FEBRUARY 2022 ISSUE | whatshappeninginhowick@gmail.com



WINTER HAS ARRIVED

Liz Allan shares some of her photos of scenes in Howick during the winter.





HURON-PERTH TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

The Avon Maitland District School Board's Centre for Employment & Learning is getting ready to launch a new PSW program. In a release, the AMDSB says they will launch a new free PSW certification program, with "on-the-job training in a co-op format." Interested participants will avoid the regular \$1,500 registration fee, get paid up to \$5,115 during co-ops, and no high school diploma is required to sign up. However, credits received can also count towards a high school diploma if the applicant hasn't achieved one yet.

The program runs from February 28th to December 16th, 2022, and includes a combination of online live and in person classes. The program is available to anyone interested in pursuing a career as a PSW and includes the following components:

- Three Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) credits (theory, 330 hours)
- Three OSSD credits (co-op, 330 hours)
 - One OSSD credit supervised clinical (110 hours incorporated into the 3 theory credit timeline)
 - Two OSSD credits community placement (220 hours completed after)
 - On the job training which includes a placement in a long-term care facility as well as a community placement in a group home, adult day program, community health agency, respite care facility or an assisted living facility.

Program participants benefit from the following incentives:

- No registration fee (\$1,500)
- Available pay during co-op component (up to \$5,115)
- With permission, can use a current work placement for up to 110 hours of the 330 hours of co-op
- No high school diploma required to register for, or to complete, this program
- Credits received can also count towards a high school diploma if not yet achieved

Full details are posted at

thecentreforemploymentandlearning.ca/psw

Cheryl Mann, EPC, RIS

Financial Advisor

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AN

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Investia Financial Services 2029 Mill Street P.O. Box 205 Gorrie, ON, NOG 1X0

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OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACES



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(Offer good until February 28, 2022)

*in stock units

'Install next summer and have heat first thing next fall!'

We stock over \$38,000.00 in underground pipe, fittings, radiators, heat exchangers, pumps and plumbing.

> Use wood & beat the increase in heating costs!

Good - Used

2004 Model Polar Com 32 Industrial TAKES 6 FOOT WOOD.

good condition inside, heated 10,000 sq ft. bldg..

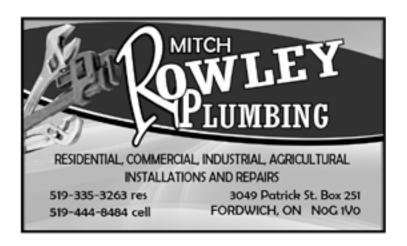
TWO LOCATIONS

Harriston, Ontario 519-338-3946

Hickson, Ontario 519-462-2019

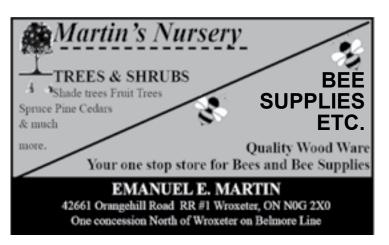
geoffh@harknessequipment.ca michaelm@harknessequipment.ca

HARKNESS EQUIPMENT LT











Winter has come, and it feels like a mixed bag of weather and emotions have come along with it. Maybe you're like my 1.5 year old son who just sits there with tears and boogers freezing on his face, not quite sure what to make of the situation. Or my 4.5 year old daughter who's not sure what end is up while learning to skate (how do you

Bundle up

teach kids these skills?!). Perhaps you're more like baby #3 and content to stay cozy in the womb, waving to the outside world while living life bundled up and warm. I'm sure others are thrilled with outdoor winter activities, but at -20 it can be a challenge for me. However, I'm determined to make the most of it. I did end up resolving to spend more time outside with my kids, and though it's a workout

getting everyone dressed

to go outside, it is getting

easier. Let's see what the

next month brings.



With this news of an expected baby (due in June), I'd like to put the call out for someone that would be interested in helping me put together the newsletter for the summer months – I think I might have my hands full. I'm willing to train someone that's a bit creative and is comfortable with computers. Let me know if you're the least bit curious. I'd like to make this more of a team effort since we all have something to contribute.

contribute. Ingje loeven

Deadline for the next issue is February 18.

519.292.0878 whatshappeninginhowick@gmail.com

HOWICK LIBRARY

February Events:

Snowshoes Available:

We have snowshoes available for borrowing at the library. Patrons



can place holds online through the website or call the library to place holds.

Take and Make kits: There will be a new take and make craft available for February.

Digital Escape Room Adventures: These are available on our Facebook page – suitable for all ages.

Printing Vaccine Receipts: The Huron County Library continues to offer free printing of vaccine receipts, but we ask that you please call ahead to your local branch. When you call, make sure you have your health card available. Staff will print and confirm best time to visit the branch to pick it up. For branch contact information, visit: www.huroncountylibrary.ca/locations/

Please feel free to contact the library with any questions or concerns, and follow our social media pages for upcoming programs and events.

LIBRARY HOURS:

Wednesday 2pm - 6pm Friday 11am - 2pm Saturday 9am - 1pm



Farm Equipment Repair and Service

All makes and Models



FROM THE TOWNSHIP OFFICE

Council meeting is scheduled for **February 1 at 9am** in the Howick Council chambers at the municipal office. Agendas are posted on Howick's website on the Friday preceding the meeting and draft minutes are posted the Monday following the meeting.

The Howick **municipal office will be closed** on Monday, February 21, 2022 for Family Day. This holiday celebrates the importance of families and family life to people and their communities; enjoy the day!

The **2022 interim tax bills** will be processed and mailed by the end of February and are due March 25th and May 27th. The interim taxes are billed at 50% of your previous year's taxes. Payments can be made through various methods; dropping cheques through mail slot at the municipal office, on line banking, enrolling in Pre Authorized Payment Plan, by visiting our web site www.howick.ca and selecting "Pay Simply" allows for payments to be made by other means such as credit cards and e-transfers (processing charges are applicable).

2022 dog invoices have been mailed to dog owners. Dog tag prices are as follows: first dog \$30, second dog \$50 and third dog \$100, kennel \$200. As per By-law 32-2016, in every calendar year, the owner(s) of dog(s) shall ensure that all dog(s) are registered at the Township of Howick. It will be the dog owner's responsibility to contact the municipal office if there are any changes. If an owner fails to purchase dog licence for current year, the set fine is \$100.

Township of Howick **restricts street parking** to provide safe snow removal and emergency services to Township residents. As per the Traffic and Parking By-law No. 46-2020, parking is restricted from November 1st to March 31st between the hours of 1 am to 7 am. Applicable fines will apply and vehicles impeding snow removal may be towed at owner's expense. Thank you in advance for helping winter maintenance crews plow faster and more efficiently.

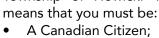
The Township of Howick is seeking a By-law Enforcement/ Canine Control Officer to enforce various municipal bylaws and perform all statutory and operational functions according to legislation to ensure compliance and enforce Howick's Canine Control By-law (Part 1 of the Provincial Offences Act) as well as the provincial Dog Owners Liability Act (DOLA) legislation through investigation/ resolution of complaints made by the public and responding to emergencies. Interested applicants are invited to review the By-law Enforcement/Canine Control Officer job description on the Township of Howick website www.howick.ca and forward resumes "Confidential" prior to 12 noon on Friday, February 11, 2022 by regular mail, personal delivery or email to:



Township of Howick 44816 Harriston Road, PO Box 89 Gorrie Ontario NOG 1X0 e-mail: clerk@howick.ca

The Township of Howick is an equal opportunity employer. Accessibility accommodations are available for all parts of the recruitment process. Applicants need to make their needs known in advance. We thank all applicants for their interest and only those individuals selected for an interview will be contacted. Information is collected solely for the purpose of job selection under the provisions of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Municipal Election 2022 - are you considering running for Council? The next municipal election will be held on October 24, 2022. Nomination period opens on May 2, 2022 and closes on Nomination Day, August 19, 2022. To run for office, you must be an eligible elector in the Township of Howick. This



At least 18 years of age;

- Reside in the Township, or be the owner or tenant of land in the Township, or the spouse of such owner or tenant; and
- Not prohibited from voting under any law.

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

PUBLIC WORKS & RECREATION

WINTER RULES: As winter is now well under way Public Works Staff would like to remind residents that overnight parking is not permitted and pushing snow across the roadway or depositing it on the road is prohibited under the Highway Traffic Act. The following is an excerpt taken directly from the Highway Traffic Act:

Deposit of snow on roadway:

181 No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing so to do from the Ministry or the road authority responsible for the maintenance of the road. R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8, s. 181.

General penalty:

214 (1) Every person who contravenes this Act or any regulation is guilty of an offence and on conviction, where a penalty for the contravention is not otherwise provided for herein, is liable to a fine of not less than \$60 and not more than \$1,000. 2017, c. 26, Sched. 4, s. 26.

Waste receptacles should be placed in a way that does not interfere with snow clearing and mail delivery.

THE LANDFILL is on winter hours starting November 1, 2021, Wednesday 9 am – 4 pm and Saturday 9am – 1pm; these hours will remain in effect until May 1, 2022.

BAG TAG PRICE increased from \$2.50 per tag to \$2.75 per tag starting January 1, 2022.

ICE RENTALS: The Howick Community Center is pleased to be open for rentals of the auditorium and ice surface. For details please visit either the Howick Community Centre Facebook page, our website www. howick.ca or contact us by phone at 519-335-3883.

The Township of Howick is receiving resumes for

HEAD GUARD,
ASSISTANT HEAD GUARD,
INSTRUCTOR/GUARDS,
ASSISTANT WATER SAFETY
INSTRUCTORS (AWSI)/
LIFEGUARDS IN TRAINING

for the 2022 pool season.

Resumes will be accepted either by email or in person at the Howick Township municipal office. You can email your Resume/Cover letter to clerk@howick.ca. Resumes will be accepted until 4 pm on February 11, 2022. Please specify on your resume which position(s) you are applying for. Job descriptions are available upon request.

The Township of Howick would like to thank all applicants for their interest, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Information collected will be used in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the purpose of selection and will not be used for any other reason. The Township of Howick is an equal opportunity employer. Accommodations are available for all parts of the recruitment process. Applicants need to make their needs known in advance. All positions available may be contingent on receiving government grant funding.

The Wroxeter Community Hall morning coffee shop will reopen on Monday, January 31st, 2022 from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. We welcome you back! Social distancing, proof of vaccination and masks are mandatory.

> The members of the hall appreciate your understanding during these difficult times.

> > Please follow us on facebook "Wroxeter Community Hall - 1054 Centre Street" for the latest updates.

> > > Stay safe everyone!

WROXETER HALL NEWS

Marion's Meanderings

Br..r..r.! Back to an "old fashioned" winter! What a change from the last months of mild temperatures and rain! Takes me back to the late 60's and 70's, when we often had snow banks piled almost to the hydro wires! On more than one occasion, there would be snow drifts completely blocking the road between our farm and Fordwich. My husband's birthday was on April 8th, and more than once, we could not get into town until the plows got through the roads on or around his birthday! We have thankfully not experienced that again in the last few years.

Covid numbers are not going down as we had hoped for, but the children are back in school. I am amazed at the way most of the children are handling the wearing of masks, and taking precautions while at school. If only all the adults would be as cautious! Although I am very tired of being "shut-in", with only now and then leaving home for appointments and the occasional shopping trip, I am thankful to my family for getting my groceries. Especially my grandchildren who keep me supplied with fire wood! We all need to give a huge shout of gratitude to all the health care workers and other essential workers who are exhausted, and some becoming ill themselves, but continue to provide care for all the people who are suffering from Covid 19, along with all the "usual" health problems.

To one and all, may you all stay safe and healthy!

Marion











Visit us at one of our two locations:

Stratford Memorials - Listowel

Call 519.291.5353 • 195 Argyle Avenue North, Listowel Check us out at www.stratfordmemorials.com

Open All Year Round

Harriston Superior Monuments

Call 519.338.2342 • 60 Mill St., Harriston Check us out at www.superiormemorials.com







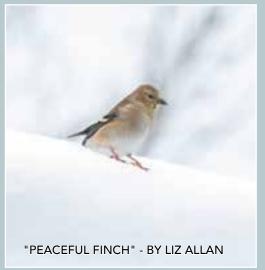


Maitland Valley CAMERA CLUB

Due to COVID 19, members of the Maitland Valley Camera Club will not be meeting in the Brussels Library until further notice.

Many of the members are taking photos and posting to the facebook page, "Maitland Valley Camera Club". Check out the page for the latest updates.







Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love. - Mother Teresa

BK Overhead Doors

Kyle MacDonald 519-357-5252

BK.OverheadDoors@gmail.com

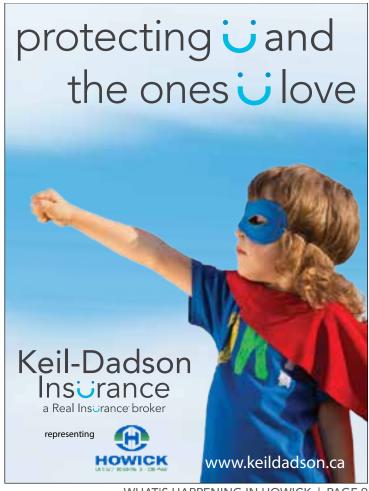
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AGRICULTURE * COMMERCIAL * RESIDENTIAL

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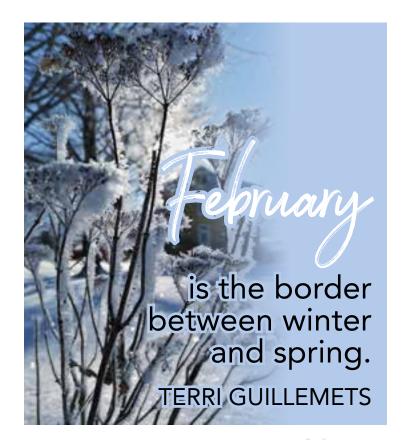
From the Howick Fire Department:

IS YOUR WOOD STOVE SAFE?

It is important to know that improperly installed and maintained wood stoves and fireplaces can lead to dangerous conditions that put you, your family and neighbours at risk.

- FOLLOW THE RULES, when purchasing a wood stove or fireplace insert be sure it meets established safety standards. Check with the local building department and obtain any necessary permits/ inspections prior to installation.
- INSPECT AND CLEAN YOUR CHIMNEY, regularly check all joints, flue pipes and dampers are securely fastened, check for any obstructions, creosote buildup and clean. If in doubt, consult a WETT certified chimney sweep
- **KEEP A FIRE SAFE SPACE**, maintain at least 1.5 meters space around your woodstove clear of any combustibles, fire wood, children and pets.
- BURN DRY WOOD, only burn clean dry well seasoned wood. Do not burn rubbish or other construction materials.
- REMOVE ASHES SAFELY, allow ashes to cool fully.
 Use only metal containers to store ashes in. Take ashes outside and store well away from anything combustible.
- INSTALL & MAINTAIN WORKING SMOKE & CARBON MONOXIDE (CO) ALARMS, It is the
 LAW in Ontario to have working smoke alarms on
 every level and outside sleeping areas in your home.
 It is also LAW to have a working CO Alarm outside
 sleeping areas if you have a fueled fired appliance,
 this includes wood stove or fire place. Test alarms
 monthly.
- SMOKE & CO ALARMS DON'T LAST FOREVER, don't wait check the date. Replace smoke alarms every 10 years and CO alarms every 7 years or as directed by the manufacturer.
- ESCAPE
 PLANNING,
 plan and practice
 a home fire
 escape plan that
 includes two ways
 out and a safe
 meeting place
 outside.





Celebrations Q





Community CHURCHES



MCINTOSH & MILDMAY UNITED CHURCHES

Worship services during JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH will take place Sundays at 10am at Mildmay United.

This is due to added safety concerns at McIntosh with winter road conditions.

Dave Mawhinney - 519.392.6710

Deanne Dickson - 519.418.9748

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

7 CLARKE ST. N., CLIFFORD **Rev. J. Rinas** as Pastor

Sunday School and Bible Class at **9am**Sunday Divine Service at **10am**

stjohnsoffice@wightman.ca
Office: 519.327.8298
Church Basement: 519.327.8262

Belmore Presbyterian Church

Join us for our Worship Service at 9:30am Everyone is welcome!

REV. CAREL GRUNDLINGH - 226.222.0051 carel.grundlingh@gmail.com

ABE VERSTEEG - 519.327.8578

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

Due to Covid restrictions, we have 2 Sunday services at 9 & 11am. Masks are mandatory.

Contact Pastor Kurt. E. Reinhardt if you plan to attend.

519.291.1165 - trinity1874@gmail.com

6784B Perth Line 88, KURTZVILLE

A Congregation of LUTHERAN CHURCH - CANADA

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"

Gorrie Bible Fellowship

www.gbfchurch.net Find us on Facebook

Join us for Sunday morning services at **9:00 or 11:00am**. All are welcome. Sunday evening services begin at **6:30pm**.

519.335.3500 | info@gbfchurch.net

The Gorrie and Wroxeter United Churches are **closed** due to COVID 19 until further notice.

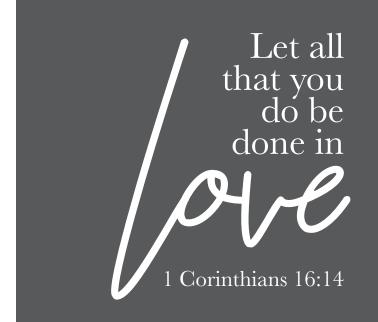


Rev. Jeff Hawkins will be live each Sunday morning at 9:30am through our facebook page **Gorrie Wroxeter United Church** for the service.

We thank Rev. Jeff Hawkins for these services and McKinley Orr for posting the songs and the updates. Thanks to all who are able to join us each Sunday.

At this time there will be **NO popcan pickups**. We will keep you updated.

Pictured: January Service Epiphany Sunday







BURNS, William (Jack) of Wroxeter, passed away peacefully January 4th, 2022, at the Fordwich Village Nursing Home with his family by his side. Jack was born 84 years ago in Barrie, Ontario. Son of the late John Ewart and Laura Adia (nee Linn) Burns. Survived by his childhood sweetheart, best friend and wife of 63 years, Gail Burns (nee Payne) of Wroxeter. Proud

father of son David (Jennifer) of Wroxeter, daughters Jackie (Paul) of Orangeville, Sharon (Tim) of Ripley. Cherished Granddad to Jenna, James, Jacob, Kassie, Mackenzie, Josh, Baylen, Tyler, Laura, Eric. Also, left to mourn, brother Ross (Elizabeth) of Thornhill, sisters-in-law Bernadette of Thornhill, Ginny Carley (Wayne Margison) of Oakville, brothers-inlaw Phil Payne (Val) of Milton, John Payne (Ali) Burlington, numerous nieces and nephews and dear friends Ernie and Joan Moynahan of Mississauga. Predeceased by brothers Harold (Nancy), Ron (Beth), and Larry. Jack attended Shaw's Business College in 1956 where he met the love of his life Gail. Jack was a 10-year veteran with the Metro Toronto Police Force, 22 Division. In 1969 the family moved from Etobicoke to the farm in Wroxeter where he became a player with the Wroxeter men's fastball team. Jack also became a highly regarded umpire throughout the area. Jack was a proud member of the Inaugural Howick Community Centre Board, serving on the Entertainment Committee. A busy man for sure, but he did enjoy summer family holidays at Wasaga Beach. In 1981 Waterline Products in Rexdale recruited him to their company to be their warehouse manager. While there he became a mentor to several young men who came from the Wroxeter/Wingham area to work and join the baseball team that he organized. Jack started umpiring in Mississauga/Brampton and became the Umpire in Chief for the Mississauga Umpire Association. He was honoured to be selected to umpire in the 1995 Women's Canadian Fastpitch Championships. Jack continued doing renovations until he moved back to Wroxeter in 2017. Jack was generous and always willing to lend a helping hand. Even during his time in the Fordwich Village Nursing home he could often be seen dusting or adjusting screws on the dinning room tables. He was "one of a kind". Jack was an amazing life partner and exceptional father and Grandad. He will be forever loved and eternally missed. The family is very grateful for the compassionate and loving care Jack received at the Fordwich Village Nursing Home. Visitation was held at Glen Oaks Funeral Home, Oakville on Friday, January 21, 2022. A private Family Funeral Service was held at Glen Oaks Funeral Home on Saturday, January 22, 2022. Please visit the website details. www.arbormemorial.ca/glenoaks/obituaries/ william-jack-burns/76743 In lieu of flowers, donations to the Alzheimer Society or The Fordwich Village Nursing Home, in memory of Jack Burns, will be greatly appreciated.



RASMUSSEN, Lars Peter of Harriston passed away at Victoria Hospital, London on Thursday, January 6, 2022, at the age of 60 years. Husband of Cathy (Simmermaker) Rasmussen. Father of Aimee Lootsma and her husband Mike of Port Elgin. Grandfather of Owen Lambley. Son of Elly Rasmussen of Listowel and the late Ole Rasmussen. Brother of Hans and Phyllis Rasmussen

of Bloomington, Illinois, and Inger and Bo Ivo of Atwood, and brother-in-law of Bill and Judy Simmermaker of Cambridge. Remembered also by his nephews Erik Rasmussen, Ole Ivo, Aksel Ivo, Anders Ivo (Melissa), and Chris Simmermaker (Jamie), and by their families. A private funeral service was held at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Kurtzville on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, Rev. Kurt Reinhardt officiating. The service was recorded and the link available on the funeral home website. Spring interment in Trinity Lutheran Church Cemetery, Kurtzville. Memorial donations to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church would be appreciated.



CRANDALL, Joyanne 'Joy' Christina (Weber) of Fordwich, passed away at Listowel Memorial Hospital on Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at the age of 79. Wife of Lee Crandall. Mother of Bonnie & Larry Lawrence of Kitchener, Peter Bratusa & Verna of Stratford, and Paul Bratusa of Kitchener, and stepmother of Lori Crandall of Barrie. Grandmother of

Adam & Lindsay Lawrence, Sarah & Andrew Laing, Amanda Bratusa & Jeremy, Mike & Nicole Bratusa, Nicole Bratusa, Chris Bratusa, Joshua Bratusa, Melissa Framton, and Jessica Frampton, and great-grandmother of Ian, Avery, Mason, Carter, Aria, Talia, Brandon, Jacob, Rachel, Olivia-Jade, Benjamin, and Austin. Joy was predeceased by her parents Wally & Alice (Eckel) Weber. Private family arrangements have been entrusted to the Eaton Funeral Home, Listowel, with a Celebration of Joy's life being held in the spring. Memorial donations to Royal Canadian Legion, Howick Branch, would be appreciated. Online condolences may be left at www.eatonfuneralhome.ca.

Versteeg Thankyou

Thank you to all the staff and caregivers at the Fordwich Village Nursing Home for the excellent care and support that our Mother, Catharina Versteeg, received during her stay. The past two years were difficult for everyone, but everyone there did an outstanding job of keeping the residents safe and happy there. The kindness shown to our Mom and all of us will be remembered.

Sincerely, The Family of Catharina Versteeg

Pituaries



GIBSON, John "Pudge" - At Braemar Nursing Home in Wingham on Saturday, January 22, 2022, John "Pudge" Gibson of Wroxeter passed away at the age of 87. Beloved husband of the late Joan (Clark) Gibson. Cherished father of Michael Gibson & Cindy Gammage of Wroxeter, Douglas & Claire Gibson of Moonbeam, Robert & Jan Gibson of Parry Sound and Mary Ellen & George

Murray of Clifford. Dear grandfather of ten grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren with his twelfth on the way. John will be missed by his sister Daisy Gibson (Dorothy) and brothers Robert & Barbara Gibson and William Gibson (Les). Predeceased by his parents Robert & Johanna (Ewald) Gibson and one great-granddaughter. A private funeral service took place at McBurney Funeral Home, Wingham on Monday, January 24th at 2:00 p.m. Interment and a celebration of John's life will be held in the spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Wroxeter United Church or the Alzheimer Society would be appreciated.



HENHOEFFER THANKYOU

The Ron Henhoeffer family thanks everyone for your kindness and support with Ron's recent passing. Your thoughts and prayers ease our loss and grief. A special thank you for sharing your stories of Ron as they underscore his gentle, generous nature. They also remind us Ron planted deep roots in our community and that he had a life well lived and loved.



We are deeply grateful to those who helped fulfill Ron's wish to remain at home in spite of the challenges of his Alzheimer's disease: Dr. Jan Piskorz and his staff, Home Instead and Home Care staff, Meals on Wheels volunteers and the Community Care nursing team.

For those who made Ron's service a true celebration of his life, we thank you all. The Lee family at Hardy-Lee Funeral Home with your care and compassion, Reverend Jeff Hawkins for your spiritual thoughtfulness and guidance, friend John Grobbo for your elegant eulogy, organist Margaret Livermore for your soothing music, Elora Street Flowers for your lovely floral arrangements, Betty and Ralph Tarr for your home cooked meal.

Many donations have been made in Ron's memory to Huron County Alzheimer Society. Your generosity will help local families cope with their Alzheimer journey.

When you see a 'little B' Allis mowing a lawn this summer, give it an extra wave for Ron!



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.

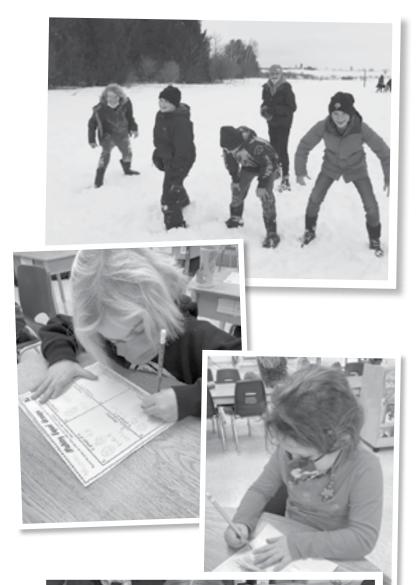


FIREWOOD HARDWOOD RUN THROUGH PROCESSOR 519 291 0490





UPDATE HOWICK CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL





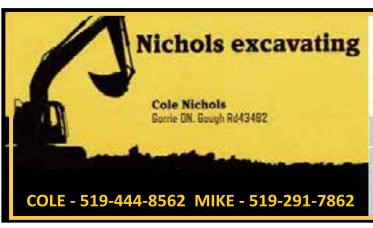
SUBMITTED BY TRACEY SWART, PRINCIPAL

We are very happy to be back at Howick Central Public School after a brief delay for in person learning. We were scheduled to return to school on Monday January 17th but Mother Nature delayed us by one day. We are very hopeful that we can stay in the building as our staff and families know that is what is best for all of us! The pandemic has been hard on everyone and as a school community we participated in many in class activities to recognize Avon Maitland District School Board's Mental Health and Awareness week. This week coincided with Bell's Let Talk Day on Wednesday January 26th.

It is hard to believe that February marks the halfway point of the school year as first term report cards will come home toward the end of February. We know the rest of the year will fly by and we will make the best of every learning opportunity. Our primary classes have been focusing a lot of their attention on phonological awareness activities as there is research to support the fact that learning how to isolate sounds, blend sounds, and segment words is the greatest predictor of success in early reading. It has been amazing to watch the students blossom in their reading skills.

Our ever helpful School Council plans to run another fundraiser in the late winter/early spring with Dad's Pizza. Please consider supporting this cause when this fundraiser begins. Another great supporter of our school is Colleen Schenk who is our Avon Maitland District School Board trustee for this area. She is dedicated to representing the schools in her area and we will be sad to see her retire from her role this year. We thank her for her years of service to our school community and encourage anyone else who is passionate about education to consider becoming a trustee

Finally, just a reminder that if you are new to the area or have not yet done so it is not too late to register for kindergarten for the 2022-2023 school year. Registration for September 2022 is for children who are 3 years old by December 31, 2021 (JK-born in 2018) and for children who are 4 years old by December 31, 2020 (SK-born in 2017). Please register your child for AMDSB Kindergarten at amdsb.ca/kindergarten. If you have any questions please contact the school at 519-335-3566.



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