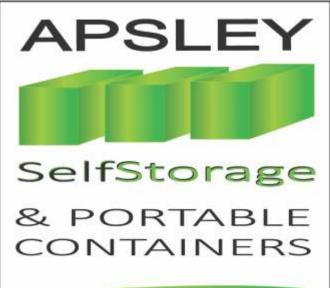
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