



*Preserving, promoting and  
developing Wellington North's  
unique cultural resources to build a  
vibrant community and a  
prosperous economy.*

## CULTURAL MOMENTS

### 2011

November 21 Marcel Labelle

### 2012

January 5 Mount Forest Hockey Club – Champions Norther League 1909 – 10

February 2 Army Jacket of Joe Raftis

March 1 Mount Forest Camera Club

March 29 Simply Explore Cover

April 24 Emily Hodges – Artist

June 6 Avalon Magazine

July 10 The Sussmans Saga

August 2 Mount Forest Sports Complex Build Photos

August 29 Chris Doraty – Artist

October 3 Cliff Smith – Artist

November 1 Toronto Daily Star November 2, 1942 – Arthur Village Gives Sons, Money to Aid War

November 27 Collage of Santa Claus Parades of the Past

### 2013

January 7 The Art of Being Métis – Documentary by Mahigan (Marcel Labelle)

February 6 Four Corners Quilt Guild

February 27 Louise Lefebvre – Artist

April 4 Elsa Mann – Artist

May 5 Two Photographs, Two Interpretations

May 30 Jones Baseline Survey Mural

July 16 Mount Forest Fireworks Festival

August 6        Memories of Arthur, Volume II

September 4    Triskele Soaps

October 2       Mitch Keirstead – Artist

October 31      Letter from JJW Brown to his Aunt Maud (Brown) Ryan, June 27, 1917

November 28    Mount Forest Carnegie Library Celebrates 100 Years

## 2014

January 10      Mount Forest Fire Brigade Constitution

February 5      Municipal Cultural Plan

March 6         Wellington North Showcase 2014

April 3          History of the Arthur Fire Department

May 7            Twelfth Field Regiment – 70th Anniversary of D Day

June 16         Simply Explore 2014

August 5        South Luther School

September 8    One Mount Forest Factory Before and After the Great War

October 6        1930's Threshing Bee Model

November 5     Freedom Isn't Free

December 15    Cultural Mapping

## 2015

February 4      Arthur Juveniles

March 5         Wellington North Showcase 2015

April 8          Local Food Series Part 1

May 6            Local Food Series Part 2

June 2          Festival & Events Guide 2015

July 10          Wellington North Simply Explore & Butter Tart Trail Guide 2015

August 6        International Hockey Medallion

September 14   Wellington North Doors Open 2015

October 1        Mount Forest Motivators Toastmasters

November 5     Canada's Phantom Regiment

December 7     Lynne Turner

## 2016

January 7	June Wagg – The Gift Activity Center
February 2	Assessment Roll for the Village of Arthur 1929
March 7	In Memory of Mike Broomhead
April 18	Volunteers are the Roots of Strong Communities
May 2	Abigail Schenk – Artist
June 6	Happy Healthy Families
June 29	Butter Tart Trail & Former Horse Buggy Trail Merge
August 4	Wellington Wood Products
September 12	Doors Open Wellington North 2016
October 5	International Plowing Match 2016
November 3	Arthur Street Banners
December 7	Santa Claus Parades

## 2017

January 9	Glenna Barton Rink Wins Ladies' Curling Title
February 13	88.7 The River
March 13	Wellington North Showcase 2017
May 8	Lieutenant Ross Samuel: First Special Service Force
June	Wellington North Farmers' Market and Butter Tarts & Buggies
July	Wellington North Youth Action Council
August 17	Saint Mary of the Purification Roman Catholic Church
September 9	Wellington North Doors Open
October 10	The Mount Forest Cemetery
November 11	Canada's Most Patriotic Village
December	Christmas Parade

## 2018

February	Community of Metz
March	9th Annual Wellington North Showcase

April	Four Corners Quilt Guild 20th Anniversary Quilt Show
May	Wellington North Farmers Market
July	Upper Canada Two Cylinder Club – 100 Years of the John Deere Tractor
August 8	Arthur Agricultural Society & Arthur Fall Fair
September	Culture Day
October	Hamlet of Conn
November	Remembrance Day
December	Mount Forest Greenhouse

## 2019

January	The Rural Doctor
February	Local Historian
March	Amalgamation
April	4-H Clubs
May	Wellington North Farmers Market
June	Wellington North Day Camps
July	West Luther's Mountain
August	JJ Morrison
September	Hamlet of Farewell
October	The Howitzer
November	Arthur Cenotaph
December	International Christmases

## 2020

January	Hotels along the Owen Sound Road
February	Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto
May	The Women's Institute
June	Arthur Lions Club and BMX Skateboard Park
June	Remembering Ian Turner
November	Remembering Nursing Sister Alice Cook
December	Past Christmases

## 2021

April 12	Hamlet of Monck
April 26	Mitch Keirstead
May 10	Hamlet of Petherton
May 25	Scottish Country Dancing
July	Seniors' Centre for Excellence
August 23	Toastmasters & The Mount Forest Motivators Club
September 9	Rothwell Family Farm & Apple Orchard
November	A Kenilworth Soldier's Story of Sorrow and Hope

## 2022

January	Robert & Mary Scott
February 7	Remembering Robert Macdonald
February 22	Spinning Wheels in the Past and Now
March 7	Spinning Wheels in the Past and Now – Spinning Fibre
April 11	Arthur 150 Years
April 25	Celebrating Our Volunteers
May	Four Corners Quilters Guild
June 6	Arthur Barn Quilt Trail
July 11/11	Mount Forest Fireworks Festival
August 29	Arthur Poppy Project
September 12	H. Gordon Green
October 11	Mount Forest Cemetery
November 7	Wellington North Women in World War I&II
December 5	Santa Claus Parade

## 2023

January 16	Sylvia Cadesky
February 6	The Raw Carrot
February 21	Anita Stewart
March 6	Horticultural Society's

## CULTURAL MOMENT

### MARCEL LABELLE

Marcel was born and raised in Mattawa Ontario, where he spent his childhood learning how to survive and feed his family in the ways of his ancestors. His teachers were his Algonquin grandmothers and Metis father and mother. When Marcel could no longer provide for his family by trapping he received a gift which led to his creating beautiful birch bark canoes from materials harvested in his back yard (his childhood forest).

Today Marcel is sharing what his Elders and Teachers shared with him and does this in part by presenting at schools and Aboriginal festivals. He has been at the Smithsonian Institute of the American Indian, in New York as well as the keynote speaker at many Aboriginal symposiums and forums. Marcel has been featured at the Canadian Aboriginal Festival, Planet IndigenUs at Harbourfront in Toronto and the Universities of Toronto and Guelph. As time permits Marcel teaches “Living on the Land” at Trent University.

He is recognized by his people as a knowledge keeper and by the Ontario Arts Council as a craftsman. He is also supported by The Department of Canadian Heritage in his efforts to share his knowledge with Aboriginal youth and mainstream society.

His greatest achievement is sharing his life with his lovely wife Joanne who together have a daughter, Janique, and son Marc and four grandchildren.

Marcel can be contacted at

519-848-3804

[mahi\\_gan@hotmail.com](mailto:mahi_gan@hotmail.com)

[www.birchbarkcanoes.ca](http://www.birchbarkcanoes.ca)

## CULTURAL MOMENT

### **MOUNT FOREST HOCKEY CLUB CHAMPIONS NORTHERN LEAGUE 1909-10**

This LeWarne photo displays individual photos of team members and Executive of the Mount Forest Hockey Club Champions Northern League 1909-10. The photo was previously hung in the Ellis Arena / Curling Club located on Elgin Street between Wellington Street and Birmingham Streets. The wooden structure burned down about 1953. George Landon of Lindsay, Ontario then acquired the photo, who was an uncle to Mount Forest resident George Woods, whom he later passed the photo on to.

The photo can now be viewed at the Mount Forest Heritage Society Archives after it had been generously donated by the Woods family in 2003.

The Mount Forest Heritage Society Archives are open Wed 1pm - 5pm or by appointment; a true local museum and archive where your heritage is on display. Genealogists and visitors will find cemetery records, family histories, photographs and historic memorabilia from schools, service clubs and sports teams. Volunteers provide support through on-line searches, photocopying and assisting in requests. Located in a beautiful architectural landmark on the Main Street, the Mount Forest Museum & Archives is where we are preserving the past for the future.

**Address:** 102 Main Street South in Mount Forest's  
Old Post Office

**Phone:** 519-323-4755

## CULTURAL MOMENT

### ARMY JACKET OF JOE RAFTIS

This army jacket belonged to Joe Raftis of Arthur, who served in Canada, England, France, Holland and Germany in WWII with the Lorne Scots of Canada.

**The Lorne Scots (Peel, Dufferin and Halton Regiment)** were formed September 14, 1866 and are a Primary Reserve infantry regiment of the Canadian Army. It is part of Land Force Central Area's 32 Canadian Brigade Group. The Lorne Scots deployed a great number of units in the Second World War as headquarters defense and employment platoons, and since 1945 and have had many soldiers deploy as individual augmentees to overseas missions tasked with peacemaking operations in the Middle East, Golan Heights, Namibia, Cambodia, Cyprus, the Former Yugoslavia and Afghanistan.

This piece of history can now be viewed in the archives at the Arthur & District Chamber of Commerce office.

Arthur is known as being “Canada’s Most Patriotic Village,” as during the Second World War the population of Arthur was approximately 890. 126 men and women of the community enlisted in the Canadian Armed Forces meaning that 1 out of 7 residents were in uniform during WWII. By the end of WWII a total of 338 residents had enlisted from the Arthur community and 25 had been killed in action. This enlistment rate was the highest percentage for a community in Canada.

## CULTURAL MOMENT

### *THE MOUNT FOREST CAMERA CLUB*

*THIS DISPLAY OF IMAGES WERE CAPTURED BY PHOTOGRAPHY  
ENTHUSIASTS FROM WELLINGTON NORTH & SURROUNDING AREA*

The Mount Forest Camera club was founded in 2010 and is beginning to grow, with members joining from other parts of Wellington North, including Arthur, and surrounding areas.

The club does a monthly share of photos on facebook and flickr online communities. They have also been generous in sharing their photography with the Mount Forest and District Chamber of Commerce and the Township of Wellington North for use in promotional materials to promote the area.

Each month a theme is given for members to take into their creative consideration.

The Mount Forest Camera Club meets the 4th Thursday of the month at 730pm at the new Faith Baptist Church in Mount Forest.

They encourage and welcome all Photography Enthusiasts to join!

To contact the Mount Forest Camera Club

Email [info@mountforestcameraclub.com](mailto:info@mountforestcameraclub.com)

## CULTURAL MOMENT

### *WELLINGTON NORTH SIMPLY EXPLORE.... FEATURING THE BUTTER TART TRAIL™*

*THE COVER OF WELLINGTON NORTH'S NEW BROCHURE FOR TOURISTS  
FEATURES IMAGES OF 4 OF OUR LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS:*

*CHEF JORDAN BOND @ MUNRO'S ON MAIN, MOUNT FOREST*

*ELSA MANN @ NIGHT & DAY STUDIO, MOUNT FOREST*

*PAULA COFFEY @ THE PLUMBER'S WIFE, ARTHUR*

*MRS. ERNIKOGLU @ ERNI'S PLACE, ARTHUR*

*The cover also display's the painted door at Cynthia & Co in Mount Forest  
and butter tarts from Kenilworth Country Kitchen*

The Township of Wellington North invites you to Simply Explore... An area that encompasses walking, cycling and birding trails, all winding through tranquil vistas you can discover on your own self-guided tour. But of all the trails, the Butter Tart Trail™ is one of the most popular; it an exploration of all things "butter tart" in one variation or another. It's also about the experiences, just for you. Unique gift stores, original artwork and premiere fashion destinations dot the landscape of Wellington North. Together with one of the top 100 festivals in Ontario– the three-day Mount Forest Fireworks Festival, and other signature events such as Arthur's Art in the Street, and traditional fall fairs. How sweet is that?

Pick up your copy today at the Township of Wellington North office, or download online at [www.simplyexplore.ca](http://www.simplyexplore.ca)

# CULTURAL MOMENT

## *"VOYAGER"*

*Artist: EMILY HODGES*

This piece, titled "Voyager", by Emily Hodges, depicts a sail boat travelling through the ocean, representing a time when she contemplated staying in England, where she had been residing for 2 years, or to return to her home,

Mount Forest.

Emily is a 22 year old Mount Forest resident. She has recently been accepted to OCAD University in Toronto, Canada's "University of Imagination", where she'll be attending in September 2012. An array of her work is displayed and can be viewed at her employer, Munro's on Main, in Mount Forest.

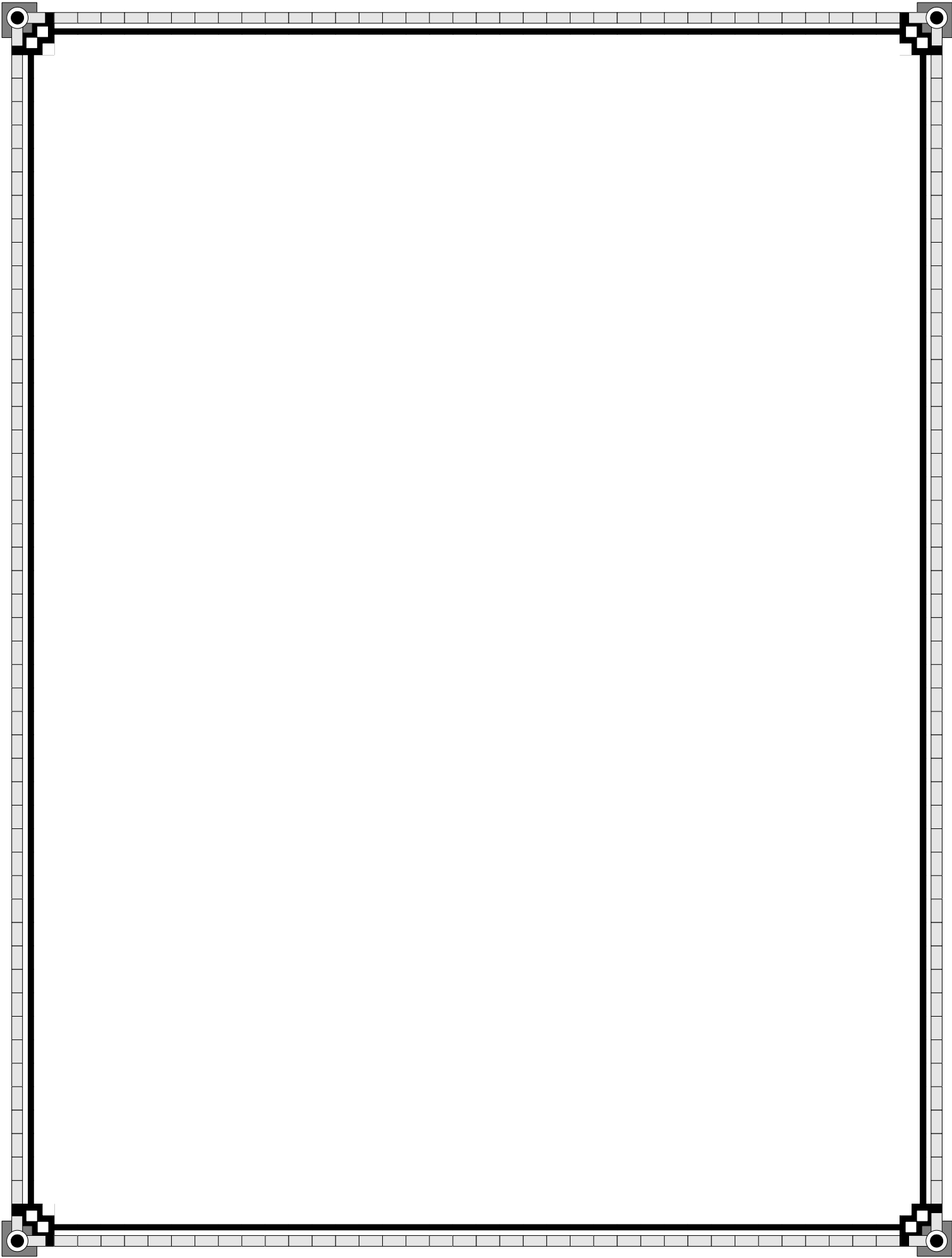
If you're interested in contacting Emily, call 519-323-2284 or email [hodgesemilyghss@gmail.com](mailto:hodgesemilyghss@gmail.com).

## CULTURAL MOMENT

# AVALON MAGAZINE

A multi-media magazine, Avalon- available nationwide in both Canada and the US- is a lifestyle magazine that celebrates our global community by seeking to honor and empower, to inspire and learn. They explore the role of mentorship in the building of community. As well as their regular columnists, in every issue they feature gorgeous photo essays and compelling stories on world culture, the arts, travel, fashion, floral & home design, history, social commentary, fiction, and food & wine. They foster the ancient tradition of storytelling in sharing the pursuits, dreams, and efforts of people and organizations who inspire us and who are making positive changes in the world.

Co-published by Lorie Black, a Mount Forest resident, Avalon Magazine features local contributors and stories from Wellington North and Southern Ontario.



## CULTURAL MOMENT

# *THE SUSSMANS SAGA*

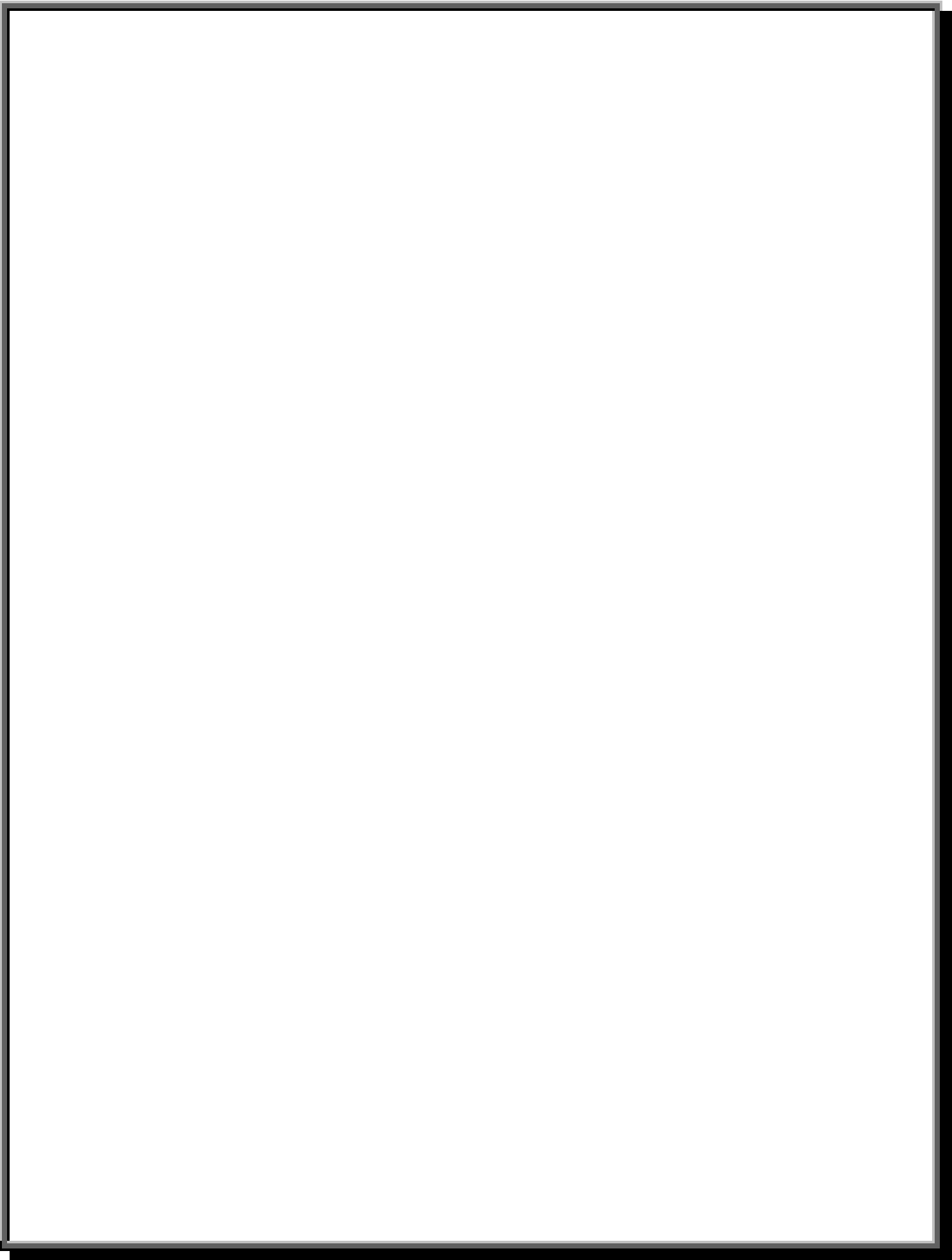
Originally published as a “Life and Times in Arthur and Area” piece in the Arthur Enterprise News, May 9, 2001, this article was written by Arthur resident, John Walsh, detailing ‘The Sussmans Saga’.

The article depicts how one of the village’s largest staples got started back in 1915 when founder, Joe Sussman, had been traveling to Arthur to peddle clothes with a horse and cart. After many years of this, he decided to open a store on the west side of George Street with his brother-in-law, Willy Rother, and let the public come in.

As the company grew, they assumed more real estate and occupy much of Arthur’s Main Street today, as new generations of the Sussman’s family came aboard.

Sussman’s of Arthur attracts many to Wellington North as a premiere fashion destination with over 30,000 square feet of fashion for ladies and men, including a large selection of suits.

[www.sussmansofarthur.com](http://www.sussmansofarthur.com)



## **CULTURAL MOMENT**

### ***Ariel View Progression Photos of the Mount Forest Sports Complex Build***

850 Princess Street, Mount Forest

Now celebrating its 4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, this photo displays four ariel shots of the progression of the Mount Forest Sports Complex build.

The build began in 2007, with the completion in 2008. This state-of-the-art facility is 27,000 square feet in size and features a NHL sized ice surface / arena floor, indoor running / walking track, senior's room and dressing rooms.

In addition the large Community Hall is perfect for wedding receptions, dinners, dances and trade shows. Also featuring a Leisure Hall, Meeting Room, and Plume Room.

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## Christy Doraty

### *"Ball Hockey in Arthur"*

Watercolour artist Christy Doraty finds herself with no shortage of inspiration, as she relishes the rural scenes she loves, from her farmhouse in Wellington North. This painting, a family road hockey game on a tree-lined street in Arthur, is just one example of the way rural life inspires this artist.

Christy's subjects include everything from neighbouring farmhouses to people enjoying their favourite activities. Doraty's work has been widely recognized in the artistic community. In 2007, she participated in a prestigious show and sale at the McMichael Canadian art museum in Kleinburg, Ontario. Doraty has also rendered paintings for Union Station.

Owning one of her pieces can cost about \$1,500 for a standard-sized original watercolor, or as little as \$175 for a giclee print on watercolor paper.

Unframed prints available of "Ball Hockey in Arthur" are available for \$150.

To contact Christy, call 519-848-6387

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## Cliff Smith

*"Dancing", "Arthur Mural 2012"*

After graduating from the Ontario College of Art and Design, Smith initially enjoyed working with the airbrush and became very accomplished winning several national awards for airbrush artwork. As his focus changed he turned to repeat design work and was employed by some of the largest International design studios. For nearly 3 decades Smith worked with design, colour and photo layout for names like John Willman, Malcolm Cooper, Disney, Sesame Street, Thomas Kinkaid and Ferrari to name a few.

Cliff Smith is now enjoying a new chapter in his life as he strikes out on a creative path of self discovery and awareness. Smith resides in Mount Forest and continues to produce his artistry and photographic work from under his own company, Cliff Photographic. Smith was recently selected to produce a mural in Arthur, honouring the community motto "Canada's Most Patriotic Village". The three-panel mural on the north side of the Sussmans building represents the First World War, with a British Flag, Billy Bishop war plane and poppies. The middle panel depicts local veteran John Walsh saluting a painted version of the war memorial in Ottawa with the Canadian Flag in the background. And the final panel features the mine-sweeping ship Walsh served on during World War II, as well as a female officer, tank, anti-aircraft gun and a Spitfire war plane. The mural is garnering much attention through its creation and now upon its completion.

To further view Cliff Smith's body of work, visit his website at

[www.cliffphotographic.com](http://www.cliffphotographic.com)

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## Arthur Village Gives Sons, Money, to Aid War *Toronto Daily Star, Monday, November 2, 1942*

This is a copy of the Monday, November 2, 1942 publication of the Toronto Daily Star featuring the article “Arthur Village Gives Sons, Money, to Aid War” and tells the story of how the Village of Arthur had a population of 890 with 100 of them enrolled in World War II, with many others rejected.

70 years later, Arthur is now known as “Canada’s Most Patriotic Village”. They received the recognition in 2002, when David Tilson the M.P.P for Dufferin–Peel–Wellington–Grey stated in the Ontario Legislature that because of Arthur’s extraordinary effort in World War II the community was being recognized as such.

Other achievements that have garnered Arthur this title include that during World War II the government ran War Bond and Victory Bond campaigns to raise money to carry on the war effort. In the first campaign in 1940, Arthur Village led all communities in Canada in reaching its objective. In every following campaign (6 in all) the Village led all communities in the county in reaching its objective. As well, during the war, a Navy League was formed in most Canadian communities, to raise funds for Canadian Sailors at sea. In September, 1944, Arthur Council received an award for having raised the most per capita of any community in Ontario.

In recognition of Remembrance Day, lest we forget, the sacrifices of the people in all armed conflicts. Let us also celebrate Arthur’s contributions, not only during World War II, but also today, as they continue their education efforts, including a recently created mural depicting the history, that is located on the north side of the Sussman’s of Arthur building.



# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## A Collage of Santa Claus Parades Past

Wellington North's Downtowns in Arthur and Mount Forest fill each year with residents and visitors as each community officially open the Christmas season with the arrival of Santa Claus.

The streets shine from the lights of themed floats, dancing or marching groups and bands playing Christmas songs. Often sponsored by local business and community groups, the time is used to recognize these organizations and causes during the important Christmas shopping season.

**Arthur's Opti-Mrs. Santa Claus Parade**  
**last Saturday in November. 7pm**

**Mount Forest and Area Lion's Club Santa Claus Parade**  
**first Friday in December. 7pm**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



# CULTURAL MOMENT

## The Art of Being Métis a documentary... by Mahigan

**Mahigan (AKA Marcel Labelle), a Wellington North resident, is proud of his Métis Heritage.** He builds traditional Birch Bark Canoes and demonstrates his craft at many venues. Marcel is sharing what his Elders and Teachers shared with him and does this in part by presenting at schools and Aboriginal festivals. He has been at the Smithsonian Institute of the American Indian, in New York as well as the keynote speaker at many Aboriginal symposiums and forums. Marcel has been featured at the Canadian Aboriginal Festival, Planet IndigenUs at Harbourfront in Toronto and the Universities of Toronto and Guelph. As time permits Marcel teaches "Living on the Land" at Trent University.

This poster promotes Marcel Labelle's latest initiative, with The Indigenous People Project partners, a collection of indigenous stories in print, DVD, E-Book, curricula, activity workshops, and live discussions and experiences, targeted to teaching Indigenous awareness, sensitivities, and recognizing and dealing with the concept of integrating a student's background and culture within a classroom setting.

The collection of materials is ideal for all grades, including guides and materials to help teacher's present indigenous materials in an affirming manner while keeping the ministry guidelines in mind. They are working with school boards to deliver materials that are of interest to the region and the interests of the students and teachers.

For more information visit [www.realitymedia.ca](http://www.realitymedia.ca).

Marcel can be contacted at

519-848-3804

[mahi\\_gan@hotmail.com](mailto:mahi_gan@hotmail.com)

[www.birchbarkcanoes.ca](http://www.birchbarkcanoes.ca)

# Cultural Moment

## Springtime

Made by: Linda Harris, 2012

This wallhanging was created as a Mystery Project at the Four Corners Quilters' Guild in 2012. Each month, for three months, instructions were given which taught members new techniques and encouraged them to add their own ideas. There was a tremendous variety of colour and creativity in the projects that were completed.

This was a great project to learn a variety of techniques such as:  
Appliqué using needle-turn, Heat & Bond and 3-D methods  
Paper piecing  
Making yo-yos  
Embroidery and other embellishments

**Look for this and other stunning quilts and wallhangings at the**

**Mount Forest Spring Quilt Show**

**Presented by:**

**The Four Corners Quilters' Guild.**

**May 3 and 4, 2013**

**Friday, 10 – 6**

**Saturday, 10 – 5**

**Mount Forest & District Sports Complex**

**Admission \$5 at the door Children under 12 free**

*The Four Corners Quilters Guild meets the second Tuesday of each month (September - June) at the Mount Forest Firehall, 7:30 pm. New members are always welcome.*

## CULTURAL MOMENT

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# Louise Lefebvre

## *The Vibrations of the Seasons*

Louise Lefebvre, owner and operator of The Spotted Moose Emporium in Mount Forest is a multi-media artist. Her oil and watercolours have been sold internationally, as well as her photography and published novels and poetry.

This piece, called The Vibrations of the Seasons, is inspired by the Tibetan flags that surrounded her home when she lived in India and worked for His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

She has returned from BC to Mount Forest, after a 15-year absence and she looks forward to being involved first-hand in the arts for Wellington North.

For more information on this piece, or to contact  
Louise, visit

The Spotted Moose Emporium

“a uniquely Canadian store”

224 Main Street N Mount Forest

519-509-5529

## CULTURAL MOMENT

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# Earth & Encaustic

*Encaustic / Clay from Elsa Mann  
Of Night & Day Studio*

Elsa's potting career began initially as a past time, but quickly grew into a full-fledged obsession. She is primarily a self-taught potter, who's spent over 15 years focusing her attention on raku pottery, and using raku fired works in non-traditional ways.

One of her various specializations includes horse-raku pottery. This firing method results in pottery which resembles the look of exotic wood or marble. Incorporating the crackled glazed effects of American raku, together with her horse-hair techniques, and most recently encaustic painting (beeswax and pigments), Elsa continues to create a style of pottery that is truly her own, and pieces that are definitely outside of the norm.

Elsa co-owns Night & Day Studio together with her husband and fellow potter, Paul Kaye. Their home and studio is located on an idyllic treed property just south of Mount Forest, Ontario, Canada. 519-323-4222.

[www.nightanddaystudio.com](http://www.nightanddaystudio.com)

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## Two Photographs, Two Interpretations

*Photographic Collection, Mount Forest Museum and Archives*

In 2013, these two photos were rescued from deep under the stage of the Victoria Cross Public School and brought into the Archives for safe keeping and restoration. The photos were probably stored when the building originally became the High School and forgotten for years. Still in their original frames, but carefully remounted and cleaned, these photographs beautifully illuminate school days of the past and demonstrate the very different aspects of the challenge and fun that volunteers have in interpreting historical photographs.

The larger photo is formal, staged, studio picture of High School Literary Executive in 1925. Much time and effort went into the context of this photograph. The photographer, G.S. LeWarne, was well known in the day. A Literary Executive club obviously held a more prominent place in a 1925 high school than today. We know when and why the picture was taken and who is in the photograph. The names and positions are carefully recorded. McEachern, Johnston, Corley and Ellis are all family names that still resound in Mount Forest today. Using archival skills of observation, reflection and questioning, the Archives can quite accurately capture a moment in our past through this elegant gathering of well-dressed, serious-minded students.

And yet, the smaller photograph, with no historical details, grabs even more of our attention. The informal more spontaneous gathering of students and possibly some teachers on the steps outside the high school (possibly the 'Girls Entrance') creates a very different picture. School books dropped on the steps suggest that they assembled quickly, between classes perhaps, but we may never find out why. What is their relationship to each other? Having no answers forces the historian to ask different questions. The shirt collars, longer skirts and hair styles date this photo earlier than the other, but it is hard to be exact. There are many physical clues to start the investigation, but it is what is missing that makes the story so compelling.

The Mount Forest Museum & Archives

102 Main St. N. Mount Forest

Open Wednesdays from 1pm – 5pm



## CULTURAL MOMENT

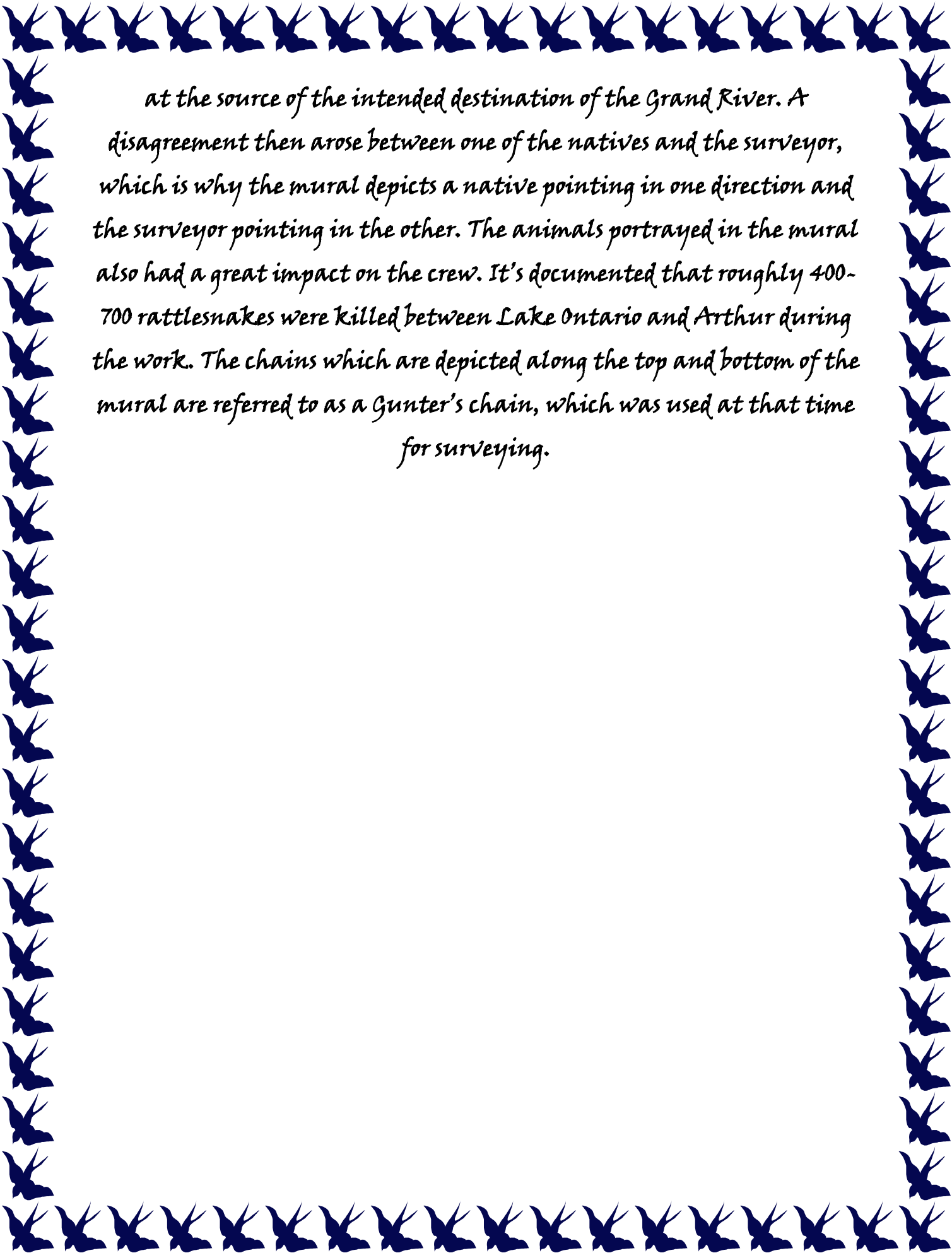
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### *Jones Baseline Survey Mural*

*Corner of Charles and George St. Arthur, ON*

*This is a replica of the newly erected Jones Baseline Survey Mural, which depicts the survey crew reaching the banks of the Conestogo River, near present day Arthur, October 17, 1792. The baseline is important, as it forms the basis of the Six Nations grant and serves as the boundary for many nearby townships. The mural also displays the problems encountered by Jones and his party of 13, seven of whom were native people, from black bears to mosquitoes to rattlesnakes, when they surveyed from Burlington Bay all the way to near Arthur (at the Conestogo River).*

*This history was brought to life by the latest efforts of The Arthur and District Historical Society, although it took many people to put together. Representatives from both of the local and the Wellington County historical societies, as well as, the Wellington County Museum and Archives, and the Woodland Cultural Centre worked on collecting information for it. Cliff Smith, a Mount Forest resident, was the chosen artist to bring the story to life. Smith came across a sculpture of Jones in Stoney Creek that he used as a visual start to the mural. He also found that once the survey crew arrived in Arthur, they realized they were not*



*at the source of the intended destination of the Grand River. A disagreement then arose between one of the natives and the surveyor, which is why the mural depicts a native pointing in one direction and the surveyor pointing in the other. The animals portrayed in the mural also had a great impact on the crew. It's documented that roughly 400-700 rattlesnakes were killed between Lake Ontario and Arthur during the work. The chains which are depicted along the top and bottom of the mural are referred to as a Gunter's chain, which was used at that time for surveying.*



# CULTURAL MOMENT

## *MOUNT FOREST FIREWORKS FESTIVAL*

Deeply embedded in Wellington North's local culture is the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival – a community wide, 3-day event, that has become a signature event of the area for the past 13 years; Not only to Wellington North, but provincially as well. Always the third weekend in July, many make their way to the area, either by visiting friends and family, travelling in on their RV's, or spending the weekend at a nearby campground – so much so, that the festival has been garnered as a Top 100 Festival for six consecutive years through Festival & Events Ontario organization.

Over the years, the festival's enticement builds as more attractions are added and the crowds grow. Today, the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival features amusements all weekend long, entertainment, music and an array of tastes. You can visibly view the local culture, as many community groups, volunteer residents and business sponsors, each add their own elements to the weekend long celebrations.

Since the festival's inception, it has played host to one of the largest Classic Car Shows in Canada. The traditional small town Main Street is closed off to drivers and is open to pedestrians, as thousands fill the artery and view over 500 classic cars lining the drag. The sky's are ignited with sparkling colours and the sounds of 'crackles', 'booms' and 'awes' as a spectacular fireworks display fills the overhead sky on Saturday evening.

There's always great entertainment and attractions that includes a bit of everything for all ages, which makes this festival, well – spectacular!

**Ignite Your Weekend**

**July 19-21, 2013**

**[www.mountforestfireworks.ca](http://www.mountforestfireworks.ca)**

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## MEMORIES OF ARTHUR AND AREA VOLUME III

*"Searching the Past – To Understand the Present."*

*By John Walsh and Associates*

Over the years the history of Arthur and happenings therein, have been recorded by a number of citizens from Arthur and Area. The earliest was William McQuinn, a local miller, whose articles described life in the village going back to the late 1800's.

H.Gordon Green, Campbell Cork, Paul O'Donnell, Frank Coffey and Jim Hamilton are some of the others that have laid ink to paper in publishing local history through their individual efforts. Most recently, John Walsh and Associates have created a series of 'Memories of Arthur and Area' publications, utilizing local citizens who have an interest in the history of the area and who offered to write on subjects in which they were interested.

The most recent, Volume III, features articles on Arthur's Centennial Celebrations in 1972, Round Barns in West Luther, The Postal Service Over the Years, Arthur and Area Veterans, Trevor Henry and Hockey in Arthur over the Years, to name a few. Each article in the book is followed with some 'Words of Wisdom' for those who like a bit of humour with their history. As with previous volumes, all proceeds of the book go to the Arthur and Area Historical Society to assist them with their local projects.

The mural on the cover of this book is painted on the south wall of Hunter Tax Management Office at the South entrance to Arthur. It depicts an early settler with his wife and children and his yoke of oxen as he leaves the Registry Office in Arthur. He has in his hand his 'location papers' which entitles him to a free 50 acre plot of land in Arthur Township. He will be travelling north on the Garafraxa Road (Hwy #6) to his pioneer property and if he meets his settlement requirements, he will be entitled to purchase another 50 acres at a cost of \$2.00 per acre.

Memories of Arthur and Area Volume III is available now through the

Arthur and Area Historical Society – Happy Reading!

## CULTURAL MOMENT

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# TRISKELE SOAPS

*Created By Hali Morgan-Panuncio*

Triskele Soaps products are made of all natural ingredients!

Created by Hali Morgan-Panuncio, a Mount Forest entrepreneur, her line of soaps are SLS, EDTA, PARABEN and PROPOLENE GLYCOL free. She was inspired to create her own soaps after not being able to find products that effectively aid the dry skin and eczema that her family suffered from. Seeing the amazing results found from using common home based ingredients like olive oil, lavender essential oil and coconut oil, Hali took her hobby and made a business of it.

Triskele Soaps is the creator of the 'Butter Tart Soap' featured on The Butter Tart Trail. Not only was Hali able to create a soap that smells like the quintessential dessert, but they look like them too! The 'crust' is made using a goat milk soap base, cinnamon and almond fragrance oil in a real tart mold. Once hardened, the filling is poured consisting of a honey soap base, cinnamon, cocoa powder, vanilla essential oil, and cinnamon essential oil. The combination of oils creates a warm butter tart scent that is almost good enough to eat!

*View Hali's line of Triskele Soaps and shop online at*  
[www.triskelesoaps.com](http://www.triskelesoaps.com)

## CULTURAL MOMENT

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# STREETSCAPE

*By Mitch Keirstead*

Mitch Keirstead comes from a large family of brothers and sisters who are all well known Ontario artists, the most famous being his brother James. Keirstead paintings have been sought after for over 30 years and depict scenes of the Ontario countryside and common activities. Often bringing back fond childhood memories, they bring special appeal to purchasers of his work.

His pieces are being displayed in private homes and galleries around the world.

Mitch prefers to produce many of his works using a delicate knife technique with oils creating a very realistic scene. This piece depicts a streetscape in Elora.

Apart from being a successful artist, Mitch also runs a successful gift shop in Arthur –

Eclectica.... The Gift Store.

## CULTURAL MOMENT

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### Letter from J.J.W. Brown to his Aunt Maud (Brown) Ryan

*Residing near Conn*

*June 27, 1917*

November 11<sup>th</sup>, Remembrance Day, is a day designated for Canadians to take time to commemorate and honour those that have given their lives serving Canadians and helping people of other Nations.

A proud part of Wellington North's Culture is being home to the Village of Arthur, a community the designation of being "Canada's Most Patriotic Village" for their extraordinary efforts in World War I and World War II by giving Sons and Money to Aid War.

This letter, sent home from a soldier during World War I, gives us a first-hand account of the circumstances and sacrifices encountered by those that fought for our freedom.

Passed on to Arthur resident, Gail Donald, by her Grandmother, Maud Ryan, with whom the letter is addressed, from nephew, J.J.W. Brown, the letter tells the story of Brown's experiences in the trenches of France, being wounded and then transferred to hospital in Manchester, England. Brown mentions the kindness shown to him while in the hospital by the nurses and people. After recovering for six months, he then went on to Epsom and from Epsom to Hastings, where he was meant to get built up by physical training. From there he was transferred to Seaford, from where the letter was written. Here, Brown was located in a large Canadian camp where soldiers were sent directly back to France. After an encounter with his old Captain, he was then sent to Shorncliffe for an instructors' course but was delayed after spraining his ankle. Brown received corporal standing for his efforts. He concludes the letter appreciating the food he received and longing for knowledge of when the war would end and he could return home.

*Lest we Forget*

## CULTURAL MOMENT

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# THE MOUNT FOREST CARNEGIE LIBRARY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS!

### Early 1900's capture of Mount Forest Carnegie Library Wellington County Museum & Archives Photo 8033

In April 1909, the Mount Forest Library was fortunate to receive a \$10,000 grant to build from Philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, who was making substantial donations towards building public libraries around the world; the branch officially opened in December 1913.

In total, Canada received \$2,556,600 for public library construction. Of the 125 Carnegie libraries built in Canada, 111 were located in Ontario. Wellington County Library is fortunate to have five Carnegie library branches within the system.

The Mount Forest Library was designed by Architect, George Gray and was 4259 square feet in size. The branch saw \$1,620,000 worth of renovations in 2009 with Architect L. Alan Grinham adding an additional 7328 square feet to the original building.

**On Thursday, December 5, 2013, the Mount Forest Carnegie Library will officially turn 100.** To celebrate this occasion, the library will be hosting an Anniversary Open House on December 5 from 2 – 5 pm. At the open house, there will be a chance to browse through old photographs and memorabilia from the library over the past 100 years. A few selections from the community writing expo taking place from September to November will also be read and displayed. The writing expo is centered on the community's "fondest memories of the Mount Forest Library". Refreshments, cake and Wellington North's world famous butter tarts will be served as well. It will be a great afternoon for staff and the community to celebrate 100 years of the Carnegie Legacy in Mount Forest and look forward to many more.

*"A library outranks any one thing a community can do to benefit its people. It is a never failing spring in the desert." Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919)*

## CULTURAL MOMENT

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# MOUNT FOREST FIRE BRIGADE CONSTITUTION

Although the year is not identified, this constitution of the Mount Forest Fire Brigade reflects a time around a century ago. It is interesting to reflect on the current status, by-laws, rules and orders of that time to see the differences between life then and life today.

The Mount Forest Fire Brigade was started in 1879. In 1923 Mr. Andrew O'Brecht became the chief. After this William Quinn (1940-1944) and Donald McIntosh (1945-1953) followed until the son of Andrew O'Brecht, Lorne O'Brecht was appointed chief in 1955.

Today, the Mount Forest Fire Department is amalgamated with the Arthur Fire Department, under The Township of Wellington North. Fire Chief, Jeff Dahms, oversees the two stations. Wellington North Fire services pride themselves on providing rapid response to all fire and emergency situations within the municipality. They are dependent on the efforts of Arthur Station Chief, Jim Morrison, and Deputy Chief, Troy Lawlor, and Mount Forest Fire Station Chief, Ron MacEachern, and Deputy Chief, Bill Hieber, along with the efforts of several community volunteers. A part-time Fire Prevention Officer, Jason Benn, is also in place to assist in educating the public on prevention and run community programming.

The total fire protection area covers 187 square miles with a population of approximately 12,000.

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## Township of Wellington North Municipal Cultural Plan

### *Vision:*

*Preserving, promoting and developing Wellington North's unique cultural resources to build a vibrant community and prosperous economy*

The Township of Wellington North recognizes the practice of culture planning as an essential economic development tool. Cultural Planning is essential in supporting Wellington North in attracting investment, supporting creative talent, and boosting tourism. The Municipal Cultural Plan provides a strategy and recommended actions to leverage local cultural resources to grow the economy, to improve quality of life, and to build and sustain a sense of community cohesion and pride.

To this end, in August 2012, the Township of Wellington North began the process in development of a Municipal Cultural Plan, with funding support from the Creative Communities Prosperity Fund of the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport. Completion of the plan could not have been done without the support of our community. A Steering Committee was made up of community members to oversee and provide input to the plan.

The Municipal Cultural Plan for the Township of Wellington North is grounded in four high level goals. These goals anchor a series of 29 recommended Actions. As included in a year one priority, a **Cultural Roundtable** has been established, and consists of 15 members, to advance the cultural agenda. The Roundtable is already busy at work creating an online mapping program to showcase our cultural assets, promoting the plan across the community, and registering to participate in Doors Open Ontario 2014, among other initiatives.

The plan should not be viewed as a static document, but rather one that will evolve based on new needs and opportunities that will emerge in the course of implementing the plan.

A copy of the plan is available online at [www.wellington-north.com](http://www.wellington-north.com)

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## Wellington North Showcase

### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Networking Event & Tradeshow

We have a wide array of business in Wellington North to serve all of our needs. Our community is full of passionate and skilled people that deliver their products and services in a friendly manner.

But how do we know what is available to us in our own community?

Wellington North Showcase creates a platform for business services, retailers and organizations to make the right connections to create local camaraderie that benefit business and the consumer. The Township of Wellington North Business Networking Reception takes place at the **Arthur & Area Community Centre** on **Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup> from 5pm - 8pm**, where local businesses and community leaders are encouraged to attend this valuable networking opportunity. The **Trade Show** opens the doors to the public on **Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm – 8:00pm** and will feature displays and products from local businesses and organizations.

**This event is FREE for the public to attend!**

Donations to the Community Pantry are accepted at the door.

*So, get to know “everyone’s business” in Wellington North by finding a wide array of business and organization eager to serve our communities needs.*

## CULTURAL MOMENT

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# THE HISTORY OF THE ARTHUR FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Life and Times in Arthur and Area piece, written by John Walsh, tells the history of not only Arthur's local story of the formation of a Fire Brigade but that of the events that contributed globally to the organizations of fire brigades and fire prevention education.

Locally, the late Rixon Rafter, former editor and owner of the Enterprise News, deserves much credit for the formation of the Arthur Fire Brigade. Between Christmas and New Years in 1925, a fire had demolished the Anglican Church on Tucker Street. In the tower of the church was a bell installed in 1900, which acted as the fire alarm for the village.

Within two months another fire raged through the business section of the community destroying two stores and threatening to wipe out the entire business area, as had happened a few years previously in the village of Clifford. The only firefighting equipment was a volunteer bucket brigade. Often the well would run dry and the firefighters would have to stand by and watch the building destroyed.

Mr. Rafter, in a series of editorials in his newspaper, urged the installation of water works in the village, as he knew this would lead to better firefighting equipment.

However, it wasn't until 1933, that the local fire brigade was organized.

The article continues outlining the important accomplishments made by the organization through the years and highlights the banner year in 2002 for the 27 members of the Arthur Fire Department when the ribbon was cut to officially open the new fire department headquarters, built on the location of the former hall, but to a larger scale, housing many sought after additions to the village's protective services.

## CULTURAL MOMENT

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### **TWELFTH FIELD REGIMENT – 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF D DAY**

JUNE 6, 2014

*Photo 1 depicts two soldiers in Guelph in 1940 standing beside a recruiting poster for the group that will become the 12th Field*

*Photo 2 depicts soldiers of the 12th Field reading that the war is over*

In September 1939, following a declaration of War, Canada quickly recruited an elite group of men for the First Division and regarded those efforts as satisfactory for the situation at hand. Much to the horror of MacKenzie King, the Prime Minister of the day, the Germans, after 9 months of inactivity, began invading Holland, Belgium, and France and occupied those countries by June 1940. The Canadian Government realized that England might fall and began recruiting in May 1940.

In Guelph, at the end of May, Major O. McConkey received orders to commence recruiting for a joint Battery called the 16/43, an artillery unit. Requiring 300 men for the unit, recruiting efforts occurred throughout Wellington County. Normally each artillery battery had six guns, work horses called 25-pounders. This joint Battery had 12 guns.

The first step a recruit faced was a medical examination. Some men failed the examination because of lack of proper food and nutrition during the Depression; others had dental problems. If accepted, each man received a uniform and took up residence near the Armoury in Guelph. A short period of training began immediately but the recruits lacked equipment and were forced to use poor substitutes. They were transferred to Camp Petawawa in eastern Ontario for a month ending in October 1940. Here they joined with the 11<sup>th</sup> and 69<sup>th</sup> Batteries of Hamilton and Brantford to form the 12<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment. The Regiment relocated to an unprepared and ill-equipped Camp Sussex in New Brunswick, where the men completed much of the construction work themselves due to a shortage of tradesmen in the area. In February the Regiment was reorganized to conform to the new War Establishment, and the 69<sup>th</sup> Battery departed. The Regiment now consisted of the 11<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 43<sup>rd</sup> Batteries and the RHQ (Regimental Head Quarters), each Battery having two troops of four guns each. The Regiment trained at Sussex for 10 months, leaving for England in July 1941. They sailed with over 2000 men on the “Duchess of York”, a prized trophy for a lurking German submarine.

During their first year in England, the men trained to defend England from a German invasion. In the second year they prepared to invade Europe and were issued a new weapon, Priests, which were self-propelled guns. They practiced, typically firing these guns from Landing Craft. As part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Canadian Division, they attacked on D Day morning, June 6, 1944. If information contained in the book “Into Action with the Twelfth Field” is accurate, they were the first Field Regiment to fire their guns on French soil at Courseulles-sur-Mer.



## CULTURAL MOMENT

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**WELLINGTON NORTH INVITES YOU TO SIMPLY EXPLORE... EXPERIENCE SOME OF THE GREAT ASSETS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO OUR UNIQUE RURAL AND URBAN CHARACTER THIS SUMMER:**

### **Art in the Street**

**Saturday, June 28, 10am-3pm, Arthur**

This fifth exhibition and sale features local and area artists. Enjoy a variety of art forms, handmade crafts, local musicians and a celebration of being “Canada’s Most Patriotic Village” with Canada Day Weekend Events. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Get in Touch for Hutch! 1 and 5 km walk/run fundraiser for Mental Health is also held in conjunction with this event.

### **The Mount Forest Fireworks Festival**

**July 18 – 20, Mount Forest**

Recognized as a Top 100 Festival in Ontario for seven consecutive years, ignite your weekend and enjoy family fun for all ages. Includes amusements all weekend, live entertainment, kid’s shows, great food and great fun! A major part of the Fireworks Festival weekend is when the Mount Forest Kin Club hosts one of the Top 10 Classic Car Show’s in Ontario on the Saturday morning, showcasing over 500 classic cars lining the Main St. And of course, don’t miss the SPECTACULAR fireworks display happening on the Saturday night.

### **NEW Wellington North Farmers’ Market**

**Friday Afternoons, 3pm – 8pm, Mount Forest**

The NEW Wellington North Farmers’ Market started May 9<sup>th</sup>, allowing our community to have a place to meet and buy top-quality farm-fresh products including produce, plants, baked goods, preserves and handcrafted items directly from the producer, while enjoying the atmosphere that Wellington North has to offer.

### **The Butter Tart Trail**

**Self-guided, year round**

Featured in the newest edition of the Wellington North Simply Explore... featuring The Butter Tart Trail promotional brochure, this year’s trail features 16 participating sites you can discover on your own self-guided tour, where you’ll come across at least a dozen varieties of butter tarts, along with other inventions like doggy butter tart treats, pottery trays in homage to the butter tart and scents inspired by them. You may even chance upon a butter tart sundae. It’s an exploration of all things butter tart. Also featured in the brochure are suggestions of events to attend, accommodations to stay in, culinary and shopping to experience and a horticulture trail.

### **Doors Open Wellington North**

**Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>, 10am – 4pm**

Wellington North opens the doors to some of their most intriguing and charming cultural and heritage sites. Admission is free! We invite you to experience these treasures first-hand.

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## SOUTH LUTHER SCHOOL

*DOORS OPEN WELLINGTON NORTH PARTICIPATING SITE  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> 10AM- 4PM*

South Luther School is located at the corner of the Second Line of West Luther and the East-West Luther Townline. It was a union school which served the local community in both East and West Luther from 1882 until it was closed in 1964.

In 1964, the local community took the building over as the South Luther Community Centre and used it for a variety of recreational purposes such as family reunions, celebrations and sporting events. The interior of the building continues to resemble a one room school house, complete with hardwood floors and blackboards.

In 2004, the building was closed due to the need of repairs. The Friends of South Luther School was then established and became incorporated in 2006, to act as a charitable organization to work to restore the school building, so that it could be used again as a community centre and place to share heritage. After receiving funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation in 2010, renovations were made and the South Luther School was open once again.

On September 27<sup>th</sup>, come and explore the one-room schoolhouse as it would have looked during the First World War as part of Doors Open Wellington North.

Both children and adults are invited to take part and experience some old-fashioned activities.

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## ONE MOUNT FOREST FACTORY BEFORE AND AFTER THE GREAT WAR

In 1900, the Weir Wardrobe Factory of Winnipeg moved to a furniture factory on Dublin Street in Mount Forest. By 1906, their uniquely constructed wardrobes were outfitting the stores of T. Eaton Co., Hudson Bay Co., and Holt Renfrew.

The standalone photograph was taken from about 1910 and shows employees and bystanders watching a ceremony for the turning of the sod for an extension of the factory. Although the future of the business appears bright, the arrival of World War I will totally change this factory's purpose, its workforce and its future.

The two photographs placed in the wooden frame were taken after the Great War and call attention to a very different group of workers and all the latest modern garment machinery in the factory. Taken in 1924, the factory became the Superior Converters "Overall" Factory – the property was bought from the Weir family after the war and shows how new consumers tastes and new opportunities for women in factories transpired.

On September 27<sup>th</sup> experience Doors Open Wellington North and see an array of artifacts from the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including others such as this piece related to the First World War, at the Jean Weber Reading Room in the Mount Forest Museum & Archives. This year's theme for Doors Open Ontario is Remembering the First World War: Ontario in transition, which allows Ontario communities to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the outbreak of the First World War and showcase the people, places and events that helped shape Ontario before, during and after.

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## *1930s Threshing Bee Model*

*The Wellington County Museum & Archives have provided this model display, threshing within the The threshing Mount Forest, Bros. The original but in 1925 it was*



*replicating a machine, currently Museums' collection. machine was built in about 1907 by Ernst owner is unknown, bought by Philip*

*Langdale Hellyer of Kenilworth. Hellyer's thresher was in constant demand throughout the autumn season on farms in Arthur Township. used to separate grain crops from their stalks, a farmer paid about \$10 daily for its use.*

*Don Robinson, a model-maker by hobby and assisted by staff member Patty Whan, made this 1:35 scale replica of the 30 foot-long thresher. Constructed entirely from scratch plastic sheeting, wire, thread, paper and even drinking straws, the*



*model depicts sheaves of grain being loaded onto the feeder. In the barn's granary, workers shovel the separated grain. Another figure moves the blower, directing the straw (stalks) into the mow of the barn.*

*The many gears, pulleys and belts of the thresher are powered by a 1932 Fordson tractor (built from kit).*



*In the nearby field, workers pitch the final stooks of grain onto the wagon, while the women and girls prepare a large meal in gratitude for their hard labour, and in celebration of a successful harvest.*

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# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## **REMEMBER... FREEDOM ISN'T FREE MURAL IN ARTHUR CENOTAPH AND MONUMENT PARK**

The mural featured in this photo is of Arthur's newest mural in a series paying homage to the designation of being "Canada's Most Patriotic Village."

This past October 25<sup>th</sup>, many attended the dedication of the new mural at the Arthur Cenotaph and Monument Park, which recognized the service of all veterans and soldiers who have, and who are, protecting our freedom.

Many community members and groups are recognized for their involvement in the mural project, including: the muralist, Cliff Smith, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 226 in Arthur, the Arthur and Area Historical Society, the Township of Wellington North, and all the dedicated volunteers.

Inspired by two Wellington North residents- a grade 12 drawing project by Steve Cherry, finalized by muralist, Cliff Smith, the mural is a great example of a community coming together with private and public funds, with materials and labour all being offered to see the project done. The overall community involvement in this project underscores how a cultural project enlivens people, resulting in benefits such as maintaining and nurturing a pride of ownership in our community.

As we approach Remembrance Day, one that will be particularly significant to all Canadians, "Remember... Freedom Isn't Free," as the new mural reads, is particularly momentous.

On November 11, attend a Remembrance Day ceremony and pay tribute to our heroes.

# CULTURAL *MOMENT*

## Simply Explore...Wellington North's Culture

*Cultural mapping embraces a broad definition of cultural resources*  
...tangible resources such as arts and heritage organization, cultural occupations and industries, cultural and natural heritage  
...intangible cultural assets - the stories, traditions and unique quality of life that shape the town's identity and sense of place.

**Simply Explore Culture**

**Regions:** Full View, Arthur, Mt Forest

**Search Locations:** [Search Bar]

**Locations:** 155 MM Howitzer, Mount Forest. A replica of a 155 MM Howitzer (tank turret only) on display in the Veteran's Memorial Park, Mount Forest.

**6Y The Clothing Corp.** Wellington North Cultural Map listing for 6Y Clothing Corp, a fashionable brand name retailer serving Mount Forest and area.

**A&W - Mount Forest** In 1956, the first A&W drive-in restaurant in Canada opened on Portage Avenue in Winnipeg. Serving a delicious combination of great-tasting burgers, onion rings and frosted mugs of famous A&W Root Beer—all from the smiling faces of friendly car hops—A&W proved to be an instant hit. A&W Restaurants quickly multiplied across the nation, flourishing through the late '50s and '60s.

**All Treat Farms**

**Angus Smith Park**

**Filters:** Cultural Enterprises, Community Organizations, Facilities and Spaces, Natural Heritage, Cultural Heritage, Festivals and Events

**Instructions:**

1. Contribute: Aid us in identifying any additional assets or edit existing ones.
2. Sort by Region.
3. Filter by Category.
4. Hover over pinpoints to show asset in that location.
5. Search for specific locations.
6. Select asset listing for more information.

**www.simplyexploreculture.ca**

## Simply Explore... Wellington North's Culture

The Township of Wellington North joins leading municipalities across Canada in recognizing the powerful role played by cultural mapping and municipal cultural planning as tools for growing local economies and enhancing quality of life. Cultural planning is essential to supporting Wellington North in attracting investment, supporting creative talent, and boosting tourism.

Wellington North's Municipal Cultural Plan, developed in 2013, provides a strategy and recommended actions to leverage local cultural resources to grow the economy, to improve quality of life, and to build and sustain a sense of community cohesion and pride. Since adoption of the plan, Wellington North has been taking steps in implementing the identified goals, including development of cultural mapping.

Cultural mapping is a systematic approach to identifying, recording and classifying a community's cultural resources. Two forms of cultural mapping exist:

**Mapping Tangible Cultural Resources** – identifying and recording physical (or tangible) cultural resources.

**Mapping Intangible Cultural Resources** – exploring and recording intangible cultural assets (the stories and traditions that contribute to defining our unique identity and sense of place).

Whether a resident or visitor, take the time and visit [www.simplyexploreculture.ca](http://www.simplyexploreculture.ca) to explore the many assets that make up Wellington North's unique cultural resources. This online map allows you to easily search assets by filtering by region, location or category. Each asset is accompanied by a full listing detailing more information specifically relating to that asset. Visitors are also encouraged to contribute information to update or add to the listings.

# Cultural Moment

## Simply Explore...

### Wellington North's Culture

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#### **Mapping Tangible Cultural Resources**

*Identifying and recording physical (or tangible) cultural resources.*

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CULTURAL MOMENT

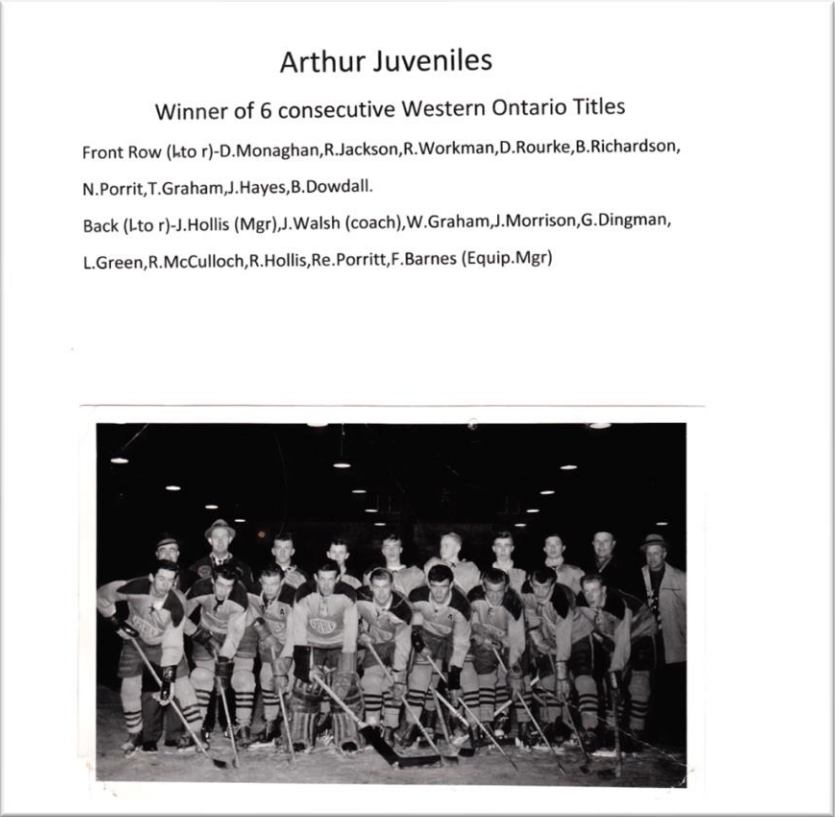
Arthur Juveniles

Winner of 6 Consecutive Western Ontario  
Titles 1963-64

Sports in Wellington North, especially team sports, have played a large part in supplying entertainment for citizens in the community down through the years. Hockey, lacrosse, softball and curling were always the four games that the athletes of that generation preferred. These days we have the four above mentioned and also others including figure skating, ringette, broomball and soccer.

In the 1950's and 60's the Arthur Lions Club and Legion sponsored minor teams and in the 1960's Arthur teams won eight consecutive Western Ontario Championships with teams ranging from Bantam to Juvenile. This

photo depicts the 1963-64 Arthur Juvenile team.



This year, Wellington North will utilize our Doors Open event on September 26<sup>th</sup> to celebrate our rich sports history under the theme ‘Ontario Sports Heritage.’ Participating sites will exhibit local sports artifacts and photographs, special exhibits on sports of days gone by and oral history projects involving former players.

We encourage all sports and heritage cultural groups to get involved in Doors Open Wellington North to showcase Wellington North’s rich history and accomplishments.

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## **Wellington North Showcase** **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Networking Event** **& Tradeshow**

We have a wide array of business in Wellington North to serve all of our needs. Our community is full of passionate and skilled people that deliver their products and services in a friendly manner and contribute to our culture.

But how do we know what is available to us in our own community?

Wellington North Showcase creates a platform for business services, retailers and organizations to make the right connections to create local camaraderie that benefit business and the consumer. The Township of Wellington North Business Networking Reception takes place at the **Mount Forest & District Sports Complex on Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup> from 5pm - 8pm**, where local businesses and community leaders are encouraged to attend this valuable networking opportunity. The **Trade Show** opens the doors to the public on **Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> from 1:00pm – 8:00pm** and will feature displays and products from local businesses and organizations.

One special feature this year includes the Mount Forest Old Girls and Old Boys Reunion who will be showing off pictures of the history of businesses in the community. Committee members will be present for discussion on plans for the Homecoming, set to be held June 23, 24 & 25, 2017.

**This event is FREE for the public to attend!**

Donations to the Community Pantry are accepted at the door.

*Get to know “everyone’s business” in Wellington North by finding a wide array of business and organization eager to serve our communities needs.*

# *CULTURAL MOMENT*

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## ***Local Food Series Part 1 – Sweet & Savoury***

This collection of photos represents some of the ***Sweet & Savoury*** dishes featured at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Wellington North Showcase that took place March 30 & 31<sup>st</sup> at the Mount Forest & District Sports Complex. Wellington North Showcase creates a platform for business services, retailers and organizations to make the right connections to create local camaraderie that benefit business and the consumer.

These featured foods, serves to connect us with the land, our heritage and the people around us. Food is a diverse and dynamic channel for sharing stories, forming relationships and building communities:

**Misty Meadows Market Inc** featured fresh, handmade donuts to drizzle local, River Side Maples Maple Syrup for one sweet experience! Maple syrup demonstrations, festivals, and family-owned sugarbush operations can be found all over Ontario, with several located right here in Wellington North and surrounding area. This sweet product is often referred to as the first agricultural crop of the year and is made from the sap of primarily sugar, red and black maple trees in late winter and early spring. The basic process of tapping maple trees to collect the sap and then boiling it down to make maple syrup and sugar has endured for centuries.

**The Kenilworth Country Kitchen** featured fresh butter tarts using their secret family recipe. The butter tart is dubbed as Ontario's Quintessential Dessert and Wellington North' Butter Tart Trail promotes a sweet excursion featuring these tarts and many others inventions.

**Meat The Butcher** showcased a wide selection of savoury local foods including these featured meatballs and other related products. The store hosts a wide selection of local foods – special cuts of meat, ready-to-go dinners, baking, honey, jams and more.

***These are just some of the featured food  
products that contribute to Wellington North's  
Taste of Place***

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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***Local Food Series***  
***Part 2 – Wellington North Farmers' Market***  
***Friday Afternoons 3pm-6:30pm (May 8 – Oct 9)***  
***King St E, Mount Forest, at the Victory Community Centre***

Now in its second season, the Wellington North Farmers' Market features local vendors ready to give customers the opportunity to buy top-quality farm-fresh products including Produce, Baked Goods, Meats, Preserves, Plants and Handcrafted items directly from the producer.

There are so many reasons why buying local makes sense.  
There is also significant peace of mind in knowing where our food comes from.

**You Get Quality and Taste** Why eat food that has traveled for days on a truck? Enjoy fully ripened and bursting with flavour fresh food on your plate the same day that it was picked.

**You Help Our Local Economy** When you buy from local farmers and producers, you are supporting local businesses and providing income for families in our community.

**You Get Safety Assurance** How much do you know about your food? Wellington North farmers & producers take great pride in quality food that's safe for you and your family. One of the biggest benefits to buying food locally is having someone to answer your questions about how it was grown & raised.

**You Help the Environment** By reducing the distance food travels and unnecessary food packaging, we can reduce our carbon footprint.

**You Experience Agriculture Up Close** Hear the story of where your food came from, ask questions and experience the countryside and the simple pleasures it has to offer.

***These are just some of the featured food products that contribute to Wellington North's Taste of Place***

Wellington  
County

# FESTIVALS AND EVENTS GUIDE 2015



[www.experiencewellington.ca](http://www.experiencewellington.ca)

# *Cultural Moment*

It's in Wellington County!

In partnership with Wellington County and its seven municipalities, the 2015 Festivals & Events Guides showcases the rich festival culture throughout the region. Wellington is home to great food, big celebrations, seasonal parties and an appreciation of heritage, culture and music. The Guide invites visitors to experience all we have to offer in our rolling rural meadows and farms, and our quaint, picturesque villages and towns. Whether it's to spend a day out with family, fill a long weekend, or take part in an unforgettable new experience, it's in Wellington County.

Readers are encouraged to get decked out in red and white to celebrate Canada Day at the Arthur Optimist Canada Day celebrations; ignite their summertime plans with a spectacular fireworks display at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Mount Forest Fireworks Festival, the third weekend in July; experience our most intriguing and charming cultural, architectural and heritage treasures first-hand at Doors Open and Cultural Days, September 26<sup>th</sup> and to tempt their palette with hearty food, tasty treats and unforgettable food experiences at the Wellington North Farmers' Market and along The Butter Tart Trail. You'll even find a local child featured on the front cover participating in the Northern Wellington Spring Rural Romp!

Wellington County is home to bountiful markets, rich culture, world-class festivals, holiday celebrations and stunning natural beauty. We celebrate all that makes us unique at hundreds of festivals and events. Come and join us!

Pick up your copy of the Wellington County Festivals & Events Guide today or see it online at [www.experiencewellington.ca](http://www.experiencewellington.ca)

# Cultural Moment

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*Pick-up your copy of the 2015 Wellington North Simply Explore and the Butter Tart Trail brochure to learn about all of the great offerings that contribute our unique culture.*

Highlights Include:

Always the third weekend in July, the **Mount Forest Fireworks Festival** celebrate their 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! Ignite your summertime plans– the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival has been one of Ontario's Top 100 Festivals and Events for eight years running: Experience amusements, live entertainment, interactive kids' shows, sidewalk sales, music, breakfasts, barbecues, one of Canada's Top 10 largest classic car shows and of course, a spectacular fireworks display!

We're proud of our heritage and we show it! We're known for our rich heritage and revel in it during events such as **Culture Days and Doors Open** (September 26<sup>th</sup>) which celebrates art and culture with free, hands-on interactive activities that allows visitors to "peek behind the curtains" and experience the most intriguing and charming cultural, architectural and heritage treasures first-hand.

We celebrate real food grown locally that delivers an authentic experience with fresh, local flavours through **Taste Real** partners, **Horticultural Trail** members and at the **Wellington North Farmers' Market**. We offer a 'sweet' time celebrating all things 'butter tart' on **The Butter Tart Trail**. On this self-guided tour there are at least a dozen varieties of tarts you'll come across. There are also other inventions like doggy butter tart treats, pottery dessert trays, inspired scents, aprons and other desserts that you'll come across.

**NEW** this year, we have partnered with the Town of Minto and Mapleton Township to bring you a **Northern Wellington Cycle Route**. Simply Explore Rural Routes Tastes and Treasures as you travel through tranquil vistas and loop back into our picturesque villages and towns.

For more information on the above and to learn of other offerings, download a copy of the map brochure, visit our website or pick up your copy today.

[www.simplyexplore.ca](http://www.simplyexplore.ca)

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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This medallion and associated ticket take us back to 1977, when the Arthur Arena was rebuilt and several hockey games inaugurated the space.

This is of particular interest, as the ticket is from an International Hockey game when Arthur played against Denmark on Thursday, December 29, 1977. The medallion showcases the newly rebuilt arena, date of the event, and on the back, the Arthur Centennial Crest [1872-1972] is imprinted.

Sports in Arthur, especially team sports have played a large part in supplying entertainment for the citizens in the community down through the years. Hockey was the sport that always attracted the most players to participate and the most fans to watch.

This has held true through the years and on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> we celebrate Sports Heritage when many community groups will come together to illustrate achievements and our rich history for Doors Open Wellington North and Culture Days.

During Doors Open, the Arthur Vipers – one of the teams that use the arena today – will host a special games day. Various team history displays will also be showcased and such items as this medallion will be of particular interest. The Arthur Curling Club and Arthur Historical Room will also exhibit sports history displays, along with several other sites through Wellington North.

**For a full list of participating sites, visit [DoorsOpenOntario.on.ca](http://DoorsOpenOntario.on.ca) and plan to experience Wellington North's treasures first-hand.**

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## **Wellington North opens the doors to some of their most intriguing and charming cultural and heritage sites in the area on September 26th**

Wellington North opens the doors to some of their most intriguing and charming cultural and heritage sites in the area. On Saturday, September 26th, we invite you to celebrate Culture Days and experience these treasures first hand, including a number of sites celebrating our rich and robust Sports Heritage, showcasing generations of Athletes, Sports Teams and Diverse Competitive Traditions in our community. Visitors are encouraged to come wearing their favourite team jerseys! Admission is free for the 16 participating sites that will be open that day from 9am-5pm.

Doors Open Ontario is a vibrant, significant program that continues to support communities and build civic pride. Wellington North experienced just that in 2014, the first year of participation, when we ranked #6 in the Culture Days Rural Top 10 Cities.

During Doors Open Wellington North and Culture Days, you'll get to peek behind the doors of some sites that are not typically open to the public or that you have been curious about, but may have not had a reason to visit. The Mount Forest & District Sports Complex is our Headquarters, and Doors Open Wellington North will sponsor FREE Public Skating (12 to 1:30pm) with demonstrations and lessons being given by Skate Canada Mount Forest. Also, visit the Leisure Hall where the Four Corners Quilters Guild demonstrates quilting techniques and showcase fascinating Underground Railroad quilts. Arthur Minor Hockey will host a special game day at the Arthur Community Centre, while the Arthur & Area Historical Rooms and Mount Forest Museum and Archives displays pay special attention to this history of amateur sports and high school sports of days gone by. The Arthur and Mount Forest Curling Clubs give you the opportunity to try your hand at curling while exploring the club's heritage. The Wellington County Library branches of Arthur and Mount Forest give you the opportunity to view the ancestry database and will host electronic resource workshops. The Churches of Wellington North also offer history displays, tours, music and special demonstrations. You'll also enjoy getting a look behind the scenes during exclusive factory tours at our Sponsors, Quality Engineered Homes.

Doors Open Wellington North and Culture Days are proudly presented by Wellington North's Cultural Roundtable. The Cultural Roundtable's Vision is to preserving, promoting and developing Wellington North's unique cultural resources to build a vibrant community and a prosperous economy.

**Pick up a copy or download your Doors Open Wellington North map today**  
[www.simplyexplore.ca](http://www.simplyexplore.ca) | [www.doorsopenontario.on.ca](http://www.doorsopenontario.on.ca) | [www.culturedays.ca](http://www.culturedays.ca)



# CULTURAL MOMENT

## MOUNT FOREST MOTIVATORS TOASTMASTERS

October has been declared Toastmasters month in Wellington North. Toastmasters was started 90 years ago by Dr. Ralph Smedley. Today there are 330,000 members in 15,400 clubs in 135 countries.

Mount Forest Motivators Toastmasters was chartered in 2002 and has become a teaching tool for our community. Toastmasters give people the skills and confidence they need to effectively express themselves in any situation. Whether you are a professional, student, stay-at-home parent, or retiree, Toastmasters is the most efficient, enjoyable, and affordable way of gaining great communication skills. By learning to effectively formulate and express your ideas, you open an entirely new world of possibilities.

Facilitating Youth Leadership Programs for local organizations and Speechcraft for adults, participants laugh & learn while they practice in a friendly environment while engaging in interactive activities.

### **Mount Forest Motivators: Where Leaders Are Made**

For more information visit [toastmasters.org](http://toastmasters.org) or come to a meeting held on Tuesdays from 7-9pm at the Faith Baptist Church.

# CULTURAL MOMENT

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## **The 70<sup>th</sup> for the 12<sup>th</sup> Field Committee invite you to join them for the Premiere of the World War II Documentary ‘The Story of Canada’s Phantom Regiment & The Liberation of the Netherlands’ at the Norgan Theatre in Palmerston November 15th**

A documentary feature of a Wellington County and area Artillery unit Battles from Normandy to Utrecht, Netherlands and Aurich, Germany. The 12th Field Royal Canadian Artillery Regiment fought in some of the most historic World War II battles; that was integral to the 1945 Liberation of the Netherlands. This is the untold story of the 12<sup>th</sup> Field boys and men who left their homes, families and friends to train and fight and often die for the free world we now take for granted.

They say **“once a Gunner, always a Gunner.”** A bond exists between the men who served under the Royal Canadian Artillery that is rarely mentioned and even less known. A brotherhood hard worn by metal, smoke & fire without whom the war would simply not have been won. The fear the enemy suffered at some of the most important battles in history was induced & dictated by our very own Canadian Artillery Regiments.

There is a story of untold bravery, honour and sacrifice; virtues that won the war and freedom we enjoy today. Through the eyes of those that lived it, history comes alive through interviews, WW2 archival footage, still photographs and authentic material. It is a personal story about remarkable men and women and their memories of their time.

Every breath we take honours their efforts and sacrifices. On Remembrance Day, November 11, we honour those who have given their lives serving Canadians and helping people of other nations, but we must and always remember. A local reminder include a series of murals displayed throughout the Village of Arthur ‘Canada’s Most Patriotic Village’ honouring local soldiers efforts and sacrifices.



# CULTURAL MOMENT

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**Chicken Soup for the Soul – Changing the world one story at a time**

**Story submissions by Lynne Turner:**

**“Flag Girl” Featured in Think Possible, 101 Stories about Using a Positive Attitude to Improve your Life edition**

**&**

**“Eighty-Year-Old Volunteer” Featured in Volunteering & Giving Back, 101 Inspiring Stories of Purpose & Passion edition**

After studying journalism at Ryerson University in Toronto, Lynne Turner saw an advertisement for a "reporter wanted at a small south-western Ontario community newspaper". That newspaper was the Mount Forest Confederate and Lynne was hired as a junior reporter by then-publisher David Wenger. Nearly 40 years later she took an early retirement. At the time Lynne was the general manager and editor of The Confederate, as well as general manager and editor of the Fergus-Elora News Express and Arthur Enterprise News. She had also founded the monthly West Grey Progress for Metroland Media, the owner of the community newspapers.

After having written thousands of news stories, personal columns and editorials over the years, Lynne found that she really missed writing when she retired. Subsequently she wrote and sent out some stories. A story about her mother, an 80-year-old volunteer, was published in Chicken Soup for the Soul, Volunteering and Giving Back this past August. In October a story she wrote about working as a "flag girl" on highway construction, and being hired at The Confederate, was published in Chicken Soup for the Soul, Think Possible.

A story she wrote about a Mount Forest couple, who met, fell in love and were married at the walking track at the Mount Forest and District Sports Complex appeared in the December issue of Canadian Living magazine. A tribute to Josephine Feairs, long-time Cedarville correspondent for the Confederate, appeared in the "Lives Lived" section of the Globe and Mail. Lynne has also written stories, and taken photos, for both the Wellington Advertiser and the Flesherton Advance since retiring.

Lynne lives just outside of Mount Forest, in the Township of Southgate, with her long-time "spouse-in-training" Cliff Hastie, one dog and three cats. She is an active member of the Auxiliary to Louise Marshall Hospital in Mount Forest and enjoys spending time with her family and friends, walking, and reading voraciously.

## CULTURAL MOMENT

Join The Gift Artivity Center for their  
**Grand Opening on Saturday,  
January 16<sup>th</sup> at 10am!**

Enjoy Tours, Children's Activities and  
Live Music in addition to viewing the  
exceptional artwork on display  
throughout the gallery.



## Artwork by June Wagg

### Featured at The Gift Artivity Center – Renew Northern Wellington's First Business Opening'

June Wagg is a retired schoolteacher known to many as the Conn Artist. June lives on a farm with her partner Vern in the suburbs of Conn. Her hobbies include art, photography, quilting and showing horses.

June is one of the artists whose works are on display at The Gift Artivity Center – Renew Northern Wellington's first business to open! This amazing Program helps put talented people into downtown storefronts to gain exposure, build their business, and become a sustainable enterprise.

Located at 236 Main St North in Mount Forest, The Gift Artivity Center is a place where art and activity come together. The Gift was created to serve the community of Mount Forest to enable and bring art, culture and events to celebrate the "high happy healthy" lifestyle we aspire to enjoy in the community. A bone fide art gallery, including services serving the world of art including framing, restoration and printing, as well as, a studio for patrons to acquire new skills and develop interests in the creative fields.

Visit [www.thegiftartivitycenter.com](http://www.thegiftartivitycenter.com) to learn more.

## CULTURAL MOMENT

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# **Assessment Roll for the Municipality of the Village of Arthur 1929**

**This Assessment Roll for the Municipality of the Village of Arthur from 1929 was recently uncovered in the archives of the Township of Wellington North Damascus Works Yard and will be sent to the Wellington County Museum & Archives for preservation.**

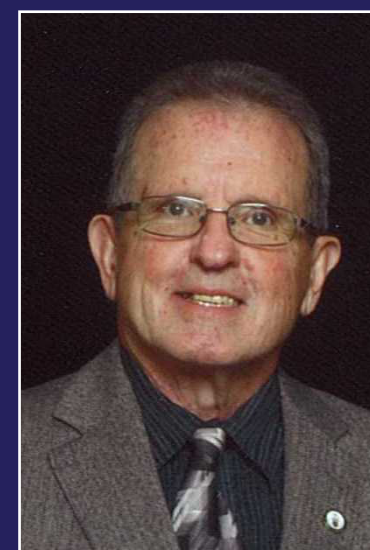
**It's interesting to see how technology has advanced, how property values have significantly increased and the change in a person's occupation has evolved in 87 years!**

**This book display's elegant handwriting that is organized alphabetically by names of taxable persons in the Village and includes a description of the property, assessed value, applicable school sections and population of the properties.**

**Today, these records are held electronically for easy access and searching, with tax rates now being based on market values.**

# Great Things DID HAPPEN IN WELLINGTON NORTH

*A Tribute To Former Mayor*  
**MIKE BROOMHEAD**



# Cultural Moment

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## *In Memory of Michael John “Mike” Broomhead*

“Great Things are Happening in Wellington North,” was a favourite saying of Wellington North’s former Mayor, Mike Broomhead. This positive outlook and words of encouragement empowered many in our community and has left a lasting impression with us all.

Today, we pay tribute to Wellington North’s former Mayor, Mike Broomhead, who sadly passed away on February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in his 66<sup>th</sup> year. We pay respect to the “Great Things That Did Happen in Wellington North” under his ambassadorship of this great community.

As Councillor Yake recently reflected, “Mike was first elected to Mount Forest Council in 1989. He sat on and chaired every committee of Council while he was there. Mike was elected to the inaugural Wellington North Council as Councillor for Ward 2 and in 2003 he was elected as Wellington North’s second Mayor, a position he held until 2010. He was proud to represent his community at the Council table for over 21 years.”

When Mike served as Wellington North Mayor, there were many instrumental initiatives that impacted the community under his leadership that included the Big Dig, construction of the Sports Complex and Wastewater Treatment Plant in Mount Forest, creation of The Butter Tart Trail and Birding Trail, as well as, welcoming the Olympic Torch Run and bringing a new swimming pool, Medical Clinic and Library to the residents of Arthur. As Councillor Yake also recalled, Mike always started his meetings as friends and encouraged that participants end the meeting as friends.

Mike credited his success to the support he received from his family and friends. Beloved husband of Norine, loved father of Daryl Broomhead of Woodstock, Alicia Frey & husband Ken of Mount Forest and Jamie Broomhead & Yvonne Arbour of Hamilton. Loving grandfather of Tessa, Lucas, Lizzie, Wesley and Caden.

*His contributions and love for his family will always be cherished.*

# Cultural Moment

## ***VOLUNTEERS ARE THE ROOTS OF STRONG COMMUNITIES***

### ***4 Engaging Workshops***

***May 4, 2016 6pm at the Mount Forest Library***

***June 7, 2016 6pm at the Harriston Library***

***October 5, 2016 6pm at the Mount Forest Library***

***November 2, 2016 6pm at the Harriston Library***

Community consultations identified this very statement rings true in Wellington North, as we underwent the Municipal Cultural Plan in 2013. Volunteers are crucial in sustaining the vast majority of cultural organizations and activities in Wellington North and it is important for us to strengthen and support their efforts.

The Wellington North Cultural Roundtable has partnered with the Mount Forest & District Chamber of Commerce Community Animator and Treasures of Minto to deliver 4 engaging workshops for community organizations to support volunteers and build their volunteer engagement capacity. Organizations are encouraged to attend to access information, resources and tools that will help them to recruit and retain volunteers. This will create a great opportunity to strengthen community group's roots and help to sustain valuable contributions from our community.

The workshop series will be facilitated by Reva Cooper of Reva Cooper Consulting. Ms. Cooper is the Founding Executive Director of the Volunteer Action Centre of Kitchener-Waterloo and Area and the Co-ordinator of the Volunteer Management Certificate Program at Conestoga College. Each workshop will focus on a different subject and complement one another and will look at: Setting up a Quality Volunteer Program, Volunteer Recruitment, Maintaining a Volunteer Program and Putting it All Together.

“

“Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.”

UNKNOWN

# Volunteers are The Roots of Strong Communities

## 4 Engaging Workshops

Presented By

**Reva Cooper**

Reva Cooper Consulting

*Founding Executive Director of the Volunteer Action Centre of Kitchener-Waterloo and Area, Co-ordinator of the Volunteer Management Certificate Program at Conestoga College.*

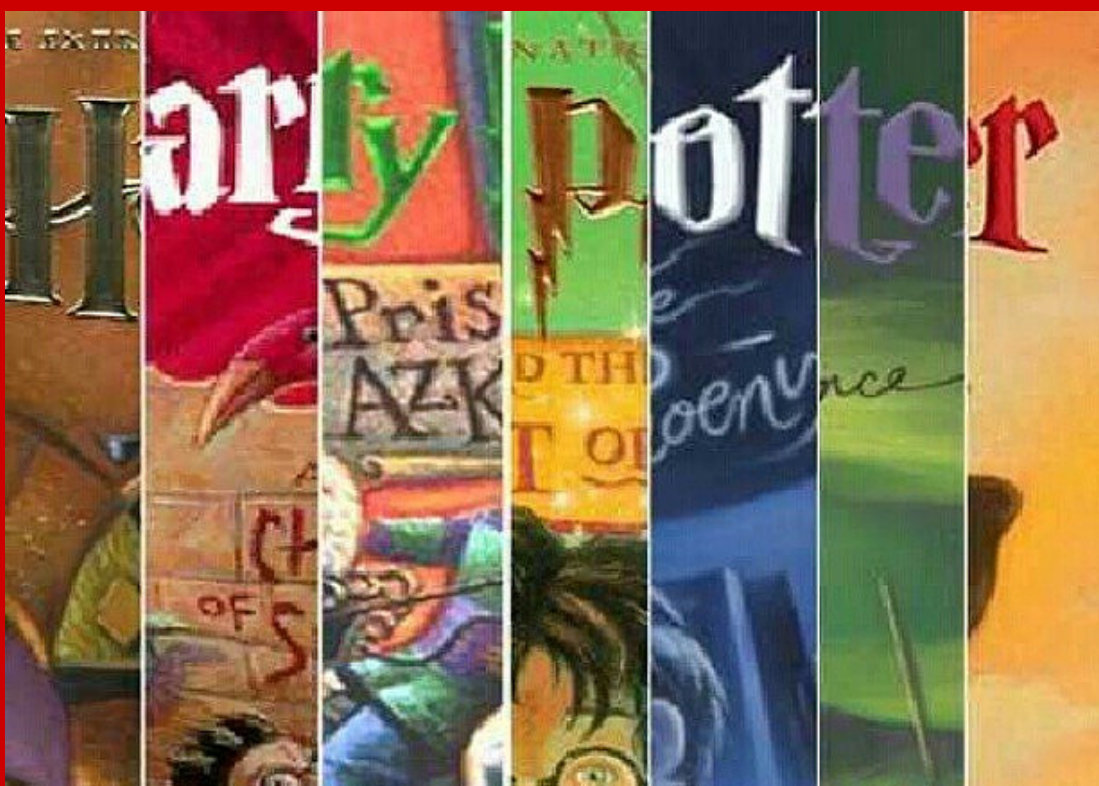
**These workshops are for community organizations to support volunteers, and to build volunteer engagement capacity. If your organization would like access to information, resources and tools that will help you to recruit and retain volunteers this is a great opportunity to strengthen your roots and help your group to sustain valuable contribution to our community. Participants are encouraged to attend all four sessions'**

Register for all Four and pay \$ 60.00 or pay \$ 20 each at  
*Launch It Minto & Mount Forest Chamber of Commerce*



Sponsored By:





## CULTURE MOMENT

### PAINTING MY CHILDHOOD

Abigail Schenk, a lifelong Mount Forest resident, and current co-op student at the Township of Wellington North has had an ever building love of creativity and the arts. She is a current student at Wellington Heights and loves to use her creative talents in her business marketing and entrepreneurship classes.

She began her journey exploring the arts when going to art classes with Dot Cork, a resident artist in Wellington North, and it has been a growing experiment ever since. She paints anything from landscapes, to figures, and has a particular proclivity for painting her favorite scenes from movies like Harry Potter whom she loved to grow up with. "Each character teaches us a new lesson, and they all are an integral part of who I, and my whole generation became. It is one of my greatest inspirations." Abby encourages other people of all ages that you do not have to be particularly talented to begin, but practice brings forth the confidence to have your own style, and that is when the real magic starts.



**CULTURAL MOMENT**  
**HAPPY HEALTHY FAMILIES**  
***“LET’S MAKE WELLINGTON NORTH THE HEALTHIEST  
PLACE TO RAISE A CHILD!”***

Happy Healthy Families is a community project aiming to make Wellington North the Healthiest Place to Raise a Family. The goal is to engage our community across all areas to change the culture and make healthy living the easier choice. The actions include encouraging eating more veggies and fruit, drinking more water instead of sugar sweetened beverages, reducing screen time, increasing physical activity and increasing sleep time.

A proud member of EPODE Canada, working with communities across the Country to prevent childhood obesity, Wellington North will utilize best practices and capacity building networks as outlined in their model. Our approach as a community needs to be long-term (4 to 5 years), aimed at changing the environment through capacity building. By doing this, we can change the local environments and family norms to ultimately affect behaviours and the associated health outcomes. It takes the whole community to build Happy Healthy Families.

The first initiative in helping to make Wellington North the Healthiest Place to Raise Child is working in conjunction with Mount Forest Foodland to build a healthy checkout lane. ***Join us on Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> 10am at Mount Forest Foodland*** to officially open the new lane that will offer healthier choices like fruit, vegetables and nuts, versus the standard gum, chocolate bars and candy that you typically see and that tempt young children when checking out at the grocery store. Freggie, the fruit and vegetable mascot, will be on hand for the launch to hand out samples and special children’s activities will be incorporated.

The Happy Healthy Families initiative greatly appreciates the commitment from Mount Forest Foodland, and future community partners, to help with initiatives to make changes in our local culture as it relates to making better food and activity choices.

***TIP: Fill a waffle cone with fruit and top with low fat yogurt as an idea to help add veggies & fruit to your snacks!***

**[www.happyhealthyfamilieswellingtonnorth.com](http://www.happyhealthyfamilieswellingtonnorth.com)**

# *Cultural Moment*

## **THE BUTTER TART TRAIL AND FORMER HORSE & BUGGY TRAIL MERGE AND GROW TO OFFER NEW TOURISM EXPERIENCE FOR THE REGION**

Explore the Simpler Life in the rural areas of Minto, Southgate and Wellington North. Discover butter tart flavours & inspirations. Experience a showcase of local food, handcrafted items, producers and business related to the horse & buggy culture. You may even chance upon the opportunity to have a buggy ride. How sweet is that!

Butter Tarts and Buggies: Explore the Simpler Life, is a new tourism experience developed in partnership with the Town of Minto and Townships of Southgate and Wellington North. The experience combines The Butter Tart Trail with the Mennonite Culture of the former Horse and Buggy Trail. This new exciting offering promotes butter tart bakers, butter tart inspired items and related products including maple syrup. Explore Mennonite Cultural offerings, local food at the farm, restaurants, retail stores, local handcrafted items and the equine industry.

Visitors will enjoy the opportunity for an old fashioned Mennonite horse and buggy ride through a working Mennonite farm and along scenic backroads. There are numerous farm experiences that include alpaca shearing, wagon rides and the opportunity to visit friendly critters. The tastes will amaze you with dozens of varieties of butter tarts and inspired products like pies, sundaes, trifle and waffles. There are even special butter tart doggy treats locally made and sourced. Talented local artist works will awe you.

***Watch for the special Passport Promotion being launched in conjunction with the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival, July 15-17<sup>th</sup>- A top 100 festival in Ontario. Ignite your weekend and enjoy family fun for all ages. Includes amusements all weekend, live entertainment, kid's zone, great food and great fun! And of course a SPECTACULAR fireworks display!!***

[www.buttertartsandbuggies.com](http://www.buttertartsandbuggies.com)

# *Cultural Moment*

## **MADE IN WELLINGTON WELLINGTON WOOD PRODUCTS**

As part of the International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM), the County of Wellington and its seven member municipalities will showcase various products 'Made in Wellington' as part of the overall County Showcase experience.

Wellington North's 'Made in Wellington' feature is a display of packaging from Mount Forest's Wellington Wood Products.

Wellington Wood Products have been manufacturing Produce Packaging in Canada for over 70 years and are a family owned and operated business.

Ken Hincks started with the company in 1952 and became an owner in 1972. Ken's sons, Paul and Peter joined the company in the early 1980's and continue to enjoy being part of the Fruit and Vegetable Packaging industry.

With a dedicated and knowledgeable staff, they continue to offer reliable service to the produce industry. They are constantly aware of growers' packaging needs as well as industry trends. Their goal is to produce quality products at fair prices and to be available to serve customers in a quick and efficient manner. With a large fleet of trucks and warehouse facilities, they are large enough to meet all of your Fruit and Vegetable Packaging needs, and small enough to provide exceptional, personable service.

The Wellington County Showcase will give IPM visitors the opportunity to learn about the County in a fun and interactive way. The Showcase will feature a zip line over top of living, growing, Wellington County map, local entertainers, food and drink samples, a farmers' market & more. Visit Wellington North in the County Showcase to see this Made in Wellington feature, contribute to the living mural by artist Cliff Smith, get your photo on a buggy and learn about our rich and robust history.

**JOIN US FOR A 'FRESH TASTE OF FARMING'**

**IPM 2016**

**SEPTEMBER 20-24, 2016**

**HARRISTON / TOWN OF MINTO**

# *Cultural Moment*

## **Arthur Historical Society Exhibit Room Torsion Balance**

### ***Feature of Doors Open Wellington North***

Presented by Wellington North's Cultural Roundtable, on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 10am-4pm, plan a free, self-guided tour of some of Wellington North's most intriguing and charming cultural and heritage sites and businesses, some not typically open to the public. We invite you to explore our robust past and present first hand.

Medical Science & Innovation History is Doors Open Ontario's 2016 theme. Sites such as the Arthur & Area Historical Rooms, Knox Conn Presbyterian Church, the Mount Forest Family Health Team and the Mount Forest Wastewater Treatment Plant will present information as it pertains to our local history and advancement in the field that includes a history of local doctors, a behind-the-scenes look at various jobs relating to health care, information about new ways of providing health-care services and an opportunity to learn about the innovation, processes and technology behind our water.

At the Arthur & Area Historical Room, you will have an opportunity to see an amazing collection of over-the-counter medications, some of which are still being used. Walsh's Pharmacy has generously supplied most of these items, such as this Torsion Balance, an instrument used for measuring very weak forces by their effect on a system of fine twisted wire, such as medicine.

As well, you can see where your parents and grandparents faced the challenges of dental care. They have the equipment used by Dr. Norman Truemner, who was the Arthur and area dentist for many years. Two of their most knowledgeable Historical members, John Walsh and Mabel Henderson, will be part of the team helping to show visitors around and sharing stories.

Other Doors Open Wellington North highlights include access to ancestry databases through the Wellington County Library branches in Arthur and Mount Forest and burial information for people trying to locate family members or friends buried at the Mount Forest Cemetery Chapel, Quality Homes factory tours, a virtual tour of our latest community heritage project; the restoration of the Lynes Blacksmith Shop in Kenilworth at the Mount Forest Museum and Archives, and 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations at the Saugeen Fitness and Spa where Happy Healthy Families will also be on site to provide family activities and giveaways throughout the day.

**Download a copy of your Doors Open Wellington North map today**

[www.simplyexplore.ca](http://www.simplyexplore.ca) | [www.doorsopenontario.on.ca](http://www.doorsopenontario.on.ca) | #DOWellingtonNorth

# *Cultural Moment*

## **IPM 2016**

### ***“A Fresh Taste of Farming” Event Slideshow***

The Town of Minto and the County of Wellington recently hosted the International Plowing Match & Rural Expo, September 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> 2016 and attracted over 96,000 visitors! Ontarians were given the opportunity to explore rural lifestyles and learn about the importance of agriculture in the local, provincial and Canadian economies.

One of the ‘must-see’ attractions of the event was a walk through Wellington County. The County and its seven-member municipalities showcased interactive displays, live music and food demonstrations, gave an opportunity to fly over Wellington County on a zip line, featured a farmers’ market and tour of local taps, plus more. Wellington North showcased a living mural by local artist, Cliff Smith, that gave visitors the opportunity to contribute to the mural by colouring in the scenes of Arthur “Canada’s Most Patriotic Village,” the Lynes Blacksmith Shop, Agriculture and the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival. The Arthur Historical Society told the story of the Village’s designation, while the Mount Forest Museum and Archives display showed what the women of the plowing times contributed at home while the men were at work in the field. Wellington Wood Products was featured as our ‘Made in Wellington’ piece and our new community radio station, 88.7 The River was on site broadcasting live through the week. Visitors were also able to take a photo on a traditional Mennonite buggy, in promotion of our newest tourism initiative ‘Butter Tarts & Buggies: Explore the Simpler Life.’

One of the day-trips for RV Park residents was a tour of Butter Tarts & Buggies; visitors explored the simpler life with a buggy ride, farm tours, interactive demonstrations and tastes of local food from our members.

The list of events surrounding the IPM 2016 is substantial –please enjoy this [slideshow](#) capturing some of the many highlights:

***Best Wishes to your hosts of IPM 2017, Huron County!***



Louis Oscar Williams

Jason Cooper

Mervin H. Waters

Jerome Epoch

Lloyd E. McArthur

Alfred A. Waters

Kenneth A. Waters

Leo Gregory Schmidt

John Walsh

R. Glen Prentice

+ Two other fallen soldiers

## ***"Canada's Most Patriotic Village" Honour Veterans on Street Banners***

TWELVE BANNERS, DEPICTING LOCAL MEN WHO WENT TO WAR, NOW FLY OVER GEORGE STREET IN ARTHUR, ALONGSIDE CANADIAN FLAGS. THE BANNERS EVOKE THE IMPORTANCE TO RESIDENTS AND VISITORS OF REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SERVED. THEY ARE A SMALL REPRESENTATION OF THOSE WHO SERVED FROM THE ARTHUR AREA IN THE TWO GREAT WORLD WARS. IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR, 363 ENLISTED FROM ARTHUR AREA AND 25 WERE KILLED. FORTY MORE WERE KILLED IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR.

*Lest We Forget*

• CULTURAL MOMENT •

# SANTA CLAUS PARADES OF WELLINGTON NORTH




ORGANIZED BY OUR  
VIBRANT COMMUNITY  
ORGANIZATIONS


FUN FOR THE  
WHOLE FAMILY

OFFICIAL OPENING  
TO CHRISTMAS


HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH COUNCIL



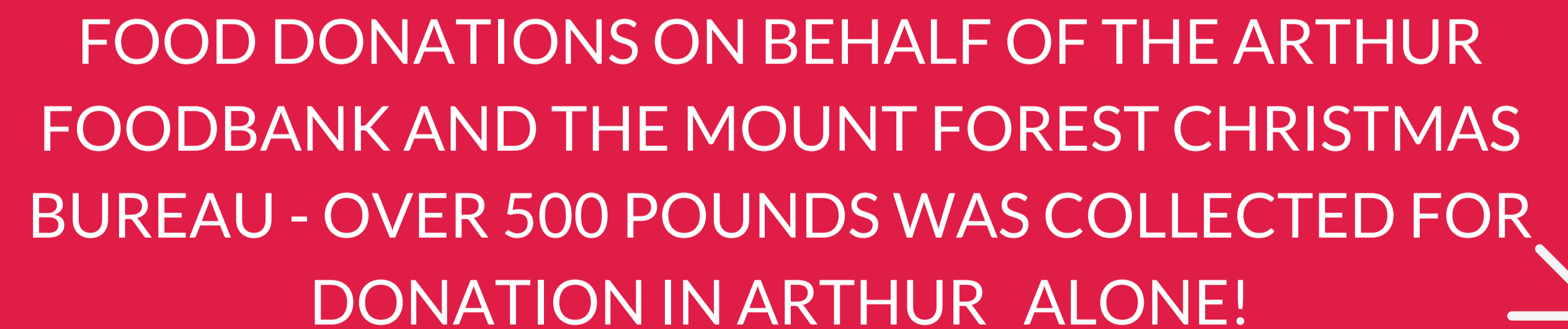
SANTA CLAUS PARADES OR CHRISTMAS PARADES ARE PARADES HELD TO CELEBRATE THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH THE ARRIVAL OF SANTA CLAUS WHO ALWAYS APPEAR IN THE LAST FLOAT. THE PARADES USUALLY INCLUDE THEMED FLOATS, DANCING OR MARCHING GROUPS AND BANDS PLAYING CHRISTMAS SONGS. THEY ARE MOVING PAGEANTS THAT ARE TYPICALLY HOSTED IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE, SPONSORED BY LOCAL BUSINESSES.



WELLINGTON NORTH RECENTLY HOSTED TWO SANTA CLAUS PARADES - THE ARTHUR OPTI-MRS SANTA CLAUS PARADE ALWAYS HELD THE LAST SATURDAY OF NOVEMBER AND THE MOUNT FOREST LIONS SANTA CLAUS PARADE HELD THE FIRST FRIDAY OF DECEMBER.



THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH'S FLOAT FEATURED COUNCIL COLLECTING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE ARTHUR FOODBANK AND THE MOUNT FOREST CHRISTMAS BUREAU - OVER 500 POUNDS WAS COLLECTED FOR DONATION IN ARTHUR ALONE!



**M E R R Y   C H R I S T M A S !**

# *Cultural Moment*

## **Glenna Barton rink wins ladies' curling title**

In 1976 the Mount Forest Ladies Curling foursome took home the Southern Ontario Ladies' Curling Association A championship by defeating Oakville rink 11-8 in the deciding game, putting the town on the map. Glenna Barton skipped her rink to win, with the assistance of her teammates, Shirley Small, vice; Bonnie Schwindt, second, and Bud Rundle, lead.

The Mount Forest triumph marked the first time in ladies' curling history, to date, that a rink from district 3 had captured the SOLCA event. The girls, who had gone undefeated in their competitive curling deserved congratulations. Sixteen districts were represented at the SOLCA double knock-out draw in St. Catherine's.



It is interesting to note that in 1976 there were 23,000 lady curlers in Southern Ontario and 27,000 in all of Ontario.

The history of curling in Canada extends back to the origins of this country's earliest European immigrants and is a major contributor to Canada's social and cultural development.

Both Arthur and Mount Forest are home to strong Curling Club Associations and continue to contribute to the cultural make-up of our community. New or inexperienced curlers are welcome any time and every effort is made to make them feel welcome and to provide them with the basic knowledge and skills to participate in this traditional winter sport.

# Over the "winning" hog line



**Glenna Barton**



**Shirley Small**



**Bonnie Schwindt**

by Jeannie Weber  
GLENNa, SHIRLEY,  
BONNIE, BUD

You girls decided to Listowel  
you'd go,  
To see how much curling you did  
know,  
A success you became on your  
first throw,  
Glenna made sure your spirits  
were never low.

Four great girls we all know by  
name,  
To win this district their object  
became,  
To Mount Forest you brought  
glory and fame,  
Be darned if you didn't win every  
game.

Bud put on every rock which was  
good,  
The opposition took some out,  
just as they should,  
If your nerves got bad we all  
understood,  
Each end you counted as we  
wished you would.

On January 19th, it was the big  
day,  
Off to St. Catharines you'd have  
to play,  
Everyone from our club was very  
gay,  
"We're going to win this," Glen-  
na did say.

Monday night was all just fun,  
Your hostess kept you on the run,  
Park Inn you stayed, where great  
friends you won,  
Socializing was all that was done.

Tuesday morning a bye you did  
get,  
Into the Datsun you all would not  
fit,  
Bud's car became an instant hit,  
When your chauffeur could only  
make it sit.

The first girls you met came from  
Sutton,  
The rocks they seemed to put  
right on the button,  
Taking them out to Shirley  
seemed nutt'in,  
When it came to counting you  
were a glutton.

Wednesday morning when you  
did wake,  
Kingsville's the team you had to  
take,  
On the ninth end a tie you did  
make,  
But Glenna came through for all  
our sake.

Bonnie took our rocks and left her  
shot,  
The Burlington team, how they  
fought,  
After the game their beds they

The husbands and friends went  
home to pray,  
Please let them win one more  
day,  
Oakville was hard to beat they  
did say,  
We hoped our girls knew the way.

Early in the game you got the  
jump,  
Every Oakville rock you soon did  
bump,  
You girls never went in a slump,  
Mount Forest rocks sat in a  
clump.

Girls, we want you to know we're  
very proud,  
You put us all way up on a cloud,  
We hope you didn't mind when we  
seemed very loud,  
"That's Mount Forest girls", we  
told the crowd.

poem by  
Joan McCorquodale and  
Phyllis McGladdery

Our town, Mount Forest, was  
sure on the map after the final  
game played last Thursday at St.  
Catharines Golf and Country  
Club.

Glenna Barton skipped her rink  
to win the Southern Ontario La-  
dies' Curling Association A  
championship by defeating Oak-  
ville rink 11-8 in the deciding  
game. Assisting Glenna were  
Shirley Small, vice; Bonnie Sch-  
windt, second, and Bud Rundle,  
lead.

The Mount Forest triumph  
marked the first time in ladies'  
curling history that a rink from  
district 3 has captured the  
SOLCA event.

The girls who have gone un-  
defeated in their competitive  
curling deserve congratulations.  
Sixteen districts were rep-  
resented at the SOLCA double  
knock-out draw in St. Catharines.  
On the first day (Tuesday),  
Mount Forest defeated Sutton 11-  
5.

The second day (Wednesday),  
Mount Forest edged Kingsville 7-  
6.

"What a game" they were tied  
6-6 coming home, and who came  
through but "our Glenna" mak-  
ing a beautiful draw. There were  
tears and laughter after this.

game.

In the afternoon the girls took  
to the ice, quite relaxed after  
their game of euchre and dressed  
in their Royal Blue sweaters.  
They defeated Burlington 9-3.

On the sixth end, Burlington  
was counting five or six, by my  
count. Again Glenna came  
through with her draw rock to  
give Mount Forest a count. This  
upset the Burlington skip losing  
such a big end. However she (the  
Burlington skip) played a terrific  
game.

The girls will now advance to  
Sudbury to compete for the title  
of "All Ontario Champs" against  
five other rinks. The rinks are:  
Northern Ontario, North Western  
Ontario, Eastern Ontario, Kings-  
ville and Oakville.

This will be a round robin event  
and will be February 2 to 4.

It is interesting to note that  
there are 23,000 lady curlers in  
Southern Ontario and 27,000 in all  
of Ontario.

Two carloads travelled to St.  
Catharines to cheer the girls on,  
and by what I hear there are  
some travelling to Sudbury.

The club at St. Catharines is  
real "plush" and they used us  
royally but I am very happy we  
have such a friendly club and can  
curl for a nominal fee.

I asked one of the conveners,  
"What is your membership fee?"  
She replied without batting an  
eye, "\$700.00 per year."

Our congratulations again,  
girls. There is no doubt in my  
mind you will be the "Ontario  
Champs". Then to Winnipeg we  
go in March for the All Canadian.



**Bud Rundle**

## CULTURAL MOMENT



**CELEBRATING 1 YEAR LIVE ON-AIR BRINGING LOCAL RADIO TO THE TOWN OF MOUNT FOREST AND NORTHERN WELLINGTON AND SOUTHERN GREY!**

**88.7 THE RIVER PROVIDES A WIDE VARIETY OF MUSIC, LOCAL NEWS, WEATHER, COMMUNITY EVENTS, LOCAL ADVERTISING AND CULTURAL INFORMATION IMPORTANT TO RESIDENTS AND VISITORS. WITH AN AVERAGE OF 30,000 LISTENERS STREAMING ONLINE ON A MONTHLY BASIS, MANY LOCAL BUSINESSES ARE UTILIZING THIS MEDIUM TO PROMOTE THEIR BUSINESS'S PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.**

**88.7 THE RIVER RECENTLY HELD A SURVEY OF LISTENERS AND THE RESULTS HAVE SHOWN THAT MORE FEMALES LISTEN TO 88.7 THE RIVER THAN ANY OTHER RADIO STATION IN THE AREA. THE BEST TIME TO ADVERTISE IS BETWEEN 6AM-4PM, WHEN OVER 60% OF THOSE SURVEYED SAY THEY LISTEN ON A REGULAR BASIS. BY ADVERTISING WITH THE RIVER, 70% OF MOUNT FOREST CONSUMERS CAN BE REACHED.**

**LOOK FOR 88.7 THE RIVER'S NEW PERMANENT LOCATION AT 238 MAIN ST N IN MOUNT FOREST!**

**TUNE IN WEEKDAYS AT 1PM FOR TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH MUNICIPAL UPDATES!**

**PROMOTING LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS AND VOLUNTEER PROGRAMMING, COMMUNITY EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS + MORE! REACH LOCAL CONSUMERS AND PROMOTE ALL OF THE GREAT OFFERINGS AVAILABLE IN WELLINGTON NORTH!**

# *Cultural Moment*

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## **Get to Know Everyone's Business!**

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Wellington North Showcase is happening at the Mount Forest Sports Complex March 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>**

We have a wide array of business in Wellington North to serve all of our needs. Our community is full of passionate and skilled people that deliver their products and services in a friendly manner. But how do we know what is available to us in our own community?

Wellington North Showcase creates a platform for business services, retailers and organizations to make the right connections to create local camaraderie that benefit business and the consumer. Wellington North Showcase features a Business Networking Reception along with the tradeshow that features a showcase of displays and products from local businesses and organizations.



New for 2017, bringing hope to the community, Mayor Lennox and HOPE (Healthy Opportunities Promoting Empowerment) invite you to a Mayor's Lunch and Talk about Mental Health in the Workplace. *1 in 5 Canadians will be affected by a mental health issues during their lifetime and, as such, every workplace is affected by mental health in some way. A workplace can contribute positively or negatively to an individual's mental health and, in turn, this can affect the success of the business or organization.*

Visitors will also want to ensure that they fill out their Showcase passport by visiting booths for their chance to win great prizes from participating vendors!

Over the past seven years Showcase has proven to be a must attend event for our local businesses and organizations. The economic well-being and cultural offerings of our community is driven by our existing businesses and organizations; this Showcase is intended to give us all an opportunity to recognize and thank the many businesses we have in our community and the provided services.

A Tradeshow for Businesses from Wellington North  
to Showcase their Products & Services

8<sup>th</sup> Annual

# Wellington North SHOWCASE



Free Admission

Mount Forest and  
District Sports Complex

MONDAY:

Business Networking  
4:30 pm - 7:30 pm

TUESDAY:

Open to the Public  
1 pm - 8 pm

New for 2017

Mayor's Lunch and Learn  
on Mental Health in the Workplace

11:30 am - 1 pm Lunch will be provided.

RSVP (Space is limited to this FREE Event)

- [MountForestHope2017.eventbrite.ca](http://MountForestHope2017.eventbrite.ca)
- Angela Heeley 1-844-264-2993 ext 4056

**H.O.P.E.** Healthy Opportunities  
Promoting Empowerment  
De-stigmatizing Mental Health

FILL OUT A  
**PASSPORT**  
AND WIN  
GREAT PRIZES

Non-Perishable Food Donations  
Accepted at the Door

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Canada Trust



For More Information

519.848.3620 [ecdev@wellington-north.com](mailto:ecdev@wellington-north.com) [www.wellington-north.com](http://www.wellington-north.com)



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unique cultural resources to build a  
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prosperous economy.*

The Arthur & Area Historical Society are researching and collecting stories of local veterans to help celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. These stories are being brought together, into a Veterans Book to be published later this year. Our **Cultural Moment** this evening presents one of these stories....

### **LIEUTENANT ROSS SAMUEL: FIRST SPECIAL SERVICE FORCE**

David & Florence Samuel, along with their three sons, Allan, Ross and Keith, farmed in West Luther near Arthur from 1937. The two older boys attended Arthur High School and Ross enlisted in Stratford on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 1939, eight days before his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

He trained in Cambridge, was sent to England and was soon a full-fledged Lieutenant. He then joined the First Special Service Force, and by 1944 was in southern France, having fought the entire way with the elite First Special Service Force, which was made up of both American and Canadian soldiers. A sign of its success was that the Germans called it the "Devil's Brigade".

One of Ross' letters home tells of fighting at Cassino, Italy and he also proudly writes of being part of the first troops to march into Rome after its liberation. The most hard-fought time was at Villeneuve-Loubet in southern France on Aug. 26, 1944. This was the day Ross was fatally wounded. Late Sept. the family received a telegram however did not know how severely Ross had been injured. The final letter from the Department of National Defence was received late October.



A memorial service was held for Ross at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Gordonville. While the service was being held, another telegram arrived giving the terrible news that Ross' brother Allan was missing in action, only to be reported killed a short time later.

In August, 2007, Betty-Anne Samuel in Arthur received a call from France from a young man, Jean-Loup Gasset, who was writing the history of his village, Villeneuve-Loubet, near Nice. Since Ross was the lieutenant leading the troops that liberated his village, he was able to tell the family the story. The Special Service men were moving into the villages of southern France to liberate them from the Germans. Lieutenant Ross Samuel was leading his group of men across the bridge into the town when a sniper shot him in the left leg, above the knee. His men immediately shot the sniper. Ross was taken quickly to

the medics after a tourniquet was applied to his leg. None of his men thought he was fatally wounded but he died the following day, possibly from shock.

The sacrifices of Ross Samuel and the other members of the First Special Service Force have not been forgotten. In February 2015 forty-two surviving Canadian and American members of the Devil's Brigade were honoured with the Congressional Gold Medal.



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**Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates Local Food & Local Food Tourism and we would like to bring attention to two local programs**

Now in its fourth season the **Wellington North Farmers Market** opened on Friday May 26<sup>th</sup> at King Street East in Mount Forest, next to the Victory Community Centre. A Farmers Market provides a great opportunity for the Community to connect while at the same time supporting our local farmers and producers. There are so many reasons why buying local makes sense and I would encourage everyone to please come out and support your local Farmers Market. The market runs through to October 6<sup>th</sup> and I would like to give a special mention and thank you to Pastor Harry Engel who continues to donate his time each and every Friday afternoon as our Market Manager.

**“Butter Tarts and Buggies: Explore the Simpler Life”**, has moved into its second season, with our launch last weekend in-conjunction with the Spring Rural Romp. Developed in 2016 in-partnership with the Town of Minto and the Township of Southgate we are pleased to have the Township of Mapleton join the program this year. With twenty eight participants throughout Northern Wellington and Southern Grey County this self guided tour allows residents and tourists the opportunity to experience a showcase of local food, handcrafted items, producers and business related to the horse and buggy culture and obviously Butter Tarts!! To learn more and to plan your tour, please pick up one of the new brochures, or visit our online interactive map at [www.buttertartsandbuggies.com](http://www.buttertartsandbuggies.com).



2017/18

*Buggy Rides*  
*Homemade*  
*Butter Tarts*  
*Cafes & Buffets*  
*Heirloom Plants*  
*Local Artisans*  
*Unique Decor*



CANADA 150



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## **Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates Youth & our Wellington North Youth Action Council**

The Wellington North Youth Action Council (YAC) is celebrating its' 1<sup>st</sup> birthday and they would love for you to come out and celebrate with them!

The YAC is made up of local youth aged 13-24 with a passion for creating change in the community. With support from the Township of Wellington North, Mount Forest Chamber of Commerce, and North for Youth, they have come together as a group to discuss issues facing youth in our community and to brainstorm what they could do to help.

During the first year they have developed a vision statement:

***To establish more opportunities for youth involvement in Wellington North so as to create a safe and empowering community that reflects a positive perception of youth!***

The mandate includes a number of tasks such as:

- ***create a welcoming and safe space for youth,***
- ***plan special events and workshops for youth and adults,***
- ***establish community partnerships,***
- ***develop a relationship with Wellington North Council so as to advise them on issues important to youth.***

Recently they were involved in hosting an outdoor movie night, gingerbread house competition, North Wellington Youth Connections Day, YACtivities, and much more! Plans for the summer include yoga in the park, a soccer tournament in Holstein, Splash Pad event in Arthur and an Amazing Race!

As you can see, we have lots to celebrate with our Youth Action Council, and everyone is invited to stop by **Game Over Lounge on Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup> anytime between 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm.** This will be a great opportunity to meet YAC members and Adult Allies and to show your support to the YAC.

There will be pizza, cake, and lots of video games to play!

# CULTURAL MOMENT

## Saint Mary of the Purification Roman Catholic Church

### Mount Forest



The site where St. Mary of the Purification Roman Catholic Church stands today was purchased by Father Holzer in 1861. Construction of the church was initiated in 1863 but Father Holzer did not live to see it completed. He suffered from a stroke in January 1864, and died the same year. Father Mahuet served the parish when the church was dedicated on February 1, 1865. The church was designed in the Gothic Revival style, characterized by elongated windows in the Gothic arch form.

On August 14, 1902, a fire caused considerable damage to the original church. At the time of the fire, the current priest, Father O'Connell, was in Rome. The church burned but the origin of the fire was not definitely determined. One possibility was the furnace, but there was no fire in it at the time. A second possibility was an incendiary, but there was no proof of this. The third possible cause, which seemed to be most likely, was a burning sanctuary lamp. In fact, at 2:00 AM the night of the fire, a passerby happened to see a light on in the church, giving credence to the lamp as the cause.

Father O'Connell died shortly after his return from Rome and because a severe blizzard had recently occurred he was buried under the church. He is commemorated by a plaque located in the church. Saint Mary of the Purification Roman Catholic Church was rebuilt in 1902-1903. It appears that the walls of the present church are from the original building. Large beams which were charred by the fire are still visible in the dirt cellar.

More than 150 years since its dedication, St. Mary of the Purification Roman Catholic Church stands today as a prominent feature of the Town of Mount Forest.



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### **Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates Wellington North Doors Open**

On Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10am-4pm, plan a free, self-guided tour of some of Wellington North's most intriguing and charming cultural and heritage sites and locations, some not typically open to the public. We invite you to explore our robust past and present first hand.

Doors Open Ontario is a province wide celebration of community heritage. Designed to create access, awareness and excitement about our heritage, Doors Open Ontario provides residents and visitors with a unique opportunity to explore and enjoy the sometimes hidden and always interesting places and spaces in Ontario! In 2017 Doors Open Ontario has over 1,000+ exciting sites to experience as we celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ontario and Canada.

This is the fourth year that Wellington North has participated in Doors Open and this year we have nine sites to enjoy and experience:

- Arthur & Area Historical Society
- Mount Forest Museum and Archives
- Knox Conn Presbyterian Church
- St. John's Evangelical-Lutheran Church, Mount Forest
- Quality Engineered Homes, Riverstown
- Wellington County Library branches in Arthur and Mount Forest
- Mount Forest Cemetery Chapel

We are also excited to say that the very first Official Public Open House will take place at the **Lynes Blacksmith Shop** in Kenilworth. This is definitely a can't miss once in a lifetime opportunity and we are pleased to have this take place during Doors Open Wellington North.

Presented by Wellington North's Cultural Roundtable and through the generous sponsorship of Quality Engineered Homes, Doors Open provides residents and visitors alike the opportunity to enjoy and learn more about our community's culture and heritage.



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### **Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates The Mount Forest Cemetery**

The Mount Forest Cemetery was established in 1816. The cemetery is approximately 15 acres in size and although it is located in Southgate, the cemetery is owned and administered by the Township of Wellington North. In 1872 a formal master plan was developed that established sections that were named for the convenience of physically locating graves.

On average there are about 45 to 50 burials each year. In 1907, there were 111 burials with 50 alone in November of that year. An iron fence along the front was erected in 1937. This was followed by the main entrance gate in 1958 as pictured above. The pillars and sign feature we see today was donated by the McHellar family in memory of Mr. Neil McHellar.

The Mortuary/Chapel was built in 1947 and was dedicated on July 6<sup>th</sup> at the time of the Old Boys Reunion and for the past two years the Chapel has been a stop on Doors Open Wellington North. Over 7,000 plots or niches have been sold since the cemetery was first established and the Mount Forest Cemetery has been included on the Cultural Roundtable's list of historic sites and places.

Presently the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable is working with the Township on improving public access to historic burial records. This will result in an on-line archive which will include a detailed location of the grave site, picture of the tombstone and where possible a copy of the obituary or other personal information recorded by the family.



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## **Our Cultural Moment for November celebrates Canada's Most Patriotic Village:**

The Nov. 2nd, 1942 publication of the Toronto Daily Star featured the article “**Arthur Village Gives Sons, Money, to Aid War**” and tells the story of how the Village of Arthur had a population of 890 with 126 of them enrolled in World War II. It was the highest ratio in comparison to villages of comparable sizes across Canada. 75 years later, Arthur is now known as “Canada’s Most Patriotic Village”, recognition formally received in 2002, when David Tilson the M.P.P. for Dufferin-Peel-Wellington-Grey stated in the Ontario Legislature that because of Arthur’s extraordinary effort in World War II the community was being recognized as such.

Other achievements that helped garner this title include the local efforts during the War Bond campaigns that were run to raise money to carry on the war effort. During the first campaign the Village of Arthur took only a few minutes to be the first community in Ontario to reach its quota. In every following campaign the Village led all communities in Wellington County in reaching its objective. As well, during the war, a Navy League was formed in most Canadian communities, to raise funds for Canadian Sailors at sea. In September, 1944, Arthur Council received an award for having raised the most per capita of any community in Ontario.

In recognition of Remembrance Day, lest we forget, the sacrifices of the people in all armed conflicts let us also celebrate Arthur’s contributions. Not only during World War II, but also today, as they continue their education efforts, including two recently created remembrance murals, one on the north side of the Sussmans building and one across the street at the Cenotaph as well as the recent collection of stories on local veterans to help celebrate Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. These stories have been brought together into a Veterans Book which the Arthur and Area Historical Society will have available on November 11th after the cenotaph ceremony. Afterward they'll be available at the Arthur Cash and Carry, Walsh's Pharmacy in Arthur, Print One in Mount Forest and the Historical Society on Wednesday afternoons.

A picture of the Front Cover of the book is attached.

# **ARTHUR AND AREA**

## **World War I and World War II**

### **Veterans**



**A book from Arthur and Area Historical Society to  
honour our veterans on Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**



**Arthur - Canada's Most Patriotic Village**





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### **Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates Christmas Parades**

Santa Claus parades or Christmas parades are held in some countries to celebrate the official opening of the Christmas season with the arrival of Santa Claus who always appears in the last float.

Peoria, Illinois has the longest running Parade in the U.S.A. The first one in 1887 consisted of boats and derricks sailing down the river as part of a new bridge construction. One of the largest is the Toronto Santa Claus Parade, started in 1905, by the Eaton's department store. That year Santa arrived on a train and met Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Eaton, then walked to the Eaton's Downtown store. The first float was introduced in 1908 and today the Toronto Santa Claus Parade is the longest running children's parade in the world and is broadcast in several countries.

Wellington North's Downtowns in Arthur and Mount Forest fill each year with residents and visitors as each community officially open the Christmas season with the arrival of Santa Claus. The streets shine from the lights of themed floats, dancing and marching groups and bands playing Christmas songs. Sponsored by local business and community groups, the time is used to recognize and thank these organizations and causes during the important Christmas season.

This year Wellington North has once again had two very successful parades and a special thank you goes out to the Arthur Opti-Mrs and the Mount Forest Lions for their continued support in sponsoring and organizing these parades for our community.

On behalf of the Council and staff of the Township of Wellington North I would like to wish everyone a very Safe and Happy Christmas.



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## **Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates the Community of Metz**

Some may think the community of Metz is small, lost in time and archaic - it is anything but!!!! Many activities and events are based at St. Paul's United Church which is 1 of 5 buildings located at the corner of the 3rd Line and Sideroad 25 on the south side of the Township. The community was settled in 1864 and the name Metz was chosen by the government in 1919 when the Post Office was opened. This name was referenced to a battle in World War 1 being fought at the City of Metz in France. Along with a General Store and Post Office, there was a School, Church, Blacksmith Shop, Sawmill and an Orange Lodge. The Church, the same as it stands today was built in 1906 at a cost of \$2,600.00 with the land donated by Peter and Sarah McDougall.

Today there are many events hosted at the church with an invitation to anyone who wishes to make the trip out to the country. The most significant cultural event occurs on the last Saturday of most months (summer off and December) when there is a music night called Coffee House. A house band, called Down Home, gets together to share music and laughs. Recently the band hosted a tribute on Remembrance Day of war songs and stories which included the new Veteran's Book released on that day. In April, there is a church supper when the band again entertains people waiting to go to the basement to eat. They are sometimes reluctant to leave the music but the homemade biscuits and pies will eventually draw them to the food.

One of the most loved events is the last Saturday of September when we gather up our pumpkins, zucchini and squash, take them to Metz for our version of "Pumpkinfest". It is a great day for the family and more information will be available on this event later in the year as we work with the Cultural Roundtable and participate in Wellington North Culture Days from Sept 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>. So to the councillors and community goes the challenge to get your pumpkin plants started indoors in the next couple of months, nurture them and bring the result for the weigh in (tractor and loader is provided) and even if you are not successful, we can give you a pumpkin to test out our catapult when we good heartedly render attack on Centre Wellington! Check out St. Paul's United Church, Metz on facebook to keep informed.





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## **Our cultural moment this month celebrates our ninth annual Wellington North Showcase**

We have a wide array of business in Wellington North to serve all of our needs. Our community is full of passionate and skilled people that deliver their products and services in a friendly manner. But how do we know what is available to us in our own community?

Wellington North Showcase creates a platform for business and organizations and our community to make the right connections. It features a Business Networking Reception on March 26<sup>th</sup> from 4:30pm to 7:00pm and then a tradeshow that is open to the Public on March 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm – 7:30pm showcasing displays and products from over 70 local businesses and organizations.



For the second year in a row, bringing hope to the community, Mayor Lennox and HOPE (Healthy Opportunities Promoting Empowerment) invite you to a Mayor's Lunch and Talk on *Tuesday March 27<sup>th</sup>* about Mental Health in the Workplace.

This year's guest speaker is Rebecca Sherbino who will be speaking about Empowerment and Change through Employment and how Social Enterprise is Changing the World – One Bowl of Soup at a Time. The Raw Carrot is a Social franchise that partners with churches and nonprofits across Ontario to create meaningful employment for individuals on the Ontario Disability Support Program. Rebecca will talk about the cost of poverty and unemployment in Ontario and the joy of providing a hand-up to individuals who have been marginalized by disability and mental health challenges.

Over the past eight years Showcase has proven to be a must attend event for our local businesses and organizations. The economic well-being and cultural offerings of our community is driven by our existing businesses and organizations; this Showcase is intended to give us all an opportunity to recognize and thank the many businesses we have in our community and I would encourage everyone to try and get out and attend our ninth annual Wellington North Showcase.



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## Four Corners Quilters' Guild 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Quilt Show The Cultural Highlight of the Mothers' Day Weekend!

The Four Corners Quilters' Guild, established in 1998, is proud to be presenting its fourth quilt show on Mothers' Day weekend, May 11 & 12, at the Mount Forest & District Sports Complex.

Over 200 quilts made by the members of the guild will be showcased, with feature displays of baby quilts, Christmas and Canada 150 items, as well as quilts representing the Underground Railroad. There will also be displays paying tribute to past members and the many quilts the guild has made over the years for the local community or for charitable purposes.

Each quilt is made for a different reason - a gift for a baby, new bride or graduate, a test of a new technique, pattern or workshop, or simply a scrap-buster project. Some span many years on their journey to completion, sometimes trapped for a while in a love-hate struggle with the quiltmaker. Some are just awaiting a new inspiration or the perfect fabric for the final border or binding.

Often the immediate image of a quilt that comes to mind is something old, well-loved and maybe even a little faded and tattered. Quilts made with traditional patterns and fabrics will always have a special place in our hearts, but we urge everyone to consider that quilting today offers so much more. New techniques, tools, styles and fabrics from around the world make for some incredible art pieces. It's so heartwarming to overhear our show visitors commenting that *"this is art!"*, *"this is not what I expected"* or *"these sure aren't Grandma's quilts"*. We are proud to be able to share with our community the many, many hours of loving effort that went into the design and execution of every finished project.

We encourage everyone to fondly remember grandmother's quilts, and then come out and see the evolution of quilting through the work of our guild members. Our shows feature a brief story about each quilt written by the quilt maker to explain the origins of the project, design inspirations, challenges along the way or lessons learned. Our local guild has an excellent reputation in the quilting community for high quality shows and in particular, the large number of hand quilted items. We expect to welcome over 1000 visitors to the show over the two days.

This year, in celebration of the guild's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Mothers' Day Weekend, we are proud to be promoting a special anniversary admission rate of only \$5, and proceeds will be shared with Cancer Patient Services and the Louise Marshall Hospital Foundation. Don't miss it. Bring a Mom.



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## Our Cultural Moment celebrates the Wellington North Farmers Market

Nothing says “culture” more than a farmers’ market. From conception, markets have been a place for local farmers and their produce to connect with the community. Today is no exception, and perhaps even more necessary for a healthy society in a social media world. Real connection is what the Wellington North Farmers’ Market (WNFM) provides between farmer and consumer. It is a community coming together to meet in an environment that celebrates their culture.

At the WNFM people come to experience the value and taste of farm-fresh food from local farmers. How much do you know about your food? Our farmers and producers take great pride in high quality-food that’s safe for you and your family. One of the biggest benefits to buying food locally is having someone to answer your questions about how it was grown and raised. Last year’s market was the best ever with ten full-time vendors and several others joining at different times throughout the season. There were several special event days with family-friendly activities. We’re pretty sure a certain Councillor and CAO were there sampling the wine at the Pillitterri Estates booth and Councillor Burke was definitely spotted checking out the bouncy castle (which is technically kids-only). Pastor Harry Engel, the market manager [otherwise known as “the peddling Pastor”] had his booth set up weekly for impromptu discussions about politics, religion and the state of the world; all the while handing out free candy to everyone. Where else but at a Farmers’ Market can you solve all these issues in one place?

WNFM is entering its fifth season this year with market days beginning May 25<sup>th</sup> and running every Friday from 3:00pm – 6:30pm until October 5th. Come out to the best meeting, eating and greeting place in Wellington North ... and get free candy while you’re at it!





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## **Our cultural moment this month celebrates the John Deere Tractor and the Upper Canada Two Cylinder Club Summer Show**

On July 27, 28, and 29 the "Green" road leads to our neighbor to the east for the annual Upper Canada Two Cylinder Club John Deere summer show.

The Two Cylinder Club in this area was established in 1992 by a group of John Deere tractor collectors and enthusiasts to open their storage doors and polish up their treasures to come together as a group to show and mostly talk about their machines. Some come in their "working" state of restoration.

The annual summer show is a family event that takes place at the Grand Valley Community Centre. This year's event is celebrating 100 years of John Deere innovation. John Deere entered the farm tractor business in March 1918 through the acquisition of the Waterloo Gasoline Engine Company and has been producing innovations in farm machinery ever since.



The Summer Show starts with an All Color Antique Tractor Pull beginning Friday night at 5:00 pm. (So, Mayor Andy, red can attend) There are a variety of vendors and craft people on the grounds all weekend and Saturday is filled with many working displays of antique machinery, children's activities and a pedal tractor pull as well as the John Deere tractor pull. Saturday night dinner is catered by Kelly's Katering from Grand Valley with a licensed dance following featuring the Grand River Band.

Sunday begins with a worship service in the arena with an afternoon music concert by the Allen Family Reunion. A very talented group from London area featuring John P Allen who played for many years with Prairie Oyster and continues to play with Sylvia Tyson and the Good Brothers.

For more information on the Summer Show please check out the Upper Canada Two Cylinder Club website or Facebook page.

Submitted by Bonny McDougall, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## **Our Cultural Moment celebrates the Arthur Agricultural Society & Arthur Fall Fair**

Curiosity and competitiveness prompted a group of farmers to organize the Arthur Township Agricultural Society in the winter of 1855. In 1856, under the direction of Fair President John Anderson, Wellington County Land Registrar, the first fairs were held in Kenilworth. In 1863 the Fair moved to Arthur Village, across the street from the present Senior's Hall, allowing farmers from West Luther, West Garafraxa and Peel Townships to exhibit.

By 1890, the Fair Board had purchased the Village Common bordered by Tucker, Eliza and Domville Streets and in the early 1920's the Agricultural Hall was constructed at a cost of \$15,000 including the well. This hall, situated where the Curling Club is now, was condemned in 1976 and torn down. The stone Gateposts, using stone from the old United Church Shed, were erected in 1956 and presented by the Ontario Department of Agriculture honouring agricultural pioneers in the community. 1958 saw the grounds reluctantly sold to the Village of Arthur for \$1.00 plus other considerations when the Province of Ontario mandated that the municipality have a Recreation Centre. In 1977, the present arena complex was built and opened.

Considering the ups and downs, the annual Fall Fair, held the weekend after Labour Day, continues to be a presence in the community. Starting 9:00am Wednesday, volunteers set up the hall and grounds and on Thursday night, over 800 people will enjoy a delicious Roast Beef Dinner. The parking lot contains Monster Machines for kids of all ages to inspect. On Friday the hall exhibits are accepted and judged along with a parade downtown and opening ceremonies to finish the day.

Saturday sees the outdoor competitions like the 4-H shows and Welsh Pony show while continuing the indoor commercial exhibits, kid's entertainment and Baby show. At 8:00am the Firemen serve a Pancake Breakfast, at 5:00pm there is a chili cook-off and at 6:00pm "Weiner Dog Derby Races". Sunday at 10:30am the buildings open to review the exhibits along with a Lions Breakfast, Western Horse Show, Sheep Dog Herding & Kids Power Wheels Demo Derby. At 2:45pm there is the crowning of the Fair Ambassador and Quilt raffle. At 4:30pm the buildings close, exhibits are removed and by 8:00pm there is little left to indicate there had been a Fall Fair.

This year the 162<sup>nd</sup> Arthur Fall Fair runs from September 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>. There is something for everyone so please come and enjoy!!



Submitted by Robert Macdonald, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## Our CULTURAL MOMENT Celebrates CULTURE DAYS

**culturedays ON**

Culture Days is a nationwide weekend to celebrate arts and culture. Launched in 2010, this public engagement initiative aims to foster support for a diverse arts and culture community that is lived, created and expressed by Ontarians. Starting the last Friday of each September, Culture Days is an opportunity to build connection, awareness and pride in the vibrant nature of arts and culture across Ontario. Events can include individuals and organizations that are renowned, community-focused, established and emerging. Accessibility and inclusion are central to our values, and we promote direct interaction between creators and the public as a means to strengthen long-term support for arts and culture.

This year, the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable will include Culture Days as part of its range of activities and is supporting several events to showcase our cultural diversity across the Township. Wellington North Culture Days will be held on September 28, 29 and 30<sup>th</sup> and will feature ten locations and events that provide a great variety to match the interests of all within the Township and beyond. Included is the Metz Pumpkinfest where council will show off their pumpkin growing capabilities and this year the Lynes Blacksmith Shop will be open all three days over the Culture Days weekend. Other activities include events at the cemetery, libraries and both museum & archives and the skills of our local Scottish Dancers and Quilters Guild will be on display at the Mount Forest Sports Complex.

Press releases have been distributed and The River is providing local radio support. A brochure has also been prepared listing the events and sites open for public engagement during the three-day weekend and we are expecting a great turn out for our first Culture Days celebration! Please come join us.



Prepared by: Jim Taylor, Chair, Cultural Roundtable



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## **Our Cultural Moment for October celebrates the Hamlet of Conn From the past to the future....**



**Hwy 89 looking westward toward Wellington Road 14**

Conn humbly started from a 200-acre parcel of land in Arthur Township, at the corner of present-day Hwy 89 and Wellington Road 14, in 1865. The owner, George Palmer, sold the land to Robert W. Conn in 1866.

Conn was not always known by this name. The first settlers were named Evans and called the settlement Evansville. Joseph Evans owned and operated the first hotel. The village then became Bell's Corners, named after Alex Bell who had the hotel across the street. When establishing a Post Office in 1872, they couldn't use the name 'Bell's Corners', as there was another one with the same name. So, they used the name 'Conn' after the first Postmaster, Robert Conn, who also had the general

store. This post office was in operation until 1992.

Conn became the largest hamlet in West Luther and was one of the earliest parts of the Township to be established. By 1897, Conn with a thriving population of 85, consisted of a hotel, 2 general stores, 1 Grocer's store, a blacksmith shop, a sawmill, and a wagon maker. The first doctor, Dr. John Barber, arrived in 1885 and over the years there was a succession of 12 doctors in town. One of the most notable was Dr. A. Rutherford Perry who brought the Conn Telephone Company to Conn in 1903, building a 'stub' line from Conn to Cedarville for his own use.

By 1906 the population had grown to approximately 400 and the village also contained 2 churches, a school, sawmill, cheese factory, chopping mill, and an Orange Hall. At its best, Conn had 2 blacksmith shops, four stores, several hotels, and a garage. The livery stable which was on the north side of Hwy 89 was removed and still stands just north of the northwest corner on the McQueen farm. One of the best-known residents is Lieutenant Samuel Honey who was a decorated war hero.

Over the years Conn had an active horticultural society and was known as 'The Flower Village of Ontario'. Modernization hit the small village with street lights in 1953 and the flashing light in approximately 1976.

What happened? The hamlet no longer has any of the above businesses except for the garage on the corner and Misty Meadows which started as a business selling vegetables on the side of the road, has grown to be a store on the northwest corner. And now...the store is expanding, and a large new structure is being built. There are hopes again for a more prosperous hamlet.

Prepared by Penny Renken;  
Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



**Conn's future? The soon-to-be new Misty Meadows**



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**Our Cultural Moment for November celebrates Remembrance Day & Canada's  
Most Patriotic Village and is "mostly" a reprint of our Nov. 2012 Cultural  
Moment**

## **Arthur Village Gives Sons, Money, to Aid War** *Toronto Daily Star, Monday, November 2, 1942*

This is a copy of the Monday, November 2, 1942 publication of the Toronto Daily Star featuring the article "Arthur Village Gives Sons, Money, to Aid War" and tells the story of how the Village of Arthur had a population of 890 with 100 of them enrolled in World War II, with many others rejected.

75 years later, Arthur is now known as "Canada's Most Patriotic Village". They received the recognition in 2002, when David Tilson the M.P.P for Dufferin-Peel-Wellington-Grey stated in the Ontario Legislature that because of Arthur's extraordinary effort in World War II the community was being recognized as such.

Other achievements that have garnered Arthur this title include that during World War II the government ran War Bond and Victory Bond campaigns to raise money to carry on the war effort. In the first campaign in 1940, Arthur Village led all communities in Canada in reaching its objective. In every following campaign (6 in all) the Village led all communities in the county in reaching its objective. As well, during the war, a Navy League was formed in most Canadian communities, to raise funds for Canadian Sailors at sea. In September 1944, Arthur Council received an award for having raised the most per capita of any community in Ontario.

In recognition of Remembrance Day, lest we forget, the sacrifices of the people in all armed conflicts, let us also celebrate Arthur and Mount Forest's contributions, not only during World War II, but also today, as they continue their education efforts, including the many recently created murals and banners honouring our veterans in both communities.



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### **Our Cultural Moment for December celebrates the Mount Forest Greenhouses**

On the other side of the whimsical green door at the far east end of Durham Street in Mount Forest, lies one of Wellington North's cultural treasures. Around the same time as the arrival of the first snow of the season, the Mount Forest Greenhouse is transformed into a stunning Christmas wonderland.

For the past eight years, owner Richard Quartel has been sharing his artistic talents with the community in the creation of this winter oasis. He is very quick to credit his team of three helpers, who together spend over 600 hours setting up the display. Their skill is showcased in how each of the 25 large trees, and many smaller ones, are decorated in different and equally stunning themes, from rustic woodland to elegant sparkles.



The display is set against a backdrop of antique furniture pieces, a vintage fireplace and a classic blue truck, along with numerous window frames and wooden doors. The tree ornaments, along with fresh holiday plants, flowers, wreaths, garlands, ribbons and other home decorations are for sale, but visitors clearly take joy in wandering through the rich atmosphere filled with seasonal music and imagining the possibilities. Many are loyal year after year.

Mount Forest Greenhouse has been a local family business since it was purchased by Harry Quartel in 1962. It was Richard's mother, Mary, who encouraged him several years ago to develop an opportunity for the Christmas market. She ran it for two years, often bringing in groups to enjoy the setting for afternoon tea. The display continues to grow and what Richard and his team have created is an inspiring cultural gem of which his family and our whole community can be proud.

Step out of the snow and indulge your own creative senses before it closes on Christmas Eve. Here's the Facebook link to a beautiful video to put you in the holiday spirit.

<https://www.facebook.com/mountforestgreenhouse/videos/482388375586531/?q=mount%20forest%20greenhouses>



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### **Our Cultural Moment for January takes a look back at The Rural Doctor**

It is part of our story, our pioneers who settled and cleared the area, our ancestors. Who was there to help? Many in the village and town would rely on the local pharmacy to help cure their ailments. The rural community would rely on the country doctor who would arrive by horse and buggy or sleigh depending on the weather.

A most notable person of our past and contributor to the well being of our ancestors was Dr. Abraham Groves. He was born in Peterborough in 1847 and his parents moved to the 1<sup>st</sup> Line of Garafraxa by sleigh in 1856. After his graduation from Medical School in Toronto in 1867, he came back to the area to establish his practice. As a pioneer in the medical field himself as a surgeon, he was well known, and his services were requested from Kincardine and Owen Sound and south to Guelph. Many overnight trips by train would keep him in a town when word got out that he was there. He would serve the locals; Belwood, Arthur and Mount Forest by horse and buggy. The first known appendectomy and hysterectomy were performed on patients on their kitchen tables in Garafraxa. On one occasion, his wife noted that Abraham left for Arthur first thing in the morning to attend to a patient, was summoned to Mount Forest so he changed horses, went north, performed a surgery, changed horses again and went on to Varney to another patient, turned around and got home the next morning.

Dr. Groves's son, William Abraham Groves graduated Medical School in 1904 at the same time as a hospital and nursing school were being established in Fergus by his father. Dr. William Groves practiced in Arthur until his wife died in 1910. Meanwhile, Dr. Abraham Groves trained nurses to assist his surgeries at the new hospital. From Arthur, Ruth Buckland, Millie Buschlen, Agnes Mitchell, Bertha McDowell, Elizabeth Morrison, Florence Povey and Maude Coffey. Mount Forest nursing graduates include Charlotte McDonald, Rebecca Robinson, Lillian Dodds, Sadie Connelly and Mabel Anderson. From Kenilworth, Ada Lynes and from Conn, Nola Mournahan. He felt it would save time if the patients could come to him and with the assistance of onsite nurses, he could do more. One of his nurses timed an appendectomy from open to close at 2 minutes, 40 seconds. He performed his last surgery at 82 and died in 1935 at the age of 88

Dr. Abraham Groves was a small in stature, curly haired, witty Irishman who served our ancestors well, maybe a contributing factor to why we are here and through family research, I am proud to call him cousin!

Submitted by Bonny McDougall; Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## **Our cultural moment this month celebrates a local historian**

In January Wellington North lost one of its most valuable keepers of local history. Mabel Henderson lived in the area her whole life, born in West Garafraxa and spending her whole adult life in Arthur. In that time, she came to know the local families and soon found out where their ancestors originated and where they settled.

Mabel's daily work developed her interest in genealogy and her familiarity with local citizens. She delivered mail on a local rural route and was a school bus driver long enough to get to know two generations of young people and their families.

Mabel also assisted at Arthur Library, among the books she loved to read and where she could get to know those who came to borrow books. And she was a storyteller who could hold everyone's attention whether giving a sad or a humorous account.



These experiences led Mabel to become a prized founding member of the Arthur and Area Historical Society. At the monthly meetings she always asked questions of the presenters that illuminated their subjects. But her most important gift was her prodigious memory and the way she used it to add to people's information about their families. When someone came in to research their ancestry, Mabel would provide important facts and relate stories about their grandparents or other relations that no-one else knew. Any new visitors to the Wednesday afternoon Historical Society openings brought a gleam to Mabel's eye, and she soon had traced their family history and all the relationships involved.

The Society's Canada 150 book project on local veterans of the two World Wars benefitted immeasurably from Mabel's input. Along with Mabel's interest in local people's history was her warmth in welcoming newcomers to Arthur and quickly learning about their families. Much of Mabel's research was kept in files which will continue to benefit our local knowledge. But we will always miss her and all the stories that she still had to tell.

Submitted by Gail Donald, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## **Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates The Township of Wellington North**

The Corporation of the Township of Wellington North was formed by the amalgamation of the Township of Arthur, Village of Arthur, the Town of Mount Forest and the Township of West Luther, effective January 1st, 1999. The Incorporated Municipality was named the Township of Wellington North in April 1999.

The former **Township of Arthur** and former **Village of Arthur** was named after Arthur Wellesley, the Duke of Wellington, the English general who was responsible for the fall of Napoleon. Provincial Land Surveyor John McDonald surveyed it in 1841-42. The Government laid out the Owen Sound Road (O.S.R.) from the Township of Nichol to Owen Sound. The land along the O.S.R. was surveyed into 50-acre lots. Once the land was surveyed, development was fast. Settlers came from Ireland mostly, but also from Scotland and England and the establishment of saw and gristmills sparked growth in the community. The first post office was established in Kenilworth in 1848 and later that year one was opened in Arthur. Schools were first established in 1849 and in 1851, a post office was opened. The first Catholic Church was a log building built in 1852 near Kenilworth. Hotels were needed for the traveling public providing food, rest and entertainment. By 1871, there were 15 hotels between the Village of Arthur and Mount Forest. The first record of the township is in the minutes of a council meeting held in the courtroom of Arthur on January 21, 1850.

The former **Town of Mount Forest** was originally known as Maitland Hills because it was believed that the Saugeen River was the Maitland River. The name was later changed to Mount Forest in 1853. Francis Kerr surveyed the Village into village lots in 1853. The first public school was built in 1856 and by 1864, the population of Mount Forest had reached 1185 and qualified as a Village. By 1879 Mount Forest had reached Town status. The first issue of the Mount Forest Confederate was printed in 1867 and for the first year, the newspaper was sent to village residents free of charge. The 1871 directory stated that Mount Forest had 10 hotels, 8 churches and 18 stores and later that year, the first train entered Mount Forest, drawn by a wood-burning engine.

The former **Township of West Luther** was originally in the possession of the Mississauga Indians but became part of a tract of land signed over by them to the government in 1818. In 1854, George McPhillips surveyed the land and at the same time he was surveying Melancthon Township. Progress in the Township was very slow as the land was almost completely covered with timber and swamps. In the early 1870s, during a dry summer, fires broke out which burnt off the muck and leveled most of the timber, which improved development. The township developed rapidly once the Toronto; Grey & Bruce Railway was built in 1871. As the Grand River runs through the whole length of East Luther they needed many bridges, unlike West Luther who needed roads badly. For a long time, the people of East Luther were able to elect a majority in Council and money was spent on building bridges that caused problems that eventually led to the separation of the township. In 1879, the West elected a majority and quickly prepared a bill to separate the township. In 1881, the Ontario Legislature passed a bill dividing Luther Township into separate townships, West and East Luther.

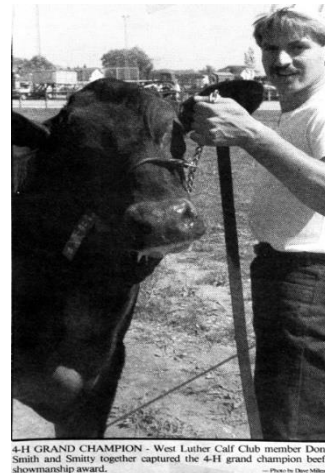
## Our cultural moment this month celebrates 4-H Clubs

4-H is a non-profit positive youth development organization that spans the world and 10 provinces across our country. 4-H was established in Canada in 1913 and the first club in Ontario was formed in Waterloo County in 1915. The movement grew rapidly to 2369 members and 127 clubs in Ontario by 1923. Today, there are over 6,000 members in the province.



Photo: 4-H Ontario

The four H's represent organization's core values: Head (managing, thinking), Heart (relating, caring), Hands (giving, working) and Health (being, living). The 4-H motto is: "Learn To Do By Doing" and is demonstrated through their hands-on projects. In 1935, the first homemaking club was introduced and 1,000 girls completed the "simple cotton dress" project. The 4-H club movement has been extremely active in the Wellington North area since that 1915 founding. Below we see both boys and girls from the Arthur and West Luther clubs with the fruits of their efforts.



Arthur Archives

## Photos from the Arthur Archives

1946 and a very early North Wellington club



Submitted by Jim Taylor, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## **Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates The Wellington North Farmer's Market**

Submitted by Wellington North Farmers Market Manager Harry Engel:

This is a true story about a dream that connected to a reality. The dream began the moment I stepped into the old Mount Forest Community Centre in Aug. of 2009. Victory Church had just occupied the building and I was standing there, alone on the arena floor, dreaming about what we could do with such an amazing place. My thoughts went to a time when I was a kid growing up in Woodstock and my parents would take me every Saturday morning to the local market. Maybe because I was young all the sights, sounds, and smells created a sort of excitement in the atmosphere, but my parents were also happy to be there. Every vendor seemed to be their friend as they would talk about local events and news and the latest political outrages I had no clue about. As I stood there in the arena I thought, we should start a farmer's market here. It was a great dream...

The thing I find about great dreams is convincing others they're great enough to bring to fulfillment. This is the "reality" part of this story. I had great childhood memories of going to the market, but no idea how to start one. This was probably my struggle in trying to convince others, I had no experience, it would cost money, and it would require a lot of work...volunteer work. In 2012 I contacted April Marshall, who had just been hired by the Township and she came to meet with me. April and I stood in the same place where I had the dream and she listened, I was excited, then she spoke those dreaded, politically correct words ... "Let me think about it". In 2013 I get a call from April "do you still want to start a farmers' market, I have a few vendors that are interested?" The dream came off the shelf that day and entered into reality. April helped begin this amazing relationship between The Township of Wellington North, Mount Forest Victory Church and the community.

Working together we have developed a growing market that is going into its sixth season. In the last five years I have witnessed our market become very much like the dream I had. It is a place for our predominantly agricultural area to shine by connecting with our community. A 2009 farmers' market survey showed "67 per cent of Ontario shoppers state that buying directly from a local farmer is extremely important." I know our market is providing this valuable service and so much more.

The Wellington North Farmers' Market is a testament to what can be accomplished by working together for a common purpose; to make our Township the very best it can be. We are thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this vision and we are committed to seeing this market continue well into the future.

Our sixth season begins on May 31<sup>st</sup> from 3:00pm - 6:30pm. and runs every Friday, rain or shine, until October 11<sup>th</sup>. (Thanksgiving weekend) Come check it out and experience all the wonderful products our market has to offer.





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### **Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates The Wellington North Day Camp Program**

Submitted by Mandy Jones & Meghan Karrow (Day Camp Coordinator):

On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, the Township of Wellington North will relaunch its Summer Day Camp Program. The Program will run for a total of eight weeks and will be offered in both Arthur and Mount Forest for ages 5 to 11 years. Campers, volunteers and staff will look forward to activities and special guests that reflect the eight weekly themes:

- Week 1: School's Out for the Summer
- Week 2: The Amazing Race & Greatest Baker
- Week 3: Arts & Science
- Week 4: Make a Splash - Wet n' Wild
- Week 5: Music Makers
- Week 6: Emergency Services
- Week 7: Holiday Celebrations
- Week 8: The Best of the Best"

With a focus on partnerships within our community, guest visitors will include the Wellington North Fire Department, Wellington County Libraries, University of Guelph Let's Talk Science, local musicians and agricultural societies. Daily activities will include plenty of outdoor fun, arts and crafts, sports, hiking, science experiments and baking.

The Counsellor to Camper ratio is 1:8, ensuring a safe and fun space for all. All staff are trained in Standard First Aid and CPR C, Anaphylaxis, Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, as well as HIGH FIVE® Principles of Healthy Child Development - Canada's quality standard for children's programs.

As the Summer Day Camp aims to be an inclusive program, staff, volunteers and campers will be using Camps on TRACKS, which is a peer-mediated social skills program designed to increase social interactions and inclusion. It is implemented by teaching peers the skills they need to interact with campers, in order to make camp a fun and rewarding experience for all (Sperry et al., 2010). Camps on TRACKS is named for the skills that are taught to peers in a child-friendly acronym. These six components in the Camps on TRACKS program provide peers with strategies to interact with campers with social challenges.

1. Try Again (Persistence)
2. Right Thing (Correcting)
3. Assist (Prompting)
4. Congratulate (Reinforcement)
5. Keep Trying (Persistence)
6. Show (Modelling)

There are many benefits of camp, from providing a safe environment to learn, grow and develop, to fostering self confidence, independence, healthy living, and environmental awareness. The Township of Wellington North is looking forward to providing children in our community with this awesome summer experience!





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### **Our Cultural Moment this month celebrates West Luther's Mountain**

Submitted by Wellington North Cultural Roundtable Member Bonny McDougall:

Over 100 years ago the Luther established hamlet of Mount View boasted a sawmill, a store and a Methodist Church. The location of Mount View is Concession 4 and Sideroad 13 where the only surviving evidence is the one room school converted to a residence. It was built in 1882 by trustees, John Shaw, John McGivney and Charles Gilder.

The community of Mount View received its name because of a small mountain of a natural gravel deposit. In later years it was used to supply gravel to most of the rural roads in the area. As a result, the "mountain" has almost disappeared. The Jones Mill was built about 1873 on the north side of Concession 4 and supplied the lumber for most of the local houses and barns powered by steam boilers supplied by the water from 4 Mile Creek. In 1906 The Hollis Mill was built on the site of the Jones Mill. This new mill not only sawed lumber but also made shingles and chopped and rolled grain which was revolutionary to the local farmers who previously had to take their oats and wheat to Fergus to process it. Next to the mill was the general store which also served as the post office.

One of the most significant landmarks at Mount View was the wooden tower that was built on the highest spot on the mountain on the farm of J.H. White. It is believed to have been built around 1880 as a survey tower. The view from the top platform of the tower was really something. Arthur Village could be plainly viewed through a telescope which was mounted on the platform as well as Grand Valley, Fergus and Dundalk. The rickety wooden structure succumbed to too many windstorms and finally met its match in the 1940's.

Over time the Mount View community gave way to boundaries, the Luther Marsh and the Damascus Lake as well as the motor car which contributed to the demise of many of the old hamlets of the early 1900's.



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## **Our Cultural Moment for August celebrates J.J. Morrison**

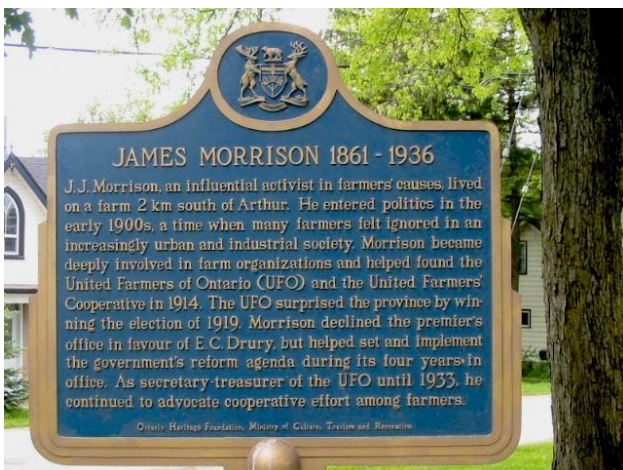
Who would have imagined that a young man, born on a farm just outside Arthur, would make such a difference in the political and farm scene in Ontario? J.J. Morrison did just that and ultimately became known as the “father of the Ontario Farm Movement” and hailed as a thinker ahead of his time.

At age 25 he left the farm for Toronto and after struggling to make a living he, his wife Margaret Blyth and their 4 children moved back to the farm where they had 5 more children. He became involved in local township council, school boards and with the Arthur Temperance Lodge where he began to organize farmers. In 1910, he was elected secretary for the Dominion Grange and was instrumental in creating the Canada Council of Agriculture, which worked interprovincially, and within six months of meeting W.C. Good, E.C Drury and J.Z. Fraser they fathered the United Farmers of Ontario. (UFO)

Elected Secretary of the UFO and the United Farmers Co-Operative, the farmhouse became his office but eventually he would move back to a small office in Toronto. His first task was to find a better price for binder twine and soon he had ordered 100 tons of twine from a company in Ireland. The UFO then setup 40 branches to dispense supplies from the head office and this was the beginning of the Co-op's as we know today.

In 1919 the UFO entered provincial politics hoping to gain enough seats to form the opposition however to their surprise they won the election. They tried to persuade J.J. to take the job as Premier however he declined, and E.C. Drury filled the position. Disagreements between the farmers and the unions caused them to lose the election in 1923 however during their time in office they created the Department of Welfare and the Province of Ontario Savings Bank.

Although Mr. Morrison lived in Toronto during the 1920's and 1930's he stayed interested in activities in Arthur and raised considerable funds for the Arthur cenotaph monument. In 1962 a Plaque was erected by the provincial government at the south end of Arthur and the same year he was elected into the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame. In 2018, after being nominated by Senator Rob Black, Mr. Morrison was also inducted into the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame.

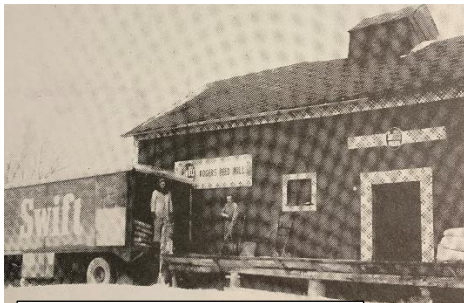


Submitted by Robert Macdonald, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable

## Our Cultural Moment for September celebrates Farewell

Farewell is a small hamlet southwest of Mount Forest which could be overlooked when driving through. It's hard to imagine that it was vibrant at one time, and that the demographics have drastically changed. It was a farming community as of 1867 with a store (front room of a house) as its centre. When family members moved to other locations, there were so many farewells to friends, that Farewell became its official name. It was connected to other areas as the supplies and mail came into Kenilworth by train and then were taken to the Farewell store by horseback, horse and cart, or cutter.

There were 20 years when Farewell did not have a store until 1939 when a house, 2 lots, and a barn were bought for a grand sum of \$70.00. A store, including a post office, was added to the house. This store closed in 1983. A grist mill was made from the barn and is still standing, though in poor condition. Through the years, Farewell could also boast of a sawmill and planeing mill, a blacksmith shop, a wagon maker, a shoemaker, 2 churches, a school, and an Orange Hall.



Farewell Mill - 1958



The remains of the Mill - 2019



Siding of the Mill

The Allen's and Morrisons were 2 prominent and pioneer families in the community. Population started to wane from 105 residents in 1872 to 85 residents in 1877. The Anglican Church had been situated on the east side of Concession 11, several lots south of Concession 5. It was demolished shortly after closing in 1973 and in 1974, the first parochial school in Mount Forest area was built on this site. In 1979, the present Farewell Church was erected. The demographic change began in 1964 when Old Order Mennonites from Waterloo County purchased farms and began settling in 1967. They moved to this locale as a result of urban expansion of Waterloo County into their Old Order community and the rising cost of land there. In 1978 the church purchased a parcel of land and the Farewell meetinghouse was erected in 1979



Present Farewell School

In 2004, the number of Mennonite families in the Farewell district was just over 40. There is a shoe/repair store just north of the 5<sup>th</sup> Concession, and Shady Lawn, a dry good store, approximately 2 km south of the 5<sup>th</sup> Concession on the east side, and a bike store on the west side of Concession 11. The community is still definitely rural with the majority of the community being Mennonites.

Pioneer School  
SS. No. 7. 1899  
Now a private  
residence





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## **Our Cultural Moment for October recognizes “The Howitzer”**

In the late morning shadows of mature oak and maple trees, in front of the cenotaph in Mount Forest's Veterans' Memorial Park, sits the turret of an M109 Medium Self-Propelled 155 mm Howitzer. It's aimed at the sky to the south and provides an unusual greeting for visitors travelling north into town.

On the attached plaque we learn that this impressive piece of military equipment was manufactured in 1968 by Bowen McLaughlin-York in the United States. The armament is a 155 mm Howitzer and 50 calibre machine-gun. In its day, fully loaded for combat, it would have weighed 25 tonnes and held a crew of seven personnel. In terms of operations, it could travel up to 220 km on roads at a maximum speed of 53 kilometres per hour. The weapon could have fired a projectile weighing 44 kg onto a target 18,000 metres (18 km) away.

Presented to Mount Forest's Royal Canadian Legion Branch 134 from the soldiers and technicians of base maintenance of Canadian Forces Base Borden in 2008, this historical display has been identified as part of the Military Ground Equipment Displays on Wayward.com geocaching and has attracted several visitors to date. In 2013, the Township of Wellington North completed a Municipal Cultural Plan. One of the guiding assumptions of the process was the belief that *our history and culture are sources of identity for individual communities and the Township of Wellington North as a whole.*

At the time, the installation of this Howitzer at the town's entrance sparked conversation and controversy. Both menacing and magnificent, it has been a part of our cultural identity for over a decade and is only one of several impressive symbols of the proud military history worthy of exploration throughout the township.

Submitted By Linda Hruska Wellington North Cultural Roundtable





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## **Our Cultural Moment for November celebrates the Arthur Cenotaph**

One hundred years ago, November 1919, the Great War had been over for a year. In that time, there were many suggestions for a way to memorialize those who had sacrificed in the conflict. In Arthur, a group of women formed a Memorial Association and suggested a cenotaph and park. They chose the land at the corner of George and Frederick Streets, despite those who thought the former site of livery stables was inappropriate. However, council agreed with the Association, purchased it for \$500.00. Donations came from many sources, from bazaars to groups of former citizens living in Toronto.

A local skilled stonemason was hired as builder. The stones came from local farms, making this memorial unique in Ontario as the first built from fieldstone. The federal government donated the marble slab in the centre of the cenotaph with the cross embedded in it. Mrs. David Brocklebank, whose son Stanley had died of wounds in France in 1918, unveiled the memorial on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1923. In January 1930 the park and memorial monument were turned over to the town by the Association along with a bond of \$11,000 for perpetual care.

Since their dedication, the cenotaph and the park have become a focal point for honouring local people who volunteered for both World Wars and other conflicts around the world. In 1970 Dutch citizens donated benches and lights to the park in thanks for the Canadian liberation of Holland in World War II. In 1995 a Homecoming committee unveiled a plaque recognizing Arthur's history as "Canada's Most Patriotic Village." Arthur Legion added plaques with World War II volunteers' names. In 2016 700 red and white tulips were planted in beds at the front of the park, in honour of the gifts of tulips from Holland. The Historical Society and the Revitalization Committee added a plaque to honour the women who initiated the memorial.

Every year on Remembrance Day local citizens and youth from all schools participate in the wreath-laying ceremony at the cenotaph. This homage to the men and women who dedicated themselves to their country is woven into the fabric of the village.

Submitted by Gail Donald; Wellington North Cultural Roundtable





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## Our Cultural Moment for December celebrates International Christmases

Diversity may refer to many attributes such as language, cultural differences, traditions, religious beliefs, and more. This is what makes both Canada, and our own municipality an interesting place to live.



Christmas is approaching and we see decorations for the season that are typically the same: Christmas trees, decorations, Santa's, food, and gifts. This may not be the case in homes where some people have come from a variety of countries and will be celebrating Christmas in different ways and possibly at different times. Or they may not be celebrating at all, depending on their faith and/or beliefs. In Canada, we sing Christmas carols before and on December 25th but in Portugal they sing while strolling the streets in early January (holiday time called Janeiras).

Portugal's traditional Christmas Cake is called Bolo Rei (King Cake). It is round with raisins and crystalized fruit. In Germany, it's called Stollen and though it has fruits, it is rectangular with a ridge down the centre symbolizing Baby Jesus in swaddling clothes.

In Germany, the Christmas tree (Tannenbaum) originated in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and is usually put up on Christmas Eve and traditionally decorated with live candles. The glass balls and tinsel are German inventions. Every year Norway gives a huge Christmas tree to the UK as a 'thank you' for UK's help during World War II. It stands in Trafalgar Square in London and the lighting of it attracts thousands of people.

Cookies, especially a shortbread-type, are popular with many countries but each has a different name and unique characteristics.

Santa Claus is known in Canada, but is called Pere Noel in France, Grandfather Frost in Russia, St. Nicholas in England, and Noel Baba in Turkey. They each have a slightly different manner of dress and traditions.

Though each country's traditions are different and interesting, the reason for celebrating is the same. Countries in which Christians are a minority, may celebrate December 25<sup>th</sup> the same as any other day.

Knox Conn Presbyterian Church celebrates the diverse Christmas traditions of 20 countries with 200 nativities. With our diversity we can learn to trust, respect, and understand each other.



Submitted by Penny Renken; Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## **January's Cultural Moment recognizes the hotels along the Owen Sound Road**

Let's take a look back at our beginnings of the Owen Sound Road as it meanders through Arthur Township on its way north from Arthur to Mount Forest. The year is 1861 and the road is finally passable. As we leave Arthur, we get to Petherton where the 1<sup>st</sup> of 6 hotels are conveniently located at the side of the road. One was run by a William Ludlow and another, just south of Kenilworth was run by John Bradley, a farmer and hotel keeper.

Kenilworth is the next stop with an establishment run by Ab O'Neill. It was just north of the Lynes Blacksmith Shop if horses needed tending. John Tracey was a tavern keeper at Riverstown and three miles south of Mount Forest was the Nightingale Inn. Two hotels were opposite each other on the Maitland Hill just south of Mount Forest. The Blue Bonnet Tavern was run by Mrs. Horsburgher on the west side and on the east side was another hotel run by a man named Bridgeport.

Taverns and inns played an important part in the early development of our communities. These innkeepers were very popular, not only with travelers but with the local people for food, rest and entertainment. They also were used as community gathering places to hold elections, political meetings, social gatherings and dances. By 1871, with the increase in traffic and settlers to the area, the number of hotels and taverns had increased to 15.



The Nightingale Inn, pictured above, was a 2-storey red brick structure with 6 bedrooms, a parlour, a dining-room, a bar room, a kitchen and a woodshed. The front of the building had a row of hitching posts and a frame barn behind the hotel served as a stable for the horses of travelers who needed overnight accommodation. This was the closest hotel to the tollgate set up to pay for the upkeep of the newly graveled Owen Sound Road.

Submitted by Bonny McDougall Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## **February's Cultural Moment celebrates Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto**



Photo: Fred Dahms

The present-day Sacred Heart Church in Kenilworth was built to replace the original building in 1903. The cost was just under \$10,000.00, with many parishioners contributing their work. The rectory and a driving shed were built at the same time. Many improvements were added over the decades, initiated by the various priests. The interior decoration of the church was completed in 1952.

In 1953, the year Pope Pius XII declared 1954 as a Marian Year, Sacred Heart's priest, Father Beck, initiated the planting of 5000 pine trees around the property.

By 1960, Father Wubbels (called Father "Francis"), was inspired by the beauty of the impressive stand of trees. He encouraged the Holy Name Society men to build a shrine in the grove behind the church. He chose to honour Our Lady of Lourdes, after the shrine to Mary in France.

All the parishioners contributed to the beautification of the spot chosen for the Grotto. The men of the parish did all the labour, including Joseph Murphy, who created the stonework. They chose marble for the altar and set up 200 seats with flood lights. Included are Stations of the Cross and Mount Calvary.

In June 1961 the Grotto was blessed by Bishop Ryan of the Hamilton Diocese. Its continuing existence is a tribute to the dedication of the parishioners and priests of Sacred Heart Church.

Throughout its nearly 60 years, the Grotto has been a place of prayer and reflection for thousands of passersby and parishioners. The Grotto's sign beside Highway 6 and its beautiful natural entrance continue to offer a welcome respite from everyday cares.

Submitted by Gail Donald Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## Our Cultural Moment for May celebrates The Women's Institute

The Women's Institute was founded in Stoney Creek in 1889 by Adelaide Hunter Hoodless who took it upon herself to spread the importance of domestic science in the home, city and country.

The Spanish Flu of 1918 was a huge influence on the Women's Institute as these women were thrust into roles that were not previously open to them as women. The surviving soldiers were just returning to Canada after WW1 and women outnumbered the men considerably. The medical profession were exhausted and thus the W.I. members went into action. They ran individual training at people's homes on the value of hand washing, cleaning, laundry, the value of fresh air and volunteered to assist doctors and nurses to let them get proper rest. Grown out of their tireless work and support, many of these women sought careers in the medical field and advocated that they be allowed to enroll in colleges and universities which had never been open to them before.

The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario is a not-for-profit charitable organization with affiliations around the world, working with and for women in Ontario. Through the network of Branches, they offer educational programming and community support, advocate for social, environmental and economic change, and work towards the personal growth of all women, for home and country.



While the local organizations in the Township have somewhat disbanded their legacy lives on, especially in the Tweedsmuir History's of their local community farms and families and also through the past fundraising and donations made to the communities. The biggest project for the Conn W.I., formed in 1905 and officially disbanded in 1985, was purchasing the closed church known as Levendale in 1933 for \$150 and had it moved to Conn to be used as a community centre. Farewell W.I., formed in 1948, met in the Bethel United Church basement and at one time was honoured to be the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest group in the district. Another group formed for the North Arthur area in 1951 and was known as the Northgate W.I.. The Kenilworth W.I. ran from 1905-1923, the Arthur Centennial W.I. ran from 1972-1990 and the Damascus Women's Institute from 1968 -2009 whose main project was the Damascus Community Hall.

The track record of the Women's Institute is wide and runs deep in most communities around the world working true to their motto: For Home and Country.

Submitted by Bonny McDougall; Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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Our Cultural Moment for June celebrates the Arthur Lions Club and BMX Skateboard Park

Founded in 1917, Lions Club International is the world's largest service club organization with over 46,000 clubs and 1.35 million members. Lions do whatever is needed to help their local communities and share a core belief: community is what we make it.

The Arthur Lions Club received its charter in 1939 and since then, the group has given their valuable time and effort to improve our community. The Club supports many different groups and organizations, including minor sports programs, the agricultural society, CNIB, Easter Seals, Groves Hospital and with the help of local organizations, the Club also distributes food hampers at Christmas time.



In November 2017, the Lions Club approached the Township with the idea of installing a BMX Skateboard Park. The Park is to open by 2022, in time for the village of Arthur to celebrate its 150th anniversary. Located on the Arthur Fairgrounds and fronting Eliza Street, the Park will be open to skateboards, scooters and bikes. The preliminary design includes a pump track, cement pad with various features and a circular dirt path with ramps.

The Arthur Lions Club has set a fundraising goal of \$250,000 and to date, has raised approximately \$68,000 towards the project. Fundraising events have unfortunately been paused due to COVID-19 and the Club is thinking of new ways to reach out to the community and beyond. If you are interested in donating towards the project, please connect with Lions Club President Al Rawlins:

[alanjrawlins@gmail.com](mailto:alanjrawlins@gmail.com).

Submitted by: The Arthur BMX/Skateboard Park Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee



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Our Cultural Moment for June celebrates Ian Turner



Ian Turner, a man who contributed so much to his community was highly worthy of the *Senate 150 Award* he received in 2017 for community leadership and volunteerism. The focus of this cultural moment is his involvement in the Arthur and Area Historical Society. Ian was, for all the years the Society has existed, at the heart of its success as a showcase for local, Canadian, and broader history.

Central to Ian's work with Historical was supporting the local history murals, giving walking tours to visitors, and giving his own time and recruiting student volunteers to the local Trails system initiated by the Society.

Among his many contributions, were his interest in and skillful organizing of trips for the Society members and the community. They combined visits to historical or noteworthy places, such as fascinating museums, intriguing small businesses, and unusual shops, with appealing lunch stops, and breaks at the nearest Tim's. His experiences as a History teacher shepherding groups of high school students was invaluable. Ian's talents as a teacher fit in perfectly with the presentations the Society made each year at Caressant Care and the Society Rooms. With other members, he worked his way through the decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century on such topics as the "Titanic", a World War II overview, local black history, and a look at education through his teaching years.

Whatever presentation he made, Ian was a master story-teller, whose insightful stories were always sprinkled with humour. His last presentation to Historical was one of his favourite subjects: trips with his students: to New York and Europe, and to Montréal on the day of the Referendum to support the "No" vote. These adventures brought tears of laughter throughout.

It is fitting that Ian gave us some of our happiest moments at the last meeting of the Society before the pandemic descended. His contributions to our history and culture live on.

Submitted by Gail Donald Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## Our Cultural Moment for Remembrance Day 2020, Remembers Nursing Sister Alice Cook



Alice Cook of Mount Forest was the only female from Wellington County to die while serving in World War I.

She was born in 1893, the daughter of JJ and Annie Cook, prominent businesspeople in the town.

On deciding to enter nursing, Alice trained at Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto. She was called on almost immediately to serve her country when war was declared in 1914. As the fighting advanced, many injured soldiers returned home to Canada for treatment in such institutions as the Hospital for Invalid Soldiers on Isabella Street in downtown Toronto.

Alice Cook volunteered for service at this hospital where her compassion and skills as a nurse eased the suffering of the severely wounded soldiers. Unhappily, as the influenza pandemic grew in the winter of 1918, Alice contracted it in the hospital and developed pneumonia. A week later, on New Year's Eve, two days after her 25<sup>th</sup> birthday, she died.

For her heroic work, Nursing Sister Alice Cook was awarded a medal by Mount Forest citizens. It reads: "Presented to N.S. A. Cook by the citizens of Mt. Forest for gallant services, Great War 1914-1918." Her nephew, Bill Cockburn, gathered information about her in later years and located the medal which, with a photo of Alice, he donated to Mount Forest Legion Branch 134. Copies hang in Mount Forest Archives and the Wellington County Museum and Archives.

Submitted by Gail Donald; Wellington North Cultural Roundtable with special thanks to Campbell Cork. The information and some of the wording for this Cultural Moment were taken from his article on Alice Cook in Homer XVIII, 2011



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## **Our Cultural Moment for December celebrates past Christmases**

Christmas in rural areas has changed over the years. The concert in the one room school no longer exists, where every student participated, leaving many in tears because they forgot or fouled up their lines. In some cases it was one of the few times that mother got to visit with her neighbours. Usually when the husband took grain to the mill, he left his wife's list of items at the grocery store to be picked up on his way home. Quite often the only time mother left the farm was to go to church.

The harnessing of the team, hitching to the sleigh, remembering where the fence openings in the neighbours fields were, because the roads were too deep in snow to traverse. Everyone in the sleigh would be bundled under a buffalo robe. Now you travel on cleared rads in a warm car.

Prior to the mid 1900's, husband and wife usually grew up in the same community or one close by, so relatives were close. Now, in many cases they have grown up on different continents.

Giving of gifts, usually restricted to the youth, were made by the giver (with help from mother or father). Now you spend money to buy what someone in a far away country has sometimes made. The adults caught up on each other's lives, even though they lived less than an hour away, they may not have seen one another for months. Now men usually watch sports on TV, while the ladies catch up on the latest gossip.

Families are now more likely to jet off to some sunny destination, or drive for hours to visit family. It is easier to meet at a restaurant for their Christmas meal, where everything is cooked for them. Gone are the days when the host family cooked the bird or roast and made the potatoes. The rest of the meal, turnip, squash, salads and deserts were brought by the other attneedes and warmed or cooled as necessary.

Christmas has changed from mainly a religious and family celebration to a very commercial one. Most young families of today don't know what they are missing. Yes, there were hardships, but most of today's older citizens treasure those memories of Christmas past. Season's Greetings!

Submitted by Robert Macdonald; Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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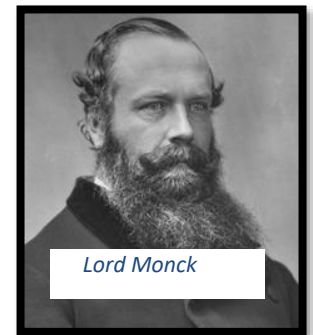
## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR APRIL CELEBRATES THE HAMLET OF MONCK



When thinking of Monck, the Baptist Church usually comes to mind. It's situated on the northeast corner of County Road 16 and the 10<sup>th</sup> Line. It sits on 1/9<sup>th</sup> of an acre of land donated by Robert Grieve and was built by the contractor W. W. Gorvett of Arthur. The church was completed on October 17, 1896. The parsonage and a stable were built in 1901 on land donated by James Blyth. In 1909 more land was obtained from the Grieves to enlarge the shelter for the horses and buggies which was situated to the east of the church. This became inadequate and a closed-in shed was built in 1910 south of the store. The land for this was donated by Ed Segsworth. This building is no longer there.

The hamlet of Monck is named after Lord Charles Stanley Monck who was the first governor-general of Canada after Confederation. (1861–1868.) He was born 1819 in Templemore Ireland.

The first settlers came to West Luther in 1853. By the early 1860's, the area's population had increased enough, and in 1863, 2 post offices were authorized, one at Lot 9, Concession 10 in Monck. Robert Dunlop was the first postmaster. They had 19 postmasters over the 96 years of its existence. The post office was situated at various times from private residences and the store at Monck. The postmaster's salary at Monck in the early 1870's ranged between \$10 and \$15 per year. In 1869, at \$39 per year, mail was transported weekly between Monck and Arthur. The post office closed in 1959.



David and Agnes McHardy built the Monck store in the early 1900's. It was situated on the southwest corner. A group of farmers formed a Co-Op in 1945 and took over the store from Mabel Blyth. Bert Glover was the first manager. It sold feed, hardware, fertilizer, groceries, and gas. The Co-Op later became a part of the United Co-Op. Today, the store is a private residence.

When driving through the hamlet, the only prominent building remaining is the church.

Submitted by Penny Renken, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable with excerpts from Stephen Thorning's articles, Tweedsmuir Histories and Google.



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## THE APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup> CULTURAL MOMENT IS A REPRINT OF OUR OCTOBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2013 CULTURAL MOMENT THAT CELEBRATED MITCH KEIRSTEAD

Mitch Keirstead comes from a large family of brothers and sisters who are all well known Ontario artists, the most famous being his brother James. Keirstead paintings have been sought after for over 30 years and depict scenes of the Ontario countryside and common activities. Often bringing back fond childhood memories, they bring special appeal to purchasers of his work.

His pieces are being displayed in private homes and galleries around the world.

Mitch prefers to produce many of his works using a delicate knife technique with oils creating a very realistic scene. Apart from being a successful artist, Mitch also runs a successful gift shop in Arthur –

Eclectica.... The Gift Store.

### NOTE FROM THE CULTURAL ROUNDTABLE:

***Earlier this year Mitch and Grace announced their retirement after serving Arthur and area residents for nearly 18 years. We encourage everyone to drop in to Eclectica between now and summer, or send them a message on social media, to wish them all the best.***

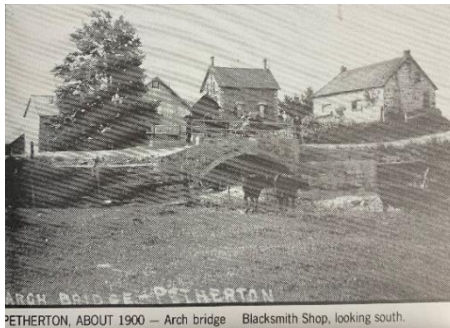
***Mitch has also indicated that he has no intentions of totally leaving the community, as he plans to continue to serve out his term, on the Board of Directors of the Arthur Business Improvement Association.***



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR MAY 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 CELEBRATES THE HAMLET OF PETHERTON

Petherton was once a thriving community, at the corners of Sideroad 9 and Hwy. 6, and extended north for over a mile. Located four miles northwest of Arthur, in the former Arthur Township and like many rural hamlets, it had its beginning in 1860 when a church was built. The Spark family donated the land and the South Arthur Baptist Church was built along with the Petherton Pioneer Cemetery. The church was dismantled in 1892 when a new one was built in Kenilworth.



A post office, the first in the township, was established in 1869 and after moving its location several times, and having had several postmasters, closed in 1914. There were two blacksmith shops over the years and the last one closed in 1914 and the building was bulldozed in 1950 when the highway was widened. At one time a chopping mill was situated on eight acres of property and a steam engine provided the power. The water for the boiler came from the creek at the back of the mill. A railway station was built in 1872 when the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway established their line through Petherton.

Over the years the cemetery fell into neglect and it was restored in the fall of 1977 by descendants of the pioneers buried there. At that time, they cemented the surviving grave markers into a Cairn and a historic plaque was placed. Money was donated by local families and Arthur Township Council looked after the work and supplied extra money for the restoration.

During the restoration, many of the buried stones were found, 30 in total, and they marked the graves of the people buried from the old Baptist Church that had once stood on the site. These stones dated back to the 1860's and are now lying in a semi-circle however due to the age of them, many of the inscriptions are illegible.



A plaque with the following inscription has been placed at the cemetery:



"In 1860 several Baptist families in the area built a church and established the cemetery known as the Petherton Pioneer Cemetery. Blyth, Edwards, Landon and Spark families were a few of the pioneers of the area. By the 1870's Petherton had become a thriving hamlet with a population of 155. Petherton was an agriculture community, which also consisted of several houses, two hotels, two blacksmith shops, a post office, a carpenter, two stores, two carriage makers, a chopping mill and a kiln for making bricks".

Submitted by Penny Renken, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable. Resources used inc. Wellington North Simply Explore & *From Then Till Now – A History of Arthur Township 1850-1985* (article by Mrs. Wm. Prentice).



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR MAY 25TH CELEBRATES SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

The St. Andrew's Country Scottish Dancers, pre Covid, met Tuesday mornings in, appropriately, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Mount Forest. The dances performed do not include ones like the well-known Highland Fling which is a solo Scottish highland dance. Rather, the dances are the Scottish form of social dancing involving groups of couples tracing progressive patterns set to the music of Jigs, Reels, and Strathspey Reel (a Reel played at a slower tempo) which are Gaelic in tradition. Their history dates back to an 18<sup>th</sup>-century combination of English country dance formations with Scottish Highland music and steps. The Ceilidh (pronounced Kaylee) is a traditional Scottish or Irish social gathering involving dancing and Gaelic folk music either at a house party or community hall.



The St. Andrew's dancers began in Mount Forest in 2012 when Elizabeth Ghent formed the group. The dances learned are traditional ones and mainly from Scotland. They have provided demonstrations at Birmingham Lodge, Caressant Care, Music Days at St. Andrew's church on the lawn, and have danced at the Arthur Fall Fair for several years.

They have participated in several Wellington North Culture Days by having a Ceilidh at the church giving the attending public a chance to dance, sing, and enjoy some Scottish fare. There have also been some annual outings to locations such as Walter Falls and Kincardine.

Elizabeth and Alan Ghent also play the bagpipes and have entertained everyone at the annual St. Andrew's dinner in November. The Ghents, playing the bagpipes, have entertained the public at the Arthur cenotaph for 6 weeks during July and August for the past 5 or 6 years.

The dancing is a wonderful form of exercise, as not only does it get the body in motion, but it exercises the mind having to remember in which direction that body, especially the feet, will be moving.

Pre-Covid, there were 20 members, both female and male, who come to enjoy either the music, the exercise, the social aspect, and/or the fun. Whatever their reason, they all leave after having had a lot of laughter and a good time!

Submitted by Penny Renken, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable





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## **CULTURAL MOMENT FOR JULY CELEBRATES THE SENIORS' CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE**

The idea of retirees sitting in a rocking chair on their front porch whiling away their existing years is not in this group's vision. Since 2008, Senior's Centre for Excellence has aimed at planning social and physical activities to help keep community seniors safe in their homes.

Prior to Covid, 20 – 30 guests would meet each Tuesday morning at the Mount Forest Pentecostal church for coffee and socializing. There were often guest speakers sharing health related items, interesting information on Old Order Mennonites, and singers and once a month there was a dining program. In Arthur, 20 – 25 participants enjoyed this social event. For those physically capable, Arthur also hosted a walking group 3 days per week with anywhere between 4 and 18 seniors each day.

There is no membership fee to join this exciting group, and anyone is welcome to attend. There are both men and women dropping in regularly. Registration is required for the dining program only, but that is only to ensure that there is enough food for all.

Covid may have shut down or slowed down many organizations, but Seniors' Centre for Excellence is a determined group which has kept active, albeit in a different format. Presently they meet virtually via zoom or by telephone to share the programs. There have been a couple of celebrities participate in the zoom sessions. Dave Phillips from environment Canada spoke about climate change, and the Carlson's who were on the CBC show, Home in time for Winter, in which the family had their Sudbury home converted and lived like Canadians in the 1940's – 1990's. Seniors from North Wellington join them twice a week to share great stories with the speakers and other guests.

A monthly newsletter "Heart & Soul of Wellington" provides a variety of informative and interesting topics, including: a writing group, Seniors Safety Line, Party Line Schedule, Zoom Schedule, and Book Reviews. Seniors are invited to share time, memories and laughter with their peers, and build friendships. If you are interested in receiving the newsletter or learning more about the Seniors Centre for Excellence you can contact Helen Edwards the Program Coordinator at [heedwards@mapleton.ca](mailto:heedwards@mapleton.ca). One participant thinks "it's the best thing since sliced bread".



Submitted by Penny Renken, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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**CULTURAL MOMENT FOR AUGUST CELEBRATES TOASTMASTERS  
& THE MOUNT FOREST MOTIVATORS CLUB**



The Mount Forest Motivators club was enthusiastically chartered Nov. 22, 2002 and entered the worldwide organization whose core values are: Integrity. Respect. Service. Excellence.



It was once said: If you can't communicate, it's like winking at a girl in the dark-- nothing happens. You can have all the brainpower in the world, but you have to be able to transmit it. And the transmission is communication. Toastmasters offers people a safe place to relax, plan and present a terrific speech. You learn to listen effectively, think on your feet, and speak confidently in a wide range of situations.

A member chooses from 11 various Pathways programs that best suit the individual's interests and goals at one's own pace: presentation mastery, effective coaching, engaging humor, motivational strategies, persuasive influence, team collaboration, visionary communication, innovative planning and more.

Through our members' achievements, and by having a minimum of 20 members, our club has attained the highest accolade: President's Distinguished status for 16 out of 19 years. We have had many 8-week Speechcraft programs for the public and have had numerous Youth Leadership programs with homeschoolers, the Optimists, and Big Brother Big Sisters, held in the library.

FUN is important to learning. Each meeting has its own theme which gives direction to the Toast, Grammarian (word for the evening & check those filler words), Jokester, inspirational quote. Each speech has a different purpose to achieve organization, vocal variety, work with a group on how to reach consensus, gestures, different communication styles etc. Every speech is evaluated accentuating what you excelled at, what you may want to work on and what to challenge yourself.

The Club Theme in 2021 is **Reach for the stars – No Limits**. Guests are welcome on Tuesdays at 7:00pm and for more information please contact Caroline Beren at [beren@wightman.ca](mailto:beren@wightman.ca).

Cultural Moment was written for the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable by Caroline Beren, Pauline Brown, and Tammy Barrett (Toastmasters)

To be continued.....



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR SEPTEMBER CELEBRATES THE ROTHWELL FAMILY FARM & APPLE ORCHARD

The adage “An apple a day keeps the doctor away” originated in Wales in 1866 but the wording was actually “Eat an apple on going to bed and you’ll keep the doctor from earning his bread”. The current wording reappeared in 1913 and if you want to try this theory, a great place to visit is Rothwell Family Farm & Apple Orchard on Sideroad 7, west of Kenilworth.

This 200-acre family farm has 6 acres planted in apples. They began in 1976 and now have 13 varieties including: Courtland, Empire, Paula-red, McIntosh, Gala, Ambrosia, Spy, Honeycrisp, Jonagold, Russet, Tolman Sweet, Spartan, and 1 Wealthy tree. They have had as many as 1400 trees but care for approximately 800 now.

Growing trees requires a large investment as it may take 3 to 9 years for one to mature and produce fruit. A determining factor is the variety that is being grown and the yield per acre again depends on several factors. One is weather, and another how close the trees are planted, generally 1 to 2 feet apart. Apple trees can produce between 200 to 2,000 bushels per acre however the provincial average is 400. In 2012, the heat wave was so severe that only 1 percent of the potential yield was produced.



*Between the rows*

The lifespan of an apple tree depends on the variety. Some trees on the farm are 45 years old and will still continue to produce for many decades if they are carefully pruned. Spraying ensures that the apples are of high quality. The Rothwells also produce Apple Cider and Apple Butter and sell local honey.



*Courtland Apples*

The apples are kept in cold storage so that they may be sold locally into the winter. An Ida-red apple improves while in storage. It becomes more succulent and milder by February. On the other hand, a McIntosh doesn't store well and will become soft over time. An Ambrosia is another variety that will keep well for an extended period.

Terry Rothwell advises that certain apples have special uses. For baking pies, Wealthy, which is an old variety, is the best. For making applesauce, he prefers Paula-reds. To just munch, either a Courtland, Ambrosia, or Gala are really good. Courtland apples are a favourite in Waldorf Salads at fancy restaurants. Pies that are made in October from fresh apples and then frozen, have a better flavour than pies that are made later in the year from apples that have been taken out of storage.

Whatever your choice, biting into an apple tingles the taste buds.

Submitted with permission, by Penny Renken, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



## CULTURAL MOMENT



### A Kenilworth Soldier's Story of Sorrow and Hope



John Austin Vincent Dinneen was born in 1917, son of Patrick Joseph and Ellen F. (Bodendistle) Dinneen of Kenilworth.

Austin joined the 24th Canadian Field Ambulance Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps in 1939 and served overseas for 6 years. One operation he served in was the brutal Battle of Monte Cassino. When asked about it by his son on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Austin was too overcome to reply. Many of Austin's friends and comrades were lost in that and other battles.

In the Spring of 1943 Private Dinneen met an Irish colleen (colleen in Irish is Cailín and the meaning of Cailín is girl) at a dance in Manchester. They were so taken with each other that he made sure they met at many more dances. Margaret Jane Malloy (Peggy) soon checked out the Church Austin attended and then began a long courtship. The end of European combat meant that Austin might be sent to the Pacific. So Austin and Peggy married on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1945 and lived in London for a year. In May 1946, Peggy, pregnant, and on her own, sailed to Canada to meet Austin's family in Kenilworth. They had become acquainted through correspondence beforehand.

Peggy's due date was the middle of August. Austin hadn't been discharged yet and there was great speculation about who would arrive first: Austin or the baby. Austin did arrive first and was in Canada when his son was born.

A few weeks later Peggy encountered one of the parishioners at Sacred Heart Church in Kenilworth. Mrs. Epoch asked Peggy what the baby's name was. Peggy replied that he was named Jerome after a friend of Austin's who did not return from the war. Mrs. Epoch said, "I was Jerome's mother."

War leads inevitably to tragedy, but some tragic stories lead to hopefulness that brings individuals, families, and communities together. Those who have lost their lives in war are remembered in innumerable ways by those who remain.

Edited from Austin Dinneen's story, submitted By Gail Donald, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable with permission by Kevin Dinneen



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR JANUARY CELEBRATES ROBERT & MARY SCOTT

Robert Scott was born in Ayrshire, Scotland in 1832 and immigrated to Canada in 1854 with his brother James after receiving a sizable inheritance. Robert and James purchased land in Proton and began farming and like most young men, they procured work off the farm during the off seasons of planting and harvest. They were both instrumental in completing roads from Mount Forest (Hwy 89) west to Clifford (County Road 1) and as well from Proton to Clifford.

After returning from a trip to Scotland in 1859, Robert brought with him a team of horses, wagon and harness and was hauling dry goods, hardware, and clothing from Guelph to Mount Forest. James opened a dry goods store. In 1865, Robert married Mary Ann Reid and shortly after formed the R. Scott & Co with his brother-in-law. They built a grocery store, creamery, icehouse and women's and men's department store all on the north end of Mount Forest. In 1875-76, Robert and Mary built a two-storey red brick house on the corner of Queen and John Streets where he could oversee his many businesses. The house added an addition along John Street as well as an *Italianate* tower at the Queen Street entrance as their family grew to include five children.



Photo taken, Jan 3, 2021

The European tradition of having painted scenes on the walls of homes was only for the rich and affluent. The Scott family commissioned travelling artists to come and paint lavish artwork on mostly the main entrance area. *"Opening the ground floor main door, visitors would have been struck by five unique hand-painted pictures with hand-rendered frames on green plaster. One painting depicts a Mediterranean style landscape with palm trees, mountains and a lake with a single figure and a sailboat. Another shows a landscape with a large villa near a semitropical waterfront. On the facing side of the stairwell are three paintings. The first depicts a rowboat race, with a Union Jack flag in the background; the next a Scotsman, with horse and dog beside a lake; a final painting depicts a cozy lodge with alpine trees on a cliff edge."*



The actual date of these paintings is unknown but in 1975, fifteen layers of wallpaper were stripped off to expose them. This is one of only two houses in all of Wellington County with this rich cultural heritage. The Scott's are buried in the Mount Forest Cemetery and have left a lasting legacy to the town of Mount Forest.

Submitted by Bonny McDougall Wellington North Cultural Roundtable with information from Wellington County History, Volume 13.

Residence of Robert Scott, Mount Forest as it appears in the Topographical and Historical Atlas of Wellington County 1877.



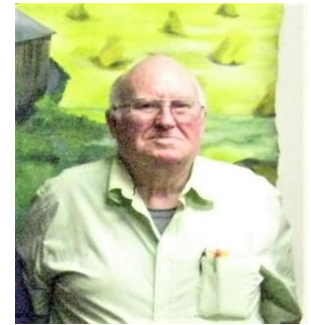
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### **CULTURAL MOMENT FOR FEBRUARY CELEBRATES ROBERT MACDONALD**

After a life of contributions to his community, Robert Macdonald passed away in January 2022. Having spent his younger years on a dairy farm near Inglewood and later raising purebred Angus cattle, Robert's dedication to agriculture continued throughout his life. Following his move to a farm near Arthur in 1973, his family bred, raised, and exhibited champion purebred horses and ponies.

Agriculture interests occupied other aspects of Robert's life. He participated in Junior Farmers, serving as President of the Peel County organization in 1962. As well he became a 4-H Leader. After working in manufacturing with companies such as General Steel Wares, Robert took a position at the Arthur Recreational Centre and joined the Agricultural Society. This led to his involvement in Arthur's Fall Fair, where he contributed to its great success as one of the remaining true agricultural fairs in the province.

Robert's interests and participation in the community branched out to other aspects of rural culture. He worked with Little Theatre and passed on his life experience to youths through the Big Brothers and Cubs. Other organizations such as the Opportunity Shop and the Horticultural Society received his support.



One of Robert's most appreciated contributions was to local history. He joined the Arthur and Area Historical Society from its beginnings. He rarely missed a meeting, helping members focus on conducting them well. Robert was often available to assist visitors during Wednesday afternoon opening hours. He shared his memories and ideas with anyone who came.

Robert regularly attended the annual meetings of the Wellington County Historical Society, bringing greetings from Arthur and Area, reporting back so that the Society was kept up to date. During his busy time at the Fall Fair, he always took care of the Society's display needs.



Robert's love of local agricultural history showed in the farming artifacts he contributed to the Historical Rooms displays. He joined in the work of preserving and reviving the Kenilworth Lynes Blacksmith shop, as part of the development of local tourism initiatives. His most recent work was with the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable, where he represented the Agricultural Society.

Robert Macdonald's most lasting gift was reminding everyone to retain those aspects of our rural past that laid the foundation of this close-knit community. As we mourn his passing, we also honor his dedication to our local way of life.

Submitted by Gail Donald Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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#### CULTURAL MOMENT FOR FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> CELEBRATES SPINNING WHEELS IN THE PAST AND NOW

In the past, spinning fibres was a necessity to provide warm clothing, or household items. If a flax or cotton fibre was spun fine enough, it could be knitted or crocheted into cloths, tablemats, curtains, or lace. Spinning with wool, llama, alpaca, goat, or dog fibre could produce warm coats, sweaters, hats, mitts and even underwear.

Before spinning wheels were invented, fibre was spun on drop spindles over 10,000 years ago. A spindle provides a twist that turns fibre into yarn in a process known as drafting. Like spinning wheels, they come in a variety of designs; unlike spinning wheels they are more time consuming to produce yarns. Many men in third-world countries still use this method.



We may associate spinning wheels with our pioneers, but they were actually invented in China about 1000 AD. The idea later spread to Iran, then to India and finally to Europe. Mahatma Gandhi used a spinning wheel, called a Charkha, during his struggle for India's independence and economic self-sufficiency from British colonial rule. In a pioneer home, a great or walking wheel was common. It was invented in the 14<sup>th</sup> century to spin wool into yarn and was approximately 5 feet high. Known as the walking wheel because a person walked back and forth beside the wheel and could walk up to 20 miles a day, albeit inside their cabin, while feeding the unspun yarn into the orifice of the wheel. The right hand spun the wheel, and the left hand manipulated the fibre so that it twisted evenly.



Today, spinning wheels, are used as a popular handicraft. They are obsolete in commercial manufacturing as they now use industrial spinners however there are farms who have home-businesses specializing in either the raw fibre or finished products. There are also groups whose sole purpose is to socialize while spinning and sharing information. One group is called the Queen's Bush Guild of Fibre Artisans. This group has 20+ members from Mount Forest, Conn, Williamsford, Hanover, and Mildmay and pre-Covid, met once a month in a member's home. The spinning wheels that these ladies use are as various as the many makes & models of automobiles and are modifications of those used through the centuries.





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**CULTURAL MOMENT FOR MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup> IS A CONTINUATION OF THE FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup> CULTURAL MOMENT  
CELEBRATING SPINNING WHEELS IN THE PAST AND NOW**

### SPINNING FIBRE

As with any hobby or craft, nothing seems simple, as there are always so many facets to explore and enjoy. It's the same with spinning. Many decisions to make – starting with the end product. What are you planning on making? That decided, what type of fibre do you need? Blended or not? How thin or thick – how many plies will that be? What colour? A fleece from any animal will need to be cleaned. A hand-spinner will look for a fleece that is as clean as possible. When washing, the staples should not be agitated in order to avoid felting.



The staples can be spun from the actual staple, but most spinners either comb or card the staples, using hand carders or a drum carder, to separate the fibres. It's at this point, that more than one fibre is blended if desired. The advantage is that it can enhance strength or durability to the yarn by blending shorter and longer fibres. Or it can reduce the cost by combining expensive fibres with less costly ones, such as Merino wool with Corriedale wool. The carded fibre is then known as a roving which is ready to spin.



The rovings' are then spun onto bobbins. If the yarn required is for a heavy sweater, then the single ply on each of the 2 or 3 bobbins will then be plied together to create a 2-ply or 3-ply yarn. When plying, the spinning wheel is turned in the opposite direction from when it was spun, in order to create and hold the twist. Whether the yarn is spun smoothly or bumpy for designer yarn, depends on the project for which it will be used. The yarn then is wound into skeins. And can be dyed by either using natural plants, chemicals, or even Kool-Aid makes wonderfully bright colours. When cooking with red cabbage, you would think it would make a great dye when looking at your purple fingers, but that dye is transient and not permanent in wool.



Now the wool is ready for any project for which it was intended. This toque is made from the fleece of 2 sheep with their natural colourings. It was spun as 3-ply yarn, is very warm, and has been used since 1993. The combination hood and scarf were created from roving which had been dyed before it was spun. The 2-ply yarn is warm, soft, and still durable since it was spun in 1994.



Submitted by Penny Renken Wellington North Cultural Roundtable; pictures of products made by local spinning group  
Toque: Natural colour of wool in toque  
Hood with scarf: Pre-dyed before spinning



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR APRIL 11TH CELEBRATES ARTHUR ; 150 YEARS

This 2022 Canada Day weekend, the village of Arthur will celebrate 150 years of incorporation.

The site that became Arthur was established at the northern end of the Six Nations Land Grant set by the Jones Baseline survey in 1792. Eighty years later, Arthur village entered the railroad age just as it began incorporation. The end of 1871 and beginning of 1872 brought freight and passenger trains through the area, allowing for growth from a widespread rural settlement into a thriving community. The addition of telephone service in 1891 further connected Arthur with the wider world.

By this time immigration of Eastern and Western Europeans, particularly Ireland, the British Isles and Germany, served to build the village's population and expand businesses and services needed to serve the area. Much later the devastation of World War II brought waves of immigrants from countries like Holland and Italy. In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Arthur has welcomed more diversity among those families who enjoy their homes in the village after workdays in large urban centres. And their children can flourish in a place closer to nature.



From its beginning Arthur proved to be the heart of its rural area. Saturdays were the time for residents and farm families to conduct business, catch up on the news, perhaps attend the latest horse races, and enjoy a weekly break. Farmers who supplied milk and cream to the Wellington County Creamery picked up the checks which paid for necessities and small indulgences.

The arduous work of carving out family farms and building successful village businesses established traditions of both self-reliance and service to others. While preserving individuality, the residents of Arthur are ready to support fellow citizens. This has always been a village of volunteers through service clubs, churches, schools, sports, and numerous other ways.

Long before its designation as "Canada's Most Patriotic Village" Arthur's residents rallied to the call from the British mother country to give sons and daughters to wars across the ocean. The Boer war and the "war to end all wars" brought deeds of heroism and daily tragedy for every Arthur resident. In World War II the acts of bravery and sacrifice continued. One hundred and fifty years into Arthur's incorporation, dedication to the protection of lives and freedom continues to inform the village's identity.



In 2022, the foundations on which Arthur was built continue to sustain this community: hard work, support for one's neighbour, resourcefulness, and respect for our history. The planned celebration embodies all these qualities. We can be assured that the citizens of Arthur will safeguard them for the next 150 years.

Submitted by Gail Donald, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR APRIL 25TH CELEBRATES OUR VOLUNTEERS

Wellington North is blessed to have such a tremendous group of volunteers in our community, and it is important that we take the opportunity to thank and celebrate them for everything they do, to help make Wellington North a great place to live, work and raise a family.

On behalf of council and staff we invite all volunteers in our community to join us on Thursday May 5th, 2022, for our second annual volunteer appreciation dinner.

The celebration will be a drop-in event held between 5:00pm - 7:00pm at the Arthur & Area Community Centre 158 Domville Street Arthur. The event will include a catered meal, cake cutting and Mayors welcome at 5:30pm.

This celebration will fall one week after the 2022 National Volunteer Week. The 2022 theme is Volunteering Is Empathy In Action and affirms the strong connection between volunteerism and empathy. This profoundly human connection is at the heart of healthier individuals and stronger communities. Empathy is a quality that can help people relate to others and build awareness around different experiences. It connects people in ideas and actions and helps create bonds forged in common goals and aspirations.

A promotional poster for the annual Wellington North Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. At the top, it says 'Join us' in a large, elegant script font. Below this is the Wellington North logo, a circular emblem with a 'W' and the words 'WELLINGTON NORTH' around it. The text 'The Township of Wellington North is pleased to host the second annual volunteer appreciation dinner.' is written in a smaller font. Below that, it says 'Register online at www.wellington-north.com' and 'REGISTRATION CLOSES ON THU., APRIL 21, 2022.' with a note 'Limited tickets are available.' To the right, it says 'at the annual Wellington North VOLUNTEER Appreciation Dinner' and 'May 5, 2022 | Arthur Arena | 5:00-7:00pm'. Below this, it says 'Catered by T&amp;M Catering' and lists the menu: 'Your choice of seasoned chicken breast on a crusty bun OR smoked sausage on a bun, Caesar salad with bacon bits and croutons and creamy potato and egg salad, Grilled onions and peppers, BBQ sauce, ketchup, mayonnaise, Served with a variety of cold pop and water, coffee and tea.' At the bottom of the poster is an illustration of several hands of different colors (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple) raised in a gesture of celebration or applause.

Volunteers are the heart of Wellington North, and we look forward to recognizing and celebrating volunteerism in our community. We urge everyone to recognize the crucial role played by volunteers in our community and we hope you can come out and join us on May 5<sup>th</sup>. Although the registration deadline has passed, we can still accommodate last minute requests. Please email [volunteer@wellington-north.com](mailto:volunteer@wellington-north.com).

Submitted by the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR MAY 9TH CELEBRATES THE FOUR CORNERS QUILTERS' GUILD

Creativity in part, is fueled by a drive to explore something new. It draws us towards the next big project idea, which can keep us from finishing those already underway. It's a common phenomenon in most creative pursuits. The Four Corners Quilters' Guild, based in Mount Forest, was established in 1998. For the members, one of the most enjoyable aspects of quilting is embracing what's new. New techniques are made possible by new tools, new fabrics inspire new projects, and new shops require exploration.

Quilters share a creative spirit. To get a measure of it in our own guild, an informal online survey was conducted in January 2022. As the pandemic took hold of our second winter, many quilters had the opportunity to enjoy time in their sewing spaces. The survey encouraged us to go through existing projects, revisit the motivation to start them and consider why some may remain unfinished. From the respondents, we learned that we have a good balance of beginner and seasoned quilters, ranging from 5 to more than 40 years of experience. Collectively, we represent around 650 quilting years and have completed an estimated 1500 quilts. That's over 50 finished quilts per person. Since roughly half of our members completed the survey, we might reasonably double that estimate to 3000 finished quilts made by all guild members over their quilting careers. Of course, each quilter may have a unique personal view of what constitutes a 'finished quilt'!!

We also identified an estimated 300 quilts in the works. Multiple projects underway at the same time is not uncommon and could be deemed an inevitable by-product of the drive to create however we discovered that 13% of those unfinished projects have been sitting for more than a decade. A handful of members are quite proficient at completing what they've started, but in general, the longer we've been quilting, the longer the 'unfinished' list tends to become. After all, the most exciting project is always the next new one.

The number one reason given for any particular project to remain unfinished is *"I've lost interest, motivation, or just don't like it anymore"*. The survey confirmed that enjoyment from quilt-making comes from all aspects start to finish, with emphasis on seeing what certain pattern and fabric combinations and design choices can do. There is also great satisfaction in seeing the quilts find a good home. It seems that for many of us, quilting is at least as much about the process as the product.

While the survey was just for fun, it reinforced a strong drive to create and enthusiasm for learning. We're certain the responses were conservative, both in terms of estimated quilts completed and those still underway, but the message is that there is a lot of quilt-making going on in this community and a determination to keep going. The Four Corners Quilters' Guild looks forward to celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. New members and guests are always welcome. Find us on Facebook, or for more information contact [4cornersquiltersguild@gmail.com](mailto:4cornersquiltersguild@gmail.com).





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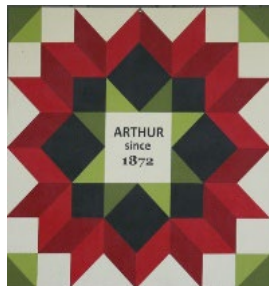
## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR JUNE 6TH CELEBRATES THE ARTHUR BARN QUILT TRAIL PROJECT

The response in Arthur and area to the Arthur Area Barn Quilt Trail Project this year has been amazing. More than sixty barn quilts will be in the area for tourists to seek out any day of the year. But not everyone knows much about barn quilts.

Barn quilts are quite simply a painted depiction of a quilt square on wood or signboard which is then installed on a barn or other building. The modern versions are often posted on houses, garages, garden sheds or used as garden décor. They often tell you something about the owners; a story, an interest, a group they support, like this Guelph Junior Gryphons Barn Quilt on Schmidt Street.



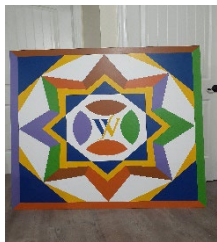
Modern Barn Quilts have a relatively short history according to the internet. A Small Farms Canada article from 2018 describes their beginning in 2001 with



Donna Sue Grover of Ohio who began to use these paintings to brighten up her tobacco farm buildings and to pay homage to her mother who loved to quilt. This symbolic Arthur Since 1872 Barn Quilt can be seen on Clarke Street in Arthur.

Barn hex signs have been around a lot longer. They were brought to North America in the 17<sup>th</sup> century by the Pennsylvania Dutch who interestingly are mostly German. The German word for German is Deutsch, so that may explain that apparent misnomer. The name Hex may have come from the German word for six (sechs) because the hex signs were often six pointed stars. There are commonly recognized hex signs that welcome or that wish for abundant crops or good health.

The Silver Fox in Arthur made this Mariner's Compass design into their own by adding their silver fox in each corner and the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable barn quilt is proudly mounted at the entrance into the Arthur Community Centre. Whether it is a barn quilt or a hex sign or a cave painting, people will always try to decorate their homes in some way. It is evidence that creativity and the appreciation of art is a part of the human makeup.



For more information on the Arthur Barn Quilt Trail, you can go to <https://www.facebook.com/BQArthurArea> and for the Wellington County Barn Quilt Trail Association. <https://www.facebook.com/wcbqta>

Submitted by Doris Cassan, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## **CULTURAL MOMENT FOR JULY 11TH CELEBRATES THE MOUNT FOREST FIREWORKS FESTIVAL**

Deeply embedded in Wellington North's local culture is the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival – a community wide, 4-day event, that has become a signature event locally as well as provincially for the past 20 years. Always the third weekend in July, many make their way to the area, either by visiting friends and family, travelling in on their RV's, or spending the weekend at a nearby campground – so much so, that the festival has been garnered as a Top 100 Festival for 11 of its 20 years by Festival & Events Ontario.

Over the years, the festival's enticement builds as more attractions are added and the crowds grow. Today, the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival features amusements all weekend long, entertainment, music and an array of tastes. You can visibly view the local culture, as many community groups, volunteer residents and business sponsors, each add their own elements to the weekend long celebrations. During a recent survey of Wellington North residents, completed as part of our Cultural Plan update in 2021, 75 per cent of respondents considered the Mount Forest Fireworks Festival to be one of the two top tangible cultural assets in the Township of Wellington North.



Since the festival's inception, it has played host to one of the largest Classic Car Shows in Canada.

The traditional small town Main Street is closed off to drivers and is open to pedestrians, as thousands fill the artery and view over 500 classic cars lining the drag. The sky's are ignited with sparkling colours and the sounds of 'crackles', 'booms' and 'awes' as a spectacular fireworks display fills the overhead sky on Saturday evening with a smaller teaser show taking place this year on Friday evening to commemorate our 20<sup>th</sup> season.

There's always great entertainment and attractions that includes a bit of everything for all ages, which makes this festival, well – spectacular!

**Ignite Your Weekend**  
**July 14-17, 2022**  
[www.mountforestfireworks.ca](http://www.mountforestfireworks.ca)

Submitted by Crystal Seifried and Sharon Wenger, Mount Forest Fireworks Festival



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR AUGUST 29TH CELEBRATES THE ARTHUR POPPY PROJECT

The image of red poppies is a powerful symbol for all Canadians and maybe even more for Arthur, Canada's Most Patriotic Village, Arthur. In 2021, an invitation went out to local churches from St. James Anglican Church in Elora from their knitting group to either crochet or knit poppies. Bonny McDougall from our WN Cultural Roundtable was home, as were most people and needing something to occupy her time started crocheting poppies. Red and black yarn was already in her collection, so the crocheting began and by the end of September when the group in Elora stopped receiving them 138 poppies had been crocheted.



While some people may have stopped at 138, Bonny continued crocheting poppies with a plan. Knowing that 2022 would be the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Village of Arthur, she decided to spearhead a similar poppy project. A community rich with a variety of artisans and resourceful people, she felt this would be a project that was viable for our village.

The Arthur 150 committee and Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 226, Arthur also gave permission to use the Legion and Cenotaph with the goal to have a display ready for the July 1<sup>st</sup> weekend. Bonny and Angie Duffield made trips twice a week to the pickup spot as the bin was overflowing, 7 packages of netting, 7 feet wide by 21 feet long, along with the task of attaching the poppies to the net so they could be displayed during the Arthur 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations.



The intent is to also bring the poppies back out for two weeks in November. They are very eye-catching, beautiful shades of red and we can never do enough to remember those veterans who have given us peace and freedom.

Submitted by Bonny McDougall, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



### ***Our cultural moment for September 12<sup>th</sup> celebrates H. Gordon Green***

H. Gordon Green was perhaps Wellington North's most famous personality. In the prime of his career, in the 1960s and 1970s, he was one of the better-known journalists and radio commentators in Canada. Green was a native of Arthur Township, where he was born in 1912 as the eldest of eight children. Coming of age during the depression, he took on a number of jobs including farm hand (at 50 cents a day), country school teacher, and door-to-door salesman.

Green was destined to become a writer and enrolled in journalism at the University of Michigan where he sold his first story to the *Toronto Star Weekly* for \$50. This was big money for the late 1930s. His childhood as an impoverished farm boy and experience with marginal employment opportunities had left an impression. After a brief stint at McGill studying medicine, he joined the army.

Following his service, he joined the staff of the *Montreal Star*. He was assigned to the *Family Herald*, the *Star's* weekly farm magazine that at that time was a fixture in nearly every rural and small-town household. Even though he was still in his 30s, Green had developed a down-home writing style that made reference to his experiences in the 1920s and 1930s. He became editor and held the position for almost 20 years.

As time passed, he became something of a celebrity, a role he enjoyed immensely. By the 1950s, he appeared frequently on various CBC radio programs as a commentator and panelist. Green's radio career evolved into a short-syndicated commentary that was heard over dozens of radio stations in Canada. He became known as "Radio's Old Cynic" which suited his style.

In the 1960s he became engaged in politics and in 1962 accepted the nomination as the New Democratic Party candidate in the riding of Wellington North. Although broadly supported and pulling in the largest vote ever for the NDP, he only managed a third-placed showing.

H. Gordon Green published a number of books including *Professor Go Home* and *A Time to Pass Over*. He continued to write a column for the *Star* until his death of cancer in 1991. His last column appeared the day before he died. Thousands mourned his death. Fellow Arthurite MPP Ted Arnott delivered a tribute in the Ontario legislature.

Submitted by James Taylor Wellington North Cultural Roundtable

*(source material from the Wellington Advertiser where many of his columns appeared)*



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR OCTOBER 11TH CELEBRATES THE MOUNT FOREST CEMETERY

The Mount Forest Cemetery was established in 1816. The cemetery is approximately fifteen acres in size and although it is located in Southgate, the cemetery is owned and administered by the Township of Wellington North. In 1872 a formal master plan was developed that established sections that were named for the convenience of physically locating graves.

On average there are about 45 to 50 burials each year. In 1907, there were 111 burials with fifty alone in November of that year. An iron fence along the front was erected in 1937. This was followed by the main entrance gate in 1958 as pictured. The pillars and sign feature we see today were donated by the McHellar family in memory of Mr. Neil McHellar.



The Mortuary/Chapel was built in 1947 and was dedicated on July 6<sup>th</sup> at the time of the Old Boys Reunion. Over 7,000 plots or niches have been sold since the cemetery was first established and the Mount Forest Cemetery has been included on the Cultural Roundtable's list of historic sites and places. The Cultural Roundtable also worked with the Township on improving public access to historic burial records and currently over 7,700 records can be found on <https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/2151397/mount-forest-cemetery>.

In 2021 Summer Student Morgan conducted walking tours of the Cemetery during Wellington North Culture Days and in 2022 we are fortunate to have her back once again. Tours will be held on October 29<sup>th</sup> and Nov 5<sup>th</sup> and will run from 1:00-2:00pm and 3:00-4:00pm. Reservations can be made by contacting Brianna at the Township office.



Submitted by the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## **Wellington North Women in Military Service in World Wars I and II**

When Canadian women served in both World Wars, it was mostly on the home front, raising money and replacing men whose military service took them away from all types of work. In World War I, they also served as nurses in the Canadian Army Nursing Service. Nursing Sister Alice Cook of Mount Forest gave her life to the service of injured and ill soldiers in a wartime Toronto hospital, dying of influenza at age 25. Her story was shared as our November 2020 Cultural Moment.

By World War II, although women were not allowed to serve in combat, they took on many crucial roles in the various services both in Canada and in Europe. Women of Wellington North were well represented in nearly every branch.

Two Raftis sisters from West Luther, Genevieve Marie, and Mary Marcella, enlisted in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (*WRCNS also known familiarly as Wrens*), trained on HMCS Conestoga and were posted in 1945 to HMCS Stadacona Base, Halifax. There they served as nurses aids as well as taking on other necessary work. Marjorie Driscoll, from Arthur, also served in the WRCNS, the fourth member of her family to sign up. She had already earned her Bachelor's degree at the University of Toronto.

Erie Mae Jackson of Conn, a prolific writer throughout her life, especially of biographical and autobiographical books, joined the Canadian Women's Army Corps in 1944. She rose to the rank of Sergeant and qualified as a Non-commissioned Officer. The Wellington County Museum holds her writings.

Several women followed their brothers or cousins into service. Pearl Ida Day joined the CWAC, in Toronto, while her four brothers served overseas. Mildred Colwill, who also enlisted in the Women's Army Corps, in 1942, was the sixth member of her family to serve in the Army.

Isabel Jean Mullin joined the Army in the spring of 1942, at 18, and served in the Women's Army Corps. She was transferred to England where she worked as a driver for Canadian Army Officers.

In some cases, little information is easily available on these resolute women. Claire Connell, for instance, is only briefly noted in the Arthur Enterprise-News in 1944: "Miss Claire Connell joined the RCAF". Many may now be known only to their families or to the keepers of military records.

No matter how they have been remembered, these Wellington North women must always be honoured for their loyalty and courage in answering their country's call to service. They set the bar for those local women who are currently doing the same.



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR DECEMBER 5TH CELEBRATES **SANTA CLAUS PARADES**

The Santa Claus Parade is not an original concept. According to the Merriam-Webster dictionary, the word 'parade' is used to refer to a 'pompous show' rather than a public procession.

Ancient cities often had special, elaborately constructed streets for their processions. The earliest reference to a parade is found in cave paintings dating back ten thousand years. These events consisted of prehistoric men triumphantly carrying the game they killed back to their camp.

The idea for the Santa Claus parade originated with Eaton's Company in Toronto as a promotion for their department stores. The first parade was held on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1905 with a single float. It became the largest Santa Claus parade by the 1950's and Eaton's ended its association with the parade in 1982. Today, it is funded by corporate sponsors.

Before Mount Forest began having a Santa Claus Parade, The Lions Club had Santa Comes To Town which began in 1939. Tickets were given to children to attend the movie theatre and at the end of the movie Santa would appear and the children received bags of candy. One year, Santa arrived by helicopter to the Fire Hall.



The Santa Claus Parades, in Mount Forest, were originally held on a Saturday afternoon beginning in 1975. In 1988 the parades started to be held on Friday evenings to promote more business involvement. This is believed to be the first night time parade in southwestern Ontario. There have been as many as 85 bands/floats. During Covid 2020 and 2021

a very successful 'Reverse Parade' was held to continue the uninterrupted reputation of bringing Santa To Town. In 2022 the plans are to hold a traditional night parade on the usual 1<sup>st</sup> Friday in December.



The evening parades in Arthur and Mount Forest have a magical feeling with the floats being lit up, and the stars overhead. While they offer businesses and organizations recognition with their decorated

floats, they also offer the residents, especially the children (young and old), some good old-fashioned fun and a beginning to the Christmas spirit.

Submitted by Penny Renken on behalf of the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR JANUARY 16<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATES SYLVIA CADESKY

On her shoulders is an exhibit on display at the Mount Forest Museum & Archives that showcases some of the unique women in the history of Mount Forest. Today's cultural moment celebrates Sylvia Cadesky; 1920 - 2017



"Saucy" Sylvia Cadesky could have been a professor of German at any university, but she chose another path. Singing in the clubs of Toronto on weekends for extra money in the late 1930s while finishing a degree in modern languages offered Sylvia another option. When she received a full scholarship at Ohio State University to study German for her masters, Sylvia took the scholarship but continued to play her piano and sing in the clubs and hotels of Akron and Cincinnati.

Then she got an offer that she couldn't refuse. Radio WLW out of Cincinnati, the "Nation's Station" and a "Star Maker," offered Sylvia a job as staff vocalist. Following singers like Rosemary Clooney and Doris Day, Sylvia took the offer and started a 70-year career in entertainment. Her mother, Tillye Cadesky, who gave Sylvia her first piano lessons in Mount Forest must have been proud and thrilled.

By 1946, Sylvia hosted a coast-to-coast broadcast eight times each week. "She plays her own piano accompaniments and chats informally with her radio listeners in a charming way. Her bubbling laughter travels along the airwaves into people's homes."

(*Columbus Review*, 1946) Radio put Sylvia in the company of Ella Fitzgerald and Duke Ellington who asked her to join his orchestra which she did for five years. The "Saucy" comedic part of her act was accidental when she filled in for an MC in Akron who never showed up. Sylvia realized she had a flare for comedy. International offers came in, but Sylvia opted to perform close to family and home. Sylvia had two loving marriages and died surrounded by children and grandchildren although they were not her own.



In 2002, Sylvia Cadesky was inducted into the Newport Jazz Hall of Fame, alongside Ella Fitzgerald.

Submitted by all the volunteers at the Mount Forest Museum & Archives who mounted the exhibit "On Her Shoulders: Unique Women in the History of Mount Forest"



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR FEBRUARY 6TH CELEBRATES THE RAW CARROT SOUP ENTERPRISE

The Raw Carrot is a social enterprise that began in Paris, Ontario in 2014, as an initiative of the Paris Presbyterian Church. The Church wanted to support those individuals in their congregation struggling to meet basic needs. These individuals relied on the church for financial and social support; however they found it difficult to find employment to change their circumstances. The Raw Carrot became a social franchise when it opened its second location in Mount Forest in 2017 in the United Church and now has 4 locations in Ontario.



The soup is sold in retailers and farmers' markets in the local community and soup can also be ordered online at [therawcarrot.com/order-online](http://therawcarrot.com/order-online). The individuals hired are provided with a supportive work environment and on the job training. They gain valuable skills while earning additional income to help meet some basic needs.

The Raw Carrot Soup Enterprise has an Advisory Board that help strengthen, support, encourage, challenge, hold accountable and help govern its growth. They partner with churches who donate the use of their commercial kitchens, with local employment agencies who offer job coaching and job subsidy for new staff, with local community groups who support them through soup sales, with service clubs that provide small grants, and with small business centres that provide advice and support in running a social franchise.



Locally, the Township of Wellington North has been very supportive of The Raw Carrot, as has Kindred Credit Union. Some local retailers in Wellington North that sell this delicious soup are Foodland in Arthur and Mount Forest, and Meat the Butcher in Mount Forest. You can also find a booth at the Mount Forest Farmers Market and at various vendor and craft markets throughout the year.

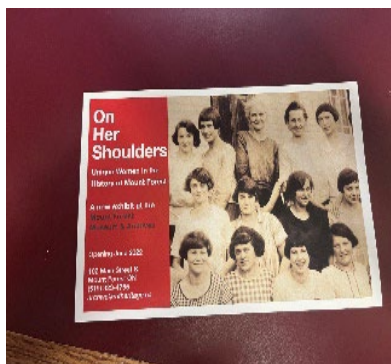
Submitted by Sue Doherty on behalf of the Wellington North Cultural Roundtable



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR FEBRUARY 21ST CELEBRATES ANITA STEWART

On her shoulders is an exhibit on display at the Mount Forest Museum & Archives that showcases some of the unique women in the history of Mount Forest. Today's cultural moment celebrates Anita Stewart ; 1947 - 2020.

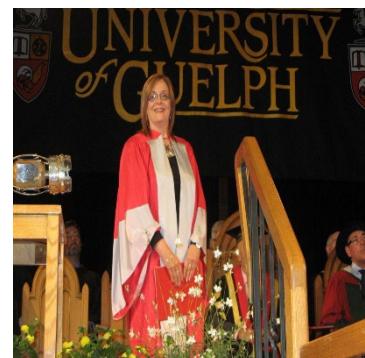


Anita Stewart was a hero, not because of one single heroic act, but because of a lifetime of devotion and courage towards her passion; to shed a spotlight on Canadian cuisine. When most Canadians were building a nation through politics, sport or education, Anita knew that food had to be at the heart of every home, every region and every country. Through her thoughtful activism and her patient disruptions to the norm, Anita changed the food industry in Canada and how Canadians eat.

In 1959, at twelve years of age, Anita moved to Mount Forest with her mother Anne. Anita's father Cliff had died a few years before, and Anne needed to find a new life for herself and her daughter. In her mother's kitchen during those lean years, Anita discovered how to cook simply, cheaply but also deliciously. Her active high school years in Mount Forest unveil the dynamo to come. Anita went on to finish her BA in Child Psychology, her MA in Gastronomy from Australia and raise four sons, all of whom work in the Canadian food scene.

As a prolific cookbook author, Anita's writing educated the world about what we grow, forage, fish and raise. She went even further by connecting and nourishing the people who contribute to the food industry through agriculture, tourism, fishing, and of course the chefs. She travelled from sea to sea to sea by dogsled and boat to discover the diversity and beauty of Canadian cuisine.

Anita's efforts were rewarded by being the first Food Laureate at the University of Guelph, by becoming a Member of the Order of Canada in 2012, and most recently by the successful adoption of her vision for a National Canada Food Day. This bill, sponsored by MP John Nater and passed unanimously in 2022, formally establishes Food Day in Canada on the Saturday before the first Monday in August.



Our local hero Anita died before knowing that her vision was complete, and she is buried in Mount Forest beside her hero, her mother Anne.

Submitted by all the volunteers at the Mount Forest Museum & Archives who mounted the exhibit "On Her Shoulders: Unique Women in the History of Mount Forest"



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## CULTURAL MOMENT FOR MARCH 6<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATES W.N. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES

The Horticultural Societies or Garden Clubs in Ontario have been in existence for about 200 years. They bring people together who believe in the benefit of plants and trees in the community.

The first Ontario club was formed in Toronto in 1834. The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) was formed in 1906, separating it from the Ontario Agricultural Association. Limited funding for local Societies is provided by the provincial government and members pay an annual membership fee to their local Society out of which a fee is paid to the Provincial organization (OHA) and to the District Board which represents societies at the provincial level.



The District Board arranges regular meetings for all of their societies, with speakers and a business agenda. There is also an annual provincial convention hosted by different Districts each year. Three hundred or more members from around Ontario attend at their own cost.

In Ontario there are 19 Districts each with multiple societies. Arthur District Horticultural Society (ADHS) and Mount Forest Horticultural Society (MFHS) are two of the 14 Societies in District 7 of the OHA. Arthur's club was chartered in 1918 and officially began in 1919. Mount Forest's Society

celebrates 1953 as a start date although there was a group for 55 years prior to World War II

MFHS's 61 members are responsible for four main town entrance beds as well as Roy Grant Park (planters and flower bed), Murphy Park (3 flower beds plus a new native planting project around the platform currently in progress), Ruth Barker Memorial Rose Garden and a Spring cleanup/maintenance at the Sports Complex.



ADHS's 25 members maintain the two raised planting beds and the bed around the mural billboard in Cenotaph Park, as well as the raised beds at the north and south entries to town, two flower beds at the Post Office and the ten black concrete planters that appear every summer on downtown corners.

In 2021, these two Societies donated in Mount Forest, 787 hours and in Arthur, 450 hours to help keep our downtowns beautiful. A green downtown is a successful downtown! Our thanks go to the members of the two groups in Wellington North

Submitted by Doris Cassan, Wellington North Cultural Roundtable