



HCM Winter Newsletter

The United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria February 2011

Welcome to Your Community Newsletter

Hi Everyone!

Happy New Year! What a beautiful winter wonderland we live in, here in Head, Clara and Maria. We hope you're getting out and savouring it – or enjoying it from inside with a good fire burning.

We're hoping to get a newsletter out every 3 or 4 months to connect our residents, so if you have something you'd like to include – news, birth, marriage, inspiration, poetry, biography, a concern – please let us know. We'd love to hear from the children of the Townships, as well. The next newsletter will be coming out May 2nd. Please have your contributions in by April 25th. (Cathy Ball-Boudreau)

We want to hear from you!

In this newsletter we've included a survey form so that we can get some feedback to allow us to provide the services that you want. Please send responses to Cathy or Melinda at your earliest convenience. Let's work together to make our small community a thriving one!
CBB

Acknowledgement

Council, at its meeting of Friday, January 21, 2011 has agreed to open up our Municipal Newsletter to contributions from the public and to create a truly Community based publication.

We would like to thank Cathy Balla-Boudreau for offering to

organize content from the community and to spear head that section of what we hope will be a quarterly publication.

If you or your organization or business have something that you would like to contribute, please contact either Cathy or me. Contact info is on the back page. (Melinda Reith)

Municipal Website

Most information included in our newsletters (and so much more) is already available on our municipal website. Please visit us at www.townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca for up to date information. Back issues of all our newsletters are included there as well.

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Grants and Improvements

By now a large number of you have likely had the opportunity to visit the newly renovated Community Centre in Stonecliffe and have observed first hand the improvements made to our Hall. For those of you who have not had the opportunity... 2010 brought funding from both the federal and provincial governments to stimulate the economy. As we do not have a lot of municipal infrastructure our applications focused on improving efficiency and accessibility in our Municipal Hall, Library, Office building and garage.

For 2010, special grants amounted to over \$181,000: \$30,000 for lighting and insulation for the hall & garage; \$54,000 to accessibility modifications, which will result in new washrooms & automatic doors; \$40,000 towards a pavilion and play equipment for Old Mackey park; \$17,000 to water system upgrades & well repairs from the Gas Tax Funding and \$40,000 towards garage upgrades to doors & heating system.

The Infrastructure Stimulus Fund provided 2/3 funding (1/3 each from federal and provincial governments) towards increased insulation and improved lighting in the hall; as well as new doors, lights and heating system in the garage.

The government of Canada providing funding through HRSDC's Enabling Accessibility Fund to pay for new automatic doors in the office, library, hall and washrooms; and to fully pay for remodeling of the washrooms to allow for improved accessibility.

Thank you to the Federal and Provincial governments who under "Canada's Economic Action Plan" and "Ontario's Creating Jobs. Building Ontario." Infrastructure program, HRSDC's "Enabling Accessibility Fund" and the Trillium Foundation have funded important infrastructure projects throughout our municipality.

These are just some of the examples of your tax dollars working in your community, and of our staff and Council successfully applying for special programs. If you haven't yet, come out and see the difference.

In addition to upgrades to our buildings, Old Mackey Park has been given some attention as well; this time with thanks to the Trillium Foundation. In 2010 a pavilion was erected to provide shelter for park users. We have also installed play equipment including swings, and climbing apparatus geared to children from 5—12 years of age.

We are still looking for additional funding/volunteer hours to purchase picnic tables and complete some landscaping. If you have any fundraising ideas or are willing to donate some perennials, please contact any staff member.

Businesses in Our Community

Hilltop SPA and Cottages, Deux Rivières

Did you know that the Café at Hilltop SPA and Cottages in Deux Rivières is open from 11:30 am – 4:00 pm throughout the winter? What a beautiful snowmobile outing there and back! Sue also offers holistic massage therapy in her clean and comfortable spa. Now that sounds like a great way to spend winter...

Any interest in an exercise group? Sue is a qualified instructor, and teaches yoga, as well.

Email: hilltopcottages@hotmail.com (CBB)

Monthly Health Check & Wellness Clinics

The second Wednesday of each month the North Renfrew Long Term Care visits our community centre and provides companionship, entertainment and lunch for our seniors (cost of lunch is \$5.50).

In conjunction, the North Renfrew Emergency Services has started a program whereby they will provide a health assessment for you. They will check vitals: blood pressure, blood sugar levels, heart rate etc. and help you to keep a record so that you (and they) can spot trends or changes that might warrant further consideration by your regular health practitioner. Please come out between 1:00 – 3:00 pm, the second Wednesday of each month for your free consultation. (next dates—February 9, March 9, April 13) For privacy purposes paramedics are normally set up in Council Chambers.

HCM is expected to be present at Expo 150 and is working with John Walden and the Area Economic Development Committee to create a combined exhibit. The theme is "Journey Through Time" and will include some of the valuable resources compiled through the Library Board's History Project. If you have something of interest to contribute to Head, Clara & Maria's exhibit or would like to volunteer your time to prepare our exhibit or staff the booth, please contact Melinda Reith at the Municipal office - 613-586-2526.

Expo 150

"Expo 150 is a celebration of the 150th anniversary of the County of Renfrew. This is going to be an incredible festival and it is taking place June 9-12, 2011. You are welcome to be a part of our amazing celebration. There are many exciting things in the works, and there will be something for every age group, interest and cultural background.

This is a celebration of Renfrew County life and we hope you will mark the dates on your calendars to attend this free event.

Exhibiting at Expo

Visit our Exhibitors page for more information on exhibiting at Expo 150. This is *your* event, and we

For business or commercial exhibit, please contact: **Alexandra Blades**
Phone: 613-735-7288 ext.419
ablades@countyofrenfrew.on.ca

would love to have you there. Exhibits are open to commercial businesses, industry, associations, charities and more." (Excerpt from www.expo150.com)

BUILDING PERMITS REQUIRED

If you are planning **any** building activity, please call Robert Labre at 613-586-1950. Bob works for us one day a week. If you leave a message he will get back to you to arrange a time for consultation

Call Bob first!

613-586-1950

and inspection.

For a complete list of zoning, planning and building requirements as well as Homeowners guides, please see the "Building, Zoning & Planning" page on our web site, the 2007 Building Newsletter on our web site or drop by the Office.

As a quick guide, the following activities may require a permit—please call **before you begin**.

- New building;
- Garage, porch, deck, addition;
- Rooms in basement or attic;
- Enclosing a porch or deck;
- Raising or excavating to add a basement;
- Structure larger than 100 ft²;
- Fireplace or central air;
- Siding, roofing, re-shingling;
- Drywall, vapour barrier, insulation;
- Replacement of doors or windows;
- Demolition; Septic systems.



Otherwise you may have to redo or undo work already completed—and at your own expense.

New Employees and Job Duties

Celebrate Canada Day in the Townships

Once again, the municipality has applied for funding under Heritage Canada's Celebrate Canada Fund and is planning to hold an event at Old Mackey Park. Mark the date and plan to attend as a part of the July long weekend. Details and events are to be planned by a volunteer committee.

Council and staff would like to thank the following individuals for stepping up and volunteering their time to organize this event: Melanie Thiel, Cathy Balla-Boudreau, Marion Chaput, Linda Chartrand and Bob Reid. If you have any ideas or are willing to participate, please contact any of the individuals listed above. (MR)

From the Committee...

We're planning a barbecue, children's games, and music with local talent. Tune up your guitar and/or fiddle and get those step-dancing shoes on!

We're welcoming talent from all ages and fields. Display your artwork; strut your stuff. Come and enjoy the wonderful additions to our historical park; bring your stories and pictures to share.

If you'd like to join the organizing crew, or simply volunteer your time for the event, please call Melanie at 613-589-2795, or Cathy at 586-2634. We'd also like some feedback as to preferred time for the barbecue, particularly for families with younger children.

Although we are not offering the major fireworks due to safety restrictions

and cost, we hope to celebrate with "family-style" backyard fireworks.

Please fill out our survey at the end of the newsletter and return to us so we can plan the event you want. (CBB)

Women's Wellness Group

A small group met mid-January to plan a ladies wellness support group. Current thinking is to work together and encourage each other to achieve a healthy weight through changes in eating habits and incorporating fun physical activity into our lives. The group is exploring how to move forward, including exercise options that could be available to ladies from the township and surrounding areas! Currently the group will meet Wednesday mornings at 9:00—library or hall! Interested in joining? Please contact Gayle Watters at 613-586-2691. More details to follow as they become available. Watch for posters. (GW)

Canada Day Fundraiser

Interested in assisting with raising funds for Canada Day and improvements to Old Mackey Park? Cathy has arranged a fundraising event through Veseys Bulbs from PEI. Full colour brochures are enclosed. Orders to be returned to Cathy or Melinda by April 1, 2011. Complete the **customer** section of the form to place your order. **Cheques should be made payable to the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria.** Call for more information. (MR)

We would like to welcome two new staff members to the municipality. In January Noella Lebreton was hired as Treasurer Trainee to work with Ruth until Ruth's early retirement in December of this year. Noella lives in Mackey and I am sure she will make a positive addition to our office staff.

We would also like to announce that Bill Donnelly is our new Municipal Maintenance Worker. This newly created position includes the old disposal site attendant duties as well as those of the part-time summer labourer. Bill will work year round maintaining our disposal sites and collecting waste and recycling within the municipality and will work with Wilfred/Terry during the summer months on Roads. Coordinating the positions will allow more flexibility and cross training so that we have backup during holidays and other absences.

With Ruth's impending retirement Robert Labre has agreed to take over the Community Fire Safety Officer's responsibilities. Watch for Bob later in the year as he conducts home inspections and promotes fire safety.

Back in July, Linda Stewart assumed the responsibilities of Hall Caretaker. There have been significant improvements to the cleanliness of our facility since that time. Thank you Linda.

Carefor - Assistance in Completing your Income Tax Returns

Again this year Head, Clara & Maria is participating as a drop off location for the Carefor volunteer income tax program beginning late February until late April. Please watch for specific dates in the NRT, or call our office. This program is a service of the Canada Revenue Agency and will help most low income Canadians with simple tax situations complete their tax returns. Carefor Health and Community Services have specially trained local volunteers to assist you in completing your income tax returns. The service is free and this program has been ongoing for many years.

Drop off points include our municipal office, open from 8:30–4:00, Monday to Friday; the Municipal Office in Point Alexander; Chalk River and the North Renfrew Long Term Care in Deep River. For more information please feel free to call Jim at 613-589-2788.

BOOK CLUB

A book club gathers every 6 weeks or so in people's living rooms and kitchens. Our next meeting is at Marlene Gibson's in Stonecliffe on Feb. 11th at 2:30. We're covering the 5 books recommended as the top Canadian novels of the decade for the CBC radio program: *Canada Reads*.

If you'd like to join us, please contact Cathy Balla-Boudreau (613-586-2634) or Marlene Gibson (613-586-2761). (CBB)

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

The CWL is planning a Valentine's Day Bingo to be held Sunday, February 13, 2011 at 7:00 pm in the Stonecliffe Community Centre.

50% of proceeds will be donated to the Cemetery Board for their maintenance fund. The remaining funds

VALENTINE'S BINGO

February 13, 2011

Dessert and beverages available for a small donation.

will be retained to provide funds for CWL events such as the Annual Seniors Christmas Party and Dinner.

If you are not into Bingo or are not available but would still like to help out, you might consider donating a prize. If so, please contact Linda Chartrand @ 613-586-2366 or linda.chartrand@sympatico.ca. Come on out for an evening of entertainment, companionship and a chance to win some great prizes.

February is membership month. If you would like to become a member of the local Catholic Women's League, please call Linda for additional information. For members who have not already done so, dues are to be submitted before the end of February.

Family Day and the Missing Link

Once again, the Missing Link Snowmobile Club is hosting an annual Family Day event on Sunday, Feb. 20th with the focus on families and children having winter fun in the great outdoors. This year the location is Scope Lake along Mackey Creek Road.

In order to prevent challenges with parking (especially in the

The Missing Link in the Community

event of a snow fall requiring plowing) please park along the south side of Mackey Creek Road (left hand side on your way in) making sure that you do not block driveways or other access. Thank you for your consideration and enjoy your day outside.

WATCH FOR...

Ukrainian Easter Egg Decorating & Pottery sponsored by HCM Public Library Board.

Coming this spring.

Watch for notices and posters for more details.

CHECK OUT YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

Many changes have occurred these past few months at the Public Library. Renovations are complete providing much needed storage and accessible work centres for all. The library's circulation is now automated through a program called "JASI". This project was made available through the support of SOLS – Southern Ontario Library Services and OLS-N, Ontario Library Services-North as well as from past grant monies budgeted to improve the library for our patrons, volunteers and staff.

The library has many electronic databases which our patrons can take advantage of. The links for these data bases and sites are listed on the current library website <http://hcmpubliclibrary.ca/> and are as follows: [Career Cruising](#); [Eureka](#); [Ebsco Auto Repair Reference Centre](#); [Ebsco Canadian Points of View Reference Centre](#); [Gale](#); [Overdrive](#); [Ancestry](#); [Teen Health and Wellness](#).

Our website is being upgraded thanks to the staff of OLS-N and should be completed in March 2011. This project will not only not cost us any money but in the long run will save us

Shop at Valu-Mart in Deep River? Drop your receipts off at the library. This is one of our major fundraising programs!

some.

One of our newest programs is "Tumble Books" a dynamic reading program for kids. It is something you can take advantage of at our library or in your home. You will find: TumbleReadables, Tumble Talking Books and Tumble Book Library. This online collection provides options such as read along, audio and/or animated features to our younger generation.

Our collection is very diversified and current, with reading material that will meet the interests of most everybody in the townships.

Our DVD selection is boosted with our DVD pool items from SOLS and patrons should easily make a

**Coffee Mornings to resume soon— watch for posters, emails and our website for additional information.
<http://hcmpubliclibrary.ca/>**

choice from many titles. Titles from the pool are changed regularly.

The library also has a laptop lending program (special commitments of liability apply) to assist our patrons when away from home.

Our Public Library is a CAP site (Community Access Program) and offers 3 computer stations for public use, each fully accessible. We also have WI-FI for those who have after hour needs or wish to bring in their own laptops to access mail etc.

Don't forget to visit our Historical Site to learn about the history and people throughout the hamlets and the history of the townships. Check it out at <http://images.ourontario.ca/hcimpl/search> or through links from our Library page.

For your convenience our library is open daily from 8:30 to 4:00 through the Township offices, as well as Tuesday evenings from 6:00 – 8:30 and Saturday afternoons 12:30 to 3:00.

We are volunteer oriented so let us know if you have some time to give. Our newly automated system requires you to have a membership card. Drop by and we'll sign you up. (GW)

FIRE SAFETY & PREVENTION

The best way to avoid fires and fire loss is through education and prevention. Most of this is common sense however countless fires are caused every year because of these practises.

Do not use extension cords that are frayed or damaged, have loose prongs or heat excessively when in use and avoid running them under carpets or heavy furniture! Do not run appliances with large demand on extension cords and avoid overloading outlets!



WATCH YOUR ASHES!

Allow the ashes from your woodstove or fireplace to cool before emptying them into a metal container then cover with a tight fitting lid. Keep the container outside; do not store in a shed or garage, or on your porch even for a short time.

If you use portable space heaters make sure you keep them at least 3 feet away from combustibles (things that could burn) including books and paper, bedding, furniture, or curtains. Turn your heaters off before leaving your home or going to bed.

Because we have an obligation to report incidents to the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office, all fires (structure or vegetation) within the townships of Head, Clara and Maria must be reported to the Municipal office or to our Community Fire Prevention Officer. Please call Robert Labre 613-401-6955 (fire prevention officer) or 613-586-2526. (RL)

LIBRARY BOARD COFFEE MORNINGS TO RESUME IN THE NEAR FUTURE

A RELAXING MORNING OF FRIENDS, COFFEE & TREATS
WATCH FOR OUR POSTERS AND EMAILS FOR ADDITIONAL
DETAILS (If you would like to receive email updates, please provide
your email address to hcmlibra@xplornet.com)
HAVE A TOPIC YOU'D LIKE TO HAVE SOMEONE COME AND
MAKE A PRESENTATION ON? LET US KNOW!

HCM Community Survey

We'd like to survey the needs and interests of the community. Please leave your completed copy at the municipal office, or forward to Cathy Balla-Boudreau at ballaboudreaudc@hotmail.com, or #36892 Hwy. 17, Mackey. You may also drop information off at the Township Hall in Stonecliffe, care of Melinda, or email twpshcm@xplornet.com. We look forward to your feedback. The community has changed a lot over the past decade, and we'd like to know what you'd like to see evolving in our townships as we work together to make it a creative and fulfilling place to live.

Name: (optional) _____

1. What are the ages of the people in your household?
2. What activities or programs would you like to see offered in our Townships?
3. If there are children in your household, would you be interested in a monthly program? If so, for what age group?
4. We would like to know your time preference for our July 1st celebration:
_____ 12 - 4 pm _____ 4 - 8 or 9 pm
5. Would you be interested in attending a weekly (or more frequent) Yoga class offered at the Township Hall?
_____yes _____no
6. Are you interested in another form of group exercise? Dance? Aerobics?
7. Would you be interested in Beginner's Bridge on a weekly basis?
____yes ____no
8. Are there crafts or skills you would like to learn, display or share?
9. Would you like us to invite a speaker to discuss a particular area of interest - e.g. health issues, pensions, environment, well-being, fly-tying?
10. Please feel free to comment on any issue you would like, attach additional paper if required.

Thank you for your time. Your contributions give us important feedback in building a caring and stimulating community that meets the needs of all of us in Head, Clara and Maria.

WASTE COLLECTION REMINDERS

With a number of different people completing our waste collection over the past weeks it has become apparent that Municipal policy needs to be re-circulated and reinforced. The following are pertinent sections of the Environment Policy of the Municipality. Our employees have been advised to follow the guidelines of this policy. Should you have a situation which may constitute an exception – please contact the office; otherwise, the material will be left at the end of your drive or in your vehicle (if brought to the site).

1. The Municipality shall maintain and manage its disposal sites as per the “Site Development and Operations Plan” and the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) Certificate of Approval for each site.
2. Recycling initiatives will be encouraged and a program will be implemented being modified as more and more products are being accepted by Waste Diversion Ontario’s Stewardship programs.
3. A Household Hazardous Special Waste collection will be organized annually for use by our residents. (We are attempting to hold an event annually however; the response in 2009 did not warrant a 2010 event. There will likely be a collection in the fall of 2011.)

Because of the Ministry of the Environment rules the municipality is not authorized to hold Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste at our disposal sites, nor is this material to be landfilled. Instead, each homeowner is to store this material until they have an authorized venue for disposal. **This means that you are responsible to store your old paint, oil and oil containers, propane tanks, fertilizers, fluorescent lights and batteries – to name a few items – until our fall collection. Our attendant will be refusing these materials at the site.** For a more detailed list of hazardous materials, please check our website or contact the office.

Currently we are in the process of having a Waste Management Plan drafted through an outside firm, funded by the Continuous Improvement Fund (created by Stewardship Ontario, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and Waste Diversion Ontario) to encourage and increase recycling. Once this plan is created it will be presented to Council who will ultimately make decisions as to how best to increase our recycling and reduce the amount of materials that are going to landfill. Many different practises will be considered. Once Council’s decisions are made, they will be implemented, advertised and enforced. Please do your part and recycle. Watch for news in an upcoming newsletter or visit our website for additional information.

What can we do right now? It has come to our attention that past practises have resulted in large amounts of recyclable materials ending up in the landfill. Please be patient while our new attendant makes the changes required to effectively implement Council’s current policies.

This may mean that you will have to further sort your material. Bill will be carefully checking the material going into the landfill and will be diverting those items that may be reused or recycled. Please be prepared and come to the site with your materials pre-sorted. Gone are the days when everything simply got dumped into the hole. Enforcing policies might also mean that you may have to wait in line while loads are being reviewed. Although perhaps inconvenient, these changes are necessary to ensure that our landfill serves us for many years to come. Waste management has gotten expensive; lets each do our part to keep our costs down.

Guidelines for Roadside Collection

The municipality limits the roadside collection of waste to 2 standard sized garbage bags per household or establishment per week in order to keep disposal site costs down and to encourage recycling. (As our garbage and recycling is loaded and unloaded by hand it must be properly bagged. Loose material will not be collected. Any material left at the roadside is the property owner's responsibility.) Currently, material in excess of this amount may be dropped off at the disposal site. This too may change in the near future pending Council review of a draft Waste Management Plan.

The municipality shall arrange for the roadside collection of recyclable materials from residences in Mackey and Stonecliffe. The material from residences in Bissett Creek and Deux Rivieres will be collected by the disposal site attendant on the same days as garbage is collected. (Please see our website for additional details.)

Depots shall be placed at the disposal sites in Mackey, Bissett Creek and beside the Municipal garage in Stonecliffe for the placement of excess recyclable materials and the materials collected from Bissett Creek and Deux Rivieres.

No construction debris or discarded household furniture is to be picked up at any time; it must be brought to the disposal site by the resident.

All garbage must be in tied plastic bags or sealed cardboard boxes. Any garbage that is scattered about by birds or animals must be picked up by the owner of the garbage and is not the responsibility of the attendant. (Many people have created bins or use old freezers to hold their waste to avoid spread by animals or weather.)

Pick up will be from Highway 17 and municipal roads only. Persons residing on other roads shall take their garbage to the nearest landfill site or to the nearest pickup at a recognised point. This recognised point is often the snowplow turnaround for the municipal road or at the edge of Highway 17. This is also the point used for collection of recyclable materials. The disposal site attendant, while doing pick up, is authorized to refuse materials that are inappropriate to transport or are not accepted by our Certificates of Approval.

The disposal site attendant has the ultimate authority to determine if road or weather conditions should prevent collection on any given day. Should the attendant decide that collection shall not occur; he/she shall contact the Municipal office and advise them of this decision as soon as possible. Collection shall then take place on the next day that is not a Statutory holiday.

The attendant will allow a maximum of 4 - one-half ton truck loads of brush per household per year to be disposed of.

The burning of household garbage is an infraction and is subject to fines from the MOE. Burning of the garbage at the disposal sites will not be allowed at any time. Anyone caught setting fire to the garbage will be reported to the MOE. If an employee, their employment will be terminated.

RECYCLING COLLECTION DATES FOR 2011

2011	
January	10, 24
February	7, 22- Tuesday
March	7, 21
April	4, 18
May	2, 16, 30
June	13, 27
July	11, 25
August	8, 22
September	6-Tuesday, 19
October	3, 17, 31
November	14, 28
December	12, 27- Tuesday

GARBAGE COLLECTION DATES FOR 2011

Deux Rivieres

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Bissett Creek

Tuesday 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Stonecliffe

Thursday 11:00 - 12:00 noon

Mackey

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

***Times are approximate, please be sure you have your material out on time. If you have any challenges with your collection service, speak to our attendant or call the office.**

DISPOSAL SITE HOURS

Bissett Creek Road Site

Tuesday 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm (3 hours)

Saturday 12:45pm - 3:45pm (3 hours)

Stonecliffe Site – Kenny Road

Thursday 12:45pm - 4:15 pm (3.5 hours)

Saturday 8:30 am to 12:00 noon (3.5 hours)

SAME HOURS YEAR ROUND

Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste (MHSW) or (HHW)

The following materials are considered Hazardous Waste and are not allowed to be disposed of in landfill. In order to provide an opportunity for disposal for our residents, Council has sponsored a HHW collection event in the past and will continue to do so. The date is to be confirmed but will be in the fall and well advertised. Please watch for notices at post offices, our webpage and the Township office.

As there are costs involved with this collection, based on the volume of materials collected, HHW disposal is only available to residents and for materials that originated within the municipality. A staff member will be on site with the contractor to ensure that only residents make use of this service.

The materials to be collected will include: Paints and stains and their containers; Solvent such as thinners for paint, lacquer and contact cement, paint strippers and degreasers, and their containers; Used oil filters; Oil containers of 30 litres or less for a wide range of oil products such as engine and marine oils, and hydraulic, power steering and transmission flu-

ids; Single use, dry cell batteries such as alkaline-manganese, zinc-carbon, lithium and button cell batteries (non-rechargeable) Automotive antifreeze (engine coolant and related containers; Pressurized containers such as propane tanks and cylinders; Fertilizers, for example, plant food or plant nutrients containing nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium (N-P-K); Fungicides, herbicides, insecticides and pesticides and their containers; Aerosols; Acids; Cleaners; Fluorescents; and gasoline.

The following materials will not be collected: explosives and munitions, radioactive waste, pathological wastes, containers over 22 L and commercial wastes.

There will also be no transferring of waste out of containers— so expect that the container that you transport the materials in will be disposed of as well. **Please watch for posters with additional information closer to MHSW Collection day.**

Hall & Roads News

Hall Water

After some years, the water in the hall is now safe for human consumption. Using Federal Gas Tax funds, in 2010 we installed a new well, water softening system, iron filter and a UV filter, all as per a directive from the Board of Health enforcing Ontario's Safe Drinking Water legislation. After more than 4 consecutive CLEAN water samples, we are clear to begin drinking the water in the municipal hall. Although the water does taste a little salty, I have been assured that the levels pose no health risk, even to those who must follow a low sodium diet.

Water from the tap may be used to make coffee and for cooking. We will no longer be providing bottled water. For those looking for a glass of cold water, an additional osmosis filter has been added to the back sink in the kitchen – the small tap on the side. This tank however is quite small, approximately 1.5 gallons, and does not fill quickly. Please do not use for coffee. That is not its purpose; the system cannot operate quickly enough to refill the storage container in a short time.

Parking

Please note that due to accessibility requirements there are now three designated "Accessible" parking spots ONE outside each of the three main doors. Please respect these spaces for people with mobility challenges. Each of the spaces is marked.

Hall Use

We have amended our equipment borrowing policy slightly due to damage to chairs. Council has reviewed the policy and is now charging a flat fee – based on the number of chairs that are borrowed. The fee is minimal - \$50 for all 90 chairs, but needs to be charged to pay for chair replacement.

Reminders from our Road Super

As per the *Highway Traffic Act*, 1990, Section 181, No person shall deposit snow or ice on a roadway without permission in writing to do so from the Ministry or the road authority responsible for the maintenance of the road. Please be cautious while clearing snow from your drive or lane and do not leave it on the road.

Additionally, be cautious while parking in snow plow turnarounds at the end of most of our municipal roads. Parked cars and trailers cause the plow to leave windrows of snow alongside vehicles which become obstructions once the vehicles are moved and the material is frozen. We are doing our best to keep our roads safe for everyone. Please do your part. Charges may be laid through the Ontario Provincial Police and the Highway Traffic Act.

Also, to prevent the costs of excessive repairs to our roads, the Municipality will implement Half

Load Restrictions on Mackey Creek, Kenny & Ashport Roads and Dunlop Crescent. Signs will be posted when this period begins and removed when the reduced load period ends. Thank you for your consideration.

Newcomer News

We thought we'd use this column to briefly introduce ourselves to each other over time. Some are new; others returning.

For those of you who haven't yet met Gerald Ryan, you'll probably remember him from Loblaw's/ValuMart in Deep River from which he retired and moved to Mackey. He bought Melvin and Cindy's place and has made it his own by building a great porch from which to enjoy summer barbecues and soak in the landscape. Gerry enjoys fishing, hunting, boating and just about everything that is the great outdoors. You've certainly come to the right place, Gerry!

Cathy & Dave Balla-Boudreau have retired and are finally back to their home in Mackey after many adventures away. Dave's back to hockey – yes, you're never too old – well, sometimes.... and Cathy's taking up pottery.

Micheline and John have moved from the Mackey Motel. We'll miss you. Best wishes, to you both! (CBB)

Anything for this column? Please contact Cathy or Melinda.

RECYCLING INFORMATION

PLASTIC BAGS - All bags except chip and cereal bags;

ALUMINUM FOIL & PLATES;

METAL & ALUMINUM CANS;

CARDBOARD - All types of boxes and box-board broken down and flattened;

MILK AND JUICE BOXES/CARTONS;

ALL PLASTIC CONTAINERS Ketchup-mustard margarine/yogurt tubs etc.;

PLASTIC BOTTLES;

STYROFOAM;

PAPER PRODUCTS - Newspapers, Egg Cartons, Magazines, Catalogues, Telephone Books, Office Paper, Household Junk Mail, Envelopes;

BROWN PAPER - potato bags, flour bags, sugar bags;

GLASS CONTAINERS, BOTTLES, JARS Put Any Broken Glass in a Separate, Sealed Container to Prevent Injuries.

SMALL APPLIANCES.

Our contractors request that all materials be cleaned and placed in clear (transparent) plastic bags for collection to prevent material from absorbing water from weather, making recyclables more difficult to collect and process.

There are a few simple rules to ensure that the materials collected end up recycled and not in our landfill. All containers must be rinsed so that no food particles remain in or on the container or bag. It's not necessary to remove paper from cans however; it is advisable to push the lids inside cans to prevent injuries during handling.

Separate paper from material that has been washed. Unclean and damaged (wet) material will end up in our landfill.

Cottagers/Visitors - please make your best efforts to join in our program. You may be able to place your recyclables out along with full time residents at designated locations or, you may place them in bins located beside the Township garage in Stonecliffe or at the Stonecliffe Disposal Site. Please do your part to keep our Township green. For more information please visit our Recycling page on our web site.

2010 Recycling and Garbage Statistics

2010 was the fourth year of our municipal recycling program and volume is down. 2009 numbers show a decrease in the amount of material recycled and an increase in costs.

Stewardship Ontario funding received based on the yearly volume and costs of Blue Box Program

2009 for 2007—\$7,939

2010 for 2008—\$7,104

2011 for 2009—\$4,678

Although our stats are not compiled for 2010 we do know that there is still a significant amount of material being

diverted. The challenge is that there is also significant material going into the landfill.

Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste

There was poor attendance at the 2009 fall Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste Collection (MHSW) with only 6 people coming out and as a result we did not host an event in 2010.

We did receive many phone calls about what to do with this type of material during the fall. The answer is... **do not landfill it but instead store it for our MHSW collection in the fall.**

Although we are confident that the amount of material being diverted is significant residents and visitors both need to continue to take steps to reduce the amount of waste going to the landfill sites.

Recycling Contractor

Our recycling contractor is Andre Bergeron the owner of B.A.G. Recyclage, of Rapides des Joachims. You can contact Andre at 613-586-2215 for any questions or concerns you may have.



REDUCE REUSE

If you have large items that you

need to dispose of, please call Andre, they may be recyclable, and he may agree to collect them from you apart from regular collection days.

Bow Tie Classic

The Missing Link Snowmobile Club is holding its 14th Annual "Bow-Tie Classic" Snowmobile Rally on Sat. March 5th. Registration starts at 9.00 a.m. at Yates General Store, Stonecliffe. **Silent Auction** to follow at the Stonecliffe Township Hall. Viewing of Auction begins at 2:00 p.m. with the Auction starting at 6:00 p.m. Pasta and a bun will be available at the Auction. (Marlene Gibson)

All articles contained within this publication have been created and/or edited by Melinda Reith (MR) unless otherwise noted. Additional contributors include: Marlene Gibson (MG), Gayle Watters (GW), Robert Labre (RL) and Cathy Balla-Boudreau (CBB).

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Send Newsletter contributions, suggestions, completed surveys or bulb orders to Cathy Balla-Boudreau at balla-boudreaudc@hotmail.com, or drop them by #36892 Hwy. 17, Mackey.

You may also drop information off at the Township Hall in Stonecliffe, care of Melinda, or email twpshcm@xplornet.com.

For a County level online newsletter you can subscribe to Ottawa Valley Business news at admin@ovbusiness.com.



Tax Notices

Tax Notices will be mailed early March. Due date for this interim bill is March 31, 2011. Options for payment are in person at the Township Office by cash or cheque or via regular mail.

We would like to remind you that you now have the opportunity to pay your taxes through an Electronic Funds Transfer at any Ontario branch of Scotiabank.

You need to ensure that you have your tax bill with you. Although we do not have the volume to warrant the cost of accepting credit cards or interac at the office, we are attempting to find alternate cost-effective ways for you to pay your bills.

How Your Interim Bill is calculated?

The interim bill (usually due the last day of March) is based on an estimate. It is 50% of your previous year's tax bill. The tax rates and instalment due dates for 2011 have not yet been set. Past dates have been the end of June and September and will likely be retained if possible.