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July, 2006

Marital Bliss for 70 years - and counting!



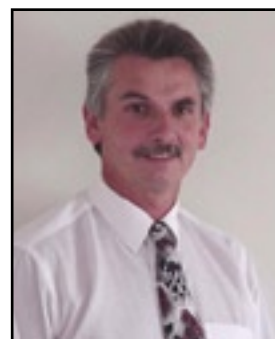
Tiny and Helen Ratcliff have been married for **70 years!**

The Muskoka Retirement Lodge of Washago were host to the momentous 70th Wedding Anniversary of Tiny and Helen Ratcliff from Gravenhurst, now residing here in Washago at the lodge. Childen Jim and Barb Ratcliff teamed with Arnold and Susan Neal to help make it a memorable day for Mom and Dad. Head Chef Wally, played guitar and sang with lodge resident Bob Kruse on drums to surprise the couple with a short tribute of old favorites while a delicious lunch buffet was being enjoyed by the sixty or so guests that attended the event. Brother Bill Brownlee spoke of some great memories gone by and shared a few laughs before toasting the happy couple's 70th celebration. Thanks also to Terry and Maggie Riley, owners of the lodge, for helping make Saturday the 17th of June such a special day for Tiny, Helen and the whole Ratcliff family.

We're Growing



Finally after 15 years of living in Washago I now know that we have achieved the status of COMMUNITY!! YAA HOO!! So what does that mean? I believe it simply means that two or three years ago Severn put away some funds to start erecting Heritage style identification signs around the township and congratulations Washago it's our turn. They are beautiful and I'd like to personally thank all the committee members responsible for helping me feel WELCOMED when I get HOME!



Bowing Out

After serving his term as our Severn Township counsellor, Colin Couper has decided to step down and not run in the November Election. Read his parting letter, written to all of us in Ward 5, on page 3

Happy Birthday Canada!

Celebrate Canada's 139th birthday in Washago! Live bands, a parade, a dance, and many more exciting events and attractions make an eventful and enjoyable day for the whole family! See inside spread (pgs 8-9) for full event schedule



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IN THE COMMUNITY

Bowing Out




Counsellor Colin Couper

AS WE ARE NOW SETTling INTO THE SUMMER MONTHS OF AN ELECTION YEAR, I AM TAKING THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLICLY ANNOUNCE THAT I **WILL NOT** BE SEEKING RE-ELECTION IN NOVEMBER AS COUNCILLOR FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF SEVERN. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF REASONS FOR THIS DIFFICULT BUT FINAL DECISION. IN FAIRNESS TO COUNCIL, THE TOWNSHIP AS A WHOLE, AND THE ELECTORATE OF WARD 5, I CANNOT COMMIT TO A SUBSEQUENT TERM EVEN IF I WAS TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTION.

WHILE THERE ARE A NUMBER OF MONTHS LEFT IN THIS CURRENT TERM, I WILL CONTINUE TO WORK DILIGENTLY THROUGH TO THE END. HOWEVER, I WOULD LIKE TO SHARE JUST A FEW THOUGHTS AT THIS TIME AS I FEEL THAT THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ARE OWING AND MAYBE I SHOULD EXPRESS CERTAIN VIEWS AS POTENTIAL CANDIDATES CONSIDER TO PLACE THEIR NAME INTO THE ELECTION ARENA.

WITH PRIDE, I CAN SINCERELY TELL YOU THAT I HAVE BEEN TRUE TO MY POSITION, WHICH I PUBLICLY DECLARED AT THE 'ALL CANDIDATES' MEETINGS IN 2003. SOME MAY NOT AGREE BUT TO THOSE OF YOU WHO CAN RECALL MY POSITION WAS RELATIVELY STRAIGHTFORWARD. I ANNOUNCED THAT IF ELECTED I WOULD CONSIDER ALL OF THE RELEVANT FACTS AND INFORMATION ON MATTERS BEFORE COUNCIL AND THEN I WOULD MAKE MY DECISION. AT TIMES THIS HAS BEEN BOTH DIFFICULT AND UNPOPULAR AS THERE HAS BEEN OCCASION WHERE I HAVE BEEN OBLIGATED BY MY OWN PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO VOTE ON WHAT I HAVE BELIEVED TO BE IN THE BEST INTEREST FOR THE TOWNSHIP AS A WHOLE, AND CONSIDERED IN A FAIR AND EQUITABLE MANNER FOR 'THE TAXPAYER' OF SEVERN.



Councillor

I ALSO STATED THAT HAVING BEEN INVOLVED WITH MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT FOR 30 PLUS YEARS, IT IS MY VIEW THAT COUNCIL IS DEEMED TO BE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF A LARGE CORPORATION (WHICH IT IS), AND CONSEQUENTLY THE WELFARE OF THE MUNICIPALITY MUST ALWAYS COME FIRST, EVEN BEFORE THE WANTS OR DESIRES OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS OR WARDS. I HAVE STAYED TRUE TO MY COURSE AND I DO BELIEVE THAT THIS COUNCIL HAS STAYED TRUE TO ITS MANDATE.

FREQUENTLY, CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TRY TO IMPOSE A REMINDER TO MEMBERS OF COUNCIL EITHER DIRECTLY, THROUGH WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE OR INDIRECTLY THROUGH THE NEWSPAPERS THAT WE ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO THEM. AS THIS IS NOT TRULY AN ACCURATE ACCOUNT, THEN LET US UNDERSTAND THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE ELECTION PROCESS. THE ELECTORATE), THROUGH THE VERY ELECTION PLACES THE GOVERNANCE AND CARE OF THE CITY AND THE AUTHORITY IN THE DECISION TO COUNCIL, WHICH IS RESPONSIBLE AND ABLE TO LAWS, LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS PROVINCE. WE ARE ONLY ACCOUNTABLE TO THE ELECTORATE AT ELECTION TIME.

IF YOU VOTE, GET TO KNOW AND LISTEN TO THE CANDIDATE(S) CAREFULLY. UNDERSTAND THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOVERNANCE FOR YOU ARE VOTING YOUR MUNICIPAL CARE TO COUNCIL, AND FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS. IF THEY ARE NOT THEIR WORD THEN COMMEND THEM, DON'T VOTE FOR THEM. REMEMBER, IT IS THE ELECTORATE'S RESPONSIBILITY AT ELECTION TIME, WHICH IS OPEN TO ALL TO VOTE OVER THE TERM OF A GOVERNMENT, NOT SO





<h3>Great Retirement Home</h3> <div> <div>  </div> <div>  </div> <div> <p>2019 Southwood Road Gravenhurst</p> </div> </div> <p> Ideal Retirement Home. 2 bdrm. home with easy access to Hwy 11 North & Southbound. Oak flooring, immaculate condition, w/o from diningroom to deck. Private yard, partial fenced, mature trees, new septic in 2005, new bathroom soaker tub, pedestal sink, garden shed with hydro/insulated. Covered in front porch, newer windows, skidoo trails, Trent Canal System, fishing, and boating. Driveway is deeded row. </p> <div>  </div>	<h3>Want to make a move?</h3> <div>  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If you are thinking of selling... - Please give me your trust! ● If you are thinking of a purchase... - Please give me your trust! ● If you are thinking of getting a "no cost" Market Analysis of your home, cottage etc... - Please give me your trust!
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THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Washago Community Centre Corp. News

SWIMMING LESSONS – Anyone living around water should know how to swim and the WCCC will be holding swimming lessons on Saturdays at Washago Centennial Park starting July 4 for 7 weeks (no class on Aug. 5) from 10 am to 1:45 p.m. There are still spaces available so sign up soon. We tried to have swimming lessons 2 years ago but found the beach was posted too often. Last summer at our summer camp (which unfortunately we have had to cancel for this year) we found that swimming at the dock was much better and so we have decided to try again. Call 689-6424 on how to register.

BOAT SAFETY – A boat safety course is planned for Saturday, July 8 from 9 am to 12 pm. This course allows you to obtain your Pleasure Crafter's Operator's Card in one concentrated short session, offering all material in the Boat Pro manual, followed by administration of the test. Call 689-6424 on how to register and obtain the manual.

DRAGON BOAT – We are still looking for more paddlers and have to have our roster ready by July 31st. This will be a fun event and even if you have not done it before, experience is not necessary. Paddlers will be expected to get pledges and we are also looking for sponsors – let's get our community spirit going here for this great new event. The race will be on September 30 with 2 practices before (dates to be advised). Call 689-6424 if you are interested in paddling or sponsoring.

GIANT SALE – We will be holding a book sale on the rink on July 16th in the afternoon. All the books that were donated for our library will have to be sold as we will not have room in the new building for a library. We will also be selling off appliances such as washer, dryer, fridges, stoves and kitchen cupboards which can be viewed inside. This is all in preparation for the renovations which hopefully will start in August. Rain date will be July 23rd.

WASHAGO FEST

Our committee is busy planning lots of fun things for Washago Fest which will take place on Saturday, August 5. Things will start off with the annual bacon on a bun at St. Paul's Anglican Church (corner of Quetton St. and Simcoe County Rd. 169) at 7:30 a.m., followed by the great antique and classic cars at Washago Centennial Park, as well as vendors selling arts and crafts and lots of goodies at 9:00 a.m. At 11 am Mad Science will be putting on a spectacular science show – a thrilling, fast-paced, high-energy 40 minute performance where children will experience foggy dry ice storms, hot air balloons and much more. This will be followed by a fun station with hands-on activities for the children. At 1 p.m. we will have an old-fashioned field day with races for children. Buttons will be on sale for \$2.00 at various locations around town after Canada Day.

COMMUNITY SERVICE – Kids, call 689-6424 if you are interested in getting some community service hours by helping out at Canada Day, Washago Fest or some of our other activities.

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Are There Any Effects?

On the weekends the hustle and bustle is back with the cottagers but what is going on during the week. Usually around now things may not have been busy but the sidewalks would not have been rolled up by six or seven o'clock. So after walking around to the local businesses and inquiring about sales this year I'm told there has been a significant drop off because of the lack of campers in the park. All the restaurants and variety stores say that sales are down and some others like gift shops, building supplies and even real estate has been affected by the closing of the park to overnight and seasonal campers. I'd like to be telling you'all that something good is about to happen with the park but I'm sorry I can't. After speaking with our representative on council the allowances being considered concerning the parks future use have not yet been put into a formal document for us all to see. I'm told not much has changed since last month except that groups wanting to, can obtain a Park Permit for any Special Events from the Severn Township Office at 325.2315. So until we know for sure what's acceptable and what ain't, let's use the park for whatever and enjoy it while we can.

Size Does Matter

It was decided at the June council meeting that we were going to be getting a substantial addition to our teenie weenie town dock behind the post office. I do have to say that the Washago Cruise Lines definitely has a point when they say that the dock is dangerous the way it is today. I had the pleasure of helping some of the elderly onto the boat for their cruise the other day and I was thinking that maybe we had better put life jackets on everyone before we even went on the floating, bouncing, dipping, weaving, teetering and just plain scary dock. Fortunately nobody went in for a dip prior to launch time but it was for sure a possibility. I'm told however that the addition proposed is supposed to be ten feet by twenty feet and that should be enough to firm up the motion considerably. Thanks to our township council I'm sure Albert will again sleep peacefully knowing he will not have to perform CPR before any of his future cruises.

Before going to press I had the good fortune of going to the dock on the weekend and finding that this story you just read is all for nothing. The addition is already there. WOW I'm impressed. Too bad everything our government does isn't quite that fast. I should not be so quick to look at the splinter in big brother's eye when I can surely say things don't move as quickly in my own life as fast as they once did.



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ONE DAY AT TIME

One day at time, sweet Jesus,
That's all I'm asking from you
Just give me the strength to do each day
What I should do.
Yesterday's gone, sweet Jesus,
Tomorrow may never be mine.
Lord help me today,
Show me the way
One day at a time.

(Verse 1)
I'm only human
I'm just a woman
Help me believe what I could be
And all that I am.
Show me the stairway
I have to climb.
Lord, for my sake
Teach me to take
One day at a time.

(Chorus)

(Verse 2)
Do you remember
When you walked among men?
Jesus, You know
If you're looking below
It's worse now than then-
Cheatin' and stealin',
Violence and strife
So for my sake
Teach me to take
One day at a time.

Written and Submitted by Ruth Mould

Inspired by a Crackpot That's why i call you mommy

An elderly Chinese woman had two large pots, each hung on the ends of a Pole, which she carried across her neck. One of the pots had a crack in it. The other pot was perfect and always delivered a full portion of Water. At the end of the long walk from the stream to the house, the Cracked Pot arrived only half full. For a full two years this went on daily, With The woman bringing home only one and a half pots of water. Of course, The Perfect pot was proud of its accomplishments. But the poor cracked Pot Was Ashamed of its own imperfection, and miserable that it could only do Half of What it had been made to do. After 2 years of what it perceived to be Bitter Failure, it spoke to the woman one day by the stream. "I am ashamed Of Myself, because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the Way Back to your house." The old woman smiled, "Did you notice that there Are Flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side?" "That's Because I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower Seeds On Your side of the path, and every day while we walk back, you water Them. For Two years I have been able to pick these beautiful flowers to decorate The Table. Without you being just the way you are, there would not be this Beauty to grace the house." Each of us has our own unique flaw. But it's the cracks and flaws we each have that make our lives together so very interesting and rewarding. You've Just got to take each person for what they are and look for the good In Them. SO, to all of my crackpot friends, have a great day and Remember To Smell the flowers on your side of the path!

Submitted by Rick Kerr

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A poem that our son Ken Russell wrote for Mother's Day, knowing if his little son Kaden of 15 months could talk this is what he would say to his mommy.

That's why I call you Mommy

When we first met I could not see,
But I heard the heartbeats of you and me.
You bundled me up and held me tight,
You and Daddy were so happy, it must have been a sight.

That's why I call you Mommy

You always run to me when you hear my cries,
Daddy says you gave me these beautiful blue eyes.
You hug and kiss me all through the day,
Both my name and Daddy's starts with a K.

That's why I call you Mommy

You feed me and Bathe me everyday,
Do you know I dream of you, when I lay.
Daddy told me that you are beautiful,
Your love for me is truly wonderful.

That's why I call you Mommy

You give me toys to learn and play,
And when you leave the house I wish you would stay.
You are patient, loving and you care,
Look Mommy, my skin is like yours, fair.

That's why I call you Mommy

Daddy told me my eyes are like the ocean,
And when I'm in the sun I must use lotion.
You tell me you love me many times a day,
Daddy and I practise Luv Ya when you are away.

That's why I call you Mommy

I love our family, You, Daddy and me,
Will the next baby be a she.
As I end this poem with a tear in my eye,
I love you, I love you, and that is why I call you Mommy

Love Kaden xoxo
05/14/2006
Submitted by Maxine Russell

IN THE COMMUNITY

Seniors Boat Cruise

It's a beautiful sunny, warm morning and I find down at the town dock a group of fun loving seniors about to head out on a cruise. Youthful excitement was on their faces as cruise owner/captain Albert Reitsma docked the boat and passengers began loading into the comfortable seats for the almost two hour excursion along the shores of the Green and Black Rivers. The commentary of historic Washago provided by the captain, and the warm sun shining the whole time, made for a beautiful trip down river and back. The shaky dock, while unloading after all the excitement, was not enough to discourage the smiles from the patrons faces. From what I could see and hear all had a real good time and are hopeful of the opportunity to enjoy the cruise and hospitality of The Washago Cruise Lines again soon.



A small thank you

Thank you to each and everyone for making my 60th birthday so special.
Great to get everyone together and have fun.
Love you all,
Marilyn Brooks

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Protecting our Namesake (Washago: Rivers Run Through it)

I was reading a recent copy of this great little newsletter recently and the editor mentioned he was looking for people to send material in to him, so I thought to myself, this is a great opportunity to reach out to everyone about something dear to us all in this area – that is 'the river'. In particular, I'd like to refer to the quality of the water itself and what little things we can do to protect it and keep it safe for us, the flora and fauna around it- that all depend on its health. For many of us it's what attracts us to the area so it would make sense that we look after it. So what can we do you ask? Well, collectively we can make a huge difference by practicing just a few basic lakefront compatible activities. First of all, one of the biggest things we can do is reduce or eliminate the use of phosphates. Typically the biggest culprit is lawn fertilizer but its also found in many detergents such as laundry and dishwasher soap. The problem is that phosphates promote the growth of algae and weeds which derogate water quality. This has been largely responsible for the problems in Lake Simcoe. Forget those manicured lawns, it's just means you'll be spending more quality time behind that lawn mower! If you must, use organic fertilizers as an alternative. Around the house, choose products that are low or contain no phosphates. Another simple thing you can do is to leave more natural shoreline on your property. Don't cut down the entire bush, only what you need and leave at large buffer zone between your lawn and the water where wild plants and shrubs can grow. You can plant natural trees or bushes if the area has already been cleared. This enhances the quality of the water by offering shade to a large portion of the water surface area allowing fish etc to thrive. It also helps to reduce water temperatures which in turn keep bacteria counts in check.

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Thirdly, make sure your septic system is in good order. I don't think I need to go into to detail on that one since we all know that this isn't what we want to see leeching around the river. These are just a few things we can do, most of them just take a little common sense. Look at these and other similar ideas as an opportunity for us to do something to improve our waterways. This summer when you're working around your property look at what you're doing and ask yourself how this will affect the river. Remember, you wouldn't pour that stuff directly in to the river but you should know that it will end up there eventually.

Paul Madden
Washago, ON.

IN THE COMMUNITY

CANADA DAY IN WASHAGO



Come join the Canada Day Celebrations!

Start the day with a hearty helping of delicious pancakes, then enjoy the crafters, watch fellow members of the community participate in the parade and treat yourself to a Luncheon at St. Frances of Assissi and some fabulous Strawberry Shortcake at Heritage United!(YUMMY) This year promises to be as much fun as previous and more. Watch for the Firefighter's demonstration and lots of Patriotic Canadian Pride! Don't forget about the cake cutting ceremony in the parking lot of Ben's Pharmacy and Soulvine Media Ink between 11 and 12. BE CREATIVE!!! GET INVOLVED!!! Wear something red and white or simply wave a flag. We look forward to seeing you there! Festivities begin at 8am until who knows when?

WASHAGO 2006

Talent Show & "Don't Blink"
The Magician

Pancake Breakfast

PARADE!

Karaoke

Street Vendors

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See my BRAIN

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WASHAGO CANADA DAY SCHEDULE

time	event	LOCATION
8:00 am	Street closes	Muskoka Street
8:00 am - 11 am	Pancake Breakfast	Lions Hall
8:00 am - 2 pm	Street vendors	Muskoka Street
9:00 am	Craft and bake sale	St. Francis of Assisi Church
9:00 am	Parade formation	Washago Community Centre Pink
9:00 am	Bike formation	
	Button sales	Muskoka Street
9:15 am	Judging bikes,buggies,etc.	Washago Community Centre Pink
9:30 am	Strawberry Shortcake	Heritage United Church
-1:00 pm	Bacon on a Bun & Flea Market	
10:00 am	Parade begins	Muskoka Street
10:20 am	Opening Ceremonies	Reviewing stand Hotel
	event	LOCATION
10:30 am	Announcing winners of bike and essay contests	Reviewing stand Hotel
	Mnjikaning Children's Choir	Reviewing stand Hotel
10:45 am	Fire Dept. Demonstration	Log Cabin lot
10:45 am	Entertainment	Reviewing Stand
	Gymnastics demonstration	
	Line dancers	
1 - 2 pm	Live Music/See My Brain	Washago Lions Hall
		Hamilton Street
1 - 5 pm	Free face painting	Washago Lions Hall
	By Shelby & Anja	Hamilton Street
2 - 3 pm	Live Music/Lee, Sara & Friends	Washago Lions Hall
		Hamilton Street
3 - 4 pm	Talent Show & "Don't Blink"	Washago Lions Hall
	The Magician	Hamilton Street
4 - 5 pm	Karaoke By Sue	Washago Lions Hall
		Hamilton Street
5:30 pm	Mad Murray's Internationally Awarded Pulled Pork on a Bun	Washago Lions Hall
		Hamilton Street
5 - 7 pm	Knight Hawk's D.J. Dance	Washago Lions Hall
		Hamilton Street
7 - 8 pm	Live Music/Crimson Cross	Washago Lions Hall
		Hamilton Street
8 - 10 pm	Live Music/Gear Jammers (Upbeat Blues)	Washago Lions Hall
		Hamilton Street

ON Saturday, JULY 1ST, 2006, we encourage everyone to get involved! Proudly fly a flag at your house or business, plan a garage or craft sale on the main street of Washago, enter the parade with a float or decorated wheeled vehicle.
KIDS: Decorate your bikes and join the parade. All participants sign in at 9:00 a.m. NO pre-registration required!
THANKS TO ALL PARTICIPANTS! Remember to buy a button and wear it to show your support.

Health Tip

WATER-The foundation to good health

Our bodies are made up of over 70% water, our blood is over 80%, our brain over 75% and our liver is 96% water. Every life giving and healing process that happens inside our bodies happens with water. Water is the key to youthful longevity. Our energy level is greatly affected by the amount of water we drink. Water is what our liver uses to metabolize fat into useable energy. It is estimated that over 80% of the population suffers energy loss due to minor hydration. By the time we are thirsty we are already dehydrated. In his book "Our Bodies Many Cries for Water" Dr. Fereydoon Batmangheidj says that most of us suffer from chronic dehydration, which is responsible for many illnesses. Brain cells begin to shrink after prolonged dehydration. We have heard we need to drink 6-8 glasses of water daily. The truth is you should divide your weight in half and that is the amount of ounces of water your body needs. Coffee, tea, soft drinks and juice don't count. The only exeption is herbal tea. Caffeine is a diuretic, which forces you to lose more water than you consume. For every cup of coffee or tea you drink, you should drink an extra glass of water. Detoxification is probably the most important component to long term health. An adequate amount of good water is our bodies means of flushing out toxins.The more water we drink, the more we allow our body to purify itself. Almost all degenerative disease is the result of toxins building up in our body. Proper digestion and nutrient absorption depend on a healthy intake of water. We need adequate amounts of water every day to get the nutritional value from our food and supplements. Water prevents aging so let's increase our intake of water.

Joanne Barton

Blaine's Tech Tip #4

Auto repair shop or service provider, which will it be??

Todays automobiles are complex devices often housing more than twenty onboard computers. The vehicles electronics, ability to think, multiplex, make decisions and act on them make it imposible to be 100% diagnosed, serviced and repaired at a single facility.

Todays compatatant automotive service facility must be thoroughly trained, have access to the latest service information and equipment as well as a solid connection with not only there jobber, but specialty shops such as transmission, A/C service, autobody repair, towing, emission testing etc. In a nut shell, you should be able to rely on your service facility to provide you with any of these services even as far as scheduling the appointment for you if need be.

Not unlike our family doctor, who will often refer us to specialist we rely on them to advert us to someone they trust. We find comfort in there referral. The modern automotive service provider will build solid relationships with there colleagues, assess the vehicles condition, refer the client to the appropriate specialist and follow up after the repair.



Respectfully,
Mark Stein

- ASE Certified technician

TIPS TIPS AND MORE TIPS

Keeping pets off furniture.

To keep pets off chairs and tables, cover the seats and tabletop with aluminium foil. Most household pets do not like the sound it makes when they walk on it, or the feel of the texture under foot. To stop pets scratching furniture, place some orange or lemon peel around the area. Alternatively rub the peel on to the surface. Cats and dogs do not like the smell of citrus fruits.

Curly bacon

To prevent bacon from curling up when grilling, make some small slits around the edges with a pair of scissors. The bacon should remain flat and cook easily.

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IN THE COMMUNITY

Rotary Club of Washago's first Great Washago River Fest



Paddlers take off on a grueling 20 km trek down the Severn River on Saturday during the Great Washago River Fest organized by the Rotary Club of Washago & Area Centennial

An estimated 55 paddle enthusiasts from all across Ontario gathered in Washago on Saturday to try and tame the Severn River System in the Rotary Club of Washago's first Great Washago River Fest. The event, sanctioned by OMCRA, (Ontario Marathon Canoe Association) involved a number of challenging professional level and recreational class paddle races including a grueling 20 kilometer race that circled Washago, including portages over Wasdell Falls on The Severn River and Lock 42 on The Trent Severn Waterway, culminating with an exciting dash to the finish line with the racers carrying their canoes.

Bridge in Washago

Members of the Washago Bridge Club meet every Friday afternoon – year round - at the home of Anne Sixsmith, 4108 Canal Rd. Anne – a registered Duplicate Bridge instructor and Master Bridge player - generously donates her home, her expertise and her time teaching members the fine art of bridge. She teaches beginners, offers lessons, and reviews various hands of Bridge every Friday at noon. At one o'clock, the play begins with up to 20 members participating. Members come alone or with a friend and are guaranteed an interesting afternoon of Bridge. Many friendships have been formed since the club began in 1997. It is a social club and new members are most welcome. The club supported three charities last year and this year will support the Heart and Stroke Foundation, Cancer Society and UNICEF. Come out and join us for some fun – 689-8845.

Line Dancing in Washago

Anne Sixsmith also offers Line Dancing classes every Monday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. at the Heritage United Church Hall – an opportunity to have fun while keeping fit. Classes are also available at noon on Saturday at the T.I.E. Club Building on West Street in Orillia. You are encouraged just to show up – you will be very welcome and have a great time!

Phone: 689-8845.

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WASHAGO ROTARY RIVER SOLSTICE VIGIL A BIG SUCCESS

The first day of summer was celebrated in Washago with a blaze of lights. Local residents of the intricate Washago river system decorated their properties and docks with lights of all descriptions. The event was organized and promoted by The Rotary Club of Washago & Area Centennial. The Rotary Club of Washago hopes this will become an annual event and that residents of the river will continue to celebrate the longest day of the year with lights. Club Secretary Mary Rogers said "This is a great way to kick off the summer season and for people to get to know each other better. You just never know who you're going to meet on the river on June 21st."

YARD, CRAFT & BAKE SALE being held by Severn Bridge Women's Institute on Southwood Rd. SATURDAY JUNE 24th 9 - 2pm.

Spaces available for \$10.00 to sell your own crafts or yard sale items. Come support your local Women's Institute. For info. call Susie 689-5926 or Heather 689-6428

The RE/MAX Orillia team is gearing up to host their Third Annual Children's Miracle Network Golf Tournament on Thursday, July 20th, 2006 at Lake St. George Golf and County Club. They have raised over \$40,000 over the past 2 years.

This year they are excited to expand the tournament and feature a separate Kids Helping Kids 9 Hole Tournament beginning at 9:30 a.m. on July 20th for kids ages 8 to 14. Cost is \$25.00 which includes golf, lunch, prizes and FUN!

Limited space is still available for the adults 18 hole shot gun start at noon.

Contact Janette Wyville at 325-1373 or by email at janettewyville@remaxorillia.com to register.

We hope to make this a great day of golf and continue to support the Children's Miracle Network which in turn benefits Toronto Sick Children's Hospital with the excellent work that they do.

BID EUCHRE FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Soldiers Memorial Hospital is installing a MRI diagnostic machine, to catch potentially deadly diseases early. The cost is \$7.5 million, \$2.75 million coming from reserves. To help SMH get this unit up and running Adi Speckbauer, Elfriede Konopatzki and friends are holding a Big Buck Bid Euchre 11.00 am Friday July 28 at the Senior's Hall in Gravenhurst. A luncheon of Cold plates, drinks and desserts, all donated, will be served. COST IS ONLY \$15.00 FOR AN AFTERNOON OF FUN. 1st Prize \$100.00, 2nd \$75.00, 3rd \$50.00, 4th \$25.00 and the Moon Shot \$5.00. Tickets are available anywhere in the area where Bid Euchre is played or by calling Adi Speckbauer at 689-2160.

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THE LOCAL CHURCHES

Minister's column for The Soulvine July 2006
by The Reverend Maureen Hair, St. Paul's, Washago

There once was a time, not so long ago really, when a person was automatically assumed to be in a faith group. The idea of someone having no religion was foreign. Even people who really didn't practice a religion were expected to identify a faith, even if it was only the one passed on to them by their family. Those days are gone. We live in a post-Christian culture.

I'm an Anglican priest serving the Church here in Washago but I'm part of the same world that everyone else is. This is the world where Statistics Canada is reporting that people of 'no religion' are a larger group than any particular faith group.

To the true atheists, I can only say that I have had a personal experience of the divine that is sufficient evidence to me that the God of our ancestors is a living God, here and now. To those of another faith, I wish you peace and joy in the practice of it. Hopefully we can each be respectful of the other's truth.

To my friends who say they believe in the God of Christianity but feel turned off or mystified by the modern Church: I too see the disconnect between the Church and the post-Christian world. We in the Church certainly have a job to do to bridge that gap. We need to express the timeless truths of our faith in a way that makes sense to people. I believe it can be done and is being done. I think one way forward is to release the Christian story from absolute reliance on the literal details and turn our attention to what the story means and to why it has been told and retold for millennia. Some of us find comfort in the literal story and retain a deep connection to it, and some of us respond to the story more as a metaphor that points to a larger truth. I believe both approaches are valid. The truth is that life is sacred since it comes from a loving and holy Source outside ourselves. The truth is that we've been given divine teaching through scripture, divine example through the life of Jesus, and divine inspiration through the Holy Spirit for our personal and communal journey through this life.

I take seriously the criticism that the Church could be more welcoming and should share its timeless message in a more accessible way to modern ears. We need to express to our friends on the outside the joy of this truth with sincerity and clarity. And we need to remind those inside the faith that our friends are waiting for us to say something inspiring and significant about our faith. They may also be observing us closely to see if our faith shows any fruits in the way that we live. Both hearing our words and seeing their fruits just might create an impulse for our friends to look into this thing that so many of us find central to our lives.

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

Delicious Beef Barbecue

Heritage United Church
July 20th
Two Sittings - 5:00pm and 6:30pm
Adults: \$12.00
Children aged 6-12 years: \$6.00
Phone 689-2461 for reservations

St. Paul's
Anglican worship this summer:
Sundays at St. Paul's church in Washago at 9 a.m.
Except July 31 - combined parish service at Good Samaritan,
Port St. Barton at 11 a.m.
Aug 20 - annual memorial service at St. Paul's
Cemetery at 10 a.m.
All welcome. Come as you are!

YUMMY BACK BACON ON A BUN

at ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

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during WASHAGO FEST

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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 !

FUN AND GAMES

GREAT TRUTHS THAT ADULTS HAVE LEARNED:

- 1) Raising teenagers is like nailing Jell-O to a tree.
- 2) Wrinkles don't hurt.
- 3) Families are like fudge...mostly sweet, with a few nuts
- 4) Today's mighty oak is just yesterday's nut that held its ground.
- 5) Laughing is good exercise. It's like jogging on the inside.
- 6) Middle age is when you choose your cereal for the fiber, not the toy.

GREAT TRUTHS ABOUT GROWING OLD

- 1) Growing up is mandatory; growing old is optional.
- 2) Forget the health food. I need all the preservatives I can get.
- 3) When you fall down, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
- 4) You're getting old when you get the same sensation from a rocking chair that you once got from a roller coaster.
- 5) It's frustrating when you know all the answers but nobody bothers to ask you the questions.
- 6) Time may be a great healer, but it's a lousy beautician.
- 7) Wisdom comes with age, but sometimes age comes alone.

THE FOUR STAGES OF LIFE:

- 1) You believe in Santa Claus.
- 2) You don't believe in Santa Claus.
- 3) You are Santa Claus.
- 4) You look like Santa Claus.

SUCCESS:

- At age 4 success is . . not peeing in your pants.
- At age 12 success is . . . having friends.
- At age 16 success is . . having a drivers license.
- At age 35 success is . . . having money.
- At age 50 success is . . . having money.
- At age 70 success is . . . having a drivers license.
- At age 75 success is . . . having friends.
- At age 80 success is . not peeing in your pants.

You know you're living in 2006 when.....

- 1. You accidentally enter your password on the microwave.
- 2. You haven't played solitaire with real cards in years.
- 3. You have a list of 15 phone numbers to reach your family of 3.
- 4. You e-mail the person who works at the desk next to you.
- 5. Your reason for not staying in touch with friends and family is that they don't have e-mail addresses.
- 6. You pull up in your own driveway and use your cell phone to see if anyone is home to help you carry in the groceries.
- 7. Every commercial on television has a web site at the bottom of the screen.
- 8. Leaving the house without your cell phone, which you didn't have the first 20 or 30 (or 60) years of your life, is now a cause for panic and you turn around to go and get it.
- 10. You get up in the morning and go on line before getting your coffee.
- 11. You start tilting your head sideways to smile. :)
- 12. You're reading this and nodding and laughing.
- 13. Even worse, you know exactly to whom you are going to forward this message.
- 14. You are too busy to notice there was no #9 on this list.



Across

1- Clique; 6- Reprimand; 11- Ten decibels; 14- Unaccompanied; 15- Leg bone; 16- Strong feeling of anger; 17- Extreme religious zeal; 19- Breast-supporting undergarment; 20- Capable of being told; 21- Fit with clothes; 23- Fail to tell the truth; 24- Shoot-em-up; 25- Essay; 29- Rings of a chain; 30- Conceals; 31- Word that can succeed building, web or burial; 32- Cut down grass; 35- Reserved; 39- Eye infection, pig house; 40- Snug; 41- Communion plate; 42- Horse race venue in England; 44- Powerful; 45- Wreck; 48- Distress signal; 49- Accident; 50- Important in history; 55- Printing widths; 56- Epic poem of India; 58- "___ Ventura" was played by Jim Carrey; 59- Oneness; 60- Captivated (by); 61- Not emp.; 62- Alloy of iron and carbon; 63- Plant problem;

Down

1- Wagon; 2- Sheltered, nautically; 3- Cotton seed pod; 4- Natural blue dye; 5- Adherence to law; 6- Scarf fur; 7- Motion picture; 8- Japanese sash; 9- Auditor; 10- Napkin fabric; 11- Christian writings; 12- Mistake; 13- Get to know; 18- Large wading bird; 22- T.G.I.F. part; 24- Possessing wit; 25- In this way; 26- Clue; 27- Whirlpool; 28- This is what eyes do; 29- Hungarian composer; 31- Pry; 32- Microscopic arachnid; 33- Cooking appliance; 34- Departed; 36- Resident; 37- Renegade; 38- Make lace; 42- Powdery residue; 43- Private detective; 44- Luxurious; 45- Sully; 46- Chop into small pieces; 47- Item having exchange value; 48- Fortune-teller; 50- Detest; 51- Toward the mouth; 52- Leaf tool; 53- Romantic couple; 54- Scene of first miracle; 57- Hasten;

answers on back 13

SENIORS

Washago Area Senior Citizens Club

Computer Club hosted by Washago Area Senior Citizens Club, discontinued for July & August, for additional information call Jerry Brown 689-1826.

Choir practises are discontinued for the month of July. For further information please call Doreen Philip, 684-9373

Lady's Golf sponsored by Washago Area Senior Citizens Club is every Monday and Tuesdays, members only, at the Evergreen Golf Centre, Hwy. #11 and Sparrow Lake Road. Please come before 8.45 am, for further information please contact Lynda Miller 325-3615.

Men's Golf sponsored by Washago Area Senior Citizens Club, everyone welcome, 9.15 am Mondays, 8.45 am Thursdays at the Evergreen Golf Centre, Hwy. #11 and Sparrow Lake Road. For additional information re Monday call Bernard Hallett 689- 8883 or Jack Aston 689-6878, Thursdays call Jim Davidson 689-0597



1st prize winners left Henry Stanfield and Jack Aston

Washago Area Senior Citizens Club had their Spring Best Ball Mixed Tournament on June 22 with 48 participants, mostly members, plus those awaiting membership. Sponsors were Dundee Wealth Management and JTS Inc. Jackson Transportation Systems. After a lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers and a lot of conversation came the trophies and prizes, 1st prize, Jack Aston and Henry Stanfield, 2nd prize and Longest Drive, Bet Spicer and Al Thomas, 3rd prize, Nadine Shaddock and Bill Watkins, Closest To The Pin, Betty Woodhouse and Len Spicer, Most Honest Players, Lois Aston and Don Philip.

RAMARA SENIORS JULY CLUB ACTIVITIES

FRIDAY AFTERNOON EUCHRE, NEW LOCTION, sponsored by Ramara Seniors Association, 1.00 PM, cost is only \$2.00, everyone welcome. Come join the group and have some fun at the Longford Community Center across from the church.

BID EUCHRE is cancelled until September, for additional information please call Liz 325-3571

14



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IN THE COMMUNITY

www.washago.ca

Some may know, and some may not, but whether you know or not, Washago has a website! It's conveniently located at www.washago.ca, and has lots of links and stuff for you to check out that has to do with the town of Washago. The website is not affiliated with any townships, or governments, and so it is an "unofficial" town website that until now has been run by Cathy Mendez of iDezine Web Services. Cathy did a great job creating and maintaining the website, but has become extremely busy and doesn't have the time available that it takes to maintain it. In light of this, she has agreed to allow Soulvine Media Ink to be in charge of the website from now on! Let me tell you...this is something we at Soulvine Media are VERY excited about. We are brewing up new plans for the website as we speak, including a whole new look, but we don't want to be making all the decisions ourselves! This is going to be your website, and we want your thoughts, ideas, and contributions to help make it a website we will all enjoy visiting time and time again. Much like The Soulvine, we want to have an updated news and events section. We want to showcase local talent, have a business directory and provide interesting historical facts and trivia items you never knew about our community and the people who started it. We are in the midst of figuring out how to make it user friendly, so user friendly that organizations will be able to update their own events, people will be able to add garage sales, want ads, job postings etc... This is not going to be your average town website! We want it to be different, we want it to be unique, and we need your thoughts and ideas. Photographers and artists are welcome to submit their work to be incorporated into the layout of the website. Of course, all of this isn't going to happen overnight. Creating and programming this website is going to take a lot of time and effort, but that's ok...it gives you plenty of time to go to the current website, and say your last goodbyes.

NEW BUSINESS Lakeside Cottage Watch inc.

Lakeside Cottage Watch Inc. is a new locally owned and operated business servicing the north Simcoe and Gravenhurst area. Cathie Patterson, Managing Director, has lived in the Washago area for the past ten years. Lakeside Cottage Watch Inc. provides a service to offer cottage, home, and property owners surveillance and monitoring programs to "Keep an EYE on your property while you are away". A wide range of services are available including monitoring your cottage during the winter, checking your home while you are away on holidays or property checks on vacant land. Checks will be conducted daily, weekly, or whenever you wish. The choice is up to you and the rates are very reasonable. *Cottages* Lakeside Cottage Watch Inc. will monitor the snow load on your roof so arrangements can be made to have the snow cleared. They can also conduct inspections of your property for evidence of attempted break and enters, the presence of unwanted pests and animals, damage due to storms, wind, water etc. Reports are made to you by phone, fax or email(digital pictures). *Homes* If you are away on business or holidays Lakeside Cottage Watch Inc. will check your home (in order to comply with your insurance requirements). Plants can be watered and small pets cared for. They also have a Snowbirds Program for residents living in their homes in Southern Ontario during the summer and "flying south" to their winter homes.

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Other contact information:
Cathie Patterson
(705) 689-5312 office
(705) 330-9339 cell



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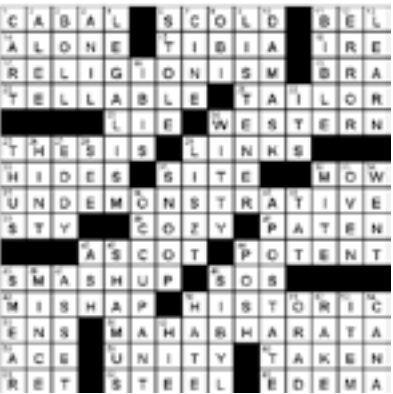
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