WHAT'S HAPPENING in Howick

NOVEMBER 2026 ISSUE | whatshappeninginhowick@gmail.com



2026 HOWICK TURNBERRY FALL FAIR

"RURAL ROOTS & COUNTRY BOOTS"

The Howick Agricultural Society would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make the 2026 Howick-Turnberry Fall Fair a wonderful success!

This year's fair, themed "Rural Roots & Country Boots," brought our community together for two days of fun, entertainment, friendly competition, and celebration of our agricultural roots.

A special thank you goes out to our generous sponsors, dedicated volunteers, hardworking directors, exhibitors, vendors, entertainers, and everyone who contributed their time, talents, and resources. Events like ours simply would not be possible without the incredible support of our community.

To everyone who attended, entered exhibits, participated in activities, or helped spread the word — thank you! Your continued support helps keep this long-standing community tradition alive for future generations.

The fun doesn't stop when the fair ends! The Howick Agricultural Society is excited to host our upcoming Wine & Design Sign Making Night on Saturday, November 21, 2026! Join us for a fun and creative evening making your very own Christmas-themed wooden sign. Whether you're looking for a festive addition to your home, a handmade Christmas gift, or simply a fun night out with friends, this event is for you!

No crafting experience is necessary. Come enjoy a relaxed evening, get creative, and support a great cause. All proceeds support the 2027 Howick-Turnberry Fall Fair! Spaces are limited, so be sure to register early and secure your spot. (See the ad on page 19)

Thank you again for supporting the Howick Agricultural Society. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events! Visit our Facebook page for links, updates, giveaways and to follow along our fundraising efforts and other fun throughout the year!

Community Calendar

COME SEW WITH US - Howick Community Centre from 10am - 3pm for $5. Mondays Nov. 2, 16 & 30.

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES on Sun. Nov. 8. Fordwich Cenotaph at 2pm, Wroxeter Cenotaph at 3pm.

MASS CHOIR HARMONY IMPROV WORKSHOP. Nov 15. 1-4pm. $10/family. Wroxeter Town Hall. Come create harmonies together to songs you already know! RSVP 226-622-9195.

EUCHRE & POOL at the Wroxeter Hall, Nov. 15 from 1-5pm.

MAKE AN OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENT. Nov. 19. 7-9pm. $40 Wroxeter Town Hall. Bring a container, clippers and potluck evergreen branches. RSVP 226-622-9195.

BINGO at the Wroxeter Hall - Nov. 19. Doors open at 5, games start at 6:30.

PUB NIGHT at the Wroxeter Hall - Nov. 20. Open at 4pm.

CHRISTMAS WINE & DESIGN NIGHT by the Howick Ag Society - Nov. 21, 5-9pm. Registration required. See page 19.

SOUP & SANDWICH LUNCH by the Masonic Lodge on Fri. Nov. 27 from 11am-1pm. $10. At the Wroxeter Hall.

DINNER & DANCE on Sat. Nov. 28 at the Howick Community Centre. See page 7 for ticket info.

PUBLIC SKATING at the Howick Community Centre. Sundays from 4-5pm.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST WITH SANTA, Dec. 5 from 9-11:30am at the Howick Community Centre. See page 7.

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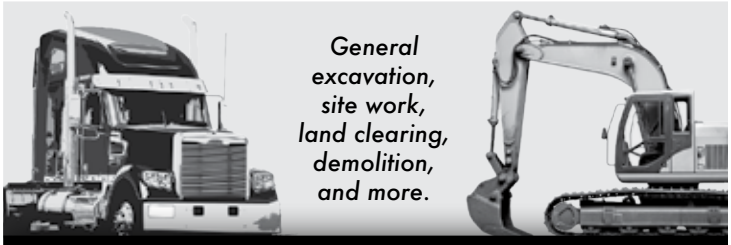
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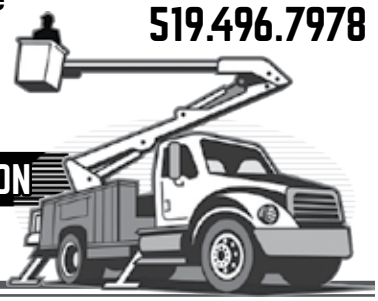
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Time for a Transition

I have mixed feelings about fall. There are so many lovely things about it – beautiful colours, sunshine, fresh air – but the evenings are gradually getting dark earlier and earlier, and the cool temperatures are starting to creep in. I find myself less inclined to spend time outside. I should make the most of this fairly reasonable weather before it gets cold, muddy, and the snow starts flying... (shh)

Thankfully our family has been able to enjoy some walks through our bush recently. We've reclaimed a few trails and the kids enjoy going on little adventures on Sunday afternoons. Last week we simply sat on a log eating apples and granola bars, watching the leaves fall off the trees around us. Though we may not want time to pass too quickly, it inevitably continues on. It reminds me of a Bible verse: "the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever" (Isaiah 40:8) Even as things appear to be diminishing, God's promises remain true. He provides, He is faithful, and we can trust in His word. We can remain hopeful that He will get us through the winter or barren seasons – spring will come. I'm likely getting ahead of myself, so I will continue to be grateful for the things we can enjoy now, and even in the winter. It's not all bad, just different.



Angie Koersen

Deadline for the next issue is November 20.

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46075 Creamery Rd, Fordwich, N0G1V0



Lest we forget

COUNCIL MEETING & HOLIDAY CLOSURE

The Howick Township Office will be closed for Remembrance Day on Wednesday November 11, 2026, and will re-open on Thursday November 12, 2026, at 8:30 a.m.

INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE 2026-2030 HOWICK TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

The Township of Howick invites residents to attend the Inaugural Meeting of the 2026–2030 Term of Council on Tuesday, November 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the Howick Municipal Office.

This special meeting will mark the beginning of a new four-year term of Council, as newly elected members take their declarations of office and officially begin their roles representing the residents of Howick Township.

We encourage residents to join us as we welcome the new Council and look forward to the next four years of leadership, collaboration and continued growth in our community.

REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2026

The Township of Howick invites residents to join the **Brussels Legion on Sunday, November 8, 2026,** as we come together to honour and remember the brave men and women who served and sacrificed for our country.

Remembrance Day ceremonies will take place at the following locations:

- **Fordwich Cenotaph – 2:00 p.m.**
- **Wroxeter Cenotaph (Wroxeter Cemetery) – 3:00 p.m.**

Following the ceremonies, everyone is invited to attend a social gathering at the Wroxeter Hall, where light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

A sincere thank you to the **Brussels Legion and Wroxeter Hall** for their continued dedication to organizing and supporting these meaningful community events.

FINAL TAX INSTALLMENT

Reminder that the **final installment for 2026 is due Friday, November 20.**



Keep Mailboxes Clear on Collection Day

The Township of Howick would like to remind residents to avoid placing garbage and recycling carts directly in front of roadside mailboxes on collection day.

When carts are placed in front of mailboxes, Canada Post delivery vehicles may be unable to safely access them, resulting in possible interruptions to mail delivery. Please ensure your garbage and recycling carts are placed away from your mailbox, leaving enough space for Canada Post to safely deliver your mail. We appreciate everyone's cooperation in keeping mailboxes accessible while ensuring waste and recycling collection can continue safely and efficiently.

OVERNIGHT ON-STREET PARKING PROHIBITED BEGINNING NOVEMBER 1ST

The Township of Howick restricts on-street parking to provide safe snow removal and emergency services to Township residents. Per the Traffic and Parking By-Law No. 05-2021, parking on any street, road allowance, or right-of-way is prohibited between the hours of **1:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. annually from November 1st to March 31st.** Applicable fines will apply and vehicles impeding snow removal may be towed away at the owner's expense.

ROAD CLOSURE - SPENCETOWN ROAD - WORK WRAPPING UP!

Bridge repairs on Spencetown Road between Malcolm Line and Mud Lake Line are nearing completion!

The road remains closed as crews work to finalize the project. Residents are encouraged to **watch the Township of Howick's website and social media pages for updates regarding the official reopening date.**

We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding throughout this project and look forward to reopening the road soon!

RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE



Public Skating

STARTING OCTOBER 18, 2026
Every Sunday 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Howick Community Centre

Cost $5.00 / person

THE ICE IS IN!!

Lace up your skates and join us for public skating at the Howick Community Centre!

Starting October 18, 2026, every Sunday from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Now is the perfect time to book your ice rental or sponsor an ice time for the upcoming season. Contact Manager of Recreation Brady Ropp at recreation@howick.ca or 519-335-3883 for more information.





The Masonic Lodge is having a Soup and Sandwich Luncheon on Friday, November 27th at the Wroxeter Hall.

Lunch is served from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Take out or eat in! $10. Hope to see you there.

PHOTOS BY LIZ ALLAN

UNOFFICIAL VOTING RESULTS

Reeve: Doug Hargrave (acclaimed)

Deputy Reeve:
Shelley Miller-Cameron

Councillors:
Evan Zinn
Ben Blackmore
Kevin Doig

The Township would like to extend a sincere thank you to all candidates who put their names forward and participated in this year's election.

They would also like to thank all residents who took the time to cast their vote and have their say in shaping the future of our community.

HOWICK OPTIMIST CLUB "Friend of Youth"

Thank you all for your continued support over all the years in Howick Township.

Donations are focused in many ways to help the young people of the community. Contributions go towards various sports leagues, The Howick Optimist Pool, Howick Arena, Local Food Banks and Hospitals & More. We could not do this without the generosity of our volunteers and club members and the community as a whole.

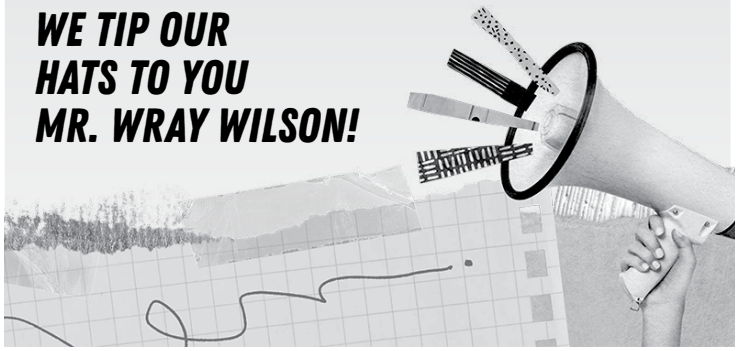
The members of the Howick Optimist Club are pleased to give a

HUGE SHOUT OUT & THANK YOU

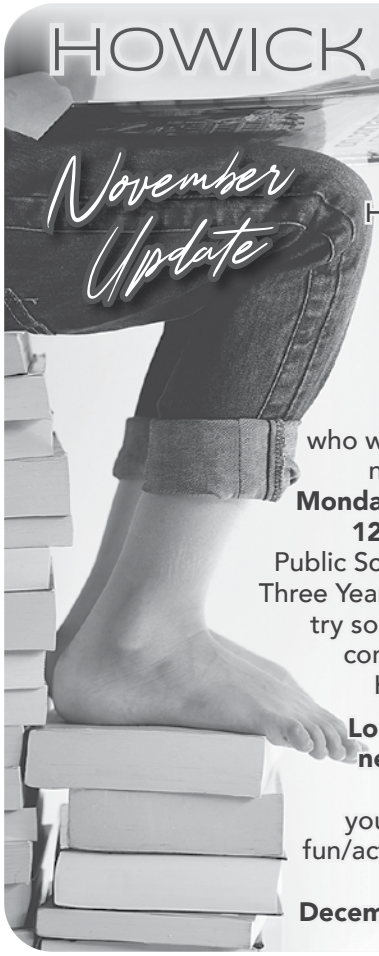
to our clubs Last Standing Founding Members, **MR. WRAY WILSON.** Wray and 10 others were responsible for getting the charter officially accepted into Optimist International on March 3, 1979. Over the past 17 years, Wray has played a key role and worn many hats for his vast years of experience and too many more to list.

We would also like to acknowledge all the past/active members and their families for all the hard work and sacrifices made over the years. In addition, we would like to recognize and thanks the residents of Howick as well. Without your strong continued support the Howick Optimists wouldn't be able to give so much back to the youth and community. Without people like Wray Wilson, it woudln't be possible either. Wray remains a very active member in the club to this day and shows no signs of slowing down. So, if you see Wray, please give him a nod and a thank you.

WE TIP OUR HATS TO YOU MR. WRAY WILSON!



HOWICK LIBRARY



DON'T MISS OUR BOOK SALE!
From **November 2-28**, Howick library will be having a book sale. Come find a new read for yourself or someone else...books for everyone! Payment by donation.

Do you have a 3-year-old who will be starting Kindergarten next year? Come and see us **Monday November 9th between 12:30-3pm** at Howick Central Public School for CATYO (Calling All Three Year Olds). Meet the teachers, try some activities and visit some community partners (including Huron County Library staff)!

Looking for a festive activity next month? Join Mrs. Claus (who looks a lot like one of your Howick library staff) for a fun/active Storytime at the library in **Wingham** on **Monday December 21 from 3:30-4:30pm**.

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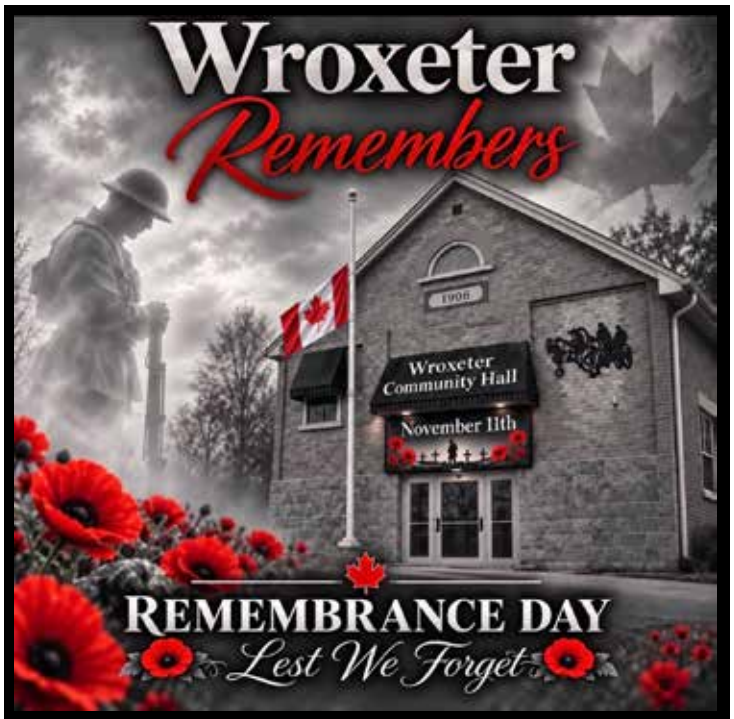
Thank you to the residents of Howick for supporting me over the last 8 years as Reeve of Howick Township. I wish all the best to the incoming council going ahead.

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WROXETER HALL NEWS

The Wroxeter Community Hall will open at 2:00 pm on November 8th for fellowship and refreshments.

UPCOMING NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

NOV. 15 - EUCHRE AND POOL 1.00 - 5.00
NOV. 19 - BINGO doors open at 5, games start at 6:30
NOV. 20 - PUB NIGHT open at 4:00

To book an event please contact Carol Edgar at 519-335-3245.

Join Howick Minor Hockey for a festive Pancake Breakfast with Santa!



Pancake Breakfast with Santa

December 5, 2026 - 9:00 - 11:30 AM

Howick Community Centre

Come out and watch some hockey, enjoy a delicious breakfast, and meet Santa himself! A perfect way to kick off the holiday season!

BREAKFAST BY DONATION













FALL FIREMANS BREAKFAST 2026

CARBON MONOXIDE AWARENESS WEEK

NOVEMBER 1ST - 7TH 2026

As the fall weather starts bringing colder temperatures and furnaces start to work harder, fire crews see an increase in carbon monoxide calls. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a poisonous gas that has no colour, smell, or taste. Long-term exposure can cause sickness or lead to death.

The Howick Township Fire Department wants you to have working CO alarms in your home, to warn you in case of exposure. Working CO alarms provide the only warning of dangerous CO gases in your home. Most commonly, the main source of CO gas in your home is your furnace, but of course you should monitor any household appliances which run on fossil fuels, like natural gas and propane. If you are exposed to CO gas, you may get flu-like symptoms such as: headaches, nausea, dizziness, confusion, fatigue, lose consciousness. Other warning signs that you might have CO gas in your house include: stale or stuffy air, a lot of moisture on your windows and walls, soot build-up around appliances and vents or a pilot light that keeps going out.

If you or anyone in your house experiences the symptoms of CO poisoning or your CO alarm goes off, you should leave your house and call 911. Do not go back into the house until the Fire Department tells you it is safe to do so. Install at least one carbon monoxide alarm on every level of your home, including the basement. The most important location for a working CO alarm is in or near your bedrooms. Try sleeping with your bedroom doors closed and have a family member test your CO alarm to make sure everyone in your home can hear it and that they wake-up at the sound of the alarm. If you can't hear it, then install the CO alarms inside bedrooms so that you will hear it when sleeping and don't forget to test your alarms monthly!



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HOWICK TRIVIA

This month's local knowledge test

TRUE OR FALSE

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TRUE **FALSE**

Text in your guess – I'll send you the full story.

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LIZ ALLAN



On Thursday, October 1st, the topic was a photo shoot using kitchen items and a light source to create very interesting shadows. It was a fun and challenging exercise.

Autumn photos from our fall scavenger hunt were viewed during our Thursday, October 15th meeting. Many picturesque photos were taken. Images from the shadow night were also reviewed.

Refraction is going to be the November 5th meeting. We will try and view how the light travels from one medium to another using curved lite objects.

Karen Botting from Kincardine will be our special guest speaker on Thursday, November 19th. Karen holds many workshops and takes photos for the many. Looking forward to this evening.

We are currently meeting in the meeting room of the Brussels Library at 7:00 p.m.. Meetings are the first and third Thursday for the months May to November. December to April the first Thursday.

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Rededication of the Fordwich Cenotaph

The Township of Howick invites residents and members of the surrounding communities to attend the rededication of the Fordwich Cenotaph on Sunday, November 8, 2026, beginning at 2:00PM. The rededication will be followed by the annual Remembrance Day Ceremony, hosted by the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch No. 218 - Brussels.



This special occasion will celebrate the restoration of the historic Fordwich Cenotaph, ensuring that this important community landmark continues to honour the service and sacrifice of Canada's veterans for generations to come.

The restoration project was made possible through the dedication and hard work of community volunteers, Township staff, and generous local supporters, with special recognition extended to Fordwich Village Management for their significant contributions to the project.

Improvements to the cenotaph grounds include the installation of new concrete sidewalks and gathering areas, armour stone, landscaping, and new memorial benches. The cenotaph itself was professionally cleaned, the original deteriorating fence was removed, and the remaining fencing was repainted.

A significant component of the restoration was the refurbishment of the historic First World War German mortar displayed at the cenotaph. This important piece of military history was restored thanks to generous donations from JC Millwrights of Listowel and the Harkes Family.

Additional improvements, including new lighting and informational plaques highlighting the history and significance of the memorial, are planned for installation in the new year.

As part of the rededication ceremony, the Brussels Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion will unveil a new memorial bench recognizing the former Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 307 – Howick, which proudly served the community from 1940 to 2024. The unveiling will also commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion in 2026, recognizing a century of service to Canada's veterans, their families, and communities across the country.

The rededication provides an opportunity to recognize not only those who served and made the ultimate sacrifice, but also the generations of local residents and Legion members who have worked to preserve their memory.

Following the ceremonies in Fordwich, a Remembrance Day Ceremony will also be held at the Wroxeter Cenotaph beginning at approximately 3:00PM. The Wroxeter Community Hall will be open beginning at 2:00 p.m. Residents and attendees are welcome to stop in, warm up, enjoy a beverage, and spend some time together in the company of friends and neighbours as we reflect on the significance of the day.

FALL AROUND HOWICK

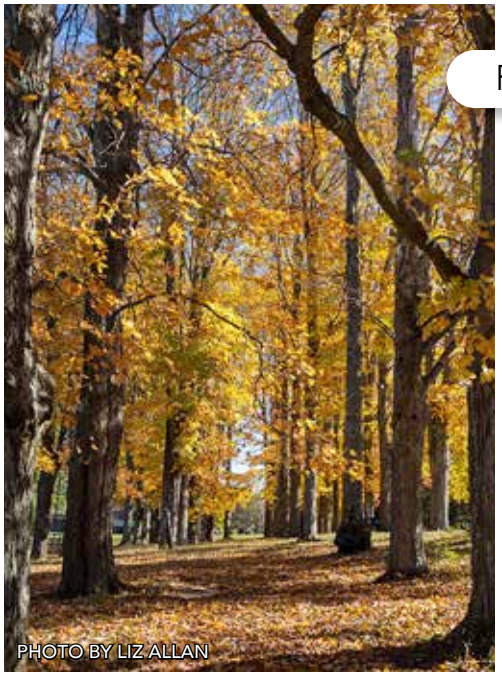
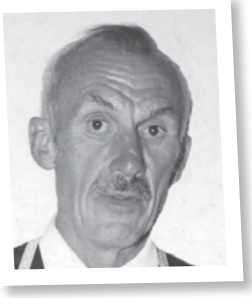

PHOTO BY LIZ ALLAN


PHOTO BY CONNIE GIBSON


PHOTO BY ANGIE KOERSEN

Obituaries

In life we loved you dearly,
In death we love you still,
In our hearts you hold a place
That no one could ever fill.
- AUTHOR UNKNOWN



FREEMAN, Wilbert Alfred of Gorrie passed away peacefully at Listowel Memorial Hospital on Monday, October 5, 2026, in his 88th year. Son of the late John & Mabel (Shepherd) Freeman. Survived by his sister Gertie Downs of Guelph and her family. Also sadly missed by special friends Murray & Dianne Steven of Gorrie, Sue Robinson of Gorrie, Troy & Lindsey Robinson of Kurtzville, Bill & Linda Walker of Fordwich, Adam & Sylvia Walker of Palmerston, Doug & Marilyn King of Listowel, and Ken & Vicki Stark of Listowel, as well as many in the community. Predeceased by his sister Berenice (Jerry) Shea, and brother-in-law Alex Downs. Wilbert was a prominent dairyman with a love for cattle and was awarded Holstein Canada's prestigious Master Breeder Shield in 1987 under his Freeland prefix. Wilbert was a member of the Gorrie Cemetery Board for about 20 years. He helped with most burials, cut grass, and kept the new trees watered. He also planted hostas and flowers around a lot of the trees and brought stones from near his family farm in Acton to put around the trees. He loved uncovering old footstones that had sunk out of sight. He was a great hard-working member of the Cemetery Board, and he will be missed. Wilbert was also a member of the Howick Optimist Club for 19 years beginning in 1991, serving as both President (1995-1996) and Secretary (2009-2010). He also worked for Howick Township as a bartender at the Community Centre for a number of years as well as working as a landfill attendant (1991-1997) and landfill supervisor (1997-2009). After the sale of his herd and the farm, masonry played a large role in Wilbert's life. He joined Fordwich Lodge in 1992 where he was the Master of the Lodge in 1998 and was elected District Deputy Grand Master in 2010. He was a member of Chapter of Royal Arch Masons where he rose to the rank of Grand Superintendent. He was a member of Sovereign Great Priority of Canada where he rose to the rank of Grand Guard of Sovereign Great Priority. He was also a member of the Shriners. These are just some of his affiliations and a handful of his accomplishments as he had a very full and admirable Masonic journey. We cherish his memory in our hearts. Private family arrangements have been entrusted to Eaton Funeral Home, Listowel. Memorial donations to Listowel Memorial Hospital Foundation would be appreciated. Online condolences may be left at www.eatonfuneralhome.ca



RAYNARD, William George 'Bill' passed away suddenly at his home in Clifford on Sunday, October 11, 2026, in his 81st year. Bill was born on August 12, 1946, in London, Ontario to Gordon & Lillian (Uplegger) Raynard and grew up alongside his brother Robert 'Bob'. He is survived by his brother Bob Raynard & Gloria Decker of Delaware, his children Gord & Crystal Raynard of Moorefield, Lillian Raynard & Chad Benesh of Grand Marais, Minnesota, Colin & Ashley Raynard of Guelph, and Jeremiah 'Jer' Raynard of Port Elgin. Remembered also by his children's mother Wendy of Port Elgin, grandchildren Allison, Elizabeth, Lucas, Logan, Carson, and Liam, and by Gloria's son Chris Decker & Karen of Kilworth. Bill cared deeply about his family, community, education, and staying active. He supported his children and grandchildren in their various academic, athletic, and other activities in which they were passionate. He rarely missed a game or a chance to show up and take a photo of his family any time he could. Bill believed in giving back to his community in many ways. He coached hockey in Northern Ontario and with Clifford Minor Hockey for most of his adult life. He was active with the Grass Roots program in Clifford, Clifford United Church, Clifford Lions Club, Minto Trail Committee, Chantry Island Tours, and the Belmore Maple Syrup Festival. Bill attended London Teacher's College. His love for Northern Ontario took him to Ansonville, where he began his career in public education. After teaching there, followed by South Porcupine, Bill eventually made his way to Huron County where he taught at Howick Central School for many years before retiring. Bill stayed active throughout his life by fishing, hunting, running, slo-pitch, playing pickleball, and biking. One of his proudest fishing moments was winning the Owen Sound Salmon Spectacular fishing derby in 1990, reeling in a 33.66 lb. Chinook Salmon. He was also an avid kayaker, but his true passion was playing hockey, even earning a spot in the "Huff and Puff" Hall of Fame. The impact Bill made through his teaching and community endeavours will continue to live on for many years to come. A Celebration of Bill's life will be held at Clifford Community Hall (2 William St. N., Clifford) on Friday, November 13, 2026 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. with a brief service at 2:00 p.m. Memorial donations to the Clifford Food Bank would be appreciated and may be made through the Hardy-Lee Funeral Home, Harriston.

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Worship for McIntosh/Mildmay United Churches will take place at Mildmay United Church for November 2026, Sundays at 10am.

All are welcome.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
David – 519.392.6710 or Deanne – 519.418.9748



LATRONICO, Murray At Cambridge Memorial Hospital on Thursday, October 8th, 2026, Murray Latronico of Gorrie passed away at the age of 82. Beloved husband of Donna (Ferguson) Latronico. Father of Mike Latronico & Christine Worner and Michelle & Andrew Henderson. Grandfather of Courtney (Danny) Gable, Matt (Brandi) Wood, Spencer Henderson, Paige (Perry) Irvine and Shelby (Jamie) Fischer. Great-grandfather of Jaxson, Hayzal, Alexis, Tristan, Charleigh, Jayden, Rylie, Madelyn, Landis, Logan and Jasmine. Brother of Mae Harrison and brother-in-law of Jim McDonald, Barb & Ross Wightman, Doug (Cheryl) Ferguson, Lorna & Gary McArthur, Roger & Susan Burchill, Wanda Connor, Larry Pellett and Eric McKenzie. Murray will be missed by his many nieces and nephews and their families. Predeceased by his parents Bill & Jean (Ward) Latronico, brothers Ross and Wilford (Judy) Latronico, sisters Doreen Ruttan, Mary (Cliff) Barlow and Linda McDonald, grandchildren Zachary Wood and Melissa Victoria Pyke, sisters-in-law Brenda Jillings (Tom), Marlene Pellett and Sharon McKenzie and brothers-in-law Bill Harrison, Clare and Gary Burchill and Wayne Connor. A graveside service was held at Gorrie Cemetery on Thursday, October 15, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or a charity of choice would be appreciated. Online condolences at www.mcburneyfuneralhome.com

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www.gbfchurch.net
Find us on Facebook

Join us for Sunday morning services at **10:00am**. All are welcome.
Sunday evening services begin at **6:30pm**.

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Belmore Presbyterian Church

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July and August services begin at 9:00am

REV. CAREL GRUNDLINGH - 226.222.0051
carel.grundlingh@gmail.com
ABE VERSTEEG - 519.327.8578

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CLASSIFIEDS

ATTENTION GORRIE RESIDENTS: My name is Hunter Blackmore. I'm a very responsible 9 year old who would love to help with your busy schedules by walking your dog. For more information text 647-863-3481

FOR SALE: HEALTHRIDER EXERCISE BIKE in excellent condition, hardly used. $50 firm. 3015 Louisa St. Fordwich. 519-335-3895.

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POP CANS: will be picked up the first Saturday of each month. Please leave your pop cans at the end of your laneway in clear plastic bags. All proceeds from these donations go directly to the Resident's Council of the Fordwich Nursing Home. We sincerely thank you for your continued support and donations.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! ONE CARE is a non-profit agency that supports individuals to stay in their home longer. We need Volunteer Transportaton Drivers in the Fordwich, Gorrie and Wroxeter areas to assist clients to Medical Appointments, Adult Day Program and Social Outings. All volunteers receive training and mileage is reimbursed. Call for more info, 1-877-502-8277 or email volunteering@onecaresupport.ca.

WEIGHT WATCHERS meets Tuesday evenings in Hot Stove Lounge, North Huron Westcast Community Centre, Wingham. Check in starts at 5:30pm, meeting starts at 6pm.

IS YOUR DRINKING A PROBLEM OR CONCERN? Help is available. Please call Alcoholics Anonymous for information and local meeting times. All calls are private and confidential. 519-500-0278

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History of the Howick Bloomers

In 2007 Rosemary Rognvaldson and Linda Henhoeffer secured a grant from the Evergreen Foundation and permission from the Township, to plant Native plants on the south west corner of the Howick Community Centre. Other gardeners joined us and the Howick Bloomers was born.

The second project was planting the ground in front of the library. Plants and labour donated by Bloomers. Annual plant sales of plants from Bloomer's gardens helped finance projects.

For Canada's 150 anniversary we successfully applied for a grant of 1000 tulip bulbs from Veseys bulbs located in PEI. These bulbs together with several trees, perennials and grasses were planted in the large bed on the south side of the community centre, again at no cost to the township.

These much admired gardens have been faithfully maintained by a Bloomer who has also arranged regular pruning of the trees and shrubs

For many years the Bloomers undertook decorating the lobby at the Community Centre for the Howick Agricultural Society's Fall Fair. The Bloomers also provided a garden column in "What's Happening in Howick" for a couple of years.

Over time our membership has dwindled. Some of our members have retired and moved away or are incapacitated by age or medical issues, and our group is now too small to take on any projects.

After almost twenty years of gardening in public spaces, making our community more attractive, it is with great reluctance and regret we have decided to disband. We continue to be interested and active with the Township's revitalization committee and offer our help and expertise whenever we are able.

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