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May, 2006



JOIN THE RESISTANCE!

homes. Or it could just be the simple fact that there is more of a demand for oil than can be produced. This is what we are being told, and if this is true, there are many practical ways to lower gas prices. Improving the automobile efficiency by just three miles a gallon would conserve more than 1 million barrels of oil each day. If gas efficiency makes such a huge difference, we could all do our part and buy smaller cars. (Mine would have to be the first to go!)

Unfortunately, in our society most of what we hear through government controlled media outlets is not necessarily the truth, but only what they want us to hear, and since the largest publicly-traded oil producer and distributor in the world had an operating profit of \$36.13 billion in 2005 (an all-time record for any publicly-traded company) I think it's safe to say that no matter what the reason, the prices are way too high!! By now you're probably thinking gasoline priced at about \$.80 is super cheap. Me too! It is currently between \$1.05 and \$1.10 depending on where you are (or how far you can afford to travel) for regular unleaded.

Now that the oil companies have conditioned us to think that the cost

of a liter of gas is CHEAP at \$.90 - \$1.00, we need to take some intelligent, united action. to teach them that BUYERS control the marketplace.... not sellers.

Phillip Hollsworth offered this good idea.

With the price of gasoline going up more each day, we consumers need to take action. The only way we are going to see the price of gas come down is if we hit someone in the pocketbook by not purchasing their gas! And, we can do that WITHOUT hurting ourselves. How? Since we all rely on our cars, we can't just stop buying gas. But we CAN have an impact on gas prices if we all act together to force a price war.

Here's the idea:

Don't purchase gasoline from the leading gas companies. Go to the little guys instead. The no name gas bars. If the large companies aren't selling any gas, they will be inclined to reduce their prices. If they reduce their prices, the other companies will have to follow suit.

This is something that everyone can do, without even suffering any consequences! Something needs to be done, and this sounds to me like an excellent place to start the resistance.

Word on the street is that we are going to hit close to \$1.50 per litre by next summer and it might go higher!!

Living in the Washago area like most of our readers do, driving is a big part of our lives since many products and services simply aren't offered in our little town. We're going to have to start planning our trips into "town" a little better to make sure we're getting the most out of each one. Maybe that's the point. Maybe the prices are being raised in an effort to save the environment. Who knows. For all we know, it could be some elaborate scheme devised to encourage internet shopping. The more it costs to travel, the more we will shop from the comfort of our own

Latest Community Centre News

Nothing makes us happier than being the bearer of good news, do we have reason to smile?

Find out where we stand and what to do from here on page. 5



New Fun and Games Page!

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Greenhouses in the Forest

Tom and Karen Kahle

4012 Cambrian Road
Washago
Ontario
L0K 2B0

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T 705 689 2611
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washagohomehardware@bellnet.ca






A Local is Calling the Locals

I am a full time Real Estate Agent in Washago since 1988,
and I just **LOVE** my area to live and to work in.



- If you are thinking of selling...
- Please give me your trust!
- If you are thinking of a purchase...
- Please give me your trust!
- If you are thinking of getting a "no cost" Market Analysis of your home, cottage etc...
- Please give me your trust!



BIRGIT HOESTEREY
sales rep

345-4411

Website: www.buywashago.com

e-mail: birgit@buywashago.com

NEW AND RELATIVELY NEW LOCAL AREA BUSINESS

Due to the overwhelming response to the "New and Relatively New Business" section in the last issue of our paper, we have decided to continue this section. If you have a business that is new to the area we want to let people know the who, what, where, when and whys of your new or relatively new local business.

Supporting local business is a wonderful way to become a part of the community, and bring us together. That's what this paper is all about!

HILARY'S PLACE - A not so new store in a brand new location

After a successful partnership in Simple Pleasures Gifts of Washago from 1989-1994 Hilary decided she was still young enough to continue expressing her creative side so Hilary's Place began.

Business was doing well and rooms got full so it soon became time to find a place to expand to. The timing was great for the moving to 3367 Muskoka St. At completion of the purchase she and her husband Dean were pleased to find out that they had won the first \$1000 prize handed out by Prudential Lifestyles Real Estate, which turned into food vouchers that were donated to the Salvation Army Church. Hilary has also volunteered many hours throughout the past five years teaching grade one children at Rama Central how to read & write. When she is not teaching or volunteering for something you will find her doing some kind of renovation at the new location that is creating a beautiful place to visit in Washago. . Not only is the shopping for gifts & necessities great but you can find all kinds of original arts and crafts created by Hilary or her associate, artist Kim Campbell. Fine art lessons & adult decorative painting lessons offered at the store will keep you guessing as to what you might see for sale next time you go into the beautiful showroom. Beauty inside and out will keep you coming back again and again to experience some of the majesty of Muskoka in Washago.

Hilary's Place 689-0327

PERFECT PIPES

Located in Severn Bridge, *Perfect Pipes* is a family operated business specializing in plumbing, hot water space heating, gas piping, ductless and mini duct A/C and indoor air quality enhancement. Working together, this husband and wife team has over 20 years experience in the pipe and building trade industries. Combined with business management expertise and customer service skills means *Perfect Pipes* customers are served with an exceptional level of competence.

Perfect Pipes has the usual array of products typical of a mechanical company, but they also offer a few unique products such as:

- * An innovative solar alternative to hot water heating and hot water space heating
- * Solar pool heating
- * An outdoor unit that not only heats and cools your house but can do both at the same time (chill the wine & heat the pool simultaneously) - Dehumidify your whole house from one efficient unit

The introduction of *Perfect Pipes*' "Tell A Friend" program should excite existing customers, as it allows them to build up a "stash" of Perfect Pipes gift certificates, to use on products and services. All they do is hand out "Tell A Friend" cards containing their name. When their friend makes a purchase from *Perfect Pipes* the person who signed the card is rewarded. Now the new customer is entitled to join the "Tell A Friend" program.

Whether you require a plumbing and heating system for your new house or you just want a gas B.B.Q. outlet for your Dad on Father's Day, *Perfect Pipes* is your perfect solution. For more information on *Perfect Pipes* products and/or services please contact Nancy:

Phone 705-689-5984

E-mail perfectpipesplus@yahoo.ca

<p>Blaine's Auto Service</p> <p>Hwy. 11, Severn Bridge Phone/Fax 705-689-2291</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Auto Repairs • Maintenance Servicing • Computer Diagnostics <p>Mark Stein Blaine Stein</p>	<p>Koehn Plumbing & Mechanical Water Filtration & Septic Systems</p> <p>Brian Koehn, Master Plumber Complete Installations & Service</p> <p>7970 Oakridge Drive Washago ON L0K 2B0 (705) 689-3464</p> <p>bdkoehn527@yahoo.ca</p>
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NEW AND RELATIVELY NEW LOCAL AREA BUSINESS

2 Rockafellas Landscaping and Construction

2 Rockafellas Landscaping and Construction Newly established in January 2005, the 2 Rockafellas, Bruce Hunt and Eric Huisman, offer a wide range of services from decks and fencing to inground lawn sprinklers. We also do large and small natural stone landscaping, plants, decks and fencing and interlocking brick and paving stone. We also have a dump truck available for hauling everything from topsoil to stone. We have both been residents of Washago for over 15 years and look forward to many more years of work in the Washago area.

Free estimates

E-mail: TwoRockafellas@hotmail.com

Phone: (705)689-1532

reSource Polarity Therapy

reSource Polarity Therapy operates from a studio at the same address as reSource Gifts and Home Décor -3395 Muskoka St. in Washago. reSource owner, Susan Smandych is a Registered Polarity Practitioner. Polarity Therapy is the art and science of stimulating and balancing the flow of life energy within the human body. It requires over 800 hours of education to become a qualified practitioner. Susan is available in the store on Thursdays and Sundays should you want more information regarding this healing method. She can be reached at 689-4912 (leave a message). Polarity sessions are by appointment only – the first session is complimentary for those who have an interest and want to know more about Polarity before committing to further sessions. Meditation classes are also offered at this location through the Washago Community Centre.

 <p>2 Rockafellas Landscaping & Construction</p> <p>Quality Workmanship Specializing in Plants, Cap Rock Sprinklers, Decks & Fencing</p>	
<p>Eric Huisman (705) 689-1532</p>	<p>Bruce Hunt (705) 689 9494</p>

The Muskoka Retirement Lodge of Washago

Open House

Sunday June 4, 2006
10:30am – 4:30pm

We invite you to come and explore our new residence located across from the lovely green river in the heart of Washago. (10 minutes from downtown Orillia)

SPECIAL FEATURES	
All suites located on 2 ground levels	Full linen, laundry and housekeeping services
Therapeutic spa - (walk in tub)	Weekly foot spa at no extra charge
Private 3 piece bath in all suites	Fresh vegetables and fruits served with quality meats
Chiropractor in-house	Cable (TV) inclusive in all suites
Secure door alarm system	Comfortable activity/music room
Room service at no extra charge	24 hour security
Swimming and warm dining room	Nurse on staff
Call bell alert system in all suite bathrooms	On-call physician
Nurse alert system in all bedrooms	24 hour medication support
Individual heat control systems	Hairstyling/barber service in-house
Air conditioning	Home baked snacks prepared by our chef daily
Assisted beds	

CALL OR DROP BY FOR A TOUR ANY TIME

3306 Muskoka Street
Washago, Ontario
(705) 689-6825

Staying positive is working!

The Washago Community Centre Corporation held an open house membership meeting at which time a new Vice-President was appointed and four new directors were also elected. The annual April meeting of the membership was again well attended and the community involvement in the programs being provided to both the Severn Township and Ramara Township residents seems to be strong, even though there has been no decision



Annual Open House Membership Meeting

made on the fate of the condemned, present structure, once considered to be our community centre. The appointment of a new vice-president and four new directors gives the impression that under no circumstances are we going to give up and go away when it comes to the well being of our community, children's futures, or the community spirit that has been cultivated to date. Thanks to Cathy MacDonald for volunteering to take on the responsibility of V-P and to directors Dick and Marion Ellis, Rod Harth and Chris Buckley for coming on board. When you consider the tough times we have been having during the winter months of mass confusion concerning the center's future, I'm sure it

is not an easy decision to make when it comes to joining the board.

However, today I just saw the plans for the revised building construction proposals and once again excitement has permeated my bones. Though the plans eliminate around one thousand square feet of interior usable space, the new layout is efficient and the finished product will end up as an almost totally new building. The Severn Township Corporate Services meeting held today concluded that the

recommendation to council for the final vote (that we have all been waiting for) is past and on May fourth we will be getting our answer of Yea or Nea. To this point it has been a difficult issue to understand the thinking and logic of our politicians but hopefully this meeting will explain all the confusion and delays that have postponed the decision till May fourth. This may be a good time for all of us community residents to get out and show our support concerning the future of our booming metropolis we call Washago and HOME. Meeting is at the town hall, kiddy corner from the Orillia Square Mall, at 7pm on Thursday May the fourth. C U there!!!

Other Events

There are still a few spaces left in the **Boat Safety Course** being held June 7th at the Washago Lions Hall. The cost is \$55 for non-members and \$16 for the manual. Everyone will need to have their certificate eventually, so why not get it now and beat the rush. Call 689-6424 to register.

Our **baby sitting essentials course** has always been popular and this will take place on June 30th which is a P.E. day from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Fee is \$42.00 which includes the manual, CPR certificate and Baby Sitting Certificate. This is for 11 to 14 year olds and includes infant and child CPR. Call 689-6424 to register.

In the Washago Gazette we gave some incorrect information regarding the Proton workshop for food handling. There is a cost of \$30.00 per person but you can also do a self-help course at home for \$15.00 which includes the cost of the manual and test. We are still trying to put together a course, possibly in the fall. If your group is interested in this, please call 689-6424.



We are planning to participate in the **Dragon Boat race** which will be held on September 30, 2006 at Couchiching Park. We are looking for sponsors and rowers for this great event. We already have quite a few rowers but we need 25 in total. The boats will be available two weeks prior to the race and we will have a chance to practice two times. Call Ann at 689-6424 if you are interested.

Pancakes for a good cause

It's that time of year again and oh what a good time it is. The volunteers of Ramona Hall again treated the township residents to a fundraising pancake supper in support of our 3 district volunteer fire halls. As usual a great dinner of pancakes, sausage and delicious pure maple syrup was provided to well over two hundred hungry people. The firefighters are again this year looking forward to the six or seven or eight hundred dollars raised in support of Ramara's 60 volunteers in the three departments represented.

Not only do these brave individuals risk their lives to save us, they also came out to the dinner to serve us and then even do the dishes afterwards. We just have no idea how much these people do for us. Thanks to the sixteen directors on the Ramona Hall board for their thoughtful support of this worthy cause and for the delicious dinner and all round good time had by all.



A Wonderful Tribute Day to A Beautiful Lady



It was sad too read about the passing of K P Manson's namesake, Katie Manson back on the twenty first day of February 2006 during her eighty ninth year of life. And what a life it must have been judging by the number of students, teachers and well wishers that attended an open house remembrance day hosted by her two daughters Jane and Michal.

Hundreds of people wandered the halls and auditorium reminiscing the days when Mrs. Manson influenced their lives in so many positive ways. After thirty five years as an educator in south Muskoka, Katie decided it was time to let someone else take over, so she retired as principle of the school in 1979 at which time the name of the school was changed from Morrison Public School to it's present day name of K P Manson.Public School. Long time secretary to Katie, Sandy Von Alma says that there will be a

special section in the library dedicated to the memory of Katie Manson and her love for the students educations, especially when it came to grammar and spelling. Sorry to see you've gone Mrs. Manson, I could really have used your help with this publication.

Habitat For Humanity Orillia/Lake Country Chapter will be selling the beautiful yellow Iris for presentation on Mother's Day. Should you prefer to order one or more please call 835-2201 @ \$4.99 ea. for pick up Saturday May 13. Sale locations to be announced.

689-8448

Mad Murray's

Meat Market & Deli

Have a Home Party with 100 People for just \$3.50/person!

Catering / Do It Yourself

IN THE COMMUNITY

So Which Is It???



As I'm sure most of us do, I was of the mindset growing up through my childhood years that Santa Clause and his reindeer came by my place every Christmas Eve Night, if I was a good boy. Whenever one of my teeth fell out or got knocked out, under my pillow the next morning I could be sure to find a quarter or something from the tooth fairy. Then there was this character I fortunately never met when I walked home through the forest at night named the boogey man. So far I always understood who these beings were and what they stood for, until it came to this fuzzy little bunny and all these delicious little eggs that got hatched over night all around my house. To this day I still have no idea what this bunny is supposed to represent and the one shown here at Sweet Retreat was not able to shed much light on the issue for me. However when the people came walking down the main street of Washago carrying this great big wooden cross on good Friday before Easter, they could all tell me what that cross meant and who it represented. I'm thinking finally after fifty something years the meaning of Easter is finally meaning something to me and it really has nothing to do with a bunny. The joint meeting started at the Heritage United Church with a short message of the meaning behind the whole Easter weekend, then the parade of the cross headed down the main street of town to end up at St. Paul's Anglican Church to celebrate the victory of the cross that I had just learned about. A very moving ceremony was ended with prayer and meditation on the sacrifice that the cross represents today. I have to commend Reverend: Maureen Hair Parish Priest of St. Paul's and Reverend Toni Birtch of Heritage United for successfully combining the congregations to celebrate this special weekend, and thanks for clearing up the fuzzy bunny dilemma in my life.

What Was Your Part???

One of the not so celebrated dates on my calendar came and went pretty well unnoticed by self and family. That day being April twenty second, Earth Day. Be honest now, how many of you did something special to help this planet become a better place to live for us all? I will say that I am thoughtful of such matters but rarely do you see me out on the side of the highway picking up trash and doing general cleanup duties. The inspiration to do so just seems to be hard to work into our daily schedules these days. Much more pressing matters are always at hand when it is time to decide our next move for the day. So

to see our local Rotary Club members out at eight o'clock in the morning picking up trash around the very steep banks of the hwy 11 ramp, made me grateful to think that there are still people and organizations that do care for the betterment and beauty of our planet. I'm not sure who organizes the areas to be picked up but I do know there are many groups of volunteers who dedicate their time such as Rotary has done here and the Lions will be doing also. If there are others I'm sorry to have missed your inclusion in this article but hanks to you all who have done your part. Next year I hope to find a group to help do something toward Earth Day and I hope you will too.



PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
Services offered in Washago

<p>Property Maintenance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lawn Care Junk Removal Painting Landscaping Clean Up Roof Snow Removal Painting <p>Property Surveillance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insurance compliant insurance, year round Snow checks Toy checks (Boat, Snowmobile, Shed, Docks) 	<p>Tenant Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notices Collections Inspections <p>Property Openings and Closings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water on and off Heat Fridge Stocked <p>Property Clean up for sale & acquisition clean up</p>
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Peter Coombes
Owner/Operator
cell: 791-7776 office: 689-4408 fax: 737-2106

IN THE COMMUNITY

Farewell

I would like to take this opportunity to say farewell to a friend and co-worker. Matilda (Tillie) McMillan has worked at the Washago Post Office as the Rural Route 2 mail carrier for over 10 years. She is a diligent, hardworking, honest person and a pleasure to work with.

The winter months are the most difficult times to deliver mail because of snow and ice build up near the mailboxes. Tillie has always gone above and beyond what is expected to deliver the mail. Unfortunately at the cost of damaging her own vehicle and hurting herself climbing across the passenger side and stretching to get into boxes that weren't cleaned out she always went the extra mile for her customers. You could always count on Tillie for a smile and funny stories about meeting moose on her mail run, and stories about her family and the farm. She has a soft heart for people in need and is always willing to lend a helping hand or a listening ear.

I and the staff at the Washago Post Office have all enjoyed working with Tillie and will miss her very much. We wish her much happiness in her new endeavors and know that whatever she does she will do it with her own style and personality that we have all come to love.

Please stop by and wish Tillie well before her last day, May 26/06.

Sandy Jones

Severn Bridge Womens' Institute on Southwood Rd. is holding a giant yard sale Saturday June 24th 9 – 1pm. Spaces are available for \$10.00. There will also be crafts and home baked goods! Come and support your local womens' institute and sell unwanted items at the same time.
For donations or space rental information call: Heather 689.6428 or Susie



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Habitat For Humanity Orillia/Lake Country Chapter will be selling the beautiful yellow Iris for presentation on Mother's Day. Should you prefer to order one or more please call 835-2201 @ \$4.99 ea. for pick up Saturday May 13. Sale locations to be announced.

IN THE COMMUNITY



I really was not sure about this one. Someone invited me to a town council meeting at Ramona Hall and from the things I know about those kinds of meetings it didn't sound too exciting to me. However the thought that the whole council would come all the way here for a public meeting with us, the people, kind of enticed me. So off I go. On arrival to the hall I'm given a meeting agenda and told there will be time for questions and answers after the adjournment. Now I'm thinking I need coffee if I'm here to the end because there are three pages of services and unfinished business to get through before we even get to the questions. Who knows how long this could go on for? It's now 7:00 pm and I am working in the morning so let's get this show on the road.

Mayor Bill Duffy takes his position at the head table and opens the meeting. Well I tell you the next 2 hours went by in some kind of whirl wind or something because before I knew it the question period was starting. This council had covered 8 major topics with 10 or 20 details to be worked out in each one. I was impressed. They covered topics like transportation needs and funding for such, protective services regarding fire and rescue, radar positions etc... culture and recreation such as community center damages and tuitions to team members with a March break financial report, environmental services like water

treatment, flooding areas and sewage works reports, plus many other budget and tax matters that were all (to my surprise) very interesting. The atmosphere was light and everyone seemed to be enjoying the evening. The question period was informative with lots of answers to the public inquiries. Coffee after the meeting adjourned allowed for some personal conversation time with all the councilors until who knows when? I had to get to bed. I am however planning to get out to the next public roadshow council meeting on May 8th at the Udney Community Center at 7:00pm or the Longford Center June 26th also at 7:00pm. Who would have ever thought that politics could be fun??? Thanks Marilyn

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Yard Sale
Saturday May 20th
& 00am

IN THE COMMUNITY

Rotary Wild Game Dinner

The Rotary Club of Washago & Area - Centennial would like to thank the following individuals and their respective companies for helping to make the club's first Rotary Wild Game Dinner on April 29th, 2006 a success.

Phil Taylor - Chef from Orillia Soldiers Memorial Hospital
Cate Dore - Chef from Remos Restaurant in Orillia
Kay & Marion Bonsu - Chef & Baker from Washago's Sweet Retreat
Kevin Leatherdale - Owner of NOTLAS Consulting in Orillia
Domenic Quercia - Owner of Northland Motel & Restaurant
Karen Marriott - Councilor - Severn Township
Mary Rogers - Broker - Century 21 Sparkling Waters Realty
About 70 ticket purchasers enjoyed professionally created dishes of Venison, Moose, Elk, Wild Turkey, Trout, Perch, and Rabbit along with a fine selection of soup and salad. The event was held at Saint Francis of Assisi Hall on Muskoka Street in Washago. The club also thanks those people who purchased tickets and attended the event. Funds raised from the Rotary Wild Game Dinner will be used to support various Rotary community service initiatives including educational programs for youth and the beautification of Washago's Water Tower.

Ramona Springs
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Fax 705-689-2546
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Rick Kerr
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Prudential
Lifestyles Real Estate
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Increasing The Value of Your House

When you're preparing your house for sale, remember the importance of first impressions. The market isn't the only factor that influences whether you get your asking price. Appearance and overall condition play a major role. Here are some easy things you can do to make your home more appealing to buyers.

- Outside:
- Sweep front walkway.
 - Remove newspapers, bikes and toys.
 - Park extra cars away from the property
 - Trim the shrubs.
 - Apply fresh, clean paint where needed.
 - Clean windows.
 - Make sure roof and gutters are in good condition;
 - Mow the lawn more frequently and plant flowers.
 - Keep pet areas clean.

'This is just the beginning. Please look for the next issue to see part two on,'Getting Your House Ready to Sell!' by Prudential Lifestyles Real Estate.

This article submitted by Prudential Lifestyles Real Estate, 3374 Muskoka St, in the historic Washago Hotel.'

Sweet Retreat
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& Functions
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Washago, On
L0K 2B0
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Fax: (705) 689-3109
marion010@sympatico.ca
Marion Bonsu Owner/Manager

Habitat For Humanity Orillia/Lake Chapter is asking the public to donate resalable items in new or next to new condition. These items will be sold in the spring, raising funds to build homes, and must be of good quality, from refrigerators to tricycles, desks and file cabinets to lawn equipment. To arrange pickup please call Wally 326-1662

Seniors

WASHAGO SENIORS MAY CLUB ACTIVITIES

Washago and Area Senior Citizens Club next General Meetings for members will be on May 3 & 17. May 3 you may enjoy a special luncheon provided by the male golfers. Their special treat will be a Road Kill Luncheon organized by Jim Davidson & Jack Aston, don't forget to bring your tableware and dishes. A reminder to all the bowlers in the Club, the bowling banquet is a Pot Luck Luncheon on May 10, again please provide you own tableware and dishes. Please call Fred or Ellen Wright as to your favourite salad or dessert you will be bringing. All meetings take place at Ramona Agricultural Hall, 2 KM east of Washago then left on Fairgrounds Road, the hall is 4 Km on your left.

Computer Club hosted by Washago Area Senior Citizens Club, everyone welcome, will meet the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 10.00 am in St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Washago. There is a small charge of \$2.00.

Washago Area Senior Citizens Club choir practises will be held in the Lion's Hall on Hamilton Street every Monday at 1.00 PM. Everyone Welcome. For further information please call Doreen Philip, 684-937

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

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

RAMARA SENIORS MAY CLUB ACTIVITIES

FRIDAY AFTERNOON EUCHRE sponsored by Ramara Seniors Association, 1.00 PM, cost is only \$2.00, everyone welcome. Come join the group, have some fun at the Ramara Centre, 3 KM east of Rama Road next to the Casino Satellite Parking Lot.

BID EUCHRE every Monday afternoon sponsored by Ramara Seniors Association at the Ramara Centre 2 Km east of Rama Road next to the Casino Satellite parking lot at 12.30 PM sharp. Cost is only \$2.00. For additional information please call Liz 325-3571 or Fred 326-2892

Ramara Seniors Association's next meeting is Thursday, May 18. Come early to the 11.00 am meeting followed by Pot Luck lunch. The guest speaker this month is Margot McNiece with the Ramara Emergency Response Committee. The topic will no doubt enlighten all as to what to expect in the event of a major local disaster. Additional information regarding membership and/or meetings, please call Sylvia 686-7204 or Al Read 325-5599.

Golden Creek Bird Farm



Friedhelm Hoesterey & Dirk Hoesterey
 R.R.#1, Severn Bridge, POE 180
 Ontario/Canada
 Phone: (705) 689 - 9121
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 Website: <http://www.goldencreekbirdfarm.com>

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- * Falconry Courses to become a licenced falconer in Ontario.
- * Bird Shows with live raptors (Fairs-Events-Schools etc.)
- * Nuisance Bird-Control-Service for Malls, Parks, Waterfronts, Golf-courses, Marinas etc. (Gulls / Geese / Ducks).
- * Agricultural Bird-Control-Services: (Cherries, Blueberries, Cranberries)
- * Yes, we sell birds too: (Raptors, Parrots, Parakeets)
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The Ministers Message

St. Paul's Anglican – Washago
 Service 9:00am
 Reverend: Maureen Hair
 Parish Priest

Heritage United Church
 Service 9:30am
 Sunday School and Nursery during service
 Minister: The Reverend Toni Birtch

St. Frances of Assisi Catholic Church
 Masses: Sunday 9:00am
 May – Oct Saturday 5pm

Caleb's Place
 Service starts at 6:00pm
 Meeting in St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church fellowship hall
 Pastors Norm and Carol Shepstone
 (705) 687.9031

Coming Sunday
 and Monday, May
 7th & 8th, 2006
APOSTLE
RUSS
MOYER

will be speaking for a "double hitter" at Caleb's Place to bring a message specifically for where we are in our church plant in Washago. Brother Russ is increasingly in demand as an international speaker and will be coming to us immediately following three days in Ashland, Virginia as keynote speaker for a Men's Conference. *Come prepared to be blessed, challenged and ministered to during these special events.*

"Sad to say, death has had another good year." So says Peter Short, Moderator of the United Church of Canada. Peter made this statement in his annual Easter reflection printed in the last issue of the Observer, which is the United Church magazine. You know right away what he means. You think of our troops serving in Afghanistan, and you remember that the last soldier to be killed (as of this writing) was a private, a young father just 22 years old. Death has had a good year in Iraq too, and in Israel and Palestine, and in the Sudan. Death has had a good year in Ontario. The murders that have made the headlines the past few weeks alone are horrific. And of course, our congregations, our families, our friends and neighbours have all been touched by the loss of precious loved ones.

As I meet with families in preparation for a funeral, the question that I have noticed more and more being put to me is, how can you be *sure* there is something more, after death? How do you *know* there is a "heaven" or an afterlife?

In response, one could point to the near-death experiences that so many people have described. If you've read any of the popular books on the subject you know people speak of seeing a brilliant yet warm white light, of traveling at great speed down a tunnel, of feeling a deep sense of peace and a total absence of fear. Of course, that's not really proof, because those people didn't, in fact, die. Another approach would be to talk about all the people you know who have lost a loved one to death, and yet have felt in some profound way the very real and comforting presence of that loved one close by, after they have died. But that too does not really answer the question.

For what these folk are really asking is, how do you account for the hope that is in you? What is that? Where does it come from? The assurance people want is the assurance that comes to us from faith - in our case, faith in Jesus Christ. The resurrection is the answer. The resurrection is God's response to that question.

And if you say, where is the evidence that the resurrection really happened? Look no farther than the very existence of the church. Two thousand years ago, after Jesus' crucifixion, his disciples were huddled together in a locked room, afraid to go out for fear they would come to the same end as Jesus. But something happened! Something happened that transformed them from fearful, grief-stricken disciples who thought they had been abandoned, into joyful, confident, courageous apostles, who boldly told one and all what they now knew, because they had experienced it. Jesus was alive! Jesus the Christ was alive to them in a way they could never have anticipated! They didn't just *believe* this. They *knew* it. And through their efforts to share this good news, the church was born and exists to this day.

As our moderator, Peter Short says, "Death always has a good year, but never the last word." The last word is God's. The last word is Resurrection, for every last one of us!

Submitted by The Reverend Toni Birtch,
 Minister at Heritage United Church, Washago and Ardrea United Church

ONE SENTENCE SERMONS

- * If you can't see the bright side, polish the dull side.
- * The best things in life aren't things.
- * The tongue weighs practically nothing, but few can hold it.
- * We stand tallest when we stoop to help others.
- * Forbidden fruit creates many jams.
- * The best way to have the last word is to apologize.
- * Setbacks pave the way for comebacks.

Joke

Doggie Contest

Three handsome male dogs are walking down the street when they see a beautiful, enticing, female Poodle. The three male dogs fall all over themselves in an effort to be the one to reach her first, but end up arriving in front of her at the same time. The males are speechless before her beauty, slobbering on themselves and hoping for just a glance from her in return. Aware of her charms and her obvious effect on the three suitors, she decides to be kind and tells them “The first one who can use the words “liver” and “cheese” together in an imaginative, intelligent sentence can go out with me.” The sturdy, muscular black Lab speaks up quickly and says “I love liver and cheese.” “Oh, how childish,” said the Poodle. “That shows no imagination or intelligence whatsoever.” She turned to the tall, shiny Golden Retriever and said “How well can you do?” “Um. I HATE liver and cheese,” blurts the Golden Retriever. “My, my,” said the Poodle. “I guess it’s hopeless. That’s just as dumb as the Lab’s sentence.” She then turns to the last of the three dogs and says, “How about you, little guy?” The last of the three, tiny in stature, but big in fame and finesse, is the Taco Bell Chihuahua. He gives her a smile, a sly wink, turns to the Golden Retriever and the Lab and says, “Liver alone. Cheese mine.”

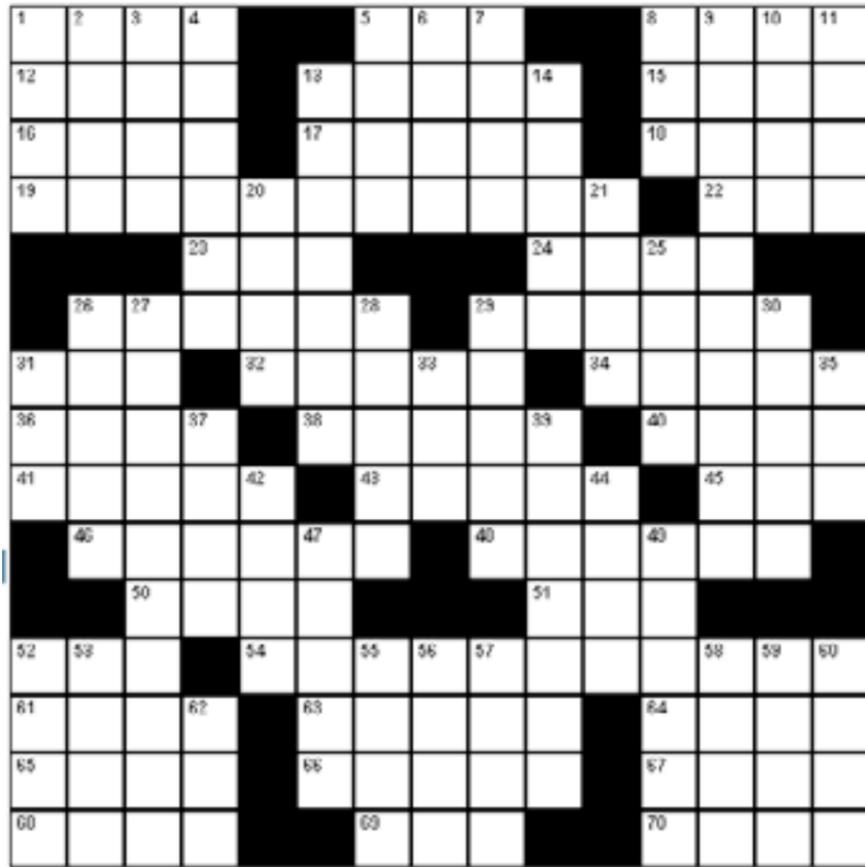
Crossword!

Across

1- Grange; 5- Arrest; 8- Collective word for intellectual pursuits; 12- Double curve; 13- Related to form; 15- Foot covering; 16- Monetary unit of Cambodia; 17- Mindlessly stupid; 18- Bring on board; 19- Approval; 22- And not; 23- Performed; 24- Othello villain; 26- Member of the Junior Chamber of Commerce; 29- Most intimate; 31- Atlantic food fish; 32- Group of six; 34- Killer whales; 36- Belonging to us; 38- Fiend; 40- Meditator; 41- Streamlined; 43- Governed; 45- Place; 46- Sign up; 48- Wanders away; 50- Sheltered, nautically; 51- PC key; 52- Entirely; 54- Probable; 61- Cut of meat; 63- Stupid person; 64- Prescribed amount; 65- First-class; 66- Sharp pain; 67- Ireland; 68- Slant; 69- Donkey; 70- Senate position;

Down

1- Golfer’s “watch out!”; 2- Not fer; 3- Internal component of a woodwind instrument; 4- Aria; 5- Nada; 6- According to the Bible, he was the first man; 7- Ruin; 8- Tree used to make baseball bats; 9- Examination of the nasal cavity; 10- Bull; 11- Prophet; 13- Immoral deed; 14- Russian revolutionary leader; 20- Having wealth; 21- ___-shanter (Scottish cap); 25- Bloody; 26- Unit of energy; 27- Stimulant; 28- Put forth; 29- Icons; 30- Spanish river; 31- Long-leaved lettuce; 33- ___ Darya (Asian river); 35- Join a poker game; 37- Exchange for money; 39- Net fabric; 42- Capital of the Ukraine; 44- Small drink; 47- Appears; 49- Dwells; 52- Exclamation to express sorrow; 53- Watch; 55- Roster; 56- Greek goddess of the rainbow; 57- Juniors, perhaps; 58- Traditional passed-down knowledge; 59- The most heavily populated continent on Earth; 60- Regular payment for agreed hire; 62- Of recent origin;



answers on back

DID YOU KNOW...

- * Hershey’s kisses are called that because the machine that makes them looks like it’s kissing the conveyor belt.
- * The longest recorded flight of a chicken is thirteen seconds.
- * An ostrich’s eye is bigger than its brain.
- * “I am” is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.

Health Tip

A GROWING NUMBER OF HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ARE CONCLUDING THAT POOR BOWEL MANAGEMENT LIES AT THE ROOT OF MOST HEALTH PROBLEMS

The colon is the sewage system of the body. There are many diseases that are a direct result of colon dysfunction. The colon or large intestine is an organ that most of us ignore until trouble arises. There are two primary problems that develop in the colon:

1. Colon stasis – a condition that results from lack of movement of material through the bowel.
2. Putrefaction and abnormal bacteria in the bowel. Colon stasis is the result of not enough fiber or roughage in the diet. Putrefaction and abnormal bacteria are caused by too much white sugar and flour-refined carbohydrates.

The colon is the sewage system of the body, but when it stagnates it’s contents will decay and putrefy into the blood stream, poisoning the brain and nervous system so that you become mentally depressed and irritable, poisoning the heart so that you become weak and listless, poisoning the lungs so that your breath is foul, poisoning the digestive system so that you are distressed and bloated, poisoning the blood so that your skin is sallow and unhealthy. You look and feel old, the joints are stiff and painful, dull eyes and sluggish brain overtake you; and you lose the joy of living. The colon is the sanitation department of the body but few people realize that their state of fatigue, sickness, and lethargy may be the result of this neglected system. Toxins build up in the digestive system and need to be continually cleaned out in order to assimilate good nutrients and so disease and parasites cannot reside there. An adequate amount of fiber scrapes the intestinal wall and prevents a buildup. This scouring action may protect against colon cancer.

It is important that we put natural, whole, live foods into our bodies. Fresh fruits and vegetables, poultry and fish, legumes, whole grains and nuts are wholesome foods. The more foods you can eat in their whole form, the better for you because cooking kills the live enzymes in food. To get the best of fiber you should get at least 25 - 40 grams of fiber daily and drink 8 glasses of pure water daily. The average person consumes 10 -12 grams of fiber daily.

If you are interested in adding more fiber to your diet and cleansing your digestive tract a product called Herbal Fiber Blend has been known to remove fecal matter and parasites from the colon. In only a few days you should see the results in your eliminations. Your body will feel the results – or your money back- guaranteed.

For more information call Joanne 689-1911.

Blaines tech tip #2

Routine maintenance; your best defence!!

Its no secret, in most cases, next to your home your automobile is your largest investment in life. Repair costs can be down right devistating and have a tendency to arise at the most inoportune time.

It’s a proven fact that routine maintenance as well as scheduled service is your best defence to high dollar repair costs. Not unlike yearly medicals, routine service will often detect early problems as well as safety or emissions concerns.

Every vehicle on the road today has a maintenance schedule accompanying the owners manual. Not only is this important for warranty issues but also provides you advice on how to realize years of trouble free motoring.

My advice to you, set your vehicle up on a service routine. Most reputable repair shops offer multi point inspections at little or no cost and would be more than obliged to help you with a schedule.

Not only will your vehicle be safer, it will last longer, cost you less to repair, consume less fuel, produce less emissions and maintain a higher resale value.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 3, 2006

9AM TO NOON

Self Guided Tour

Visit one of our satellite locations in the morning, pick up a passport and have it stamped at three or more locations and enter it for a chance to win one of several draw prizes

JOYLAND BEACH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Buffet breakfast & Plant Sale

LAGOON CITY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Pontoon Lagoon Tours, displays, historical video

GAMEBRIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Yard Sale, Bake Sale & Luncheon

BRECHIN ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

Breakfast, Community Groups

RAMONA FAIRGROUNDS/COMMUNITY HALL

Community Yard Sale, All Age Baseball Challenge

YMCA GENEVA PARK

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Atherley United Church

Yard Sale, Bake Sale, Artisan Showing

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FREE Children's activities including inflatables, clowns, petting zoo, pony rides, and races

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8PM TO MIDNIGHT

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FunFest 2006 - brought to you by the Our Ramara Coalition in partnership with the Ramara Public Library and the Township of Ramara, with the Ramara Chamber of Commerce as lead agency

A small thank you

Grace Brady would like to thank everyone who came and made her 98th birthday such a memorable event. Special thanks to the staff, and owners Terry and Maggie, of the Muskoka Retirement Lodge, for making it possible.

Do you have something to say?

If so, this paper has been started to give you a place to speak out to your community.

I am only one person and I can't get around to all the exciting things going on in our area so if you think something would be interesting to the rest of us, how about writing something for this paper. We will be sure to give you all the credit for your stories and if there's flack to go along with it you can have that too!!! I'm sure people will soon get tired of reading my dribble so how about taking a go at it? Go ahead, have some fun.

Just remember to please be nice to your brothers and sisters. Remember I am the editor.

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What are custom orthotics?

A custom foot orthotic is a custom-made three - dimensional insert that is in your shoe to help the pain and discomfort cause by lower limb injury.

Orthotics work by decreasing high -pressure areas, stabilizing foot alignment and or cushioning the foot. Orthotics will not permanently change your anatomy and will function only when you are standing or walking on them.

Orthotics commonly used to relieve symptoms of common injuries, such as plantar fasciitis, metatarsalgia, neuromas , and various foot and ankle tendon injuries as well as helping individuals with diabetes or arthritis. Orthotics complement other treatments such as physiotherapy, stretching, icing and massage.

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