

The *South Marysburgh* Mirror

Published for Residents, Businesses and Visitors since 1985

July 2019

The Second Annual South Marysburgh Soap Box Derby



Both expert and novice drivers took to the St. Philip's Street Speedway on July 12th to test their skills. Organized by the South Marysburgh Recreation Committee with assistance from South Marysburgh councillor, John Hirsch, Nick Nowitski (above) and other members of the Consecon Recreation Committee, the event attracted a large number of participants. Despite a brief rain storm, spirits and enthusiasm remained high.



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Bless the Animals

*By Peggy Hallward
Warden, St. Philip's Church*

We're getting a puppy soon, and that's put a big grin on my face. I grew up with dogs, and my children grew up with dogs, so when our old miniature Schnauzer died last summer, it left a hole in my life and in my heart. Now that we're getting Charlie, I'd like him to be blessed because he will be a blessing.

If you have a pet or farm animals that are a blessing to you, and would like to have them blessed, St. Philip's Church in Milford will be holding a special ceremony called the Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, September 22 at 11:00 a.m. If you're more comfortable bringing a photo of your pet instead, that works just fine. And if you don't have a pet but have a special cuddly teddy bear or Beanie Baby, feel free to bring them along. We'll start with a short outdoor church service, followed by the Blessing, and then lemonade and treats on the lawn.

The Blessing of the Animals ceremony is held in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi (1181/82-1226), who is the Patron Saint of Animals. St. Francis is considered one of the greatest saints in the Christian tradition. He gave up a life of wealth and social position to embrace a life of poverty. He founded a monastic order, commonly known as the Franciscans.

We hope to see you and animals on September 22. But if it's raining, we'll do the Blessing on Sunday, October 27, at 11:00 a.m.



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The *South Marysburgh* Mirror

July 2019 Volume 33 Number 6

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Milford Fall Fair

A NOTE FROM THE MILFORD FAIR BOARD

Now that summer is finally here, preparations for the 2019 Milford Fall Fair on Saturday, September 14 are getting into high gear.

In the next issue of *The South Marysburgh Mirror*, you'll be able to read about all the new activities and features planned for this year's Fair.

In the meantime, however, we wanted to remind you that one of the main reasons our Fair is so successful year after year is because of the wonderful support we receive from the community.

If you can spare a few hours on or before Fair Day, we're always happy to welcome new volunteers. To help out, just contact President Valencia Logan at 613 813-9977.

We also very much appreciate financial donations. To support the Milford Fall Fair, just call our friendly Treasurer, Don Farrington at 613 471-1280.

See you at the Fair!



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The South Marysburgh Recreation Board The Marysburgh Mummers The Milford Fair Board

Meetings, Events, Announcements

Fair Board Meeting

Milford Town Hall

Wednesday, August 14, 7:00 p.m.

Car Boot Sale, Buy & Swap

Saturday August 3, 9 am to 2 pm

Milford Fair Grounds. A **FREE** Community Event -
Recycle your unwanted treasures!

The Annual Milford Fall Fair

Saturday, September 14th

*To reserve the Milford Town Hall or Mt. Tabor, please contact:
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Please visit!

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Life In The Past

Nelson Hicks' Journals
July 1901

Transcribed by Sarah Moran Collier

Mon. 1 - Mirt Ina and I picked berries at Hicks, did very well. I picked 105 qts. Mirt 111 qrts. Ina 111 qrts. We were all tired completely out at night.

Tue. 2 - I started to cultivate my corn. Broke the cultivator in starting after dinner and went to picking berries. Mirt and Ina picked 88 qrts. each. Ida was here for dinner.

Wed. 3 - I finished the corn then Byron went to cultivating the tomatoes. Very warm. Mirt and Ina washed and iron.

Thur. 4 - Picked berries at Hicks. Mirt picked 67. I picked 49 qrts. Commenced to rain about three o'clock and came home. Had a lovely rain.

Fri. 5 - Picked berries to Whit's. It was cloudy and threatened to rain all day. We had a terrible storm at night rained terrible and very sharp lightening.

Sat. 6 - We have lots of rain now. For some time it has been a lovely day. Ina and Mirt baking cakes and pies.

Sun. 7 - A very nice day. Jessy, Harry over for dinner. After dinner Mirt Ina and I went out to Sunday School. And then went for a drive out to Bloomfield. Started for Dan's from Bloomfield. Got on the wrong road and drove out of the way about two miles.

Mon. 8 - Byron and I started in to cultivate with two horses. Tom Wattam picked peas.

Tue. 9 - I finished cultivating the tomatoes. Mirt and Ina picked peas for Tom Wattam.

Wed. 10 - Mirt washed. Then we went down in the berry patch and picked 20 qrts. of straw berries to can up. After tea I went out to Jake's.

Thur. 11 - Left Jake's about four o'clock to go down to help Pa with his hay. Come in very good. Pa had the accident to fall off from a load of hay and hurt him self so he is not able to do any thing.

Fri. 12 - I was down home. Archie and I raked and cocked up hay most of the day. Along in the after noon Jake came to help us and we drew four loads and started a stack.

Sat. 13 - Archie, Jake and I drew 4 loads more of hay and finished our stack. Pa was not any better. We got threw at noon and I come home. I got home about three o'clock then went back and helped Whit cock up hay. After tea Mirt Ina and I went down to Picton. Ina got a new hat. We had a very hot week.

Sun. 14 - Ina, Harry Wattam, Jessie, Mirt and I went down to Glenora and had a very nice time but very warm.

Mon. 15 - I helped Tom Wattam cut peas for Whit. Almost died with the heat. Mirt and Ina picked peas. Byron helped Whit draw in hay.

Tue. 16 - I helped Whit with his peas. Another melter. We have had three days of the hottest weather I ever see. Like to see a nice little rain. Mirt and Ina went out to church to night. Byron and I are home alone. I am going down home tomorrow to help Pa with his hay.

Wed. 17 - I went down home to help Pa with his hay. Very warm. Pa is some better.

Thur. 18 - I was down home helping Pa with his hay. About five o'clock they had some rain and some hail. Come home after tea. No rain up here.

Fri. 19 - I paris green my potatoes then went out to Mr. Parks, help him with his harvest. Mirt and Ina went down to Picton.

Sat. 20 - I helped Whit draw in hay. Been quite cool all day.

Sun. 21 - Mirt, Ina and I started for meeting at the Valley. Met Pa and Ma coming up so we turned around and come back home. Pa and Ma were here for dinner. After dinner we all went out to Ida's.

Mon. 22 - I helped Thom. Wattam stack his hay. It was very warm. Mirt and Ina went out to B. Johnson's to pick blue berries and Mirt got 20 qts.

Tue. 23 - I helped Whit draw in hay till noon and finished the day stacking up Rye. It is very warm and dry. Like to see a nice rain.

Wed. 24 - I helped Mr. Parks. Mirt took Ina down home. Stirling went down with them. Tonight Byron and I are alone. We expect Mirt home some time tomorrow.

Thur. 25 - I cultivated my potatoes and some of the tomatoes. After dinner Byron commenced to cultivate the corn again.

Fri. 26 - I helped Dan draw in barley and Rye. Mirt got home this morning. Very dry weather. Everything needs rain very much.

Sat. 27 - I helped Dan till noon. Didn't do anything much in the after noon. Byron and I went down to Picton.

Sun. 28 - The rain has come at last and a dandy. Ida and Dan were out today. Maggie Wattam and Jessie were over for a while. I am feeling very glad for this nice rain we have had to day. For every thing was so much in need of it.

Mon. 29 - It was very wet. After the rain Byron and I went back and drew out some logs for wood. After dinner I gang plough for Whit.

Tue. 30 - I gang plough for Whit till noon. After dinner helped rake out some peas and ploughed some. Every thing is just jumping after the rain.

Wed. 31 - I helped Whit draw in some peas. And then finished the four noon cultivating straw berries. After dinner went up to Mr. Parks to help him thrash. Along about three o'clock Mr. Spafford and wife came up here. Mirt and Mrs. Spafford went out to Ida's.

**Copy & Advertising Deadline for the
Next Edition of The Mirror
is August 10th**

Gossip!

*Personal Notices, Announcements
& Random Notes*

The Friends of Mariners' Museum Fish Fry

Plenty of food and frivolity was evident at this year's fish fry including innovative costumes worn by Councillor John Hirsch and his wife Helene as pirates, and Gord and Janice Gibbins. Music was provided by The Reasons who managed to get most of those in attendance up and dancing following an excellent meal of haddock, salads and desserts.

Jim Plomer & Braydon Scully (below) and the other Friends volunteers hosted another great event on a cloudless Saturday evening..



COUNCIL CORNER

By John Hirsch, Councillor Ward 9, South Marysburgh

From too much rain to not enough. I could never be a farmer, and have tremendous admiration for those who are!

The level of Lake Ontario remains near the all-time high and is receding very slowly.

Predictions are that lake level may be within a foot of normal by the end of the year. The international board which regulates lake and river level is expediting their report into the cause of this year's flooding. Hopefully, they will be able to recommend better action for next year. In the meantime, we just hope for moderate winds so that wave uprush doesn't destroy any more shoreline.

Council Activity

Committee of the Whole (COTW) heard deputations from:

- the Prince Edward County Community Care for Seniors Association regarding the continuation of the Mobile County Seniors Centre program;
- Patricia Ginn on making Picton a 2SLGBTQ safe town;
- Jennifer Ackerman, Don Chisholm and Rod Holloway on climate change and the White Pines Wind Project;
- Aptie Sookoo, from Public Health, regarding Vector-borne diseases;
- Highland Shores Children's Aid seeking financial assistance;
- Debbie Rankin and Julie Miller regarding Plastic Free PEC;
- Resi Walt of the Federation of Agriculture on the FARM911 Emily Project;
- Suzanne O'Connor on reducing plastics use;
- Susan Mathieu on behalf of the Prince Edward Fitness & Aquatic Centre regarding the Wellington Dukes hockey team's proposed training centre.

All deputations can be viewed on the County's live stream or can be read in the agenda package for each meeting on the County website

Council had a special session with a delegation of 22 mayors and other officials from municipalities in Ukraine who were in Canada for a study tour related to how to manage their municipalities now that the central government has delegated power to them. We had a very useful exchange of views. This event was sponsored by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)

Speaking of FCM, I participated at the FCM annual conference in Quebec City along with Councillors MacNaughton, Maynard and Roberts. I attended many useful workshops and plenary sessions. It was fascinating to speak with elected officials from across the country who face the same issues that we do.

Council passed into law the Short-term accommodation licensing regulations and fees after considerable research and consultation. During the debates, I expressed concern that the regulations do not treat traditional B&Bs as well as owner occupied whole home rentals as fairly as they should. Council, nevertheless, opted to adopt the staff recommendations with the ability to review when we have more data at the end of 2020. The full regulations can be found on the County website.

LOCAL EVENTS

The second annual Milford soapbox derby was a great success. The little ones didn't mind the rain at all while we adults headed for cover. A super shout out to all the volunteers from the South Marysburgh Rec Board. Without them, this kind of event is just not possible.

I can be reached by phone, text and email

www.jhirsch.com

jhirsch@pecounty.on.ca

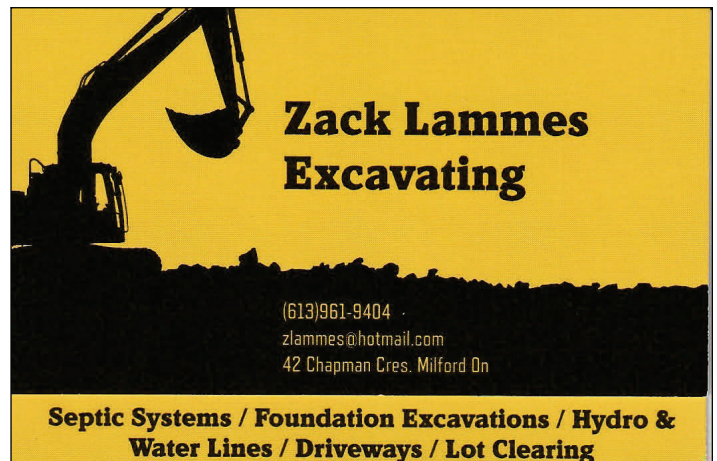
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And don't forget, for immediate service the County help line is available:

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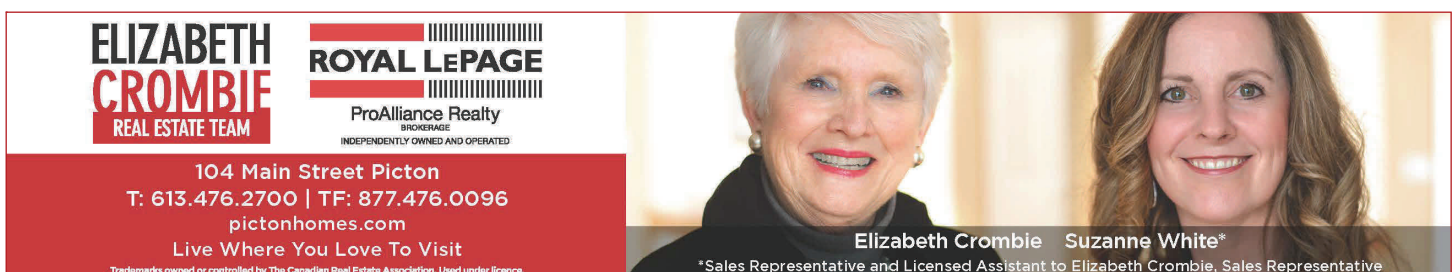
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Druella Acantha Malvina's Column

Gem for the month: A leader is a person who has the ability to get others to do what they don't want to do, and like it.

You know you're in a small town when...

- ◆ You don't use your turn signal because everyone knows where you are going.
- ◆ You dial a wrong number and you talk for fifteen minutes anyway.
- ◆ You miss a Sunday in church and receive get well cards.
- ◆ You can't walk for exercise because every car that passes offers you a ride.
- ◆ The pickups on Main Street outnumber cars three to one.
- ◆ You drive into the ditch five miles out of town and word gets back to town before you do.

After many sleepless nights, the weary fellow dragged himself to the doctor's office. "You need to learn to relax, the doctor told him. "Instead of counting sheep tonight, try telling each part of your body to go to sleep. Before you can get from head to toe, I bet you'll be asleep."

The man went home and that night he got into bed and said, "Head, go to sleep. Neck, go to sleep. Shoulders go to sleep...." and so on down his body. As he was almost finished, his wife walked into the bedroom in a new, skimpy negligee.

"Wake up, everybody!" shouted the man.

After an exploratory trip to Earth, a Martian said to his son, "Earthlings are really strange. They've got wheels instead of feet, their eyes throw beams of light, their voices sound like trumpet blasts, they eat a liquid called gasoline, they get stuck in the streets, pay for a license every few years and are full of parasites called men."

Judge: "When you were committing the theft, did you spare a thought for you wife and daughter?"

Defendant: "I did, Your Honour. But there were only men's clothes in the shop."

An old woman was riding a motorcycle along the highway not holding on to the handlebars, but doing her knitting.

A policeman drove up beside her and shouted out the window, "Pull over!"

"No," said the old woman, "socks".

How do people see you?

- ◆ There were the Scots who kept the Sabbath and everything else they could lay their hands on.
- ◆ There were the Welsh who prayed on their knees and their neighbours.
- ◆ Thirdly, there were the Irish who never knew what they wanted
- ◆ Lastly, there were the English who considered themselves a self-made nation thus relieving the Almighty of a dreadful responsibility.

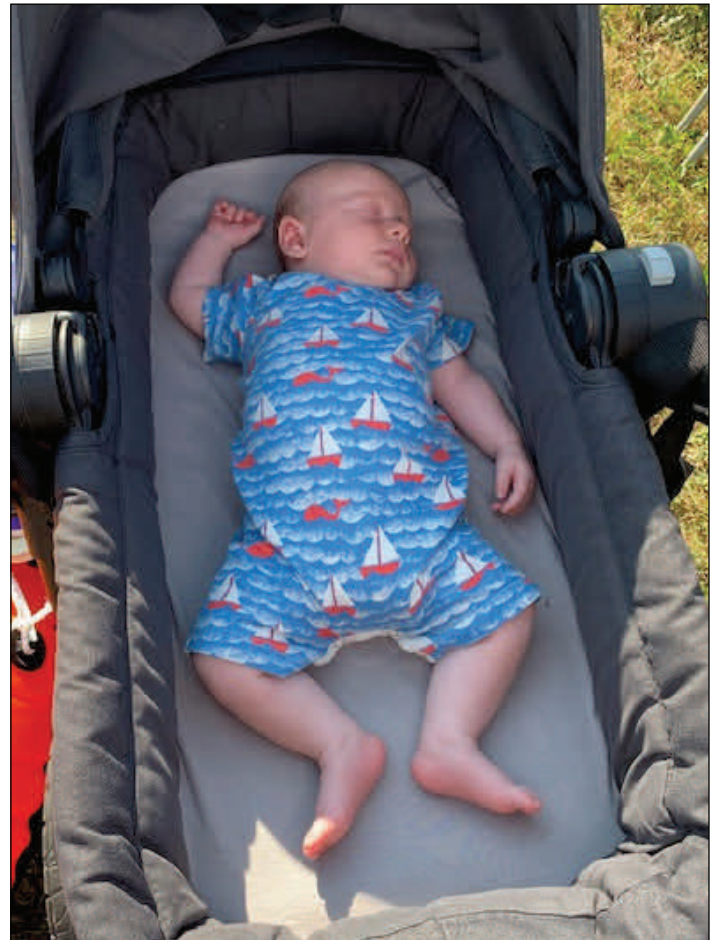
Sam: "I wanted to go down to the restaurant but I guess it was closed."

Sally: "What makes you think that?"

Sam: "The sign in the window says 'Home Cooking'."

Exit Lines:

- ◆ *She was only the moonshiner's daughter, but I loved her still.*
- ◆ *A bad golfer goes WHACK! "Darn."*
- ◆ *A bad skydiver goes, "Darn". WHACK!*



The fun, frivolity and goings-on at the Mariners' Museum fish fry didn't interrupt those more inclined for a snooze.

St Philip's Anglican Church

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Believe It or Not

Much Ado About Nothing

What's the big to-do about a wedding dress?

Just because it's the beginning of a new life, does that mean you have to make a big episode of it?

With me, things didn't change that much.

In my former life, I lived on a farm and took orders from my father. After I married, I lived on a farm and took orders from my husband. So I had never worn a long dress before and I can't recall wearing a white dress. And I wasn't one for carrying bouquets of flowers around. After all, they fill your hands preventing you from doing something useful.

So is having a long, white dress any reason to get all worked up and exhausted? Not in my books. You sink a lot of money in a white wedding dress and only wear it once. A waste of money. Even if you get married again, you're not supposed to wear white as you are no longer a virgin. Ha! How many brides today are virgins, I ask you? It seems this is one wedding tradition that has gone down the tubes!

But, wait a minute. It seems that marriage itself is an antiquated tradition. All you have to do is jump the broomstick and you're off and running.

B.I.O.N.



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The Value of Libraries in Today's World

By Doug McGregor

Like many, I am disappointed at some of the cuts the Government in Queen's Park has been making. One such cut in April caught me by surprise. That was the drastic cut to the Ontario Library Service.

A couple of years ago it was popular to slam libraries. What role did they have in an internet world? Surely they were no longer the repositories of knowledge anymore? I had a long hard think about this at the time. The argument had merit on the surface but didn't resonate with me. It struck me after hurting my brain that the need for libraries hasn't changed. Yes the internet had freed up access to SOME information, but books are a whole different story. BOOKS ARE STILL EXPENSIVE!!

The whole notion behind libraries was to lend out books (knowledge) so that the population could access them. When you think about it, this core value hasn't changed. Neither the internet or ebooks has changed this equation. Books are still expensive. If you want to read a lot most of us are constrained to borrowing rather than buying. As the world gets more complex reading is a good thing!

My wife also reminded me the other day of the voracious appetite our kids had for books when they were young. If the library hadn't been there we would have been paupers.

Some may not realize it but the PEC library also participates in an Ontario wide system that also provides access to ebooks. It's a touch awkward to use and has its foibles but it's a good system nevertheless.

But you have to look deeper to appreciate what we have in the County. I am really, really impressed with the PEC library. They have embraced the 21st century in a way the old libraries never would have. In the last year I've been given a tutorial on 3D printing, had multiple classes on photo editing and a class AND tutorial help on web site design. The later has helped immensely on a community project that I'm involved in.

Want to learn French, try the library. Need a new social circle, try the library and the list goes on.

So is this just Picton or Wellington? NO! Most of what I personally benefited from above was available in Milford. But have you been in the Milford library recently? The room in the back with the County's musical instrument lending library floors me. Keyboards, drums, violins, basses, trumpets and so on is astounding to see.

If you want to see astounding value for your tax dollars you don't have to look any further than our PEC libraries.

This year we will further benefit from our Milford library as they and their Friends are planning to run activities at the Milford Fall Fair. This promises to be a treat especially for the kids.

Hopefully the drastic cuts announced won't touch our local system too badly but even the shutdown of the inter library service won't be good and will disproportionately affect the smaller rural communities such as our own.

Doug McGregor is nearing the completion of his first decade in South Marysburgh. He is a retired engineer, a proud and long time member of the Milford Fair Board, and served on the hospital board for a number of years. He shares a home on South Bay with his wife, Lynda, two dogs and three cats and an unknown number of mice.

Neil Ellis, MP

Bay of Quinte





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Nelson Notes... Anecdotes and background about Nelson Hicks' diary entries.

Nelson mentions "cocking" hay (July 12), making a conical heap, before stacking it. This practice was part of drying hay and helped prevent rain damage over night or over a Sunday, until it could be stacked, an alternative to storing hay in a barn. Around mid-July, it seems everyone is dedicated to hay. As a farmer's bulletin of the time said, "All activities in hay making must be done on time, otherwise the crop will spoil. At no point until it is won can mown hay be left."

Paris green, which Nelson uses on his potatoes (July 19), is an extremely poisonous, emerald green powder (lead arsenate) dusted on to protect foliage from Colorado beetles... also used at the time in wallpaper making and rodent killing.



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Pedaling for Parkinson's

Under bright sunny skies, 160 cyclists departed from the South Marysburgh Fairgrounds on July 12, 13 and 14, and raised awareness and well over \$100,000 for Parkinson's Disease research. Thanks to the efforts of the South Marysburgh Recreation Board, The event returns next year



FRIENDS OF THE ANN FARWELL LIBRARY

By Deb Grund

The library offers lots of summer fun for kids and this year the library has added a special collection to help you get out and explore the County.

ADVENTURE KITS!



Planning an outdoor adventure this summer? Bring the PEC Library along for the ride by checking out one of our Quinte Conservation Adventure Kits, and enjoy a fun and educational excursion for the whole family. Each kit contains a Quinte Conservation Area parking pass,

Quinte Conservation Area booklet (with info on all the conservation areas nearby), an activity, and 3 books themed with the activity or just nature in general - all in a backpack.

Ask at the Circulation Desk about these fun activity kits or go on the library website and put one on hold to pick up at the Milford Branch.

TD Summer Reading Program

The Prince Edward County library system is offering this fun reading program for kids again this year. This year's theme is Natural World.

Sign up at <https://www.peclibrary.org/kids/> or by or visit any branch of the Prince Edward County Library to get started.

Children's Programs

Fun programs and events for kids are offered at all branches of the library. You can attend anywhere in the County.

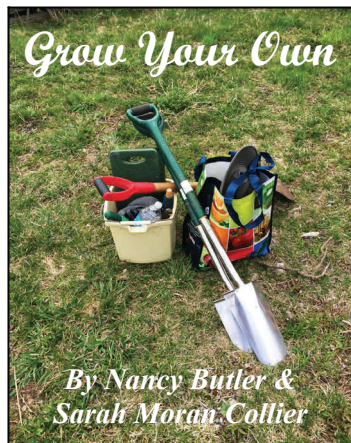
Pre-registration may be required. Pick up a copy of your guide to Children's programs and events at the Milford Branch.

Enjoy a safe and happy summer!



ST. PHILIP'S ANGLICAN CHURCH 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Wednesday, August 7	Corn and Pork Roast
Sunday, September 22	Blessing of the Animals
Saturday, September 28	Fall Yard & Rummage Sale
Saturday, November 23	Christmas Bazaar & Tea



The most extraordinary thing about the South Bay garden we are exploring this month isn't the extensive size of it, all 10 large vegetable beds. It isn't the range of vegetables...potatoes, okra, beans, peas, spinach, leeks, beets, cucumbers, squash, herbs, arugula, zucchini, tomatoes and

others, all growing in many varieties. It isn't even the garden's beauty, snug in a meadow, with a rustic archway leading you to vegetable beds. No, the most extraordinary thing is that Shawn Andrews made this productive garden right out of a field, without ever turning over sod or soil.

Shawn believes in the goodness of earth undisturbed. She laid down newsprint and cardboard on that field and added soil and keeps doing those layers every year; the growing areas are simply contained within wooden walls. She wanted to build a garden "without interference." Over time she's discovering that nature knows what it is doing and that if something doesn't grow where you planned, then it wasn't meant to grow there.

She agrees you can learn about growing vegetables from books and the computer, but she learns much more by talking with people. It might be Ed Taylor, with whom she's had long conversations, working together, planting crops. Or George's Water Haulage who advised her that if she started watering her tomatoes then she'd be buying lots of water because she'd have to keep doing it. Better he said to just leave them and let them find their own water. And it was by following his advice, in a drought year, that she won first prize for her tomatoes at the Milford Fair.

Like all keen gardeners, Shawn works hard in her garden, driven by passion. This came from her Scottish father and grandfather who grew potatoes in their backyard in the Guelph subdivision where she grew up. That made them the 'weird neighbours' whose potatoes came out of the garage all winter and not from the supermarket. As a little girl, she loved that you could just dig this food up from the ground, "like buried treasure." Plus, her grandfather was the only one who got away with not going to church, because he was gardening "where he felt closer to God," an enviable excuse she thought.

When asked what she is most proud of in her garden, Shawn says, "The potatoes. Having that connection with my Dad. That's how we stay in touch. What potatoes are going in and what he has to tell me, that's a main conversation between us. These are what my Dad grew so you're proud of them and a little more protective of them."

Talking to Shawn about growing vegetables is inspiring. If you are ever feeling overwhelmed or dispirited by events in your garden (bugs, drought, puppies digging it up, rabbits eating it) a chat with Shawn will renew your spirits like an old-fashioned tonic. If Shawn were to give us a gardening tip, this would be it: "Do your best to help it along, but ultimately, it's got bigger plans. The garden is like life... Either you're battling it or you go along with it. You have to let it go. Then you find out it takes care of itself." Or, she might just say, "Grow potatoes."

**South Bay U.C.W.
Upcoming Meetings & Events**

Saturday, November 16 – Luncheon and Craft Sale
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Bake Table, Homemade soup, sandwiches, dessert, tea, coffee

**Copy & Advertising Deadline for the
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Milford Library Branch

Check It Out

By Aaron Nash

There are two exciting Prince Edward County Library fundraisers coming up in the month of July. First, it's "Escape the Library," where you can test your problem-solving skills in a century-old Carnegie Library in the heart of Picton!

An escape room is a fun and physical adventure game where you and your friends team up to solve a series of hidden puzzles and riddles using clues and strategy to complete the game before the 60-minute timer runs out. Using the history of Prince Edward County and armed with your own literary knowledge, help the Library by unlocking clues and finding the missing documents! Without you, the Library is doomed!

When? Events will be held July 10, 20, 24, August 3, 7, 17, and 21. Cost? Kids \$15, adults \$25. All proceeds support the 'Time to Renew' Picton Branch expansion.

For more information and to buy tickets, go to peclibrary.org/escape.

Will the Picton Branch expansion positively impact Milford Branch. Yes! An expanded capacity at the Picton Branch Library will increase the offerings at all branches of the Library. (And the expanded collection will of course be available to request at Milford Branch.) Moreover, all services and programs available at the Picton Branch Library can travel to other branches, limited only by space and patron interest. Visit timetorenew.ca for the latest expansion news.

Next it's "Cue the Night," a benefit evening of music and theatre as the Library and Shatterbox Theatre join forces to bring you a night of bold entertainment. Get your groove on with Cue the Funk, a local nine-piece funk band that's excited to bring the best, most good-time-ready music; experience moments from past, present, and future Shatterbox shows; enjoy custom drinks from Kinsip Spirits and savory treats from the Prince Edward County Confectionery Company; plus, explore the beauty of the newly renovated Armoury Mess Hall. All proceeds from the night will benefit the Library and Shatterbox Theatre. For tickets (\$35), go to peclibrary.org/events.

On Wednesday, July 31, stop by the Milford Branch at 3:00 PM for a presentation by the Mariners' Park Museum. Malcolm Ross will be speaking on the subject of shipwreck diving and exploration in Prince Edward County. All ages are welcome!



Buried Roots

By Braydon Scully

The Canadian wine industry is extremely dynamic and growing rapidly. There are more than 700 wineries spread across the country, employing more than 37,000 people and generating over \$9 billion in grape-related economic impact. The changes in the last 25 years are nothing short of staggering.

The Canadian Wine Scholar program was developed by James Cluer, Master of Wine, and David Lawrason, considered to be among the leading experts on Canadian wines. The Canadian Wine Scholar course is offered by Fine Vintage Ltd. a wine education firm. Fine Vintage is the creator and sole provider of the Canadian Wine Scholar TM certification program. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to use the post-nominal CWS.

The Wine & Spirit Education Trust (WSET) provides best-in-class education and qualifications to inspire and empower the world's wine and spirits professionals and enthusiasts. It offers a comprehensive suite of qualifications covering wines, spirits and sake.

WSET qualifications are globally recognized as the international standard in wine and spirit knowledge. They are designed for those who are just starting out in their careers, as well as established professionals, and the many enthusiasts who have a passion for wines and spirits.

WSET Level 2 qualification, for individuals seeking a core understanding of wines, explores the major grape varieties and important wine regions in which they are grown. People learn about the styles of wines produced from these grapes as well as key classifications and labelling terminology. A basic overview of the key categories of spirits and liqueurs is also provided. Upon successful completion successful candidates receive a WSET certificate and lapel pin, and will be able to use the associated WSET certified logo

Level 2 qualification leads to the level 4 diploma programme which is considered a stepping stone designation for masters of wine "MW" candidates, and allows holders to use the DipWSET designation.

(Continued next page)

Please visit!

www.milfordfallfair.com

(‘Buried Roots’ continued from page 12)

Wine awards uncorked across the County

This past month, Canadian wineries have taken centre stage at not just one, but two award events. Here in the County, we’ve had the opportunity to participate and to get some great press on the world stage.

Established in 1981, the All Canadian Wine Championships held its annual competition in June. With judges from across Canada, these awards see hundreds of wineries sending their best products to be judged against their peers, across a wide range of categories.

From a County perspective, this event also partners with the PECM Hospital Foundation and the Rotary Club of Picton to present “Uncork Canada”. This is a phenomenal event where you can taste some truly outstanding wines that are hard to get in Ontario and really show the incredible quality and variety of Canadian wines being produced from coast-to-coast. If you did not attend this year, absolutely mark this on your calendar for 2020! “Uncork Canada” is one of the premiere Canadian wine tastings open to the public.

I was able to taste a number of truly excellent wines from a wide variety of wineries. Given limited time, I focused primarily on wines from BC across a number of varietals, to try to get a feel for recent vintages out west. Some of the award-winning tasting standouts for me included:

- Tightrope Reisling, 2017, Tightrope Winery, Penticton, BC - Gold
- Daydreamer Reisling, 2018, Daydreamer Wines, Naramata, BC - Gold
- Spearhead Chardonnay Clone 95, 2017, Spearhead Winery, Kelowna, BC - Gold
- Okanagan Estate Grand Reserve, Chardonnay, 2016, Jackson Triggs, Kelowna, BC - Double Gold
- QwAM QwMT Syrah, 2016, NK’MIP, Osoyoos, BC - Gold

Congratulations should also go out to our award winners right here in the County: Huff Estates, Karlo Estates, Lighthall Vineyards, Rosehall Run, Sandbanks and Waupoos Estates.

(Note: some of the BC wines listed above may be available directly from the wineries, it all depends on whether or not the winery chooses to comply with Ontario’s LCBO shipping policies. In fact, the state of our wine distribution system in Canada will make for a good article later this year. Let’s just say for now, it’s 19th century in origin and not designed with modern consumers in mind.)

Also happening in the County in June were the National Wine Awards of Canada. These wine awards are hosted in different locations around the country and, for the first time, this year’s judging took place in Wellington from June 10th to 14th. A total of 22 judges from Canada and around the world reviewed the wines. Awards for the various categories are unveiled over the course of several weeks from July 15th to August 2nd and will be available at the WineAlign website by the time you read this. The awards include not only the main grape varietals from across Canada, but also winery of the Year and Top Performing Small Winery.

Many of the judges for the competition were out and about in the County visiting local restaurants and wineries as well as blogging about their experiences here. Amongst these is award-winning wine writer Jamie Goode. Based in the UK, Jamie manages an exceptional blog and website dedicated to wine. He writes for the *Sunday Express* in the UK and has also written several books. I highly recommend that you check out Jamie’s website at www.wineanorak.com. The site features great articles about wine as well as his personal tastings around the world. Based on his recent visit, Jamie just published a series of County winery profiles and tasting notes that serve as an excellent guide to the quality of wines and winemaking that is taking place right here. This kind of international exposure to thousands of followers can really help to drive greater attention to the exceptional quality of Canadian wine that is being developed.

Finally, you may have noticed a couple of wine related designations at the bottom of this column. Firstly, the Canadian Wine Scholar (CWS). This designation was created by Fine Vintage Limited in conjunction with and instructed by the great Canadian wine writer and educator David Lawrason. For those of you who are interested in learning more about the depth and breadth of Canadian wine, I would highly recommend this course. Secondly, the Wine and Spirits Education Trust (WSET). They manage a global network of schools teaching their curriculum. Their level 4 diploma program is widely considered one of the most comprehensive wine education courses globally and is a key criterion for those looking to go on to seek the Master of Wine, MW designation (held by only 382 individuals worldwide). The WSET courses provide a comprehensive benchmark for anyone who wants to learn more about wine.

In Vino Veritas!

Braydon Scully - Three Gables PEC
WSET Level 2 - Wine & Spirit Education Trust
Canadian Wine Scholar - Fine Vintage Limited

Follow me on Instagram and Twitter @threegablespec