Remembrance Day was observed in Beeton on Sunday, November 5, with a ceremony and wreath laying at the Town Cenotaph. Members of Beeton Legion Branch 421, Cadets, members of the Armed Forces, and police took part along with local residents. For more on commemorations throughout the community, please see Page 6.

PHOTO BY BRIAN LOCKHART
2017 MAZDA 3

Not many vehicles successfully combine style, dynamics, and value in a compact package, but the Mazda 3 does, which is why it's a 10 Best Winner.

– Car and Driver

2017 MAZDA 6

If you think all family sedans are created equal, you're in for a surprise with the nimble and curvaceous Mazda 6. It lives up to its racy looks, too—a precision-tuned suspension and driver-focused cabin make it the ideal choice for those who enjoy driving.

– Car and Driver

2017 MAZDA MX-5

Miata Retractable Fastback (RF), which combines a power-retractable targa top with a gorgeous fastback roofline. In other words, it’s the Miata coupe you’ve been waiting for, only better.

– The Car Connection
Trillium Ford and Alliston Union help to “Scare Away Hunger”

BY WENDY GABREK

The ME to WE movement is alive in Alliston. Helping to “Scare Away Hunger” this Hallowe’en, students at Alliston Union Public School, and customers and employees of Trillium Ford Lincoln Ltd., collected more than 1,000 non-perishable food items, and $110 in cash, during the ME to WE food drive throughout the month of October. The non-perishable food items, and $110 in cash, was divided between the Good Shepherd Food Bank, the Our Town Foodbank, and Alliston Out of the Cold.

It was also an excellent learning opportunity for students, who incorporated aspects of the food drive into their studies. A partner of WE, Ford dealers across the nation were matched with schools, and challenged to collect items in support of their local food bank.

Trillium Ford was matched with Alliston Union, and Grade 6 students made quick work of collecting food and spreading the word. Posters were made, and boxes were filled. Proudly, students gave their time and energy to make this year’s food drive a success, under direction from their teacher, Natalie Clinton.

Using “Frank the Can”: a visual aid similar to the holiday “Elf on the Shelf”, students took pictures for social media daily as a reminder that there was still time to donate.

In the end, two Trillium Ford F-150s were filled, and the cash and food was delivered following a photo op at the school, on Monday, November 6th.

Food that had expired, or that was severely damaged, was donated to Silver Willow Animal Sanctuary and Rescue Farm, to help feed surrendered and rescued horses, goats, pigs and other animals, throughout the winter months.

The Good Shepherd Food Bank, open Monday afternoons, received the cash as well as a portion of the food. Our Town got the bulk of the food, as the little food bank supports more than 110 families monthly, and is in constant need of donations.

Out of the Cold, located on Paris Street, Alliston, provides safe, respectful and welcoming overnight accommodations, as well as hot meals for those experiencing homelessness from November through April.

In Alliston there is a rise in requests for housing help and lack of affordable housing. As such, Out of the Cold received the majority of the breakfast foods, to help ensure shelter users get a good start to the day.

With the discovery of a large homeless youth population in the area, other businesses are also pitching in.

Clothz Alliston, will host a charity event for Out of the Cold on Thursday, November 16.

“We will be offering store wide sales, snacks, beverages, free gift with purchase and a silent auction where 100% of the proceeds will be donated to Out of the Cold.”

“Each year, students give us a portion of their proceeds. It’s only fitting that our fruits of labor go towards the people in our community. We have the opportunity to do something nice for someone else, and for that we are thankful.”

Alliston Union will host a second food drive before the holidays.

Because not knowing where your next meal will come from is as scary as it gets – Students in Alliston Union Public School’s ‘Extended French as a Second Language’ (EFSFL) Grade 6 class are seen here with their teacher, Ms Natalie Clinton (top row, far left), along with Trillium Ford Lincoln (TFL) sales associate, Peter Hayward, TFL general manager, Eric Vant Spyker, and Ward 1 councillor, Marc Biss. They are pictured with some of the 1000+ items collected during the ‘WE Scare Hunger’ food drive throughout the month of October. The non-perishable food items, and $110 in cash, was divided between the Good Shepherd Food Bank, the Our Town Foodbank, and Alliston Out of the Cold.

PHOTO BY WENDY GABREK
Editorial, Letters & Opinion

“The window to the world can be covered by a newspaper.”
- Stanislaw Jerzy Lec

The 200 Club

BY BROCK WEIR

I had wondered if it would lose its impact this year.

New initiatives sometimes lose their lustre after the initial period of buzz, the novelty wears off, it becomes more or less “white noise” over time.

These thoughts were in my mind a few days ago as I strolled through my own hometown.

Municipal employees were hard on the job, their hands working in a flurry from the top of a cherry picker as they removed celebratory banners, complete with multicoloured fireworks, from downtown lampposts, replacing them with banners depicting Canada’s servicemen and service women, a tribute spearheaded by the local Royal Canadian Legion as well as the Town itself.

Some are faces I have never seen before, often sponsored in place by families who have lost a loved one in a theatre of war, grief never dulled by the passage of time.

Others have been sponsored by families extraordinarily proud of the service their grandparents, parents, siblings or gave to this country and lived to tell the tale with an equal measure of pride.

Still more are honoured by local companies and organizations for whom their valued employees are either recent veterans or still-serving members various branches of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Each banner has a story to tell, and each story packs its own unique punch.

After the initial year, however, I wondered if this would be a “living” documentation of the community’s association with service.

As mentioned above, once programs like these are in motion for a year or two, they tend to lose traction and become static, trotted out for all too short a time, one small window in just one month, with fading glimmers of recognition.

I am glad to say this is not the case as the initiative has lost none of its powerful message and continues to add new faces.

One particular face this year caught my attention.

Although the face of Albert Arcand graced the banner program in its inaugural year, my eyes were drawn upwards for different reasons this year.

Arcand, who served in Europe during the Second World War, was a regular fixture at Remembrance Events, sharing his experiences with old and young alike.

I had the pleasure of interviewing him several times over the years, and was struck by how he and his fellow veterans were always able to forge a strong connection with generations for whom war is a more or less distant concept.

In recent years, the Legion has spoken of the reluctance some comparative youngsters – veterans and service personnel from recent conflicts – have in becoming actively involved with the Legion.

Every time I had the occasion to speak to the family of a veteran, I had wondered if it would lose its impact this year.

I hope the veterans of today soon recognize the need to become involved and tell their stories.

There will come a day when schools will be hard-pressed to find someone to share the always timely message of “Never again” with the kids who can realise that dream.

But that doesn’t have to be the case.

SUPPORT FOR OUR TEENS – Kerry Worrod (left) presents a cheque for $1,500 to Linda Stevens, a representative of the Tottenham & District Lions Club Inc., at the Tottenham Mall on Thursday, October 26. Funds will be used to support local teenagers this holiday season, through the Christmas Gift Basket Program. To date, The Michael Worrod Memorial Fund has donated $7000 to the local Lions Club.

Please note: the photo that ran in the November 2nd edition of The Times was actually a photo of Kerry Worrod presenting a cheque to Robine Hawkes, president of the Our Town Food Bank, serving Tottenham and Beeton. Worrod presented Hawkes with a cheque for $3,500, bringing his 10-year donation to the not-for-profit organization to over $20,000. We apologize for any inconvenience this error may have caused.

PHOTO BY WENDY GABREK

Run your ad for just a couple of minutes to get noticed!
Alliston Business Improvement Association brings free Wi-Fi to downtown

BY WENDY GABREK

The Alliston Business Improvement Association (ABIA) announced the introduction of a solar powered free public Wi-Fi service to the Alliston downtown core last week.

Following a lengthy feasibility study and procurement process that considered multiple vendors, the Alliston BIA selected Royal City IT to install and maintain the wireless network in the ABIA’s catchment area.

“The network roll out will be phased approached,” said Lachlan McGurk, ABIA director of communications, who managed the project.

“The first phase is live on Victoria Street, powered purely by solar power. Upon satisfactory completion of phase one, and satisfactory feedback, the network will expand to Alliston’s West along Young Street as far as Alliston’s boundaries.”

“This exciting project demonstrates to our member businesses and community partners that we are willing to invest in progressive initiatives to enhance our downtown ecosystem,” said Mike Jerry, ABIA chair. “The area represented by the ABIA makes up the second largest employer and second largest property taxpayer base in the Town of New Tecumseth.

Represented by the ABIA’s downtown to support the established businesses, entice new businesses, and validate Alliston’s image as an independent, viable progressive centre of commerce.”

For more information on this and all ABIA initiatives contact Linda Spurr, at info@allistonbia.com

Members of the Alliston Business Improvement Association board didn’t waste any time logging into the free Wi-Fi now offered along Victoria Street West, in Alliston’s historic downtown core, courtesy of their own organization. Pictured from left (back row): Mike Jerry, ABIA chair, Ro Davoodian ABIA director, Ward 2 Councillor and ABIA director, Michael K. Beattie, Sherry Ward, ABIA vice chair, Lachlan McGurk, ABIA communications director; Julie Stubbs, ABIA treasurer, Linda Spurr; ABIA general manager, Ryan Fox; ABIA director. Front row, from left: Norma Freithal, ABIA office administrator, and Heidi MacKenzie. Absent: Colleen Ross, ABIA director.

PHOTO BY WENDY GABREK
Owners of vehicles are hereby advised that in order to facilitate street maintenance including snow clearing and/or removal, parking is prohibited, pursuant to By-Law 03-128, s.10, on all streets between 2 a.m. to 7 a.m. effective from November 1st to April 30th. Vehicles parked on the streets between 2 a.m. and 7 a.m. will be ticketed and should it be necessary to remove the vehicle, the owner will be charged with the cost of removal. This prohibition is in effect whether it is snowing or not. If you park where prohibited during the time frame outlined above, you will receive a $35 fine that must be voluntarily paid within 10 days. If the fine is not paid within 10 days, the set fine will be increased by $15. The Town will not be liable for any damage done by street maintenance equipment to vehicles parked on Town streets. Outside of the above-mentioned dates, a five-hour parking restriction is in effect, unless otherwise signed. Cindy Anne Maher, Clerk/Director of Administration Services.

For information about the study please contact Katie Huddleston, Museum & Heritage Supervisor at 705-435-4030 x 1805 or khuddleston@newtecumseth.ca.
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- D'ITALIANO BREAD ASSORTED VARIETIES *AFTER SALE 1.99
- CYCLAMEN 6” POT *AFTER SALE 4.99
- OKA FAMILY CHEESES DELI CUT, ASSORTED VARIETIES 299.00¢ 100g
- OKA FAMILY CHEESES DEBUTING 399.00¢ 8”
- VINCE’S OWN APPLE PIE BAKED FRESH IN STORE 299.00¢ 340g

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- OKA FAMILY CHEESES DEBUTING 399.00¢ 8”
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- OKA FAMILY CHEESES DEBUTING 399.00¢ 8”
- OKA FAMILY CHEESES DELI CUT, ASSORTED VARIETIES 299.00¢ 100g
- OKA FAMILY CHEESES DEBUTING 399.00¢ 8”
- OKA FAMILY CHEESES DELI CUT, ASSORTED VARIETIES 299.00¢ 100g
BY WENDY GABREK

On Saturday, October 28th, the Alliston Business Improvement Association (ABIA) hosted its annual ‘Monster Mash’ throughout downtown Alliston.

The spooktacular event saw ghouls and goblins pour into the street, to trick-or-treat (or Candy Crawl) their way through the downtown core, and finally arriving a Monster Headquarters – via the Alliston Farmers’ Market – for gory games, a haunted corn maze, skeleton petting zoo, frightful ABIA loot bags, nightmarish pony rides, bloody pumpkin painting, scary musicians, and evil magicians.

A highlight of the ABIA’s Signature Events Series, the Monster Mash was made possible through funding from Alliston BIA business members and sponsors.

“Thank you to those who support these community events,” said Linda Spurr, ABIA General Manager. “The Alliston Business Improvement Association gave out more than 800 trick-or-treat bags to little ghosts and goblins, and local business owners reported having upwards of a thousand families attend at the stores during the Candy Crawls, that took place throughout the event.”

For more information about upcoming Alliston BIA events, visit RUR-BAN.ca – and don’t forget to mark a ‘Rurban Christmas’ on your calendar which takes place on November 18, from 4-5:30 p.m. on Victoria Street at Mill Street, prior to the Rotary Nite Lit Santa Claus Parade.

This event includes: Christmas caroling with ‘Sugarstones’, hot cider and hot chocolate, ‘Rurban’ tree ornaments which children can decorate and take away, and a tree lighting at 5:30 p.m.

“Shops will be open for shoppers to take advantage of the Festive Sales too,” adds Spurr. “Even Santa shops downtown Alliston! Don’t miss your chance to spot the Jolly Elf and take a quick ‘selfie’ with Santa before the parade from 5–6 p.m. on Mill Street.”

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- Teen Driver
Alliston Hornets lose in third period to Stayner Siskins

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

This was a grudge match for sure.

With the Alliston Hornets in second place and the first place Stayner Siskins coming to town on Sunday, November 5, both teams were staked for a win – and so were the fans.

The Hornets gave up a loss to Stayner the last time the two teams met and the Alliston squad was out to even the score on home ice.

After a solid first period, the game was tied at one but couldn’t score.

The Siskins went ahead on a powerplay goal early in the period then followed up with a short-handed goal just over two minutes later.

A final Siskins goal with four minutes left on the clock eliminated any real chance of the Hornets to get back in the game.

“I thought we came out pretty hot. As the game went on we kind of got away from what we wanted to do,” said Hornets defenceman Brandon Washer after Sunday’s loss. “We started working outside of our systems. Our penalty kill wasn’t really what we wanted it to be. The end result wasn’t what we wanted. The second period was good for us. We only got one in the second but I thought we played well and had lots of opportunities. We kept them back in their own end – we just couldn’t find a way to pull it out.”

The Hornets finished in second place in the League behind Stayner last year but finished off the season by eliminating the Siskins in the final series.

“Starting from right when we get to the rink a lot of the guys like to get there a little earlier when we play Stayner because we prepare a little differently. We get our stretches in and have a team meeting. Before our warm-up everyone is focused. We want to beat Stayner and hopefully we will in the next couple of games.”

After the weekend the Hornets have a 14-4 record and are maintaining second place in the Carruthers division of the PJHL.

The Hornets will be back on home ice on Friday, November 10, when they will host the Schomberg Cougars.

Game time is 7:30 p.m.
St. John’s hosts second annual concert series

St. John’s is proud to present its second annual concert series.

Organizer John Dodington says that over the 2017/2018 season they have lined up four fabulous concerts.

If you are looking for entertainment for the whole family, then look no further. The first concert in the series is Rhythmx out of Orangeville.

Rhythmx is comprised of Chanda and Frank Leahy and five of their six children who range in age from 6 to 15. They love entertaining people with Celtic music, step dancing and clogging, building on a rich heritage while carrying on a custom of past generations. The children not only sing and dance, but they all play the fiddle while Mom accompanies on the keyboard and Dad on percussion.

Everyone will love this high energy show. Come out on Sunday, November 12. In keeping with entertainment for the whole family, organizers have selected an afternoon time of 2:30 pm. Tickets are $25, with a special student price of $10.

The second concert in the series is on February 10, at 7:30 pm, and will see the return by popular demand of the Elmer Iseler Singers with a whole new repertoire of music.

The Iseler Singers are Canada’s finest professional choral ensemble and perform under the direction of Lydia Adams. Again this year, they will be conducting a vocal workshop before the concert. This was very popular last year as over 90 people signed up for the workshop and they all got to perform with the EIS at the grand finale of the concert (with an emphasis on “Grand”). It was the largest workshop ever for this concert. Get your tickets early as this sold out quickly last year.

Tickets are $35 for adults, $20 for students. Workshop with the purchase of concert ticket is Adult $15, student $5.

April 7 will be a thrill for New Tecumseth, as singer/songwriter Victoria Banks will be coming from Nashville to perform for a 7:30 pm concert.

Victoria is a native of Port Carling, Muskoka who has been living in Nashville for 15 years. She is a brilliant performer and songwriter, who has won numerous awards including Canadian Country Music Award for Best Female Vocalist of the Year and Best Songwriter of the Year. She has toured with such notables as Randy Travis, Reba McEntire, Lonestar and Johnny Reid.

She co-wrote with Johnny Reid his No. 1 hit “Dance With Me”. John Dodington is proud to be able to say that Victoria is his niece, and from past concerts, vouch that her performances are loved by people between the ages of 5 to 99. Tickets are Adults $25, Students $10.

The final concert the series is on May 5th, at 7:30 pm, and will feature a very talented local young soprano Katie Thurman.

People of all ages will enjoy this concert. Tickets are Adults $15, Students $10. Save money by purchasing series tickets for all four concerts before November 12. Tickets make excellent Christmas/birthday gifts. Adults $75, Students $40.

Tickets are available from St. John’s Church office: 705-435-6732 ext#201, Mardi Dodington 416-451-1504, Aliston retail outlets: Herbert’s Western Wear, Paperno, South Simcoe Arts Council. You can now purchase tickets on-line: ticketsstjohnsallison@gmail.com

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• Find the closest emergency services
• Get real-time weather reports
• Find the closest nearby McDonald’s
• Find available car charging stations
• And more...
Tampered candy threat in Beeton sparks Police alert

The Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police would like to remind parents to carefully check their children’s Halloween candy after a report of tampered treats came from a local Beeton resident.

The treats were possibly tampered with were small Smartie boxes with unusual looking Smarties inside. The children who opened the boxes of Smarties noticed that the candy was discoloured and not the normal Smartie appearance. They immediately disposed of them and told an adult.

It is unclear which area the candy was collected from, but Police are asking parents who have children out trick-or-treating to be extra vigilant about checking the candy that was collected. If there is anything suspicious about the packaging or candy itself, do not consume and throw it away.

SIMCOE COUNTY CASE FILES INITIATIVE EXPANDS

On Wednesday, March 16, 2016, shortly after 12:00 p.m., officers from the Huronia West Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) responded to a report of human remains being located in a section of the Simcoe County Forest, east of Pill Road, south of Hilview Crescent, Springwater Township.

The human remains were later confirmed as belonging to 30-year-old Jaimee Lee Miller who was reporting missing to the Barrie Police Service (BPS) on November 2, 2015 and the post mortem examination positively determined that she was a victim of foul play.

It has been two years since Jaimee Lee Miller was last heard from by her family and as a result, the Simcoe County Case Files initiative is seeking the assistance of the public in helping her family find resolution. A series of videos have been released featuring details attributed to this ongoing investigation that will hopefully provide investigators with the information needed to solve this horrific crime.

The joint investigation that is being conducted by Detectives from the Ontario Provincial Police and the Barrie Police Service under the direction of Detective Inspector Jim Gory of the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB) continues to seek the assistance of the public and this team remains committed in their effort to identify the person or persons responsible for the death of Jaimee Lee Miller.

The dedicated Facebook page fb.me/simcoecountycasefiles will again serve as the launching point of this social media based initiative and the public is encouraged to continue doing their part in spreading the important messages contained in these videos.

A $50,000 Reward that was issued by the Government of the Province of Ontario last October remains in place and available should information be received that leads police to the perpetrator(s) of this crime.

Should you wish to remain anonymous please call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (1-800-222-8477) or submit your information online at www.crimestopperssdm.com. If you have any information on this crime or any others, being anonymous, you will not testify in court and your information may lead to a cash reward of up to $2,000.

If you have any information in regards to this crime, please contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or the Barrie Police Service at (705) 725-7025 ext 2160.

ARE YOU FOLLOWING OPP?

With winter weather around the corner, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) wish to remind the public that road closures are possible at any time of the day or while you sleep overnight.

In order to be prepared for those unexpected situations that can impact local and extended travel in Ontario, the OPP is reminding people of two great ways that exist to keep you up to date as to what roads may be open or closed.

- A great way to stay well informed is to follow the OPP on Twitter and, in particular, the Provincial Communications Centre (PCC) in Orillia that is responsible for all police related calls taking and dispatching in the OPP/Central Region.

There are 14 detachments within the OPP Central Region that stretches from Caledon in the southwest to Huntsville in the north and south to Northumberland County.

This Communications Centre also dispatches the 400 Series Highways which traverse the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), Highway 400, Highway 407, and all the secondary highways that are patrolled by Highway Safety Division (HSD) detachments from Niagara Falls to Whitby and southwest to Cambridge.

The OPP Communications CR account can be followed @ OPP_COMM.CR and is constantly updated 24-hours a day. This allows for you and our media partners to have the most current and updated road conditions throughout Central Ontario.

For Central Region related matters, that may include wanted or missing persons, and other valuable public safety messages, the OPP is encouraging the public to follow us on Twitter @ OPP_CR.

Detachments in Central Region will also be using hashtags to address localized issues and community based events and your local media officers will share those with you in future media releases.

The OPP is committed to you and your safety. Follow us on Twitter and we will make sure that you know as soon as we do when a road or highway needs to be closed due to weather, collisions or any other police related activity. Additional information on other OPP Social Media Accounts can be found on our website www.opp.ca.

GET ITEMS ENGRAVED FOR CRIME PREVENTION WEEK

Crime Prevention Week runs from November 5 – 11. Please do your part in preventing crime and make sure all of your personal items and valuables are always secure and out of sight of criminals.

If your belongings are taken, how can you help Police to identify your items?

You may not know the serial number of the item, but you will always remember the engraved marking. This could be your initials, a number, or any other marking.

Prenatal classes now online

Are you a parent to be looking for a local prenatal class? The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit offers free prenatal classes in person, as well as online for those who prefer to take classes at a time when it’s more convenient for them.

Both in-person and online classes include information on labour and birth, comfort measures, medical procedures, newborns, after the baby comes, breastfeeding and more. In-person prenatal classes offer an opportunity to meet other pregnant people and families, talk about pregnancy, birth, and newborns and get answers to questions and concerns from a public health nurse. These classes occur in Barrie, Bracebridge, Bradford, Caledon, Cookstown, Huntsville, Midland and Orillia.

You can register for in-person or online prenatal classes by calling Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You can also register for an online prenatal class at www.simdhu.org/prenatalclass.
Classifieds
Phone 905-857-6626 or 1-888-557-6626 or email admin@caledoncitizen.com

505 GENERAL HELP WANTED

201 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

BRIGHT 2 bedroom apt. for rent in Totten- ham. $800.00/month plus utilities (hydro & water). Call 905-936-4216 ext. 101.


203 CONDOS/ TOWNHOMES FOR RENT

FOR LEASE 1 year term min., 1 bdrm, 1 bath, luxury resort style condo at The Residences of Spring Hill, King City. Call 905-859-1836.

406 VEHICLES WANTED

CASH FOR SCRAP VEHICLES: Scrap vehicles wanted, any size. No ownership required. Fast service, free towing, loose scrap removed. Also, cash paid on the spot. Call 905-859-0817 or 647-227-3954. Open Sundays. ABATE.

ADVERTISING RULES OF THIS NEWSPAPER

The advertiser agrees that the policy shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by the portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to negligence of its servants or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement. All advertisers are asked to check their advertisements after first insertion. We accept responsibility for only one re- correct insertion unless notified immediately after publication. Errors which do not lessen the value of the advertisement are not eligible for corrections by a make-good advertisement. There shall be no liability for non-insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement. We reserve the right to edit, classify or reject any advertisement.

DEADLINES

Unfortunately deadlines do not allow us to take ads after 5:00 p.m. on Mon- day. When there is a holiday Monday, the deadlines will be Friday at 5:00 p.m. All ads must be paid in advance by deadline or the ad will not run. WE ACCEPT VISA, MASTERCARD, AND AMERICAN EXPRESS PAY- MENTS OVER THE PHONE.

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IN MEMORIAMS $30 + HST
11th Annual Night Lit Santa Claus Parade: November 18

Rudolph is ready. Are you?

The Rotary Club of Alliston, with assistance from many friends of Rotary, have been working diligently to ensure that when Santa comes to town on November 18 for the Alliston Night Lit Santa Claus Parade he has the best ride in town.

At a hidden location near town, the reindeer have been trained, hundreds of lights have been hung and Santa’s sleigh has been polished.

Please join the Rotary Club of Alliston on Saturday, November 18, and welcome Santa to town. The parade starts 6:00 pm and runs west along Victoria St from Banting Memorial Secondary School, south on King St. and then west on Young St, ending at the Industrial Pkwy.

The Santa Claus float in final preparation for November 18.

The Rotary Club is making its final call for floats for the parade. Please visit www.Rotary-Alliston.org or contact Bill Wray at bill@harvestgoldfinancial.com. Entries must be in ASAP.

For more information about the parade visit www.Rotary-Alliston.org and click on the information link on the left side of the page.

The TNT Tornados Novice AA team host the Aurora Tigers at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre on Saturday, November 4. The Tornados scored the opener then held on to take a 4-3 win. The Tornados are in first place with a 9-2-1 record.

The Santa float was ready. Are you?
Study looks at mental and physical health of students

The move into high school is a tough one for local youth. A new report on the health of young people in Simcoe Muskoka shows that 1 in 4 students in high school feel they have fair to poor mental health, almost double the rate in Grades 7 and 8.

While the teen years are filled with challenges that are creating health risks, the report shows that students also feel strongly connected to their schools, which can help self-esteem and provide support for positive connections in their lives.

Youth Health in Simcoe Muskoka draws on local statistics on students from Grades 7 to 12, compiled from the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (OSDUHS) in 2015.

“This is the first time we have been able to get a comprehensive picture of local youth health,” said Dr. Lisa Simon, Associate Medical Officer of Health with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. “We know that the adolescent years are tough ones, but there are some situations here that are particularly striking, and pose a long-term risk to their health.”

Physical activity rates are low and drop significantly once students get into high school. During school nights, barely a third of high school students are getting the required eight hours of sleep.

When it comes to alcohol and drug use, the older students get the more likely they are to have tried marijuana or other drugs. Three-quarters of students in Grades 11 and 12 have consumed alcohol.

Tobacco use takes a major jump as well. While 7% of students in Grades 9 and 10 reported smoking cigarettes in the previous year, by Grades 11 and 12, it had risen to 18%.

While the picture that emerges seems bleak, the health unit has been working with school boards to develop initiatives and programs that encourage students to take leadership positions in their school and their community. The health unit is also building on current collaborations with parents, school staff and community partners to make a difference in the health of youth.
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