



Godierich Sun

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200 Years: A look ahead to Godierich celebrating its bicentennial in 2027

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Known for its rich history as a strategic port town and founded in 1827, Godierich will soon celebrate its bicentennial in 2027.

Now known for its beautiful beaches, historic buildings, dedicated parkland, distinctive downtown and charming atmosphere, this picturesque town is a perfect place to live and visit.

As Godierich approaches the 200th anniversary of its founding, it's important to look back to its early days and remember what it took to become Canada's Prettiest Town.

The Town of Godierich came into being as an indirect result of the War of 1812. During that war, the settlers in the vicinity of Lakes Ontario and Erie had suffered much loss, both from the soldiers billeted on them and from invaders.

To recompense them, John Galt and a group of investors in England formed the Canada Company.

The British government granted the company 1,100,000 acres of the land it had acquired from the Chippewa First Nation.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 2



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The 75th Young Canada Week minor hockey tournament kicked off on Friday, March 13 with a ceremonial puck drop by Doug Norman, who played for the Godierich Township Apple Kings team in the very first Young Canada Week in 1950. Taking the face-off were Colton Ritchie and Aaron O'Sullivan. Also present were Mayor Trevor Bazinet, Lions member Richard Madge, Co-Chairs Mike Alcock and Brandon Corriveau and GMHI President Mackenzie Harp.

Young Canada Week commences in Godierich for the 75th anniversary tournament

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

An historic minor hockey tradition has returned to Godierich for its 75th anniversary tournament.

A year ago, it was decided the 75th anniversary of Young Canada Week should have a proper celebration to acknowledge the rich history of the hockey tournament.

Opening ceremonies took place on Friday, March 13 as local dignitaries, minor hockey representatives, Li-

ons Club members, volunteers, and Godierich Sailors members gathered to commemorate this milestone.

According to Co-Chair Brandon Corriveau, Young Canada Week was created to celebrate youth, sport and community spirit.

What started as a local celebration has grown into something much bigger – a tradition that connects generations of families, players, volunteers and fans.

“My own experiences as both a player and a coach had led me into conversations with total strangers that

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200 Years: A look ahead to Goderich celebrating its bicentennial in 2027

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

The plan was that the land would be sold to settlers and part of the profits used to settle the war claims, but as it turns out, the claimants received nothing.

Canada Company formed a triangle whose northern boundary ran from Guelph to a point on Lake Huron, eight miles north of Goderich. Its southern boundary was roughly on the line from Guelph to Kettle Point.

Galt recruited his eccentric friend Dr. William 'Tiger' Dunlop, John MacDonald, an engineer, Mahlon Burwell, a surveyor and a party of some 15 woodsmen to cut a trail through the bush to the mouth of the Maitland River (known then as the Menesetung).

The location of this proposed town was known from coastal surveys of the lake prepared in 1824 by Captain Bayfield.

The group of men arrived at the location on May 27, 1827.

It was then that trees were felled, and a log cabin erected in what is now known as Lions Harbour Park.

Tiger Dunlop called it his castle.

Frank Deschamps and William Gooding were the first Europeans to settle in Goderich's present location, where Lions Harbour Park overlooks the harbour today.

Galt arrived on June 29, 1827, by ship from Penetanguishene. This is the date celebrated as Founder's Day.

Formed to promote settlement in the Huron Tract, the

town was named after Frederick John Robinson, Viscount Goderich, Secretary of State for War and the Colonies.

Posters were soon distributed in the British Isles, appealing to the poor who were suffering following the Napoleonic War. They were promised employment and land at 10 schillings an acre.

Dunlop also wrote glowing articles for magazines extolling the opportunities in the new land, but the posters and the articles didn't mention the climate or the difficulties of clearing the vast forests.

Goderich was to be headquarters for the distribution of land at the west end of the Huron Tract.

By 1829, the Canada Company had surveyed a town plot and opened the Huron Road from Guelph, which helped facilitate further development.

By 1850 Goderich was incorporated as a town, with a population of about 1,000.

It soon became the administrative and judicial centre for the newly created Huron District. This only further solidified its importance in the region.

Although Tiger Dunlop may have built the Town, John Galt designed it, and the distinctive Downtown Square is Galt's statement of loyalty that is forever embedded into the heart of the town.

Located on the eastern shore of Lake Huron, at the mouth of the Maitland River, Goderich soon became a strategic port, which contributed to its economic growth.

Goderich became known for its salt production, agriculture, and fishing industries.

Throughout its history, on top of becoming an economic stronghold in the region, Goderich has been recognized for its beauty and community spirit. Over the years the town has been recognised for its historic architecture and cultural heritage.

Every community has its own struggles, and on August 21, 2011, Goderich was struck by a devastating F3 tornado, which caused extensive damage to the town's heritage conservation districts.

Despite this tragic event, the community demonstrated resilience and rebuilt or restored historic buildings to maintain its rich heritage.

Goderich is the county seat of Huron County and known

for its gorgeous turquoise shorelines and sunsets, with its historic and vibrant Downtown Square.

The Town is a full-service community, with the largest hospital in Huron County, with a wide range of health services, retirement and nursing care, primary and secondary schools, municipal childcare, library and recreational facilities, and is home to approximately 8,000 people and growing.

In 2027, Goderich will proudly celebrate 200 years since its founding in 1827 by John Galt and William 'Tiger' Dunlop of the Canada Company.

With the slogan, 'Making Waves Since 1827', this milestone year invites visitors to experience the pride, heritage, and shoreline spirit that have shaped Goderich for two centuries.

Known for its breathtaking sunsets, historic streetscapes, and a downtown that blends small-town charm with a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere, Goderich is one of Ontario's most memorable waterfront destinations.

In 2027, the community will come together to honour the stories and people who built the town, celebrate what Goderich is today, and inspire what comes next.

The main celebrations will take place on June 24 until June 27, 2027, with a signature long weekend of community events and experiences designed to bring residents and visitors together.

Expect a festive, family-friendly atmosphere across town, with programming that highlights local culture, community pride and Goderich's deep connection to the lake.

In 2027, Goderich isn't just marking a date – it's inviting everyone to be part of a shared moment in its story.

Two hundred years later, Goderich continues to thrive economically and draw new residents and visitors with its charming streets, historical significance and vibrant community life.

This picturesque town – Canada's Prettiest Town – has made its mark in history as a key settlement in Ontario, through its economic development in agriculture and industry, and by its resilience in the face of natural disasters.

Goderich is a notable part of Ontario's heritage and awaiting your visit.



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Editorial

Time to end daylight savings time



JEFF HELSDON

Sun Correspondent

Ontario was a leader in the concept of ending daylight savings time, but has been somewhat of a laggard in putting it into play.

MPP Jeremy Roberts brought forward a Private Member's Bill, which was passed, to end Daylight Savings Time back in 2020. The bill was contingent on both New York State and Quebec also making the switch.

The connection with Quebec is due to a large percentage of the federal workforce being divided

between Hull, PQ and Ottawa. Having the two groups on different times would result in confusion.

The situation with New York was a little different, but was mainly based on having the New York and Toronto stock exchanges operating at the same time. New York has also passed a law to change, but it is contingent on its border states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Vermont also changing.

While the hands on the clock continue to go around, or at least ahead and back an hour, it seems the majority of residents anywhere a survey was done are in favour of ending the time switch and moving to permanent Daylight Savings Time. British Columbia residents just changed the clocks for the last time on the weekend as the time change ended.

While Ontario residents wait for the legislation passed six years ago to come into play, the

time change serves as an important reminder to test and check the batteries on smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors, as well as completing cleaning in accordance with the instructions.

Ensuring these crucial safety devices are functioning properly can make a difference between life and death. While we are waiting for politicians to get their ducks in a row, we need to take a moment for this crucial safety check.

Choosing Grace: The First Signs of Spring

PAMELA CLAYFIELD

Sun Correspondent

March always feels like a month caught between seasons, doesn't it? Winter still lingers in the air, but every so often, a warm breeze slips in and reminds us that change is coming.

It snows, the snow melts, freezes, snows again then melts. The days are stretching a little longer, the time changes, the sun feels just a touch warmer on our faces and

the lake slowly sheds its icy coat.

It's subtle, but it's enough.

There's a lesson in this inbetween time. We often think transformation happens all at once by way of a sudden shift, a dramatic moment or a clear turning point.

We have been wired to expect things to happen at lightening speed but most of the time, change arrives gradually and quietly. It shows up in small signs, gentle nudges, and tiny moments of hope that whisper, keep going.

March invites us to notice those whispers with the drip of melting icicles and my favourite, the return of birds chirping their songs in the early hours of the morning.

The world seems to exhale, as do we, after months of holding its breath. These early hints of spring remind us that even when progress feels slow, it's still happening.

That's true for us, too. We are looking for ways to change and grow but maybe

we just can't yet see it.

Maybe it's already taking root beneath the surface.

Maybe the light we've been waiting for is closer than we think.

As we move through March, let's pay attention to the quiet signs of renewal and that which is new in nature, in others, and in ourselves.

Grace often begins in the smallest of places.

Letter to the Editor

Ben Lobb MP says jobs over children's lives

Dear Editor,

It is well documented that Canadian made military components are flowing through the U.S. to war zones all around the world.

One of those places is the genocide of children and families in Gaza.

There is a bill before Parliament, C-233, that would close this loophole and require Government approval for exports to the U.S. as well as the rest of the world, which currently already exist.

In a response to an inquiry from a taxpayer, MP Ben Lobb says he will not vote for this bill. He justifies this by saying Canada would lose jobs.

There are many non-military industries that could employ the skills of these workers and would make the world a better place - electric school buses and delivery trucks,

affordable housing, electric trains, potable water systems for remote communities.

In his response email from February 27, MP Lobb also says that the construction of the F-35 fighter jets that Canada is buying from the U.S. require Canadian components. Fine, that is why there is an export permits system when there is a specific plan for such integrated projects,

The world has been sickened by the genocide in Gaza, and I am sickened by Canada's complicity in providing weapon components that make it possible.

Fran McQuail
Lucknow

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Student nutrition program relies on community partnerships to feed Southwestern Ontario students

AMANDA NELSON

Sun Correspondent

Ontario Student Nutrition Program (OSNP), run by the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON), invited community members to learn about the program and how it impacts local children across Southwestern Ontario.

Brittany McDonald, community development coordinator for Huron-Perth OSNP, discussed the operations and how they aim to focus on equity, inclusion and community partnerships to connect children across the region with healthy and nutritious food options.

The program, funded by the provincial and federal governments, provides 12-13 cents per student per day. The program serves more than 15,000 students daily, distributing fresh produce and non-perishable items.

The provincial government, through the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS), provides about \$0.12-\$0.13 per student per day. The federal contribution tops up the provincial amount by roughly \$0.05-\$0.08 per stu-

dent per day. Combined, that means most schools receive roughly \$0.18-\$0.22 per student per day in government funding for the nutrition program.

Although the government funding is a great asset, McDonald says the amount is not enough to provide nutritious meals to all children and, therefore, community partnerships are a must.

"We're grateful for the government funding we receive, but it simply isn't enough to provide a truly nutritious program for all students," McDonald explains.

"Without community partners stepping up, far too many children would be left without consistent, healthy food at school."

With additional funding from partners like the President's Choice Children's Charity, Tim Hortons Smile Cookie/Make Happy Tummies campaigns, Grocery Foundation and Breakfast Clubs of Canada, the OSNP can provide service to more than 500 schools and counting.

Locally, the Stratford-Perth Community Foundation (SPCF) is one of the key partners that helps top up what provincial and federal funding can't cover, helping close



the funding gap for children across Huron and Perth counties.

McDonald described this new partnership, which started in September, as a big asset in supporting children across the region.

"The support from the Stratford-Perth Community Foundation has been a real gamechanger for our schools," says McDonald.

"Their funding helps us close critical gaps so that children across Huron-Perth can count on consistent access to nutritious food, not just whatever our basic government allocation can cover."

McDonald also highlighted the need for better coordination with schools and community partners to address food insecur-

ity during school breaks and weekends, noting this is something they're working on alongside SPCCF.

"We do a good job of feeding kids during the school day, but hunger doesn't stop on weekends or over the summer," says McDonald.

"That's why we're working more closely with school boards, public health and partners like the Stratford-Perth Community Foundation to figure out how we can reach families during those gaps in support."

The OSNP program promotes food literacy, especially with cultural foods, providing one-pagers for schools to educate students. Fifty-one per cent of products are sourced locally within Ontario.

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Summer Company program accepting applicants wishing to start small business

GODERICH SUN STAFF

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Summer Company supports students aged 15-29 who want to start and run their own small business over the summer.

Applicants can now apply for the 2026 Summer Company program, where successful applicants can receive up to \$3,000 in start-up funding and take part in business training and mentorship throughout the program.

According to the County of Huron, this year 12 students will be given the chance to launch their own companies.

"Summer Company is a practical way for students to turn a business idea into a real, working summer business," said Tricia Denomme, Business Advisor with the Huron Business Centre.

The program is made possible through ongoing partnerships with the Province of Ontario as well as with the McCall MacBain Foundation.

If selected for the program, participants will be matched with an advisor or mentor, receive basic business training, and gain access to additional business support and promotional opportunities.

Participants will receive \$1,500 to help with start-up costs, with the remaining \$1,500 provided at the end of the summer upon successful completion of the program.

"Whether you're starting from a hobby or a problem you want to solve, we'll help you build a clear plan, understand your numbers, and feel supported as you learn what it takes to run a business," added Denomme.

The Summer Company program helped Keagan Knip get their business off the



ground and stay focused.

Knip started Slice-By-Slice 3D Printing in South Huron.

Knip says the one-on-one meetings with their Business Advisor were helpful, provided great ideas on how to improve and what to focus on next.

The grant money made a big difference, as Knip was able to buy the equipment needed to get started.

"One of the biggest things I learned was how to talk to customers," explained Knip.

"I feel more confident now when it comes to answering questions and explaining my products. I'm excited to keep my business going."

To apply, interested students must complete and submit the online form. Applications will be received as they are received and the intake deadline is Friday, May 15 at 4:30 p.m.

Eligible applicants may be contact for an interview prior to final approval.

For more information about the Summer Company program, the eligibility criteria, and the application form, visit <https://tinyurl.com/mu4y3c7w>

Questions can be directed to smallbusiness@huroncounty.ca

Huron Hospice prepares for fifth annual Candlelight Memorial Walk

GODERICH SUN STAFF

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Huron Hospice invites families, friends and community members to gather in remembrance of loved ones at the fifth annual Candlelight Memorial Walk.

The event is an opportunity to honour loved ones who have passed by donating to light a memorial candle in their name.

During this evening of reflection, candles will line Taylor Trail and light a pathway through the trees. All proceeds from the event support Huron Hospice.

According to Huron Hospice, the evening will begin with the sounds of the Clinton Pipes and Drums band setting the tone before Willy Van Klooster, Executive Director offers words of reflection.

The Candlelight Memorial Walk committee is excited to share a new addition to the ceremony. The Solace Bedside Singers will sing leading up to the reading of memorial names by Helen Varekamp.

Following a dedication ceremony the

pipe band will escort attendees along both sides of the trailhead to begin the walk.

Taking place on Saturday, April 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Stanley Community Centre in Varna, the walk is supported by the Bayfield River Valley Trail Association (BRVTA).

According to an attendee from last year, walking out of the forest on the trail into the wide-open space signified a shift in healing.

Community members are invited to donate to Huron Hospice to light a candle in memory of any family member or friend.

Donations may be given at the event or online.

The Memorial Candlelight Walk welcomes sponsors in support of the event. Sponsorships contribute to operational costs such as grief groups, monthly food costs, training for bedside volunteers, and daily hospice care.

If you wish to support through sponsorship, please reach out to Roger Mather at 905 630-3571.



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Submission deadline: March 27, 2026.



ONE CARE's Driven to Care campaign surpasses halfway mark toward \$500,000 goal

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

After less than a year, the Driven to Care campaign has officially surpassed the halfway mark of its \$500,000 fundraising goal, made possible by the generosity of the community.

Launched to address the growing need for safe, reliable and accessible transportation across Huron and Perth counties, the Driven to Care campaign is focused on both purchasing accessible vehicles and maintaining its existing fleet.

These vehicles assist older adults and individuals with health challenges stay connected to essential services and their communities.

"Passing the halfway point is an incredible achievement and a powerful reflection of the caring spirit in our community," said Stephanie Ellens-Clark, Executive Director of ONE CARE.

"Every gift, large or small, is helping ensure that transportation is never a barrier to care."

According to ONE CARE, accessible transportation should never be a barrier, but rather a bridge, to empower every senior and adult with health challenges to travel freely, safely, and with dignity.

Thanks to generous donations, ONE CARE has already purchased one accessible vehicle, which is now on the road serving clients. The organisation is in the process of acquiring a second new vehicle, to expand its ability to meet rising demand.

According to ONE CARE, its capacity

to deliver rides has faced a reduction in the number of trips it is able to accommodate due to vehicles being off-road for inspections and repairs.

This is the reason why there is a dire need to acquire new vehicles to protect the longevity of this vital program.

In rural areas where public transportation is limited or non-existent, reliable modes of travel are not just convenient, they are essential.

Accessible transportation plays a vital role in helping ONE CARE clients attend medical appointments, access groceries, and remain socially connected.

While this milestone is worth celebrating, ONE CARE says the work continues.

The transportation program still requires further funding to purchase new vehicles and maintain its current fleet and needs volunteer drivers.

Both new vehicles and more volunteer drivers will help ensure the service is able to meet the growing needs in rural communities.

One tenured driver for ONE CARE, Bill Branderhorst, likes to think of himself as a vintage driver, driving a vintage van.

This van is 10-years-old and has over 574,000 kilometres under its belt. When vehicles reach this stage of their lifespan, age is not on its side.

"Vehicle servicing needs to happen more frequently, parts need replacing, you name it," explained Branderhorst.

"All of this takes money and precious time that could otherwise be spent on the road transporting clients."



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Stephanie Ellens-Clark, Executive Director, ONE CARE (right) with Bill Branderhorst, ONE CARE driver.

To help push this campaign closer to its \$500,000 goal, community members can make a one-time or monthly donation, purchase 50/50 tickets, participate in upcoming fundraisers, sponsor a vehicle (\$20,000+ donation) to have your business name proudly displayed on a ONE CARE vehicle, or donate your car through Donate a Car Canada.

After a successful first iteration of ONE CARE's Steps for Seniors fundraiser, the walkathon continues for its second year taking place on June 13, 2026, in Stratford and June 14, 2026, in Clinton.

Proceeds garnered from ONE CARE's annual walkathon will be put directly towards the Drive to Care campaign.

According to ONE CARE, every dollar raised stays right here in Huron and Perth counties.

For more information about the Driven to Care campaign, or to donate, please visit onecaresupport.ca.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

New accessible vehicle purchased through funds garnered from ONE CARE's Driven to Care campaign.

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Weekend Quiz

By Jake Grant

1. What plant is traditionally worn on St. Patrick's Day to represent Irish heritage?
2. What animal is known to eat magic mushrooms?
3. According to legend, what did St. Patrick drive out of Ireland?
4. Claude AI was created by what company?
5. What city dyes its river green every year for St. Patrick's Day?
6. What historic protest in Boston Harbor became a key symbol of colonial resistance to British taxation?
7. What Irish rock band released the famous album The Joshua Tree?
8. Who won best actor at the 2026 Oscars?
9. What Irish musical instrument is considered a national symbol?
10. What might you find at the end of a rainbow?

This week's answers are found on pg. 27

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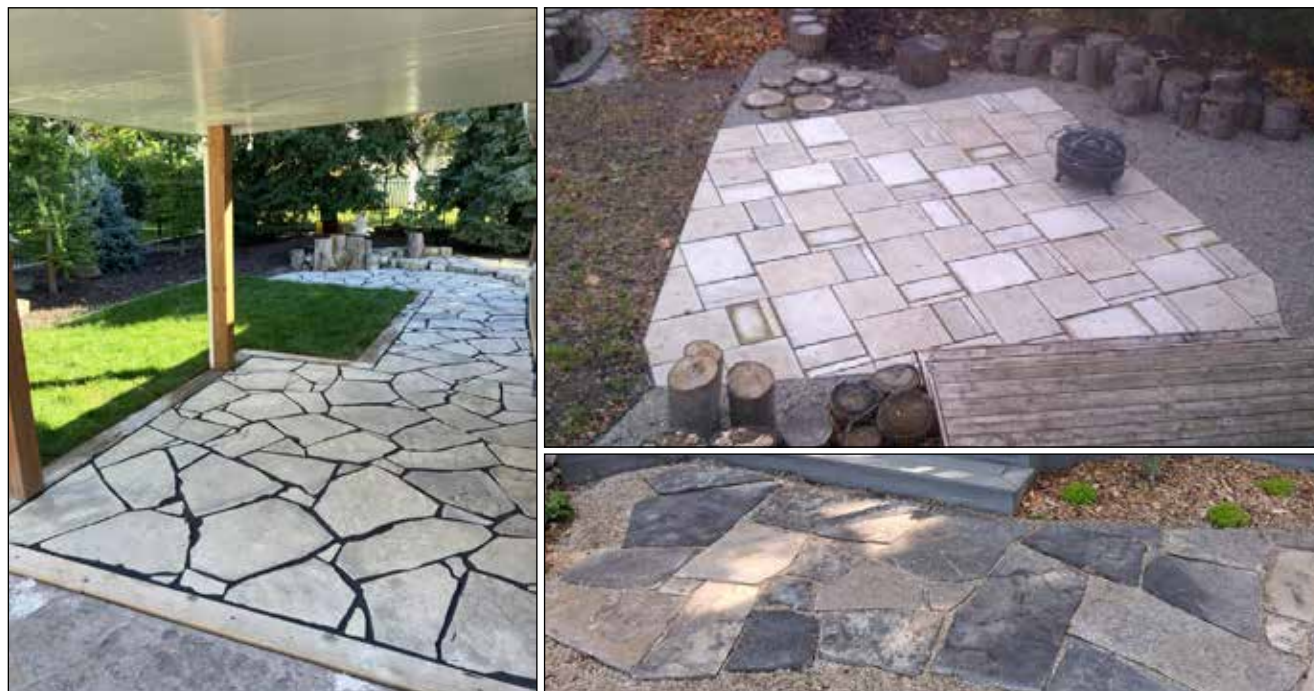
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"I really enjoy the challenges involved with the gardens and landscapes I have the opportunity to create, enhance and maintain over the years since making this my chosen profession in the late 90's. It combines a love of many interests such as art, design, and a passion for animals and nature providing limitless possibilities for creativity. Though it still feels like a hobby, it's also a lifestyle and who I am basically." "Whether in gardening or life, variety and the diversity around us makes things interesting, so it's quite rewarding to indulge in such an absorbing process". Says Lance, owner of **Lance J. Lane: Gardens, Habitats, Landscapes**.

Lance first moved to the area in late 2024, making his introduction to home and business owners throughout Huron County while promoting himself at the Bayfield Home & Lifestyle Show last April. He was fortunate from the start, in

securing some great projects, and in being able to team up with two wonderful co-workers [Emily and Brett] that bring an enthusiasm, reliability, care and skill that greatly helps to simplify and improve the atmosphere and progress throughout the days.

Now located in Goderich, Lance continues to provide a variety of gardening and landscape design/ construction services year-round. Options include; **garden maintenance, enhancements and makeovers; creating or re-designs of existing walkways, patios, firepits or complete landscapes in styles ranging from rustic to naturalistic to contemporary in nature**. Lance adds that "Utilizing native plants and natural materials such as flagstone, logs, fieldstone and timber where most suitable, and repurposing vintage or existing materials into economical results are especially gratifying".

"As far as the on-site design work goes, my approach is a highly intuitive creative process to be sure – that is, one open to innovation and discovery throughout the unfolding landscape. Inevitably, this leads to better ideas and results than could have been imagined in advance. Although I am usually struck with a general idea or layout very quickly, many projects are still a puzzle that undergo continuous refinement until the final plant or piece is in place". Therefore, a design is not fulfilled in the manner of following a blueprint say, but instead resembling the composition of a painting."

Lance looks forward to continue exploring the possibilities and his hopes for opportunities in gardening and design, there is nothing else he would rather do.

For interesting, thoughtful gardens, and rich, functional landscapes, please contact **Lance at 519-440-8442** to get started today.

LANCE J. LANE

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Goderich Celtic Roots Festival celebrates music, craft and culture for the 34th festival

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Goderich Celtic Roots Festival is an annual celebration of music, craft and culture of the seven Celtic nations and immigrants that formed a strong historic background in Huron County.

From a single concert held in 1993 to honour the life of a local teacher, now in its 34th year, the Celtic Roots Festival has grown to include a week-long school of music, dance and craft art known as Celtic College.

With five stages, varying from small intimate performances to high-powered entertainment on the Main Stage, the three-day festival remains a unique musical experience in Canada.

Fresh local food, high-quality craft artisans, small pub for refreshments, participatory dance stage, art demonstrations, a children's activity area and over 60 hours of live music, make this a must-see weekend in Goderich.

Attending the festival is a great way to experience Goderich, the "prettiest town in Canada", with stunning beaches along the coast of Lake Huron and downtown shopping all within minutes walk of the festival site.

Bringing visitors in for the week-long Celtic College, or the weekend Celtic Festival, this niche musical event has quite a positive impact on the local economy.

According to Cheryl Prashker, Artistic Director/General Manager of the festival, the economic impact of the festival estimates the associated annual tourism spending equates to roughly \$750,000 for the festival, and another \$110,000 for the college.

Prashker admits that attendees come back at other times of the year to visit their favourite restaurants and shops, and a few have purchased homes in the area.

First attending the festival and college as a musician with her Celtic band RUNA in 2011, Prashker fell in love with Goderich. In the years her band was not hired, Prashker would request to come back and teach at the college.

Prashker was so drawn to the town through the festival, and in 2018 she was offered the position of Artistic Director and General Manager and moved to Huron County from Philadelphia.

According to Prashker, the festival has remained a success over the years because of the vision of its founders – Warren and Eleanor Robinson – who wanted to ensure it was a family-friendly event.

Residents in Goderich remain an integral part of the festival and the Celtic College, as musicians are billeted in their homes for the entire week.

"During their time in Goderich, artists tend to form wonderful friendships with their host families," admitted Prashker.

"It is always extra special when an artist is asked back and they say, 'sure, but only if I can stay with the same people I stayed with last time'."

Success of the annual event can also be attributed to its countless volunteers and host families.

Many crew members have been working with the event for the entire 34 years.

"This festival would not be possible without the 250 very dedicated volunteers," added Prashker.

"These folks work very hard before the festival and of course throughout the weekend to make sure everyone has the best experience."

The festival is always looking for new volunteers to join the Celtic Festival family either to volunteer during the weekend or as a host for one of the musicians.

Each year the Celtic Festival aims to bring together artists who inspire, excite

and make you feel part of the music. This year is no exception.

From incredible fiddlers and harpists to lively bands and soulful singers, performers at the 2026 Celtic Festival represent the best of Celtic and roots music.

This year's lineup includes incredible acts such as Bourque Emissaires, Brian Taheny, Caroline Keane and Tom Delany with Alison Crossey, Huron Harp School, Jess and Richard Arrowsmith, Kavaz, Kim and Travis Teed, Maggie's Wake, Matt and Kim Watroba, O'Jizo, Pauline and Kathleen Conneely, Rachel Davis and Darren McMullen, Rachel Hair and Ron Jappy, Rakish, RUNA, Ryan Young and Alanna Jenish, Shane Cook and the Woodchippers, and TULUA.

Leading up to the main event, the Celtic College takes place from August 3 until August 7.

Instrument, singing, craft art and dance classes are facilitated by the festival's incredible lineup of international musicians.

This one-week, intensive course is built around a central structure of small master classes. Participants of this course receive unparalleled level of access to tutors who are leading experts and performers.

Classes are open to all ages and levels of ability.

The Celtic Kids Day Camp is a chance for children aged 4 to 12 years to take part in all things Celtic.

Held at the same campus as the Celtic College, the Kids Camp follows the same daily schedule.

Divided into three streams by age, the Kids Camp offers students the opportunity to experience song, tin whistle, harp, guitar, fiddle, percussion, dance, drama, storytelling, and craft art with local professionals and masters.

At the end of week, stu-

dents from Celtic College as well as the Kids Camp head over to the festival grounds at Lions Harbour Park. There the students perform 10-minute sets of what they learned over the week, and that is what kicks off the festival weekend.

Festival pricing for the 2026 Celtic Festival taking place on August 7 until August 9 ranges depending on passes.

Festival passes are available for the entire weekend or individual days.

Regular adult passes for Friday costs \$49.72 (by July 31) and \$55 (at the gate); Saturday passes cost \$55.94 (by July 31) or \$60 (at the gate); Sunday passes cost \$43.51 (by July 31) or \$50 (at the gate); weekend passes cost \$118.09 (by July 31) or \$125 (at the gate).

Senior pass and youth pass for Friday costs \$37.29 (by July 31) or \$45 (at the gate); Saturday passes cost \$43.51 (by July 31) or \$50 (at the gate); Sunday passes cost \$31.08 (by July 31) or \$40 (at the gate); weekend passes cost \$93.23 (by July 31) or \$100 (at the gate).

Advance ticket prices end May 31. Prices listed above are in a period from June 1 until July 31.

Gates open at 11 a.m. each day. Physical tickets are no longer mailed out but will be available at the 'Green Shed'.

Festival goes on rain or shine, and guide dogs only. Accessible parking is available at GDCI with a shuttle to the front gate.

If you are interested in billeting a musician/band, please email festival@celticfestival.ca

For a full list of the lineup, ticket costs or schedule, visit <https://www.celticfestival.ca/festival> or email festival@celticfestival.ca

Bayfield Town Hall to host three spring concert series

GODERICH SUN STAFF

info@goderichsun.com

In celebration of Bayfield's 150th anniversary, Bayfield Town Hall will host a Spring Concert Series featuring three concerts by internationally acclaimed Canadian artists.

Singer, songwriter and storyteller Sean McCann, best known as a founding member of the iconic band Great Big Sea, will return with a new set of original songs on Saturday, March 28 at 7 p.m.

McCann will play a set of new songs and trusted favourites audiences know and love.

Best known as lead singer of Canadian pop-rock groups Stars and Broken Social Scene, Amy Millan is renowned for her evocative vocal style and lyrics that perfectly capture the joys and sorrows of life.

Millan's own projects highlight a distinctive folk and country music influence as evident on her three solo albums released between 2006 and 2025.

Millan's spring tour brings a three-piece band performing gentle songs to calm your nervous system, from her new album 'I Went to Find You'.

Millan will play on Thursday, April 16 at 7 p.m.

Five-time Juno Award winner and three-time Grammy nominee, soprano saxophonist and flutist Jane Bunnett turned her bands and recordings into showcases for the finest musical talent from Canada, the U.S. and Cuba.


Bunnett is celebrated globally for her fearless artistry and soulful sound.

Bunnett's performance on Saturday, May 23 at 7 p.m. will bring an unforgettable night of Afro-Cuban jazz exploring the passionate melodies and irresistible rhythms of Cuban music.

She will be joined by Cuban pianist Danae Olano and percussionist Reimundo Sosa.

The Bayfield Town Hall Spring Concert Series is sponsored by 1851 Bayfield Landing.

Tickets are available at bayfieldtownhall.com

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ABCA Chair urges avenues for local, rural and municipal input if Ontario turns 36 conservation authorities into nine

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) is currently reviewing the Province of Ontario's March 10 announcement of a plan to turn 36 conservation authorities into nine regional bodies.

Under the plan, the small, rural ABCA would be merged with five other conservation authorities, including large urban areas north of Toronto.

According to the plan, small, rural ABCA would be merged with five other conservation authorities, including larger, urban areas.

These six conservation authorities would be consolidated and form the Lake Huron Regional Conservation Authority. This region would stretch from Grand Bend to north of Barrie.

"While we understand the province's intention to move toward a new regional model, this nine-region approach was not one that we recommended, nor is it currently enabled through legislation or regulation," said Ray Chartrand, Chair of the ABCA Board of Directors.

"Nevertheless, we recognise that this consolidation – through merger or amalgamation – appears likely to proceed. Given that likelihood, we believe it is important to take a constructive approach and work in partnership with the province to help ensure a smooth and effective transition."

With this plan, the province would consolidate ABCA with Lake Simcoe Region, Nottawasaga Valley, Grey Sauble, Sauguen Valley, and Maitland Valley.

Despite the disappointment of this announcement, Chartrand said the changes seem likely to proceed.

"We remain committed to working collaboratively with the province and other partners while emphasizing the importance of protecting the local voice and

community relationships that have long supported the stewardship of the Ausable Bayfield watershed," he said.

According to ABCA, it will be important to ensure proposed changes don't stifle local initiative, silence rural voices, limit local input, or harm close community relationships and productive partnerships.

One way this might be accomplished is through new proposed local watershed councils.

"Our watershed communities have long benefitted from strong partnerships and local relationships, and it will be essential that these are preserved within any new regional structure," added Chartrand.

"Maintaining meaningful local input will help prevent unintended consequences of the proposed changes and ensure that rural and agricultural perspectives remain a vital part of watershed management."

According to Chartrand, there should also be transition working groups with representation from the provincial government, conservation authorities, municipalities and other stakeholders.

Despite the announcement, it will remain business as usual at ABCA.

Following a consultation process, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks acknowledged the concern that local voices would be lost with this consolidation.

The Minister made clear that the provincial government understands the importance of local decision-making not getting lost in this transition.

ABCA will continue to review the impacts of the provincial government's proposed plan and may provide future updates.

The Minister said new regional conservation authorities should be in place by early 2027.

Residents may visit the abca.ca website for future updates.

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Celebrating 125 Years: A history of the Maple Leaf Chapter IODE in Goderich

PENNY MURRAY

Sun Contributor

Founded by a woman, before women could vote, the IODE was founded in 1901 by Margaret Polson Murray. This club is older than its male counterparts, the Lions Club and Rotary Club.

It was a revolutionary idea to create a service club during this time.

Initially, IODE's endeavours were to promote patriotism and assist veterans and their families during the Boer War in South Africa.

In Goderich, five IODE chapters were formed in 1901.

Some were junior chapters, which included young girls and some boys too.

The Ahmeek Chapter was the mother chapter of the Maple Leaf Chapter, as many members were the daughters of the senior chapter.

Now, 125 years later, the Maple Leaf Chapter is still impactful and supporting Goderich and the surrounding communities.

Initially, the earliest goal of all the chapters was to promote a hospital scheme, to treat community members with much-needed medical care.

Tuberculosis was a major concern in the early 1900s, as was the Spanish Flu Pandemic, and so, tireless fundraising efforts were employed, raising money at garden parties, plays and bake sales to meet this demand.

IODE purchased the property, a larger and older house, at the corner of Britannia and South Streets. This is where the first Alexandra Hospital, as it was known at the time, came to reside.

The hospital, named after Queen Alexandra, opened its doors on December 1, 1905 – the Queen's birthday.

As Goderich grew, the need for a larger hospital did too.

In 1912, the property known as 'The Maples' was purchased by the IODE Ahmeek Chapter for \$500. Since then, Alexandra Marine and General Hospital (AMGH) has been located on this same site.

During both world wars, the IODE Maple Leaf Chapter was very busy.

Across the country, chapters contributed to memorial funds to help support children of killed or disabled veterans.

In fact, over \$12 million was raised nationally by IODE during the war years to purchase hospitals, hospital ships, ambulances, and bomber and fighter aircraft.

Bandages made from clean, used sheets, hand-knitted socks, vests, blankets, gloves and of course, the very coveted gift of cigarettes, were provided by chapters, including the Maple Leaf Chapter in Goderich.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)
Margaret Poulson Murray, IODE Canada's Founder.

These provisions, known as field comforts, were transported to Canadian service personnel abroad.

During the war years, there were three Royal Canadian Airforce training schools in Huron County, located in Goderich, Clinton and Port Albert during the Second World War.

Local farmers sold their properties to accommodate His Majesty's Service.

To provide an idea of the size of these training locations, 1,200 servicemen were trained at the base in Port Albert.

Flying was taught off the bluffs at Sky Harbour because the drafts and air currents were very similar to those off the white cliffs of Dover in England.

Regular bus routes and times were made available, running to and from Goderich every half hour to provide the servicemen with much needed reprieves in town.

The Ahmeek and Maple Leaf Chapters provided sandwiches and coffee for the Saturday night dances at the MacKay Centre. Admission was 35 cents for an all-you-can-eat/drink lunch served promptly at 11 p.m. so the servicemen could return to their respective bases by their midnight curfew.

Needless to say, a few marriages were the result of these social events.

During the war years, IODE's primary focus was on supporting the troops, whether they were serving abroad or here at home.

Today, the IODE continues to honour and provide support to the families of deployed Canadian Forces members through Military Family Resources Centres.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)
Women during turn of the century. The IODE Chapter is hosting a 125th anniversary meal/event on June 17 over the lunch hour. Members will be encouraged to dress in period costumes.

In 1947, the Maple Leaf Chapter changed from being a junior chapter into a fully fledged primary chapter.

Josie Saunders was the Regent, while Madeline Edward, mother-in-law of Lynn Edward, was the last surviving charter member. Madeline passed away in 2010 at the age of 96.

Historical records of its first 50 years are very minimal, as all records were stored in the courthouse and in the 1950s, there was a devastating fire that destroyed not only the courthouse but all the records therein.

With a success story that has spanned 125 years, the Maple Leaf Chapter in Goderich is the oldest and largest chapters in Canada.

As in the beginning, we remain faithful to our mission of improving the life of children, youth and those in need through educational assistance, social services and citizenship programs.

We are women, dedicated to a better Canada.

Penny Murray is the Maple Leaf Chapter Regent



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)
Sandra Brown, 1st Vice Regent, in the celebratory sash.

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Blyth Festival Unveils 2026 Season

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Nestled in the heart of Huron County, Blyth Festival is internationally renowned for its commitment to original Canadian theatre.

Blyth Festival's 2026 season is set once again to deliver its signature mix of laughter, tears, and celebration of Canadian history.

Five shows were chosen by Gil Garratt, Blyth Festival Artistic Director to reflect the humour, pressure, resilience and vibrancy of rural life.

Following a 2025 season marked by record attendance and sold-out shows, Blyth Festival remains committed to new, original Canadian stories.

The 2026 season looks back at the roots, illuminating overlooked moments in Canadian labour history and the people who stood up – often at great personal cost – for dignity, fairness and collective power.

Garratt says the season reflects what rural communities do best: meet tough challenges with grit, humour and collective effort.

The season welcomes two playwrights making their Blyth Festival debut – Kristen Da Silva and Leeann Minogue – and introduces audiences to rising comedian and storyteller Justin Shaw in his first full-scale Blyth production.

The 2026 season debuts on June 12 with a fierce, funny and deeply moving ensemble drama about women pushed to the brink at a small auto-wiring plant in 'Sisters of '78' by Kristen Da Silva.

Running from June 10 – August 9 on the Margaret Stephens Stage, 'Sisters of '78' follows a pivotal and long-overlooked moment in Canadian women's and labour history. The Fleck Strike reshaped conversations about workplace dignity, solidarity and collective action – conversations that continue to resonate today.

'Dry Streak' by Leeann Minogue follows the summer of 1988, and drought is scorching the Richards family's rural Saskatchewan farm.

When John returns home with his punk-rock, vegetarian city girlfriend Kate, tensions rise and explode.

Wildly funny and sharply observed 'Dry Streak' is a comedy about belief, belonging and small-town pressure.

This contemporary comedy runs from June 17 until August 16 on the Margaret Stephens Stage.

Other notable productions this season include 'The Last Mayor of Rusty River' a musical comedy co-created by David Scott, John Powers and Gil Garratt, 'Off-Island Odyssey' a solo comedy written and performed by Justin Shaw, and 'Curveball: The Fast-Pitch Ladies from the Factory Floor' an outdoor musical by Kelly McIntosh, Andy Pogson, Stacy Smith and original songs by Dayna Manning.

The 2026 season at Blyth Festival promises a mix of comedy, music and grit and resilience in a season that includes both new works, each speaking to Canada's unique history, culture and strong rural roots.

"Rural life has always demanded resilience," says Garratt.

"Whether it's economic pressure, political change, or just the realities of weather and work, people here know how to adapt – and how to laugh while they're doing it. That spirit runs through every one of these sensational plays."

Running from June 10 until August 9, 'Sisters of '78' by Kristen Da Silva will be performed indoors on the Margaret Stephens Stage.

Inspired by the Fleck Strike in Centralia, Ontario, this is a fierce, funny and deeply moving ensemble drama.

As unsafe conditions and harassment collide with a company that won't listen, tensions spill into the wider community

in a conflict that changed Canadian labour law forever.

'Dry Streak' will run from June 17 until August 16 inside on the Margaret Stephens Stage.

In the summer of 1988 and drought scorching this Saskatchewan family farm, tensions rise and explode when son John's city girlfriend Kate makes a reckless, weather-related promise that turns private desperation into public spectacle.

Wildly funny and sharply observed, 'Dry Streak' is a comedy about belief, belonging and small-town pressure.

A fresh re-write of Minogue's 2006 smash hit from Saskatoon's Persephone Theatre.

'The Last Mayor of Rusty River' follows the story of a municipal election gone wrong when two fed-up councillors decide to run a cat – Captain Whiskers – for mayor.

What begins as protest spirals into an all-out circus filled with bluegrass-fuelled showdowns and political shenanigans.

Co-created by David Scott who served as both the youngest mayor in Canada and the last mayor of Seaforth, the musical draws on lived experience inside small-town politics.

With toe-tapping new songs, 'The Last Mayor of Rusty River' is a timely, joyous comedy about power, persistence and local democracy.

It runs from July 29 until September 13 on the Margaret Stephens Stage.

'Off-Island Odyssey' runs from August 2 until August 30 inside on the Margaret Stephens Stage.

From PEI horse ranch to Montreal theatre school, Fort McMurray oil fields and a dubious Hamilton apartment, Justin Shaw has spent a lifetime leaving and coming home again.

In this hilarious, warmly observant solo show, he turns his off-island adventures into stories of ambition, belonging, and

carrying home in your heart, wherever you go.

A brand-new work from the sold-out Island comedian and Yuk Yuk's headliner, based on Shaw's sold-out run of Have Jokes, Will Travel at the 2025 Charlotte-town Festival.

'Curveball: The Fast-Pitch Ladies from the Factory Floor' will run from July 8 until August 22 outdoors on the Harvest Stage.

Set in 1950s Southwestern Ontario, Curveball tells the true story of the women of Stratford's Kroehler Furniture Factory; ladies who built furniture by day and played championship-level softball by night.

It lands squarely in today's zeitgeist, arriving just as interest in women's professional baseball surges.

A remarkable 14 of the players recently drafted into the Women's Professional Baseball League, the first league of its kind in decades, are Canadian.

This big-hearted outdoor musical celebrates teamwork, grit and the women whose athletic achievements finally move from centre field to centre stage.

Ticket prices for Blyth Festival's 2026 Season will be listed online after April 1.

Tickets can be purchased online, by phone, or in person, and tickets can be emailed or delivered at no additional cost via Canada Post.

Season passes are also available for purchase: The Flex Pass (5) valued at \$275 per person, The Flex Pass (4) valued at \$220 per person, and The Flex Pass (2) valued at \$110 per person.

Tickets can also be picked up at the Box Office 30 minutes prior to the performance.

To reserve wheelchair/accessible seating and Harvest Stage accessible parking spaces, call the Box Officer at 1-877-862-5984.

Visit <https://blythfestival.com/tickets/buy-tickets/>

Pancake brunch fundraiser near Bayfield in April

GODERICH SUN STAFF

info@goderichsun.com

TSJ Hall Association and Trinity St. James Chapel are joining together to host the 14th Pancake 'N Sausage Brunch and Schilbe Sugar Bush Tour at Pine Lake Campground.

Volunteers will be flipping hundreds of pancakes that will be served with genuine Maple syrup and Metzger's sausage accompanied by coffee, tea and juice.

For those in attendance who can't get enough of the sweet stuff, Rick and Rusty Schilbe's Maple Syrup will be available for purchase.

Classic Girl Guide cookies from the Bayfield Guiding will also be available for purchase as well.

According to organisers of the event, before or after partaking in the brunch served at the campground's recreation hall, people can hop on a wagon for a short tractor ride to the shanty. Once there, they can see first-hand how Maple syrup is produced.

The brunch will be held on Saturday, April 11 from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. at Pine Lake Campground. Tickets will be sold at the door. Adults - \$14, children - \$6, children five and under – free.

Funds from the brunch will support the TSJ Hall in Bayfield.



(MELODY FALCONER-POUNDER PHOTO)

On Saturday, April 11, hundreds of pancakes will be flipped in readiness for many hungry brunch-goers. The 14th Pancake 'N Sausage Brunch and Schilbe Sugar Bush Tour will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Pine Lake Campground.

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Goderich Sun SPORTS

Young Canada Week commences in Goderich for the 75th anniversary tournament

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

share a common memory and affection for this tournament,” shared Corriveau.

“That is the true legacy of Young Canada Week – generations connected through community and sport.”

Corriveau acknowledges that events as big as Young Canada Week don’t happen without the dedication of countless volunteers, organisers, sponsors, and supporters.

“To everyone who has helped make this celebration possible over the past 75 years, thank you,” added Corriveau.

“Your commitment has kept this tradition alive.”

Piped in by Dave Hamilton and Kristen Sheardown, opening ceremonies included guest speakers MP Ben Lobb, Mayor of ACW Glen McNeil, Mayor of Goderich Trevor Bazinet, Co-Chairs Mike Alcock and Brandon Corriveau, GMHI President Mackenzie Harp, WOAA/OMHA Len Purdue and Paul

Sebastian, Lions International Travis Teed, Goderich Lions President Wayne Lyons.

Video messages came from MPP Lisa Thompson and Premier Doug Ford to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the beloved hockey tournament.

Being part of the organising committee for the past five years has highlighted for Tara Corriveau, YCW Coordinator, how special it is that the community comes together to support this event each time.

“My favourite part is chatting with people as they share their own memories from past tournaments,” added Corriveau.

“We are so thankful to everyone that helps to contribute and make this event so memorable for generations and hopefully for many more years to come.”

Prior to the opening ceremony game played by a U13 LL Goderich Sailors team, Richard Madge sung the Canadian anthem and Doug Norman dropped

the ceremonial puck. Norman played for the Goderich Township Apple Kings team in the very first Young Canada Week in 1950.

Taking the ceremonial puck drop were two Goderich Sailors U13 captains, Colton Ritchie and Aaron O’Sullivan.

It was a special evening as both Goderich U13 LL teams were present on the ice as well for a group photo with all the guest speakers.

Co-Chair Mike Alcock explained that on top of making this year special for the 75th anniversary, it was an honour to have Doug Norman attend to drop the ceremonial puck.

“We are excited to bring the Hockey Hall of Fame and the Toronto Maple Leaf alumni to Goderich throughout the 10-day tournament and celebration,” said Alcock.

“It was an honour to have Doug Norman drop the ceremonial puck. Doug played in the very first Young Canada

Week and tries each year to watch some games.”

On Friday, March 13, Goderich Sailors Black and Goderich Sailors White both played, both earning a win on the first night of the tournament.

The U13 B Division saw the Twin Centre Stars take the championship title, with West Coast Whitecaps as the runner-up and Clearview Canucks took the consolation.

The U13 LL Division saw Wingham Ironmen Blue take the championship title, with Saugeen Valley Steelheads take the runner-up title and the hometown Goderich Sailors White earn the consolation title.

Later in the week, the U15 games ran from March 17 until March 19, while the U18 games run from March 20 until March 22.

For more information on the tournament visit Facebook or <https://tinyurl.com/y3kdnsxf>



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Wingham Ironmen Blue earned the U13 LL Championship title.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Goderich Sailors White earned the consolation title in the U13 LL Division.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Goderich Sailors White and Goderich Sailors Black U13 LL teams with dignitaries and special guests at the opening ceremony on Friday, March 13.

Chamber Connect: A business community benefitting through stronger connections

COLIN CARMICHAEL

Sun Contributor

When a local chamber of commerce is doing its job well, most people do not spend much time thinking about it. They simply experience the benefits through stronger connections, better advocacy, useful programming, and a business community that has someone in its corner.

That is why the Huron Chamber of Commerce's recent expansion into South Huron matters.

Over the past year, the Huron Chamber has been moving from a more local organization to a truly regional one, serving businesses and non-profits across the County.

The recent addition of South Huron is an important step in that transition. It means all the county is now connected through a shared business network, a broader advocacy voice, and an organization focused on both local priorities and regional opportunity.

Before anything else, it is important to acknowledge the work of the South Huron Chamber of Commerce.

For more than 20 years, it supported the local economy, brought businesses together, and contributed to community life in meaningful ways. That kind of work matters. It often happens quietly, and often with limited resources, but its effects are real.

The Huron Chamber is proud to continue that tradition of business leadership and community connection in South Huron.

This matters not only because of what it means for South Huron, but because of what it says about how Huron County works as an economy.

Employers across the county are facing many of the same pressures: workforce shortages, housing pres-

ures, transportation gaps, rising costs, downtown change, and the ongoing challenge of attracting investment and talent. These may play out differently in Goderich than they do in Exeter, or differently in Clinton than they do in Wingham, but they are rarely isolated to one municipality.

That is why a regional chamber makes sense for Huron County.

A modern chamber of commerce is not simply an events organization, nor is it limited to a narrow set of business issues. A strong local economy depends on a strong community, and that relationship goes both ways.

Business success is shaped not only by taxes, infrastructure, and labour force issues, but also by whether a community is healthy, stable, welcoming, and capable of supporting the people who live and work there.

In rural communities especially, issues like poverty, food security, housing, and social resilience are not separate from economic development. They are part of it.

As an independent, non-profit organization, the Huron Chamber can be nimble and agile in ways that many other organizations cannot. That allows us to respond quickly to emerging issues, connect the right people across sectors, and help move conversations forward when opportunities or challenges arise.

The Chamber's reach is also strengthened by its membership in both the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. Those connections support advocacy, provide access to research and policy development, and give our members here in Huron County access to wider tools, resources, and relationships.

Just as important is how this work happens on the ground. Across the county, the Chamber works closely with BIAs and other local organizations because strong

local economies are built through cooperation, not duplication.

That is true in South Huron as well, where the Chamber is already working closely with the Exeter BIA. Caroline Hill, manager of the Exeter BIA, has also joined the Chamber's board of directors, helping ensure that South Huron has a direct voice at the table as this regional transition continues.

For the Huron Chamber, expanding into South Huron is not about simply getting bigger.

It is about becoming more representative of the county we serve, strengthening connections between communities, and building a Chamber that reflects Huron County as it actually functions as a set of distinct communities with a shared economic future.

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Send in your sports reports

Coaches and/or parents are invited to send in your sports reports and pictures to the Goderich Sun to let Goderich and area know how your teams are doing throughout the 2025/26 season (and to create some great scrapbook material to be reflected upon in future years).

Game reports should be kept to a maximum of 100 words. Please include a brief description of what happened during your games, including the names of those who scored and any special efforts made by your players.

Please send reports and pictures by emailing kate@goderichsun.com



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The wind was so strong on the weekend that it blew me from the vegetable row right to the potato chips

I decided to watch a horror movie to destress from the world news

Have you heard something humorous around town that you think might be of interest to others? Either email them to us atinfo@goderichsun.com with the title "Overheard at McCafe" or call 519 655-4321

Goderich Salt & Harvest Festival returns with Big Wreck headlining the Compass Minerals Concert

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Entering its fourth year, the award-winning Goderich Salt & Harvest Festival is pleased to welcome Big Wreck as the headliner for the 2026 event on Saturday, September 5.

With major hit singles such as 'That Song', 'Blown Wide Open', and 'The Oaf', Big Wreck has returned following a creative hiatus with a number one single 'Albatross' and a platinum-selling album of the same name.

While touring across North America, the band has continued releasing chart-topping hits with their unique heavy-hitting live rock.

"Big Wreck is an outstanding band with deep Canadian roots, and we're thrilled to welcome them to Goderich as a signature highlight of the Salt & Harvest Festival," says Mayor Trevor Bazinet.

"This event is a great display of the his-

tory and culture that shape our community – and the 'saltiness' that makes Goderich unique – all weekend long."

Home to the largest underground salt mine in the world, the Town of Goderich works to deliberately build tourism experiences that reflect what makes this community truly unique.

The fourth annual festival will also feature a Friday night concert with Spice & Spears, sponsored by the Goderich BIA and partnering with Royal LePage Heartland Realty.

Spice & Spears is a high-energy tribute experiencing celebrating two of pop music's biggest icons – the Spice Girls and Britney Spears – delivering a non-stop party atmosphere packed with live vocals, iconic choreography, multiple costume changes and crowd-pleasing anthems from 'Wannabe' and 'Spice Up Your Life' to '...Baby One More Time' and 'Toxic'.

Spice & Spears is sure to create a nostalgic, feel-good show for audiences of all

ages.

Local musicians also have the chance to be chosen as the opening act for Big Wreck. Local bands and musicians can apply with performance links through Goderich Tourism.

The selected band or musician will receive featured promotion through official festival channels and be provided a professional photoshoot and live recording of the performance.

Since launching in 2023, the Goderich Salt & Harvest Festival has earned significant recognition, including the 2023 Huron Chamber Community Impact Award, 2024 Best New Festival in Ontario, Top 100 Event recognition in 2024, 2025 and 2026 and the 2026 Festivals and Events Ontario (FEO) award for Best Promotional Campaign.

Designed as a signature tourism event, the festival authentically tells a distinctive local story, led by Town Staff who plan and deliver the programming and logistics

of marketing and on-site operations.

Delivering a festival of this scale depends on strong community collaboration.

The Town of Goderich relies on valued partnerships and dedicated volunteers to keep the festival sustainable and impactful, including support from Compass Minerals, the Goderich BIA, Royal LePage, Parrish & Heimbecker (P&H), Coldwell Banker and many local businesses.

"I'm grateful for the professionalism and commitment our team brings to this event," says Jenna Ujiye, Tourism and Community Development Manager.

"We also rely on strong partnerships and volunteers to make the festival sustainable and impactful."

The 2026 Goderich Salt & Harvest Festival is scheduled for Labour Day Weekend (Sept. 3 until Sept. 6), with the headliner concert on Saturday, Sept. 5.

Visit <https://www.saltedgoderich.ca/festival> for more information or details on how to purchase tickets.

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Open: 7 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Goderich Duplicate Bridge Club Results

Bob Dick directed on March 3:

- 1st – Bob Dick and Alje Kamminga – 60.37%
- 2nd – Garth Sheldon and Laurie Schmidt – 59.26%
- 3rd – Tom Rajnovich and Shirley Thomas – 58.15%
- 4th – Frank Martin and Arnie Parker – 57.78%
- 5th – Cal Scotchmer and Evy McDonagh – 51.85%

Bob Dick directed matches on March 10:

- 1st – Stephen Jacobs and John Legate – 63.63%
- 2nd – Mary Lapaine and Joan Lounsbury – 63.18%
- 3rd – Michele Hansen and Greg Bowman – 58.18%
- 4th – Keith Allen and Bob Dick – 57.73%
- 5th/6th – Pat Lewington and Brenda Blair with Joyce Zimmerman and Robert McFarlane – 50.91%

The Goderich Duplicate Bridge Club meets every Tuesday at 12:45 p.m. at the Christian Reform Church on Mill Road in Goderich.

If you are interested in playing, we are welcoming new members.

If you have a partner, you can simply arrive to play. If you need a partner, we will do our best to find someone from our spare list.

For more information please call Club President, Michele Hansen: 519-441-3275.

The Goderich Duplicate Bridge Club's website: <https://bridgewebs.com/goderichbridge/home.html>

PIECEMAKERS 2026



Viewers Choice 2023. Created by Michelle Haber.
Colour My World by Wendy Williams
Quilted by Diane Carson

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Trail Talk: This time of year can present challenges on the trails due to unpredictable weather

PATRICK CAPPER

Sun Contributor

Recently both the Maitland and Bayfield rivers were in full flood mode, resulting in parts of the local trails flooding. These include several parts of the Maitland Trail, the Millennium Trail, the Menesetung Trail, the Bayfield Sawmill Trail and the Bannockburn Conservation Area Trail.

Although many of the local trails have had little or no snow in recent weeks, there are still parts with significant amounts of snow and or ice.

One place where most of the trail was good for walking with little snow was in the Morris Tract going in on the Blue Trail from Londesboro Road through then to River Bend.

There was very little snow on the trail when I hiked there on March 10. What was especially welcome was that the steep hills did not have any snow or ice on them.

On March 12, around twelve of us hiked from 80855 Sharpes Creek Line on the Maitland Trail extension created last year. We did have to skirt around a large puddle near the start and then on the flat section there was a patch of snow, but after leaving this lower area the trail then just had a dusting of snow so that crossing the two gullies was not too difficult. Just South of Bishop's Road the creek had a good flow but could be crossed with care. The Woodlands Nature Trail was also good walking for most of the trail, with just a short stretch with snow.

The Hullett Sugar Bush blue trail from Wildlife Line was great for a while with no snow at the edges of the trail, but there were significant patches with snow or ice across the width of the trail.

Naftel's Creek Trail was mostly snow free, but on March 11 we could only get



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

One place where the Maitland Trail is flooded.

across to the purple trail on the South side of the creek by accessing it from the bridge at the end of the boardwalk.

I have found that if a shaded trail has been well packed, especially by snow machines, it stays icy for long after other parts have become snow free.

The other place that usually presents difficulty is where there has been a significant snow drift. This is always the case on the Maitland Trail leaving the field South of the Gravel pit, East of Sharpes Creek Line to descend towards the Maitland River. This year the snowdrift was especially large.

Just having written this I see the forecast is for more snow so conditions will have changed again.

EVENTS:

Saturday, March 21 from 9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. - Morrison Dam Conservation Area, Exeter.

Meet at the Morrison Dam parking lot at 71108 Morrison Line, Exeter.

Scenic views along the Morrison Dam reservoir system and McNaughton-Morrison Trail.

For more information and to confirm your attendance, please contact Paula Deering at paulaldeering@gmail.com. This is a Level 1, moderate paced hike.

Saturday March 21 from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. - Hike the Bannockburn Conservation Area Trail with the Bayfield River Valley Trail Association.

This hike will be along an almost two-kilometre recreational trail and will travel through the six different natural

communities including Wet Meadow, Eastern White Cedar, Deciduous Forest, Old Field and Mixed Scrub and Marsh. Bannockburn Conservation Area is located at 76249 Bannockburn Line.

For more information, contact Ralph Blasting at 519-525-3205 or rjblastingjr@gmail.com

Saturday, March 28 (last Saturday of the month) at 11 a.m. - Mindfulness Walk & Forest Therapy

Meet at the Millennium Trail in Goderich, Nelson Street East entrance.

Designed for those who want the benefits of meditation but prefer to move. We'll be moving slowly and silently together for 20 minutes to the first river lookout where we'll stop and chat about the benefits of mindfulness and forest therapy, enjoy the beautiful vistas of the Maitland River, and head back to the entrance, maybe hug a tree on the way out.

Please leave your pets at home. Dogs are already very Zen.

For more information and to confirm your attendance, please contact Tanya at redroofrecovery@gmail.com or text 519-616-3636. This is a level 1, slow paced meditative walk.

NOTES:

Tuesday Trompers meet at 9 a.m. on Tuesday to hike for about an hour. If you wish to be on this email list, send an email to mta@maitlandtrail.ca

Midweek hikers meet at 9 a.m. and hike for 1.5 to 2 hours on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Contact Patrick Capper at pcapper99@gmail.com

LIFE hikers meet every Friday for a hike of about 1.5 hours, with a choice of pace, striders moving a little faster than the strollers. The hikes now start at 9 a.m. and can be joined through ONE CARE.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The large snow drift on the trail.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Irene, Paula, Laurel, George, Greg, and Rick at the gully west of Sharpes Creek Line.

‘Every Brilliant Thing’ comes to the Huron County Museum Theatre in May for a meaningful cause

GODERICH SUN STAFF

info@goderichsun.com

A funny, charming and joyful theatrical event is coming to Huron County Museum Theatre over two weekends in May.

The internationally acclaimed play ‘Every Brilliant Thing’ will be presented for a limited run, performed by actor Will Kernohan.

Written by Duncan Macmillan with Jonny Donahoe, ‘Every Brilliant Thing’ has been performed in over 80 countries and has been called captivating by the New York Times.

‘Every Brilliant Thing’ follows the story of a seven-year-old boy who starts a list of wonderful things in the world, to cheer up his mom. Everything worth living for.

As he matures and faces his own challenges, the list inspires him to find meaning in everyday life.

Told with the help of the audience, this play is a charming act of collective storytelling that reveals how the connections we make are what keep us strong.

This production of ‘Every Brilliant Thing’ is produced by The Lake Effect Theatre Company and will be performed May 1, May 2 and May 8 at 7:30 p.m. and on May 9 and May 10 at 2 p.m.

All proceeds will support the AMGH Foundation.

Funny, poignant and full of hope, ‘Every Brilliant Thing’ might just change the way you see the world.

“This is an amazing play, and including the audience as a vital part of the storytelling is completely unique,” says Will Kernohan, who will narrate the play.

“I love thinking about the little things

that make life brilliant: like ice cream, hugs, the Beatles, and Goderich sunsets. Thinking about playing the narrator on stage reminds me about life – that when we feel we’re entirely alone, a kind word or a smile from a stranger can change the dynamic entirely.”

Funds raised through ticket sales and sponsorship will directly support the AMGH Foundation, helping advance healthcare and hospital initiatives, including funding the purchase of a new MRI machine, that benefit the local and wider community.

“When we knew that Will Kernohan was going to be the narrator for the play we could

not have been more delighted and we knew he was perfect for the role,” says Kimberley Payne, Executive Director of the AMGH Foundation.

“Life really is about ‘Every Brilliant Thing’, and you will be captivated by this special play. We are grateful to be the recipient of the proceeds, because the Magnetic Moments MRI campaign is a Brilliant Thing for the community of Huron County.”

Tickets are \$25 for general admission.

The Huron County Museum Theatre’s intimate setting means that seating will be limited, and early purchases are recommended.

Audience members can expect a unique theatrical experience that is heartfelt, interactive, and uplifting.

To purchase tickets or for more information, find Lake Effect Company on social media, visit <https://tinyurl.com/3f955dtz>, or email lakeeffecttheatre@gmail.com

Huron County Pride hosting pair of comedy evenings

DAN ROLPH

Sun Contributor

Huron County Pride is bringing two nights of laughs to the region with their Spring Fling Comedy Evenings.

Four comedians – Steve Degay, Jenna MacAskill, Kari Johnson and Aidan O’Loughlin – will be coming to Exeter and Goderich on March 20 and 21 for shows that promise to bring “good vibes, great jokes and awesome company,” according to Huron County Pride.

The first event in Exeter on March 20 will take place at Imposter Brewing Company. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., while the show starts at 8 p.m.

Following the Exeter show, the comedians will be in Goderich on March 21 at the Goderich Legion Branch 109, where doors will also open at 6:30 p.m. and the show will start at 8 p.m.

Huron County Pride chair Alex Jebson said the evenings are the first time the organization has tried its hand at hosting comedy-centric events, while the Exeter show has allowed them to extend the programming beyond the Goderich area.

“We’re very excited to be spreading out further into the county and share the laughs there,” he said. “With Huron County Pride, we do want to represent the entire county.”

Jebson said the idea for their Spring Fling Comedy Evenings came from a Stratford-Perth Pride event that Huron County Pride members attended. While there, members connected with Steve Degay, who has since helped to build a diverse lineup for the pair of shows in Huron County.

“We thought that it would be a good idea to do it here as well because everyone loves to laugh,” said Jebson. “Come-

dy seemed like a great next step for us.”

Spring Fling Comedy Evenings also marks a partnership between Huron County Pride and Community Futures Huron, which offers funding opportunities for projects that aim to support local economic opportunities.

“We definitely wouldn’t be able to put this on without them,” said Jebson.

In addition to the upcoming comedy evenings, Jebson said planning for the upcoming Huron County Pride Festival is well underway. Though the festival date is set for June 6, plans for events stretch well beyond that single day.

“We’ll have a full week’s worth of entertainment and community opportunities there,” said Jebson.

As well, Jebson said the organization is looking to focus further on consistent and ongoing community programming, such as with their monthly Pride Board Game Nights and the Community Leadership Award, which provides a \$500 bursary to high school students in Huron County.

“There’s lots of different stuff going on, which is really exciting,” said Jebson.

Jebson said the focus toward ongoing programming came from consultations with the community.

A recent report from United Way Perth-Huron’s Social Research and Planning Council found LGBTQ+ individuals in the region face isolation and discrimination, and that there is an urgent need for more inclusive services and spaces.

“We really wanted to be able to offer that,” said Jebson. “What better way to do that than to argue over a game of Monopoly?”

Tickets to Huron County Pride’s Spring Fling Comedy Evenings can be purchased online at bit.ly/pride-comedy.



(DAN ROLPH PHOTO)

Huron County Pride is welcoming four comedians to the area for two shows in Exeter and Goderich on March 20 and 21.

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Sunsets of Goderich



A warm sky for a cold evening as the ships make their way through the icy waters. Taken on March 3.

(EMSIE WILLIAMS PHOTO)

To submit photos of the sunset, email kate@goderichsun.com

 www.huroncountypride.ca

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Friday


Saturday

March 20, 2026
Imposter Brewing Co.
190 Thames Rd E, Exeter

March 21, 2026
Goderich Legion BR109
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Kari Johnson


Steve DeGay


Jenna MacAskill

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Experts agree winter was colder, snowier

JEFF HELSDON

Sun Correspondent

Those who believe the weather this winter was more like winter used to be would be correct.

"It has been colder and snowier than normal, but many would say it's just a classic Canadian winter. It's the way winter used to be," said Doug Gilham, senior meteorologist at Weather Network.

He admitted winters like the present one are less common, but pointed out 2022 was comparable, and last winter was cold, but not for as long. The winters of 2023 and 2024, however, were milder.

"Winters like this have become less common," Gilham agreed.

January thaws are common, but this year saw the thaw in the second week of January rather than in the middle of a cold spell, followed by consistent cold from Jan. 18 until mid-February, with the exception of

temperatures crossing the freezing line on Feb. 10.

Two cold winters after a couple of mild ones spark debate over whether climate change is occurring. Gilham explained warming goal temperatures have moved the "goal posts" where warm winters will be warmer and cold winters not as cold as it once might have been.

"It certainly doesn't mean you can't have a classic Canadian winter. It just means they won't happen as often and be as severe," he explained.

Environment Canada meteorologist Steven Flisfeder said December was two to three degrees below seasonal medians, as was January. February was colder than normal, but warmer weather at the end of the month pushed it closer to normal.

Saying he didn't have great data, Flisfeder said it did show more snow this winter, with areas closer to Lake Erie getting more snowfall.

Another way to look at the data is the number of Cold Weather Alerts issued by Southwestern Public Health. There were six issued from January to March 2025, but 10 were issued in January and February 2026. The threshold for cold weather alerts is -15°C without windchill or -20°C with wind chill.

Examining this year's weather from a technical perspective, a weak La Nina current in the Pacific Ocean generated a wavier jet stream pattern over North America. Gilham explained this can make southern Ontario winters either warmer or colder. This year, it disrupted the polar vortex, allowing the coldest air in the hemisphere to move over eastern Canada and farther south. Low temperature records were broken all the way down to Cuba.

The situation in western Canada was different.

"At times, the prairies were severely cold, but also had re-

cord-breaking warmth," Gilham said. "They had a temperature roller coaster."

The south coast of British Columbia didn't get much of a winter at all.

After the two mild winters in 2023 and 2024, some southwestern Ontario residents may have had a false complacency that winter isn't as bad as it used to be, believing they don't need snow tires anymore, and making other wrong assumptions. Or, likewise, with the last two winters being cold, they may assume cold winters are back to stay.

With two cold winters under our belts, Gilham said not to make assumptions about next year. He again emphasized not to make conclusions about climate change either.

"You can't take one season in your particular area and say it proves or disproves climate change," he explained. "Globally, it is warmer overall. You have to look at the big picture long term when you're

talking about the state of the global climate."

Locally in Stratford, residents will have noticed the national data firsthand.

During the City of Stratford's infrastructure, transportation and safety sub-committee on March 9, director of infrastructure services Taylor Crinklaw highlighted the sheer amount of snow that blanketed the city this winter for council's information.

About 448 centimetres of snow fell on the city from November to March. About 2,000 truck loads of snow hauled 30,000 tonnes of snow out of the city.

"... Which is quite substantial compared to previous years," Crinklaw told council. "I have not seen this in my tenure since I've been here. It's been much longer since we've done that much snow."

With files from Connor Luczka, Times editor

Agriculture, forestry and fishing hit hardest by spread of invasive plants

RENEE SANDELOWSKY and

HELEN VAREKAMP

Sun Contributors

Invasive plants in our environment can have a serious economic impact.

Spreading fast, and difficult to contain once established, invasive plants hit the agricultural, forestry and fishing industries hard and the effects of this are felt by all.

AGRICULTURE:

Wheat stem rust is one of the most widespread and damaging diseases of wheat in Canada and the world.

The invasive shrub, Common Barberry, a host to wheat stem rust, has been banned in Canada.

However, while some rust-resistant cultivars are exempt from the ban, scientists are now finding that their offspring are often not rust-resistant and are spreading through gardens.

Oxeye Daisy is another invasive weed that threatens to take over pastures and

crops, reducing the quality and amount of food available for livestock and production of seed.

A serious invasive pest, Spotted Lanternfly, is hosted by the invasive Tree of Heaven, and Salt Cedar can lower water tables and increase soil salinity in irrigation systems.

These are just a few examples of invasive plants harming agriculture.

FORESTRY:

Approximately 89 per cent of invasive woody plants in our region originated in the nursery trade and they are threatening our forestry industry.

Norway Maple, European Buckthorn, Black Locust, White Mulberry, Scotch Pine, invasive Honeysuckles and understory species, such as Garlic Mustard are just a few of the invasives threatening our forests.

Some of these are impacting carbon sequestration, others altering soil chemistry, and some hindering forest regeneration and weakening or damaging

native trees including hardwood species like Sugar Maple, essential to the maple syrup industry.

FISHERIES:

In our freshwater bodies, including the Great Lakes, invasive aquatic plants degrade ecosystems, leading to reduced productivity and economic benefits while also decreasing water quality for recreational use.

Aquatic invasives, such as Water Lettuce and Yellow Flag Iris, grow into huge mats of vegetation and block sunlight, so native plants can't survive, impacting fish and other wildlife that depend on native plants for habitat and nourishment.

Additionally, the thick vegetative mats are dangerous for boaters and swimmers and can restrict water flow for irrigation and in flood control canals.

Several invasive aquatic plants that harm fish habitat have been banned in Ontario, including Parrot's Feather and Water Chestnut.

Manitoba has broader regulations that include Yellow Flag Iris, Water Lettuce and Water Hyacinth to name a few.

Sadly, Ontario has not regulated these three invasive aquatic plants so gardeners can still purchase them.

The evidence is clear that invasive plants from the horticultural trade impose significant costs on nature, our communities and our economy.

The fact that many of these invasive species are still sold at garden centres means we each have a responsibility to do our research and choose plants that sustain the ecosystems we all depend on.

You too can commit to making plant choices that protect biodiversity, human health and the economy.

Become a supporter, at no charge, of Canadian Coalition for Invasive Plant Regulation (www.ccipr.ca)

Renee Sandelowsky and Helen Varekamp are volunteers for Canadian Coalition for Invasive Plant Regulation



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Ask the Vet: Thinking about getting a rabbit?

What you should know before bringing home a bunny



DR. SOPHIE FARRELL

Sun Contributor

Rabbits are often seen as cute, easy starter pets, especially around Easter. They are complex animals with specific care needs.

Unfortunately, many rabbits end up neglected or surrendered because people underestimate those needs.

Before bringing home a bunny, here are some important things to know

Is a rabbit right for you?

Rabbits need plenty of space to exercise and enrichment that allows them to express natural behaviours.

As prey animals, many rabbits dislike being picked up and may scratch or bite if frightened. They generally prefer calm, predictable environments and can be injured by rough handling from excited children.

Their instinct to dig and chew means thorough bunny proofing is essential to prevent damage to your home and health risks to your rabbit.

Rabbits also require a specific, varied diet (not just pellets - see below), which can add up in cost over time.

Rabbits can live more than ten years, so adopting one is not a short-term commitment. Remember: bunnies are for life, not just for Easter.

What should rabbits eat?

An inappropriate diet is one of the most common causes of dental disease, digestive problems, and obesity in rabbits.

A healthy rabbit diet includes:

- 85-90 per cent grass hay (Timothy or orchard grass)
- 10-15 per cent leafy greens (offer several varieties daily)
- 1-2 tablespoons of treats



(ELYSSÉ MAY PHOTO)

Our friend Rummy who came in for a mani/pedi the other day.

such as fruit, root vegetables or sweet peppers

- Fresh water always

Most a rabbit's diet (about 85-90 per cent) should be grass hay such as timothy or orchard grass.

Hay should be offered in unlimited quantities - at least a bunny-body-sized amount per rabbit per day. The fiber in hay helps keep their continuously growing teeth worn down to the correct length and promotes digestive health.

Avoid high-calcium legume hays such as alfalfa or clover for healthy adult rabbits; speak to your veterinarian for guidance on feeding young, growing, pregnant or nursing rabbits.

Fresh leafy greens should be 10-15 per cent of the daily diet. Offer at least three different types daily. Good options include beet or carrot tops, bok choy, kale, dark leaf lettuce, and herbs.

Treats such as fruit, root vegetables (e.g. carrot, sweet potato,

parsnip), or sweet peppers should be limited to no more than one to two tablespoons per day. Avoid all other human foods including cereals, grains, nuts, seeds, and chocolate.

Fresh water must always be available. Mineral blocks and salt licks aren't necessary with a balanced diet.

Why not just feed pellets?

Pellets were designed for short-lived meat and lab rabbits, where, unlike pet rabbits, long-term health isn't a priority. Pellets lack the fiber needed for proper dental wear and gut health and are more calorie dense which can contribute to obesity.

If you choose to feed pellets, choose a timothy hay-based pellet and limit it to no more than 5-10 per cent of your rabbit's daily diet.

Rabbit Housing Basics:

Most commercially sold rabbit hutches are far too small. Enclosures should be as big as possible.

At minimum, your rabbit should be able to stand fully upright on his hind legs and take three full hops across the space.

Housing should be chew-proof, easy to clean, well ventilated, dry, and draft-free. Rabbits tolerate cold better than heat and can develop heat stress at warmer temperatures, so keeping them cool in the summer is very important.

Flooring should be solid and easily cleaned. Wire floors cause painful foot lesions and must be avoided. Cover the flooring with a thick layer of soft bedding such as straw, grass hay, or unscented wood shavings (such as aspen) that is changed regularly. Many rabbits can be litter trained, which makes clean up easier.

Enrichment and Social Needs:

Enrichment helps rabbits express natural behaviours, reduces stress, and provides important mental stimulation. Encourage foraging by scattering food around the enclosure or using snuffle mats and puzzle feeders.

Rabbits' teeth grow continuously, so they also need safe items to chew. Provide chew toys made of untreated wood (not all wood species are safe, so check with your veterinarian), cardboard, and compressed hay.

A dig box filled with paper, litter, clean soil, or hay provides a safe outlet for digging. Tunnels and hiding spaces (ideally, with at least two exits) allows rabbits to explore while also giving them a place to retreat when they want to feel secure.

Rabbits are highly social animals and need regular social contact for their physical and mental health. Ideally, rabbits should live with one or more bonded companion rabbits that have been spayed or neutered.

Rabbits can sometimes live with other species if there is no predatory behaviour and the rabbit isn't bullying the other animal(s).

However, rabbits shouldn't be housed with guinea pigs because their social behaviour and health needs are different. If your rabbit lives alone, it's important to provide regular, calm interactions with you and your family.

How much exercise do rabbits need?

Like their wild cousins, pet rabbits need several hours of daily exercise. This can be provided through supervised playtime outside their enclosure, or by allowing them to free roam in part of your home.

Any space that your rabbit can access must be thoroughly bunny proofed.

Protect electrical cords with covers or move them out of reach. Block access to furniture, baseboards, plants, and other objects that may get nibbled on.

Rabbits that like to dig may try to do so in corners of rooms, so you may need to block them off or place a sturdy woven mat there.

Providing enrichment items in exercise areas can keep your bunny busy redirecting chewing behaviour.

Rabbits can also enjoy supervised outdoor time in a secure enclosure on untreated grass.

Make sure fresh water, shade and hiding places are available, and ensure the enclosure prevents escape (by digging) and access by predators such as cats and raccoons.

Thinking of adopting a rabbit?

Consider adopting a rabbit from a rabbit rescue or animal shelter. Many healthy rabbits are surrendered each year (often a few weeks to a few months after Easter) when owners realize that they require more care than expected.

Adoption can give these wonderful animals a second chance at a loving home.

When provided with the proper care and environment, rabbits can be wonderful, affectionate companions that will bring you years of joy.

Wishing you and your family (of all species) a "hoppy" Easter season.

Do you have a question about pet care? Send it to reception@clintonvet.ca and it may be featured in a future column.

Dr. Sophie Farrell is a veterinarian at Clinton Vet Services in Clinton, Ontario. She practices small animal, emergency, and honeybee medicine.

Submit your letter to the editor to us!
Call 519-655-2341 or email info@goderichsun.com

Better Mental Health: Stop waiting to feel motivated



TANYA MACINTYRE,
RED ROOF RECOVERY

Sun Contributor

One of the most common phrases I hear is, 'I'm just not motivated'.

In my view, motivation is overrated. In fact, relying on motivation can lead to setbacks.

Many people believe they need motivation to succeed, and they wait until they 'feel like it' before acting.

High achievers don't rely on motivation, they rely on systems, habits and discipline.

If you only act when you feel motivated, inconsistency follows

and inconsistency kills progress.

So, what should you focus on instead? Here are a few things to consider:

Stop Waiting for Motivation, and Start Using Systems:

Motivation is temporary. Some days you'll feel unstoppable, other days you might not even feel like getting out of bed.

The key is to keep moving regardless of how you feel.

Try this:

- Build a daily routine that keeps you on track

- Use a calendar or tracker so you can measure your progress

- Make success automatic by scheduling tasks and removing friction

Systems reduce the need for motivation because they turn action into habit.

Discipline Over Motivation:

Motivation is a feeling, while discipline is a decision.

Successful people don't ask – 'Do I feel like doing this?'. Instead, they decide, 'This is who I am, and this is what I do'.

Try this:

- Commit to doing the work, even on the hard days

- Set non-negotiable habits that move you toward your goals

- Create accountability by sharing your goals, setting deadlines or working with a coach

Discipline is what carries you forward when motivation fades.

Change Your Identity:

Act like the person you want to become.

When I graduated from high school, I wanted to be a foreign correspondent like American journalist Joan Lunden.

I attended a Catholic school where the guidance counsellor, Sister Mary O'Brien told me that was no vocation for a lady.

I didn't go to university, but I had a goal and I started acting like the person I wanted to become. Eventually, I did become a journalist, working coast-to-coast across Canada for 22 years.

Most people fail because they still identify as their old self.

If you want to be healthier, more successful, or financially secure, you must begin thinking

like the kind of person who naturally does those things.

Shift your mindset:

- Instead of thinking, 'I need motivation to work out', say, 'I am someone who trains regularly'

- Instead of thinking, 'I should write more', say, 'I am a writer who loves to write'

- Instead of thinking, 'I need to improve my sales', say, 'I am a confident communicator who is great at sales'

This isn't about 'fake it until you make it', it's about 'believe it to achieve it'.

Create a No-Excuse Environment:

Your surroundings influence your habits.

When you create an environment that supports success, you rely less on motivation.

- Remove distractions, especially digital ones like endless scrolling

- Surround yourself with positive, driven people; energy is contagious, and we often become like the company we keep

- Make success easier by setting yourself up in advance, preparing meals, planning your schedule, or automating savings. Small consistent actions add up over time.

Real progress comes from systems, discipline and identity shifts.

Build those and motivate stops being the boss.

If you'd like some help getting started, I'd love to hear from you. Send me an email: mentalhealthfitnessalliance@gmail.com

Tanya MacIntyre is a Certified CBT Specialist, Mental Health Fitness Trainer, and owner/operator of Red Roof Recovery (RRR) and its training division ~ Mental Health Fitness Alliance (MHFA).

DISCLAIMER: This content is not intended to constitute, or be a substitute for, medical diagnosis or treatment. Never disregard medical advice from a doctor, or delay in seeking it, because of something you have watched, read, or heard from anyone at RRR or MHFA.

Huron Chamber of Commerce launches new women's leadership initiative

GODERICH SUN STAFF

info@goderichsun.com

Coinciding with International Women's Day (IWD), the Huron Chamber of Commerce announced the launch of its Women's Leadership Initiative.

According to Heather Glenister, Membership Services Coordinator at the Huron Chamber of Commerce, this new program was designed to support women in leadership roles across Huron County.

Glenister is leading the development of this new initiative, which she says begins with listening.

"We know that women are already leading in every sector across Huron County, from small businesses to farms to community organisations and municipal councils," said Glenister.

"Our first step is to understand what supports, connections and opportunities would make the greatest difference in their leadership journeys. The Women's Leadership Initiative will be built around those needs."

A committee of local women leaders will help guide the process. This committee will work to define priorities, identify gaps and develop programming that re-

flects the realities of leadership in a rural area.

While the Chamber says long-term programming will evolve, the inaugural event will take place on October 1, 2026, at the White Carnation in Holmesville.

This will kick off the initiative, and the Chamber intends for it to become an annual signature event.

The launch of the initiative reflects both the Chamber's mandate and its values, and according to Colin Carmichael, Executive Director of the Chamber, leadership matters.

"Women are already playing critical leadership roles throughout Huron County," added Carmichael.

"This initiative is about ensuring that those leaders are supported, and the next generation of women leaders sees a clear pathway forward."

Carmichael also stressed the importance of this initiative being led by women.

The Chamber's role is to convene, connect and create space for leadership to flourish.

"In this case, that means ensuring that women are setting the direction and defining what support looks like," Carmichael added.

The Women's Leadership Initiative aligns with the Chamber's broader role as an independent, non-profit organisation serving businesses and communities across Huron County.

Board Chair Jodi Snell welcomed the

launch of the initiative, noting the impact that strong leadership can have at every level of the community.

Snell explains that leadership is not confined to one sector, but shows up in entrepreneurship, in volunteer boards, in municipal government and in community involvement.

"As someone who has experienced leadership in several of those spaces, I know how important it is to have networks, mentorship and encouragement," said Snell.

"The Women's Leadership Initiative is an important step in making sure those supports are visible and accessible."

Snell added that launching on IWD was symbolic and practical, as IWD is a time to celebrate progress while reflecting on the work that remains.

"By announcing this initiative now, the Chamber is signaling that supporting women in leadership is not a one-day recognition," added Snell.

"It is an ongoing commitment."

According to the Chamber, over the coming months community input will be considered through conversations, surveys and direct outreach.

The Chamber expects that the initiative will include a mix of networking opportunities, educational programming and mentorship-focused activities, shaped by the feedback received.

More information about the October 1 kickoff event and ways to get involved will be shared in the coming weeks.

GRANT
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MEDIA



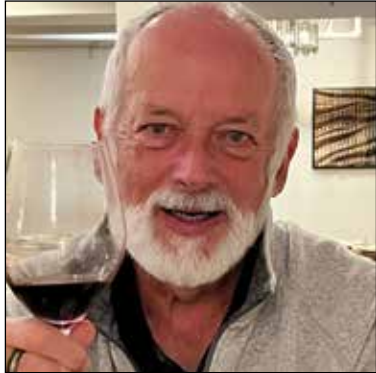
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OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Ottawa offers superb options for food-lovers



PAUL KNOWLES

Sun Columnist

Let's be honest: Ottawa is to the rest of Canada the way a very spoiled child is to the rest of the family. Ottawa gets way more than its share of good stuff, from museums to art galleries to arts venues and more. It's the nation's capital, centre of the country, and it shows.

Now, while that may irk taxpayers looking for cross-country fairness, it's really good news for tourists visiting Ottawa. In truth, this is one of my favourite cities.

I love the art galleries and museums, the intriguing architecture in the federal government district, the walking areas along the river, the history... and most definitely, the food. Ottawa is without question a destination for "foodies", with a plethora of restaurants offering unique and delicious cuisine.

On our last visit to Ottawa, we were able to sample two of the best eateries in the city: Gitanes, at 361 Elgin Street, and Arlo Wine & Restaurant, 340 Somerset Street West. Both have been named among Canada's top ten restaurants. Since we were staying at the downtown Alt Hotel, both were within easy walking distance.

The Gitanes experience is defined as "Fine French dining in Ot-



Gitanes features French cuisine using local ingredients.

(PAUL KNOWLES PHOTOS)

tawa's Golden Triangle". There are two themes here: a superb wine cellar, and French cuisine that features Canadian ingredients – a marriage made in foodie heaven.

The two restaurants have one thing in common: absolutely superb service. The staff are welcoming, friendly, and have somehow combined being attentive and unobtrusive at the same time – no mean feat. Our waiter started to present the wine list, and then said, "Maybe you'd like to meet the sommelier." So we did. Sommelier Bernard Joseph was a gold mine of information and advice and eventually delivered to our table a bottle of Chateau Haut-Segottes Saint-Emilion Grand Cru 2018. I could pretend to know how special that is, but all I really know is that it was delicious.

And it paired beautifully with

our meals. Between us, we enjoyed Steak Frites (a specialty of the house), a moules and sausage appetizer, a lamb saddle and focaccia bread. Dessert was a Basque cheesecake and (unlikely though this sounds), an absolutely delicious foie gras sundae. Every bite demanded that we savour. It was, in short, a beautiful meal, unique and well presented. The starters were mainly priced at \$23 to \$28; the mains ranged from \$40 to \$50. There is a \$105 tasting menu.

The next evening, after we had spent much of the day strolling the inviting streets of Ottawa, we dined at Arlo. Co-owner and Chef is Jamie Stunt; our host, restaurant manager Simon Hodgson, told us that Chef Stunt has "deep roots" in the Ottawa region; his seasonal menu has been described as "playful and refined."

That also describes the restaurant, itself. One description of the place says, "Arlo feels like a dinner party at a stylish friend's home." That's pretty accurate – when we visited, the place was full, and yet – wonder of wonders – not one person was on a cell phone. People were enjoying food, drink and conversation, not necessarily in that order.

Arlo is known for a wine list that features rare and unique natural wines, so I was looking forward to a glass of something special. But to my surprise, Simon told me that they also feature some special beers from time to time; he had checked my bio, and discovered that I occasionally write about breweries, and so had brought in a bottle of a "Cantillon Drogon Lambic", a rare Belgian sour beer. I decided to be polite and sample it – and then con-

tinued to sample until the 750-mm bottle was empty. Now, that is exceptional service!

For dinner, our starters were a cucumber and melon salad (which was a work of visual art!), and Scallop Tartare, perfect with the beer. Our mains were Schnitzel and Caesar, and Duck Frites. I had finished off the Cantillon Drogon Lambic, and found that a Cotes du Rhone wine went well with duck. Or, with just about anything, for that matter. The starters at Arlo range in price from \$24 to \$27; the mains, from \$40 to \$48.

I love the motto on the bottom of the Arlo menu: "be excellent to each other." Good advice.

Does Ottawa deserve to be listed among the top "foodie" destinations in the country? Without question. And frankly, if you compare prices with some more "run of the mill" restaurants, you'll find the quality and superb service at eateries like Gitanes and Arlo make for very good value. Our thanks to Sarah and Vlad of Ottawa Tourism who arranged our very tasty visit.

One quick recommendation: after dinner in Ottawa, make your way to a restaurant called the Rabbit Hole (and yes, you should eat there on another evening). But tonight, your destination is the "secret" speakeasy called the Jackalope, hidden below the main restaurant. There, the bartender will craft a unique drink matched to your tastes. You have to ask at the door of the Rabbit Hole, and you will be escorted to the speakeasy, if there is room. Tell 'em Paul sent you.

Paul Knowles is an author and travel writer, and past-president of the Travel Media Association of Canada. To contact Paul about travel, his books, or speaking engagements, email pknowles@golden.net.



Gitanes sommelier Bernard Joseph.



At Arlo, it's all about food and conversation – no one was on their phone!



The manager at Arlo had brought in a special beer, just for this writer!

COMING EVENTS

Email to inquire
info@goderichsun.com

MACKAY CHORISTERS

On Thursday mornings from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at Lakeshore United Church.
Looking for a choir family? Come join the MacKay Choristers, Huron County's daytime choir.
Weekly rehearsals every Thursday morning.
For more information: singers@mackaychoristers.ca

CREATIVE KIDS: LEGO SPEED BUILDERS

On Thursday, March 19 from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. at the Goderich Library.
Rev up your building skills in this fast-paced LEGO challenge.
Admission is free. Registration required. Ages 6-12.

OPEN MIC NIGHT

On Thursday, March 19 from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Square Brew.

CREATIVE KIDS: PAINT-A-PEG BOOK CHARACTER EDITION

On Friday, March 20 from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. at Goderich Library.
Bring your favourite storybook characters to life. Kids can design and decorate their very own wooden peg people inspired by beloved books.
Registration required. Ages 6-12. Admission is free.

CONCERT: CULTURE REJECTS AND YOLA BERU

On Friday, March 20 from 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. at East Street Cider Co.

MAKE A MESS! INDOOR PLAY FOR KIDS

On Saturday, March 21 and Saturday, March 28 from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. at the Huron County Museum.
Drop in each Saturday afternoon for unstructured play

for primary-aged children and their families.
Create without instructions, colour without lines, and play games without rules.
Included with regular admission to the museum, or free when you show your Huron County Library card or membership.
Children five years old and under are always free.

SPRING FLING COMEDY NIGHT WITH HCP

On Saturday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Goderich Legion.

TURKISH MOSAIC ART DIY WORKSHOP

On Sunday, March 22 from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the Columbus Centre.

KNITTER'S CLUB

On Tuesday, March 24 from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. at Goderich Library.
Knit, relax and meet fellow knitters each week.
No registration needed. Admission is free.

PA DAY FAMILY MOVIE: THE MINECRAFT MOVIE

On Tuesday, March 24 at 2:15 p.m. at Huron County Museum.

SKATE AND SHOOT

On Tuesday, March 24 from 3:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. at Maitland Recreation Centre (MRC).

TUESDAY TUNES OPEN MIC AND KARAOKE

On Tuesday, March 24 from 8 p.m. until 11 p.m. at Boston Pizza.

WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

On Wednesday, March 25 at 9 a.m. at Goderich Legion.
Join every Wednesday morning for coffee, connection and helpful information in a supportive community setting.
Guest speakers and topics will vary.
Admission is free.

GODERICH CHESS CLUB

On Tuesday evenings from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Goderich Library in the activity room.
This club warmly welcomes all chess enthusiasts of any age to join. Whether a seasoned player or a newcomer eager to learn the game, this is the perfect opportunity to immerse yourself in the world of chess.
Participants may come and go as they please during this timeframe.
Admission is free.

Equipment will be provided.

SMART RECOVERY MEETINGS

Hosted every Sunday from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. at Red Roof Recovery.

YOUNG CANADA WEEK

Beginning on Friday, March 13 and running until Sunday, March 22 at the Maitland Recreation Centre (MRC).
Come watch as hockey teams compete in the historic minor hockey tournament during the March Break.

SPRING FLING COMEDY EVENT

On Friday, March 20 in Exeter and Saturday, March 21 in Goderich.

Presented by Huron County Pride with the support of Community Futures Huron, the Spring Fling Comedy event brings talented comedians to the area, offering friends and neighbours a fun, laugh-filled evening.
These are age of majority events.

Friday, March 20: Imposter Brewing Company, Exeter. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$15 until February 28, and \$20 after February 28. Tickets must be purchased in advance on Eventbrite.

Saturday, March 21: Royal Canadian Legion Branch in Goderich. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., show at 8 p.m. Tickets available on Eventbrite.

SPRING OPEN HOUSE AT GODERICH PLACE

On Wednesday, March 25 from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. at Goderich Place.

Come in and tour the beautifully appointed common areas, meet the dedicated team and view model suites.
See why Goderich Place continues to be the number one choice in Huron County.

There will also be experts to discuss selling your home, downsizing and moving.
Ask about the respite and winter stay packages as well.
Call Jennifer Puckett to arrange a tour: 519-524-4243 ext. 224 or visit www.goderichplace.ca

CONSTRUCTION PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

On Wednesday, March 25 from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. and from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Town Hall.

Members of the public are invited to attend a Pre-Construction Open House. This will be an opportunity for residents, business owners and stakeholders to meet members of the Rebuilding Downtown Infrastructure Project team.

Including a project overview, traffic and safety information, a Q&A with project team.



Auburn & District Lions Club Breakfast

Auburn Memorial Community Hall
Sunday, April 12, 2026
8 a.m. - 11 a.m.

\$15/Adults, \$6/Child, Free/Preschool

Pancakes, eggs, toast, sausage & hashbrowns

Thank-You To our suppliers:

Robinson's Maple Products, Huron County Egg Farmers, Green's Meat Market

Proceeds for: Community Betterment


Worship With Us




Berea Lutheran Church
326 Gibbons Street, Goderich
www.berea-zioncc.ca • bnz@hay.net
Rev. John Trembulak 519-524-2235,
(cell) 519-878-0327

Family Worship Service
2nd and 3rd Sunday of the Month
2:00 pm
All other Sundays of the Year
8:30 am
Facebook: @bereagoderich

**Invite readers
to your worship
services.
Contact
info@goderichsun.com**


YOU ARE INVITED!
This Sunday @ 10:00am
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Goderich, Ontario
N7A 3G5
519-524-6445
www.cbcdgoderich.com

9 Victoria S. N., Goderich
519-524-7512

**KNOX
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**
Rev. Amanda Bisson
Livestream Services
Sunday at 10:00 am
Knox Presbyterian Church Goderich - YouTube
Worship materials available online
www.pccweb.ca/knox-goderich

Riddles

Why is spring the best time to plant a garden?
Because you really dig it.

What do you call a rabbit with fleas in the spring?
Bugs Bunny.

Why did the flower go to school?
To become a blooming genius.

What kind of bow can't be tied?
A rainbow.

Why are trees so relaxed in spring?
Because they finally leaf their worries behind.

What did the gardener say when spring arrived?
"Long thyme no see!"

Why was the spring weather so good at making friends?
Because it was very warm and welcoming.

What do baby chicks study in school?
Egg-ucation.

Why did the bee get married in spring?
Because he found his honey.

What do clouds wear in the spring?
Thunderwear.

Why do birds fly north in spring?
Because it's too far to walk.

Sudoku

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	7				6			
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9			7	8	4		5	

Solutions on page 27

Featured Pets



LILY

This is Lily a very sweet and loving half Boston terrier half pug...you may see her walking around town in her little sweater she loves to walk! She loves to play, have zoomies around the yard, meet new dog friends and FOOD. She's a wonderful companion for our empty nester home, nicknamed by our son as "his furry replacement".
Jen and Steve Miller, AJ and Nick Goderich



Nominate your Pet of the Month by emailing info@goderichsun.com

petvalu

Sponsored by:

35400 Huron Rd., Goderich
519-524-5443
www.petvalu.ca

Word Search

LOTS OF LAUGHS

C	F	E	J	F	P	E	Y	D	O	R	A	P	T	N	F	Q	Q	H	B
Y	Q	T	I	C	K	L	E	N	S	P	I	Q	O	W	T	U	A	E	M
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- COMEDY
- FACETIOUS
- FUNNY
- HILARITY
- IRONY
- JESTING
- JOCULAR
- LEVITY
- MERRIMENT
- PARODY
- PUNCHLINE
- QUIP
- SATIRE
- SLAPSTICK
- SNICKER
- TEDIUM
- TICKLE
- UPROARIOUS
- WITTICISM
- ZANY

CLASSIFIEDS

Email to inquire
info@goderichsun.com

OBITUARY



CHRISTINA RUTH HOFFMEYER

February 20th, 1933- March 4th, 2026

Christina was reunited with her husband Jack on March 4, 2026. Born February 20, 1933 to Chris and Verna Cheoros, she was raised in Mitchell and grew up in the Cozy Grill restaurant, helping her father and brother Bill with the delicious Chocolates and Candy Canes they were known for. Then came a move to Goderich as Jack started his business and a life busy with raising children, work in the UCW of North Street United Church and entertaining friends and family. Over fifty years of parties at the pool in her "little slice of heaven" was "Mrs. Far's" source of joy. Predeceased by her husband Jack, lovingly remembered by her children, Doug and Joy Hoffmeyer of Goderich and Lynda Hoffmeyer and Harold Kloeze of Owen Sound. Grandma Chris to Erin (Kris) Hiuser, Chris (Heather) Hoffmeyer, Morag Kloeze (Andrew Evans), and Jacob (Laura) Kloeze and GG to Xavier, Noelle, Logan, Maddy and Sophie, they will remember wonderful times at Grandma's place. Predeceased by her sister Helen Leppard, brothers Jack (Edna) and Bill (Barbara) Cheoros and brothers-in-law Norman (Emma), Murray (Pansy) and Russell. A special friend to Jeannette Donnelly, Bev Wright and the entire Wright family, brother-in-law Oliver (Jean), sister-in-law Jean and many nieces and nephews. Heartfelt thanks to the staff at Goderich Place and Southbridge and to her special caregiver, Laura. Visitation took place on Tuesday March 17th, 2026 at McCallum & Palla Funeral Home from 10- 11 am. A Memorial service followed at 11:00 am. Donations in Christina's memory can be made to the Maitland Conservation Authority or Lakeshore United Church General Funds, or a charity of choice. Family and friends may sign the book of condolences at www.mccallumpalla.ca.

OBITUARY



BOYCE, EVELYN ISABEL (NEE MOORE)

Passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, March 12, 2026. Evelyn Boyce of Goderich in her 83rd year. Devoted wife and life partner to the late Dalton Boyce. Loving mother to Jeff Boyce and the late Danny & Larry Boyce. Cherished Grandmother and best friend to Andrew (Miranda) Boyce, Brittany (Adam) Coulthard & Amy Boyce. GG to Brody, Hunter and Sawyer Coulthard. Special Grandma to Austin Aldrich and honorary mother-in-law to Tracy Aldrich. Sister to Helen (Doug) Johnston, Bill (Alberta) Moore, Lois (late Wilfred) Chapman, Linda (late Eugene) Webber & Pat (Bob) Desjardins. Sister-in-law who will be missed greatly by all her brothers and sisters-in-law in the Boyce Family. "Aunt Ev" to many nieces and nephews in both the Moore and Boyce families.

A Celebration of Evelyn's life will be held at Lakeshore United Church, North Street, Goderich on Saturday, March 21, 2026 from 12 – 3 PM. A private family graveside service will be held in the spring at Maitland Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial donations to the Heart and Stroke Foundation, gratefully acknowledged. Friends may sign the book of condolences at www.mccallumpalla.ca

WANTED

Wanted for busy scrap yards, secondary resources (Perth) Ltd. Goderich and Sebringville yards, check our website www.secondaryresources.ca Roll off, and luggers and track trailers, part time and full time drivers. Must have clean driving abstract (3 years). Please send resume attention Tom Joyes to secondaryres@hotmail.com or call 519-393-5390.

FOR SALE

Hundreds of shade trees, fruit trees, apples, pears, peaches, plums, sweet and sour cherries, apricots, nectarines, blueberries, haskapp grapes, raspberries, elderberries etc. Lots of spruce, pine, cedars for windbreak and privacy hedges. Sizes 1-8 ft. in containers ready to go. Flowering shrubs and much more. Mon-Sat 7:00am to 6:00pm

Martin's Nursery, 42661 Orangehill Rd Wroxeter, ON N0G 2X0 (1 Conc. North of Wroxeter on Belmore Line)

CAMPFIRE WOOD Seasoned hardwood, bagged and ready for your summer enjoyment. \$7.00/bag \$20/3 bags \$30/5 bags. Face cords available. Call or text for pick up. Delivery available in the Goderich/Point Farms/Bayfield area. Jim 519-301-1395

HELP WANTED

Pitlane Automotive is searching for a highly skilled professional with a unique blend of expertise in automotive technology and computer science. The ideal candidate will possess advanced diagnostic and repair skills for complex automotive systems, demonstrate significant knowledge in electrical systems repair. This role carries a profound responsibility for ensuring the safety and reliability of vehicles.

- Fully licenced 'G' class driver with a clean drivers abstract.
- Proven ability to troubleshoot vehicle firmware and electrical components.
- Proficiency in diagnostics and repair of advanced automotive systems.
- Advanced skills in interpreting diverse automotive computers and complex wiring diagrams.
- Adaptability in a fast paced technological advancement within the automotive industry with a commitment of staying ahead of trends.
- Highly organized and detail oriented.
- Professional demeanor with strong interpersonal and communication skills.
- Strong commitment to service excellence and delivering high quality outcomes.

Please apply in person with a resume to Pitlane Automotive at 200 Suncoast Drive East Goderich or send resume to rawlings-pitlane@hotmail.com. Please note only those considered for an interview will be contacted.

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Goderich Place
Harbour Hill
Southbridge Goderich

Food Basics

YMCA
Town Hall
Culberts
Blake Street Bakery
West Sushi
West Street Willy's
The Book Peddler
Steve and Mary's on the Square
Bedford Hotel
The Bee's Knees

Coldwell Banker

Huron County Library -
Goderich
MacKay Centre
AMGH
Maitland Valley Medical Centre
Huron County Museum
Huron County Gaol
River Run Restaurant
Rexall
Goderich Legion

Sawyer Dry Cleaning and

Laundry Co.
Creative Cuts
Parsons
St. Vincent de Paul
Habitat Restore
Comfort Inn
Hear Canada
Physiotherapy Alliance
The Station
Suncoast Variety

CLINTON

Pharmasave
Clinton Legion
Clinton Arena
Shell
Bartliffs
Tim Hortons

COMING EVENTS

Email to inquire
info@goderichsun.com

DRIVING SAFELY FOR SENIORS SEMINAR

On Thursday, March 26 from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. at Goderich Place.
Guest speaker: Kristy Kastelic from MTO.
Admission is free.

DEATH CAFÉ WITH HURON HOSPICE

On Thursday, March 26 from 4 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. at Huron County Museum.
This free event is an open conversation about death and its impacts.
Ages 18+.
Please register with Huron Hospice. Admission is free.

ANNUAL FARMER'S BREAKFAST

On Friday, March 27 at Cowbell Brewing in Blyth.
Join Alexandra Marine and General Hospital (AMGH) Foundation's annual farmer's breakfast.
Keynote speaker Jesse Moore, partner at MNP in Kincardine will present Farm to Filing: 2026 Income Tax Topics and Tax Planning for Farmers.
Money raised supports the \$6.5 million Magnetic Moment campaign to bring an MRI to AMGH.
Tickets and details: amghfoundation.ca

EXPERIENCE FANSHAWE AT OPEN HOUSE

On Saturday, March 28 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at all locations.
Come meet faculty and current students from all areas.
Drop-in and ask about your program interests, career options and becoming a Fanshawe student.
Hear from college experts on student life, admissions, financial aid, and more.
Explore campuses in London, Woodstock, Clinton and Tiverton (as well as St. Thomas and Simcoe).

FREE SKATE

On Sunday, March 29 from 3 p.m. until 4 p.m. at Maitland Recreation Centre (MRC).
Admission is free. Please, no sticks or pucks.

COMMUNITY JOB FAIR

On Thursday, April 2 from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. at Maitland Recreation Centre (MRC).

COMMUNITY ART SHOW: EXPOSURE

Opening on Saturday, April 4 at 2 p.m. at Goderich Co-op Gallery.
Join in the celebration of a free, community art show running from April 1 until April 30.
Show off your talents and your love of art.
Entries are available on our website and at the gallery, lower level.
Visit gegallery.ca for more information.

HEALTHY WATER SHEDS

On Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. at the MacKay Centre in Goderich.
Join the Goderich District Horticultural Society as Hope Brock gives a presentation on Healthy Watersheds.
Everyone is welcome to attend this free event.

EVERY BRILLIANT THING

On May 1, May 2, and May 8 at 7:30 p.m. as well as May 9 and May 10 at 2 p.m.
A live theatre production at Huron County Museum Theatre in Goderich.
Tickets are \$25 for general admission; early purchases recommended due to limited seating.
Tickets and information: <http://everybrilliantthing-may2026.eventbrite.ca>

TREK TO ELORA

On Wednesday, May 13 join for a day of history, culture and exploration as the Huron County Historical Society treks to Elora in Wellington County.
The coach leaves the Huron County Museum at 8 a.m. on May 13, headed for Elora. Historical background commentary on route provided by Elysia DeLaurentis.
A stop at Drew House to enjoy coffee and snacks.
Guided historical walking tour of downtown Elora with free time to explore the shops.
Lunch at The Wild Tart.
Experience the Elora Gorge up close. Visit the 'hole in the rock' and learn about the local history of the Grand River.
Price is \$100 per person, all inclusive.
Pre-register with David Armstrong by May 1: 519-524-1156 or Davidarmstrong@hurontel.on.ca

SILVERWOODS PARK FESTIVAL

On Saturday, June 6 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at Vauxhall Park in London.
Includes a silent auction, a 50/50 draw, classic cars, kid activities and free face painting, vendors and food trucks, and hourly prize draws.
Fun for the whole family.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S 2026 GARDEN TOUR

On Saturday, July 11 the Goderich District Horticultural Society will host its 2026 Garden Tour from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.
This non-profit group takes care of several flower beds around Goderich and hold several events.
The money raised at this tour is spent on plants for these gardens and to support other community groups that work hard to make Goderich the Prettiest Town in Canada.
Tickets can be purchased at the MacKay Centre on July 11.



Deadline: Friday prior at 3 p.m.
Contact: info@goderichsun.com

PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS WITH US! HERE'S HOW:

- The Community Calendar is for non-profit organizations to promote their free admission events at no charge. Event listings can include your event name, date, time and location as well as a phone number, email address or website.
- If your event is not free admission or you would like to include more details than stated above, you have the following options:
 - Coming Events Word Ad in Classified section (50 word max.) - \$10 + hst
 - Coming Events Boxed Word Ad in Classified section (50 word max.) - \$15 + hst
 - Display Ad - Sizes begin at a classified business card size for \$35 + hst

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Email to inquire
info@goderichsun.com

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Shamrock
2. Reindeer
3. All of the snakes
4. Anthropic
5. Chicago, Illinois
6. The Boston Tea Party
7. U2
8. Michael B Jordan
9. The harp
10. A pot of gold

SUDOKU

5	8	4	6	2	9	3	1	7
6	2	9	3	7	1	5	8	4
7	1	3	5	4	8	2	6	9
2	7	1	8	9	6	4	3	5
4	5	8	1	3	2	9	7	6
3	9	6	4	5	7	1	2	8
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CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO!

PEST CONTROL

TRULY NOLEN
PEST CONTROL

Protect your home from pests year-round – spiders, ants, rodents etc.

519-524-5052
huroncounty@trulynolen.ca
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • AGRICULTURAL

SERVICES

Mental Health Fitness Alliance
MHFA

Courses, Seminars, Training
For Better Mental Health

SHOP LOCAL. SAVE LOCAL.

Support businesses that keep your community and its newspaper thriving

Our plan to protect Ontario is speeding up approvals for mines

As Canada stares down economic uncertainty, we're ready with a plan to protect Ontario. We're building mines to unlock the critical minerals the world needs.

That's how we protect Ontario.



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