

# Back Roads

...connecting communities - April 2012

April Observances - Easter, Amateur Radio Month,  
Autism Awareness, National Poetry Month . . . just to name a few

## Powassan Maple Syrup Festival

April 28th, 2012 will mark the 15th Annual Powassan Maple Syrup Festival (PMSF). As in years previous, we will be starting the day with our Pancake Breakfasts at 7am. Most festival activities and entertainment generally come to end around 4 pm - so, be sure not to miss anything! It will be a very full day of food, live music, crafts, and family fun events including some expanded events and new attractions to the Festival. In the past 14 years, we have generally seen the attendance at our one-day festival around 5000 people. For this year, we expect to have fantastic attendance once again and maybe try to break the 2010 festival attendance record of 8000 people! It is very important to remember that there is no fee for admittance to the festival - it is free for the whole family!

## *Powassan Hairstyling*

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*Cori Hogan-Stillar*

*& Heather Grasser*

Events and attractions that will be back at the 2012 Festival will include sheep shearing, a full Scottish heavy events competition, horse-drawn wagon rides, sugar bush tours, a full-day of musical entertainment, craft and food vendors on Main Street. Vendors and local businesses will also be showcasing what they have to offer at the arena, the Powassan Sportsplex. Some of the new and exciting additions that were introduced for the 2011 Festival will also be returning, including the cooking with Maple Syrup demonstrations as well as some events specifically for children. Once again, we are also very pleased to announce the return of the West Coast Lumberjack Show! The WCLS has been a crowd favourite every year with its demonstrations of skill and friendly competition, which is why this year's WCLS, will be showcasing an expanded show with more competitors and longer show times. Don't miss out on this action-packed event!

As a quick and friendly reminder, the Powassan Maple Syrup Festival is held no matter what the weather, so please dress accordingly. Powassan is just 20 min south of North Bay and 50 min north of Huntsville on HWY 11. You will find our Main Street packed with things to do and see, so be sure to bring your family, friends and smiles - come and join us for a fun day devoted to Maple Syrup! Please take a look at the events section on the website for a full listing [www.powassansyrupfestival.ca](http://www.powassansyrupfestival.ca)

## *Kudos Restaurant & Bar*

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### Days to Remember in April ...

	NOTE: An * in front of the day means that the observance is on the same date every year regardless of the day it falls on.
1	*April Fools or All Fools Day
1	Library Snap Shot Day
1	Palm Sunday
2	*International Children's Book Day
2	*World Autism Day
3	*Find A Rainbow Day
4	National Day of Hope
5	*National Deep Dish Pizza Day
6	Good Friday
6	*National Student Athlete Day
6	Passover (at sundown)
7	International Pillow Fight Day (Always First Saturday)
7	*National Beer Day
7	*No Housework Day
8	Easter
10	*National Farm Animals Day
10	National Library Workers Day
11	*Barbershop Quartet Day
12	*D.E.A.R. Day (aka Drop Everything And Read)
12	*Walk on Your Wild Side Day
13	*Scrabble Day
14	Poem in Your Pocket Day
15	*Take a Wild Guess Day
15	*That Sucks Day
17	*Blah! Blah! Blah! Day
17	*Ford Mustang Day
18	*International Amateur Radio Day
18	*National Wear Your Pajamas To Work Day
20	Husband Appreciation Day
20	National Day of Silence
21	*National Chocolate-covered Cashews Day
22	*Earth Day
22	*Girl Scout Leaders Day
23	*International Marconi Day
25	Administrative Professionals Day or Secretary's Day
25	Hairstylists Appreciation Day
26	*National Kids and Pets Day
27	National Hairball Awareness Day (Always Last Friday)
28	Eeyore's Birthday Day (Last Saturday)
29	National Pet Parent's Day (Last Sunday)
29	*Zipper Day
30	National Honesty Day
30	World Healing Day

(See [www.brownielocks.com](http://www.brownielocks.com) for more)

### Regular Features

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### Thank you to all the businesses where you can pick up your BackRoads ....

Callander Legion, Callander  
 Chisholm Country Market & Feed  
 Chisholm Township Office, Chisholm  
 Continental Barber, North Bay  
 Echoes Restaurant, Powassan  
 Ethel's Restaurant, Powassan  
 Gerry's General Store, Restoule  
 Groulx Farm Equipment, Astorville  
 Hawke 'n Fox, Powassan  
 Krause Farms Food & Feed, Powassan  
 KUDOS Restaurant & Bar, Powassan  
 Nipissing Township Office, Nipissing  
 Northern Custom Tattoo & Piercing, North Bay  
 Northern Honda, North Bay  
 Oshell's Valu-mart, Powassan  
 Perron's Freshmart, Astorville  
 Powassan & District Union Library, Powassan  
 Powassan Hairstylists, Powassan  
 Powassan Legion, Powassan  
 Powassan Medical Clinic, Powassan  
 Powassan United Church Bookstore, Powassan  
 Serenity Paws - Pet Salon, North Bay  
 Sparrows Nest, Powassan  
 Stories Gas Station, Nipissing  
 Trout Creek General Store, Trout Creek  
 Wasi Corner Restaurant, Callander  
 Wasi Garage, Callander  
 Young's South Shore Centre, Nipissing

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### The Spunky Old Broad © Newsletter

#### Being a Balanced S.O.B.

I know that you have heard a lot about balance wheels, where you look at your life and all the components in it. Normally there are six to eight different areas positioned on the wheel--financial, career, family, education, leisure, community, spiritual and health.

These areas have probably changed for you over the years, but the important thing is to decide what they are for you right now.

I want you to sit down and really think about where you want to be a year from now. It may not be easy, but it will get you started. Once you come up with it, divide it into quarters, then months, weeks and finally days. Then write down in your daily to-do's, whatever it takes to make this happen.

Your S.O.B., Dr. Gayle Carson

[www.spunkyoldbroad.com](http://www.spunkyoldbroad.com)

Read my blog at [www.spunkyoldbroad.com/blog](http://www.spunkyoldbroad.com/blog); Follow me on [www.twitter.com/gaylecarson](http://www.twitter.com/gaylecarson); Listen to me on [www.wsradio.com](http://www.wsradio.com) every Tuesday evening 7 to 8 p.m. EST

*(Just a quick Thank-you to Dr. Carson for allowing BackRoads to print her Newsletter--please visit her website!)*



**JMI DESIGN STUDIO**  
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& get the 6th hem done free!!

#### Things that make you go HMMMMM ...

- \* If you choke a Smurf, what color does it turn?
- \* If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled
- \* Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?
- \* When cheese gets it's picture taken, what does it say?
- \* Why are a wise man and a wise guy opposites?
- \* Why do overlook and oversee mean opposite things?
- \* Do Roman paramedics refer to IV's as "4's"?
- \* Why are there locks on the door of stores that are open 24/7 365 days a year?

## Community Updates

### ***POWASSAN Peter McIsaac, Mayor - [pmcisaac@powassan.net](mailto:pmcisaac@powassan.net)***

It's Maple Syrup time and it kicked off with the tree tapping ceremony at Matthews Maple Syrup. This year I was joined by Mayor Al McDonald of the City of North Bay, Mayor Pat Haufe of Nipissing Township and MPP Vic Fedeli. From now until the Maple Syrup Festival, April 28th, you can enjoy a pancake breakfast every Saturday morning at the Powassan United Church or Sunday morning at the Glendale Community Center, hosted by the Powassan Lions Club.

Last month I was asked to meet with the Trout Creek Seniors to discuss the changes to the Ontario Building Code. Approximately seventy people took the time to join me. I was able to discuss and answer questions on how this will affect the residents of Trout Creek when recommended changes are implemented by the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority and the Source Water Protection Committee. The proposed changes will have a profound impact on the community of Trout Creek, restricting development and future growth and opportunity. The Council of the Municipality of Powassan is committed to removing Trout Creek from the Source Water Protection Policy. We have already met with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Honorable Kathleen Wynne to discuss our concerns. We have a meeting set with the North Bay Mattawa Conservation Authority. Our next step will be to request a meeting with the Minister of the Environment.

~Peter

### ***NIPISSING Pat Haufe, Mayor - [nipissingtwp@xplornet.com](mailto:nipissingtwp@xplornet.com)***

Well it certainly appears as though Spring has sprung. We welcome the warm weather and sunshine. It does create certain concerns when the snow melts this quickly however. Ice shacks made their way to shore through water and slush and the roads are becoming soft as the frost comes out of the ground. The Township of Nipissing has posted a half-load limit on its roads in response to these conditions.

We are all looking forward to the Powassan Maple Syrup Festival. Please visit the Nipissing Township Museum booth at the Festival.

Climate change has prompted the review of, and changes to, the open air burning policies previously in place. A new Open Air Burning By-Law has been adopted for Nipissing Township. Fire permits will now be required year round. For more information on these changes and all happenings in Nipissing, please visit our website at [www.nipissingtownship.com](http://www.nipissingtownship.com).

~Pat

### ***CHISHOLM Teresa Miller, Councillor - [teresamiller@live.com](mailto:teresamiller@live.com)***

April is upon us already and with it comes spring cleaning - Please remember to sort and recycle always. Chisholm has scheduled its main events to celebrate its Centennial, as a matter of fact it was April 20th, 1912 that we had our first council meeting in Chisholm. May 5th has been set for a Historical Evening being held at the Chisholm United Church starting at 7pm. June 2nd has been set as our "Centennial Day" with historical displays from area families and organizations at the Township Office, including displays by our Fire Department, the dedication of our Centennial Cairn, music by local talent, a historical vehicle display at the Public Works yard ... and topped off with a dinner, presentations to our Volunteer Fire Fighters and a Community Dance. If you need information on these events please feel free to contact myself or the township office.

I would also like to extend a wish of good luck to our mayor, Leo Jobin, as he will be representing us in the Pancake Toss at the Powassan Maple Syrup Festival! (Let's hope he has been practicing!!) I hope to see many of you out enjoying the day on April 28th—what a great community event that supports our local syrup producers and crafters. See you there!! For more information about our community and its businesses please see us at [www.chisholm.ca](http://www.chisholm.ca)

~Teresa

**MPP NIPISSING, Vic Fedeli vic.fedeli@pc.ola.org or (705) 474-8340**

With spring upon us, it's always great to see so many people getting out and about to check out what our riding has to offer. When Patty and I heard of a pheasant farm in Commanda, I thought it would be something like the quail farm in Nipissing Township – growing the birds for food production. Imagine our surprise when we met Tony and Diane Matthys! Their pheasant aviary, filled with exotic birds from around the world, is remarkable. Most of the birds are extremely rare and many are endangered species. Forest destruction, hunting, and increased population are all putting pressure on their predominantly Asian habitat, so the Matthys' became private breeders. They have about 200 birds and two dozen species. The birds breed and hatch around 50 to 60 new additions every year. Tony sells or exchanges the birds with private breeders and exotic zoos across North America. This 'expanded hobby' has not only been personally rewarding to Tony and Diane, it has helped to protect rare treasures from around the world. It was a real treat to find this hidden jewel right in our own backyard.

~Vic

**CHISHOLM**

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**What Is Autism?**

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a complex neuro-biological condition that can affect the normal function of the gastrointestinal, immune, hepatic, endocrine and nervous systems. It impacts normal brain development leaving most individuals with communication problems, difficulty with typical social interactions and a tendency to repeat specific patterns of behaviour. There is also a markedly restricted repertoire of activity and interests. Individuals on the autism spectrum tend to have varying degrees and combinations of symptoms and therefore treatment needs to be specific

to the individual. **Strengths Exhibited by Individuals with Autism** Although some areas of development in a child with autism are delayed, children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) often exhibit skills beyond their years in other areas. These intellectual strengths may overshadow the developmental problems experienced by your child. These strengths may include one or more of the following:

- Non-verbal reasoning skills
- Reading skills
- Perceptual motor skills
- Drawing skills
- Computer interest and skills
- Exceptional memory
- Visual Spatial abilities
- Music skills

**Weaknesses Exhibited by Individuals with Autism** The above exceptional skills may be combined with subtle or significant delays in other areas of development. All individuals with the diagnosis demonstrate some of the following:

- Impairment in Social relationships
- Deficits in communication/language
- Perseveration on interests and activities
- Dependence on routine
- Gastrointestinal problems
- Abnormal responses to sensory stimulation
- Behaviour problems
- Variability of intellectual functioning
- Uneven development profile
- Difficulties in sleeping, toileting and eating
- Immune irregularities
- Nutritional deficiencies

The primary symptoms of autism include problems with communication and social interaction as well as repetitive interests and activities. *(for more information please see [www.autismcanada.org](http://www.autismcanada.org))*

**When power leads man toward arrogance, poetry reminds him of his limitations. When power narrows the area of man's concern, poetry reminds him of the richness and diversity of existence. When power corrupts, poetry cleanses.** - John F. Kennedy

### Is There a Limit to Innovation?

Submitted by Bond Keevil

In the past several centuries we have witnessed an impressive array of culture changing technologies being invented to solve problems: the automobile, printing press, and now the Internet. It is easy to accept that these inventions have had profound effects on the course of civilization.

Today the world is facing seemingly unsolvable problems that undermine our expectations of the future: Global economic problems, increasingly scarce fuel and water resources, world hunger and over population to name a few. Many believe that the way forward is through more innovation so that we may discover the next technology that helps us overcome these challenges.

Is it realistic to believe that western ingenuity can provide a limitless source of growth and problem solving ability that somehow makes the limits of available resources seem meaningless? There is a certain stock of easily solvable questions and as humans beings we tend to do the easiest things first. In the process of the evolving complexity of society, we innovate our way out of a problem and the amount of money and resources needed to solve the next one increases.

To illustrate, during the 18th century, a well educated person could make a major medical breakthrough in his living room using a microscope he built himself. Today, answering questions about the universe requires specialist PHDs using International space stations and large hadron colliers. The costs of each new innovation increase in terms of training, complexity, materials, and energy needed.

Privately funded innovation requires unpopular intellectual patent protections and the prospect for profits or it will not be done. Governments try to assist through subsidies, which adds to the already out of control debt problem. Who will pay the costs of solving the next crisis?

The limit to innovation is our unwillingness to pay these increasing costs of innovation. At some point in the future, we may decide it is more desirable to accept our problems and our limitations and adapt to them rather than continue to pay for technical solutions.

#### WASI GARAGE

Lawrence Potts, Proprietor



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Fax (705) 752-5434



See you at the  
Powassan  
Maple Syrup Festival

Dan & Lori Costello  
47 Bella Hill Road  
R.R. #2 Powassan  
705-724-3647  
bellahillmaple@gmail.com

#### Are you Interested in finding Out Your Blood Type?

Come join us at the  
Powassan Maple Syrup Festival  
Powassan Masonic Lodge  
April 28, 2012 10am-2pm

The Powassan Masonic Lodge has been proud sponsors and co-ordinators of the Blood Donor Clinics since their onset in Powassan over 20 years ago. Knowing your blood type is important, it saves precious time in an emergency situation. Take a few minutes and drop by the Lodge Blood Services will be set up to TYPE YOU. The Lodge will be having an Open House and selling French fries, hot dogs and Butter Tarts and ice cream.

Doug Billingsley, Powassan Blood Clinic Coordinator.

Once a fellow met a fellow In a field of beans.  
Said a fellow to a fellow, "If a fellow asks a fellow, Can a fellow tell a fellow What a fellow means?"

**The Powassan & District Union Public Library**  
**Visit us at 324 Clarke Street, Powassan, ON P0H1Z0**  
**Phone: 705-724-3618 Fax: 705-724-5525**  
**Monday - 10:30 - 8:00 ~ Tuesday - 10:30 - 8:00 ~ Thursday - 10:30 - 8:00**  
**Friday - 10:30 - 6:00 ~ Saturday - 10:30 - 3:30 (Closed on Sunday & Wednesday)**

**Programs and Events available to YOU!**

*See our website or call us for more information!!*

**Adult Book Club ~ Adult Yoga ~ Art Group**  
**Local Artists' Gallery ~ Scrabble Club**  
**Raising Readers ~ Story Time Yoga**  
**CyberCamp ~ Powassan Purls Knitting Club**

**Powassan Purls Knitting Club**

The Powassan Purls meet every Friday morning when the library opens for hours of knitting and discussion. You've probably seen some of their work around town on the street posts. EVERYONE is welcome to join this drop-in group regardless of your knitting skill level!

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

**Mission Statement:** To support and promote the Powassan & District Union Public Library in the community.

**Love the Library?** Why not join the Friends of the Library?

**What do they do?** They fundraise and advocate for the library! **When do they meet?** The first Monday of each month. **Still not sure?** Come and sit in on a meeting and meet the Friends.

As part of their fundraising to support the library, the Friends of the Library make a number of items which are sold in the library. Proceeds from these items are used to buy books, materials, and more needed in the library.

Winter Hats - \$5.00	Wash Cloths - \$2.00
Adult Slippers - \$4.00	Child Slippers - \$2.00
Mittens - \$1.50 - \$2.00	Aprons - \$12.00
Scrunchies/Headbands - \$0.50	

**Raising Readers - Tuesday at 6:15pm!**

**AUCTION & MAPLE SYRUP FUN!**

The Friends of the Library are currently running a silent auction and it will close at 3 p.m. on the day of the Maple Syrup Festival. Also that day, the Friends will again be painting faces downstairs at the library. There will also be games and Wii games available for all who wish to participate. In attendance will be our own cartoon character whom we have dubbed Maple Buddy. Available for purchase are reprints of our bestselling cookbooks, our ever-popular aprons and slippers and, of course, used books. There will even be free samples of our peanut brittle, coffee and our washrooms are open to the public.

**CyberCamp:** Every Saturday, from 1:00-2:00pm kids ages 6-12 meet at the library for CYBERCAMP! In Cybercamp, kids use computers, games, and crafts to learn about a whole bunch of new things! This program is free -- just drop in and join the fun!

**Downstairs Book Sale Prices**

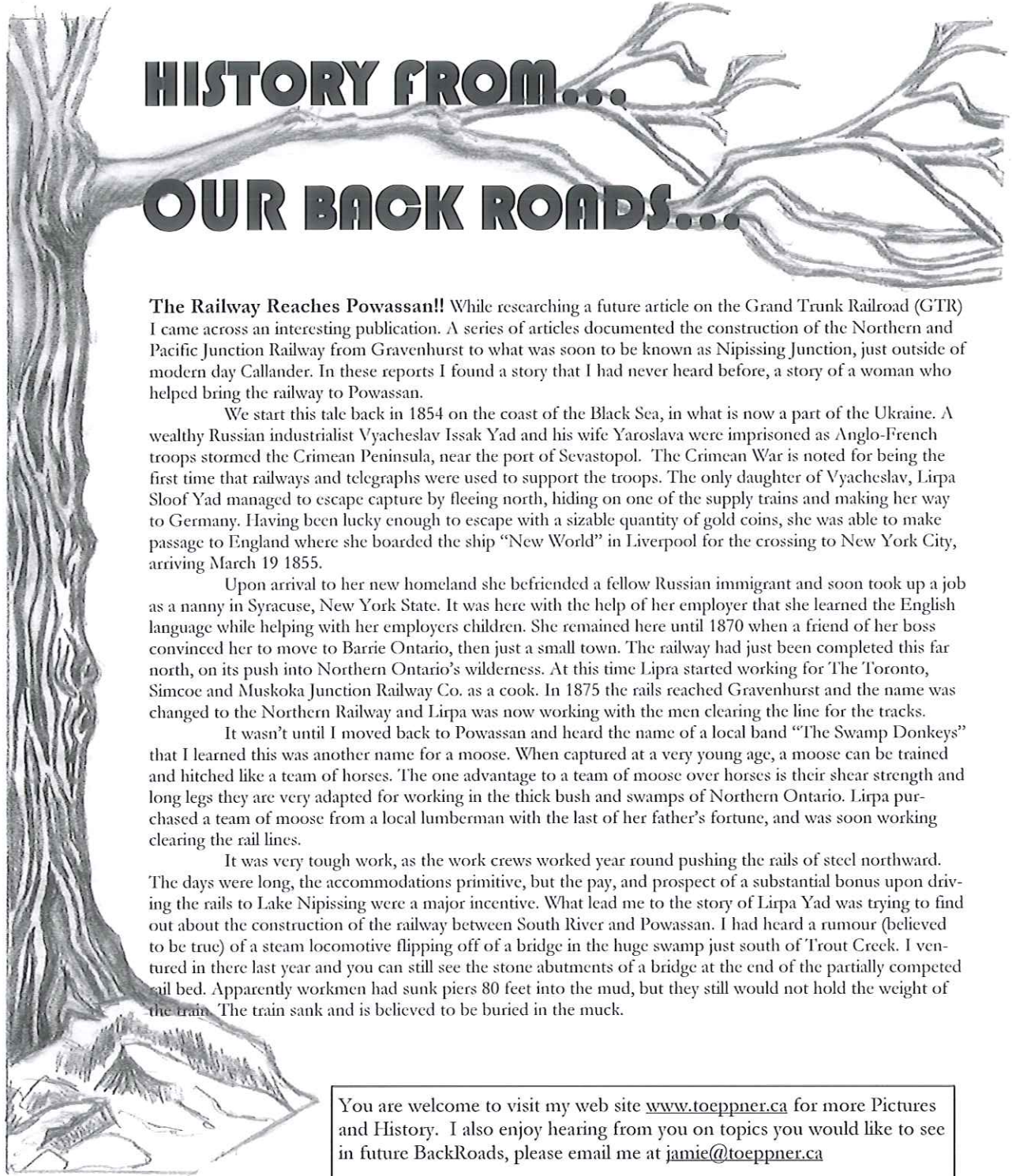
Children's Books and Magazines . . . 10 cents each  
 Pocketbooks . . . 25 cents each or 5 for \$1.00  
 Hardcover . . . 2 for \$1.00 or 5 for \$2.00  
 Videos . . . \$1.00 All other book sale items as marked.

**The Fund-Raising Committee:** The first Fund Raising Event for 2012 is happening on Saturday May 5, 2012. The Pledge forms for the Walk-A-Thon are now available at the Library's front desk. Come and participate, or sponsor a participant for this fun day. Registration takes place at 10:30 and the Walk starts at 11:00.

This year's Ticket Draw Event, starting July 1, 2012 will be in partnership with the Powassan Lions Club. Tickets will be sold for \$2 apiece and there will be three cash prizes.

The Himsworth South Cross Country Ski Trails on Lindquist Line, Powassan closed in 2010. The trails had been operated by volunteers and all donations to the trails were on a voluntary basis. Over the years the funds grew. Upon closure the executive decided to divide the funds between two worthwhile projects. On March 8, 2012 Bill Vogl presented a cheque for \$4000 to the Library CEO and the Chair of the Fund Raising Committee towards the Expansion Project. They also donated to the Municipality of Powassan Trails Committee.

Please check the Library's website for all the updates, and if you have any questions at all related to the fund raising events, please don't hesitate to contact Linda Morrin, Fund Raising Committee Chair @ 724-6430.



# HISTORY FROM... OUR BACK ROADS...

**The Railway Reaches Powassan!!** While researching a future article on the Grand Trunk Railroad (GTR) I came across an interesting publication. A series of articles documented the construction of the Northern and Pacific Junction Railway from Gravenhurst to what was soon to be known as Nipissing Junction, just outside of modern day Callander. In these reports I found a story that I had never heard before, a story of a woman who helped bring the railway to Powassan.

We start this tale back in 1854 on the coast of the Black Sea, in what is now a part of the Ukraine. A wealthy Russian industrialist Vyacheslav Issak Yad and his wife Yaroslava were imprisoned as Anglo-French troops stormed the Crimean Peninsula, near the port of Sevastopol. The Crimean War is noted for being the first time that railways and telegraphs were used to support the troops. The only daughter of Vyacheslav, Lirpa Sloof Yad managed to escape capture by fleeing north, hiding on one of the supply trains and making her way to Germany. Having been lucky enough to escape with a sizable quantity of gold coins, she was able to make passage to England where she boarded the ship "New World" in Liverpool for the crossing to New York City, arriving March 19 1855.

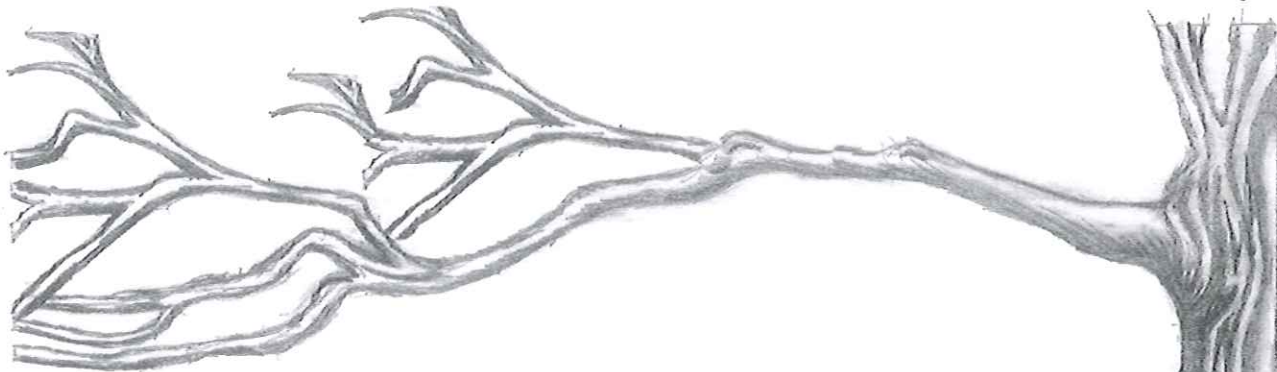
Upon arrival to her new homeland she befriended a fellow Russian immigrant and soon took up a job as a nanny in Syracuse, New York State. It was here with the help of her employer that she learned the English language while helping with her employers children. She remained here until 1870 when a friend of her boss convinced her to move to Barrie Ontario, then just a small town. The railway had just been completed this far north, on its push into Northern Ontario's wilderness. At this time Lirpa started working for The Toronto, Simcoe and Muskoka Junction Railway Co. as a cook. In 1875 the rails reached Gravenhurst and the name was changed to the Northern Railway and Lirpa was now working with the men clearing the line for the tracks.

It wasn't until I moved back to Powassan and heard the name of a local band "The Swamp Donkeys" that I learned this was another name for a moose. When captured at a very young age, a moose can be trained and hitched like a team of horses. The one advantage to a team of moose over horses is their sheer strength and long legs they are very adapted for working in the thick bush and swamps of Northern Ontario. Lirpa purchased a team of moose from a local lumberman with the last of her father's fortune, and was soon working clearing the rail lines.

It was very tough work, as the work crews worked year round pushing the rails of steel northward. The days were long, the accommodations primitive, but the pay, and prospect of a substantial bonus upon driving the rails to Lake Nipissing were a major incentive. What lead me to the story of Lirpa Yad was trying to find out about the construction of the railway between South River and Powassan. I had heard a rumour (believed to be true) of a steam locomotive flipping off of a bridge in the huge swamp just south of Trout Creek. I ventured in there last year and you can still see the stone abutments of a bridge at the end of the partially completed rail bed. Apparently workmen had sunk piers 80 feet into the mud, but they still would not hold the weight of the train. The train sank and is believed to be buried in the muck.

You are welcome to visit my web site [www.toeppner.ca](http://www.toeppner.ca) for more Pictures and History. I also enjoy hearing from you on topics you would like to see in future BackRoads, please email me at [jamie@toeppner.ca](mailto:jamie@toeppner.ca)



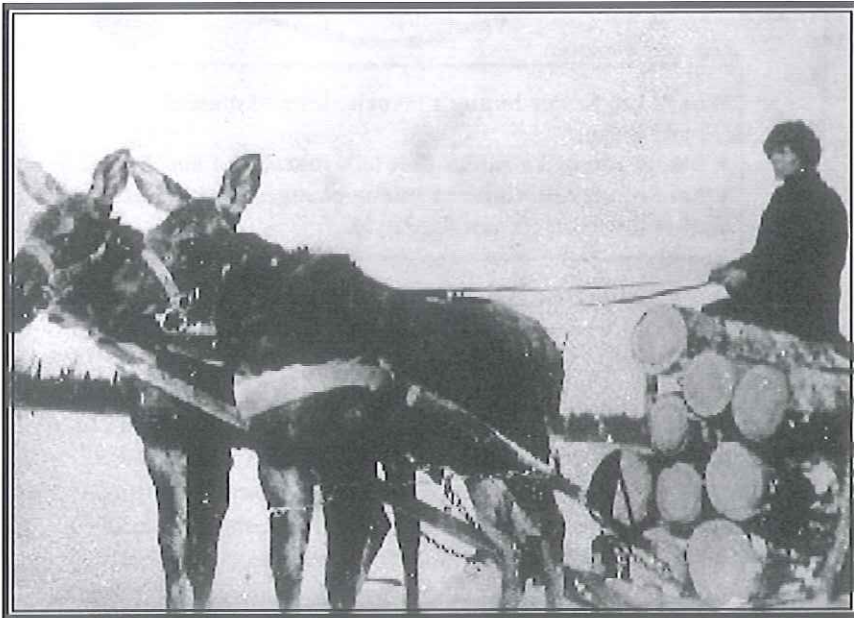


The line was diverted to the east and a more suitable place was found to cross the Trout Creek and this endless swamp. By the time the rails reached what was then known as Barkerton it was already a thriving community. A tote road had been built from the Nipissing Rosseau Road at Comanda, through the Barrett Settlement, crossing the South River and meeting the railway at what was soon known as the town of Trout Creek. From here the railway made good progress, having seen previously surveyed and cleared by hard workers as Lirpa Yad and her team of moose.

In anticipation of the arrival of the tracks, a small community had sprung up at the location of modern day Powassan. Previous to this, the town site was located at Bingham Chute a few miles to the west. This had been the preferred site for the town, having water power to drive the saw and grist mills. With the arrival of the railway the focus of the town was about to be relocated a few miles to the east.

March 30th 1886 was to be the big day for the little town of Powassan. The first steam locomotive was to arrive for the first time bringing settlers and goods from the south. It was also to be a main mode of shipping lumber and other local products to the growing markets to the south. As the train neared the waiting crowd a pipe broke on the steam chamber and the engine ground to a sudden halt. Not to disappoint the waiting crowds, Lirpa hitched her team of moose to the front of the locomotive and pulled it into the newly constructed station.

That is why for many years the following day was known as Lirpa Sloof Yad. If you reverse the letters, April Fools Day.

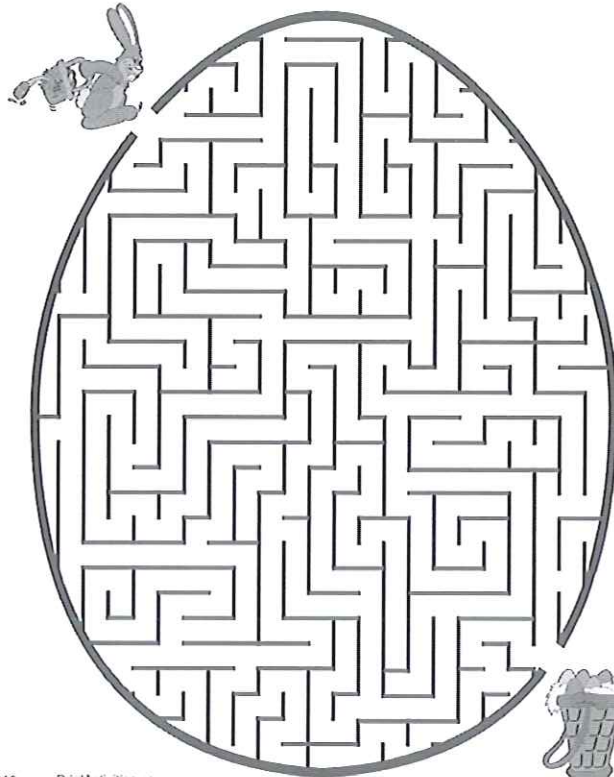


April 2012 Sudoku

7	4		2					
				5		9		
								1
				9	8	5		
	6							4
9			1				8	7
3		6	4	2				
			6	8				

Last Month's Sudoku Answer

1	2	8	5	7	6	4	9	3
4	6	7	3	1	9	5	2	8
5	3	9	4	2	8	6	7	1
3	5	1	9	8	4	2	6	7
9	7	2	6	5	1	8	3	4
6	8	4	7	3	2	1	5	9
8	1	6	2	9	3	7	4	5
7	4	3	8	6	5	9	1	2
2	9	5	1	4	7	3	8	6



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What's the Easter bunny's favorite kind of music?  
 Hippity Hoppity.  
 What do you call a rabbit that tells jokes? A funny bunny.  
 What do you call it when a bunny changes the kind of  
 clothes it wears? A new hare style.

**NEW PUZZLE GAME - LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK!!** A logic puzzle is basically a description of an event/gathering/contest, etc. Using the clues provided, you have to piece together what actually happened. This involves clear and logical thinking - hence 'logic' puzzles.

After the recent Brain Bashers snail racing contest, the four contestants were congratulating each other. Only one snail wore the same number as the position it finished in. Alfred's snail wasn't painted yellow nor blue, and the snail who wore 3, which was painted red, beat the snail who came in third. Arthur's snail beat Anne's snail, whereas Alice's snail beat the snail who wore 1. The snail painted green, Alice's, came second and the snail painted blue wore number 4. Anne's snail wore number 1.

**Can you work out who's snail finished where, its number and the colour it was painted?**

**Word Search on Spring** - Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a message about Spring. (The hidden message from March Word Search was: Honeydew Melon)

T L E M W O N S S S A R G L A  
 G C Y C L A M E N S A L I L P  
 G N G R O W T H R L L L L R S  
 O Y I I D L S A R A I E S N N  
 L A L N K A I E B E R R O H E  
 F M L O A N F E S G M I P W W  
 E N A E E E S F I U L R R A L  
 I O B Q R A L E O E C S A B E  
 R S T U B E S C D D F O S W A  
 I A F I G R N N G L I N R H V  
 S E O N N R A E O N I L C C E  
 E S S O I D E W W B I R S B S  
 S I N X R G E E O A A R M E G  
 A Y F L P R O R N M L W P E O  
 E T E W S S P I L U T R S S R  
 R E T S A E P L A N T I N G F

**Word List**

ALLERGIES APRIL  
 BASEBALL BEES  
 CROCUSES CYCLAMENS  
 DAFFODILS DANDELIONS  
 EASTER EQUINOX  
 FLOWERS FROGS  
 GOLF GRASS  
 GREEN GROWTH  
 IRISES LILIES  
 MARCH MAY  
 NEW LEAVES PLANTING  
 RAIN RENEWAL  
 ROBINS SEASON  
 SNOWMELT SOFTBALL  
 SPRING BREAK  
 SPRING CLEANING  
 TULIPS WARMER  
 WET

**CRYPTOGRAM** A Cryptogram is a type of puzzle which consists of a short piece of encrypted text. Each letter is replaced by a different letter or number. To solve the puzzle, one must discover the original lettering. *In this puzzle the letter "O" is represented by the number 25 and the letter "T" is represented by the number 4.* Last Month's Cryptogram: *Many an opportunity is lost because a man is out looking for four-leaf clovers. -Unknown*

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
														25					4						

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21 18 15 4
22 25 16
12 5 4
6 22
15 8 18 20 5 24 20 23 12

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22 25 16 14
12 25 15 17 9
20 9
23 25 4
15 9
20 3 7 25 14 4 15 23 4

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15 9
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22 25 16
6 5 8 25 3 5
6 22
15 8 18 20 5 24 20 23 12

O
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22 25 16 14
12 25 15 17 9

T
O

18 5 23 14 22
11 15 24 20 11
4 18 25 14 5 15 16

### **The Story of the Three Trees**

Once upon a time there were three little saplings on top of a mountain. As they grew into small trees they discussed their hopes and dreams for the future. The first tree said "When I grow big and strong I will be a treasure chest. Filled with gold, silver and precious gems I will be decorated with intricate carvings so people can see the beauty." Then the second tree said "Someday I will be a mighty sailing ship. I will carry Kings and Queens across the seas to distant lands. All who sail on me will feel safe because of my strong hull." The third little tree said "I want to grow tall and straight and tower over all of the other trees in the forest. People will see me on top of the mountain with my branches spread wide and think of how close I am to God and heaven. They will always remember me."

As the trees grew tall and straight they prayed that their dreams would come true. One day three woodsmen came upon the trees. The one man looked at the first tree and said "This looks like a beautiful tree, I will be able to sell wood to a carpenter." The tree was happy because he knew that soon he would be made into a treasure chest. When they came to the second tree a woodsman said "This is a strong straight tree, we will be able to sell this one to the ship yard." The second tree was happy because he knew that he would soon be a mighty ship. The third tree was frightened as the woodsman approached because he knew that if he was cut that his dream would not come true. The woodsman said "I do not need this tree for anything in particular" as he swung his axe and the great tree fell to the ground.

When the first tree arrived at the carpenters he was made into a feed trough for animals. He was placed in a little barn and filled with hay. The poor trees dream was not coming true. The second tree arrived at the ship yard but instead of a mighty ship he was made into a small fishing boat, too small to brave the vast oceans. His dream of carrying Kings had come to an end. The third tree was cut into square timbers and just piled in a shed. Years passed and the three trees forgot about their dreams.

Then one day, a man and woman came to the barn. She gave birth and they placed the baby in the hay in the feed box that was made from the first tree. The man wished that he could have made a crib for the baby, but this manger would have to do. The tree could feel the importance of this event and knew that it had held the greatest treasure of all time.

Years later, a group of men got in the fishing boat made from the second tree. One of them was tired and went to sleep. While they were out on the water, a great storm arose and the tree didn't think it was strong enough to keep the men safe. The men woke the sleeping man, and He stood and said "Peace" and the storm stopped. At this time, the tree knew that it had carried the King of Kings in its boat.

Finally, someone came and got the third tree. It was carried through the streets as the people mocked the man who was carrying it. When they came to a stop, the man was nailed to the tree and raised in the air to die at the top of a hill. When Sunday came, the tree came to realize that it was strong enough to stand at the top of the hill and be as close to God as was possible, because Jesus had been crucified on it.

The moral of this story is that when things don't seem to be going your way, always know that God has a plan for you. If you place your trust in Him, God will give you great gifts. Each of the trees got what they wanted, just not in the way they had imagined. We don't always know what God's plans are for us. We just know that His ways are not our ways, but His ways are always best.

**Happy Easter Everyone!**

**An interesting piece of Trivia:** Morris Michtom originally came from Russia; maybe he was fond of bears, animals that figure so strongly in Russian folk tales. He saw the cartoon in the Washington Star, November 18th 1902. He and his wife where in the toy business. His wife made up the first sample bear cub. They made three more, sending one to President Roosevelt asking if he would object to them calling the bear cub 'Teddy Bear'. The President didn't object as the cubs where put on the market early 1903. The first customer was Butler Bros. In 1904 Sears Roebuck was added and between the two of them the took the entire Morris Michtom's output. Thereafter the business expanded and became The Ideal Toy Corporation in 1907. Despite his business acumen, Morris Michtom failed to do two important things: to take out a patent for his jointed Teddy Bear and to register a trademark. As a result many other manufacturers soon followed his lead and made similar Teddy Bears.

### **Amateur Radio is alive in North Bay!!**

One in approximately every 600 of your neighbours has passed Canadian government examinations giving them the authority to use radio equipment for self education, and service to the community. Amateurs are also known as Hams; some are elderly, middle-aged, just entering high school, blind or quadriplegic. There is no age limit to becoming a licensed Amateur Radio Operator.

The service Amateurs provides is unending and often unsung. Most of the time the radios are used for enjoyment and to talk to other amateurs across Canada and around the world. After talking with each other, Hams often exchange QSL cards (post-cards with the operator's call sign, address etc.) as confirmation of the contact. Canadian Amateurs have provided essential communications for: forest fires in B.C.; the devastating tornado in Barrie, Ontario, the San Francisco earthquake; the Mississauga, Ontario train derailment. Amateurs often help military personnel on active duty to communicate with their families. Every day, somewhere, Amateurs help neighbours by passing messages, or calling a service station for a motorist in trouble by using car radio equipment. Recently, one Amateur called up a search and rescue helicopter to lift an injured youngster from a cliff top.

Many Ham Shacks are uniquely decorated with QSL cards from around the world. Hams relay messages from one to another, until the destination is reached - essential practice for time of disaster. When tornadoes struck Barrie, the local Amateurs were on the scene without waiting to be called. They went straight to the disaster area, risking their lives, not knowing if another tornado would strike. Power was provided by Amateur emergency generators and thousands of messages were passed on to the Red Cross, municipalities, police and fire departments and relatives desperate for news.

Groups of Amateurs build satellites to relay amateur communications worldwide. These are mostly multinational efforts, with Canadian, American, British, German, Japanese and Russian Amateurs. Contributing, for amateur radio knows no boundaries. Amateurs often connect computers to radio transceivers (packet radio); others send television pictures around the world and bounce signals off the moon. One may find a Ham sitting beside his/her equipment, at home or in the car, talking to an Amateur perhaps a few thousand miles away. An Amateur's home is often identified by a tall tower with antenna(s) and the car often displays a license plate with a personal call sign such as VA3RAC, each province having a different number.

Amateur radio also has a friendly, social side. Many towns have an Amateur Radio Club where folks gather to talk, hear lectures on aspects of Amateur Radio, and plan emergency exercises and Field Day - a yearly event combining a good time and a test of emergency communication. Clubs sponsor classes for aspiring Amateurs and those who wish to upgrade their operators' certificates. Clubs organize and provide assistance to local groups planning marathons, street parades, patrol the town at Halloween, and demonstrate Amateur Radio in schools and shopping malls.

**The North Bay Amateur Radio Club (NBARC)** is a non-profit organization whose objective is to further the interests of Amateur Radio, provide communications for local organizations, and when requested - to provide emergency communication. As well, it provides a place for amateurs and non-amateurs to get together to discuss the common topic.....radio. Meetings: The club has a business meeting the second Wednesday of every month (except July and August) at the old fire hall on base at 1930L. These are very informal meetings. After the business portion, where club matters are decided upon, there is usually a presentation of interest to the members after which a 50/50 draw takes place. This gives the members a chance to meet face to face rather than talking to one another "on the air". The December meeting is a Christmas Dinner meeting held at one of the local restaurants. Daily coffee meetings are a very popular activity with club members. Monday to Friday meetings are held at the North Bay Mall on Lakeshore Drive at 10 AM and the Saturday coffee is held at the North Gate Square on Highway 11, again at 10 am. Not much business is accomplished at these meetings but many an opinion is expressed on a wide variety of subjects. Everyone, (amateur and non-amateur alike) is welcome to these meetings. For more info email VE3NBC@rac.ca or drop into one of our meetings.

*(The above article was copied from [www.nbarc.vianet.ca](http://www.nbarc.vianet.ca) and in turn part from an information booklet published by the RAC)*

## Local Happenings

**March 31st, April 7th Pancake Breakfasts at Powassan United Church starts at 9am Adults \$8; Elementary School age \$4 and Pre-school free.**

**Last Friday March, April & May Soup & Sandwich Lunch Powassan United Church 11am - 1pm \$7.00**

**Friday Night Dine In and Entertainment Callander Legion has the following evenings planned for only \$9.00 per person. All are welcome!**

March 30	Spaghetti Dinner	Back in Tyme
April 6	CLOSED	
April 13	Schnitzel	Back In Tyme
April 20	Roast Beef	Bill Vrebosch
April 27	Roast Pork	Rebecca

**April 14th, Pathfinder Trex are hosting a Spaghetti Dinner at the Powassan United Church, serving 4:30pm to 6:30pm, Adults \$7; 4yrs-11yrs \$5 and under 3yrs free OR a family of 4 persons \$20. For more information please contact Shirley at 724-2201**

**April 6th, The Powassan Legion will not be holding a Friday Night Supper as this is Good Friday and the Legion will be closed.**

**April 20th, the Powassan Legion will be hosting a Roast Pork Dinner, including a Caesar Salad, mashed potatoes, veggies, and Dessert, all for the tax included price of only \$10.00. Serving starts at 5:30 pm. Advance reservations are recommended.**

**April 20th at 7:30pm Powassan United Church, 462 Main Street presents "Music for an April Evening," featuring Powassan-native Greg Ulrick, organist from Sts Peter and Paul Church in Hamilton; Aidan & Emma Rose Kehoe, violin and cello; and the St Andrew's United Church Choir from North Bay under the direction of Ralph Johnston. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Proceeds will go to Camp Lorraine and the Powassan Library Expansion Fund.**

**April 28th, Powassan Maple Syrup Festival Pancake Breakfasts start at 7:30am and Main Street opens at 8am!! Come and enjoy our festival - free for everyone - enjoyed by All!!!**

**April 28th, Baked Bean Lunch Starts at 11am and goes until they run out! at the Powassan United Church, Adults \$7; 4yrs-11yrs \$5 and under 3yrs free for further information please contact Art at 724-2201**

**April 2012 Commanda Heritage Centre is currently Fundraising with Bulb sales from Vesey's this year. Contact Rose@705-729-5343 or Jaimie@705-729-1384 to place your order and support the needs of a great landmark!**

**The Edge youth group for grades 6,7,8 Monday 6:45pm - St Joseph Church, Powassan in the downstairs hall All welcome. Call for more details 724-5964**

**Raising Readers at the Powassan & District Union Public Library Tuesday evenings at 6:15pm**

**TOPS Tuesday weigh-in 5:30, meetings 6:45-7:30pm**

**Lower level of Powassan Legion. For info 724-5791**

**Line Dancing Golden Sunshine Club 9am-10am (walk-in basis \$2 charge) Contact Connie 705-474-5922**

**Second Chance Shoppe (Grace House) - Tuesday & Thursday 9am-3pm & Saturdays 9am-noon**

**Basement Bookshop, Powassan United Church, 15,000 books, Thursday 10am - 3pm & Saturday 9am-noon**

***Do you have community events or happenings you would like us to feature?? Call us or Email us with details and we will list them for free! Cut off for printing is the 20th of the month (705-752-0383 or miltown-systems@live.ca)***



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**From the Kitchen April is the month of ...**  
**Cranberries, Cabbage, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Pecans**

**Cranberry Pecan Muffins**

Prep Time: 15 Min Cook Time: 20 Min Servings: 16

**Ingredients:**

- 1 1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup coarsely chopped fresh or frozen cranberries
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans

**Topping:**

- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg

**Directions:**

In a mixing bowl, cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add vanilla. Fold in sour cream. Combine the flour, baking powder, baking soda, nutmeg and salt; stir into creamed mixture just until moistened. Fold in cranberries and pecans. Fill greased or paper-lined muffin cups two-thirds full. Combine topping ingredients; sprinkle over batter. Bake at 400 degrees F for 20-25 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean. Cool for 5 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks.

*(recipe from www.allrecipes.com Submitted By: Marilyn Gorham)*

**Ultimate Grilled Cheese Sandwich**

Prep Time: 10 Min Cook Time: 5 Min Servings: 4

**Ingredients:** 1/4 cup finely chopped Granny Smith apple

- 1 tablespoon finely chopped pecans      1/4 cup margarine
- 1 tablespoon creamy salad dressing (such as Miracle Whip®)
- 1 tablespoon sour cream      8 slices Colby cheese
- 8 slices sourdough bread      4 thick slices ham

**Directions:** 1. Stir together the apple, pecans, salad dressing, and sour cream; set aside. Place a slice of Colby cheese onto 4 of the bread slices, then add the ham, followed by the remaining slice of cheese and bread. Spread the margarine on the outside of the sandwiches.  
 2. Place the sandwiches into a large skillet and cook over medium-high heat until the bread is golden brown on both sides and the cheese has melted, about 3 minutes per side. Spread the apple mixture into the middle of each sandwich before serving.

*(recipe from www.allrecipes.com Submitted By: Wife218)*

**Runza (meat pies)**

Prep Time: 35 Min Cook Time: 20 Min  
 Servings: 12

**Ingredients:**

- 4 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, divided
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 2 (.25 ounce) packages active dry yeast
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup milk
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 2 eggs

**Filling:**

- 1 pound lean ground beef
- 2 small onions, chopped
- 4 cups chopped cabbage
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper

**Directions:**

1. In a large mixing bowl, place 1-3/4 cups flour, sugar, yeast and salt. Heat milk, water and shortening to 120 degrees F-130 degrees F. Pour over flour mixture; add the eggs. Beat with an electric mixer on low until blended. Beat 3 additional minutes on high. Stir in the remaining flour; knead until smooth and elastic, about 6-8 minutes. Place dough in a greased bowl; cover and let rise in a warm place until doubled, about 1 hour.  
 2. Meanwhile, brown beef and onions in a skillet. Add the cabbage, salt and pepper; cook until cabbage is wilted. Punch dough down; roll into 12/6-in. squares. Top each square with 1/3 cup meat mixture. Fold into triangles. Pinch edges tightly to seal and place on greased baking sheets. Bake at 350 degrees F for 20 minutes or until golden brown. Serve hot.

*(recipe from www.allrecipes.com Submitted By: Dolly Croghan)*

**De-spotting the rug:** Put some shaving foam over the spot and sponge it up.

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### BUMPER STICKERS ...

People who think they know what they're doing are especially annoying to those of us who do.

Time flies when you don't know what you're doing.

Repetition is always better the second time.

Plagiarism is copying from one source; research is copying from two or more.

Oh well, I guess this is just going to be one of those lifetimes.

If everything is coming your way, then you're in the wrong lane.

Do not believe in miracles - rely on them.

If you think this week was a drag, wait till you see what happens next week!

No matter where you go; you're there.

Famous last words: What happens if you touch these two wires tog---

### ... from my side of the Road

April is the start of one of my favourite seasons - I truly love the Spring and Fall of the year. Although most that I know will disagree - summers for me are usually too warm - and too many bugs. Spring however has that smell of fresh laundry, the first cut lawns, daffodils and crocuses sprouting, hyacinths ... April is also a great time to plan your planting and sometimes starting your plants - although I hinted at this last year, that maybe I would start a garden - I just might get doing it this year - wouldn't want to 'rush' into it you know. Nothing big, just a small collection of favourites in the vegetable category ... and hopefully veggies that are not on the favourite list of the resident deer and rabbits. The flowers in my yard are mainly perennials and are pretty much on their own for starting ... it's the weeds I have to stay on top of (not normally a winning battle for me lol).

Life is funny - don't you think? We are always on the move - always slowing down for brief moments but basically we are proverbial stones rolling through events and seasons with similar happenings from year to year ... almost habit forming with most. Oh to be that 5 year old that sees everything as new and different again. Okay maybe standing on top of the manure pile in my white Easter rubber boots wasn't my best decision ... but it did get me some attention (and almost late for church!) and it was NEW! These past few months have been testing and taxing at times for my family with illnesses and recoveries ... but it gave me moments to appreciate all the little things that we do and expect from ourselves and others and how sometimes that 'rolling' through life just isn't enough. We have to slow down on those bumpy roads and push up those hills with just a bit more attention. We should not only stop and smell the flowers but also weed around them the unwanted negative and debilitating items/people/situations and make the flower bed one of the main parts of the trip!

So where ever you are in your Spring - here's hoping you are rolling through it with purpose and slowing to see those flower beds of yours.

Happy Easter! From my side of the road to yours, God Bless ... Teresa