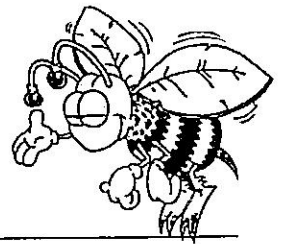


# Local Service Board Buzzer



NEWSLETTER 2025 -1

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MARCH 2025

## PHELPS UNITED CHURCH

Spring is in the air, and Phelps United Church is gearing up for a season of community activities. They will hold a Clothing Closet Give-away at the church on Saturday, March 29. The group is accepting donations of spring and summer clothing until March 15, to allow time for sorting and organizing.

A Yard Sale and Barbecue is planned for Saturday, June 21. Donations for the sale will be accepted until Saturday, June 7. Last summer's barbecue was a very special event, when a power failure made our hot dogs the only hot lunch available in Redbridge! The indoor yard sale by candlelight was also memorable.

Plans are already underway for the group's annual apple pie sale, which is a ton of fun as well as a great fundraiser for the church. We would love to have more volunteers to assist with peeling, slicing, and assembling in early November. Please contact Carole Johnston or Maggie Bartlett if you are interested in joining us in making apple pies.

Phelps United holds Sunday morning services at ten a.m., under the leadership of LLWL Fran Morris and Rev. David Lock. Everyone is welcome, all denominations and affiliations, and invited to join an hour of fellowship and donuts after the service. Rev. Lock also leads a mid-week fellowship group at 2 p.m. on Thursdays in the church basement.



## PHELPS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The sun has been shining, birds are starting to chirp more and more, and the weather is finally starting to warm up. With the nicer weather, we would like to remind everyone that Daytime Burning is no longer permitted as of April 1st (no joke) until October 31st. For rules to follow in regards to outdoor burning, please go to <https://www.ontario.ca/page/outdoor-fire-rules-and-permits> or reach out to the Fire Department.

In 2024, Ontario unfortunately saw 111 fire deaths. Although this is down from 123 deaths in 2023, that number is still too high. Knowing that only **WORKING** smoke alarms save lives, here are some tips to make sure that yours will be working for you.

- Look at the back of the smoke alarm for the date of manufacture. If it has passed its expiration date, it must be replaced.
- Make sure you have an alarm installed on every story and outside of all sleeping areas.
- Testing your alarm, although noisy, is the easiest part of making sure it's working. Simply press the "Test" button to ensure that it is good to go.

We've got a few events going on this year and are currently in the process of planning this year's softball tournament and are looking for sponsors. If anyone is interested or knows of a business who wants to get their name out, please let us know. The last two years have been great so let's keep this ball rolling!!!! Keep your eye out for more information as it comes available on our Facebook page, the sign at the store as well as the next Buzzer.

Last but not least, we are always looking for people who are interested in helping out at the Fire Department. Do you want to help but don't want to fight fire? Come check us out, there's always something for everyone.

Have a great spring and remember, stay Fire Safe!!!

Melissa Moulder  
Fire Chief

## Phelps and District Golden Age Club

Happy Spring everyone! Hope we see some signs of it, soon!

Pancake/French Toast Breakfasts are now the **1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday** of the month. This schedule seems to be working well for everyone.

Breakfast consists of 3 Pancakes or 2 French Toast, 3 Sausage, Orange Juice & Tea or Coffee for \$7.

Pancake/French Toast Breakfast gift cards are now available. They can be purchased at the Golden Age Club.

I would like to thank the Vet's Club for promoting our Pancake Breakfast on March 1<sup>st</sup>. We had a record breaking day. Hope your Snowshoe Golf had as good a turnout.

Senior's Chair Yoga program (60 and over) is ongoing at the Golden Age Club on Mondays at 9:45 a.m. The V.O.N. has been doing this program at no cost to us. Because it is free we have limited it to members only and ask for a \$2 donation to help with our operating costs. We are accepting new members.

Phelps Golden Age Club received a \$500 SOYF Healthy Aging grant again this year. We used the grant to buy some new games for Games Day and to pay for 3 members to take a Safe Food Handling course.

Next Foot care clinic at the Golden Age Club is March 26<sup>th</sup>, last Wednesday of the month. For more information, or to make an appointment call Amanda Ostrowski at 249 358 4347.

The Golden Age Club held a Valentine's Day Lunch on February 14<sup>th</sup>. We served Appetizers and Dessert, I thoroughly enjoyed it and think everyone else did too. The Door Prize was won by Ellen Boulet.

We would like to thank Steve Chenier for doing such a great job of plowing the driveway at the Golden Age Club this winter.

On April 15, 2025 from 1:00-2:00 p.m., Erin Celebre from the Alzheimers Society will be doing a presentation at the Golden Age Club "Introduction to Dementia". Everyone welcome!

Thank you to; Karin Sandula for being such a hard working Vice-President, Ellen Boulet for doing such a great job of our finances, Ilene Ranger for doing so many things, but mostly being such a reliable and capable Secretary, Carole Johnston for being our smiling face at the door, Don Johnston for taking care of signs, Rick Nicholson for taking care of maintenance needs and everyone else that works so hard to make us run efficiently.

The 50-50 Lucky Lotto is an on-going fund raiser for the Golden Age. There are 100 squares on the board. You can purchase squares for \$2 each. The draw is made when all the squares are full. The winner receives \$100.

The latest winner was Ann Graham.

The next lunch will be Good Friday, April 18th; lunch will consist of Fish, buns, coleslaw, potato salad and dessert. These lunches are members only, the meal is provided by members and the Club. The cost for members is \$7. The food is always good and the company great.

Spaghetti Supper will be held on April 26, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$15. By the time that you see this it will be **SOLD OUT** but Take-out meals are still available. Be sure to order yours in advance. We will not be doing last minute orders, sorry, we just don't have workers to handle this.

If you are interested in becoming a member or want any other information regarding the club, please contact - Dorothy Jessup, President at 495-6841, Karin Sandula, Vice President, 663-2696, Ilene Ranger, Secretary, 663-2238, or Ellen Boulet, Treasurer at 663-2218.

Memberships are \$10 a year. This entitles you to attend our Members only lunches, Potlucks, Yoga, and use of the hall once a year for private functions.

## If I Only Knew Then

When I was in my younger days, I weighed a few pounds less.

I needn't hold my tummy in to wear a belted dress.

But now that I am older, I've set my body free;

There's comfort of elastic, where once my waist would be.

Inventor of those high-heeled shoes, my feet have not forgiven;

I have to wear a nine now, but used to wear a seven.

And how about those pantyhose – they're sized by weight, you see.

So how come when I put them on, the crotch is at my knees?

I need to wear these glasses, as the prints were getting smaller,

And it wasn't very long ago; I know that I was taller,

Though my hair has turned to gray and my skin no longer fits,

On the inside, I'm the same old me. Just the outside's changed a bit.

## Happy Spring!

Dorothy Jessup, President  
Phelps & District Golden Age Club

## PHELPS COMMUNITY REC CENTRE

Get ready to shake off the winter chill because spring is just around the corner! With birds chirping and the snow melting, we're excited to announce a ton of fun-filled events for the community this spring! From outdoor markets to family-friendly activities, there's something for everyone to enjoy!

### New Community Business:

The committee has met for 1 out of 4 of our annual meetings in 2025.

During our first meeting of the year, we engaged in a productive discussion covering several key topics. We addressed the ongoing rink project aimed at enhancing safety conditions, spoke about community rental challenges, washroom renovations, and discussed the upcoming summer markets. Additionally, we examined options for internet access at the Rec and funding opportunities for bigger projects that are required. These discussions are vital as we work towards our goals for the year ahead.

For more information about our committee meetings, including details and updates, please visit our Facebook page. We post minutes from our yearly committee meetings there for public access. We encourage everyone to stay informed and engaged with our initiatives and discussions.

### Current Events:

#### Community Yoga

A final session of yoga is starting April 1st. Immerse yourself in tranquility at Hatha Yoga, led by Julie Robinson. Beginning Tuesday, April 1st, this soothing class will run for 5 weeks, every Tuesday from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm at the school. For just \$60, you'll find a serene space perfect for all levels, from beginners to experienced practitioners. Reserve your spot today by emailing [phelpsyoga@outlook.com](mailto:phelpsyoga@outlook.com) or calling/texting Bev at 705-492-0029. Embrace the journey toward relaxation and wellness!

As we conclude this yoga season, the committee would like to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to Julie and Bev for their incredible dedication and work. Without their commitment, our yoga programs wouldn't be possible, and we are truly fortunate to have such wonderful community members who invest their time and effort to keep this event thriving. Your contributions have made a significant impact, and we appreciate everything you do.

Phelps Committee Youth Liaison Position  
We're STILL looking for youth in our community to sit on the Rec committee board! We want MORE input and ideas from the next generation who will one day be caretakers of the Rec and our community. The Youth Leadership Liaison is a very important position on the Rec Committee. Your role is to attend committee meetings, provide input, help with events and work with other committee members on Rec projects.

We're looking for someone who is:

- Creative
- Works well in a team
- Is motivated
- Ready to take on responsibilities
- Is between the ages of 12 and 18
- Lives in the community
- Attend 2-4 committee meetings per year
- Is able to volunteer at Rec events

If you have a youth that might be interested in this position, please contact us by email at [phelpsrec@outlook.com](mailto:phelpsrec@outlook.com). We have a short application we will send you to fill out and submit.

#### EarlyON Program

The EarlyON program will continue at Phelps Public School. This is a FREE drop-in program every Thursday from 9 am till 11:30 am geared to families with children ages 6 and under. Each week there are fun and creative things for your children to do. For more information on the EarlyON program, you can contact them by email at: [eyc@communitylivingnorthbay.org](mailto:eyc@communitylivingnorthbay.org)

Hop Into Spring Market - Saturday April 5  
Hop into Spring at the Phelps Craft Show & Mini Market on Saturday April 5, 10 am - 3 pm, inside the Phelps Rec Centre. Local vendors, coffee, tea and FREE A&R donuts while supplies last!

Find the event on Facebook for details or email us.

[phelpscommunitymarket@gmail.com](mailto:phelpscommunitymarket@gmail.com)

Easter Eggstravaganza - Saturday April 19  
Get ready for some egg-citing fun because the Easter Eggstravaganza is back! Join us at the Rec on Saturday, April 19th from 11 am to 1:30 pm for an unforgettable day filled with an egg hunt, special Easter events, and a Fire Dept. BBQ! While the kids search for over 1,700 eggs packed with goodies, the Phelps F.D. will be grilling up tasty treats. Bring the whole family and don't miss one of the most fun-filled days in our community - The egg hunt and events are FREE!

BBQ fundraiser costing just \$7 for a burger and drink or \$7 for 2 hot dogs and a drink.  
EGG HUNT STARTS AT 11:30 AM!!!

### Past Events:

Nothing in the past to report.

### Rec Reminders

#### Pond, River & Road

Please remember to be vigilant around the pond and river at the Rec as spring nears. The water in the river is VERY cold and begins to run fast. Pond ice conditions change quickly so best to stay clear all together. We also want to remind everyone that the stretch of road that runs behind the Rec around to the firehall gets VERY muddy in the spring so we ask that you stay clear as much as possible until it can dry, we also have to periodically close the road. Please be sure to stay off if it is blocked off.

#### Volunteer Opportunities:

We have MANY volunteer positions available right now! 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](mailto: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.

*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 Committee Coordinators* - 5 to 10 hours per month, Jan to Sept

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

*Community Breakfast Crew* - 5 hours, once a month, Saturdays 7 am till 12 pm

*Rink Renovation Crew* - 5 to 10 hours a month, flexible/seasonal

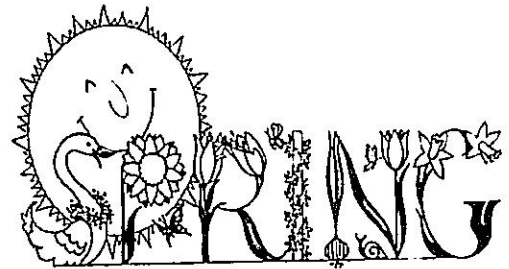
*Event Volunteers* - 5 - 10 hours per month - Whenever events are held

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
- [www.Phelpstownship.ca](http://www.Phelpstownship.ca)
- Facebook
- LSB Meeting (once a month)
- Email [phelpsrec@outlook.com](mailto:phelpsrec@outlook.com)
- Insta [@phelpscommunityreccentre](https://www.instagram.com/phelpscommunityreccentre) (PCRC)



#### Words of Wisdom:

It's not the years in your life that count.  
It's the life in your years - Abraham Lincoln

I think, what has this day brought me, and  
what have I given it - Henry Moore

The pessimist sees difficulty in every  
opportunity. The optimist sees opportunity in  
every difficulty. - Sir Winston Churchill

The person who says it cannot be done  
should not interrupt the person who is doing  
it. - Chinese Proverb

In matters of style, swim with the current; in  
matters of principle, stand like a rock. -  
Thomas Jefferson

If you are too busy to laugh, you ARE too  
busy. - Proverb

Happy Father's Day!



## THE VETS CLUB

Welcome spring!!! And thank goodness winter is almost behind us, though it was nice to enjoy a more 'normal' Redbridge winter!

We've had a busy time at the Vets Club since Christmas! We have been focussing on renovations on the main floor ("The Pub") for accessibility, new insulation to help manage heating costs and the associated drywall, mudding, painting and a good cleanup to freshen it all up. Many of you have been in to try out our new-to-us pool table! And the main floor renovated washroom for accessibility is awesome - new, clean, fresh, with lots of space to move around. Currently we're finishing that reno work, ready to tackle the floors in The Pub late spring or into the summer.

With our upstairs renovations in "The Hall" completed for now and our main floor soon to be completed, we'd love to host an Open House in September to show off our fresh digs, and introduce The Club to many folks in our community who may not be aware of where it is and what we offer as your community hall and pub. All are welcome. Date and information to follow in the June Buzzer.

The Club hosted the Annual Snowshoe Golf event on Saturday, March 1st - it was so much fun! We had about 35 golfers all warmly wrapped up for a great afternoon whacking neon balls around the course in the sunshine! Following golf, we convened at The Club for a delicious supper and golf prizes, joined by a few more friends. If you've never played Snowshoe Golf, it's a fantastic afternoon on a relatively easy course (depending where you hit your ball), with lots of laughs, friends and refreshments, followed by homemade supper and tunes, etc. at The Club - all for \$15pp or \$25 per couple! We were even advertised by Jet FM and the Country Music radio stations in North Bay! Try it out next year!

The True Country Boys, along with several other guest musicians have continued to provide a great Sunday Matinee afternoon monthly - come on out for some toe tapping country music, along with an optional supper provided by The Club. We can't thank the band enough for their continued support - Ervil Boreland, Bill Aultman, Stan Wilkolaski, Kevin Meisenheimer.

We are also planning a couple of afternoon/evenings for a different version of our "Paint the Town Red-bridge". We'd like to arrange all of our various community clubs and organizations to help paint a large wall mural of

our wonderful small community. The mural will be a fun 'map' of our community indicating all the locations of our clubs (eg the Church, Golden Age, Library, Rec Centre, Firehall, Vets Club, etc) and we hope to have folks from each of these join us to paint this creative wall mural. We'll be in touch with each of your organizations as we 'map' this activity out! We are planning 2 Saturday afternoons in April to accommodate lots of folks while avoiding painting over (or on) each other - haha!!

Without community volunteers, Redbridge would be a dull and non functioning community. The Vets Club would like to thank the many folks who've contributed their time, efforts and in some cases financial donations to our efforts.

Snowshoe Golf prize donations were provided by Mark Jasmin (The Toy Doctor); the Aultman family; Home Depot; Golden Harvest; Jordan Gibbons from Master Mechanical Service; Redbridge General Store; Carstar; Freshco; and Cycleworks, along with monetary donations from Steve Chenier of Backcountry Property Management & the Aultmans  
- with many thanks!

The Vets Club would also like to express our utmost appreciation to the following for their hard work to help make our Annual Snowshoe Golf such a success:

> The Chenier family for their great work creating and maintaining the course (it was a really great layout this year!) And providing our music for the night; Ross Reed for allowing us to continue to use his property for the course (Thank You!) JP Rheume; Matt Clark; Monique Price; Kevin Meisenheimer; Janice Reed; Chris Mulcahey; Guy Mannering; Joanne Pretty; Debbie Boreland; Ervil Boreland; Gord Mulcahey; Elise Thomas; Sandy Mannering and very special thanks to Tammy Mulcahey for preparing and serving a delicious supper!  
> For their continuing hard work on renovations, we'd like to offer much thanks and appreciation to Gord Mulcahey, Ervil Boreland, JP Rheume, Mike Phillips and Kevin Meisenheimer!

Without all of you, our Club wouldn't be able to host great events and community social activities - we so appreciate you!

> Remember The Pub is open Wednesday nights for euchre, Thursday nights for pool and darts, Saturday nights for cribbage plus pool, darts and a great bar!

## PHELPS PUBLIC LIBRARY

I've been starting our articles lately with stories of pioneer families of Redbridge and this is another - this time about the W.T. Phillips family.

On May 3, 1937, at about 1:30 am on a dark starless night, a battered half ton truck arrived in Phelps Township. It was driven by Gertie Phillips, daughter of William T. Phillips. With her was her mother Gertrude, 10 year old brother George, John age 3 and sister Joan. The 1927 truck was loaded with some household possessions, a crate of laying hens, a cat, a small terrier dog, a large wall clock and a pot of ivy. Mr. Phillips had taken up residence and was waiting for their arrival on the N1/2, Lot 17, Concession 3. Two - 2 roomed shacks and a small barn had been built by previous owners. The Cherry family had returned to England. They sold to Kenneth Phillips - the oldest son who wanted to provide a home for his parents and the family. W. Phillips had successfully operated a garage near Ottawa but lost everything in the "dirty thirties" and turned his mind to farming after seeing an ad in the North Bay Nugget for a farm. The family had \$14. when they arrived and to get one acre plowed it cost \$4.00.

Potato "eyes" were planted, parsnips were found as well as dandelion greens, rhubarb, fiddleheads, pig weed, rabbits and partridges. All different kinds of berries were picked and along with the rhubarb was made into delicious jams, etc. Extras were stored in a cellar under the kitchen. Joan and Gertie went back to work in Ottawa for awhile. When Joan came back, she married Ken Morris, son of other pioneers, in 1939. More about that amazing pioneer family next time!

Books:

We've continued to receive very good donations of books, DVDs, etc. Here are some intriguing examples:

*I Can See Clearly Now* - Dr. Wayne W. Dyer

People have wondered when he would

write a memoir and after 4 decades as a teacher and being the best selling author of more than 40 books, he has! As you read you'll feel you are right there going through the life experiences with him. Quite remarkable!

*Before I Go To Sleep* - S.J. Watson

Christine wakes up every morning in an unfamiliar bed with an unfamiliar man. Every morning he must explain that he is Ben, her husband. She lost her ability to remember two decades ago. But - she is directed to a hidden journal. What has she missed? What might Ben not be telling her?

Some mysteries that you will find make you not want to put them down are on the metal shelf in front of the desk.

eg:

*Before It's Too Late* - Jane Isaac

*In the Clutches of the Wicked* - David Carlson

*Assault of the Mountain* - William W.

Johnstone

*Under My Skin* - Lisa Unger

Children's Books - downstairs

1. Look At Those Cows
2. Chippy's Family Helping Others
3. Llama Llama Misses Mama

Really amusing stories and beautiful illustrations!

That's just a sample of the excellent, funny, mysterious books we have at the library for your enjoyment. We also have a whole wall of DVDs and remember you can work from your car if you have the equipment you need. We have had favourable comments about our equipment since the new tower has been in place.

We are open Tuesday and Thursday from 7 to 8:30 and Saturday morning from 10 to 12 noon & anytime from your car.

Hopefully will see you there!

Bev Reynolds, C.E.O.

