

WHAT'S HAPPENING

APRIL 2025 ISSUE | whathappeninginhowick@gmail.com

in Howick



ICE BOWLING BY THE GORRIE WINTER WARRIORS



FIRST PLACE TEAM



SECOND PLACE TEAM



THIRD PLACE TEAM



KEEP UP

STRIVING FOR GOLD

Submitted by Margaret McClement,
Treasurer

FORDWICH & COMMUNITY PARKS ASSOCIATION

After eight years, the Winter Olympics returned to the Fordwich Community Ball Park on March 8, 2025. Teams competed in six different events, namely the Shot Put, Ice Bowling, Keep Up, a Relay, Bottle Toss and the Luge.

We wish to thank all those who participated, those who came to watch and cheer on their team as well as sponsors: Molesworth Bowling Lanes, Behrns Metal Fabricating and D'Arcey Sand and Gravel.

Community Calendar

COME SEW WITH US - at the Howick Community Centre from 10am - 3pm for \$5. Monday, April 7 & 21.

BELMORE MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL - Thurs. Apr. 10 & Sat. Apr. 12 at the Belmore Community Centre.

FOREST MASONIC LODGE SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCHEON, Fri. April 25, 11:30am to 1pm in the Wroxeter Hall.

PUB NIGHT at the Wroxeter Hall, Fri. Apr. 25.

POOL & EUCHRE TOURNAMENT at the Wroxeter Hall, Sun. Apr. 27 at 1pm. \$5. Lunch provided.

MCINTOSH UNITED CHURCH GOSPEL NIGHT Sun. April 27 at 7pm (doors open at 6:30pm). Special guests: "Rescue Junction" and The McIntosh Singers and Quartet. Freewill offering.

HOWICK FIRE FIGHTERS BREAKFAST, Sun. May 4, 8am-12pm at the Fire Station in Gorrie.

JUNIOR YOUTH - The first Thursday of every month at Gorrie Bible Fellowship at 6:45pm for youth ages 10-14.

YOUNG JEWELS - The third Saturday of every month at Gorrie Bible Fellowship from 9:30-11:30 for girls ages 8-13.

Have your community event added to this free community calendar by sending a message to:

whathappeninginhowick@gmail.com

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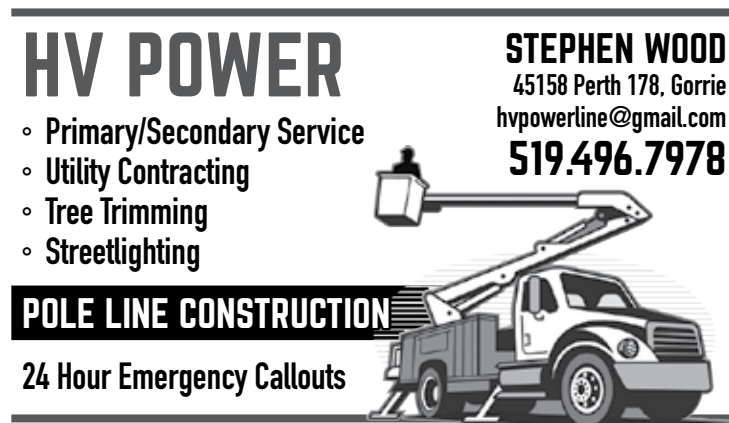
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Peace & Grace

You may have noticed the April issue came out a little later than usual this month. You may also have noticed that one of the obituaries I included is for Marcel Koersen, my brother-in-law. The two are connected, as the Koersen family has had to suddenly say goodbye to a wonderful man who loved his family and was committed to serving God and being a witness to his neighbourhood and the boys he led as a Cadet counsellor.

Though we are devastated at the loss we've experienced as a result of a senseless car accident, we are grateful to have hope that this is not the end. Marcel is with Jesus, our living hope. We don't understand the why, but we know God hates death. He grieves with us and He will hold onto us as we navigate this loss. We can lean into His promises – that He will never leave us, He will strengthen us, and we can never be separated from His love.

For anyone struggling with loss or the struggles that are an unfortunate part of life, I pray that the peace of God, that surpasses all understanding, will guard your heart and your mind in Jesus Christ. (Philippians 4:7)

As Easter approaches, may we be reminded that God has defeated death, sacrificing His beloved Son so that we may live with Him forever. We don't deserve this mercy, this grace. May we live a life of gratitude, giving glory to God.

Angie Koersen



Deadline for the next issue is Apr. 21.

whatshappeninginhowick@gmail.com
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46075 Creamery Rd, Fordwich, N0G1V0



"To Plant a Garden is to Believe in Tomorrow"

- AUDREY HEPBURN

COUNCIL MEETING

The Township of Howick regular Council meetings for the month of April will take place Tuesday, April 8th at 9 a.m. and Thursday, April 29th at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Municipal Office. Both meetings are open to the public.

REPRINTING TAX BILLS/ STATEMENTS

Income Tax Season is upon us, and we are happy to help provide you with a reprint of your 2024 property tax bill or statement. Please be aware that the following charges will apply to each request: 1st request: \$10.00 per bill/statement; 2nd request and thereafter is \$25.00 per bill/statement. Please send your requests to deputy@howick.ca. Make sure to include the property owners' name(s) and property address for each request.

RECREATION

The Recreation Department is once again offering our Summer Day Camp programs for ages 4-10. Participants will enjoy outdoor play, crafts, treasure hunts, storytelling, movie days, games, themed activities and new friendships throughout July and August at the Howick Community Centre. Registration is available through the Township of Howick website, www.howick.ca.

Keep your eyes open later this month as the 2025 summer pool schedule and swimming lessons registration are set to be available online April 23rd, 2025.

ICE TIME IN APRIL

The Howick Community Centre ice surface is being kept in until April 30 for our residents to enjoy! If you're interested in booking an ice rental in the month of April, contact Brady Ropp at 519-335-3883.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - DEPUTY TREASURER

The Township of Howick is hiring a Deputy Treasurer. Reporting to the Treasurer, the Deputy Treasurer is responsible for assisting in the administration of all Township financial services, programs, policies and procedures. This includes payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, property taxation, capital asset management, budget and financial reporting.

Key Responsibilities

- Prepares corporate and departmental financial reports and analysis.
- Provides financial guidance and advice to Department Heads and staff.
- Processes payroll, administers OMERS pension plan and employee benefit plan.
- Maintains and updates property tax database system, assessment roll, capital assets.
- Assists in the coordination and preparation of the annual Budget.
- Prepares invoices and collects revenue for all municipal departments in compliance with financial policies and procedures.
- Processes invoices and issues payments.
- Responds to property assessment and property tax inquiries from the public and other stakeholders.
- Performs year-end accounting procedures for financial statements and audit purposes.

Qualifications and requirements

- Significant experience related to the duties listed above, normally acquired through a University Degree or College Diploma in Business, Commerce, Accounting or Finance.
- 3-5 years of progressively responsible experience in a financial management role, preferably in a municipal environment.
- Completed or in the process of completing AMCTO's Municipal Accounting and Finance Program (MFAP) and OMTRA's Municipal Tax Administration Program (MTAP)
- Knowledge of municipal finance, budgeting and accounting principles.
- Experience with long-term financial planning and capital project financing.
- Proficiency in financial software and systems.
- Proven analytical and problem solving skills.

A full Job Description is available at www.howick.ca/township-services/employment-opportunities-in-howick.

This is a full-time, permanent 37.5 hour/week position. The Township of Howick offers a competitive salary (2025 Salary Range: Job Band E - \$88,128.00 - \$103,096.54) with a comprehensive benefit package, and a defined benefit pension plan with OMERS, including 100% employer matching.

Interested candidates are asked to please submit your cover letter and resume as one document (Word or PDF) **no later than 12:00 p.m. on Friday, April 4, 2025** by email to:

Amy Van Meeteren

Treasurer

Township of Howick

Email: treasurer@howick.ca

REMEMBER TO TEST YOUR WELL WATER!

With heavy rains in the springtime, the Huron County Health Unit and the Township of Howick want to remind residents to test their well water. Huron Perth Public Health provides free bacterial water testing services to all Huron County residents on a private well.

It is recommended that you test your well water a minimum of three times a year, preferably spring, summer and fall. Free bottles can be picked up at the Howick Municipal Office, but the completed test must be brought to a designated laboratory. Samples must be tested within 48 hours of collection. Take the sample just before you deliver it to one of the following locations. Ensure all forms are filled out as instructed.

CLINTON

HPPH Office
77722B London Rd
Mon to Thurs,
8:30am - 4:30pm

SEAFORTH

Seaforth Community
Hospital Lab
24 Centennial Dr
Mon to Fri
8am - 9:45am

EXETER

South Huron Hospital
24 Huron St. W
Mon to Thurs
7:30am - 10:30am

WINGHAM

Wingham & District
Hospital Lab
270 Carling Terrace
Mon to Thurs
8:30am - 3pm

LISTOWEL

HPPH Office
161 Inkerman St W
Friday
10am - 2pm

CLEAN YARDS BY-LAW

Continuous yard maintenance is required for all properties within Howick Township, including vacant land. Clean Yards By-law No. 08-2023 regulates the maintenance of land and clean yards in the Township of Howick. The Clean Yards By-law sets out the minimum standards for reasonable maintenance and upkeep of yards. For more information on the Clean Yards By-law, contact 519-335-3202 or email bylaw@howick.ca.

STOP & SCOOP

Spring is coming and By-law Enforcement Services would like to remind dog owners and walkers that they are responsible for picking up after their pet. Please carry a bag with you when your dog is off your property. Owners who fail to pick up their dog excrement may be fined \$200.00.

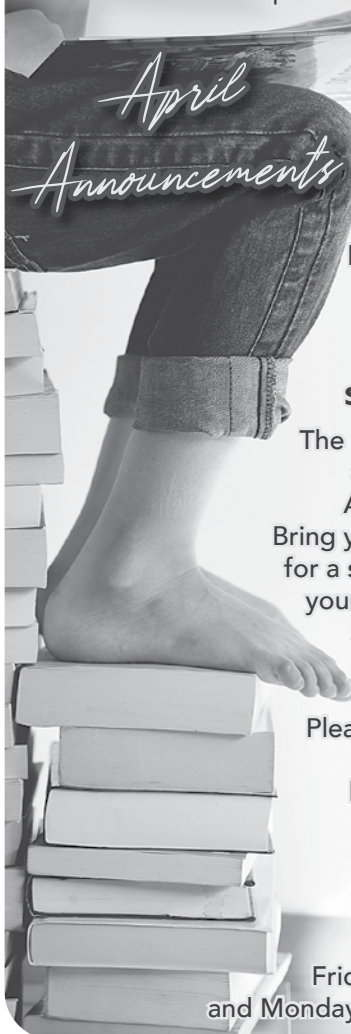
HOWICK LIBRARY

SEED LIBRARY

The Seed Library is available to Huron County Library patrons looking to get growing! Borrow seeds from the library, plant them at your home and enjoy the fruits of your labours. At the end of the growing season, collect seeds from a few plants and return them to the library. Then next season, pick up more seeds to keep growing!

The order form can be found on the library website at <https://www.huroncountylibrary.ca/seed-library/>.

Up to 5 types of seeds can be chosen.



Check out our Seedy Saturday program running Saturday April 12th from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm at the Howick branch library.

Got plants to share? Drop in during regular branch hours for a plant swap. Check out the Huron County Library's event calendar for more Seedy Saturday events.

STUFFY SLEEPOVER

The Howick Branch will be hosting a Stuffy Sleepover on Tuesday April 8th at 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm. Bring your stuffy friend to the library for a sleepover! Staff will make sure your stuffy enjoys crafts, games & selfie moments with their new friends! All ages welcome and registration is required.

Please contact the Howick branch at 519-335-6899 or howicklibrary@huroncounty.ca to register.

The Howick Library branch will be closed for the following dates in April:

Friday April 18th for Good Friday and Monday April 21st for Easter Monday

For up-to-date Township information, contact the municipal office at **519-335-3208** or check out the website at **www.howick.ca**

WROXETER HALL NEWS



Want to book the Wroxeter Hall for your special event? Contact Carol Edgar.

Hall board members say thank you to everyone who were able to play euchre and pool on Sunday, March 16th.

Aa delicious St. Patrick's Pub Night was held on Friday, March 21st. Al Widmeyer and the Weber Family were the entertainment.

Pool nights are Wednesday nights and Friday nights.

Ladies nights are Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m..



PHOTOS BY LIZ ALLAN



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.



GORRIE HALL BOARD

The Gorrie Hall is open for rentals.

For rentals, call **519-335-3292**

We welcome new members interested in joining the Hall Board.

HOWICK FIRE FIGHTERS BREAKFAST

SUNDAY MAY 4TH, 2025
8AM - 12PM



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Julie Bridge

julie.b@fordwichvillage.ca

or Barb Wakeford

barbara.w@fordwichvillage.ca

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UPDATE

HOWICK CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL

SUBMITTED BY PAUL MENARY, PRINCIPAL

We would like to extend a huge thank you to our Parent Council for organizing a fantastic Pancake Tuesday event! It was a great success, and we truly appreciate all the hard work that went into making it happen. A special thank you as well to Officer Stanley and Auxiliary Officer Schefter for joining us and serving pancakes to our students—everyone loved them! Special thank you to the Dinsmore's and Peter's families for donating the pancake mix and syrup.

Our basketball intramurals have officially wrapped up for students in Grades 3/4 through Grade 8. Thank you to all the staff members who contributed their time and effort to make the program such a success. Meanwhile, our junior and intermediate basketball teams are now in full practice mode, preparing for their upcoming tournaments. We wish them the best of luck!

Finally, as we approach March Break (March 10–14), we want to wish all our families a safe and happy holiday. Enjoy the well-deserved break!



Howick Women's Institute

Although Howick WI had to cancel their Free Family Skate Day in February because of the weather, they did have a very successful skate day on Monday, March 10th of March Break. They served up hot dogs, cookies and milk or juice to a hungry crowd of skaters.



On Thursday, March 20th, Gwen Catherwood welcome nine Howick WI members into her home. The theme for the program was "Maple Syrup". Gwen did a fabulous presentation on how maple syrup is made. She had pictures and props of her and her family and how they have improved their methods of gathering, boiling and processing a delicious finished product. They have made great strides over the last four years to make a very labour intense project much easier. After a refreshment break which included the home produced maple syrup, a short business meeting with conducted. Some of the members are going to help cater at the "Come Sew with Us Sewing Retreat" in Howick on May 5th & 6th. Our next meeting is on Thursday, April 17th, at the home of Heather Stinson. It will be our Annual meeting.





HOWICK BLOOMERS

MARCH
UPDATE

In his book *Perennials for every Purpose*, Larry Hodgson, has a list of qualities that would define the perfect perennial. The list includes attributes such as, easy to grow, drought tolerant, flowers all summer, resistant to insects and diseases, quick to establish, easy to propagate and be widely available. Of course no such plant exists!



When choosing plants for the garden most gardeners look for plants that will grow in the conditions of their garden. Plants requiring dry soil will not survive in soil that is constantly wet. Plants needing at least six hours of sunlight do not perform well in shade.

Some plants however are remarkably forgiving and will do well regardless of the environment although the best performance is always under prime conditions.

One of the 'perfect perennial' qualities was a long flowering season. Day lilies, as their name suggests have blooms that only last for one day. But each bloom is followed with another and then another. With multiple buds the blooming season is quite long. There are thousands of varieties of day lilies in a whole rainbow of colours. Two unnamed varieties are pictured in this column. Among their many other qualities, easy to grow, easy to transplant and establish, and huge colour range, the flowers are edible. They are an attractive garnish to salads.

Other edible flowers include violets, nasturtiums and a recently introduced rose, Flavourett, Honey Apricot, which has honey with a hint of apricot taste in every petal. It is also fragrant, hardy to zone 4, is a vigorous grower that flowers profusely. Seems to tick many of the boxes for a desirable perennial.

Howick Bloomers will meet **Monday, April 14, 2 pm** at the Howick Community Centre. Everyone is welcome!



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Saturday: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm



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CLARA BLAKE



DEB GRIFFEY

Maitland Valley **camera CLUB**

Due to weather conditions, many meetings have been cancelled. At the March 20th meeting, members viewed their winter challenge photos. After the viewing, there was an introduction to multiple exposure photography. Very interesting.

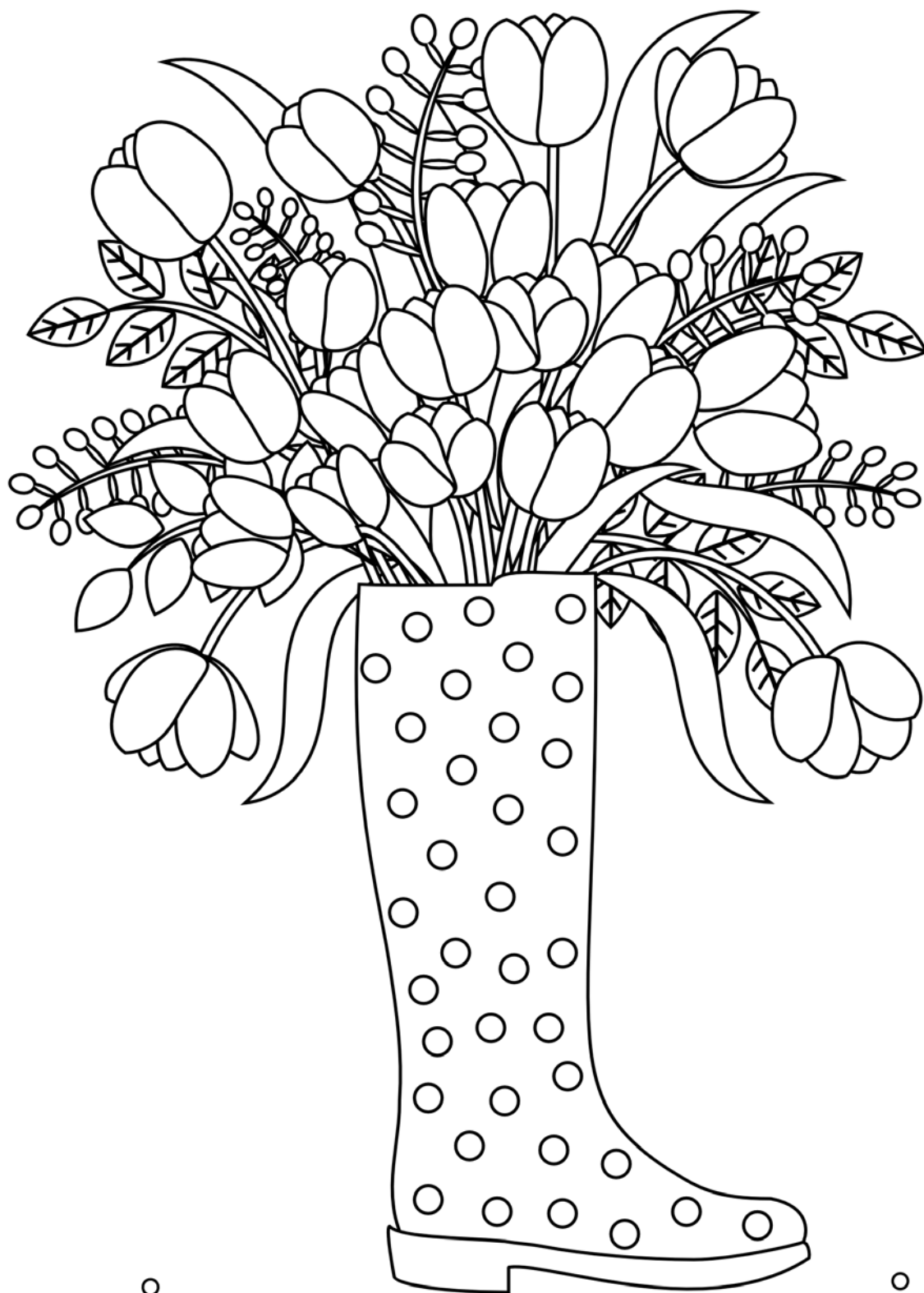
The club meets the first and third Thursdays from April to November and the first Thursday for the months December to March.



LIZ ALLAN



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Sunday evening services begin at **6:30pm**.

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MCINTOSH & MILD MAY UNITED CHURCHES

Worship will take place at McIntosh church during April 2025
all Sundays at 10:00am.
All are welcome as always.

For further information:

Dave - 519.392.6710 or or Deanne - 519.418.9748

Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in springtime.

- MARTIN LUTHER



PHOTO BY LIZ ALLAN

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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FORDWICH BIC COMMUNITY CHURCH

Family Worship Sundays **10:30 - 11:45**

ROOTS & WINGS Sundays **11 - 11:45**

Children: ages 3-10 years

Questions? Contact Pastor Mike or Terri

519.335.3479 - pastorbicfordwich@outlook.com

Facebook: "Fordwich BIC Community Church"

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



BYLES, Bruce Ronald of Fordwich passed away at Huronlea Home for the Aged, Brussels on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 in his 80th year. Husband of Linda (Baguley) Byles. Father of Mark & Brenda Byles of Fenelon Falls, and Jonathan & Kelly Byles of Fordwich, Grandfather of Cody & Auriel Byles, Spencer Byles & fiancée Katy Nickerson, Ethan Byles, Madisyn Byles, and

Timothy Byles, and great-grandfather of Ellie Byles. Brother of John & Cyndy Byles of Orillia, and brother-in-law of Marie Byles of Orillia, Warren & Barbara Baguley of Innisfil, and Gail & Terry Clarkson of Fordwich, and remembered by his nieces and nephews. Predeceased by brother Cliff Byles, and parents Ezra and Olive (Tompkins) Byles, and by his parents-in-law Keith and Phyllis (Sabin) Baguley. Bruce was born in Toronto on September 23, 1945, residing in the east end until he was 9 years old, when his family moved to Nobleton, Ontario in 1954. He remained there until he and Linda were married on March 19th, 1971. Bruce, a lithographer for many years, worked in Malton and Mississauga – Data Business Forms, McLean Hunter and The Print Key. Following the family move to Fordwich in 1991, Bruce was employed at Listowel's Print Shop, with later employment at Ideal Supply in Listowel and Wingham. Retiring at 65 years, he took joy in giving after-school care to 2 of his grandchildren residing in Fordwich. Bruce joined the Mount Forest Harmony Society. He carried his joy of music to lead the church congregational singing. In addition to this outlet, Bruce took great pleasure in teaching Sunday School to the youth, challenging the group as much as they challenged him. He was a fisherman at heart and did so as often as he was able. He liked a good, but fair opinionated debate. He was quick-witted, thoroughly enjoying a good hearted laugh, sharing in times of food, fun and fellowship when a group gathered together. The funeral service was held at the Hardy-Lee Funeral Home, Harriston on Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. with visitation from 12:00 Noon until time of service. Spring interment in Maple Grove Cemetery, Howick Township. Memorial donations to the Canadian Diabetic Association, Heart & Stroke Foundation, or Fordwich BIC Community Church would be appreciated.



GAUNT, Harley. Peacefully on Wednesday, March 12th, 2025, Harley Gaunt of Wingham passed away at the age of 81. Loving husband of Wendy Gaunt. Devoted dad of Erin Gaunt & Jason Brewer and Ashley & Matt Smith. Proud papa of Landon Brewer (Bella), and Wesley and Lucas Smith. Harley will be lovingly remembered by his many nieces and nephews and

their families as well as by Bill & Tracy Gaunt, Jana & Bruce Angel and Brenda Thompson and their families. Predeceased by his parents John & Agnes (Coultes) Gaunt, his first wife Joyce Gaunt, daughter Karin Gaunt, brothers George and Jim Gaunt, sister Jean Ross and parents-in-law Vic & Lois Card. Harley dedicated his life to fire service, beginning his career in 1964 and serving as the Fire Chief from January 1st, 1986, until his retirement on December 31st, 2009. Overseeing both the Gorrie and Wingham fire departments, he led with excellence, graduating as the valedictorian from fire college. His leadership extended beyond firefighting. He served as the Mutual Aid Chairman and played a key role in implementing the Canada Day fireworks. When lunchtime rolled around, you'd often find Harley across from the fire hall, swapping his fire gear for a chip cutter at the fry truck with his wife Wendy. Harley's dedication to his community, both in and out of uniform leaves behind a legacy of service, leadership and countless stories. A casual come and go Celebration of Harley's life was held at the place that he held near and dear to his heart, the Wingham Fire Hall (369 Josephine St. Wingham) on Saturday, March 22nd, 2025 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Huronview Resident's Council or the Wingham Firefighter's Association (cheques only) would be appreciated and may be done through McBurney Funeral Home, Wingham.



HOHENADEL, John Edward 'Jack' of Listowel passed away peacefully on Thursday, February 27, 2025, in his 88th year. Beloved husband of Carole (Schinck) Hohenadel. Sadly missed by his children John Hohenadel & Sarah Middleton of St. George, Terri-Lyn Hohenadel and her son Matthew of Wingham, and Robert Charles Hohenadel and his son William of

Fordwich. Brother of Paul & Mary Helen Hohenadel of Puslinch, and Doreen McRitchie, and Pauline & Bob Curtis, all of Guelph, and brother-in-law of Maryann Hohenadel of Puslinch, Noella Lotspeich of Guelph, Alan & Donna Schinck of Rockwood, and Sharon Hawkins of Kitchener. Predeceased by his daughters Carole Anne Hohenadel and Peggy Susan Pibbs, brother Joseph Hohenadel, sister Mildred "Tootie" & Ken MacPherson, and brother-in-law Don McRitchie. Visitation was held at the Eaton Funeral Home, Listowel on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 from 2:00-4:00 and 6:00-8:00 p.m. with parish prayers at 1:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Listowel on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. Interment in Fairview Cemetery, Listowel. Memorial donations to St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Canadian Cancer Society, or Harmonize4Speech would be appreciated.



KOERSEN, Jan Marcel of Trowbridge passed away suddenly on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, in his 36th year. Beloved husband of Kelly (DeVries) Koersen. Proud father of Marcus, Jolene, and Benjamin, and one more on the way. Son of Jan & Yoka Koersen of Fordwich, and brother of Corné & Angie Koersen of Fordwich, Hilbert & Lauren Koersen of Palmerston, Jelle Koersen of Scarborough, and Inge &

Tyler Kirkbride of Wroxeter. Son-in-law of Alfred DeVries of Gowanstown and the late Joanne DeVries, and brother-in-law of Keith & Sanne DeVries of The Netherlands, and Cameron & Kendra DeVries of Fordwich. Also sadly missed by several nieces and nephews. Marcel immigrated to Canada from The Netherlands with his family at the age of nine. His family became part of the Bethel Christian Reformed Church community, where he met Kelly. They married and together were blessed with four beautiful children: Marcus, Jolene, Benjamin, and a fourth on the way. He loved each child deeply, with a special connection to each. He knew how much it meant to give his full attention to his kids; he had a fatherly understanding of how to share his love with each child, whether it was sitting and building Lego sets, playing outside in all sorts of weather, or listening intently during their talks. Throughout his career, he found fulfillment in working with his hands, initially as a furniture maker and more recently as an HVAC technician with Bostech. He will be fondly remembered by many for his gentle guidance as a Cadet counselor. Walking in step with the Spirit and embodying its Fruits, Marcel possessed a disciplined strength and balanced temperament that allowed him to journey through life's joys and life's challenges. In eternity, he continues to walk alongside our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Visitation was held at Bethel Christian Reformed Church, Listowel on Monday, March 24, 2025 from 2:00 to 4:00 and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. where the funeral service was held on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 11:00 a.m. The service can be found at www.youtube.com/@bethelcrc3374 Interment in Fairview Cemetery, Listowel. Memorial donations to a fund established for Marcel and Kelly's children (cheque only please - payable to Kelly Koersen) or the Listowel Memorial Hospital Foundation would be appreciated, and may be made through the Eaton Funeral Home, Listowel.

Card of Thanks

THANK YOU - ROBINSON

To all our neighbours and friends who supported us with meals, the memorial stone, flowers, donations, cards messages and calls you really touched our hearts. We deeply appreciate all of your expressions of sympathy on the loss of Jack. He truly loved and valued his friends and neighbours. We are forever grateful to everyone that joined us at Jack's celebration of his life. Exactly what he wanted! Also special thanks to Mike and Suzie Nichols.

Sue, Shelley, Troy, Kyle, and families



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POP CANS: will be picked up the first Saturday of each month. You may leave your pop cans in clear plastic bags at the end of your laneway. Monies from the pop cans will go to the Resident's Council of the Fordwich Nursing Home. We thank you for your donation.

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! One Care is a non-profit agency that supports individuals to stay in their home longer. We need drivers to deliver meals in the Fordwich, Gorrie and Wroxeter areas. Mileage reimbursed. Call Grace for more info, 1-877-502-8277 or emailvolunteering@onecaresupport.ca.



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SIGNS OF SPRING



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