



Goderich Sun

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Rotary Club, Town Council continue partnership, discussions for new signage at Rotary Cove Beach

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Rotary Cove has been defined by the arch that has recently been removed. That arch became an iconic feature of the waterfront, and the Rotary Club of Goderich would like to partner with the Town to replace the community hallmark.

In a letter to council on July 9, Ann McCauley, President of the Rotary Club of Goderich proposed a commitment of \$10,000 towards the roof replacement at the Beach Hut, and \$30,000 upon approval, toward the new Rotary Cove signage.

"We are confident that new, attractive signage would serve as a lasting symbol of that relationship and sustain the cove at the renowned waterfront destination it has become," wrote McCauley.

The Rotary Club requested Council to consider contributing the remaining funds required to complete the signage installation.

According to McCauley, preliminary indications are that this would cost \$50,000 to complete the project.

"We believe this collaborative approach will allow

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(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Goats will graze and eliminate invasive vegetation near Sunset Park.

Council approves goat grazing pilot project along bluffs at Sunset Park to manage invasive vegetation

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

At the August 10 council meeting, Goderich Council approved a targeted goat-grazing pilot project along the bluffs at Sunset Park to manage dense invasive vegetation and improve safe access to critical hydro and water infrastructure.

According to Deputy Mayor Leah Noel, who also serves as the chair of the Town's Environment Committee and has worked on implementing this project, the cost is approximately \$10,000.

Some of that cost, \$4,700 to be precise, will come from the Environment Committee's 2026 Budget, and the rest will come from the Town's operations budget.

"While this is not a standalone project that will solve the whole problem at once, it is hopefully the first step

towards a solution that also includes native seeding and ongoing monitoring," explained Noel.

The quote of \$10,000 is essentially an all-inclusive number from the contractor and includes supplying and managing the goats, establishing and maintaining the contained grazing area, caring for and supervising the flock, remaining on-site during the operation, managing grazing intensity, responding to changing conditions, and taking precautions to prevent movement of invasive plant fragments.

"One thing I think we need to remember is that the goat grazing is not the complete solution," reiterated Noel.

"But it is a necessary first step – clearing the invasives – in a multi-pronged approach as we work towards the long-term solution."

The lake-bank utility corridor adjacent to Sunset Park

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Council approves goat grazing pilot project along bluffs at Sunset Park to manage invasive vegetation

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

contains the hydro supply to the Water Treatment Plant, and the principal water-main carrying treated water from the plant and into the town.

According to a report to council, since around 2013, the Town has struggled to control invasive and aggressive vegetation within the corridor.

Conventional control methods had limited success due to the area's specifications – wet, steep and poorly suited to equipment.

Since the water infrastructure corridor is notoriously difficult to access because of the steep, wet terrain and dense vegetation, Noel explains that it is very difficult for conventional machinery and equip-

ment to access that area.

Noel explains that the goal is for the goats to knock down the dense vegetation, made up mostly on invasive species, and make the area accessible again.

According to the report, following discussion with the Municipality of Central Huron and its contractor, staff identified targeted goat grazing as a new potential solution to this invasive vegetation issue.

There is a dense ticket-forming vegetation in the corridor now, including Japanese knotweed, invasive phragmites, and blackberry or bramble species.

Central Huron has been using targeted goat grazing to manage similar vegetation.

The proposed pilot would use goats to reduce-above-ground vegetation over sev-

eral days, followed by native seeding and monitoring.

The report explains that the pilot is intended to improve access and assess whether targeted goat grazing is a suitable solution for this difficult location.

"Goats are well-suited to browsing rough terrain and will provide a low-impact way to get the vegetation under control while reducing the need for broad herbicide application," added Noel.

Next steps will involve re-seeding the entire site with native species and have an ongoing maintenance schedule in future years.

Native seeding is an essential second component of the pilot.

The Maitland Valley Conservation Au-

thority (MVCA) has provided a list of species suitable for steep slopes, potentially including Canada wild rye, Virginia wild rye, big bluestem, switchgrass, Indian-grass, black-eyed Susan, wild bergamot and other native grasses and flowering plants.

The report clearly states that a successful grazing pilot will not eliminate the need for monitoring or future maintenance. It provides a safer and lower-impact method of eliminating invasive species.

According to Town Staff, this project will be monitored to assess results on access improvements, vegetation reduction, erosion risks, and whether this approach will become part of the town's ongoing vegetation management program.

Council approves amendment in Zoning By-Law to allow for backyard hens in Goderich

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Goderich Town Council approved a zoning by-law amendment to allow residents in Goderich to have backyard hens, under the Animal Control By-law.

There will be a 20-day appeal timeline

before the by-law goes into effect near the end of August.

"This has not been something we have ever done inside the Town of Goderich before," said Deputy Mayor Leah Noel at the August 10 Town Council meeting.

"If it does turn into a situation where there are folks who are very unhappy or

there are complaints within the community, and the community tells us they no longer want this to be acceptable inside of town limits, we can change the by-law at this table quite easily."

Purpose of the by-law amendment is for a housekeeping nature to permit backyard hens in residential zones in accordance with and under specific conditions set out in the Animal Control By-Law.

Hanna Holman, planner with the town, spoke to council about this amendment and recommended it be approved.

Holman's report goes into greater detail

on the review, but it was reviewed against the Provincia Planning Statement (PPS) and the County and Town Official Plans (OP).

According to Holman, when it comes to healthy and sustainable communities, the use of Animal Control By-Law is an appropriate tool to regulate this land use or potential conflict.

If council gives direction to prohibit backyard hens in the future, the Animal Control By-law would supersede the zoning by-law. Should that occur, Holman recommends that council would initiate a zoning by-law amendment, and part of that would be communicating reasons for the public, and to provide clarity.

"We hope that people will be neighbourly, in regard to if someone wants to have four backyard hens and actually talk to their neighbours and make sure they are ok with that as well, and work out amongst themselves," concluded Mayor Trevor Bazinet.

To date, the Town has not received any comments, concerns or objections.

If the Town does not receive any comments or public concerns by August 31, the by-law amendment will go into effect, and backyard hens will be permitted in the Town of Goderich.

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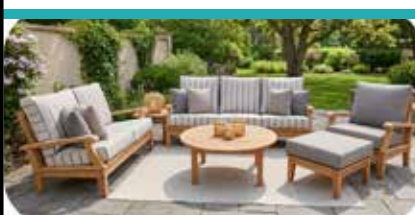
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Music, friendship and tradition: Celebrating 34 years of Goderich Celtic Roots

SARAH ATKINSON

Sun Contributor

Another Goderich Celtic Roots Festival has ended, wrapping up a week that once again showed why this event has become so special to musicians, students, families and audiences from around the world.

Now in its 34th year, the festival has grown from a memorial concert in 1993 into a week-long celebration of Celtic music and culture.

If you ask the people who return year after year what makes Goderich different, then answer is often less about who is on the stage, and more about the community created around it.

The week begins with the Celtic College, bringing students and world-class traditional musicians together for five days of learning, sharing and playing music.

It's a unique opportunity to learn directly from the artists who take to the festival stages days later, as they pass along tunes, techniques, stories and traditions gathered throughout their musical lives.

For the artists, Goderich offers something equally special – time together.

Musicians who might normally cross paths for a few hours at a festival get to spend an entire week teaching, collaborating and sharing the stage with their peers.

Many have described Goderich as one of their most loved festivals. Not just because of the performances, but because of everything that happens around them – conversations between classes, impromptu tunes, quick trips tot eh beach for a reprieve from the summer sun, and late-night sessions at the Park House, The Livery, and the Legion, when nobody is ready for the music to end.

That community extends well beyond the College.

Free evening concerts bring musicians into Courthouse Park, while sessions and dancing fill venues throughout the town.

Festival visitors eat in local restaurants, explore downtown shops and spend the week discovering Goderich, alongside the music.

For a few days each August, the festival isn't contained



(IAN CRYER PHOTO)

A group of artists performing together (L-R): Alison Crossey, Cian O'Grady, Ryan Young, Caroline Keane, Tom Delaney, and Shane Cook.

to one site – it becomes part of the rhythm of the entire community.

By Friday, the celebration moves to Lions Harbour Park, with five stages and more than 60 hours of live music.

This year's lineup brought artists from across Canada, as well as from Ireland, Scotland, England, Japan and the United States together. This included longtime favourites including Shane Cook and The Woodchippers, O'Jizo, Ryan Young and Alanna Jenish, Caroline Keane and Tom Delaney, and Rachel Davis and Darren McMullen, to musicians experiencing Goderich for the first time.

The weekend provided a stage for the next generation, including 2026 Robinson Emerging Artist Showcase winners Dane Pederson and Irish Millie.

Some of the weekend's most memorable moments weren't necessarily confined to a scheduled concert. Those moments happened when musicians played together, when an audience joined a chorus, when someone tried a new dance step, when children made something in the Kids Area, and when a summer evening ended with a crowd dancing together in the park.

Those moments are at the heart of the festival.

One of this year's most meaningful announcements came during Friday evening's Opening Ceremony with the official launch of the Greg Reynolds Instrument Lending Library – affectionately known as the GRILL.

Created in partnership with the Huron County Library, the program honours the late Greg Reynolds, a passionate supporter of music and the Celtic community.

Through the GRILL, community members can borrow instruments including guitars, violin, concertina, bodhran, and Harpsicle free of charge through the Huron County Library.

The idea is simple – remove barriers that can prevent someone from trying an instrument and give more people an opportunity to discover the joy of making music.

It is also a fitting extension of something the Goderich Celtic Folk Society has been doing for more than three decades – creating opportunities for people not simply to listen to traditional music, but to participate in it. We also could not do it without all the hosts and volunteers.

By Sunday night, the stages had hosted countless tunes and songs, new friendships had formed, students learned from musical heroes and families spent a summer weekend dancing, creating and discovering music together.

Then, the instruments were packed away, the tents came down and Lions Harbour Park grew quiet again. But for those who were there, the music has a way of following you home.

In Goderich, it will all begin again next August.

For more information, please visit <https://www.celticfestival.ca/>

Sarah Atkinson is of SoundBox Music

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New pedestrian crossovers to be installed on Cove Road

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Goderich Town Council approved the installation of two Type D pedestrian crossovers along Cove Road near the waterfront following a staff review.

According to the report, the new crossovers will include pavement markings and regulatory signage to formalise existing pedestrian crossing locations and improve safety.

The crossovers will be located at the Main Beach parking lot entrance near the Beach Hut, and at Rotary Cove near the Wheelhouse.

Town staff had previously received a request from a member of the public to review pedestrian crossing opportunities along Cove Road.

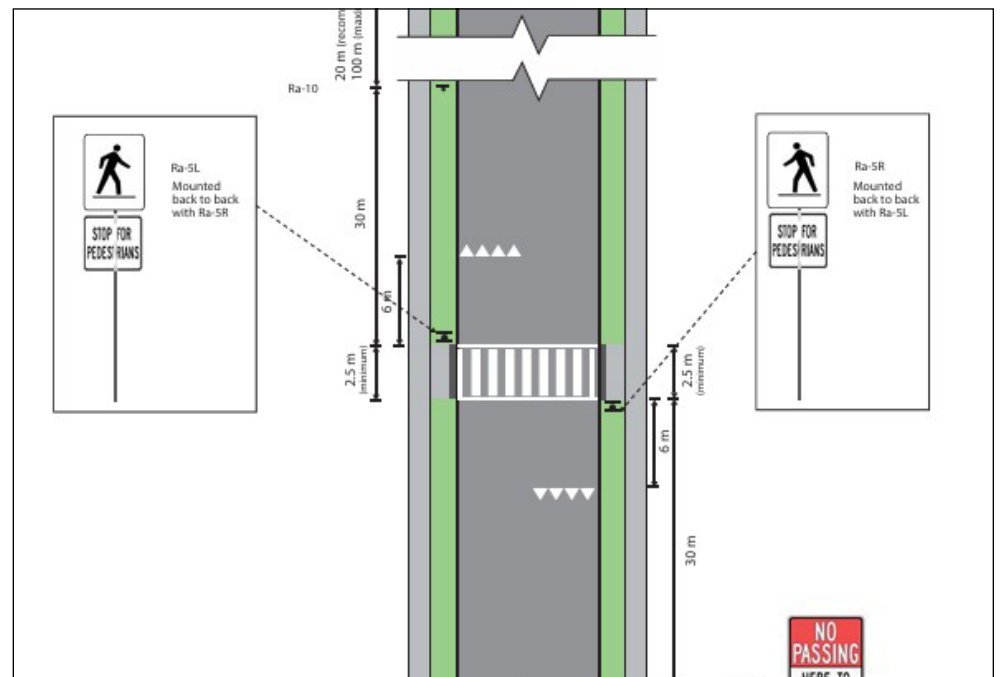
Following a review, staff conclude that crossovers should be installed at existing

locations at Main Beach and Cove Beach. These locations serve as primary pedestrian connections between municipal parking areas, beaches, parks, the waterfront, boardwalk and the Lighthouse Park staircase.

According to the report, these improvements will enhance pedestrian safety, improve driver awareness, establish the legal right-of-way for pedestrians, and support the Town's commitment to accessible and connected public infrastructure.

The proposed improvements consist of pavement markings and regulatory signage in accordance with the Ontario Traffic Manual. The installation of Type D Pedestrian Crossovers will formalise the existing locations.

Costs associated with the installation of pavement markings and regulatory signage can be accommodated within the approved 2026 Roads Operating Budget.



Pedestrian Crossover Type D conceptual drawing.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Rotary Club, Town Council continue partnership, discussions for new signage at Rotary Cove Beach



A conceptual image to help visualise the size, orientation and intent of the new Rotary Cove arch.

(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

us to maintain a welcoming and enduring feature that both residents and visitors can appreciate and be proud of for many years to come," added McCauley.

Design features for the new arch include durable steel with stone bases to complement the waterfront's character.

The Rotary Club is hopeful that this arch becomes a timeless gateway to welcome visitors for generations.

According to the Rotary Club, the old arch was removed for safety reasons and now the question is, how to replace what once stood there.

At the August 10 Council meeting, Mayor Bazinet remarked that, if possible, he would like the Town of

Goderich to continue with its partnership. Council members believed it would be foolish to not continue with a partnership with Rotary Club.

As it stands, the Rotary Club and Council will now wait for town staff to develop an RFP based on the conceptual designs and then send them out to bid takers.

Staff will continue to work with the Rotary Club members during this process.

Central Huron to conduct acoustic survey of Clinton sewer system

BRITTANY MCKAY

Sun Reporter

Central Huron is moving ahead with an acoustic survey of the Clinton sewer system after receiving \$10,000 in grant funding from Intact Insurance.

Council received a report from Utilities Manager Ian Koetsier outlining the municipality's successful application to the All-Risk Municipal Grant program. The program supports creative, cost-effective and transferable risk management solutions within communities.

Central Huron's application focused on using acoustic survey technology to assess the condition of its sewer mains. The goal is to identify areas requiring repair or reconstruction before sewer issues result in insurance claims related to sewer backups.

According to the report, the condition assessment will also help inform future infrastructure projects and

support the municipality's asset management planning.

The acoustic survey could potentially save Central Huron up to approximately \$97,000 in future sewer main camera work, the report states.

The project has been awarded to Rapid Assessment Technology Systems at a cost of \$24,907, including net applicable HST. The \$10,000 grant will offset a portion of the cost, while the remaining \$14,907 will be funded through the municipality's sewer maintenance budget.

Council was also asked to adopt By-Law 47-2026, authorizing the mayor and clerk to execute the grant agreement between the Municipality of Central Huron and Intact Insurance.

The project is intended to provide the municipality with a clearer picture of the condition of Clinton's sewer infrastructure and help identify potential problems before more costly repairs or sewer backup claims arise.

Weekend Quiz

By Jake Grant

1. According to the Bible, what is the name of the final battle between good and evil?
2. Which object, traditionally made of metal, is worn on a cowboy's boots to prod a horse?
3. Who is the Roman god of love?
4. How many lives do cats supposedly have?
5. The Caribbean Island of Bonaire is a municipality of what country?
6. When is the next leap year?
7. Which superhero carries a shield made of vibranium?
8. What do you call two words with the same definition?
9. What game challenges players to remove wooden blocks without toppling the tower?
10. What are the four main ingredients in beer?

This week's answers are found on pg. 27

Historical events that made Goderich: The Goderich Lighthouse

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Recognised as one of Goderich's most recognisable symbols, the Goderich Lighthouse has remained a beacon of light on the shores of Lake Huron for nearly 200 years.

Although the present lighthouse is not the original one, the lighthouse standing today serves its original function as an essential aid to navigation for hundreds of commercial and pleasure crafts coming in and out of the harbour every year.

According to historian and local author David Yates, since the town's beginning in 1827, the harbour was a focal point in selecting this area for commercial activity. With the founders selecting Goderich's natural harbour, there came a need for a lighthouse to guide shipping traffic safely into port.

The first lighthouse was a log construction situated farther east, and according to local historian Wayne Hoy, the original location was wrong because ships had to sail past the harbour before the light was visible.

Yates explained that a better situated lighthouse was needed.

It was in 1847 when an Edinburgh stonemason, Adam MacVicar, was contracted to build the present lighthouse.

In 1849, the Crown purchased the current lighthouse land from Canada Company Commissioner, Thomas Mercer Jones. The new location offered a panoramic view of the harbour basin provided more visibility for ships navigating Lake Huron.

Although some might reference the shape of the lighthouse as uncommon, or plain, compared to the usually conical structures, but the lighthouse sits atop a 130-foot cliff. This allowed the structure's height to be sufficiently elevated naturally, allowing its light beacon to be seen in the distance.

According to Yates, the lighthouse in Goderich was the first permanent one on the Canadian shorelines of Lake Huron.

Over the years, the lighthouse in God-



(KATHLEEN SMITH PHOTO)

Goderich Lighthouse continues to stand tall in its nearly 200-year-long vigil over the sometimes dark and stormy waters of Lake Huron.

erich has been described as a strong, stone building, whose situation on the bluff allows it to shed its welcoming light far over the dark waters of Lake Huron.

It was in the 1870s that a break wall needed to be constructed to prevent further erosion to the cliff upon which the lighthouse was built.

As technology has improved over the years, the lighthouse has also undergone many changes. Petroleum and whale oil lamps were placed in 1877 with a Silber Patent Light.

Following the tragic Great Storm of 1913, an inquest found that the lights attempting to illuminate the harbour were

inefficient, and it was recommended the tower be increased by five feet.

Soon, the lighthouse keeper's cottage attached to the lighthouse was taken down so that it could accommodate a revolving flashlight. The 80-year-old cupola was dismantled, and the present octagonal shaped beacon tower was erected.

At this time, the lighthouse keeper had to move to an adjacent residence, which was demolished in 1985.

Yates explained that in 1925, the lighthouse's large electric rotating mirrors,

which create the flash while the light remains stationary, were installed. A pulsating beam is made visible for 21 miles in fair weather.

With this new technology, the lighthouse keeper's role radically changed.

The first lighthouse keeper (1848-1856) – Thomas Bradney – whose duties included keeping the lamps filled with oil and maintain a watchful eye to ensure the proper functioning of the light, saw a drastic change in his duties.

According to historical records, Donald Bert MacAdam had the distinction of being the last Goderich lighthouse keeper from 1985 to 1992. Goderich Parks Department now maintains the lighthouse and surrounding grounds.

It wasn't until 2003, when the story of the land and the lighthouse came full circle. The Crown returned the Goderich lighthouse to local ownership, selling it for \$1.

In 2009-2010, several town volunteers rescued the lighthouse to give a much-needed facelift.

After doing extensive research on the lighthouse, local marine enthusiasts Paul Carroll, Jan Hawley and Duncan Jewell contracted IR Construction of Bayfield to give the old lighthouse a \$80,000 facelift.

The Goderich Lighthouse has seen many changes in its near-200-year history, has literally weathered the storms and stood as a beacon of light and safety in a harbour that remains the busiest on the Canadian side of Lake Huron.

First established in 1847, the current lighthouse stands tall overlooking the harbour, and remains just as important today, as when it was first built, while it stands vigil over Lake Huron and Goderich's harbour.

With notes from David Yates

This is an ongoing series of historical features to tell the story of Goderich, in each issue of the Goderich Sun, from June 2026 until June 2027, in anticipation of its bicentennial.



(HURON COUNTY MUSEUM PHOTO)

Acrylic painting by Paul Carroll depicting the harbour looking south with the lighthouse on the bluff circa 1870.

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A history of Goderich: From 1880s through the 1890s

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Huron County – including Goderich – in the 1890s had grown into a bustling agricultural region with a rich economy of farming and industry.

By this era, the town had also become a major industrial hub, with large vessels docking to carry salt, timber and grain to distant markets.

The 1890s were marked by significant social, economic and political changes, including urbanisation, industrial growth and evolving domestic life.

During the 1890s, one out of three Canadians lived in towns or cities.

This period saw the rise of large national companies, such as the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) and Eaton's.

In Goderich, during the 1880s and 1890s, many new companies were established and experienced immense success.

The Goderich Organ and Furniture Company was established in May 1889, bringing new industry to town and hiring 20-30 hands, while attracting other industries.

Set up at the site of the old Seegmiller foundry, the company was established close to the Grand Trunk Railway and established the town's east edge as its industrial area for the next 120 years until Volvo closed in 2009.

By October 1889, the Goderich Organ Company was accepting orders and with four designs of organs, the company specialised in a better class of organ and special line of high-class furniture.

According to Yates, the organ factory was deemed a credit to Goderich in 1891.

Governor-General Lord Stanley was given an official tour of the organ factory on his January 1893 visit to Goderich.

On March 1, 1892, Alex Saunders along with two other shareholders, purchased organ company and became its directing manager.

Saunders aggressively marketed the organ company and its furniture line.

In April 1893, Saunders expanded the plant, sent salesmen across Canada, Great Britain and the colonies to increase business, and the company's catalogues were available in several languages including Spanish and Japanese.

By 1897, the factory manufactured 30 styles of piano and organ stools, and chairs and fine organs.

The company grew from 1892 to 1897, starting with 18 employees and growing to 58. Organ tradesmen worked from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. at peak production times.

A fire in February 1900 caused \$25,000 in damages to the factory. Another fire in October 1902 destroyed the organ factory and all its stock.

The 1902 fire cost the company an estimated \$30,000 and forced nearly 80 men out of work.

Saunders asked the town for a \$25,000 loan, and the organ company rebuilt.

In 1906 the company claimed it had become a household name among music-loving people of Canada.

Surviving fires, turbulent times during the Great War, and tragedies, the com-

pany continued until 1930 but struggled during the Great Depression and then the Second World War.

The building was demolished in 1963, and nothing remains today, of the Goderich Organ Company's grand two-acre industrial complex.

While this industrial growth made goods more affordable, it also led to poor working conditions reminiscent of the industrial revolution in Britain, but also brought along advancements in technology and transportation.

The 1890s bicycle craze hit Goderich as the town's rebellious youth headed out on their Fairy Queens, Scorchers and Red-Birds for the freedom of the open dirt road.

Capitalising on the bicycle's popularity, a group of investors enticed D.S. Henderson of Brantford, the well-known manufacturer and inventor of bicycles, to establish a company in Goderich.

According to author and local historian David Yates, on September 28, 1895, the sod was turned on the old Runciman Foundry property on Cambria and East streets for a new bicycle factory.

Within weeks, the three-storey building was producing the Common Sense bicycle.

The goal was that the company, with a capital of \$100,000 would employ between 50 and 100 men.

The first order of Goderich-made bicycles was shipped from the Henderson factory on Saturday, March 28, 1896.

In addition to producing the bicycle, the company announced it would do all other repairing connected with iron work.

In 1897, the Huron wheel was the latest model the Henderson bicycle factory produced.

The company was known from the Atlantic to the Pacific and was considered one of the thriving and important manufacturing institutions in Goderich.

Priced at \$65 for a Huron and \$75-85 for a Common Sense, bicycle ownership in 1897 was a substantial investment. In 1900, the average wage of a Canadian production worker was \$375 per year.

In 1898, Alex McIvor (15), a member of Goderich's most legendary fishing families and an all-around athlete adept at hockey, skating and cycling, was asked to ride the company's new 'McCready Pink Flyer' in the 1898 Victoria Day race in Brantford.

With only a week's training for the Paris to Brantford race, McIvor was one of 48 riders and in a stunning upset, this Goderich youth became the town's pride when he won an easy victory over the more experienced racing men.

McIvor went on to greater racing glory as the Champion Cyclist in Canada on the Red-Wing bicycle and had trained with famous cyclist Harley Davidson.

Henderson Bicycle Company rolled out their fourth and final bicycle model in 1900.

It was then the company changed its name to the Goderich Engine and Bicycle Company Limited as it expanded into production of steam engines.

Domestic life changed in the 1890s, reflecting the era's technological advance-

ments and changing social norms.

Modern comforts soon entered many households, including refrigeration, carpeting and plumbing, all becoming more common.

The typical middle class home featured linoleum flooring and graphophones for music.

Just eight years after Alexandra Graham Bell made his first successful telephone call in Brantford in 1876, Goderich established its first Bell Telephone exchange.

The telephone arrived in Goderich in 1884, the same year as it came to much larger centres such as Calgary, Regina and Port Arthur.

James Imrie, the owner of a Book and Stationary store on the north side of Market Square became Bell's first Goderich agent.

In July 1884, the switchboard apparatus located in the back of Imrie's shop was fully operational and serviced the town's 25 telephones.

The list of the original Goderich subscribers was carried in the January 1885 Bell Directory. This pocket-sized book contained all the phone users in Ontario, but by December 1885, the number of Goderich subscribers swelled to 30.

Of the original 25 Goderich telephone owners, only seven were residential.

Other numbers belonged to commercial enterprises like the North American Chemical Company, the local salt works of Joseph Kidd and J.S. Platt, the medical field with druggists Francis Jordan and George Rhynas, and Dr. Thomas McLean and Dr. Alex Taylor. Polley's Livery stables were also connected to the first phone line, and three of the first phones belonged to the shipping companies at the town's docks.

According to Yates, in the phone system's early days, the caller turned a crank on the side of the telephone's wooden box chassis. The crank 'rang up' the operator at the switchboard, who asked the called for the name of the intended subscriber.

The operated then inserted the caller's wire in the appropriate switchboard plug, which caused the telephone's clapper bells to ring at the other end of the line.

This technology was primitive.

Early phone systems were also known as party lines, where several telephones were connected to the same line and users were asked to be sensible and use phone etiquette.

Under an 1885 Directory set of rules, users were asked not to call more than twice, if a call goes unanswered, as unnecessary ringing is a nuisance. Users were also cautioned to not talk for more than five minutes, as others would like to use the line.

Sometimes users would listen in or interrupt on the party line, which was admonished.

There were limitations to the usage of the phone lines, as the operator exchange was only open from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. throughout the week, and Sunday was only from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

By today's standards, the early Bell telephone system seems antiquated and quaint by comparison.

Like the automobile, the telephone revolutionised modern living, and that revolution got an early start in Goderich in July 1884.

Political change came in the 1890s, with various movements advocating for workers' rights and social reform. This set the stage for future developments and changes in society.

The 1890s are often referred to as the 'Naughty Nineties', and Goderich was not exempt from that experience.

Public morals were out the window when it came to Mrs. Thomas and her Britannia Road house of 'ill-repute'.

Mrs. Thomas was not the first, or only such enterprise in Goderich.

Mrs. Hamilton ran a bawdy house on the south end of town as well.

According to historian and local author David Yates, although its existence was known, no action had been taken to shut them down.

Although reports of the time cited that Mrs. Thomas' husband left her for her wicked ways, it was more than likely that he left a young wife with two children without support and without opportunity to earn a living.

Yates suggests that it was necessity that drove Mrs. Thomas to practice her trade in the town she grew up in.

Whatever the reason, this establishment shocked local Victorian sensibilities.

After some charges and fines were paid, Mrs. Thomas was ordered to leave town to escape more serious charges or mob violence.

In a 1901 census list, Mrs. Thomas resided in Owen South with her two sons before she disappeared.

Left behind in Goderich were two underaged girls who harboured at Mrs. Thomas' Britannia Road home.

Too poor to pay a \$10 fine for 'street-walking', the girls were sentenced to four months of 'hard labour' in a women's prison for 'leading a loose life'.

Sadly, today, these two young women would be considered victims in need of protection, but in Victorian society, the girls were condemned to a life of sin and misery.

Unfortunately, the several men who were instrumental in dragging these girls down, or using Mrs. Thomas' house in their free time, were never charged with violating the women. In the end, these two young girls were considered nobodies who paid the price for the sins of many.

In the year that Mrs. Thomas operated her business, the Signal moralised that she had placed a skeleton in the closet of more than one family in Goderich.

The late 1880s and into the 1890s were transformative years, characterised by industrial growth, urbanisation and evolving domestic and social life.

It was the 1890s that laid the groundwork for social and economic changes that would come from the 20th century.

This is an ongoing series of historical features to tell the story of Goderich, in each issue of the Goderich Sun, from June 2026 until June 2027, in anticipation of its bicentennial.

Coastal Conservation Youth Corps return to Goderich

JESSICA HEWITT

Sun Contributor

The Coastal Conservation Youth Corp (CCYC) program returned to Goderich for the fifth time, continuing education and stewardship work along the shoreline.

Ten high school aged volunteers from Goderich and the surrounding area participated in beach clean ups, restoration work, and invasive species removal while learning about plastic pollution, shoreline ecology, and coastal processes from July 28 until July 30.

The first day of the program involved a beach cleanup at Black's Point Beach, where participants removed just under 20 pounds of litter. They surprisingly found a record eight tires along the shoreline

and were able to safely remove six of them.

Many of the youth were astonished by the quantity of litter found in such a small area and expressed feelings of accomplishment knowing they were able to make a difference by clearing out what had washed up or been left behind by others.

The second day of the program involved a trip to the Old Ausable Channel to further some restoration work that was started by this year's Grand Bend CCYC cohort.

Participants helped take care of native plants that had been planted along the channel by removing encroaching invasives and giving them some much needed water. This work really helped to high-

light to the youth that restoration work is ongoing and requires continuous efforts.

The final day continued the theme of long-term restoration with a visit to the youth-led restoration site at Sunset Park in Goderich. Started by previous years' CCYC groups, this site involves the ongoing removal of invasive plant species along the bluff at the park, followed by the planting of native soil stabilizing species to prevent bluff erosion.

This year's participants continued this project and had the opportunity to meet with local community members from the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust and the Tri-County Master Gardeners.

This program was made possible with support from the McCall MacBain Foundation and the John Hindmarsh Environ-

mental Trust Fund.

If you're looking to help protect Lake Huron, join us for an upcoming beach clean-up. We'll be in Kincardine on August 15, Grand Bend on September 3, and Sarnia on September 19.

More information can be found on our website at lakehuron.ca/beachcleanup

CCYC is offered by the Lake Huron Coastal Centre, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the Lake Huron shoreline through education, restoration and research. Learn more at lakehuron.ca and keep in touch on social media using @coastalcentre on Facebook and Instagram.

Jessica Hewitt is an Environmental Technician with Lake Huron Coastal Centre (LHCC)



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Group photo of CCYC youth participants and LHCC environmental technicians Jessica Hewitt and Sydney Bowins with garbage removed from Black's Point Beach.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

CCYC youth participants removing invasive plant phragmites australis from Black's Point Beach.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Removing invasive periwinkle at the Old Ausable Channel.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

CCYC participants learning beach grass transplant techniques at Goderich Main Beach.

Municipal funding gives Magnetic Moments Campaign a significant boost

MANDY SINCLAIR

Sun Contributor

Recognizing the impact of strong rural healthcare on quality of life for residents, economic impact and the belief in having healthcare close to home, three Huron County municipalities have stepped forward with combined funding commitments of \$1,250,000 towards bringing an MRI machine to Huron County.

With this support from Central Huron, the Town of Goderich and Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh (ACW), the **Magnetic Moments campaign has raised \$4,698,574.25 of its \$6,500,000 goal.**

The Municipality of Central Huron was the first to commit funding to the campaign following a presentation by the campaign's municipalities subcommittee members Florence Witherspoon and Liz Higgins-Sager to council on Tuesday, May 19.

"Central Huron council voted unanimously to donate \$250,000 to the Magnetic Moments campaign. Nothing affects the well-being of our residents more than medical care and the state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment needed by our medical professionals," said Central Huron Mayor,

Jim Ginn.

"Currently our residents have to travel large distances to receive the medical analysis they require. Having an MRI in Huron County benefits all Huron County residents."

Funding for the donation comes from the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) grant Central Huron received for being part of the Deep Geological Repository selection process. The grant was given with the stated purpose that it be used for betterment of the community.

During a presentation to the Town of Goderich council, Florence Witherspoon and Liz Higgins-Sager presented the case for support, highlighting the economic impact of strong healthcare on the region.

The two responded to questions following the presentation and after internal reviews, Mayor Trevor Bazinet announced the Town of Goderich is proud to support the Magnetic Moments Campaign with a \$750,000 contribution approved by Council.

"Investing in healthcare is an investment in our residents, our families, and the future of our community," said Bazinet.

"Access to an MRI closer to home will have a meaningful impact on the lives of

people across Huron County by reducing travel times, improving access to timely diagnostics, and helping ensure better health outcomes. Strong healthcare services are also essential in attracting new residents, businesses, and healthcare professionals to our region."

Also bordering the Town of Goderich and with a growing population, the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh confirmed a five-year pledge of \$250,000 towards the capital campaign following a presentation to council by Dr. Tiffaney Kittmer and municipalities committee member Dan Hayden.

According to Glen McNeil, Mayor of ACW, council sees the merit in an MRI for the Alexandra Marine and General Hospital, surrounding area all of Huron County and beyond.

"That's why the decision to commit \$250,000 was supported by council on behalf of the residents of ACW and the surrounding area," added McNeil.

Dr. Tiffaney Kittmer, Magnetic Moments Campaign Chair, explained that a lot of health care usage is unpredictable. No one knows if or when they might need an MRI, and yet many of us will at some point in our lives.

"As a local physician, I am so pleased to see our municipalities coming through with impactful pledges that will ensure that the geographic and other barriers to accessing MRI services can be overcome, and that the wait times in the region will improve for everyone as Huron County gets its first MRI suite," added Dr. Kittmer.

Kimberley Payne, Executive Director of the AMGH Foundation, shared that most people don't realise is that hospital foundations cover the costs of any hospital equipment over \$1,000 with funds raised by the community rather than the ministry.

"The \$6,500,000 required to purchase, construct the space needed to house the machine and install it here at the Alexandra Marine and General Hospital is no exception," added Payne.

"Once installed, the ministry will cover the operational costs including staffing and supplies."

For more information, visit: <https://magneticmoments.amghfoundation.ca/>

Mandy Sinclair is the Campaign Associate for the Magnetic Moments Campaign with the AMGH Foundation

Huron County Museum welcomes The Witness Blanket

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Inspired by a woven blanket, the original cedar-framed artwork titled The Witness Blanket, is made of hundreds of items from Indian residential schools, survivors, churches, governments and

cultural sites across Canada.

The Huron County Museum will host The Witness Blanket, a powerful travelling exhibit from the Canadian Museum of Human Rights until September 4.

The Witness Blanket recognises the atrocities of the residential school era, honours the children, survivors and fam-

ilies affected, and encourages ongoing reconciliation.

Created by master carver Carey Newman, each item in The Witness Blanket tells a story of loss, strength, resilience and pride.

While the original Witness Blanket remains permanently on display at the Canadian Museum of Human Rights in Winnipeg, MB, this reproduction was created to allow other venues to share the stories.

In the reproduced wood-framed display, direct-printed wood panels take the place of the original artifacts.

"We are privileged to host The Witness Blanket and provide our community with the opportunity to engage with this pow-

erful work," said Elizabeth French-Gibson, Museum Senior Curator.

"This exhibition invites visitors to reflect on the lasting impacts of residential schools, to honour the experiences of survivors and their families, and to consider the role each of us plays in advancing reconciliation."

Throughout the duration of the exhibit, admission to the Museum is free for visitors identifying as Indigenous.

Admission to the exhibit is included with regular admission or free for Museum member and Huron County Library card holders.

For more information about the exhibit visit <https://www.huroncountymuseum.ca/temporary-exhibits/witness-blanket/>



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The Witness Blanket will be on display as an exhibit at the Huron County Museum in Goderich until September 4.

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Town of Goderich's existing by-laws do not permit e-scooters to operate locally

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Goderich Town Council received a report at the August 10 meeting from the Municipal Law Enforcement Manager regarding electric kick-style scooters (e-scooters) and bicycle usage on sidewalks.

According to the Town of Goderich, which is not currently participating in Ontario's e-scooter pilot program, the town has not adopted a by-law permitting e-scooters to operate locally.

Plainly put – e-scooters are not permitted within the Town of Goderich.

According to the report, Town Staff will continue to work with the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) to promote safe operation and public awareness of the provincial rules governing e-scooters.

Currently, the Town's existing by-laws also prohibit bicycles, rollerblades, and skateboards on sidewalks, boardwalks and in parks.

Municipal Law Enforcement staff will continue to enforce efforts to address con-

cerns in pedestrian areas.

In addition to requesting an increase in foot patrol with Huron County OPP, the Town's Municipal Law Enforcement staff want to send out flyers to parents and have information sessions in schools to properly inform youth and their parents about safety and regulations surrounding e-scooter usage in Goderich.

"If we have this opportunity to speak to this, we can help folks at home understand that these e-scooters are actually, because we don't have a by-law specifically allowing them, they are actually prohibited," commented Deputy Mayor Leah Noel at the August 10 council meeting.

"The only way you allowed to ride an e-scooter is if your municipality has passed a by-law and is part of a pilot program, and then e-scooters are allowed. Otherwise, any e-scooter is not allowed to be driven in the Town of Goderich."

Currently, the jurisdiction for tickets, fines or regulation lies with the Huron County OPP, not with the Town of Goderich.

Major victory for community-led environmental protection at Little Lakes Pit

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Friends of Ball's Bridge and Little Lakes (FOBBLL) argued the last few years and at a recent Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) that a proposed aggregate pit expansion threatened the area's sensitive natural habitat.

The OLT has ordered V.B. Sand and Gravel Ltd. to conduct mandatory air quality monitoring at the proposed Little Lakes Pit in Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh (ACW) Township.

The tribunal also ordered a 30-metre habitat buffer for an endangered Wood Turtle habitat, finding that failing to address its natural heritage function would be a travesty.

According to FOBBLL, this decision follows a partial settlement between FOBBLL and V.B. Sand and Gravel that resolved many aspects of the proposed pit expansion. Both parties agreed to many improvements in the operational Site Plans but left the air quality and buffer issues to be decided by the OLT.

"This is one of the strongest air quality decisions ever made at the OMB, LPAT or OLT, and it represents a significant precedent for future aggregate applications in Ontario," admitted David Donnelly, counsel for FOBBLL and one of Canada's leading environmental lawyers.

The OLT found that air quality monitoring is the only way to determine whether dust generated by the operation is travelling off-site is through air quality monitoring.

"It is also a huge victory for citizens' groups and environmental action," added Donnelly.

"It shows that communities can make a difference by organising, bringing forward strong evidence and relying on experts to protect the environment and human health."

V.B. Sand and Gravel had applied for a licence to extract up to 500,000 tonnes of aggregate annually from below the water table at an 80-acre site near the environmentally and culturally valuable Ball's Bridge and Little Lakes area.

FOBBLL presented evidence on air quality, planning and natural heritage during a three-week hearing before the OLT in 2025 and 2026.

For Rebecca Garrett, President of FOBBLL, this decision for air quality monitoring reflects the work of community members and experts pushing for stronger protections for human health and the environment.

"So many community members stepped up to support protecting of our health and environment, and we are grateful to them and to our experts for leading us to this momentous decision," said Garrett.

"We are also grateful to the communities who went before us in their campaigns to have dangerous fine particulate matter recognised as a human health threat."

This decision could have broader implications for how air quality is assessed in future aggregate applications, particularly where potential off-site impacts are at issue.

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Huron Chamber partners with Better Business Bureau

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

Huron Chamber of Commerce announced a new partnership earlier this month, with Better Business Bureau (BBB). Huron Chamber is hopeful this partnership will provide added value for its members and create new opportunities for collaboration.

Members will be eligible for a 15 per cent discount on their first-year accreditation fees with BBB, giving members another practical way to save money while supporting businesses.

"The Chamber's role is to support, connect, and advocate for our members, while the Better Business Bureau plays an important role in helping businesses demonstrate trust and accountability in the marketplace," said Colin Carmichael, Executive Director of the Huron Chamber of Commerce.

"This partnership gives our members access to a meaningful discount, while also allowing our directory to better reflect businesses that have taken the additional step of becoming BBB Accredited. It is another practical way Chamber membership can deliver value."

The Huron Chamber business directory includes members from across Huron County and serves as a public-facing resource for people looking to find and support local businesses. The addition of BBB recognition will give directory users another helpful point of information while preserving the distinct roles of the two organizations.

Chamber membership reflects a business's participation in the local business community. BBB Accreditation reflects a separate application and review process administered by the Better Business Bureau.

For businesses, the partnership is in-

tended to be practical as well as collaborative. Huron Chamber members will be able to access the discount when applying for BBB Accreditation, with details to be shared directly with members once the application process and discount code are finalized. Businesses must still meet BBB's accreditation standards to become BBB Accredited.

"We are pleased to partner with the Huron Chamber of Commerce to support businesses across Huron County," said Jennifer Matthews, CEO of Better Business Bureau, SW Ontario.

"Chambers help businesses connect with their local business community and advocate on behalf of their members. BBB Accreditation supports businesses in demonstrating how they do business, including their commitment to ethical practices, standards of trust, and customer confidence. These roles are different, but they work very well together."

The Chamber and BBB also expect to explore additional opportunities for collaboration, including education, member resources, webinars, podcast conversations, and business support initiatives. Both organizations serve businesses in different ways, and the partnership creates new opportunities to connect members with resources that support credibility, visibility, and long-term business success.

For businesses considering Chamber membership, the new BBB discount adds to a growing list of member benefits, including advocacy, networking, events, promotional opportunities, affinity programs, and access to resources that support business success across Huron County.

More information on how Huron Chamber members can access the BBB Accreditation discount will be shared directly with members.

Huron Hospice invites community members to join the No Place Like Home Farm to Fork Dinner

GODERICH SUN STAFF

info@goderichsun.com

A signature fundraiser for Huron Hospice, the No Place Like Home event invites conversations, memories and stories about hospice and end-of-life care.

On Saturday, September 26, the team as Huron Hospice will serve dinner at the Libro Hall in Clinton to celebrate the best of home.

Dinner will be provided by Part II Bistro of Goderich, with ingredients from as close to home as possible.

According to Christopher Walker, Huron Hospice Manager of Fund Development, the dinner will feature wine from Maelstrom Winery and draught beer from the new Goose and Gander in Bayfield.

The event will also host an auction and a wine raffle, as well as a pie auction.

With the dinner being all about the hospice – stories and moments – the organisers are also pleased to announce that Laura Herman and Phil Main will act as emcees.

"They know Huron County and they

know how to tell stories better than many of us," said Willy Van Klooster, Huron Hospice Executive Director.

Funds raised each year at the No Place Like Home event help pay for the care at Huron Hospice.

Last year, hospice nurses and volunteers provided care for more than 50 people at Bender House. Home hospice and respite volunteers made 567 visits to families in their homes, and 89 people attended grief group sessions.

This will be the sixth No Place Like Home event for Huron Hospice, some-

thing that began as a One Night Only telethon and has now grown to a farm-to-fork dinner celebrating the best of home.

"We celebrate home because Huron Hospice is a home-like place for families on the end-of-life journey and Huron County is our home," added Van Klooster.

"We are celebrating Huron County and Ontario farms and the food and drink that make the county noteworthy."

Tickets for the dinner are \$150 per person, or \$1,200 for a table of eight.

Visit <https://www.huronhospice.ca> for more information.

Newcomer Day at Camp returns to Camp Klahanie this August

GODERICH SUN STAFF

info@goderichsun.com

Bringing together newcomers to Canada, local supports and community organisations, the annual Newcomer Day at Camp is a free day of fun, food and friendship held at Camp Klahanie in Goderich.

Organised since 2019, by the Goderich Lions Club and the Immigrant Advisory Council of the Huron County Immigration Partnership, this day camp is an opportunity for newcomers and their supports to spend the afternoon enjoying a guided hike and a community barbecue.

"The Lions Club has always believed

in service that brings people together, and Newcomer Day at Camp does exactly that," said Cecilia Fulker, President of the Goderich Lions Club.

"Every year, we watch new friendships form over a game of soccer or a shared meal at the barbecue, and it's a reminder of how strong our community becomes when we welcome everyone in."

This year, the event on August 22 will include a guided hike, games of soccer and volleyball, an African drumming workshop, dance workshops, children's painting crafts and a cricket match demonstration.

Those who attend will also have ac-

cess to farm animals, a barbecue with halal, vegetarian and gluten-free options available, and gather around a bonfire complete with marshmallows.

Participants are encouraged to bring a dessert from their own culture to share, adding a personal touch to the day.

According to the Lions Club, Newcomer Day at Camp offers participants the opportunity to meet and connect with other newcomers to Canada, settlement staff from the YMCA of Southwestern Ontario, volunteers from the Huron Welcome Hub for Newcomers, Huron County Library staff, community organisation staff and elected leaders.

"Newcomer Day is one of the best

days of the summer, full of laughter, new friends, and a real sense of belonging," said Pam Somers, Chair of the Immigrant Advisory Council of the Huron County Immigration Partnership.

"Whether you're trying cricket for the first time, sharing a dessert from home, or just relaxing by the bonfire, it's a chance to feel connected to this community. We can't wait to celebrate with everyone again this year."

Newcomer Day at Camp will be held on Saturday, August 22 from 2 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Camp Klahanie, on Blacks Point Road in Goderich.

For questions or to arrange transportation contact home@huroncounty.ca

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Goderich Duplicate Bridge Club Results

Robert McFarlane directed the club on July 28. NORTH/SOUTH:

1st – Mary Lapine and Joan Lounsbury – 63.39%
2nd – John Davies and Garth Sheldon – 56.55%
3rd/4th – Mary Lynne Telford and Paul Spittal, with Michele Hansen and Greg Bowman – 55.95%

EAST/WEST:

1st – Doug Elliott and Virginia Elliott – 61.38%
2nd – Joyce McIlwain and Kay King – 53.70%
3rd – John Archbold and Pamela Raab – 52.91%
4th – Margaret Blackie and Murray Blackie – 50.79%

Robert McFarlane directed the club on August 4. NORTH/SOUTH:

1st – Graham Yeats and Brian Reeve – 62.50%
2nd – Tom Rajnovich and Shirley Thomas – 60.65%
3rd – Arnie Parker and Frank Martin – 56.25%
4th/5th – Michele Hansen and Margaret Blackie, with Mary Lapaine and Joan Lounsbury

EAST/WEST:

1st – Doug Elliott and Virginia Elliott – 63.43%
2nd – Joyce McIlwain and Kay King – 59.03%
3rd – John Archbold and Pamela Raab – 56.25%
4th – Rose Marie Young and Nancy Craig – 55.56%

Robert McFarlane also directed the club on August 11: NORTH/SOUTH:

1st – Michele Hansen and Greg Bowman – 69.44%
2nd – Graham Yeats and Brian Reeve – 59.03%
3rd – Doug Elliott and Virginia Elliott – 58.56%
4th/5th – Bob Dick and Keith Allen, with Mary Lapaine and Joan Lounsbury – 53.01%

EAST/WEST:

1st – Tom Rajnovich and Shirley Thomas – 64.81%
2nd – Joyce McIlwain and Kay King – 54.17%
3rd – Marj Stuart and Terry Fry – 52.78%
4th – John Archbold and Pamela Raab – 51.62%

The Goderich Duplicate Bridge Club meets every Tuesday at 12:45 p.m. at the Christian Reform Church, Mill Road, Goderich. If you are interested in playing, the club is welcoming new members. If you have a partner, you can simply arrive to play if you need a partner, the club will do its 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 is <https://bridgewebs.com/goderichbridge/home.html>.



Central Huron to apply for \$40,000 in fire protection funding

BRITTANY McKAY

Sun Reporter

Central Huron Council is being asked to direct staff to apply for provincial funding to replace additional sets of firefighter bunker gear.

A report from Acting Fire Chief Sean Flynn recommends that the municipality apply for funding through the third round of the 2026-2027 Fire Protection Grant.

Central Huron received \$19,626 through the program in 2026 and expects to receive a similar amount in the upcoming round of funding. The municipality has used funding from the previous two rounds of the

grant to replace bunker gear and install air decontamination systems in its fire trucks.

Staff are now recommending the purchase of seven additional sets of bunker gear, with the project estimated to cost \$40,000.

According to the report, the full cost would be funded through the Fire Protection Grant, with the funding not expected to be awarded or received until 2027. As a result, the project would be included in Central Huron's 2027 budget.

Council is being asked to receive the report and direct staff to apply for the bunker gear replacement project.

Central Huron to use remaining road budget for additional paving and repairs

BRITTANY McKAY

Sun Reporter

Central Huron Council has approved using the municipality's remaining \$127,223.41 Cold in Place Recycling (RAP) budget for additional road repairs and paving across the municipality.

The decision follows Council's July 6 meeting, when it chose not to award an RFP for Cold in Place Recycling after submissions came in over budget. Instead, Council directed staff to negotiate the remaining RAP funds for additional paving.

Roads Manager Brady Nolan reported that staff reached out to Lavis Contracting Co. Limited, which had previously been awarded the municipality's 2026 asphalt tender, for pricing on several road projects and areas requiring patch work.

Council approved \$87,183.40 in additional paving and repairs, including:

Wildlife Line: \$28,900 for patches to address edge cracking
Bluewater Beach: \$9,000 for patching
Orchard Line: \$16,722 for patching and an additional

gutter

Blacks Point Road: \$5,250 for milling a bump and repaving

James Street in Clinton: \$27,311 to repave the section from Matilda Street to the existing new pavement

The additional work will be added to the previously awarded Asphalt Tender CH-2026-04 with Lavis Contracting.

Council also approved spending \$40,040 from the RAP budget to have Lavis fine-grade previously approved roadways before asphalt is placed. According to Nolan's report, the additional repairs target several "troublesome" areas throughout the municipality and represent what staff believe is the best use of the remaining funds.

Staff also recommended having Lavis complete the fine grading on previously approved cottage roads. The report noted that having the contractor responsible for grading and compaction before asphalt placement will provide the municipality with greater recourse if a roadway fails within the first year.

The combined \$87,183.40 for additional paving and \$40,040 for fine grading will use virtually the entire remaining RAP budget.

Central Huron Council asked to approve Remembrance crosswalks

BRITTANY McKAY

Sun Reporter

Central Huron Council has been asked to approve the installation of two Remembrance crosswalks in Clinton to honour veterans and commemorate the community's military history.

A report from Community Improvement Coordinator Angela Smith recommends installing one crosswalk at the east crossing of Rattenbury Street near the Cenotaph and a second at the intersection of Kirk and Victoria streets near the Harry B. Miner Clinton Legion Branch 140.

The proposal follows requests from a Legion member and residents for a commemorative crosswalk near the Cenotaph. The Legion has also expressed support for a second crosswalk near its branch as it prepares to mark

its 100th anniversary.

In a statement included in the report, the Harry B. Miner Clinton Legion Branch 140 said it supports the project and requested that Central Huron create two commemorative crosswalks. The branch said the Rattenbury Street crosswalk would help commemorate Cenotaph Park, while the second crosswalk at Kirk and Victoria streets would help identify the location of the Legion.

The proposed designs would feature red and white striping, along with a black image of a soldier and the words "Lest We Forget."

According to Smith's report, the proposed locations have been reviewed and approved by the municipality's Roads Manager, subject to council approval.

The estimated cost for stencils and paint is \$1,000. Council will consider the recommendation to approve the installation of both Remembrance Crosswalks.

Sunsets of Goderich



Caught in the glow of an August sunset on Lake Huron, taken on August 4, 2026.

(EMSIE WILLIAMS PHOTO)

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Lost Tribe kayak fishing on Lake Erie

JEFF HELSDON

Sun Correspondent

The four-pound ‘smallie’ was 100 per cent legit bragging rights.

But the 24-inch pickerel may have strayed over that line into the realm of taunting.

“Hey dad, turn around,” called Trevor Barnucz as our three-member party paddled the last 100 metres to our Normandale launch site, children laughing and splashing in the sandy shallows in front of us.

Aquatic ecologist, avid angler, kayak and otherwise, seminar presenter, Pure Fishing ambassador - and proud father - Jason Barnucz did as directed. Grinning almost as widely as the ‘bucketmouth’ he had landed earlier, Trevor showed off the unexpected product of an end-of-the-trail troll.

The teacher had not become the student. But on this sunny Lake Erie morning, both Jason and the newspaper guy had been schooled in the art of kayak fishing by a passionate 18-year-old.

The phrase ‘apple not falling far from the tree’ is front of mind when speaking of Trevor Barnucz. Always a willing fisher, early enthusiasm was anchored more deeply during COVID. At the end of his and Jason’s remote studies and work day respectively, they would head out fishing from their Delhi residence, maintaining sanity in a challenging world through shared, socially-distanced outdoor activity.

That passion has taken Trevor places including Trent University this fall, course offerings in environmental science and its proximity to quality fishing on the Otanabee River and nearby Rice, Buckhorn and Pigeon lakes among others, making it an attractive option.

Opportunity accessed through Ontario Junior Bass Nation (OJBN) (ontariojuniorbass.com) has taken Barnucz considerably further and will take him further yet. In 2025, he qualified through the OJBN high school division’s annual tournament to compete at Clarks Hill Lake near Augusta, Georgia. Subsequently, Trevor was named a member of Team Ontario for the Zimbabwe Youth Invitational, December 7 through 9, 2026 at the African nation’s Darwendale Dam. The three-nation tournament will bring together some of the best young anglers from their respective nations. Its goals extend beyond fishing into developing leadership, sportsmanship, teamwork, cultural awareness and a deeper appreciation for conservation and the outdoors.

Zimbabwe Bass Nation is providing boats and boat captains. Across the three days, Trevor will be partnered with competitors from the host nation, South Africa and Canada respectively. Total weight across three days will decide the champion.

We were working a lot closer to home this mid-July morning, launching from Normandale at 7 a.m. under smoke-tinged

blue skies. The opportunity to join a pair of knowledgeable and experienced kayak anglers had been delayed a day due to the threat of inclement weather. When holding forth on one of his favourite seminar topics, be that in his own backyard or at the Toronto Sportsmen’s Show, Jason emphasizes the importance of safety first, particularly when heading out onto ‘big water’. Long Point’s outer bay certainly qualifying. My biggest takeaway on the day was the healthy respect both held for wind and water conditions and making sure both were acceptable before heading out on any water, large or small.

The senior Barnucz’ three pillars for kayak fishing are always wearing one’s personal flotation device, being aware of water temperature in terms of hypothermia risk, and finally, weather conditions including wind direction and velocity. The latter relates directly to water conditions both in terms of safety and comfort, the former helps define where to fish, in terms of features minimizing or moderating wind’s effects. One of the advantages of kayak fishing is the ability to go places other watercraft can’t in terms of depth and rocks, for example. They can handle bigger water when safe, and alternatively, pivot to either smaller lakes or streams if not. A forecast of northerly winds expected to die down mid-morning led to our launch destination and route paralleling the scenic bluffs toward Fisher’s Glen and Port Dover.

The Barnucz boys took to the water in sit-on kayaks befitting their commitment to the sport, wide and stable PDL (pedal drive) units locked and loaded with holders for gear including a half-dozen poles apiece, myriad tackle options, nets, mounted electronics and matching red flags to help announce their presence to passing boaters. They both carried paddles, but propulsion was mostly from bicycle-style foot pedals driving underwater propellers, both forward and reverse. That style allows anglers to keep their hands free for fishing, rather than paddling.

I was kicking it old school in a sit-in fishing model purchased on an end-of-the-year sale for \$450, underlining the approach’s affordability level. There is special joy to be found while tooling across the water at 70 miles per hour in a bass boat, however while lacking that speed and sexiness, kayaks also don’t come with an associated price tag or require gas, oil and maintenance.

Having fished for many years in standard kayaks, including a couple of short, light 25-pound units a son-in-law and I carry a kilometre or so into Lake Superior Provincial Park’s Orphan Lake in search of brook trout, my current basic ‘fishing yak’ weighs under 65 pounds, easy enough to swing onto the roof of a minivan. It has a pair of rod holders behind the seat and offers significant upgrades in access (a bigger hole for a guy to put a grandchild on his lap or struggle in and out of with a crappy knee and crappy hip), width, capacity and stability. My wife has

Lost Tribe kayak fishing on Lake Erie

an equivalent sit-on model, not so much for fishing as ease of access and stability.

'Getting what you pay for' translates into a larger platform for more gear on the Barnucz units, more space to change presentation, the stability to stand up and fish should one choose, netting fish more easily, lessening odds of dropping one's phone overboard, and a much better seat. No matter what you do, it's been my experience that sooner or later butt comfort becomes an issue on hard plastic.

We paddled north-easterly into a rising sun. Watching and learning from two experts, fishing quickly became fishing. Whether in a kayak or boat, structure is structure, weed patches and lines and rocky bottoms and piles holding bass in three species. As the guy with two rod holders and a camera stuck to a jerk bait and 'wacky' options, Jason and Trevor worked their way through a variety of colours and presentations, greater effort and diversity represented in greater success. Both do fish tournaments, including kayak-specific events. This day was not about

competition, but if it had been, Trevor would have finished well atop the leaderboard, moving sequentially up through a three-pound 'largie' to a three-pound, 14-ounce smallmouth bass, taken on a tiny piece of drop-shotted plastic.

A wind that instead of dying, swung to the east and hung tough pushed us back toward Normandale at noon from a highly educational and enjoyable morning. There is an intimacy to fishing almost directly at the waterline, only enhanced by nature's surrounding beauty, a Bald Eagle soaring over the Erie shoreline's unique sand bluffs. More than bragging rights will be on the line for Trevor when he hits the unfamiliar waters of the Darwendale Dam reservoir this December. But the lessons he's learned in his own Norfolk County backyard will definitely be going with him.

"My goal is to bring home gold. We want to bring home gold for Team Canada," he concluded. "This is the first time we've had a large youth team, and we want to pull out the victory."



NOTICE OF PASSING OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAW BY THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF GODERICH

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Goderich passed an amending Development Charges By-Law 108 of 2026 on the 10th day of August 2026, under Section 19 of the Development Charges Act, 1997 (the Act).

AND TAKE NOTICE that the By-Law is not appealable to the Ontario Land tribunal based on Section 19 (1.1) of the Act. The schedule of development charges in the Town is not changed by the amending By-Law.

The amending by-Law removed the expiration date of By-Law 123 of 2021. The amending By-Law came into effect on the 10th day of August 2026. Copies of the complete amending By-Law are available for examination during regular business hours (weekdays from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM) in the municipal office located at 57 West Street, Goderich ON N7A 2K5 and on the website at www.goderich.ca.

For further information, please contact the Clerk's Office at 519-524-8344.

Dated at the Town of Goderich
this 11th day of August 2026.

Andrea Fisher, Director of
Legislative Services/Clerk
Town of Goderich, 57 West St.
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20th annual Don Johnston raises over \$16,000 for Goderich Minor Hockey

KATHLEEN SMITH

Editor

It has been 20 years since the first Don Johnston Memorial Slo-pitch Tournament was held to honour the memory of Don Johnston and it remains one of the best slo-pitch tournaments bringing teams back year after year.

Organised and run by a multitude of volunteers, including Trevor Bazinet, the tournament embodies who Don was.

"He was a fun-loving person who loved

to have a good time and support minor sports through volunteering and raising money," remembered Bazinet.

"It is special for me to know over the past 20 years the tournament has raised money for three different organisations to help with their expenses."

Those three organisations over the 20 years have been the Goderich Pirates Senior Hockey Team for several years (no longer exist), the Goderich Flyers Junior C Hockey Team (no longer exist), and the past five years, Goderich Minor Hockey.

"I can't express in words how much I appreciate all the teams that have played in the Don Johnston the past 20 years," Bazinet stated.

"I have made some lifelong friendships because of the tournament."

Bazinet expressed his gratitude for the Johnston family, especially Linda, who has always trust him to organise the tournament in memory of her husband Don.

According to Bazinet, several teams continue to return year after year and always remark that it is the best slo-pitch

tournament they play in.

"To me, that is a huge compliment because there are a lot of slo-pitch tournaments in the area," said Bazinet.

The Mitchell Coyotes are the only team that has played in the tournament all 20 years, but several players have also played in the tournament all 20 years, just on different teams.

Two teams travel from Cambridge for the past 10 years and always express their love for the tournament.

CONTINUE TO PAGE 17

Gateway celebrates research, community and rural health at annual White Paper Day

ALEXA HUGILL

Sun Contributor

Gateway Centre of Excellence in Rural Health (Gateway CERH) proudly held its annual White Paper Day and Donor Appreciation event on August 14, 2026, at the Comfort Inn & Suites in Goderich.

Sponsored by Libro Credit Union, the event brought together staff, donors, community partners, healthcare professionals, business leaders, service club representatives, and family members to celebrate the achievements of Gateway CERH's research assistants and the community that makes this work possible.

The event was moderated by Lily Rideout, Business Development Officer & Research Assistant at the not-for-profit.

The gathering provided an opportunity for Gateway CERH community to come together and recognize the collaborative effort behind the organization's research and programming.

Throughout the morning, Gateway CERH's Research Assistants presented their work from the summer, highlighting the progress and accomplishments of their respective projects.

The presentations showcased the variety of rural health research taking place across the organization and the mean-



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Research Assistants on White Paper Day (L-R): Julia Waanders, Research Assistant, Sage Milne, Research Assistant, Kaleigh McCallum, Research Assistant, Sophia Buckman, Research Assistant, Lily Rideout, Business Development Officer/Research Assistant, and Nyden Greenfield, Research Assistant.

ingful contributions made to Gateway CERH programs this summer.

Reflecting on White Paper Day and their time at Gateway CERH, Sophia Buckman, Research Assistant, shared that it was an absolute pleasure working at Gateway CERH this summer alongside a group of amazing rural health advocates.

"This summer was full of learning and growth, but none of it would have been possible without the amazing environment and net of support created by the Gateway CERH staff," added Buckman.

"I am eternally grateful for the rela-

tionships I've formed, the research experiences I've gained, and the impact on rural health I was a part of, all of which I was able to showcase today at White Paper Day."

Gateway CERH Founder and President Gwen Devereaux reflected on the importance of the organization's community of supporters.

"This growth has only been possible because so many people have believed in our mission and supported our vision," said Devereaux.

"The excitement and energy in the room on Friday was a wonderful remind-

er of what we can accomplish when our community works together."

This year's Research Assistants included Lily Rideout, Sophia Buckman, Julia Waanders, Sage Milne, Madison Cardno, Julie Wein, Kaleigh McCallum, and Nyden Greenfield.

The research and program areas presented during White Paper Day included:

- Aging in Place – Huron
- Nourish: Radiating Wellness & Youth
- Skilled Healthcare Attraction & Retention (SHARP)
- Farmers' Well-Being & Safety
- Virtual Lecture Series
- Cultivating Memories
- Legion Lounge & Learning
- Discovery Healthcare Camp

Benefitting Rural Area Volunteer Emergency Firefighters (BRAVE-F)

Together, these projects reflect Gateway CERH's ongoing commitment to identifying rural community needs and developing research-informed, community-grounded solutions.

Gateway CERH is grateful to its donors, volunteers, community partners, staff, students, and supporters for their continued commitment to strengthening rural communities and building a healthier future for all.

Alexa Hugill is the marketing and communications coordinator for Gateway



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Trail Talk: Returning to a trail can sometimes reveal wonders that were hiding

PATRICK CAPPER

Sun Contributor

Despite the heat these last few weeks, many of us choose to hike in the morning, as the temperatures are a little cooler then.

On August 11 the temperature was around 20°C and the Trompers had a great turnout of 27 hikers walking the beach at Blacks Point Road.

There was an extra attraction that day, a get together afterwards hosted by Glenys. As many hikers know I like to take photos of butterflies, so I was glad to see a Monarch at the beach and an Eastern Giant Swallowtail at Glenys's place.

At the parking area at Blacks Point Road I also noticed an odd-looking bee, which according to iNaturalist was an Eastern Thistle Longhorn Bee. This is the first one I have seen, as well as a Shadow Darner Dragonfly.

The following day I returned to the beach and a Midsummer Tiger Swallowtail landed on the sand, only a foot away from Koda, so obviously not viewing a dog as a threat.

On that Wednesday the midweek hikers hiked the Bayfield Woodland Trail and the Sawmill Trail. There were some windfalls near the David Street entrance that we managed to pass through, (now cleared by the BRVTA work crew).

We saw there had been a lot of work by the Bayfield River Valley Trail volunteer crew at the Sawmill Trail, where they will soon install new boardwalks.

Our Thursday was memorable. We hiked into Morris Tract from Londesboro Road and then hiked the River Bend loop. Where the blue trail reached the southern edge of the pond, the beavers had caused the trail to flood. This was so common an occurrence, the that the main Maitland Trail was rerouted to avoid this part.

Last time I hiked there the trail was fine, but this day the water was quite deep, so we had to bushwack a bypass path. It was either that or getting wet feet or retracing about 3km.

The Morris Tract had a large patch of may apples, many of which had green may apples. Usually, I only see one or two plants with apples. We wondered if they are edible, and found out that the plant is toxic, but the apple is edible if you avoid eating the seeds which are slightly toxic.

They are best eaten when they turn yellow, but usually the racoons will eat them before they turn fully yellow.

On August 7 I joined the LIFE hikers at Wawanosh Valley Conservation Area for a hike on the trails there. They now have the framework for the new picnic shelter.

The patch of wonderful wildflowers was in bloom, where there are usually many butterflies. As we only saw a few on the hike, I returned on my own after the hike and was rewarded by seeing four Great Spangled Fritillary, two Tiger Swallowtails, one Monarch, one Mourning Cloak, and One Red-spotted Admiral. There was also a Hummingbird moth.

As I was there for over 75 minutes, I was able to enter the Maitland Conservation contest. See mvca.on.ca for details.

All that is needed is for you to be on one of the Maitland Valley Conservation areas for at least 75 minutes and submitting the date you were there and your name and email. The contest runs until December 16.

There is also a Maitland Trail Association contest if you wish to share your "Maitland Trail Moment", whether it was a few minutes or perhaps a day. The 100-500-word submissions should be sent to jmorris@maitlandtrail.com and describe what brought you to the trail, what you saw or experienced, how the trail made you feel and why the memory stayed with you.

Your submission will be shared on the MTA blog. Full details are in the Maitland Trail Newsletter.

EVENTS:

Saturday, August 22 at 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. - BRVTA meet at 40905 Summerhill Road for a hike.

Sunday, August 23 at 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. in Kincardine. Cycle through a mix of wooded trails and town streets along the river and Lake Huron in Kincardine. Some sections are hilly and riders may choose to walk their bicycles uphill. Meeting Location: Bruce Avenue Soccer Complex parking area on Bruce Avenue Difficulty: Beginner to moderate, with some hills Cycling Waiver: Please complete the MTA cycling waiver in advance. Helmets required. Pre-register by calling/texting Donald Andrew at 519-530-9019.

Wednesday, August 26 at 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. - Goderich Parkland Vis-

ta Walk. Beginning at the Huron County Gaol, the group will review the route and choose a pace and distance that can be completed within two hours. An 8 km route is available, with shorter options for the group. The terrain is mostly level, except for the transitions between the bluff and the lakefront. Meet at Huron County Gaol Distance: Up to 8 km; shorter routes are available Terrain: Mostly level with bluff-to-lake transitions Cost: No fee Registration Deadline: Pre-register by 8 a.m. on the day of the event Meeting Map: Huron County Gaol Annual Waiver: Please complete the MTA annual waiver in advance. Contact Con Melady at 519-530-8998 or cmelady@maitlandtrail.ca to pre-register.

Saturday, August 29 at 11 a.m. - Mindfulness walk and Forest Therapy. Meet at the Millenium Trail in Goderich, Nelson Street 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 to 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.

Sunday, August 30 at 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. - Hike Cherrydale to Sharpes Creek Line. Explore a shaded section of the Maitland Trail beginning with a steep

descent of just over 100 steps. Much of the route stays near the Maitland River through the Carey Nature Reserve and the John and Marylo Graham Nature Reserve. Hikers should be prepared for hills, gullies and uneven terrain. Meeting Location: 80855 Sharpes Creek Line Transportation: Carpool to the Cherrydale Road trailhead Distance: Just over 10 km Difficulty: Level 2 Pace: Moderate to Brisk Annual Waiver: Complete the MTA Annual Waiver Bring a snack and something to drink. Pre-register with Patrick Capper at pcapper99@gmail.com

NOTES:

The Maitland Trail between Londesboro Road and Little Lakes Road remains closed due to a landslide.

The Maitland Trail map shows distances that were about 300m different from the km posts. The posts up to 41 km have now been moved to correspond with the map distances.

September 22- 23 Maitland Camino is getting close to being fully booked.

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 9a.m. and can be joined through ONE CARE.

20th annual Don Johnston

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Goderich Minor Hockey counts the proceeds from the beer gardens at the tournament to upwards of \$16,000 profit.

This is the fifth year that Goderich Minor Hockey has worked the beer gardens and counts this fundraiser as one of its biggest of the year.

According to Stacey Popp, Secretary of Goderich Minor Hockey, proceeds from the slo-pitch tournament will be used for goalie and player development clinics.

"The support this community shows every single year is absolutely amazing and we couldn't be more thankful," said Popp.

"We would like to thank Trevor [Bazinet] for trusting us to run the beer gardens for the last five years, as well as the Johnston family for continuing to support Goderich Minor Hockey in Don's honour. It is a joy each year to see the teams returning and new ones joining. It may be a ton of work, and some late nights, but it is so much fun."

Apart from the support made at the beer garden each tournament, sponsorship from businesses within the community are a key element to running the annual tournament.

Diamond sponsors for the tournament included Boston Pizza, Canadian Tire, Firehouse Subs, Mr. Heat 'n Cool, Jayden's Mechanical, Huron Medical Aesthetics, TaylorMade Homes, Wilcox Concrete Finishing, Blue Horizon LeisureScapes, Sky Ranch, and Cowbell Brewing Company.

"Company sponsorships are key to our success each season," added Popp.

"We couldn't do it without them."

Results:

Men's Division:

A Champs – Weiners and Dean
A Finalist – River Rats
B Champs – The Subscribers
B Finalist – The Hitmen
C Champs – Jagerbombers
C Finalist – Brewers
D Champs – Space Cowboys
D Finalist – The Cripplers

Women's Division:

A Champs – Wild Ponies
A Finalist – Bait and Tackle
B Champs – Hot Mess Express
B Finalist – Just Swing It
C Champs – Peaches
C Finalist – Bats Hit Crazy
D Champs – Spice Girls
D Finalist - Squirrels



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Trompers at Blacks Point Beach.

Seaforth Sealions seek Central Huron support for year-end medals

BRITTANY McKAY

Sun Reporter

The Seaforth Sealions Swim Team is asking Central Huron council for financial support to help recognize the accomplishments of local swimmers at the end of the summer season.

In a letter presented to council, the Seaforth Sealions coaches said the

summer swim team operates throughout July and August and attracts swimmers from across the region, including Central Huron.

With an outdoor pool no longer available in Clinton, the team has become an opportunity for local youth to participate in summer swimming.

The club has nearly doubled in size over the past several years, according to

the coaches, leading the team to extend its swimming days to accommodate the growing number of participants.

“We love seeing the club grow,” the coaches said in their letter to council.

Registration fees are used to cover lifeguard wages and the costs associated with operating the pool. The team is now seeking \$300 from the municipality to cover the cost of end-of-season

medals.

The funding would allow each swimmer to receive an award recognizing their hard work and dedication throughout the season while representing their communities.

The Seaforth Sealions Swim Team coaches thanked Central Huron council for considering the request.

Best-selling authors headline Bayfield Writers Series in September

GODERICH SUN STAFF

info@goderichsun.com

Presented by The Village Bookshop, the Bayfield Writers Series will bring best-selling authors Emma Donoghue, Heather Marshall, Genevieve Graham, and Molly Fader to Bayfield in September.

This event, titled ‘Intrigue and Hidden History – Reimagining the Past’ will be a weekend celebration of storytelling, featuring the four Canadian authors, who will share the craft behind their latest novels.

As readers gather for a weekend with the authors for conversation on diverse characters, suspense and deeply researched historical fiction, they will find connection while exploring hidden pasts and page-turning mysteries centered on resilient female protagonists.

This third literary series by the Bayfield Writers Series brings a weekend of author conversations, cocktails and a podcast recording with a live audience at Bayfield Town Hall. There will also be a writers’ workshop on September 28.

According to the Bayfield Writers Series, the weekend kicks off on Friday, September 25 with cocktails and

conversation, featuring Molly Fader in discussion (with Judy Whittaker) about her latest novel, *Lady X*. This gathering includes drinks, appetizers, and a cash bar.

The next day, Saturday, September 26 begins with a light continental breakfast, followed by a full day of conversations with the authors.

Genevieve Graham will speak on *The Chambermaid’s Key*, and writing in dual timelines. Graham will be interviewed by artist-turned-lavender-farmer Gemma James-Smith.

Heather Marshall will speak on *Liberty Street* and turning fact into fiction. Marshall will be interviewed by independent journalist Shannon Lough.

Emma Donoghue will speak on *The Paris Express* and adapting fiction to film. Donoghue will be interviewed by filmmaker Jessica Petelle.

The Saturday afternoon will feature a recording of the podcast, *Day Drinking with Authors*, hosted by Molly Fader.

Ticket holders will also receive a 20 per cent discount on the featured authors’ books.

The weekend will wrap up on Sunday, September 27 as the Bayfield Writers Series will host a special writers’ work-

shop, ‘10 Tips for Adding Tighter Tension’, led by Molly Fader.

According to the Bayfield Writers Series, this interactive session is designed to help writers sharpen the tension in their work, whether working on historical fiction, a memoir, or any stage of a manuscript.

Participants are encouraged to bring a notebook, a synopsis and their first five pages.

Main event tickets are on sale now and include a complimentary beverage and appetizers Friday evening, a light breakfast with coffee and tea Saturday morning, and a Saturday afternoon snack and a complimentary beverage.

Seating is limited.

Visit bayfield-writers-series.ca for more information for the September 25-September 27 event.

About the Authors:

Emma Donoghue:

An internationally best-selling Canadian novelist, screenwriter and playwright with 20 published works of fiction.

Her novel ‘Room’ sold nearly three million copies and won the Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction Prize; her screenplay adaptation was nominated for an Acad-

emy Award.

Her latest novel, ‘The Paris Express’, is a historical thriller reimagining an 1895 Montparnasse railway disaster.

Heather Marshall:

A best-selling Canadian author of three historical fiction novels exploring the overlooked experiences of women.

Her debut, ‘Looking for Jane’, was translated into 17 languages.

Her latest novel, ‘Liberty Street’, is set party in Bayfield and centres on the real-life 1960s Andrew Mercer Reformatory for Women.

Genevieve Graham:

A *Globe and Mail*, *Toronto Star*, and *USA Today* best-selling author known for illuminating forgotten chapters of Canadian history.

Her latest novel, ‘The Chambermaid’s Key’, is a dual-timeline mystery set in Toronto’s Ward district.

Molly Fader:

A *USA Today* best-selling American Canadian author of women’s fiction, contemporary romance, and historical drama, and host of the podcast ‘Day Drinking with Authors’.

Her latest novel, ‘Lady X’ follows three generations of women across contemporary L.A., and 1970s New York.

Our “Prettiest Town” makes headlines this summer as a dream place to live

PAMELA CLAYFIELD

Sun Correspondent

If your social media feeds have been glowing a little brighter since Canada Day, you’re not alone.

Over the past two weeks, a wave of online articles, including one from *Narcity* have been celebrating Goderich as one of Ontario’s most beautiful places to live, visit, and explore.

For a town of just 8,000 perched on a bluff overlooking Lake Huron, the attention feels both exciting and deeply deserved.

Narcity’s latest travel feature describes Goderich as a “scenic beach town... known as Canada’s prettiest town” and praises our “perfect waterfront and historic streets” making it “a dream place to live.”

They go on to talk about our independent shops and breathtaking sunsets we are all familiar with.

For longtime residents, none of this comes as a surprise — but it’s certainly wonderful to read just how amazing our town is.

A Title Rooted in History:

Goderich’s nickname, “Canada’s Prettiest Town,” is often attributed to Queen Elizabeth II, who reportedly admired the town’s unique octagonal Courthouse Square and sweeping lake views during her reign.

While the exact phrasing has taken on a life of its own over the decades, the sentiment has remained: Goderich’s beauty is distinctive, cherished, and recognized far beyond Huron County.

I remember the first time I ever drove up the bridge over the river into town and the awe I felt that I’m sure many others have in the years since.

A Town Built on Beauty — And Salt:

One of the most recent articles circulating also points to another fascinating part of Goderich’s identity: the salt

mines.

It’s a reminder that Goderich’s story isn’t just about beauty, it’s also about resilience, innovation, and the hardworking people who have shaped the town for generations.

Why the Buzz Matters:

Seeing Goderich celebrated across national media feels especially meaningful after Canada Day, when so many had gathered along the waterfront to enjoy the beaches, trails, shops, sunset view and fireworks that make this place so special.

For locals, the online praise reflects what we already know: Goderich is a rare blend of natural wonder, historic charm, and community spirit.

For visitors discovering the town through these articles, it’s an invitation to come walk the Courthouse Square, explore the beaches, wander the trails, and experience the magic for yourself.

GODERICH SALT & HARVEST FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 3 - SEPTEMBER 6



SEPTEMBER 3, BIA CONCERT:
SAL'S ALLEY

SEPTEMBER 4, BIA CONCERT:
SPICE & SPEARS

SEPTEMBER 5,
COMPASS MINERALS PRESENTS:
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CONCERTS & SHOWS

BIA THURSDAY NIGHT CONCERT WITH SAL'S ALLEY

Sal's Alley is a 5-piece Rock and Roll cover band from Goderich, ON. Sponsored by the Goderich BIA. Thurs. Sept. 3, 7PM, Courthouse Square

BIA FRIDAY NIGHT CONCERT WITH SPICE & SPEARS

Experience a tribute to The Spice Girls & Brittany Spears, sponsored by the BIA. Fri. Sept. 4, 5PM - 10PM. Tickets \$30 adult, \$10 children 13 and under. Taxes and fees extra. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online. ALL AGES!

SALT & HARVEST CEREMONY

Join us in opening our 4th annual Salt & Harvest Festival! Sat. Sept. 5, 4PM at the Courthouse Square.

COMPASS MINERALS BATTLE OF THE BANDS WITH HEADLINER RETROSPECT

Six local bands will compete for cash prizes with the grand prize winner also being named, "The Saltiest Band in Goderich!" as judged by a panel of distinguished industry professionals. Sat. Sept. 5, 4:30PM - 11:30PM at the Salty Basin Beer Garden in Courthouse Square Park. \$10 + fees for advance online purchases and \$15 at the door. ALL AGES!

ACTIVITIES & TOURS

SALT LAMP WALK AT ROTARY COVE LOOKOUT

This beautiful solar-lit stroll overlooking the Rotary Cove features historical facts, photos of Goderich's salty past, and over 300 solar lights. Available day & night.

WAGON RIDES

Experience the charm of Goderich like never before through a horse-drawn wagon ride. Rides for up to 6! At Courthouse Square. Sponsored by Royal LePage. Sat Sept. 5, 12PM - 2PM. Sun Sept 6, 10AM - 12PM

INFLATABLES, PETTING ZOO

Fun for the whole family! Make new friends - some with fur and some without. Inflatables sponsored by Parrish & Heimbecker. Sat & Sun, 10AM - 4PM in Courthouse Square Park.

SALT HISTORY WALK AT MAIN BEACH

A guided tour of historical facts and photos of Goderich's salty past. Registration required, limited space available. Weather dependent. Sat. & Sun. 10AM - 2PM.

SALTED EXPERIENCES

SALT MINE VIRTUAL REALITY EXPERIENCE

Put on your goggles and go below! Tour the mine while above ground with the help of VR. Sat & Sun 10AM - 4PM, at the Goderich Tourism Information Centre

ABOVE GROUND SALT EXPERIENCE

Experience the salt mine from above ground in this fun, kid friendly experience like no other! Sat & Sun 10AM - 4PM, in Courthouse Square Park.

SALT INDUSTRY FILM

Learn about the operation of the worlds largest salt mine. Sat, 10AM - 4:30PM & Sun, 1PM - 4:30PM at the Huron County Museum.

PARRISH & HEIMBECKER ACTIVITIES

P&H are bringing the harvest to Courthouse Square. Find them beside the Compass Minerals Experience! Sat & Sun, 10AM - 4PM

Scan QR code to
purchase tickets &
learn more!



EATS & TREATS

FARMERS MARKET

Featured "salted" artisans and vendors will have the perfect memento for you to take home. Sat. 8AM - 4PM in the Courthouse Square.

SUNDAY MARKET

Featured "salted" artisans and vendors will have the perfect memento for you to take home. Sun. 8AM - 4PM in the Courthouse Square.

FOOD TRUCK VILLAGE & LOCAL SALTED MENUS

An area for folks to park themselves and enjoy their meal. Fri, Sat & Sun, in the Livery parking lot. Many local restaurants have special menus during the festival - be sure to check them out!

SALTY BASIN BEER GARDEN

In Courthouse Square Park, this ain't your average beer garden! Featuring crowd favourites, salted specialties & local brews. Fri. Sept. 4, Sat. Sept. 5, Sun. Sept. 6

Want to volunteer? Send an email to saltfestvolunteers@gmail.com

WWW.SALTEDGODERICH.CA

Blyth Festival review: *The Last Mayor of Rusty River* puts the drama of small-town politics in the spotlight

GALEN SIMMONS

Sun Correspondent

It's not often the high-stakes drama of small-town politics is put under the bright lights at centre stage, but that's exactly what *The Last Mayor of Rusty River* delivers at the Blyth Festival this season.

Having covered small-town politics and council meetings for 13 years, it was thrilling to see council chambers recreated for the Margaret Stephens Stage at the Blyth Memorial Hall. Anyone who has ever served on council, worked for a local newspaper or attended a council meeting will instantly recognise the drama that plays out on stage.

Of course, those who are familiar with council proceedings will know meetings are (almost) never as exciting and entertaining as the story portrayed in *The Last Mayor of Rusty River*. Written by David Scott and directed by Blyth Festival artistic director Gil Garratt, this play presents a classic conflict around the council table – a status quo that benefits those in power versus progress for the betterment of the community and its residents.

In this play, which is complemented perfectly by the onstage musical talents of each member of the cast, longtime Mayor Larry (Benedict Campbell) goes head-to-head with a relatively new councillor, Tina (Hallie Seline), over the homelessness issue and the need to pave the way for more



(ALEX FRANKLIN PHOTO)

Members of the cast of *The Last Mayor of Rusty River* (and Captain Whiskers) at the Blyth Festival.

affordable types of housing to address said issue. As a municipal election looms, Larry finds himself in a three-way race for mayor as Tina throws her hat in the ring and another councillor, Tim (Cameron Laurie), nominates his cat, Captain Whiskers, for the mayor's seat as a protest candidate.

As Captain Whiskers garners support

with Tim as his mouthpiece and Larry pulls out all his dirty campaign tricks to ensure he can remain mayor and continue his plan to make himself even more wealthy and powerful at the cost of the town's water supply, Tina tries her hardest to connect with voters over the issues that truly matter to Rusty River.

The play comes to a head with an excit-

ing all-candidates meeting (debate) moderated by small-town reporter, Harmony, who only seems interested in building her online audience, Rusty River Nation.

This play is chock-full of hilarious and believable performances, from Campbell's portrayal of the corrupt and contemptible Mayor Larry to Robin Craig's hilariously beleaguered performance as township clerk/CAO Judy and David Kirby's Jerry, a slightly dim and entirely hilarious councillor who seems intent on supporting the incumbent mayor and keeping Rusty River as it has always been until he learns of Larry's corruption.

In addition to the phenomenal music and hilarious political drama, *The Last Mayor of Rusty River* also offers two love (maybe lust?) stories as both Tina and Tim, and Judy and Jerry engage in separate but equally torrid affairs with one another in the council chambers when no one else is around.

While both absurd at times and hilarious throughout, this play is so similar to real council meetings I've covered, I found myself taking notes as if I was going to write an article about the goings on in Rusty River instead of reviewing the play I was watching.

Go see this play and you'll understand exactly what I mean.

The Last Mayor of Rusty River plays on the Margaret Stephens Stage until Sept. 13.

Summer nearing an end, tips for your gardens

BETTY HENDRIKS

Sun Contributor

"September tries its best to have us forget about summer." - Bernard Williams

Compared to the hot summer days of July and August, September can be a month that allows you to work outside without feeling overheated.

When working in your flower beds, continue to deadhead and remove dead or diseased leaves from your annuals and perennials. This is also a good time to divide or plant new perennials as needed.

You may want to leave the seed heads on your sunflowers, cosmos, zinnias and marigolds for the birds to feed on during the fall and winter. I collect cosmo, poppy and allium seeds so that I can spread them in my flower gardens in the spring.

This is also a good time to start thinking about the fall bulbs you would like to plant. If you have a vegetable garden, you may want to plant garlic this fall. I planted garlic for the first time last year and had a very successful result, so I will be planting garlic again this fall.

The autumn season is also a good time to improve your soil using compost and raw

organic matter. When adding raw organic matter such as shredded leaves, it is important to add nitrogen-rich manure or a granular organic fertilizer for the best results.

If you do not have a leaf shredder, you can use your lawn mower by pulling it over a pile of leaves several times. Most leaves take six months to one year to decompose.

The best leaves for composting are lower in cellulose and higher in calcium and nitrogen. These include; Maple, Ash, fruit trees, Poplar and Willow leaves. Avoid using Beech, Oak, Chestnut, and Black Walnut leaves in your vegetable garden. Walnut leaves contain a natural herbicide that prevents seeds from germinating.

Add three to four inches of compost to your vegetable garden once all the vegetables have been harvested. You can work the compost into the soil using a garden fork or a tiller.

Sometimes the terms used by gardeners can be confusing; manure, aged manure, rotted manure, compost. Compost refers to any mix of organic materials that have partially decomposed to the point where its nutrient content is stable.

"The fairest thing in nature still has its roots in earth and manure." - D.H.

Lawrence

Animal manures are rich in plant nutrients such as nitrogen, phosphorous and potassium. They provide organic matter that conditions the soil while they make excellent soil amendments for the home gardener.

Poultry manure has the highest nitrogen and phosphorus content followed by cow, sheep, and horse manure. Making sure your manure is well composted also reduces the risk of burning or killing your plants.

Poultry manure is high in ammonia, so it should be added to your soil in the fall so that the caustic ammonia is released leaving behind valuable nutrients and organic matter.

It is important to use manure effectively and safely. Even manure has its pros and cons.

Animal manure can harbour pathogens that are harmful to humans, including e-coli, salmonella, campylobacter bacteria and giardia.

The risk of pathogens is greatly reduced with manure that has been composted correctly. To ensure that the pathogens have been killed, the compost pile must reach a high temperature of between 130 and 140

degrees Fahrenheit for several weeks.

The compost must be turned regularly and monitored to make sure all the manure has been exposed to sufficient temperatures. Aged manure is not the same as composted manure which has been exposed to sufficient temperatures.

All the pathogens in aged manure may not have been destroyed. Pathogens begin to die once they are worked into the soil. It should be incorporated into the soil at least 120 days before harvest to reduce the risk of exposure to harmful pathogens.

Adding manure to your gardens in the fall once all the vegetables have been harvested ensures that you are not putting yourself and others at risk.

Never use dog or cat manure in your compost pile or vegetable garden. These manures are more likely to contain parasites that can harm humans.

People who are susceptible to food borne illnesses should avoid uncooked vegetables from manured gardens. This may include pregnant women and very young children.

Wash vegetables before eating them raw or before you cook them.

Betty Hendriks is the President of Goderich District Horticultural Society

Blyth Festival review: Justin Shaw connects with his audience through humorous and heartfelt storytelling in *Off-Island Odyssey*

GALEN SIMMONS

Sun Correspondent

There was something both familiar and comforting about listening to Justin Shaw share his life experiences and bizarre Canadian encounters after leaving his childhood home on Prince Edward Island to find his way in the wider world, off island.

Off-Island Odyssey is unique among the lineup of plays at the Blyth Festival this season in that it is a one-man show written and performed entirely by Shaw. Performing alone onstage accompanied only by an old desk covered in crumple paper, books and clothes, and surrounded by stacked suitcases, fences and hay bales, Shaw makes a real connection with his audience through his humour and his uniquely Canadian island charm.

Shaw sets the stage for his stories by sharing pieces of his upbringing – what his life was like growing up on the island in a dominantly Amish, rural community and why leaving home as an islander and venturing forth onto the mainland can be a daunting prospect for both young adults and their parents.

Preceded by a warning about the dangers that may await him on the mainland from his father, a renowned horse breeder with whom he has nothing in common, Shaw shares hilarious and true stories about finding his true calling.



(KEITH TOMASECK PHOTO)

Justin Shaw in his one-man show, *Off-Island Odyssey*, at the Blyth Festival.

Shaw's stories cover his move to Montreal to learn acting at art school, finding his way in and out of debt by working the oil fields in Fort McMurray, yearning to pursue his true passion and moving to Hamilton where he gets his first shot at acting and standup comedy, and finally understanding the advice his father was

offering the whole time he was away and moving back home to his island.

Throughout it all – from accidentally trying MDMA twice and hosting trivia for the Hell's Angels to playing a dead body on Murdoch Mysteries and meeting his comedy hero – Shaw comes back to the same lesson again and again: that people

create their own islands and “no one but a true islander knows the true distinction between here and away.”

For a show that felt, at times, like a well-written and well-performed standup comedy routine, there remained an emotional core at the heart of the stories Shaw told. Looking back on those first 10 years as a young man on his own, Shaw masterfully connects every joke and story back to larger life lessons – lessons he may not have fully understood at the time, but ones that shaped his outlook on work, love and the world around him.

As someone who also left home to travel across country and find my way in the world, I found Shaw's stories instantly relatable. Every strange acquaintance, impossible circumstance and stupid mistake Shaw made had me thinking back to my own experiences out on my own – a time in my life that was difficult and lonely but also rewarding as I look back on it from where I am today.

I guess we all have to venture off island at some point in our lives to experience the wider world. For most of us, that journey just underscores what home truly is; it's the people you love and who love you right back.

Off-Island Odyssey runs on the Blyth Festival's Margaret Stephens Stage until Aug. 30.

Costs of invasive plant control

RENEE SANDELOWSKY and
HELEN VAREKAMP

Sun Contributors

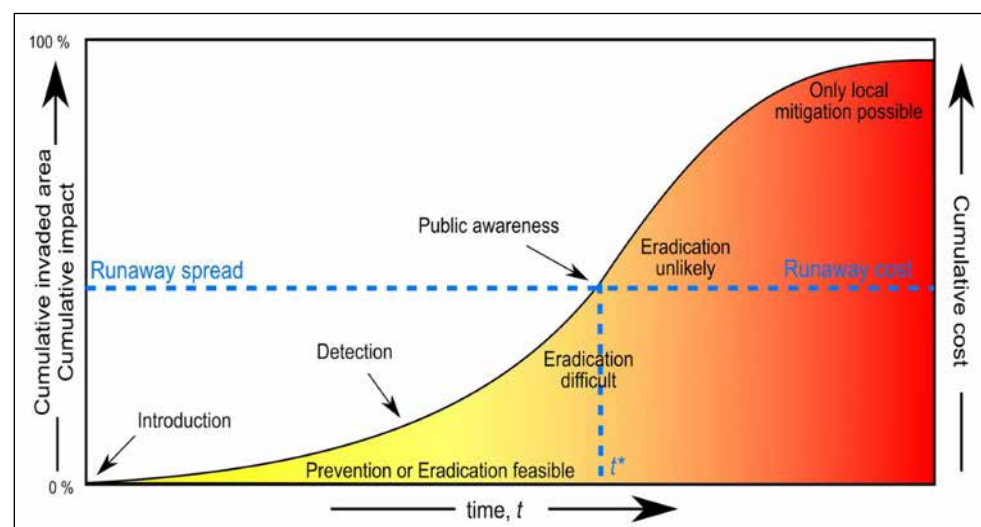
The costs of invasive plants in Canada are massive and under-reported, though some market impacts, such as crop loss, pesticide costs, restoration, equipment and labour costs, have been determined.

In 2008, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) reported yield loss and invasive plant control costs of approximately \$2.2 billion annually in the agricultural sector alone.

The annual cost of invasive plant management in urban forests was estimated to be between \$95 million and \$400 million in 2021, according to Canadian municipalities. Invasive plants can damage trees, as well as cause disruptions to the ecosystem.

Costs of control often fall on municipalities and non-governmental stakeholders. Across Canadian municipalities, recent surveys indicate that an average of \$248 million annually was spent on invasive species management.

Of the five invasive species most frequently reported as a top priority in Ontario (this includes animal species), three



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Invasion curve illustrating how costs rise with time and spread. Source F. Herald, 2022.

of those were plants—Phragmites, Giant Hogweed and Wild Parsnip.

A 2019 survey found that the management of Phragmites alone, cost municipalities and conservation authorities over \$1.3 million.

Often small communities and local groups are forced to fundraise to mitigate invasive plant infestations. Currently, such costs are not well reported to provincial or

federal databases and volunteer hours are not quantified.

It is important to point out that the costs of invasive species management significantly increase as the likelihood of eradication decreases. Preventing the initial introduction and spread of invasive species will save in long-term damages, management, and restoration costs.

In fact, according to an EU report by

the Environmental Audit Committee in 2019, “it is hundreds to thousands of times cheaper to prevent invasive species from establishing, rather than tackling them once they are established.”

Regulatory actions that prohibit imports have the greatest impact and cost savings. But sadly, less than 20 per cent of funds spent by municipalities in Ontario are spent on prevention programs. Approximately 80 per cent of spending is directed to control and management.

Note that the costs of impacts on the environment, specifically biodiversity and services provided by nature have not been included in the above-mentioned figures. Some services contributed by nature include, but are not limited to resources such as food, wood and medicines, functions such as pollination, air purification, water filtration, flood and erosion control, nutrient cycling, climate regulation and carbon storage.

Let's not forget that true costing would also need to consider the impacts invasive plants on animal and human health, as well as cultural heritage.

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

A mural to brighten the environment and evoke a feeling of community

GODERICH SUN STAFF

info@goderichsun.com

Painted over long days from July 28 until August 9, a mural on a shed along a laneway has evoked a feeling of community and demonstrates how each person can brighten their environment.

Painted by Amet Castillejos, a Mexican artist who paints with oil and acrylic, this mural is his first outdoor project in Canada.

The mural, which can be seen from the road, was inspired by Amet's first-ever visit to the Rocky Mountains in B.C. and Alberta.

This summer, Amet and his partner Shauna Hemingway, travelled with their two daughters (aged 13 and 11) through the Rockies from Vancouver Island to Saskatchewan.

Following that trip Amet and his family spent several weeks at Shauna's family's farm near Holmesville.

With their trip being such an inspiration, Amet and his 11-year-old daughter Mayla, who is also a talented painter, came up with the design. Then the work began.

Despite the heat and bugs, Amet took on the task, working diligently and enlisted Mayla to paint the ducks and flowers.

Amet gave himself a deadline of August 9, as he had to return to Mexico on August 12.

"My husband and I discussed it last year that a shed along our laneway required a fresh painting," said Pat Hemingway.

"So, I came up with the idea of having Amet paint a mural on the wall facing the road. I had noticed the murals in Goderich and in Clinton, and I thought how they brightened up the building and looked so attractive."

According to Pat, the mural is meant to evoke a feeling of community and to brighten up the area.

The Hemingway family held a ribbon cutting ceremony with nearly 20 of their neighbours and community friends on August 10.

"This was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect as a group with people we may not have had the opportunity to see recently," added Pat.

"The response was overwhelmingly positive and enthusiastic."



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

Amet and Mayla stand with their work of art mural on a laneway near Holmesville.

Better Mental Health: Moving one step at a time



TANYA MACINTYRE,
RED ROOF RECOVERY

Sun Contributor

The practice of tai chi has been around for centuries. Originating in ancient China, tai chi developed as a meditative martial art - combining slow, purposeful movements with focused attention and breathing.

I've been practicing this gentle form of movement for several years, and I continue to appreciate the many ways it benefits both my body and my mind.

In a world that constantly encourages us to move faster and multi-task, there's something re-

markably restorative about being fully present for each move we make - in the present moment.

Tai chi requires no special clothing or equipment, and many movements can be performed while seated. That makes it an appealing form of exercise for people who may not enjoy (or may not be able to comfortably participate in) more strenuous workouts. I particularly enjoy introducing people to the idea that effective exercise doesn't have to feel like exercise.

For someone like me who prefers gentle, purposeful movement, tai chi offers an opportunity to strengthen the body while simultaneously training the mind to become more aware and present.

Recently, I've noticed another variation appearing frequently on social media: tai chi walking.

While regular walking can become almost automatic - particularly when our attention is focused on where we're going - tai chi walking invites us to pay

attention to how we're getting there.

The practice emphasizes slow, deliberate movements, awareness of posture and breathing, and the shifting of weight from one foot to the other. Rather than simply moving forward, we become conscious of each step. That awareness can help us develop a greater sense of balance and stability while encouraging us to become more connected to our bodies and our surroundings.

We often spend our lives focused on the next appointment, the next deadline, the next problem to solve or the next goal to achieve. We can become so focused on getting somewhere that we forget to experience where we are.

Tai chi walking offers a different approach to:

- Pay attention to the step you are taking.
- Feel your foot connect with the ground.
- Notice your weight shift.
- Breathe.

- Take the next step.

It's simple, and it's significant.

Mindfulness is, in part, the practice of bringing our attention back to the present moment. Tai chi gives us a physical way to practice that skill.

For me, tai chi walking has also become a metaphor for life. We don't get to know exactly what lies around every corner, and we can't always control the terrain ahead. What we can do is become more intentional about the step we're taking right now.

The path of our lives is created one step at a time. When those steps are taken with greater awareness and intention, we can have a better chance of creating a path that feels meaningful - rather than simply rushing toward the next destination.

That's one of the reasons I believe mindful movement deserves a place in our mental-health toolkit.

Sometimes better mental health doesn't require a dramatic transformation. Sometimes

it begins with something much simpler - like a mindful breath, a mindful step, and paying attention to where you are.

Join us for a monthly Mindfulness Walk along Goderich's Millennium Trail on the last Saturday of every month. Participants are required to sign a waiver before attending: <https://maitlandtrail.ca/mta-annual-waiver>.

Please also consider supporting the Maitland Trail Association with your membership.

Tanya McIntyre is a Certified CBT Specialist, Mental Health Professional, and founder of Red Roof Recovery (RRR) and its training division of 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.

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

COMING EVENTS

Email to inquire
info@goderichsun.com

GODERICH CHESS CLUB

On Tuesday evenings from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Goderich Library in the activity room and Friday evenings from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Goderich Legion in the games 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 and equipment will be provided.

SMART RECOVERY MEETINGS

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

ENGLISH CONVERSATION CIRCLE

Join in on Mondays from 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Goderich Library.

Make friends and practice speaking English while talking about culture, family, food, movies or anything you would like.

Hosted by the Huron Welcome Hub for Newcomers.

GODERICH READS BOOK CLUB

Join this book club that meets every two weeks at the Goderich Legion and come work with a variety of books. There are 185 members online and a core group of locals who come out to in-person meetings at Café 109.

Upcoming meetings:

August 24 – ‘Free Form’. Bring your book recommendations and join us for a fall transition.

Break until September 14 with new selections.

September 14 – New selection, ‘Lady X’ by Molly Fader.

September 28 – ‘Lady X Part II’.

Contact head of book club Holly Smith: 519-630-3962 for more information.

BIA FARMERS’ MARKET

Every Saturday until October 10, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m.

BIA SUNDAY MARKET

Every Sunday until October 11, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

BIA THURSDAY EVENING CONCERT SERIES

On Thursdays from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the Courthouse Performance Stage.

Join in this weekly celebration of music, community and the simple joy of coming together.

Every Thursday night at 7 p.m. the majestic Courthouse Performance Stage comes alive.

Admission is free.

LIVE MUSIC AT THE PARK HOUSE

Join for an evening of live music this August at 5:30 p.m. at Park House Restaurant.

Friday, August 21: Brad Cassel.

Saturday, August 22: Joe Danceland.

Friday, August 28: John Powers.

Saturday, August 29: Kati Durst and Dave Sutherland.

Admission is free.

SINGING DOWN THE SUN

Beginning on Friday, August 21 at 8 p.m. at Rotary Cove Beach.

Join in every Friday in August for these free, family-friendly concerts, starting one hour before the sunset.

SUNDAY CONCERTS AT HARBOUR PARK

Beginning at 7 p.m., hosted by the Goderich Laketown Band, share the joy of music for various Sundays this summer.

Concert schedule:

Aug. 23 – Ayr-Paris Community Band

Aug. 30 – Jellybean Blue

BEHIND THE BARS

From 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Huron Historic Gaol.

Tuesday and Thursday evenings in August.

Last entry at 8 p.m.

This is an immersive tour experience that gives visitors the opportunity to learn more about life at the gaol.

Interact with actors portraying past inmates and staff who lived and worked at the gaol between 1841 and 1921.

Pre-purchase tickets online to avoid disappointment. Tickets are available at the door as space permits.

ORGAN RECITAL AT KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

On Saturday, August 22 at 2 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian in Goderich.

Join Gibson MacMillan, recipient of the Lorne Dotterer Scholarship (2018) for an organ recital.

Freewill offering. All are welcome.

NEWCOMER DAY AT CAMP KLAHANIE

On Saturday, August 22 from 2 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Camp Klahanie, 33612 Blacks Point Road in Goderich, hosted by Immigration Partnership.

Join in an afternoon filled with outdoor fun, food and friendship.

From sports to crafts, hiking, delicious food and a cozy bonfire, guests are also invited to bring a dessert from their own culture to share, helping create a truly international celebration.

Halal, vegetarian, and gluten-free food options.

Admission is free, and everyone is welcome.

Email home@huroncounty.ca for more information.

JEFF LEESON: ONLY GONNA SAY THIS ONCE COMEDY TOUR

On Saturday, August 22 from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m. at The Livery.

Comedy powerhouse Jeff Leeson is brining his razor-sharp wit and crowd-crushing comedy to Goderich.

Known for his lightning-fast comebacks and hilarious crowd interactions, Jeff turns the audience into part of the show. Sit close, if you dare.

GODERICH PARKLAND VISTA AND WATERFRONT EXPERIENCE

On Wednesday, August 26 from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. join the Maitland Trail Association to complete an 8km route.

Also on Wednesday, Sept. 5 at 1:30 p.m.

Beginning at the Huron County Gaol, the group will review the route and choose a pace and distance that can be completed within two hours. Shorter options will be available.

Pre-register by 8 a.m. on the day of the event.

The walk will finish with time to reflect on Goderich’s urban trail network and how community trails can be supported.

Contact Con Melady to pre-register: cmelady@maitlandtrail.ca Admission is free.

GREGFEST 2026

On Saturday, August 29 at 5 p.m. at The Livery.

The second year of a DIY alternative music festival in Goderich.

Feast your eyes on 12 fantastic, independent Ontario bands coming to town.

Cash bar, merchandise, and food truck will be available.

Admission is \$20.

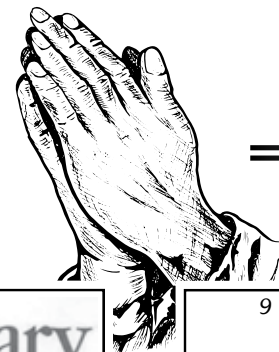
YUK YUK’S COMEDY NIGHT

On Saturday, August 29 from 8 p.m. until 10 p.m. at Boston Pizza.

CONTINUE TO PAGE 27

GODERICH BEACHSIDE RAPID CHESS TOURNAMENT
September 5th, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Location: Knights of Columbus – Main Hall (Goderich Columbus Convention Centre & Banquet Hall) 390 Parsons Court, Goderich, ON
Please visit goderichchessclub.com for more information.

Worship With Us



**Invite readers
to your worship
services.**

**Contact
info@goderichsun.com**



Berea Lutheran Church
326 Gibbons Street, Goderich
www.berea-zionlcc.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



YOU ARE INVITED!
This Sunday @ 10:00am
231 Bayfield Road
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 3G5
519-524-6445
www.cbcbgoderich.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](https://www.pccweb.ca/knox-goderich)

Worship materials available online

www.pccweb.ca/knox-goderich

Riddles

Why did the summer road trip bring a map?
Because Google Maps needed a vacation too!

What's the best thing about a road trip?
You can't hear the GPS complaining about your singing.

Why did the car go on vacation?
It needed to get away from all the traffic!

Why did the family stop every 20 minutes?
Someone always had to make a pit stop!

What's a road tripper's favourite type of music?
Car-aoke!

Why did the GPS break up with the driver?
There was too much recalculating in their relationship.

What did the passenger say when they missed the turn?
"Well, I guess we're taking the scenic route!"

Why did the suitcase love road trips?
It was always ready to roll!

What's the most dangerous part of a summer road trip?
Hearing, "Are we there yet?" from the back seat!

Sudoku

		9				8		2
	5				6			
7		1						9
2		5				9	3	
				2	8	5	7	
4	8		7					
9					3		2	7
8				1				

Solutions on page 27

Featured Pets



BOW AND LUNA

They are siblings and were the last two puppies that hadn't been chosen from a litter of five. The mother had stopped caring for them at five weeks and we couldn't just choose one to bring home almost five years ago. They are thick as thieves and enjoy sunset car rides and sock tug of wars.



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

ON THE ROAD

G	E	C	O	N	S	T	R	U	C	T	I	O	N	H	H	C	F	G	R
N	G	G	K	N	N	H	B	S	S	L	G	V	E	H	I	C	L	E	S
T	R	R	Z	V	O	S	M	S	H	M	N	A	A	P	O	L	I	C	E
M	O	I	Y	M	I	U	T	S	E	P	B	G	P	E	W	O	F	A	H
P	E	D	E	S	T	R	I	A	N	Z	D	O	H	K	N	E	L	Y	U
W	T	L	X	P	C	V	P	P	Z	M	T	Y	G	O	C	I	N	V	R
S	O	O	Z	O	E	R	Y	R	B	S	O	O	I	N	T	R	Q	C	E
L	R	C	O	D	S	M	P	E	E	X	T	T	A	O	M	Z	N	J	T
R	U	K	U	T	R	S	G	V	J	U	S	L	O	R	Q	G	X	C	U
Z	O	P	E	Z	E	O	S	O	O	E	U	S	T	R	N	Q	M	H	M
L	H	M	S	O	T	R	D	B	G	B	N	P	P	I	C	G	A	D	M
I	U	C	K	Y	N	I	A	N	M	X	J	G	T	E	J	Y	I	Y	O
G	U	I	R	T	I	D	O	A	F	M	J	A	V	Y	E	W	C	S	C
H	Y	F	G	T	N	C	N	O	C	L	G	U	P	V	I	D	T	L	W
T	A	F	Z	U	U	A	K	D	Z	L	N	S	E	L	Y	L	I	Q	E
L	W	A	O	F	U	R	M	I	I	U	V	K	H	E	S	M	A	N	P
N	H	R	X	B	V	Z	N	A	K	O	U	J	L	I	Y	O	M	G	G
I	G	T	E	N	B	O	T	T	L	E	N	E	C	K	E	D	T	O	L
O	I	N	O	K	L	A	W	S	S	O	R	C	D	D	Z	I	X	R	B
J	H	P	C	I	G	T	P	D	R	A	V	E	L	U	O	B	Y	R	J

AMBULANCE
BOTTLENECK
BOULEVARD
COMMUTER
CONGESTION
CONSTRUCTION
CROSSWALK
GRIDLOCK
HIGHWAY
INTERSECTION
MOTORCYCLE
OVERPASS
PEDESTRIAN
POLICE
ROUNDAABOUT
RUSH HOUR
SPEEDING
STOP SIGN
TAILGATING
TRAFFIC LIGHT
TURN
VEHICLES

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CLASSIFIEDS

Email to inquire
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IN MEMORY

LOUVAIN SWAN

In loving memory of a dear mother and nan, Louvain who passed away July 31, 2005, 21 years ago. A Heart of gold stopped beating to shining eyes at rest. God broke our hearts to prove to us he only takes the best. We know you had to leave us, but you did not go alone, for part of us went with you, the day he called you home. To some you are forgotten, to others just part of the past, but to us who loved you and lost you, the memory will always last. Ever missed, ever loved, ever dear. Daughters Elaine and Bev, and son Ray, and grandchildren.

RUN YOUR WORD CLASSIFIED AD! JUST \$10 + HST PER EDITION
Contact:
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FOR SALE

Shade Trees; Maples, Oaks, Birch, Beech, Honey Locusts, Elms, Magnolia, Hydrangea Tree, Tulip Tree, Crab apples, Ivory Silk Lilac, Chanticleer Pear, Golden Weeping Willows and more. Apples, Pears, Peaches, Plums, Apricots, Nectarine, Blueberry, Haskap etc. Lots of healthy strong Spruce, Cedars and White Pine for your privacy hedges and windbreaks. Hundred of flowering shrubs. Reg Hours 7 a.m.- 6 p.m. Mon-Sat at Martins Nursery c/o Emanuel Martin. 42661 Orangehill Rd., Wroxeter, ON

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WANTED

WANTED TO BUY – All collectibles including sports cards, beanie babies, Funko pops and stamps. Highest prices paid. Free appraisals. Are you downsizing or need an estate clean out? We can help. We are at the Pinery Market at Grand Bend every Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call or text Stan anytime 519-868-3814.



HELP WANTED



A progressive agricultural company located in Mitchell, ON, we are looking for a hardworking individual to assist in the daily operations of our precast concrete plant.

We have permanent full-time position available for

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The ideal candidate will be committed to quality workmanship, utilize good communication skills, and work well with others to instruct and delegate with daily operations.

Mechanical aptitude and problem solving skills to foster a safe and productive environment are considered beneficial assets.

We offer competitive wages combined with a comprehensive benefits program to encourage long term employment.

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Or email to markv@fgc.ca

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COMING EVENTS

Email to inquire
info@goderichsun.com

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

SALT AND HARVEST FESTIVAL

Beginning on Thursday, September 3 at 7 p.m. at Courthouse Square.

Entering its fourth year, the award-winning festival will run from Sept. 3 until Sept. 6.

Thursday, Sept. 3: Sal's Alley performs at Courthouse Square Performance Stage at 7 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 4: Headlining pop sensations Spice and Spears tribute experience. Gates open at 4:30 p.m. Adult tickets: \$30. Under 13 years old: \$10. This is an all-ages, licensed event.

Saturday, Sept. 5: Battle of the Bands followed by headlining rock band Retrospect. This is an all-ages, licensed event.

Sunday, Sept. 6: Family-friendly events, games, activities and more.

SING WITH THE MACKAY CHORISTERS

On Thursday, September 10 from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at Lakeshore United Church in Goderich.

If you love singing, and can commit to weekly Thursday morning rehearsals, please check this out.

New members are welcome to the Autumn session beginning on Sept. 10.

All ages are welcome, no experience required.

Follow on Facebook and www.themackaychoristers.ca

ROTARY CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

On Friday, September 11 at 12:30 p.m. at Woodlands Links Golf Course.

With a shotgun start, join to support local youth programs.

Cost per golfer: \$175. Woodlands members get a \$20 discount.

Day includes 18-holes, with cart, steak dinner, prizes.

Visit www.goderichrotary.ca for tournament registration or sponsorship.

WALK FOR PARKINSON'S

On Saturday, September 12 at 10 a.m. at Rotary Cove Beach.

Registration at 10 a.m.

Walk at 11 a.m.

GODERICH TO AUBURN RETURN ON THE G2G RAIL TRAIL

On Saturday, September 12 from 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. Meet at North Harbour Road parking area in Goderich.

Ride from Goderich toward the Maitland River near Auburn and return along the crushed-gravel G2G Rail Trail.

Distance is roughly 12.5 km each way. Route and ride perfect for beginners to experienced.

Bring water and complete the cycling waiver. Helmets are required. Pre-register by calling or texting Donald Andrew at 519-530-9019.

GUEST SPEAKER AT GODERICH DISTRICT HORTICULTURE SOCIETY'S MEETING

On Tuesday, September 15 at the MacKay Centre in Goderich at 7 p.m.

The GDHS invites everyone to attend this presentation to hear guest speaker Jennie Girard give a presentation on native bees and bumble bees of southwestern Ontario.

SUDOKU

6	4	9	1	3	7	8	5	2
3	5	8	2	9	6	7	4	1
7	2	1	8	4	5	6	9	3
2	7	5	4	6	1	9	3	8
1	9	6	3	2	8	5	7	4
4	8	3	7	5	9	2	1	6
5	1	2	6	7	4	3	8	9
9	6	4	5	8	3	1	2	7
8	3	7	9	1	2	4	6	5

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Armageddon
2. Spurs
3. Cupid
4. Nine
5. The Netherlands
6. 2028
7. Captain America
8. Synonyms
9. Jenga
10. Water, malted grain, hops & yeast

 **Goderich Sun**

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

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Pick Up Locations

GODERICH

Maitland Market
Tim Hortons (Highway 8)
Tim Hortons (Five Points)
Canadian Tire
Walmart
Zehrs
Goderich Convenience
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

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Pharmasave
Clinton Legion
Clinton Arena
Shell
Bartliffs
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