

# The vine

FREE

*Uplifting and Encouraging  
News and Events*

Check the table of contents on page 2 to see what's in this month's issue!

April, 2006



Colin Couper seen here leaving the meeting at the community center is still optimistic!!!

## The Saga Lives On

To continue on from the end of council representative Colon Couper's letter in our last issue, not much has changed as far as the commitment stage is concerned toward the decision of a dead or alive community center. However the engineer's plans have been submitted to council for consideration toward the repair and renovation of our existing building, so hopefully that's a good sign that things are still in the process of getting done. According to the plans, I'm told there will have to be some fairly major repairs done to the existing structure including the demolition of the kitchen area due to foundation problems, a total new and probably sloped roof with the removal of the mould problem, an addition on the back corner by the washrooms to be used for a skating change room, the front door moved to the back for easy access to and from the parking lot, opening the front gates to Hwy 169 and erecting signage on the main street through town. No second floor is planned at this time but that may change as of the meeting at the center held on Thursday March 30, 2006, when all of the council representatives were present to look over the engineer's suggested plans, discuss the recommendations and suggest alternatives that may help keep the costs down and allow the repairs to get under way as soon as possible. After the meeting was over, the engineers were asked to take the plans back and make some alterations to them, then resubmit them for council to again consider.

A one or two week time frame was expressed as necessary to complete the changes of the plans, so at this point it looks like council will be again debating the possibilities of the dead or alive community center (presently dead) in early May. At that time, hopefully a commitment to giving Washago back the communities heart beat will be given, and the fund raising can begin. It will not be an easy venture to get this done, but if we all pull together and make this a project for the betterment of our local residents and groups, I'm sure at the end of it all we will all hold our heads up high and be proud of what has begun again here in our BOOMING metropolis of Washago.

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## NEW AND RELATIVELY NEW LOCAL AREA BUSINESS

### reSource Gifts and Home Décor

reSource is located at 3395 Muskoka St. in Washago, and opened in June of 2004. The store specializes in unique gifts and home décor from around the world. The owner, Susan Smandych and staff person Linda Henderson have connections with over 50 importers from various countries including as many fair trade organizations as possible. The intention is to create a positive, interesting and unusual shopping experience.

Some of the items available in the shop include: crystals, books, spiritual gifts, buddhas, chimes, jewellery, semiprecious stones, musical instruments, scarves, small furniture, picture boxes, masks, statues and more.

Susan and her partner, George Genno sought advice from a Feng Shui consultant before the store opened. Feng Shui is the ancient art of arranging your home/business to create harmony in your environment. The store is organized utilizing Feng Shui theory – it 's fun! Customers are welcome to come in, browse around and ask questions about the store and about Feng Shui.

reSource is open from April 15th to December 31st, Tuesday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Sundays and holidays from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Phone: 689-4912.



### BiG Electric Apparatus Service



BiG Electric Apparatus Service at 3395 Muskoka St. in Washago was established in May of 2004. The company specializes in the sales and servicing of electrical and mechanical equipment for industry and quarries. BiG Electric services companies in the local area as well as in Midland, Barrie, Bracebridge and Huntsville.

After 42 years in a similar business, George Genno and his associate, Bill Herriman who has more than 30 years of experience, decided to form BiG Electric. George, the owner of the company, has lived in the Washago area for his entire life and wanted to locate close to home. George can be reached at 238-2440 and Bill at 330-6757.

### Washago's Sweet Retreat

Under new management since 2005 owner/operator award winning certified Chef Kay Bonsu and his wife Marion are now offering an abundance of different foods from the obvious "SWEETS" to fresh daily specials, hors d'oeuvres, meat pies and your favorite pizza. With the warmer weather on the way the best ice cream served in Muskoka may tickle your fancy. So come on in to enjoy being pampered by the friendly staff at Washago's Sweet Retreat.

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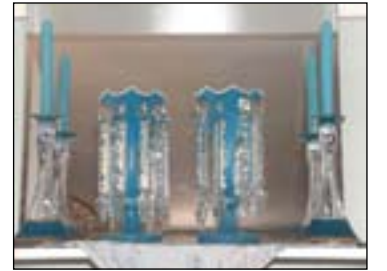
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## NEW AND RELATIVELY NEW LOCAL AREA BUSINESS

### Severn Treasures



Not open yet and brand new to Washago is Severn Treasures. This will be a shop that offers beautiful antiques and collectables both old and not so old. Owner Susan Clitheroe has loved Washago since her childhood years growing up in Orillia and is now proud to be announcing her purchase of the home and store front at 3387 Muskoka St. beside Sweet Retreats Restaurant. With the opening



day of April 13th, Easter Weekend, Susan is looking forward to meeting all of us wonderful folks of the Washago area and becoming a part of the progression of our village. Hopefully business will be brisk and she will soon be retiring from her career as a nurse at Soldiers Memorial Hospital in Orillia, where she was born, and able to spend the rest of her days here with us. Her family background of furniture collecting and refinishing has given her a high standard of quality, which transfers to a hobby of beautiful stained glass décor and an excellent eye for great articles to come and check out at her new location. We'll see you there on April 13th. SEVERN TREASURES 705.689.9535

### Green River Natural Health

Green River Natural Health provides natural health services to people and pets.

Kimberly Hahn, HD, DAc, DNM is a Doctor of Homeopathy, Acupuncture & Natural Medicine and has been in practice for the past 8 years. She and her husband John have just recently

returned to the area after living and working in Newfoundland for the past 3 years. Prior to that they lived in the Washago area while Kimberly held her practice in Barrie. They have returned to Washago make their permanent home here.

Green River Natural Health offers

a comprehensive range of natural health services including:

- Homeopathic Medicine
- Natural Medicine
- Medical Acupuncture
- Cosmetic & Cellulite Acupuncture
- Craniosacral Therapy
- QXCI/LIFE Biofeedback Testing and Treatments ( e.g. Sensitivity testing, electromagnetic therapy)
- Reiki
- Hormone Testing

Many of the above services are also available for our four-legged family members.

The office is open Tuesdays and Thursdays for daytime and evening appointments. Weekend appointments are also available on a request basis.

Natural Medicine offers safe and effective methods for restoring and maintaining lifelong health. Natural therapies can be used as primary treatment methods or as complimentary treatments to conventional medical care. Many private health care plans now cover a number of natural health services which can offset or cover the cost of treatment in many cases.

For more information or to access any of the above services contact:

Kimberly Hahn, HD, DAc, DNM  
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NEW AND RELATIVELY NEW LOCAL AREA BUSINESS

The Business Card Finder

Rick Pearce, long time resident of Washago, is President and CEO of CustomerFind Inc., publishers of The Business Card Finder™, a comprehensive directory of local business cards. A relatively new business, The Business Card Finder has been very successful to date, capturing a Chamber of Commerce Business Achievement Award, and has been featured in newspaper articles and on TV.

The Business Card Finder does well over a million dollars in revenues per year with publications launched in over a dozen cities in Ontario and Alberta. Pearce has begun licensing Territories to owner/operators who use his branding, marketing materials and sales system to build businesses in their own areas.

Besides the printed publication, The Finder can also be found on the Internet.

Their current site is at [www.thebusinesscardfinder.com](http://www.thebusinesscardfinder.com), but a new, more streamlined and user-friendly site with additional consumer interest and customer interactivity has been developed and is set to launch within weeks.

You can pick up the most recent Orillia & Area edition of The Business Card Finder right here at the Soulvine office at 3381Muskoka Street in Washago.

For more information, email [info@thebusinesscardfinder.com](mailto:info@thebusinesscardfinder.com) or call 327-4588.



Muskoka Retirement Lodge

Knowing there is a lodge like this one here in Washago, makes it easy for me to see myself growing old in the beauty of this Muskoka village. The newly opened Muskoka Retirement Lodge at 3306 Muskoka Street offers peace of mind in knowing the owners Terry and Maggie Reilly have spared no expense in making sure that comfort, safety and nutrition are a top priority to all of the highly qualified staff employed at this expertly renovated facility. After a varied history of uses from a local schoolhouse or the community’s holistic and medical clinic, to the Lions Club hall, or a recently failed attempt at creating a nursing home in the building, Terry and Maggie have spent untold hours creating this beautiful retirement living home. After reading over the guest information package, it was easy to see that every attempt has been made to make each resident as comfortable and healthy as possible for however long their stay may be with them. The staff is fully qualified from the on call local Doctor, to the RPN’s, to the 24 hour Personal Support Workers to the expert Chef who shops weekly for fresh nourishing meats, fruits and vegetables, then prepares individual dietary needs meals and personal favorites to go along with healthy snacks and refreshments any hour of the day or night. Every room has a main floor exit, which along with a 24 hour security system tells me that I can sleep comfortably. All these reasons ensure that when the time comes for some assisted living needs, I won’t have to go far to find the perfect place to spend the latter years of life.

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NEW AND RELATIVELY NEW LOCAL AREA BUSINESS

WD Latimer & Company Limited

You may have noticed renovations happening at the Washago Hotel on the main floor beside the Prudential office. If so you will have seen Randy Martin working hard at setting up his new office here in Washago, closer to his home where he was raised. Randy is part of WD Latimer & Company Limited which has been a brokerage firm since 1936. With offices in the business district of Toronto, Mississauga, and Brooklyne Ontario, Randy is finding that with world markets increasingly moving in the direction of computer trading it is time to bring the floor of the Toronto Stock Exchange to Washago. Randy and associate Joe Hannon of Uptergrove Ontario, have been commuting to Toronto for 20 years. With 40 years of trading experience Joe figures it’s time to spend a bit more time on the farm with some of the finest Belgian horses to be found in Canada.

The renovations at the hotel are going fast and furious, so watch for further notice of an opening date when we can all get out those investment dollars and see Joe Hannon or Randy Martin for expert advice on what to do with them.  
call 705.689.0327

On the Level Property Inspections

With the ever rising cost of properties, new services are required to help minimize the expense of unforeseen repairs. Many properties today have been exposed to the handyman’s best attempt to modernize, while sacrificing good building practices. Property inspections are an advantage that allow prospective homeowners to catch problems before a purchase is finalized.

To assist the area’s residents with feeling more comfortable and informed about buying a home, John Dancavitch has taken his 25+ years experience in residential, commercial and industrial maintenance/construction trades and has started up a top quality property inspection business. John is a Journeyman Electrician with an additional designation as a Certified Electrical Technician with the Ontario Association of Certified Technicians and Technologist. John, in addition to his trades’ qualifications, possesses professional training in property inspection that meets the requirements of both the provincial and national home inspection associations. John’s company, On the Level Property Inspections caters to the Simcoe/Muskoka region.

Home inspections are conducted routinely as part of the purchase of most properties and are regularly recommended by real estate agents, lawyers and insurance companies. A new trend that is also gaining in popularity is for vendors to pre-screen the salability of their home by having a home inspection done themselves. This way a seller can address any potential concerns that might arise prior to listing their property. If there are only minor or no significant issues found with the property

for sale then the vendor can make the report available to prospective buyers themselves as a selling feature of the property.

For more information on home inspections or to book an inspection contact:

John Dancavitch  
On the Level Property Inspections  
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Home: (705) 689-5124

**Golden Creek Bird Farm**



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- Agricultural Bird-Control-Services: (Cherries, Blueberries, cranberries)
- Yes, we sell birds too: ( Raptors, Parrots, Parakeets)
- Please call us for further info !



NEW AND RELATIVELY NEW LOCAL AREA BUSINESS

Severn River Inn - Under New Management

When I'm hungry and desiring a bit of fine dining the first place that comes to mind is the Severn River Inn. The new owners James & Wendy Fairbairn have for years been going by the Inn on the way to the cottage and thinking that with their past experience in the restaurant services industry it would be fun to purchase & operate the Inn should the opportunity arise. Well it did, and opening day for the dream come true was January 1 2006. There have been many long hours of hard work on renovations to the have led to some changes of the Inn experience. will be an atmosphere of to departure time. Both their two girls Dorothy for Mississauga theatre and Toronto Performing The Mississauga Arts new administrator of the directed live theatre & cultural changes coming you will presently see some local handicrafts & paintings already adorning the walls, as well as some live entertainment on weekends. We are hoping to see some live theatre, comedy and bands as soon as the nice weather begins and allows the patio deck to be once again in full use. Alterations to any of the available rooms can be made to accommodate business meeting or organizations needing a place to meet. Come check out The Severn River Inn to stay over, the fine dining or just to have a drink in the comfortable lounge.



guest rooms & dining areas, which in completing the overall atmosphere With no more karaoke or darts there owners James & Wendy along with & Amanda have been responsible events such as the Children's Festival Art Group. Wendy presently is with Council and recently became the Orillia Wind Ensemble. James has plays so both are anticipating some to the Inn. When entering the building James and Wendy at 689-6333. Come hang around and relax.

IN THE COMMUNITY

Turtle Run

One day last fall, Marianne received a call from the Muskoka Wildlife Centre on Highway 11, where she had put her name on their list of potential volunteers. They had a turtle in trauma and asked if we would drive it to the Turtle Trauma Centre. We had not heard of the Turtle Trauma Centre, so were told that it is located in the Riverview Zoo in Peterborough. Its mandate is "to treat injured native turtles" in order to "preserve a vital component of our wetlands." Their literature states that "turtle populations in Ontario are rapidly declining. ... Experts predict that unless efforts are taken to protect native turtles, some species will cease to exist in Ontario." Thus the urgency to get this sick turtle to the turtle emergency department fast.

Marianne's main concern was the fact that we no longer had the van, only the car and, even though we could move the front seats forward, she didn't know whether there was enough room in the back seat for a traumatized turtle. We've seen large turtles while out walking, and huge snapping turtles in the wild, and wondered what kind of restraints they had for the turtle to protect the upholstery and, indeed, the occupants of the car. So she asked, "How large is the turtle?" "About the size of a toonie", was the reply.

So we headed up to the Wildlife Centre to pick up the turtle. They were expecting us. The turtle, a Painted Turtle (the kind you buy in pet stores next to the goldfish), showed all the signs of trauma- a soft shell curled up at the edges and a growth on its snout. So the turtle was placed into his aerated clear plastic container which was then placed into the emergency carrier (one labeled 'Coleman'). We were on a mission with not a minute to lose.

The two hour trip was hurried but otherwise uneventful. Again, they were waiting for us when we arrived. "You're the folks with the turtle from the Muskoka Wildlife Centre? We've called in the specialist and he'll be here at 6 o'clock to begin treatment."

We learned that the Turtle Trauma Centre has treated traumatized turtles from as far away as New Brunswick. They are very professional and dedicated to the preservation of turtles.

Having achieved our objective, we were able to take a few moments to meander through the Zoo. The Zoo is first rate, located on the banks of the Otonabee River, high enough to avoid being flooded, and well worth a visit. After making the acquaintance of a couple of Camels, we were soon on our way back to Washago.

Postscript: About a month or so later, we read the Front Page Headline in the Orillia Today: "No last-minute reprieve for 'real classroom'". As background, Orillia was given a parcel of contaminated land from Molson's on the condition that Molson could wash their hands of the problem, and they are now in the process of developing it for a Multi-Use Recreational Facility (MURF). The contaminated soil is being removed and trucked to the landfill site located on the shores of Lake Simcoe. A wetland is also situated on the MURF site which "harbors a variety of wildlife" including ducks, Great Blue Herons, frogs, turtles and so on. The newspaper article goes on to say, "the wetland (is) slated to be covered over as part of the site's preparation, ... smothering the gentle creatures in a mountain of fill".

Maybe the turtle we rescued will end up in a museum, right next to the last Passenger Pigeon. Craig Welbourn

Blaines Automotive monthly car tip.

Escalating fuel costs and enviromental concerns have sparked a huge alert amongst motorists. Im frequently asked " What inexpensive approach may we (the motorist) perform to reduce the fuel consumption in our vehicles? Simple put "How can we save money at the pumps?"

Well its a procedure thats simple and economical!

Providing your vehicle is in good tune, a simple coolant thermostat change can (in most cases) drastically reduce your fuel consumption. Yes really!!!

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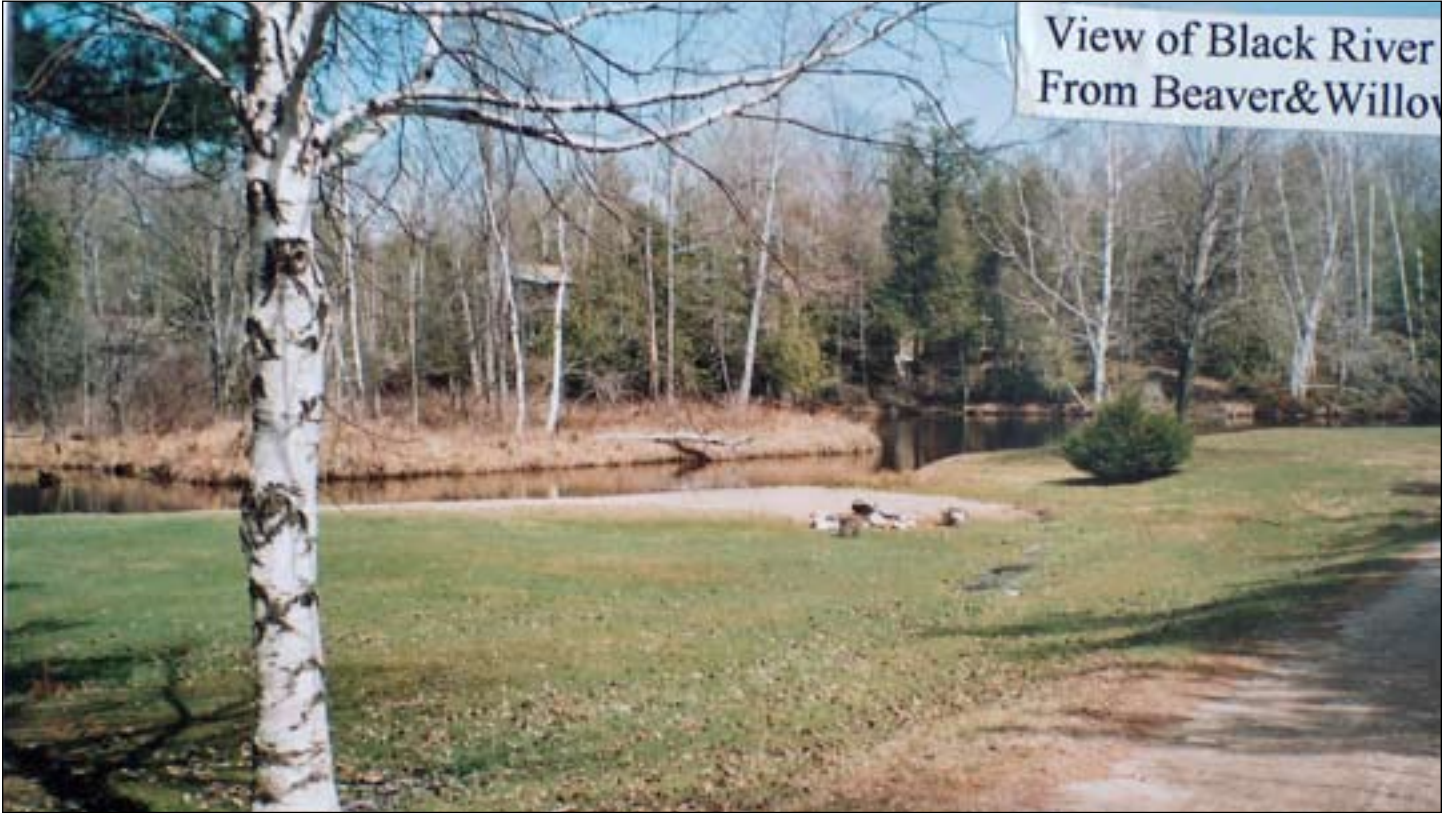




## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Take a walk on the wild side

So where is this wild side located? You might think that after 15 years of passing by it at least twice a day, I should know something about this Wilderness Park that Ramara Township Recreation and Leisure Advisory Committee has as of March




*A beautiful look at The Washago Natural Heritage Area*

28th 2006 decided to appropriately name, The Washago Natural Heritage Area. I don't feel too bad about it though because not many people in the area do know about it. However, now, after years of meetings, phone calls, letters, aerial photos and whatever else might alert the township officials of the parklands potential uses, we can all give a big thank you to Margot Mc Niece for helping to get some improvements made in regards to it's recognition, maintenance and availability. The township has agreed to budget this coming year for maintenance and cleanup costs as well as signs to the park area at Park lane, Willow lane and on the Black River for boaters. Township regulations concerning the park will be in place with a committee of area residents responsible for monitoring and reporting to council the existence of wild life and the influence

of human activities on their lifestyle. The hope is that the area will remain a natural habitat for the wildlife as well as place for people to enjoy some fishing, walking or picnicking without disturbing the heartbeat of nature itself.


Since my favorite swimming hole has been shut down to the public, at the Green River Bridge, maybe I'll find a new spot to swim in the Washago Natural Heritage Area, somewhere a little quieter, a little closer to home, and of course a whole lot wilder.

Thank you Ramara Township.



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## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Washagollywood?

To say that it's not every day that you see a movie maker in Washago would seem like a pretty obvious statement, and one would think me silly for saying it. However, as you go about your daily routine in our little community it is very possible that you do see a movie maker everyday without even knowing it.

Martine Blue lives near Washago, and Martine Blue makes movies.

She began her movie making career in 1997 with her first movie, "El Evictor", a 16mm short, shot in the Lower East Side of Manhattan, NY. The film has a political message, but is presented in the style of a B horror film. It is about gentrification of a neighborhood, where big developers, and the city, make a pact to kick all the poorer people out of a community, to make it more appealing to richer folks. El Evictor is the personification of the heartless development machine that does not consider the human factor. El Evictor is, in his own words, "A Creative Clearance Specialist".

After she finished El Evictor, her filmmaking career was placed on hold. "16mm is such an expensive format to work with that I guess I got slightly discouraged. I took a long break from film and concentrated on fiction writing."

She was convinced to get back into filmmaking by a friend, and made "SuperZeros" in 2004-2005, a feature film shot on Digital Video. The film follows the lives of a group of homeless people, who think they have super human powers.

whose agenda is to outlaw the MegaCity Mayor, and battle the homeless.

With the costs of making movies drastically cut by the use of digital video, as apposed to 16mm, Martine's movie making career was back on track. "I love the accessibility of digital video technology. I like collaborating and the adrenaline of filming itself. The process and the challenge."

Now that she was hooked, it wasn't long before her next movie Macbeth's time, a group of actors are getting ready to do a ritual to reverse the curse and the production begins to fall apart. Can a 400 year-old Curse still be active? Or is someone behind the scenes orchestrating belief in superstition?

She is shooting her new film "Ghost Hunters of Cottage Country" later this month, which will follow ghost hunters at various real-life locations that are known as being haunted, including the Severn River Inn in Severn Bridge.

Martine is obviously very creative, and loves putting her creative ideas onto video for others to enjoy. "I get ideas for storylines, shots, characters, bits of dialogue everyday, so part of the allure must be about the challenge of getting all the elements together and making something watchable out of it. The world is evolving and film is an entertaining way to throw some ideas out there. When I was writing, many people told me that few people read these days, especially young people. Everyone watches films."

Unfortunately anyone interested in enjoying Martine's creative talent is going to have to wait. SuperZeros and Macbeth's Curse are just going out for festival consideration this month. "I need to let it circulate within the festivals first before I have any public screenings. Someday though, I'd like to screen them at The Gravenhurst Opera House."

"Ghost Hunters of Cottage Country" will be for sale directly at local stores, boutiques, and video rental stores. It's going to be scary and lots of fun for the whole family. It will be out by the May 24 weekend. Watch for it!



BLUE

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"Ghost Hunters of Cottage Country" will be for sale directly at local stores, boutiques, and video rental stores. It's going to be scary and lots of fun for the whole family. It will be out by the May 24 weekend. Watch for it!

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## IN THE COMMUNITY

**Habitat for Humanity Orillia/Lake Country Chapter**

A Public General Meeting is planned for 6.30 pm Thursday April 13, 2006 at St. David's Anglican Church on James Street. At that time, hopefully our new Secretary and Fund Raising Chair will be in place to update everyone as to what volunteers will be required to prepare the Mother's Day plants for Market, the status of the Monster Garage Sale, and most important of all, when we will start construction of our first home.

If you feel you can fill the positions mentioned above send your resume to P. O. Box 295, Washago, Ontario, L0K 2B0 or help in any way please come out April 13.

The Board of Directors of Habitat For Humanity Orillia/Lake Country Chapter would like to thank the many firms and corporate sponsors for their contributions and efforts;

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Orillia Packet & Times  
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Couchiching Terriers Jr. A Hockey Team  
Dollarama  
Jack FM  
Orillia Power  
Pool Spa Sauna Showroom  
St. David's Anglican Church  
Zellers

## Habitat Speaks to Washago Rotarians

Habitat for Humanity is an International, nonprofit, nondenominational Christian housing ministry. Habitat welcomes all people—regardless of race, religion, ethnicity or any other difference—to build simple, decent, affordable houses with those who lack adequate shelter.

Since its founding in 1976, Habitat for Humanity has built more than 200.000 houses, providing shelter for more than 100 countries around the world. A new Habitat house is completed somewhere in the world every 24 minutes.

The Rotary Club of Washago and Area were told at their first anniversary meeting that Habitat for Humanity is well on its way to building its first home in Lake Country/Orillia as Guest speaker Barry Samells, the chair of the Family Selection Committee, told them that the family has been selected, the lot in Orillia is ready to go, and the building plans are being finalized. Construction should start in May and go on through the summer.

Money is still being raised as Habitat wants to have enough funds to cover all expenses. "On this first home, we don't know for sure how many corporate sponsors will actually be there to donate the hundreds of things needed like kitchen cupboards, a bathroom, and flooring, so we want to be sure we have enough money to build the house even if the anticipated sponsors don't appear," said Samells. Rotary members were asked to use their contacts to seek out any other sponsors who could provide either materials or services to help build the home and keep costs down. "Any money we save on this home will of course be used to build the next home," he said. Habitat has been offered lots by all three townships in our area, so more houses will follow as fast as money can be raised.

The Washago Rotarians asked many questions about the mortgage cost (similar to the rent most low-income families have to pay), how the payments are kept reasonable (free labour, and a no-interest mortgage), how many families had applied (20), and how the required sweat equity hours by the selected family were being completed (mostly volunteer work with other agencies). “We are trying to build good communities, not just build houses, so we strongly encourage our families to volunteer with any groups they can. We hope they will become life-long volunteers,” Samells said.

The Washago Rotarians expressed a strong desire to work on the house as a group for one day, and were encouraged to contact the Volunteer Committee to get on the list. Many groups may wish to participate in the construction, and will be most welcome. Any volunteers will need to spend a few hours taking a Habitat safety course before they can go onto the work site. Applying early will help Habitat schedule both work times and safety course times. Call John @ 327-1074 to get involved.

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## IN THE COMMUNITY

## Washago Rotary Seeks Applications for Trip

[Washago] The Rotary Club of Washago & Area - Centennial is seeking applications from the local area for up to four business professionals to assist Rotary District 7010 in forming a Group Study Exchange Team for a five week visit to Botswana, Mozambique, Swaziland and South Africa.

Those selected will be accompanied by a Rotarian team leader on the visit, where they will share their personal knowledge of Canada and experience the customs, vocations and lifestyles of these South African countries. The trip is scheduled for mid May 2007.













The Rotary Foundation will pay for transportation to South Africa and local Rotary clubs in the subject countries will provide food, lodging and transportation in the country being visited. Team members are responsible for personal and incidental expenses.

Applicants must be employed full-time in a recognized business or profession, be 25

to 40 years old, and cannot be related to a Rotarian.

Further information and applications are available by phoning Janet Stead at 689-9090 or by going to the related club webpage at <http://www.washagorotary.ca/Foundation.html>. The deadline for Washago area applications is June 30, 2006 and interviews for selected applicants will take place in North Bay on August 11th 2006.

<p>7500 Baldwin</p>  <p><b>LAKE COUCHICHIING \$439,900</b></p> <p>"Enjoy those beautiful sunsets on Lake Couchiching from the deck of your fabulous 3 bdrm, 2 bath home or cottage. 3 decks from which to choose from &amp; an extended dock. Mature trees line both side of the lot for extra privacy. To top it off, this home has been lovingly renovated &amp; professionally decorated. A must see. Call Irene, direct, for your private showing."</p> <p>MLS#051919</p>	<p>1183 Muskoka Beach Rd.</p>  <p><b>ALMOST WATERFRONT</b></p> <p>"4 bdrm chalet with deeded access to a sandy beach on Lake Muskoka, situated between two popular golf courses. Large corner lot with tall pines. Paved drive with detached garage. Located on paved year round road."</p> <p><b>Offered @\$224,900</b></p> <p>MLS#060476</p>			
<p>7584 Rama Rd.</p>  <p><b>NEW HOUSE - \$229,900</b></p> <p>"3 bedroom raised bungalow, beautifully finished with many upgraded touches. Walk out to your deck from the kitchen to enjoy your back yard. You are situated on a 100 x 200 treed lot. The basement is full &amp; finished with a walk out as well with the added bonus of an oversized 3 pce. bath. Attached garage. Its ready to move in! Call Irene, direct, for your private showing."</p> <p>MLS#052189</p>	<p>1630 Kilworthy</p>  <p><b>3 BEDROOM STARTER</b></p> <p>"3 bdrm cottage on a large lot with detached garage &amp; bunky. A short walk across the road to a sandy public beach, with a dock and boat launch, on Sparrow Lake. Great starter for the handy man."</p> <p><b>Offered @ \$144,900</b></p> <p>MLS#060591</p>			
<table border="0"> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1656 1747 2054 1907">  <p><b>Irene Lee</b> Sales representative 689-8168 - Home 330-6613 - Cell irenel@sympatico.ca</p> </td> <td data-bbox="2054 1747 2604 1907" style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Prudential</b> Lifestyles Real Estate 3374 Muskoka St. Washago</p> </td> <td data-bbox="2604 1747 2999 1907">  <p><b>Rick Kerr</b> Sales Representative Home - 689-8299 Cell - 238-0099 rick-kerr@rogers.com</p> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		 <p><b>Irene Lee</b> Sales representative 689-8168 - Home 330-6613 - Cell irenel@sympatico.ca</p>	 <p><b>Prudential</b> Lifestyles Real Estate 3374 Muskoka St. Washago</p>	 <p><b>Rick Kerr</b> Sales Representative Home - 689-8299 Cell - 238-0099 rick-kerr@rogers.com</p>
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## THE LOCAL CHURCHES

### The Minister's Message

**St. Paul's Anglican – Washago**  
Service 9:00am  
Reverend: Maureen Hair  
Parish Priest

**Heritage United Church**  
Service 9:30am  
Sunday School and Nursery  
during service  
Minister: The Reverend Toni  
Birtch

**St. Frances of Assisi Catholic Church**  
Masses: Sunday 9:00am  
May – Oct Saturday 5pm

**Caleb's Place**  
Service starts at 6:00pm  
Meeting in St. Francis of  
Assisi Roman Catholic Church  
fellowship hall  
Pastors Norm and Carol  
Shepstone (705) 687.9031

When I heard about this new publication in Washago I thought it was great that the owner and publisher was planning a 'Local Churches' page. Just as this publication is new to Washago, I'm also new here. My husband Ralph and I have lived in Muskoka since 1980 and Ralph was born and grew up in Orillia so even though I'm new in my current job we certainly don't feel like strangers here. We remember many a Sunday afternoon during the 1980s when our children were small going on a shopping trip to the hardware store in Washago. In the days before retail shops were generally open on Sundays it was unusual and fun to be able to look at everything from housewares and tools to toys and gifts, and even buy the odd treat after church on a Sunday.

The masthead of this publication says "Free" and also "Uplifting and Encouraging News and Events". Of course we all love free stuff, especially if it's also uplifting and encouraging, so I have high hopes that The Soulvine will be well received in Washago and be one of those items that gets read cover to cover by the whole family.

Washago has a long and rich history of Christian witness. There are four churches in the village, and they provide a variety of ways for people to find expression for their faith. Next year our church, St. Paul's Anglican, will be celebrating its centennial. The institutions have unique styles of worship, organization and teaching, but at the heart of things is the same message, that God created the world and loves all of us as part of that creation. Jesus showed us the ideal model of how we humans can live together in mutual love. And the Holy Spirit is both in each of us and among us, uplifting and encouraging us in our daily lives. Sometimes we hear that people think they are physical beings on a spiritual journey. The sages of the Christian tradition tell us that we are really spiritual beings temporarily here on a physical journey. We are taught that our mission as individual Christians is to love and serve God in this world and to be happy with God in the next. The churches here are assisting people to fulfill that mission. They are also providing community and personal support for the human journey that we share.

God bless

The Reverend Maureen Hair, Parish Priest

St. Paul's, Washago and St. Luke's,  
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Washago

### Washago Rotary - River Solstice Vigil

The Rotary Club of Washago & Area - Centennial is encouraging local residents to celebrate the Summer Solstice and the arrival of summer. The club is proposing a community wide vigil for the evening of Wednesday, June 21st, 2006, the longest day of the year. Residents can participate by lighting small flames such as candles, and tea lights on their docks and properties along the Green & Black Rivers and the Severn River. Local residents are also encouraged to get out on the rivers in small craft such as canoes, kayaks, and other paddling craft to burn the midnight oil. Club president Dan Herbert says, "If all residents of Washago will decorate with light on their docks, and get out on the river in non motorized craft also with decorative lights, it will be quite a spectacle and a unique celebration of the coming of summer."

June 21st has the longest period of daylight during the year and marks the beginning of summer. The Rotary Club of Washago hopes to make The River Solstice Vigil a distinctive annual celebration in Washago by building a sense of community among those who live on and around the extensive river system. Everyone is welcome to take part in the event. Members of the club will be on the river the night of the event to take photographs and video for potential media exposure. Participants are also welcome to submit photos of unique scenes or subjects relative to the River Solstice Vigil for inclusion in brochures promoting the event for 2007. Rotary Club Secretary Mary Rogers says "The plan is a very simple one that will hopefully foster a greater sense of community in Washago & Area. Washago thrives on summer tourism and our club believes that all residents and visitors can celebrate the coming of summer without cost by lighting a small flame or other form of light and getting out to enjoy our biggest asset... our river system." For more information, call either Dan Herbert at 689-9090 or Mary Rogers at 689-3700 or visit the club's website at [www.washagorotary.ca](http://www.washagorotary.ca).

### Washago Rotary - Wild Game Night

The Rotary Club of Washago & Area - Centennial is organizing its first Rotary Wild Game Night. What is a Wild Game Night you might ask? Club president elect and event organizer Rod Harth says "Our Wild Game Night is a dinner in which ticket purchasers will be treated to a feast of local wild game such as moose, venison, lake trout and perch. All dishes will be prepared by six different local chefs."

Each chef will prepare a particular dish and the various entrees on the menu will be presented in the form of a buffet at 5:00 PM on Saturday, April 29th at St. Francis of Assisi Hall (Catholic Church) in Washago. Tickets for the event are \$30.00 each which will include a cash bar. Proceeds from the evening will be used to support a variety of local and international Rotary humanitarian & educational programs.

Tickets can be obtained at re Source Unique Gifts from Around The World, Sparkling Waters Century 21 Real Estate in Washago, and The Northland Motel & Restaurant on Highway 11 North at Sparrow Lake Road or by calling 689-3700.

### Washago Community Centre Corp. News


Two important dates to remember:


April 8 – Registration at St. Paul's Anglican Church from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. If you wish to take any programs, please come to register. It makes it much easier for us to get all the registrations at one time.

April 19 – Annual General Meeting at the Washago Lions Hall on Hamilton Street at 7 p.m. All residents and members of the WCCC are welcome but only members can vote. We have some positions available on the board. Come out to find out what is new and support your local community centre.

**Mrs. Katie Manson's Memorial** is scheduled for April 22, 2006, to be held at K.P. Manson Public School from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. All are welcome and so is any memorabilia people would like to share for the day. Her daughters are putting together a collection that will stay at the school and the school is preparing a special section in the library. Donations can be made to the school: K.P. Manson Memorial Library Fund - attention Sandy, at any time and at the memorial.

All books that are purchased with donations to our library will have a special plate inside. Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please call the school at 689-2612.

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The Club, one of 43 in Zone 11, of the United Senior Citizens of Ontario is hosting a Regional Rally on Thursday April 6, registration is \$6.00 and starts at 9.00 am, meetings begins at 10.00 am, lunch at noon, more meetings and entertainment in the afternoon. All members of Senior Citizen Clubs are welcome to attend and enjoy the meetings. Ramara members are requested to donate items for a Silent Auction, proceeds to benefit USCO.

4343 Hamilton Street,

Live bands; See My Brain - Shag Town

*For more information on our Club and events visit our web site at [www.washagolionsclub.com](http://www.washagolionsclub.com) or E-mail us at [washagolionsclub@hotmail.com](mailto:washagolionsclub@hotmail.com)*

Ramara Seniors Association Monday afternoon Bid Euchre Program with 12 tables of players enjoying each others company. Organized by Liz and Fred, to join them the cost is only \$2.00, time 12.30 pm, for additional information call 325-3571 or 326-2892.

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