

I READ IT IN THE SOULVINE

Have you ever heard the saying “I heard it through the grapevine?” We all have. No one knows exactly what “the grapevine” is, how it originated, or who exactly is involved, it is just a secret network of people who know everything and aren’t afraid to share their wealth of knowledge with us. You just have to hope they heard it correctly from the person they heard it from, who hopefully understood it correctly from their “man on the inside”. Ever played broken telephone? What if you don’t know anyone in the “grapevine”? How would you find out about things that are going on?

We need a new grapevine, one that gets it’s information right from the source, gathers it all together, and writes it down for you. Unbiased information pertaining to your community that you can rely on. Introducing “The Soul Vine”!

Why “The SoulVine?”

The name chosen for this venture wasn’t picked from a hat, something that sounded good, or just had a nice ring to it. No, the name “SoulVine” has significant meaning, and pretty much sums up what it is intended to do for our community. We have envisioned this as being almost the heart and “soul” of Severn Bridge. Just as your heart distributes oxygen through your veins, taking the de-oxygenated blood and turning it into oxygen rich blood that

brings life to your body, so it will be with The SoulVine. When you look at everything it hopes to accomplish, it really is going to bring life to the community in a number of ways. Not only will it inform people of events going on, and encourage participation in these events, it also requires community involvement. Apart from the spread of information, the goal is to take the skills, ideas, and passions of the people in our community, “oxygenize” them by providing a reason to use them, and then circulate them through our community to the benefit of all.

There are so many ways that something like this will be beneficial but here are some examples:

Example#1: Sandra is an elderly woman who can’t do much around her property due to her physical condition. She places a free ad in The SoulVine, explaining her predicament, and offering payment for help. Tom is a 16 year old high school student who calls her up, and begins work that very day. Sandra gets her needs met, Tom gets some much needed money, and they also get to know each other.

Example#2: Quincy is an aspiring writer, and loves writing humorous poems and short stories. He submits some of his work, with some ideas about how it could be used effectively in The SoulVine. We agree and publish it in our new “Spice of

January, 2006

Life” section (Quincy’s idea) Now anyone can send in “spice of life” articles to be published with their names at the bottom. There are endless examples just like these. This is not going to be your typical newspaper. There will be community news and events, but it will also be so much more.

BEFORE YOU VOTE!

Each of the 5 Candidates running for leadership of Simcoe North have something to say to the people of Severn Bridge and Ramara. Find out what before you hit the polling stations on the 23rd. And just what does Simcoe North consist of anyway? Along with words from the politicians we have prepared a short profile of our riding - Simcoe North.

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To advertise in The SoulVine, please contact us by phone, e-mail or in person.

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As you all know there is an election coming up on January 23, 2005, and The SoulVine is proud to present to you a word from each of the 5 candidates in our riding. They will be running for leadership of the Simcoe North, so before we hear from each candidate, first let's take a look at the riding of Simcoe north.

SIMCOE NORTH PROFILE

Simcoe North stretches between Lake Simcoe in the southeast and Nottawasaga Bay and Severn Sound in the northwest, including Christian Island and part of Georgian Bay Islands National Park. The northern boundary is the Severn River.

** There is a large manufacturing sector and a vital tourism-related sector. Average family income is \$61,163 and unemployment is 6.2 per cent. ** This central Ontario riding contains part of Simcoe County, and the townships of Ramara, Tiny, Tay and Oro-Medonte. The city of Orillia and the towns of Midland and Penetanguishene are in the riding. There are two native reserves, the Mnjikaning First Nation, which operates the Rama Casino in Orillia, and Christian Island #30 Reserve. The aboriginal population is more than two per cent and four per cent of the population are Francophone. **

The federal electoral district was created in 1867 by the British North America Act. In 1867, it included the townships of Nottawasaga, Sunnidale, Vespra, Flos, Oro, Medonte, Orillia and Matchedash, Tiny and Tay, Balaklava and Robinson, and the Towns of Barrie and Collingwood. In 1882, it lost Oro, Medonte, Orillia and Matchedash, Tiny and Tay, and Balaklava and Robinson. In 1903, it gained Oro, but lost Barrie. In 1947, it lost Oro and gained Barrie. In 1966, it lost Nottawasaga, Sunnidale and Flos and gained Penetanguishene, Matchedash, Medonte, Orillia, Oro, and Tay. In 1976, it gained the townships of Mara, Rama and Tiny but Lost Barrie and Vespra. In 1987, it gained Flos. *

The riding is a federal and provincial electoral district in Ontario, Canada. It was established as a federal riding in 1867, and as a provincial riding in 2003. Its population was 111,057 in 2001.

* information courtesy of http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simcoe_North
** information courtesy of <http://www.cbc.ca/canadavotes/riding/193>

A WORD FROM YOUR CANDIDATES

Each candidate has prepared something specially for the people of Severn Bridge, and web site information will be provided for a deeper look at each candidate and their views on issues that matter to you. We encourage everyone to go out and vote on the 23rd. Your vote can make a difference. Let's take a look at our candidates (in no specific order).



I am pleased to have the opportunity to address the citizens of Washago, Severn Bridge and Ramara. The coming election is very important for Canada and for Simcoe North.

After 30 years working and raising a family in this community, 4 years as Ward 5 Councillor in Severn Township, and volunteering in my industry and community, I ran for the Conservative nomination to bring real improvements and change in Simcoe North and in Canada.

We have much to be proud of in Canada – and in this part of Ontario. In many ways we are the envy of the world – but this is no time to be complacent and comfortable with the status quo.

There are still 4.8 million Canadians living in poverty, 1.2 million of whom are under 18 years old; we rank 25th out of 30 OECD countries in terms of access to a family doctor; our cities have seen the largest escalation in gun crime in Canada's history; and our military no longer has the resources to properly protect our citizens or defend our sovereignty.

Closer to home, the Trent-Severn waterway needs significantly more federal funding for capital and repairs – even to continue normal operations, and your federal government must step up to the plate to assist with infrastructure projects such as Orillia's Multi-Use Recreation Centre (MURF) and Washago's community centre.

Over the last 5 weeks Stephen Harper and the Conservative Party has outlined a progressive plan of tax cuts, guarantees for patient wait times, re-investing in our military, making our streets and communities safer, and assisting farmers, students, small business owners and seniors. He has been honest and straightforward about the kind of priorities a Conservative government would address.

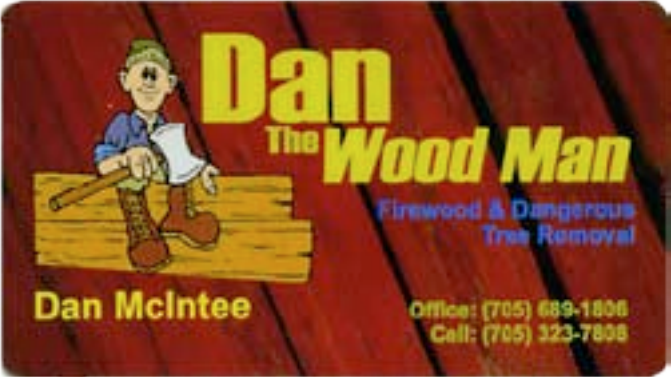
In the days leading up to January 23rd you will be asked to consider the next leader for your country – and the person you wish to lead as your MP in Simcoe North. For me, leadership is about results at home – not words on a page.

I will ensure that you continue to receive a high-quality of service from your constituency offices, and work every day to make sure the policies of a Conservative federal government translate into meaningful assistance for farmers, seniors, small business owners, manufacturers, building trades, and for you and for your family.

On January 23rd you have a choice and I believe the choice is clear.

You can choose a Liberal government that comes to this election with the same re-cycled program and attitude – with little or no prospect to make your country better OR you can choose an honest, principled Conservative government that is accountable and respects the tax dollars you entrust to it.

On January 23rd, vote Conservative. It is time for a change. Vote Bruce Stanton. I thank you for your support. www.brucestanton.ca





SANDY AGNEW - Green Party of Canada

On January 23 vote for the Green Party. Our children will thank you for a better world

- It's time for electoral reform and proportional representation in Canada.
- Let's prevent illness – not just deliver expensive health care.
- Our well-being is determined by how healthy and fulfilling our lives are and by how sustainable our communities are, not simply by how much stuff we accumulate.
- Let's use our material resources in continuous cycles, not just once before burying or burning them as waste.

The Green Party is the only national party that bases its policies and platform on a set of declared core principles:

- Sustainability
- Social Justice
- Participatory Democracy
- Non-Violence
- Respect For Diversity
- Ecological Wisdom

Sandy Agnew is an environmental consultant, a parent, a college graduate, an entrepreneur and a long term resident with the vision and determination to build sustainable communities in Simcoe North.

- Sandy owns and operates an environmental consulting business that specializes in restoring degraded ecosystems. He works with private landowners, farmers, scientists, government agencies and non-profit groups to create and implement ecological management plans.
- As the administrator of the North Simcoe Waste Management Association, Sandy was responsible for a 4 million dollar annual budget and for coordinating the successful expansion of the recycling and waste reduction programs in the municipalities of Tiny, Tay, Midland and Penetanguishene.
- Sandy's initiatives include the important shoreline restoration program in Severn Sound and the concept of the vital Severn Sound Environmental Association. He currently sits on a committee developing a sustainability plan for Severn Sound.

Why is Sandy Agnew a candidate for the Green Party? Because ...

- The Green Party is charting a new course for Canadian politics.
- Greens promote sustainable industries and lifestyles with the goal of well-being for the planet and the diversity of the life forms it contains.
- Greens think long-term – about where we want to be seven generations from now.
- Greens value cooperation and collaboration.
- The Green Parties around the world have elected members in many countries. Greens recognize that local actions have global consequences.
- Greens will tax not more, not less, but differently, taxing more “bads” and fewer “goods”. Greens will tax wasteful short-life products, extravagant consumption of non-renewable resources and activities that pollute or undermine the well-being of others. Greens will reduce taxes on personal income and clean, renewable, sources of energy.

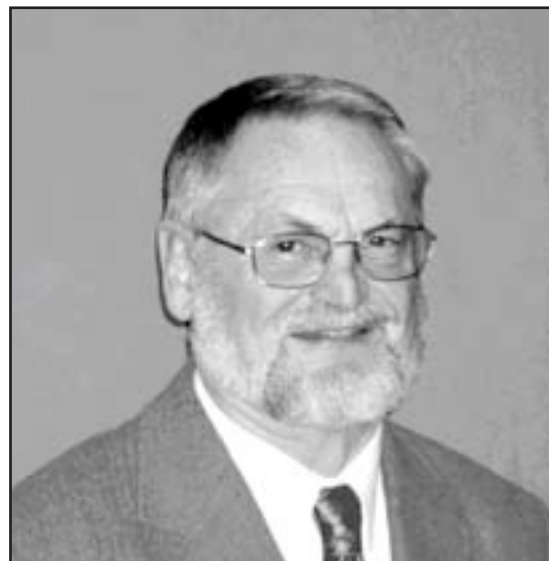
Our economic well-being is not enough. Let's also work together to protect the only Earth we'll ever have.

Campaign information:

Midland (705) 526-0740 Orillia (705) 325-5967

E-mail: jwb@bellnet.ca Simcoe North Green Party web site: <http://simcoe-north.greenparty.ca/>

For information on the Green Party of Canada, visit www.greenparty.ca (aussi disponible en français)



ADRIAN KOOGER - Christian Heritage party

The Preamble to Canada's Charter of Rights and Freedoms states:

“Whereas Canada is founded upon principles that recognize the supremacy of God and the rule of law”

Biblical Principles were the very foundation of our democracy but Canada has been led sharply off the path of those proven principles. The Christian Heritage Party is committed to bringing them back.

Restore Honesty and Integrity in Government

The Christian Heritage Party would restore honesty and integrity in government. The public's business should be the subject of serious accounting scrutiny and accountability. A member of parliament who believes that he or she will one day answer to the almighty God is much more likely to tell you the truth.

Marriage and the Family

The Christian Heritage Party would protect marriage and the family. We would defend the traditional definition of marriage and use legislation to uphold that position. We would also use the notwithstanding clause of the charter to protect it from further Supreme Court interference. For families we propose a thousand dollar a month tax credit for a stay at home parent, preferably mom, to raise the children.

Sanctity of Life

The Christian Heritage Party would honor the sanctity of life. Every innocent life is precious and must be protected from beginning to end and must never be sacrificed for the inconvenience of others. We believe that the killing of One hundred and ten thousand babies every year in Canada is wrong. We propose the criminal code be amended to define a person as from conception to natural death. We would also push for the immediate de-listing of abortion funding.

Health Care

The key is quality and equality of access, not whether delivery is privately or publicly funded. We would ensure quality health care with the emphasis on prevention. Right now a large part of our health care is dominated by unnatural sex practices, the use of street drugs, and over consumption of alcohol and tobacco.

Judicial interference

The Christian Heritage Party will protect Canada's constitution from judicial interference. To stop the Supreme Court ruling by their opinion, rather than the rule of law, we have to elect to parliament members with the courage to stand up to the Supreme Court. We propose a parliamentary committee to oversee Supreme Court decisions for compliance with the charter and constitutionality. This would overrule such ridiculous Court decisions on gay marriage, gay rights, and legalization of group sex, swingers, lowering the age of sexual consent to 14 years, and many other situations where the Supreme Court has overruled the will of Parliament.

Pensions

Christian Heritage Party pension proposal will ensure pensions will be there when needed. Individual privately owned investment accounts would provide an engine for economic growth through savings, and provide better unemployment and retirement benefits. The Canada Pension Plan's current scheme of future dollars to pay today's pensions will soon be bankrupt as more and more retirees depend on the taxes of fewer youngest workers.

We would also work towards paying off Canada's national debt as soon as possible as we are robbing future generations by carrying this debt load.

Thank you.

Adrian Kooger

Candidate for the Christian Heritage Party, Simcoe North

<http://www.chpelection.ca/riding/simcoe-north.html>

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KAREN GRAHAM - Liberal Party of Canada

Thank you to The SoulVine for this opportunity to share my views directly with voters in the Severn Bridge area. Let me begin by telling you a little about myself.

I am a long-time resident of the Orillia area, where I have served on many community boards including the Green Haven Shelter for Women, Soldiers' Memorial Hospital and Soldiers' Memorial Hospital Foundation. I have also served with organizations with a provincial, national and international focus including Project Umbrella Burma and the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists. Earlier in my career, I practiced as a Pharmacist in hospital, association and industry settings. In 1993, I founded Panacea Canada Inc., a successful consulting and coaching company that serves clients in hospitals, government, industry, associations and academia. I am an avid outdoorswoman, and spend a lot of time on the trails and lakes of Simcoe North.

Voters are seeking real change, and I believe that I am best able to deliver on that change. For a start, I am a new voice on the political landscape. In fact, I was recruited to run in this election by community leaders who believed I have the right mix of character, experience, expertise, and reputation to serve Simcoe North well in Ottawa. I did not seek out this opportunity. Also, women are woefully under-represented in the House of Commons, and most would agree that we need to elect more women to return civility to the way we are governed. Electing a woman from Simcoe North for the first time would represent real change.

There are a number of important issues in the election. You can learn about my views on a wide range of issues by visiting my web site at www.karengraham.ca, but here's an overview of some of my key positions:

Trent-Severn Waterway

All levels of government must work together to develop a long-term strategy for this strategic asset. This would build upon the Liberal's \$20 million investment in capital upgrades in recent years, including \$10 million right here in Simcoe North.

Environment

Canada must continue its support of the important Kyoto Accord on climate change. I would also work to ensure that a share of the \$4 billion allocated in the 2004 budget for environmental projects goes toward remediation of the Multi-Use Recreation Facility (MURF) in Orillia.

Democratic Reform

To increase participation in the electoral process and give Canadians more control over how they are governed, I would push for a preferential ballot system for Federal Elections.

Central Ontario Economic Development Agency

I would advocate for the establishment of a Central Ontario Economic Development Agency so our entire region could more effectively create jobs and economic opportunity.

Canada's Role in the World

I believe that we cannot expect to live in a secure and prosperous Canada until we have done what we can to create a secure and



prosperous world. I am very interested in seeing Canada become a more effective world player through its foreign policy.

Seniors and Income Security

I am proud of the Liberals' record in securing our public pension plan system for current and future generations. We are now one of the few countries in the world with a secure public pension plan system. I look forward to working with senior constituents of Simcoe North to address the unique issues they face. On January 23rd, put leadership above politics. Vote for Karen Graham. www.karengraham.ca



JEN HILL - The New Democratic Party of Canada



Jen Hill involves her three children in the local campaign in Simcoe North.

L –R Jody Hill, 6, Jack Hill, 4, Tom Hill 7, and Jen Hill, soon to be 30.

On privatization

“Too many core services have been privatized already. For individuals or companies to make a profit, first rule of business is to raise revenue and reduce expense. Get rid of the less profitable products. Contrary to political rhetoric, private enterprise does not have the magic key to business efficiency. A well-run national program, with universal standards and methods across the country should be the most efficient of all.

Imagine if the Post Office was run like General Motors. Do you think it would cost the same to mail a letter to Whitehorse as it does across Toronto? Would they charge \$1000 to fly the mail north, or merely close the post office in Whitehorse? Some things just should not be for profit, and that includes health care and education

On Community

In the last 100 years, this country was built by people, not corporations, especially in the rural areas. It was not Molsons, or Labatts that built the community centre at Udney, Washago, Lake St. George, Ramona or Severn Bridge. It was the local people.

The churches were built by people. The first schools were started by community minded citizens. The roads, parks, rinks, libraries, in fact the whole infrastructure of this county and this country were the vision of ordinary people, who were building for posterity, not just themselves. For the common good. They expect their elected officials to carry on the good work.

On Native Canadians

Queen Victoria, Great White Mother made a lot of promises. The British and Canadian governments signed treaties that assured our first nations fairness and justice and quality of life. Have they kept the promises? Check out conditions on the reserves. Successive Canadian governments have exiled native Canadians to a different, dependent social order. Their rich culture has been devalued. The NDP has already made a start to redress some issues in the last Parliament, and will continue the fight next session.

On Seniors

The seniors in Canada have been betrayed. They have worked hard, paid taxes, supported the community in hundreds of ways, and then find themselves on the edge of poverty in their “golden years”. The buying power of their pensions has been eroded, and the health care system is failing just when they need it most. The opportunities for home care, or long term care are in short supply, and expensive. If they have no family, or haven't managed to own their own home, their situation is critical. Seniors are a priority with the NDP.

Jen has much more to contribute on many of today's issues. You can contact her at jenhillorillia@orilliapronet.com, or call her office at 327-2873

<http://simcoenorthndpblogger.com>

Jen Hill, although the youngest candidate in Simcoe North, is actually the only one of the three major parties with prior experience in a Federal election campaign. She was the NDP candidate in June of 2004, and made a respectable showing against veteran MP Paul Devillers, and Peter Stock, the conservative candidate.

Jen is from Ramara Township, daughter of the late Alvin Keech, and Margaret Keech. She attended Uptergrove Public School and Twin Lakes Secondary School, and has taken various courses at Georgian College in Orillia and Barrie. She has been married to Andrew Hill, of Hills' restaurant fame, since 1997.

When asked why she is running for the New Democratic Party, Jen replies passionately. “There is still so much inequity in Canada, and I believe it's getting worse.

She believes that the average Canadian works hard, believes in the country and in the common good



IN THE COMMUNITY REMEMBERING THE PAST

THE OLD WASHAGO WATER TOWER

The Northern Railway made it north to Washago on August 8th, 1873 and made it as far as Severn Bridge in 1874. Of course the engines were steam-powered and therefore a water tower was constructed and all the trains going in both directions stopped at Washago to take on water and coal. The old wooden water tower on the back page of our new Rotary calendar was constructed by the C.N.R. in 1907 to have a better supply of water for their steam engines. For many years local people would go to the railway station to marvel at the thousands of logs and the flat cars loaded with lumber as they stopped to refuel at Washago. The pump that sent the water to the tower was a ram piston pump located at Dam D. The pump was a water-driven turbine that ran 24—7 pushing water up to the tower. In the early 30's the village fathers met and decided to contact the C.N.R. and arrange to have water supplied to the village residents. Thus, the Washago Water Commission was born.

The tending, repairs and maintenance on the tower were looked after by the section gang—namely one man—Roy Craig, who lived in Severn Bridge and walked to work in Washago to work on the track and tend the water pump. Then along came the diesel engine in 1951. The first one come to Washago and a quote from the Orillia Packet & Times said, “Until the diesel invaded railroading, the steam engine was its main life line.” As water was needed less and less over the years, the Washago Water Commission took over the Water Tower. Orillia Township—yes, it was Orillia Township, before it became Severn Township—bought the tower and leased the land the tower sat on from the railway. Sam Langman, owner and operator of the Washago Feed Mill, adjacent to the dam in which the water pump was located, took over daily operation of the village water supply, even though he lived on the other side of the river in the then Mara Township and did not have access to the village water supply. Gene Smith was the Water Commission Chair and also served as back-up for Sam Langman. When Sam Langman was no longer able to look after the pump, Gene took over with Basil Hepinstall as his

back-up. Kay Dobson was the Secretary for the Water Commission for many years, sending out the bills and collecting the payments. The Commission met every 6 weeks or so to sort out problems and keep



things running smoothly. Gene was not very long in convincing Basil that he was a little younger and perhaps he should be the one tending the pump. Basil agreed that he would do it for a little while, with our son Glenn and our neighbour Gord Gibson as back-up people. This little while lasted for 27 years—in fact, until the water



tower was retired from service. The pump had to be tended on a daily basis, the water tested and the chlorine injector filled to last for 24 hours. Daily records were kept and were checked by the Simcoe County

Health Unit on a regular basis.

When the railway no longer pumped water to the trains, a hole was cut in the 6 in. overflow on the tank to reduce the volume of water as the village would require less water at that time than the trains. This meant that the water tower volume was reduced by one third. The old water tower had wooden staves that were held in place by metal bands—just like a huge barrel. When the upper portion dried out because the water was reduced, the metal bands slipped down the tank, allowing leakage. Basil and Gord drained the water tower on occasion and cleaned and flushed the tank—the customers were sent notice ahead of time and the water was shut off for a day. Basil also climbed the tower and put on a new shingled roof as it was leaking very badly. He didn't tell me that he was doing the water tank—I thought he was working on the pump house—where if he fell he would be in the water. Thank goodness he completed the job and stayed on the roof to do it. The leakage got worse over the years and in later years in the wintertime the tower looked like it had ice legs holding it up. This drew lots of attention from the passengers on the trains, the local people and highway passers-by. Many, many pictures were taken, just like these on the last page of our Rotary calendar. The base of the present tower is the original and my husband says it will be here 100 years from now unless it is removed from its present location. The metal tank that we are putting the mural on was installed by Severn Township to replace the wooden leaky one in the early 1970's and was used until 1984 when sewer and water lines were installed in the village and the filtration & chlorination plan was built at Washago Centennial Park.

Glenys Hepinstall (speech to crowd at the Mural Debut—Sept. 3, 2005 at the Washago Community Centre)

IN THE COMMUNITY COMMUNITY CENTRE WINTER 2006 PROGRAMS

ADULT

Aqua Fit—Participants will be gently led through a series of fitness movements for 45 minutes, including warm-up, cardio, muscular strength and endurance, then a relaxing warm-down. Swimming skills are not required.

Tuesdays Jan.. 31 to Apr... 11, 4:00-4:45 pm and 7:15-8:00 pm. Min. 6, max. 12. Fee: \$60 Members, \$70 Non-Members, *Drop in \$7 Members, \$8 Non-members, Call to confirm there is space.

Instructor: Judy Stafford. Location: Bayview-Wildwood Resort

Aerobics—Build a slimmer, firmer body and get outstanding cardio conditioning & strength training combined. Work your entire body in 1 hour, focusing on problem areas and having fun at the same time. Wednesdays, Feb... 1 to Apr... 12, 5:30-6:30 pm. Min... 7. Fee: \$80.00 members, \$90.00 non members. Instructor: Jennifer Tersigni.

Location: St.. Paul's Anglican Church.

Belly Dancing—Discover the healing & positive effects of this age-old women's dance, full of sensuali & playfulness. Surprise yourself with all of the effects of learning this ancient feminine dance, now gaining so much acceptance & popularity, no experience necessary. Bring a scarf or shawl to tie around your hips. Wednesdays, Feb. 1 to Apr.12, 7:30-8:30 pm. Min. 7. Fee: \$80.00 members, \$90.00 non-members. Instructor: Robyn Deschamps. Location: St.. Francis of Assisi Church.

Introduction to Computers—This course is designed for the beginner who wants to know how to use a computer & the basic terminology and conventions. Tuesdays, Jan. 31 to Apr... 11, 7:00-8:00 pm. Fee: \$70.00 members/\$80.00 non-members. Min... 8/Max. 20. Instructor: Murray Martin of Warp Core Technology. Location: Lions Hall.

Meditation—Meditation is well recognized for providing many physical and psychological benefits. Regular meditation can reduce stress, increase longevity and quality of life, as well as reducing chronic pain. Wednesdays, Feb.... 8 to Apr... 12, 9:30-11 am. Wednesdays, Feb.... 8 to Apr... 12, 5:30-7 pm. Both classes by registration only Fee: \$60.00 members/\$70.00 non-members. Min... 6. Instructor: Susan Smandych. Location: reSource, 3395 Muskoka St..

Muscle Conditioning—Toning “L.A.B.” (Legs, Abs, and Butt). Come out and join us for one hour totally dedicated to strength & toning! Tuesdays, Jan. 24 to Apr.. 11, 7:00-8:00 pm. Also a second night (by request) on Thursdays, Jan. 26 to Apr.. 13, 6:45-7:45 pm. Fee: \$80.00 members/\$90.00 non-members. Min.. 10. Instructor: Louise Bongers. Location: St.. Paul's Anglican Church.

NIA—NIA is an expressive fitness & awareness movement program. Combining carefully selected movements & concepts from Yoga, Tai Chi, Tae Kwon Do, Aikido, Jazz, modern dance and other movement forms. NIA classes offer total body cardiovascular conditioning in a safe and fun way. 10 weeks, Thursdays, Feb... 2 to Apr. 13, 5:30-6:30 pm. Min.. 7, max. 12. Fee: \$80 members/\$90 non-members.. Instructor: Christine Sampson. Location: St.. Francis of Assisi Church

Pilates - This 10 week beginner's course will introduce you to the fundamentals of Pilates. Pilates coordinates mind, body and breath to develop sleek and functionally strong abdominal muscles, a strong and supple back, and aligns the shoulder girdle. No drop-ins as the course is designed in sequence. Please bring a mat or towel. 10 weeks Beginners—Sundays, Jan. 29 to Apr.. 9, 10:00-11 am Intermediate (must have taken the beginner's course) Sundays Jan. 29 to Apr.. 9 from 11:15-12:15 pm. Min.. 10. Fee: \$80 members/\$90 non-members. Instructor: Judy Stafford, RYT. Location: Lions Hall, Hamilton Street.

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Good Friends, Great Times

Skating Instruction—If you have always wanted to learn the basics of skating so that you can join in at skating parties, now is your chance. Sundays, Jan. 22 to Mar. 12 (weather permitting), 2:00-3:00 pm. Min... 7. Fee: \$64.00 members, \$74.00 non-members. Instructor: Tina Bullen-Burnie. Location: WCC rink.

Call 689-6424 to register for
any of our great programs!

COMMUNITY CENTRE WINTER 2006 PROGRAMS

Adults (continued)

Tai Chi - A gentle series of flowing movements originating from China, that improve and maintain physical and mental well-being. Beginners classes, 10 weeks, Saturdays, Jan. 28 to Apr... 8, 2:00-3:00 pm, Fee: \$90 members \$100 non-members. Min... 6, Max. 12. Wear comfortable clothing and running shoes. Instructor: Fred Zufferey. Location: St.. Paul's Anglican Church.

Yoga—Hatha Yoga unifies mind, body and spirit, bringing you to new heights of physical & mental well-being. This session will be a mixed class-beginners to advanced are welcome. Please bring a mat or towel. Wednesdays, Feb.... 1 to Apr... 12, 6:30-8:00 pm. Wear comfortable clothing. Min... 10. Fee: \$100 members/\$110 non-members. *Drop in \$9 members, \$10 non-members. Instructor: Judy Stafford, RYT. Location: Lions Hall.

Children and Youth

Aqua Quest and AquaTots (Red Cross Swimming Lessons) - 10 weeks, half hour classes for each level. Tuesdays, Jan. 31 to Apr... 11. Tots Level 1-3 and Quest 1-12, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Fee: Aqua Tots \$40.00 and Aqua-Quest 1-12, \$44.00 to \$48.00. Instructor: Judy Stafford Location: Bayview-Wildwood Resort.

Belly Dancing—This class will present the graceful & playful age-old world of belly dancing. Geared especially for children, elements of this class will include dancing with veils, learning different isolations, improv & lots of play. Please bring a scarf or shawl. Wednesdays, Feb.... 1 to Apr... 12, 6:30-7:30 pm. Fee: \$60.00. Instructor: Robyn Deschamps. Location: St.. Francis of Assisi Church.

Cartooning— This class will teach children the fundamentals of cartooning and allow them to be creative. Tuesdays, Jan. 31 to Apr... 11, 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Min... 10, Max. 15. Fee: \$60.00. Instructor: John Maxwell Location: St.. Paul's Anglican Church.

Crafts for Children - Learn how to make bead work, keepsake boxes, knit and crochet. Each lesson will be a different craft. Sundays, Jan. 29 to Apr... 9, 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Min... 6, Max. 10-12. Fee: \$60.00. Instructor: Arlene Belanger. Location: Lions Hall.

Gymnastics—Each session will teach fun-fitness-fitness-fundamentals 10 weeks—Tiny Tumblers (ages 3 to 6) Mondays, Jan. 30 to Apr... 10 5:30 pm—6:30 pm and Gym Giants (ages 7 & up) 6:30 pm—7:30 pm. Tiny Tumblers Saturdays, Jan. 28 to Apr... 8, 10:00 a.m.- 11:00 am and Gym Giants 11:00 am—12:00 am. Min.. 6, Max. 8. Fee \$80.00. Instructor: Judi Page Location: St.. Francis of Assisi Church.

Hip Hop Dancing - Get your kids movin & shakin with this upbeat & energetic class that explores the style & rhythm of hip hop. Your kids will be moving across the floor & learning basic jazz elements as well as urban-inspired routines that are broken down well and made fun and easy to learn. No experience necessary. Please bring running shoes & preferably no jeans. Wednesdays, Feb.... 1 to Apr... 12, 5:30-6:30 pm. Min.. 10, Max. 15. Fee: \$60.00. Instructor: Robyn Deschamps. Location: St.. Francis of Assisi.

Kid's Karate (5-12 years) Learn the basics of self-defense and have fun at the same time. 10 weeks, Mondays, Jan. 30 to Apr. 10, 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 pm, 10 weeks. Min.. 8, Max. 12. Fee: \$70.00. Instructed by Gauthier's Martial Arts & Self-Defense Ltd. Location: St.. Paul's Anglican Church.

Skating—Beginner's skating lessons for children, ages 5-12 yrs. Sundays, Jan. 22 to Mar. 12 (weather permitting), 8 weeks, 1:00-2:00 pm. Min... 10, Max. 15. Fee: \$40.00. Instructor: Tina Bullen-Burnie. Location: WCC rink. No classes will take place the week of March break (13th to 17th). Programs are being held at various locations—please check to see where yours is being held.



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EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

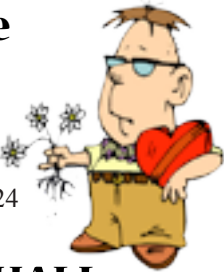
SEVERN BRIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

January 9 - Meat Pie Luncheon - noon
January 20 - 1pm History Meeting - members bringing an antique for show and tell, along with our Tweedsmuir History books to look through
February 6 Beef Stew luncheon - noon
February 17 1pm Meeting about the Associated Country Women of the World Organization
March 5 - Soup and Sandwich Luncheon - noon
April 3 - Ham & Scalloped Potatoes Luncheon - noon
May 1 - Beef On a Bun Luncheon - noon
June 5 - Salad Plate Luncheon - noon
All Luncheons are \$6.00 which includes beverage and dessert. Groups should call to reserve a spot so all seated together. Call: Janice 689-4236

Sparrow Lake Fun Day
February 4 at the Severn Bridge Fairgrounds. Many events happening including a car derby. Events usually begin at 10am. Watch for further information. (like to volunteer to plan and help on the day), call Joe at 689-2573

Valentine Dance

Feb 11th 8pm – 1am
\$15.00/person
St. Francis of Assisi, Washago
Light snack, Raffle and Prizes
Ticket information call 689-6424

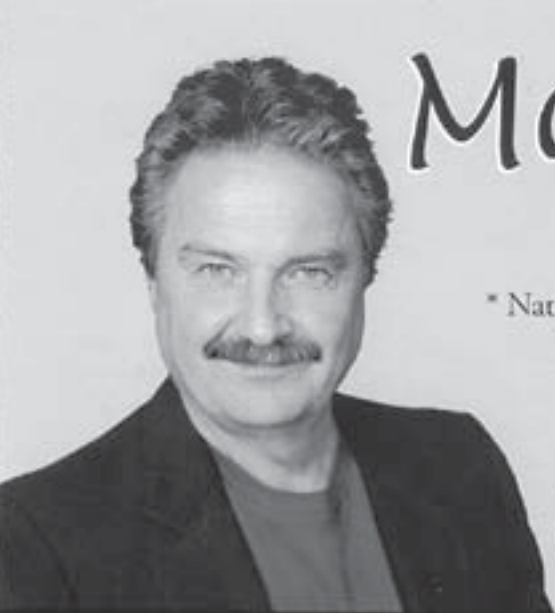


SENIORS

The Seniors are starting a computer club. The club will start this month, and be held on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at St. Francis Church in Washago. All are welcome. There are no age limitations. Cost is \$2.00 Questions can be directed at: Jerry: 689.1826 or Loretta: 689-8447

RAMONA HALL

January 24th - 7:30pm - Annual Meeting, New members welcome
February 18th beginning 10:00 am - Winterfest! Call Silvia at 689.2862 for info.
April 12th - 5:00-7:00pm - Pancake Supper \$6.50/person or \$20.00/family Call Linda Truax for Hall Bookings 689-9365
April 12th - 8:00pm - YUK-YUK's This is tentative. Stay tuned to be sure.
Sept.. 15th and 16th - Ramona Fall Fair Details to follow
October 21st - Ramona Harvest Bazaar



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EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY



A COALITION OF COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Our Ramara coalition of community partners was formed in 2003 when the Ramara Chamber of Commerce, the Ramara Township Public Library and the Township of Ramara identified an information gap in the community, due to limited local publications.

An idea was born to develop a database of accurate, up-to-date information regarding recreation, history and culture, tourism, business, government, social services, health and education, as well as all community-based organizations and associations.

This idea has come to fruition in the form of the searchable Our Ramara web site, at www.ourramara.com. It features information about organizations and businesses in the township, as well as links to services not offered within the community.

Most recently, the Our Ramara initiative has received over \$76,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation to host a one-day Ramara-wide festival for two years. The event will inform residents and visitors about all the exciting activities, events and organizations that operate within the township, and unite the organizations in Ramara by working together to achieve a common goal...increase community awareness

In addition, Our Ramara has also successfully obtained another \$40,000 contribution from Rural Secretariat, a division of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, to provide a major community capacity building initiative to support community organizations and associations within our Township and region.

The coalition currently includes approximately 40 community partners working together to share resources and ideas. Their mandate is to develop and maintain the web site, provide information (intended to be available by hard copy, telephone, and web site), source dollars and apply for grants, organize events, and contract services.

Our Ramara's Mission

Connecting Our Community

"Our Ramara promotes and encourages pride

in Ramara's people, it's history, it's culture... its unique rural and progressive character"

Objectives:

1. To develop and maintain the database and web site
 2. To increase awareness of Ramara's recreation, history, culture, tourism, businesses, government, social services, health, education and all community based organizations and associations
 3. To promote and encourage accessibility to all our information through all means possible
 4. To encourage and enhance community and economic development
 5. To facilitate and share information by linking community partners
 6. To foster and enhance civic pride and harmony throughout Ramara
 7. To capture and preserve Ramara's unique rural and progressive culture and character
- For more information, please contact Janet Banfield, Chairperson 325-5776



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- drawing classes
- decorating 101
- wall techniques
- cross stitch

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EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA WINTER RECREATION PROGRAMS

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

BALLROOM DANCING

Ages 10-12

Tuesday 5:15-6:00pm

Children will learn the basics of ballroom dancing in a fun and energetic atmosphere.

Instructor: Alannah Ryane

Fee: \$45.00 Begins: Jan. 17th

8 week session

DRAMA WORKSHOP

Ages 6-12. Friday 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Gain the full theatrical experience. Weekly workshops will build on skills for the end of session theatrical performance.

Instructor: Vangi Patton Duck Soup Productions

Fee: \$110.00 Begins: Feb. 3rd

(no class Mar. 17 and Apr... 14)

MOVING & GROOVIN' DANCE CLASSES

Saturday Mornings

Kinder Dance - Ballet based techniques

Ages: 3-4 10-10:30 am \$40.00 8 wks

Junior Dance - Ballet/Jazz

All classes begin Jan 21 Ages: 5-6

10:30-11:15 \$45.00 8 wks

Youth Dance/Jazz

Instructor: Jacqui Wesselingh Ages 7-9

11:15-12:00 \$45.00 8 wks

Intermediate Jazz - Jazz/HipHop

Ages 10-12 12:00-12:45 \$45.00

8 wks

SPECIAL INTEREST PROGRAMS (15 years or older)

LINE DANCING

A fun and entertaining class perfect for those who love to dance or want to learn! This is an ongoing program that requires No Pre Registration, join at any time, new and old dance steps will be taught. You don't need a partner to enjoy this class.

Beginner Session 5:30 - 8:00p.m. Intermediate Session 7:00 - 9:30p.m.

Instructor: Pat Bellamy

Fee: \$7.00/class Every Monday Begins: Jan. 9th

YOGA

Relaxation to calm your mind, body & soul. This natural & gentle form of exercise uses strength poses for muscle toning & core stabilization. Gentle stretching is used to increase flexibility & enhance circulation.

Tuesdays 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Begins: Jan 17th.

Wednesdays 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Begins: Jan 18th.

Instructor: Maureen Misner 8 week session

Fee: \$48.00 (for either Tues or Wed class)

Bring a pillow and towel. Wear loose and comfortable clothing

LADIES DANCE FITNESS Tuesday 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.

Learn basic *salsa*, *ballet* and *belly dance* moves while working your abs, legs and arms for CORE strength and have FUN while you do it!!

New Program! New Music!

Instructor: Alannah Ryane Fee: \$48.00

8 week session - Begins: Jan. 17th

COUPLES BALLROOM AND LATIN Tuesday 4:15- 5:15 p.m.

Learn the basics of dancing in this fun and entertaining class. Dances taught include Swing, Mambo, Tango, Rhumba, Merengue and Cha Cha.

Instructor: Alannah Ryane Fee: \$90.00 per couple

8 week session - Begins: Jan. 17th

STEP AEROBICS Thursday 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

This class uses a variety of step aerobic movements for a cardiovascular workout that is sure to work out all your stresses of the week. A mix of toning & conditioning is included in this high /low impact class.

Instructor: Mary Schweier Fee: \$48.00

8 week session - Begins: Jan. 26th

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Walk In; Township of Ramara Administration Office & The Ramara Centre Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Evening Registration; Wednesday January 11 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Mail In/Drop Off Starts; Monday, December 19

Mail To; The Township of Ramara, P. O. Box 130, Brechin, ON L0K 1B0

For More Information Call (705) 325-3091

GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA AND LAKE ST. GEORGE SPARKS, BROWNIES, GUIDES

We have had a busy year so far; we had a hike in October at Port Stanton, Roller Skating with the whole District in November, and a visit to the Muskoka Seniors Residence for Carols and visiting in December

In January, The Brownies and Guides will be having some visitors. We will be having a police officer coming to talk about being a Police officer and hoping to have the Fire Department come to talk about "Being Prepared" for Blackouts, Winter power outages, etc. This is also a very busy time of year as the girls are taking orders for their Spring Cookie Campaign.

The cookies are \$4.00 per box and will be delivered at the Beginning of April. (There are still a limited amount of Chocolate Mint cookies available.)

If you are missed and would like to order "Chocolate & Vanilla" cookies you can call

Sparks - Jennifer 689-0491

Brownies- Brenda 689-9959, Tracy 689-1746, Pat 689-1342

THE MEETING

Thank you all.

The Severn township council held an open house and public meeting on November 30th evening to determine if there is enough demand to construct a new community center in the Washago area. Do to the discovery of mold and hazardous air quality in the existing center it was closed as of Sept 30th leaving the many programs and groups scrambling to find other facilities that would meet there particular needs. Some have been able to find appropriate accommodations while others have had to cancel their meetings and activities. Fortunately many of the children’s programs have been able to continue do to the dedication and commitments of the many great volunteers that have had to go the extra mile to ensure the kids don’t miss out on the activities offered the young ones. Unfortunately the older youth have not been able to locate a building that would be suitable to relocate in the area. With some modifications to the water supply and the hydro hookup we are hoping to be able to offer some sort of skating facility as soon as the weather cooperates. Others have also been inconvenienced by the closure of the building and it was nice to see them so well represented at the township meeting. Over 200 anxious people were present to hear the presentations and view the proposed plans for the new center. Almost all were happy to fill out the questionnaire issued on the Severn township web site and also available at the meeting.



The presentations were overwhelmingly in favour of having the new community center located at Centennial Park in Washago. It was felt that this beautiful park location offered the best venue for many functions including weddings, anniversaries, business meetings, dances, concerts, workshops, community programs etc... It was also felt that local business would benefit from the new center in that more traffic will be in the area as well as the elimination of the old center will create some much needed parking spaces to the locals. Along with the presentations and the questionnaire, a supportive petition filled with over 600 signatures was also delivered to the Severn Council that evening. Also

stated was the fact that fund-raising will continue with existing events even after the new facility is finalized for Centennial Park. We know there is a need in this area for a new Center and on November 30th the people most definitely came out to show their overwhelming support to the cause. Washago’s representative in Severn Township, Colin Couper has confirmed that a definite YEA or NEA should be passed in council early in February. The Community Center Board of directors consisting of president Bill Wylie, vice-president Kathy Mendez, directors Shirley Bagley, Bonnie Baker, Don Barton, Joan Berndt, Tom Bint, Sharon Boyle, Kara Little, Cathy MacDonald, Nancy Mercer, Jennifer Stradwick, Bill White, Marylynne White, Doug Williams, Bill Woodhouse and super Secretary-Treasurer & Administration Assistant, Ann Inha, would like to thank all those who participated in the outstanding show of support for the new center and take this opportunity to thank all the many community members who have helped out in past functions. Thanks to All and let’s keep our hopes up!!!!!!

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- Parents whose children lack proper nutrition, or as an alternative to Ritalin
- Baby boomers looking for anti-aging and wellness solutions, using natural alternatives to drugs
- Seniors longing for safe ways to maintain a higher quality of life
- Anyone wanting effective and safe solutions for fat loss

For more information about these fantastic new health products, and how you could enhance you lifestyle by sharing them with others, contact Don or Joanne at 705.689.1911

WE NEED YOU!

By this time you may be wondering who is behind this. Who exactly would you be contacting if you were interested in advertising, or in some way becoming a part of The SoulVine.

The SoulVine will be brought to you by SoulVine Media. We are not doing this to get rich or push our own biases or agendas on you. We are producing The SoulVine in an effort to bring our community together, inform you of what’s happening, locally, and give you an opportunity to use your skills and abilities in a beneficial way.

There are three ways you can help. Firstly we need your input. We need you to keep us informed on the things that matter to you and you think may interest others in the community. We need your creative ideas, and thoughts on how to continue to make our paper better, more interesting, and more exciting.

Secondly we need advertising. Although we’re not in this to get rich, it costs a lot of time and money to create, print, distribute, and gather the information necessary to print this paper. Advertising pricing is available for anyone interested, and can be obtained thorough e-mail, over the phone, or from our office beside Ben’s Pharmacy, “Downtown” Washago.

Thirdly when your business needs advertising, turn to us. The money made from SoulVine Media Ink will help fund The SoulVine. SoulVine media Ink is a new company specializing in all sorts of media, and providing businesses with the advertising they need to become successful. Whether it’s posters, brochures, web sites, or even clothing, SoulVine media will not only design, but produce your projects cost efficiently with a professional outcome.

SoulVine Media will be responsible for almost every aspect of the newspaper. Advertising, design, editing, and printing. The only thing we will not be totally responsible for is content. That we are leaving up to the people in our community. There will be general sections of course, and we do have a number of ideas already that will be incorporated into The SoulVine. These are not the things though, that are going to set this newspaper apart from others, and bring our community together. It is the involvement of the people, your ideas, your passions, and your abilities that will make this into the exciting paper it is going to become.

We have decided to begin at a monthly rate, and will be producing a new issue for the start of every month.

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