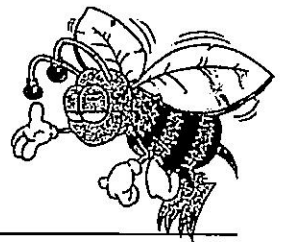


Local Service Board Buzzer



NEWSLETTER 2024 - 2

PUBLISHED BY LSB OF REDBRIDGE

EDITED BY A. WARDELL

JUNE 2024

PHELPS WOMENS INSTITUTE

We are up and running again! The Womens Institute met in May at the Library and welcomed several new members. Thank you to these ladies who joined us and will help us to celebrate our 85th year as an active club in Phelps Township. We are so fortunate.

On May 25th we sponsored a highway clean up. Although short notice, we hoped to attract the students in the township who were looking to obtain a few volunteer hours towards their graduation diploma from high school. This initiative did not prove very successful. One student helped and he didn't need any more hours! Members and guests cleaned up from the Fisher Apartments to Mountainview Road. There was a lot of trash collected and then transported to the dump. A complementary lunch was served at the Golden Age Club following the event. A special shout out to ARDonuts for the donation of donuts for the workers. Sincere appreciation for all who supported us.

Meetings will be held in July and August at the Library at 10 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month. Please feel free to join us.



PHELPS LOCAL ROADS BOARD

2024 Road Maintenance Work Plan:

> Summer information update

Maple Road - Remove rock from road that grader and plows hit

Allens Road - Apply M gravel

Pine Road - Remove rock from road that grader and plows hit

Folkstone Road - Apply M gravel

Knox's Road - Apply M gravel

Cedar Road - Replace two culverts

North River Road - Patch as required, remove stump from road

Songis Road - Patch as required, apply M gravel

Sale Road - Apply M Gravel

All Roads - Cut back brush as required

Enjoy our country roads, wherever they take you

VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Summer is finally here and we are happy to announce our 2nd annual Softball Tournament will be July 13th with the proceeds from the registrations going to the Rec Centre. Last year we had a great turnout and were able to help the Vet's Club raise some money for some projects that they have planned. Let's see if we can do the same this year!!! There will be a BBQ, beer garden, canteen, draws and more so bring your family, friends, and lawn chairs for a great day of fun.

In recent months we have had a few community members approach us with some concerns about the dead trees in our community and have asked what the plan is to prevent forest fires. Although we cannot speak for the Ministry of Natural Resources as to what they are doing, I can assure you that they are aware of these concerns. They have created a program for homeowners to help mitigate these forest fires called "Firesmart". This program has an amazing amount of information and tips on how you can help protect your home from wildfires if they are to occur. For more information, visit www.firesmartcanada.ca

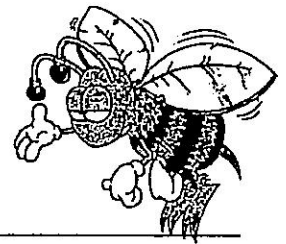
Similar to structure fires, prevention starts with you. We would like to remind you that there is **NO DAYTIME BURNING!!!!** This means no burning (regardless if it's in a pit, barrel, or out in the open) between 7 am and 7 pm, unless for cooking or warmth and only wood products are to be burned. We would hate to see a forest fire start because of someone in our community so please follow the guidelines found at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/outdoor-fire-rules-and-permits>. If you see someone burning outside the rules or see a forest fire, please call 310-FIRE(3473).

If you or someone you know would like to help out at our department, please come visit us on Wednesday nights at 7 pm or reach out to us to see what you can do.

Have a great summer and remember to be Fire Safe!!!!

Melissa Moulder
Fire Chief

Local Service Board Buzzer



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Melissa Moulder
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PHELPS VETS CLUB

It's been another exciting, productive and full year at the Club as we prepare to close for regular hours for the summer as we do each year so we can all enjoy more summer!

This year's Snowshoe Golf event went ahead despite Mother Nature not cooperating - and folks still enjoyed golfing with rain boots in the mud! We had a few hiccups this year that we will work hard to resolve.

We'd like to take this time to remind folks that the Vets Club is a place to have fun, socialize with family and friends, and enjoy special events we offer. We require respect and a safe environment for everyone to enjoy. It is run solely with volunteers, and our bartenders have the added responsibility to maintain our club rules, particularly concerning AGCO liquor licensing regulations. We strive hard to offer a safe, fun local community club and hall, and any negative behaviours such as arguments, bullying, etc. will not be tolerated. The bartenders have the authority to shutdown the bar and ask anyone who is causing a disturbance to leave. People come to enjoy themselves in a safe environment - please help us by maintaining that respectful environment. The Vets Club is our only licensed community facility large enough to accommodate dances and larger functions - let's all help keep it open!

On a lighter note, the True Country Boys have been offering a wildly successful and enjoyable Sunday matinee monthly, and we hope that can continue! Thanks so much to all the band members, and for Ervil Boreland for organizing and coordinating it all! Your Matinees help us out tremendously!

This summer we have the Hall rented for several private occasions - possibly including a movie crew that may be filming in our area, who will require our kitchen facilities!

On Saturday, July 13th, the Phelps Fire Department, in partnership with the Rec Centre and Vets Club, is again offering a Ball Tourney at the Rec Centre ball diamond, and the Vets Club will again be running the Beer Garden. Last year was very successful and a lot of fun for all! So plan on a great day outdoors, playing on a team or just taking it all in whilst enjoying a cool one in the Vets Beer Garden!

Stay tuned for upcoming event info - we'll advertise online in our local Facebook sites and through the sign at the Redbridge General Store.

And we apologize for delays, but we do plan on hosting a Trivia Night at the Vets sometime this fall!

We've been quite busy on our Accessibility Project renovations! We now have a chairlift for the side entrance stairs - yay!! And we've almost finished the renovations on the main floor washroom - we did a full 'gut' on it and Gord Mulcahey and Ervil Boreland have redesigned it with a 'new' vanity sink and toilet and lots of space to maneuver for accessibility devices! Just a few decorating and finishing touches to go.... This summer we hope to work on the flooring on the main floor, followed by some fresh paint, etc. A new wider main entrance door will complete the main floor Accessibility renovations. Thanks to all who've contributed with ideas, product, and/or your hard work!

The Vets Club depends on wood heating to save heating costs. We are looking for some volunteers to help with some cutting and splitting of wood, and loading it in for the winter. Please consider offering your services if you can to help with the wood - we'll feed you and be working alongside you! We are aiming for Tuesday, September 17th / Wednesday, September 18th for a few hours with many hands making light work. For more info re wood, please call Gord Mulcahey at 705-978-0469.

We'd like to acknowledge the commitment and many hours of work from our great bartender, Elise Thomas in ensuring the bar is open and well stocked, while serving with a smile and ensuring we remain compliant with our licensing requirements - with heartfelt thanks Elise for all you do for our Club!

We'd also like to thank Sheila Jessup, following her recent decision to resign from the Board of Directors, for her many years of dedication to the Vets Club, and for her many awesome fundraising efforts! We hope you can continue helping with some future fundraising as the need arises! We are always appreciative of any help we can get. Our community works well together, helping each other and our volunteer service organizations!

Enjoy your summer everyone and stay safe! Until the fall.....

Phelps Vets Club Board



PHELPS COMMUNITY REC CENTRE

Summer, summer, summer!

Hello everyone, thank you for reading the June edition of the community Buzzer. This is one of the BEST tools we have to communicate with you, the community, so we thank you for taking the time to read all about the wonderful things our communities' groups and clubs have to offer. Here's what's happening at the Rec!

New Committee Business:

Unfortunately, we have some disappointing new business to report. The Rec Centre recently experienced some serious vandalism and a break in, the school was also targeted. As we continue to improve security measures, make repairs and clean up, we ask for your support. This is a great opportunity to remind the young people in our community that these are **VERY** costly acts. Through some investigating and reports, we understand these acts were committed by some high school age youth from our community. All the necessary repairs and upgraded security measures take away from our budget of programming and events, which is very sad for our community. It's also very disheartening and disappointing for our volunteers. We need the communities help to keep the Rec a safe, fun, and enjoyable place for everyone!

We are continuing our campaign to recruit more volunteers. This will become a greater focus for the committee going forward. Volunteers are needed to continue operations, upkeep, and events. Should we be unsuccessful in gaining new volunteers the committee will plan and host a community meeting looking for more in-depth feedback and awareness.

There is a work plan put forth for improvements to be made to the Baseball diamond. We will shortly be looking for volunteers and equipment to help with that project. Repairs are to be completed before the Softball Tournament in July. If you think you might be able to help in this matter, please contact us by email. phelpsrec@outlook.com

Past Events:

The first Farmers Market was a great success despite mother nature not cooperating. Thank you to everyone who came out. Special thanks to Christine for donating her time and skills to provide face painting, she's very talented and we're so lucky to have her! Also, we once again can't thank Chris Pascoe enough for coming out and entertaining all of us with his amazing voice

and guitar playing. Chris has been playing live music for us at the market for the past 3 years! He always makes time for us, despite his extremely busy schedule and we are so thankful for him! The vendors love him, and we get nothing but compliments from guests visiting the market. He is one of the things that makes our little market so magical!

Also, to all our volunteers in the kitchen who spend so much time preparing, cooking, and hosting the breakfast, **THANK YOU!** Right now, we are lucky enough to have some **AMAZING** young volunteers in the kitchen who are **ABSOLUTELY** amazing and blow our minds with their commitment, maturity, and work ethic. Thank you to Olivia, Catherine, Rosie, and Charlotte! Also thank you so much to Sandy and Linda for helping at each breakfast with prep, cooking and so much more!

Current Events:

Phelps Farmers Market & Breakfast
Saturday, June 22, July 13, Aug 24 & Sept 28
8am til Noon (breakfast 8 til 11 am)

Have you seen the awesome events schedule we have for the Phelps Farmers Market this year?!? It's posted over on our Facebook now! We have special events happening at each market for the **WHOLE** family, so come enjoy everything that's going on at the market this summer! It's a great morning out in the community to have breakfast, hear live music, do some shopping and there is always something fun happening for the kids! Be sure to stay tuned to our Facebook or Instagram for all the details **AND** the sign at the store. (We are still accepting vendors if interested! Just email phelpsrec@outlook.com for details.

Phelps Community Softball Tournament
Fundraiser - Saturday July 13th
- All Day Event

It's back and we couldn't be more excited! The Phelps Volunteer Fire Dept. is once again organizing a softball tournament for our community! Last year's event was such a **HUGE** success and we're excited about this year's prospects! You can get more info on the tournament or register a team by emailing phelpsfireevents@gmail.com

There will once again be a community BBQ, canteen, beer garden and the Phelps Farmers Market will be happening! This is truly an incredible event for our community and you don't want to miss it. We hope to see you all out to enjoy a hamburger, some games, and the market!

Redbridge Roots Garden Group

Six additional raised beds have been added to the community garden this summer. Once again, our garden group will be looking for donations of items to help them during the season. Some items they are looking for are as follows: Soil, hose, small garden hand tools, mulch or wood chips, Home Depot gift cards, monetary donations, seeds, perennial plants and more.

They had a successful summer last year, and we were able to give back to the community. They are also looking for more help, if you are available to spare some time please email the Rec.

DON'T FORGET they are also looking for seedlings. If you're planting for your own garden, please consider starting a few extra plants for our community garden! We're also looking for "deer resistant" perennials. If you have questions about the community garden or are interested in volunteering, please email the Rec.

EarlyOn Program

Exciting news! The EarlyON program will run at the Phelps Rec Centre Monday, August 12, 19 and 26 from 9 am til 11:30 am. This is a **FREE**, drop-in program and is offered to children from birth to age 6. You can see the full schedule on the EarlyON North Bay and area's Facebook page, or you can contact them at 705-474-8910. Starting in September the program will move back to Phelps Public School.

Before and After School Programing

The school has some VERY exciting news to share, Friends Forever Childcare Centre will be running Before and After school care at Phelps Central next year! There will be an Open House for families to come and speak with Friends Forever Childcare about their program for the 2024-2025 school year. The open house will be on June 20th from 5:30 til 7:30 pm.

Rec Reminders

Bring your floatie! The pond is ready and available anytime for anyone who wishes to take a swim. Just a reminder, the pond is not supervised, there is no diving, and you swim at your own risk. Please never leave children unattended while around the pond or creek area.

Also, we'd just like to say congratulations to all the graduates this year. Another year of hard work and learning under your belt! You all have such bright futures ahead of you! Have a very safe and fun summer!

Volunteer Opportunities:

Currently we are looking for volunteers. We have MANY volunteer positions available, however right now we are focusing on finding volunteers who would be interested in helping at the softball

tournament with clean up, set up and working the event. We are also looking for someone with some equipment to come and grade the diamond itself. The diamond needs quite a bit of work as there is lots of grass growing and needs a good drag. If you are interested, please email the Rec or text 705-358-8073.

If you are interested in more information on any position below, you can see the Rec's Facebook page. We have a photo album with all the positions available and additional information about the jobs. If you don't have Facebook, please email phelpsrec@outlook.com and we will send the information to you. These positions will be updated as they become filled or available. We hope this will also help us communicate better with parents or students who need volunteer hours.

Ball Diamond Maintenance - Work to be done before July 13th - get the diamond ready (requires equipment.)

Softball Tournament Event - All day event - many positions available (canteen workers, set up, tear down, etc.)

Breakfast Prep Crew - 3 to 4 hours, once a month, evenings.

Rec Organization & Cleaning Crew - 3 to 4 hours, once a month, evenings. (Flexible)

Farmers Market Coordinators - 5 to 10 hours per month, March to September.

Rec Event Photographer - 4 to 5 hours per month (depending on events)

Community Breakfast Crew - 5 hours, once a month, Saturdays 7 am til 12 noon.

Bottle Drive Fundraiser - 4 - 6 hours per month, Saturdays (drivers & deliveries)

Garden Club - 1 - 2 hours per week or every other week.

Again, we can never thank our volunteers enough for everything they do! The Rec is a labour of love, and you all have shown how much you love our community through your service; we can't do this without you.

Community Info Resources:

Where can you find information on events?

- Buzzer (comes out 4 times a year)
- Sign at the Redbridge Store
- Phelpstownship.ca
- Facebook
- LSB Meeting (twice a year)
- Email phelpsrec@outlook.com
- @phelpscommunityreccentre(PCRC)

That's it from all of us at the Rec. Thanks to the community once again for all your support. As we mentioned above, please stay tuned to our Facebook page and the community sign for all event details.

HAVE A WONDERFUL AND SAFE SUMMER

PHELPS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Hi Everybody!

Buzzer time again and time to write about another pioneer family from the area. This time its about the other Johnston family and the Wilsons (Don Wilson) but I have to give you details about the beginning which is a little more complicated dealing with someone who grew up in southern Ontario and someone who was raised in England.

Bill Johnston and Annie Goodfellow met during WW1, married and returned to Canada in 1919. They settled in Bothwell, Ontario. Shortly after, in May 1919, Annie gave birth to Marjorie. In October 1920, Samuel was born, followed by Lillian (Mick) in March 1922, and Muriel in November 1924.

In January 1926, the Johnston family (except Marjorie who had stayed behind with grandparents to finish the school year) came to Redbridge by train. Getting off in Feronia, they made their way to Balsam Creek where they became house guests of Bill's brother George. They stayed with George until the spring, when Bill built his vertical log house on the South half of lot 12, concession 4.

Lewis was born in August 1927.

Bill was a farmer and he also was the government land guide, showing many of the pioneers to their lots. Many stayed with the Johnston family until they had built their own homes. At the time, when lots were chosen, 16 acres had to be cleared and a 16 x 20 house built before lots became claimed. Both Annie and Bill loved the area and although times were hard, they had a good life.

In August of 1932, tragedy struck when both Bill (34) and Sam (12) died in a drowning accident in Trout Lake. This occurred during a rare picnic at the lake. Sam had been playing with other children in the water when he stepped into a 20 ft. deep hole. Upon noticing his distress, his father went in, fully clothed, to help his son. Not being able to swim himself, he also got into trouble and they both went down. Annie was left to raise her 4 other children on her own. An extremely hard task for a single woman in the 1930s.

In 1940, Annie married Philip Arnold Wilson (PA), and remained living on her property in Balsam Creek.

Marjorie married Norm Kightley, who lived on Songis Road. They lived in North Bay for many years but eventually moved to southern Ontario because of Norm's job with the CNR.

Mick lived her entire life on the family homestead in Balsam Creek. She married Don Wilson (the son of PA). Shortly after they were married, Don left Balsam Creek to go overseas to fight in WW2. Mick spent the next 5 years caring for her small daughter, Beverly, alone. Mick and Don raised 2 daughters. Beverly lives on her own property in the area and Lynn lives in North Bay but owns the homestead property in Balsam Creek and takes part in a lot that goes on in the Redbridge area.

Muriel lived in Balsam Creek all of her life. She married Doug Allen and had 5 children, Diane, Kurt, Dale, Paul and Kim. They all raised their families in other locations but after the death of Doug and Muriel, Diane's son, Patrick, purchased and now lives on their homestead - a welcome addition to the area!

The youngest son, Lewis, married a South Porcupine girl, Leila Luoma. They had one child, a daughter Liisa and also lived in the area. Lewis seemed to be accident prone and was killed in 1956 in a car accident leaving behind Leila and Liisa. They moved in with Marjorie in North Bay until Leila remarried and moved out west.

Even though a lot of the family moved away when they had their own families, they did visit often and even in this day and age, talk about the wonderful life they had here when young. Lynn and I (the Wilson sisters) often talk about our younger days here. They were wonderful then and still are today.

I'd like to thank all our volunteers who open the library for us! We couldn't run a library without them. Thank you for finding a replacement when you can't do your turn and for keeping me posted about what's going on. That includes our newest volunteer Logan Wardell. He has taken on a time of his own and substitutes many times when needed. I already don't know what we'd do without him.

We have so many new books, magazines, DVD's I found it difficult to choose. Here's a few to try:

Books -
The First Mistake - Sandy Jones

The wife - Alice - her life has never been better.
Second husband - successful business - two children - a beautiful house. A best friend - they can survive anything together! But, Nathan starts acting badly and turning to Beth for help - could be "trust misplaced." Was this trust a mistake? Could it be the last?

Someone We Know - Shari Lapena
- also wrote The Couple Next Door (a best seller)

In a leafy suburb in upstate New York, a teenager has been sneaking into people's houses and their computers as well. What secrets is he spreading? Whispers begin to circulate! Suspicion mounts! A woman down the street is murdered causing tension to reach the breaking point. Who knows more than they're telling? How far will very nice people go to protect their secrets? Sometimes you don't know your neighbour as well as you thought you did!

No Where But Here - Katie McGarry

An unforgettable new series about taking risks - opening your heart and ending up in a place you never imagined possible. Seventeen year old Emily likes her life the way it is. However, a reluctant visit to an estranged father teaches her that life isn't always what it seems, thanks to her father who belongs in a motorcycle club - the Reign of Terror, or the young gentleman- OZ she meets there. The road you fear the most is the one that leads you home.

Magazines -

We have more than a dozen different magazines to check when you come! Here's a few - Broadview, Our Canada, Back In the Bay, Taste of Home, Birds and Blooms, Canadian Gardening, The Good Life, On Snow, Down Home, etc.

We'd love to see children come in and go to their section down stairs. There are many activities down there, several shelves of books and of course Belvedere and Wellington who would enjoy their company.

Thanks to the new tower, the computers are supposed to be working on a much higher speed. We had some difficulty with the new phone. I apologize to those of you who couldn't reach us. It's coming under control very nicely.

Come and browse - I think you'll be pleasantly surprised!

Bev Reynolds, C.E.O.



An elderly couple was celebrating their sixtieth anniversary. The couple had married as childhood sweethearts and had moved back to their old neighborhood after they retired. Holding hands, they walked back to their old school. It was not locked, so they entered, and found the old desk they'd shared, where Jerry had carved 'I love you, Sally'.

On their way back home, a bag of money fell out of an armored car, practically landing at their feet. Sally quickly picked it up and, not sure what to do with it, they took it home. There, she counted the money - fifty thousand dollars!!!!

Jerry said, "We've got to give it back."
Sally said, "Finders keepers."

She put the money back in the bag and hid it in their attic.

The next day, two police officers were canvassing the neighborhood looking for the money, and knocked on their door. "Pardon me, did either of you find a bag that fell out of an armoured car yesterday?"

Sally said, "No."
Jerry said, "She's lying. She hid it up in the attic."
Sally said, "Don't believe him, he's getting senile."

The agents turned to Jerry and began to question him. One said: "Tell us the story from the beginning."

Jerry said, "Well, when Sally and I were walking home from school yesterday....."

The first police officer turned to his partner and said, "We're outta here."

Words of Wisdom

- Never test the depth of the water with both feet.
- If you lend someone \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it.
- A closed mouth gathers no foot.
- There are two excellent theories for arguing with women. Neither one works.
- Generally speaking, you aren't learning much when your lips are moving.

WE SALUTE
Our Graduates **June**

