

Explore

Support Local

NORTH DUNDAS



BACK ROW (L to R) : Gary Annable, Councillor; Matthew Uhrig, Councillor; John Lennox, Councillor
FRONT ROW (L to R): Theresa Bergeron, Deputy Mayor; Tony Fraser, Mayor

Greetings From Council

As we emerge from the pandemic, we all seem to have a renewed sense of community and a greater appreciation for living, shopping and playing locally. This desire to explore and connect is a trait that makes North Dundas unique and is what helps attract tourists and new residents to the area. It is this feeling that has driven the businesses featured in this year’s publication to choose North Dundas as a place to call home.

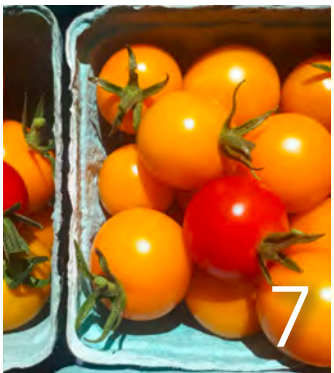
Our region has a variety of dining options no matter your taste, hiking trails to spend a day reconnecting with nature, waterways to relax upon, local shops for that special gift, a variety of historical sites to visit and numerous varied events and activities for all ages.

As we move forward through this year and the years ahead, know that North Dundas has its eye on the future and developing our region to meet the needs of current residents and future businesses.

We invite you to visit our area, attend our community events and discover the North Dundas difference.

[Handwritten signatures of Council Members]

TABLE of CONTENTS



4	FSI Welding
7	Plot of Earth
10	The Hollow
13	Fat Les's Pub & Poutinerie
16	Community Events
18	Local History and Memorials
22	North Dundas Building Supplies
25	Kemptville Land & Sea
28	In Our Community



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Fortier Stark Industrial Inc.

Not a Typical Welding Shop

When Curtis Fortier and Joseph Stark considered building a new facility for their growing business, one that would produce extremely high-quality welding and fabrication for the food industry, North Dundas and Winchester seemed like the location that made the most sense.

“Winchester is fairly central to quite a few food facilities,” says Stark. “We’re within an hour from Kraft and St. Albert cheese is right around the corner. A lot of our clientele is right in this area, so it just seemed like Winchester was a good place to start.”

“Basically, we fabricate and install process piping systems for food facilities, mainly dairy,” said Fortier. “The bulk of our work is in dairy. But we work with a few other products as well. Everything from the small microbreweries up to the big corporate dairies. We do some jam products as well.”

“Referring to FSI as a welding shop is like referring to a go-kart as a racing car.”

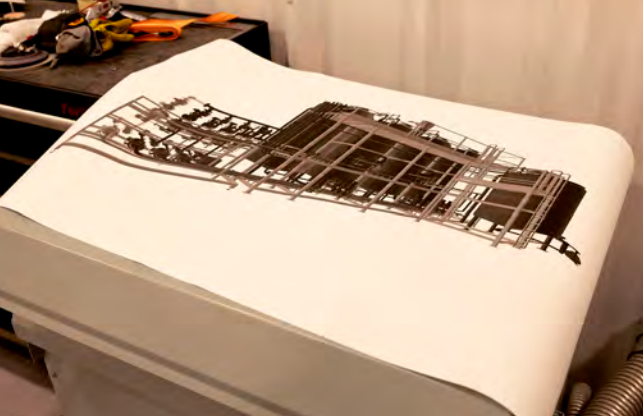
FSI are in a brand new, 7,200 square foot building located at 430 Davidson Lane in Winchester.

The shop floor is 4,800 square feet and has a five-ton crane. It is a facility that was designed specifically to meet their needs now and in the future, a philosophy that they follow in meeting their client’s needs as well.

Currently they have 16 employees, including the two owners, but they can envision a time when there will be many more, but they will never sacrifice quality for quantity.

Both Fortier and Stark are deservedly proud of what they have built and what they are able to offer. Referring to FSI as a welding shop is like referring to a go-kart as a racing car. “This is not just a welding shop,” says Fortier. “It’s a very different situation. Although welding is a huge part of what we do, there’s a lot of work that goes on for a small amount of welding.”

The welding is probably 20 per cent of what they do, the rest is fabrication and assembly of extremely complex designs. Creating customized solutions for complex problems is FSI’s specialty.



For many people, the vision that comes to mind when they think of welding is a worker in coveralls, with heavy gloves, and a welding helmet holding an oxy-acetylene torch. That isn't the case with FSI, although their employees are highly skilled. All the systems they build are automated, as is much of the equipment they use, which allows consistent, high quality results when completing repetitive tasks.

Another thing that sets the company apart is they will never have carbon steel in their shop, it will only be stainless steel because the things they create are used in food processing and must be of the highest quality. "That allows us to make sure that the product is 100 per cent certified and will never rust. It is food grade, every time," says Stark.

"Creating customized solutions for complex problems is FSL's specialty."

According to both Fortier and Stark, getting the business to this point has involved a lot of work and worry. "This is a huge investment for us," said Fortier. "You know, we could have kept running the way we were and that would have been fine. But at the end of the day, we were putting in that same amount of time anyway, so why not try and grow it into something that you can be super proud of?"

As is the case for most successful entrepreneurs, you can't rest on your laurels and FSI are no different. "We have plans here," says Fortier.

"A family, that's what we're trying to build here. It's a small town. Everybody knows everyone. That's why we've built here, that's one of the main reasons why we chose a small town, the quality of life."

The world we live in changes rapidly, but their entrepreneurial spirit creates custom solutions that are available when and where they are needed. Companies like FSI accept that challenge and see no reason why they can't deliver those solutions here.

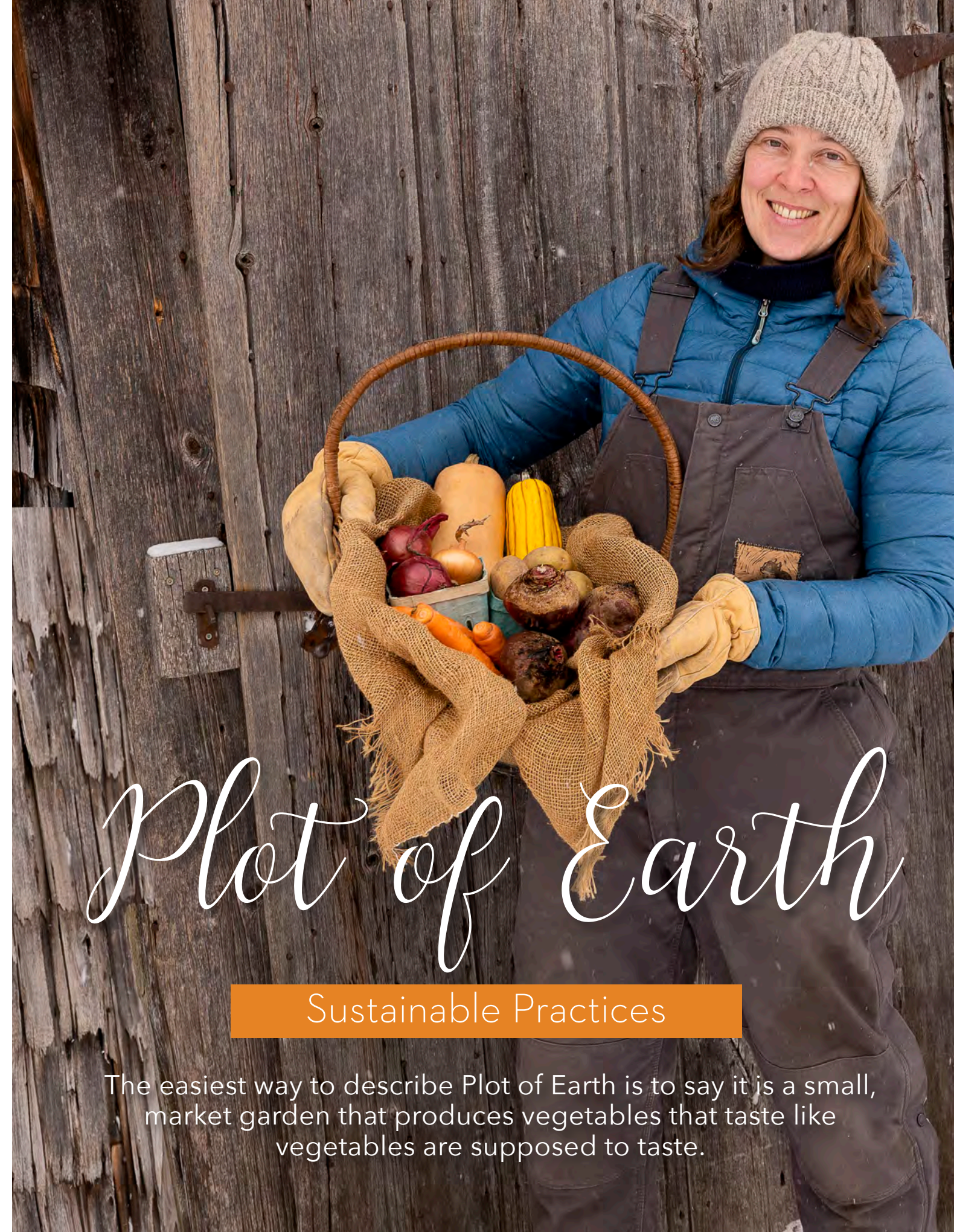
FSI Welding

430 Davidson Lane, Winchester

613-986-1576

info@fsiwelding.com

fsiwelding.com



Plot of Earth

Sustainable Practices

The easiest way to describe Plot of Earth is to say it is a small, market garden that produces vegetables that taste like vegetables are supposed to taste.



They grow nutrient dense vegetables using sustainable practices on an intensively managed acre of land, and sell their produce through a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) veggie box program and at local farmers markets.

Plot of Earth was created by Leah Fawcett and her partner Abe Gilchrist. You could say it is a labour of love, but it also speaks of how strong the draw to “come home” can be.

“I feel like it was a long time coming,” said Fawcett in describing how Plot of Earth came into being. “In my mind. I didn’t know exactly what it was going to be.”

Plot of Earth is located on County Road 38, on the farm where Fawcett grew up. “I finished high school and then I went away to college and university and then moved west,” said Fawcett. “I was living on Vancouver Island for a few years and did a little travelling. At some point, I felt like I wanted to get back into farming and explore that a bit more.”

Fawcett took the experience she had gained out west and in 2016 asked her parents if they would rent her a small piece of property on their farm. They said yes, so she came back home.

The first year, they planted crops that would help to condition the soil. The following year, they prepared some beds. “I used raised beds. I did

“ I literally harvest on Friday and Saturday, and they’re getting them on Sunday. ”

a block of maybe 30 beds,” said Fawcett. “I didn’t know what to start with, but I thought I’d do a farmers market, and just start off with a few CSA shares, which are weekly vegetable boxes, that the members get every week during the season.”

Fawcett says the first year was a success and both she and Abe enjoyed what they were doing. They felt the local food movement was just getting started in this area, and that it was a good opportunity to become part of it.

With most of their business coming from CSA customers, the business runs very efficiently. “During the season, which starts in June, I start the farmers market and the CSA deliveries,” said Fawcett. “Every Sunday I go to the Kemptville Farmers Market, and my Kemptville CSA people pick up there. At the same time, Abe has been going to the Winchester Sunday Market at the Presbyterian Church and the Winchester CSA people pick up from him.”

In the spring, Fawcett contacts past members, to see if they want to sign up again. She says she has a pretty good retention rate, with 75-80 per cent of members returning. “I advertise on Facebook and other sorts of groups that I think would be

interested in what we’re doing. A lot of it is word of mouth.”

“I don’t know if it was the pandemic or just a general shift in mentality, but people being more interested in local food just blew up. The people that were coming out to the market, it was just crazy numbers like we’d never seen before.”

“I find once they try it, they’re like these vegetables are out of this world! I literally harvest on Friday and Saturday, and they’re getting them on Sunday. They’re washed and in their bag and they’re just super fresh.”

While the type of vegetables in season varies, they include summer squash, carrots, radishes, green onions, celery, peppers, beans, turnips, beets, kale, rhubarb, tomatoes, and potatoes, to name a few.

Unlike produce sold in grocery stores, which could spend many days in transit, unless it is grown locally, Plot of Earth’s produce can go from field to fork in a day or two.

Plot of Earth also practices sustainable growing practices. They do not use any chemicals, pesticides, or fungicides. The main thing they rely on is crop rotation and compost to keep the soil healthy. They also use a floating row cover, which is a very fine material that lets in the rain and the sun, but it excludes insects.

They practice low till in preparing the soil, as it keeps things from getting too compacted. They still have a machine that does harrowing and

“ North Dundas still has its rural soul. ”

ploughing when they need to make new beds, but in order to keep to low till they use a broad fork instead.

Irrigation is through a drip irrigation system as opposed to sprayers, because it is a much more efficient use of water.

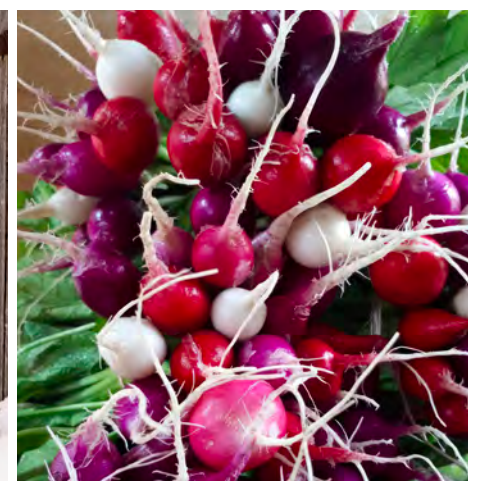
For Fawcett, coming to Winchester also meant coming home, but she says the area is one that she has no trouble recommending to anyone.

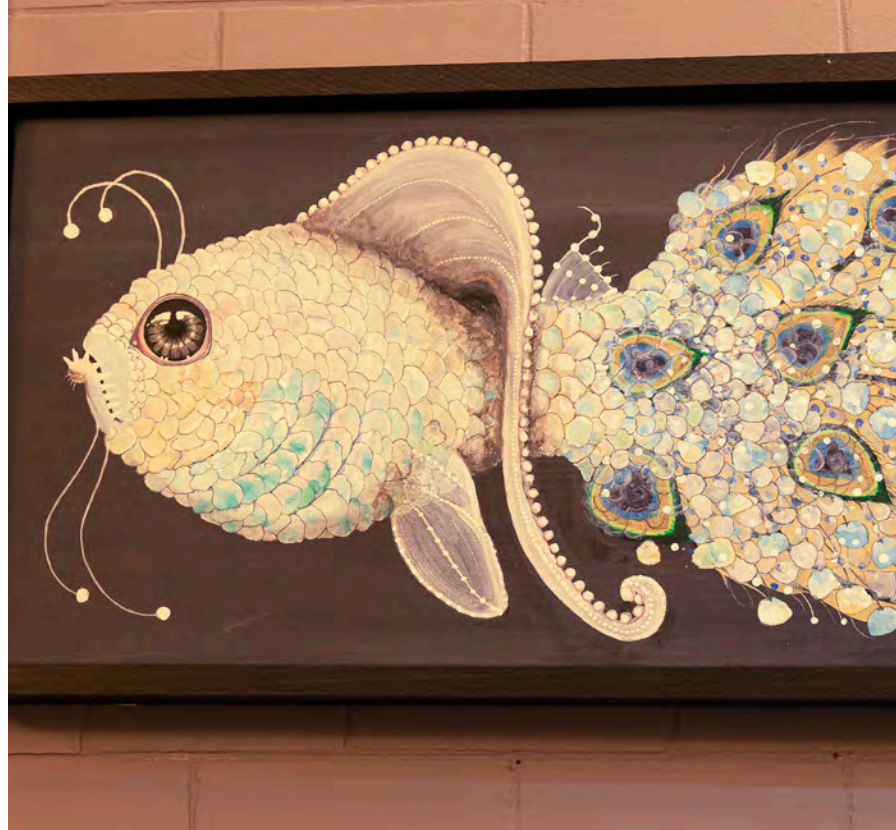
“It’s changed a lot, since I was young. It was very agricultural, which is great, I love agriculture. Now there are many small businesses that are a little more unique, little bakeries, little coffee shops. And I feel like there’s more opportunity now, for small businesses that are different.”

North Dundas still has its rural soul, which, really might be what brings many people here in the first place. Come and explore the Plot of Earth farm for yourself, just contact them in advance.

They look forward to greeting you!

Plot of Earth
plot.of.earth.farm@gmail.com
plotofearth.square.site





THE HOLLOW

A Stimulating Tour for the Senses

If you were walking along Main Street in downtown Winchester, you might not notice The Hollow until you were right in front of it, but if you took the time to look inside, you would be surprised at what you would find.

The Hollow is the creation of Katie Robertson and members of her family. “Basically, we’re a family of artists,” said Katie. “We all have our own interests and have so many different projects on the go.” “My son-in-law actually went to

Merrickville,” adds Elsie, Katie’s mom. “We set up a little stand and thought we would try selling. I included some of my painting and pewter work, and Doug had his little metal contraptions. We just always thought it’d be a neat thing to do.”

Even then it was a family effort. Katie was the salesperson, selling her family’s creations

and always talking about how much she loved the products that were available.

“I started making my own variety of products,” says Katie. “My brother-in-law has a local apple orchard and offered to let me have a little stand set up, but I would always talk about how it’d be so nice to have a shop where we could sell our stuff. But again, nothing came up. Then at a certain point, it did, and then it was, oh my gosh, I guess we’re doing this.”

After a bit of work and a lot of paint the business was up and running, but it is still a work in progress.

The business name, according to Katie, was a case of random selection, not a specific intent. “We were just brainstorming,” she says, “And we wanted something that was short and easy to remember. There was no real connection to thoughts of Middle Earth and The Lord of the Rings, but at the same time, the name fits perfectly. You step through a simple, unassuming wooden door into a warmly lit world of gems,

“... new businesses would feel welcome. It’s a good place to be.”

metal figures, candles, crystals and sense of magic and fantasy.”

The list of items they carry is very eclectic. Most of it is handcrafted and unique and they do reveal the family’s artistic skill. Elsie creates pottery, paintings, and engravings on metal and barnboard pieces, Katie does a full line of bath and body care products under her own label, and Dana (sister) does some painting as well as some of the pottery. Doug (brother-in-law) builds metal contraptions (small statues and figurines) that are a combination of steampunk and folk art. They also stock a selection of crystals. (“Okay, just because we like them,” said Elsie.)

Katie says that year over year, things are growing. “We’ve noticed this year there has been a lot more repeat customers, but also people are hearing about us through word of mouth. In conversations I’ve had with customers they’re saying things like, ‘Oh, I live in Ottawa, but my friend was telling me about this place.’ We’re starting to become more popular. It’s fun!”

Much of the joy comes from the sense of community that developed between many of the businesses that line the downtown area. “There



“The list of items they carry is very eclectic.”

are so many things planned, we really enjoy being a part of it all,” said Katie.

It’s a busy life though, as well. Elfie still works full-time, and Katie is a dental hygienist as well as having a young daughter to care for.

Katie is happy with her decision to pursue her dream in North Dundas. She says that small, unique shops seem to fit in well with the personality of the community.

“I think if someone was asking about coming to North Dundas, I would recommend they come here. People are quite nice, and I’ve noticed a lot of people do want to help and support each other. There’s a lot of collaboration that happens with the businesses, so I feel that new businesses would feel welcome. It’s a good place to be.”

With a name like The Hollow, and with such an incredibly interesting selection of merchandise, anyone could be excused for thinking that shopping at The Hollow would certainly be an opportunity to go on an adventure. You might even find something precious!



The Hollow
504 Main Street, Winchester
613-806-2850
thehollowwinchesterontario@gmail.com
thehollowwinchesterontario.square.site



A Chesterville Destination: FAT LES'S PUB & POUTINERIE



When people think about poutine, they often think about La Belle Province, but what if you could get the poutine that was judged as the best in the Montreal Poutine Festival right in downtown Chesterville?

Poutine (at least ten different varieties) is but one of the many choices on the menu at Fat Les's Pub and Pouterie, located at 35 Main Street in downtown Chesterville.

Fat Les's is named after Les Winters, the owner. After starting in Kemptville 15 years ago, they now have locations across eastern Ontario, including two in North Dundas, a chip stand in Winchester at 12054 Main Street and their location in Chesterville.

Chene Winters has been a part of the business for long time. "We opened a chip truck in Winchester during the pandemic. Obviously, you couldn't go out and eat, so a chip truck was the way to go, and we did so well. During that same time, this building in Chesterville went up for sale and we jumped on it."

Choice is the rule it seems, whether choosing from what's on the menu (not an easy decision) or where you get to eat it. Fat Les's does delivery, takeout or eat-in, your choice. If, for some reason you don't feel like poutine, you can choose from pizza just the way you like it, burgers, a variety of wraps and sandwiches, chicken wings, fish and chips and there are even salad options.

What does Fat Les's do better than anyone else? Winters doesn't even hesitate: "Poutine, always, award winning," she says. "We won our first award in Montreal at the Poutine Festival in 2015." The bacon double cheeseburger is their claim to fame of poutines.

Having the restaurant has given them the opportunity to be more creative. Customers don't have to grab and go anymore. They can have more items than just your quick fair food and there is no chance you will walk away hungry.



"Big servings, we generally pride ourselves on big servings," says Winters. "You do get what you pay for." They are also licenced and carry a wide selection of alcoholic beverages and have introduced special events.

"We've done really well with karaoke," says Winters. "Every other week we alternate Thursday and Saturday and have karaoke night. We bring in our DJ and it's a hoot, we pack this place. People are singing, they're dancing, it's one of my favourite nights. You can really feel what Chesterville has to offer."

In addition, every Thursday is wing night, there is also an open mic night and they plan on starting a ladies "Sip and Paint", where you have a glass of wine and you paint or have a coffee and paint, depending on the time of day.

Winters says she is very happy in North Dundas and would have no problem recommending it to anyone looking to relocate or start a business. She says there is one thing that makes the difference, "It's the people, the customers," says

Winters. "I've been in North Dundas for seven years, and I wouldn't look back. I'm shocked how much I love it, to be honest."

"What does Fat Les's do better than anyone else? ...Poutine, always, award winning."

That sense of community fits in very well with Fat Les's philosophy of giving back. "We are part of the Ride for Dad, we are supporters of the Nation Valley ATV Club, and throughout the pandemic we provided meals to Winchester Hospital just to acknowledge the hard work of our health care workers during the pandemic," said Winters.

According to Winters, she has found that in North Dundas if you are there for your community, they will be there for you. "I love knowing people. You start to recognize people. There is something to be said for having your customers come in and it's more than just a, 'Hey, how are you?' You know who they are and what they are about. I wouldn't trade that for the world."

"I can't praise North Dundas enough. I feel so much a part of a community here, I have two children who have gone to school here, and my husband and I work within North Dundas. This is where our lives are, and we couldn't be happier."



Fat Les's Pub and Pouterie
35 Main Street, Chesterville
613-448-1222
fatleschesterville@gmail.com
fatles.ca



COMMUNITY EVENTS

COME CELEBRATE WITH US

... and see why North Dundas is a great place to live, work and raise a family.

Visit our Community Calendar of Events at northdundas.com for full details on these and many other great events.

GARDEN PARTY MARKET

Returning for a fourth season, Garden Party Market will be showcasing local artisans and producers.

Check the Township's event page for details.



OTTAWA RIDE FOR DAD

JUNE 3

The annual Ottawa Motorcycle Ride For Dad in support of prostate cancer is rolling into the Chesterville Arena on Saturday, June 3rd. Support this local fundraiser and wave as they ride into town!



ridefordad.ca/Ottawa



ART ON THE WATERFRONT

JUNE 3 & 4

Art on the Waterfront is planning free activities for the whole family including live music, performers and artisan vendor booths.



artonthewaterfront.ca



WINCHESTER BIKE NIGHT

JUNE 8, JULY 13, AUGUST 10, SEPTEMBER 14

5:00-9:00PM (Weather permitting)

Gather your friends, get your bikes and come out for a sweet ride to Winchester to enjoy live music, food vendors and more!



MEET ME ON MAIN STREET



JUNE 28 - MOREWOOD

JULY 5 - MARIONVILLE

JULY 12 - SOUTH MOUNTAIN

JULY 19 - HALLVILLE

JULY 26 - CHESTERVILLE

AUGUST 2 - WINCHESTER

5:00-8:00PM

Meet Me on Main Street is returning! Reconnect with family, friends and neighbours at this six-event series. Enjoy local food, beverages, craft beer and live entertainment in this celebration of community.

DAIRYFEST

AUGUST 10 - 13

The festival celebrates rural living and features the dairy dash, sidewalk sale, classic car show, tractor parade, food, live entertainment and fun for all ages.

winchesterdairyfest.com



131ST ANNUAL SOUTH MOUNTAIN FAIR

AUGUST 17 - 20

"A Fair to Remember"

Don't miss the South Mountain Fair. Known for its agricultural exhibits and shows, demolition derby, truck & tractor pulls, midway, rodeo and great musical entertainment.



southmountainfair.ca



90TH CHESTERVILLE FAIR

AUGUST 25 - 27

Celebrate rural life with the truck & tractor pull and demolition derby and come see the friends of the farm. Enjoy local entertainment and children's activities and browse the homecraft entries.



chestervillefair.com



NORTH DUNDAS PARADE OF LIGHTS

DECEMBER 2

Enjoy a full day of shopping, food, fun and of course Santa! Visit the website for a full list of activities and check back often.



northdundasparadeoflights.ca



AQUATICS FUN in North Dundas



Public swimming begins on weekends starting June 17th and weekdays starting July 3rd. Single passes can be purchased (cash only) at the pool. Season passes must be purchased online or by calling or visiting the Township office.

POOL PROGRAMS

The Township offers swimming lessons for children as young as 4 months old and offers private lessons for any age & ability. Visit northdundas.com for more information. Register online or call the Township office at **613-774-2105**.

Historical Plaques Provide a Journey Through Local History

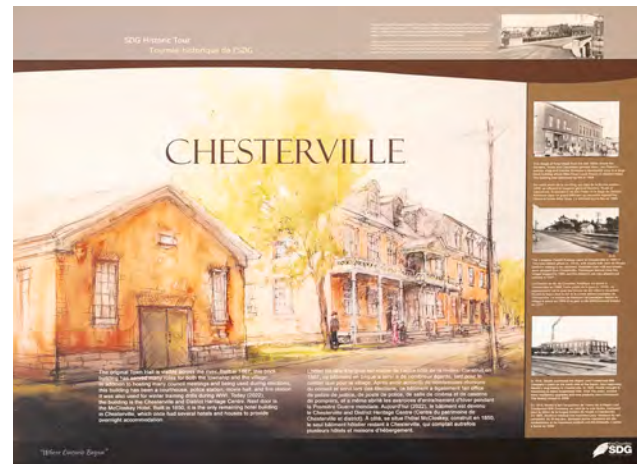
As you travel through The United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry this summer, don't be surprised when you come across a bit of the region's rich history presented in a fresh new way.

The Counties has undertaken a plan to erect 18 bilingual historical plaques, 3 for each local municipality.

According to Todd Lihou, Corporate Communications Coordinator for the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, the goal is to increase awareness with visitors to the area and residents alike.

"We've found out that through the implementation of this project there is a hunger for local stories about the history of our region, but there's only a select few who are the keepers of these stories and historical records," said Lihou. "Supporting these individuals and telling these stories is the best way to ensure that today's generation and those of the future will be able to enjoy facets of local history moving forward."

The keepers of these stories and historical records include local historical societies, archives, local committees and even members of the public. All these groups were involved in this project as it moved from an idea into reality.



The plaques were produced and designed by local artist Pierre Giroux. Giroux had previously created 40 plaques that are located throughout the City of Cornwall.

In addition to the creation of the first 18 plaques, the goal in SDG is to install another 6 plaques this year, and another 6 plaques in 2024 (one per municipality).

Ultimately, the collection of plaques will become a tourism attraction. "We've already got plans to create an online mapping system for all of the plaques," adds Lihou, "People will be able to go in and see where the plaques are, click on them to get all the information."

"... there is a hunger for local stories about the history of our region."

An important consideration in locating the plaques is that they should be in places where people congregate. The goal is to drive dollars into the hands of local business operators, especially during the tourism season.

The first three plaques to be located in North Dundas will be in South Mountain, Chesterville and Morewood.

The South Mountain plaque focuses on the area's agricultural background and some of the Holstein bloodlines that were developed there. The main drawing shows a traditional barn and activity in and around the barnyard.

Remembering Those Who Gave So Much

Photographs, of which there are three, show a 1997 All-Canadian North Dundas Heifer, milk being delivered by horse and wagon and a steam powered tractor and thrashing mill from 1904. The plaque will be erected at the South Mountain Agricultural Hall.

The Chesterville plaque concentrates on some of the community's heritage buildings and how the community has changed over the years. The main drawing is of the original Town Hall (1867), which now serves as the Chesterville and District Heritage Centre, and next to it what was once the McCloskey Hotel (1850). Photos show the CP Rail station (1914), the Nestle plant (1918), and King Street in the late 1800's. The plaque will be erected near the gazebo and viewing area that overlooks the water.

The Morewood plaque depicts the first car to pass through the village in 1908, as well as some of its residents and early commercial and recreational activities. The three photographs show people enjoying a church social, the community band performing on the corner bandstand and the Dutch Sash and Door company in 1951. The plaque will be erected in Veteran's View Park.

It's easy to imagine planning a tour, on bike, motorcycle or by car, with each stop revealing just a bit more about what life was like in this area in time gone by. Being able to take moments from the past and locate them not only in time, but in place as well, gives a greater appreciation for those who came before.



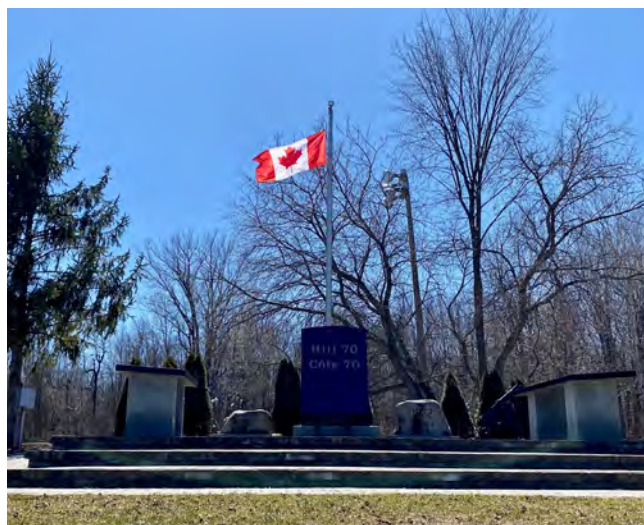
Canada has a long and storied military history. As long as there has been a Canada, there have been many who have been willing to make the ultimate sacrifice to preserve the life and beliefs that we hold so dear.

In North Dundas, the names of many of the young men and women who died in the service of their country are memorialized on individual cenotaphs or memorials, which are located throughout the township, some recognizing a particular battle, others recognizing that the named were a part of one of the many small communities that make up North Dundas.

"... the sites have provided us an opportunity to educate the public about specific veterans and their stories."

The Chesterville Cenotaph is located at Veteran's Memorial Park on Queen Street (on the waterfront). Near the end of May 1957, the Chesterville Legion announced its plan to erect the memorial and it was dedicated on Sunday, November 10th, 1957, in time for Remembrance Day. The Cenotaph is dedicated to those from Chesterville and District who gave their lives in the First and Second World Wars, the Korean War and U.N. Peacekeeping. It was originally located on the grounds of the old community centre (now the library building). In 1997, the Legion decided to upgrade the memorial and move it to Queen Street Park, which was subsequently renamed Veteran's Memorial Park that November. The original memorial was upgraded with a new wing on each side, which include the names of those who died in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War.

The Chesterville Legion Branch 434 Cenotaph, composed of five upright black granite slabs, is dedicated to the men and women of the



“... volunteers have been working... to repair and also enhance... these tributes to our local veterans.”

Chesterville area who served in Canada's military forces. It's the newest monument on site, erected in 2008 by the Chesterville Legion, Branch 434.

Nation Valley Cenotaph was relocated to Veteran's Memorial Park on Queen Street in Chesterville in August 2015. Nation Valley was one of the earliest communities to erect a cenotaph in the district, to honour the settlement's fallen soldiers following the Great War. It was dedicated on August 23, 1922, in its original location on the lawn of the Nation Valley Public School. The Nation Valley Cenotaph marked its 100th anniversary in 2022.

Inkerman Cenotaph is located at 11526 County Road 3, next to the Inkerman United Church. This memorial was originally erected to honour the memory of those lost in the Great War. Seven names are listed of the brave men who fell in the First World War. Later, a single name was added from the Second World War.

Morewood Cenotaph is located at the corner of Main and Mill Street, in the heart of Morewood. A Cenotaph Committee was formed in 1919 and the Morewood Cenotaph was dedicated on July 6, 1921. The group consisted of local volunteers; a tradition that continues today with the current

Morewood Cenotaph Committee. In 2021, to mark the 100th anniversary of the Cenotaph, the Committee raised funds for the extensive beautification of the monument, in addition to adding 21 mini-monuments - 10 along each side - one for each of those who had given their lives, and one by itself at the back representing all who returned injured and suffered throughout their lives.

Battle of Hill 70 is located at the Mountain Memorial Park, on the south side of Clark Road. The Battle of Hill 70 was one of the costliest and hardest fought battles the Canadians would face in the Second World War. This is the only memorial in Ontario dedicated solely to Hill 70. It was first erected in 1922 and underwent a significant restoration in 2012, with the addition of two black granite stones that tell the story of the Memorial Park and the Battle of Hill 70, where 8,677 Canadians lost their lives.

Ormond Cenotaph is in the Ormond Cemetery, next to 12663 Ormond Road. The Ormond Community War Memorial was dedicated on July 1, 1990, in memory of the War Veterans from the First and Second World Wars.

Van Camp Cenotaph is located at 11035 Levere Road, east of Development Road. The Van Camp Cenotaph is dedicated in memory of our fallen heroes who lost their lives in the First World War. It will be receiving major landscape and restoration work in 2023.



Winchester Memorial is located at 566 Louise Street, in front of the Winchester District Memorial Hospital. The memorial was erected by the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 108 in 1954. It was moved to its current location in 2009, with the opening of the new hospital. Inside the hospital is a plaque with the names of those from the area who lost their lives in the Second World War.

Canada is a country with extreme weather conditions, hot in summer and very cold in winter. As a result, many of the cenotaphs and memorials do, over time, suffer wear and tear from the elements. Eric Duncan, MP for Stormont, Dundas, and South Glengarry has thrown his personal support behind the effort to restore many of these memorials to their original glory.

“Many of our local cenotaphs and memorials in the area were installed and officially dedicated decades, even generations, ago,” said MP Duncan. “Since then, many have come into disrepair and needed significant maintenance. A group of volunteers have been working with our local Royal Canadian Legions site by site to repair and also enhance each of these tributes to our local veterans.”

By adding features like interlock walkways, lighting, and shrubs, it has upgraded these cenotaphs into a more fitting way to remember those who served our country. These projects have also been helpful to raise awareness of the various sites themselves and have provided us an



“... the only memorial in Ontario dedicated solely to Hill 70.”

opportunity to educate the public about specific veterans and their stories.

On the Township website, you'll find a section that includes not only photographs of each of the memorials and cenotaphs, but also a map showing their location, and clickable links that will reveal the names and inscriptions for each monument and additional details about those that are recognized for their sacrifice.

Canadians are fortunate in that our involvement in conflict has been much more limited than that which is experienced in other parts of the world. Visiting these sacred sites and trying to imagine what those who gave their lives experienced can be a reminder of what we must be grateful for, and to whom our gratitude should be directed.

North Dundas Memorials
and Cenotaphs
northdundas.com



Do What You Do, and Do It Well

North Dundas Building Supplies



You're probably familiar with the location if you have driven along County Road 43 west of North Dundas District High School. If you have taken the time to stop in and take a look, you would have been impressed.

North Dundas Building Supplies technically opened in August 2018 and are entering their fifth year. While it seems like the residence and the other buildings have been there forever, only in the past few years has it been recognizable as North Dundas Building Supplies.

"I guess it would be almost 25 years, you know," says Stacy Duguay, who, along with her husband Dave Nyentap are the company's owners. "It was originally built and run as a lumberyard. It's been a storage facility, and then we purchased it from a business that did tractor repair."

There is no mistaking what the business is all about once you walk inside. As a Castle Building Centre, they have access to just about anything you could want, whether it fits into the hardware or the lumber/building supply category. "We stock pretty much all your lumber, drywall and your general building supplies," says Duguay, "and then we have a lot of the hardware as well. Pretty much anything that we don't have, it's just because we don't have the room to have it, but we can order it."

The store is very well stocked. They carry a full selection of Milwaukee power tools, Dulux

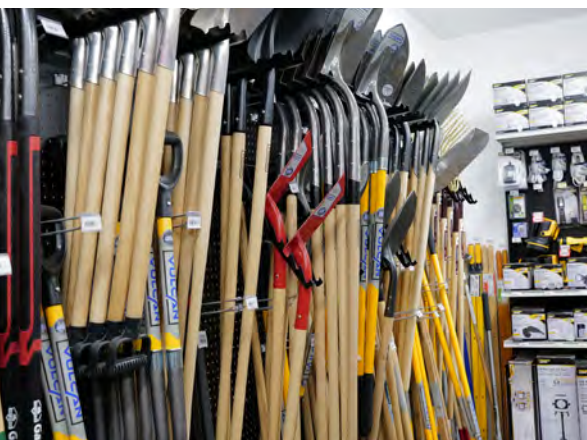
paints, Weiser locks, and Kohltech windows and doors and many other well-known brands. One thing that sets them apart for other building supply stores is that they carry many agricultural building products that you wouldn't normally find elsewhere, things like Marvec PVC panels and Agro-Plast Puck Board.

Make no mistake about it, while the Duguay's both own the business, Stacy runs it on a day-to-day basis. "My husband has his own agricultural construction company, so that is what he primarily focuses on."

Support from the local community has been exceptional and the pandemic served to accelerate things as well. As many people discovered, supply chain issues meant larger clients would have their orders filled, while smaller contractors were left waiting. North Dundas Building Supplies stepped up to provide the customer service their customers deserved, and word got around.

"Over the last four years we've gained quite a few local as well as 'word of mouth' contractors, including those that are a little bit further out," says Duguay.

**"The community itself
has really welcomed us."**





The road to their location wasn't a straight one. They considered other locations, before deciding that North Dundas was the best choice for them.

There have been no second thoughts about the decision to come to North Dundas. "It has been a great experience. The community itself has really welcomed us. Not being from North Dundas, I was a little leery about how we would be accepted, but that was never a problem."

"... they carry many agricultural building products that you wouldn't normally find elsewhere..."

People always seem willing to support those who support them. They have sponsored the North Dundas Senior Rockets, Art on the Waterfront, the Winchester Curling Club, The Chesterville and District Agricultural Society and North Dundas Minor Hockey. They have also worked alongside Habitat for Humanity and North Dundas District High School in the building of a sugar shack.

"Over time, people have been extremely welcoming. It's great to meet all these different business owners within North Dundas and we support each other. I am glad that we ended up settling here because we've been welcomed as a part of the community and it's a great feeling," says Duguay.



North Dundas Building Supplies

12642 County Road 43, Winchester

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ndbs.ca



Kemptville Land & Sea

A Relationship Not a Customer

What happens when you take a hobby that you're passionate about and combine it with twenty years of progressive experience working for a company that values customer satisfaction and has a reputation for doing the right thing?



You end up with Kemptville Land and Sea in Hallville, the place to start, and finish your search for your pre-owned pleasure craft.

Todd and Felicia Mattie are partners in business and in life, building their business for close to 20 years. Prior to going to work for himself, Todd was employed with an automotive group in Ottawa. It is that experience that proved to him the value of customer service and how far you should go to keep your customers happy.

"I had gone to an auction and I picked up a set of Sea-Doos many years ago," said Todd. "Over the course of the summer I had multiple people coming up wanting to buy Sea-Doos, so I started buying Sea-Doos. It was kind of a hobby, but then it started to grow. It went from part-time at the house to having to get a location about five years ago to basically growing to the point where it was more than 40-50 hours a week."

"They treat their clients the way they want to be treated."

"My wife says make a decision, you have to pick one of them, which one are you going to end up picking? So I picked the one that I'm more passionate about, Land and Sea," said Todd.

A lot of their customers are first time customers and some are people who have had boats for 40-50 years. They take their time with every customer and figure out their wants and their needs.

Todd said one reason why they have people coming from as far away as Nova Scotia is because of the inventory they carry. "We've done this long enough that we know what everybody's always asking for. We don't have one or two pieces of inventory on the lot. Right now, we've got over 35 pieces of inventory. We like to have a good selection for customers."

Another reason Land and Sea can be confident about the products they sell, is because they return them to "like new" condition. "We inspect everything we sell, so we just don't say here's a nice boat, have a nice day," said Todd. "We have a full mechanical inspection done on every boat,

"It was kind of a hobby, but then it started to grow."

and if any part of the boat appears worn, like the seat cushions, for example, we have local people who can create new ones." They treat their clients the way they want to be treated.

They have a local mechanic that they use, they have seamstress from the area and a contact in the area they do all the financing through. They are building relationships with these clients. And it's great, because the customers send them their friends and family, which is one of the main reasons their business has grown so much.

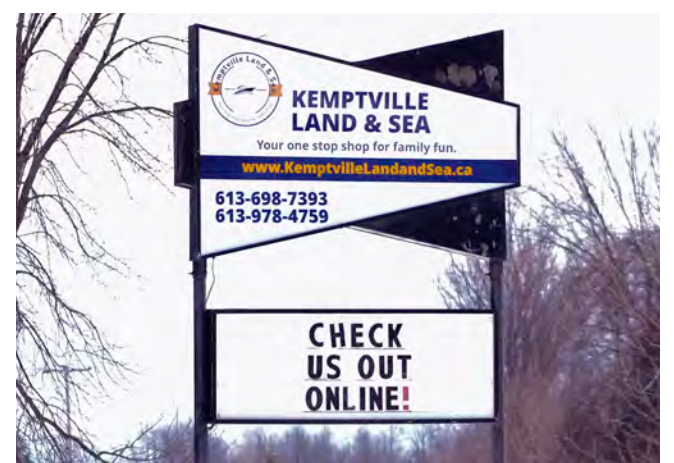
"I'm from Nova Scotia. I grew up there for the first 19 years of my life," said Todd. "What I like about it here is it has the same small-town feel. Also, every time I turn around you have the St. Lawrence here, the Ottawa River is over there, the Rideau is over here. Every place you throw a rock, you can hit water. I mean, it's wonderful, a wonderful area."

"We're at that point, now, where we're talking expansion," added Todd. "The building is great. and it suits our needs, but we need more room, we need a showroom."

It would also allow them to expand some of the additional services they offer, like pick up, winterization and storage. It will also be nice for their clients to walk around an indoor showroom and decide which boat meets their needs the best and where they are going to travel with it.

It is a good thing when a business grows to the point where they need to expand. No one can see the future, but Todd and Felicia know their future is in North Dundas, and that the best is yet to come. Stay tuned!

Kemptville Land & Sea
1759 County Road 1, Mountain
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kemptvillelandandsea.ca



Community Food Share:

Food for the Table, Food for the Soul



The changing face of poverty in Ontario means that many people who never thought they would be in the position to need the food bank are now having to rely on it to be able to feed their family.

Fortunately, in North Dundas there is a strong support system with capable leadership who can bring out the best from a community that truly cares.

Jane Schoones is the team lead for Community Food Share, which serves clients in Dundas and Stormont counties. She heads a small, dedicated staff who constantly find a way to accomplish amazing results with limited time and funds.

“The nice thing is to be able to collect both food and cash donations. Cash is preferred, because it will go a lot further, as we partner with local businesses to purchase locally as much as possible. Our local stores support us, so we try to support them.”

When the board decided in 2018 to follow a Healthy Choice, Client Choice model, they sat down with a nutritionist from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, who helped them in understanding what a Canada Food Guide balanced diet would look like.

“You shouldn’t have to decide between paying your rent, or being able to eat...”

Each client is provided with enough food to provide nutritious meals for five to seven days.

They have the milk, cheese, eggs, yogurt, fresh produce, all of which is necessary. Some of the produce is grown by volunteers and local organizations in a community garden at St. Paul’s Presbyterian Church in Winchester.

There are other ways for volunteers to contribute other than working in the food bank. “We are always looking for volunteers to help with our food drives and fundraising events,” says Schoones.

Some events are very well known such as “Stuff the Cruiser”, which takes place at local grocery stores in conjunction with the Ontario Provincial Police. Prepackaged bags of non-perishable food are available inside the store, and people are asked to purchase one along with their own groceries and drop it off at the cruiser as they leave the store.

The CP Holiday Train is another very popular event. Santa usually makes a visit and there are treats and hot chocolate. The highlight of the day occurs when the Holiday Train stops and provides live musical entertainment for the huge crowd that gathers. Volunteers are standing by to collect donations of food or cash.

A few days later Santa and the Food Share volunteers make another appearance during the Parade of Lights in Winchester. Volunteers walk the entire parade route collecting donations from spectators along the way.



“... always looking for volunteers to help with our food drives and fundraising events.”

And don’t forget Winchester Bike Nights, where they raised over \$2,000, providing yet another example of the many groups in North Dundas that are in sync with and support each other.

To become a Community Food Share client, it is necessary to register and then make an appointment to come in to shop. The days of pre-made food baskets are gone. Each client is guided around to the assorted shelves, refrigerators and coolers and given the opportunity to choose for themselves what to include in their healthy diet.

On average, Community Food Share serves approximately 165 households each month, representing 500 individuals.

You shouldn’t have to decide between paying your rent, or being able to eat, yet for some that is the choice they find themselves facing. It must be a relief to know that there is a place to go and people willing and able to help.

Community Food Share

497 May Street, Winchester

613-898-0781

winchester@communityfoodshare.ca

communityfoodshare.ca



House of Lazarus:

Ask the Community and They Will Respond

It’s difficult to find someone in this area who isn’t familiar with the House of Lazarus. In many ways if you need help, or want to help, House of Lazarus is the place to turn to. They have a program to help deal with just about any problem, and if a program doesn’t exist, they will try to create one.



“We wouldn’t be here without the volunteers...”

House of Lazarus came into being in 1986 with the simple act of kindness by a local minister who, working from the trunk of his car, began feeding the poor. (They also have a food bank in South Mountain.)

According to Executive Director Cathy Ashby, meeting the needs of people living in poverty or who are in transition and need a bit of help is why House of Lazarus exists. “We have a lot of programs that we can provide. The interesting thing about House of Lazarus is that it is a community that’s helping the community.”

What that means is that rather than receiving government funding, House of Lazarus can rely on the generosity of the community to provide the things they sell in their store, as well as fund the programs that assist members of the community. This philosophy of sharing guides much of what House of Lazarus does.

“It’s not just sharing items, such as in our stores, but also sharing time,” said Ashby. They have over 100 volunteers that make all the programmes they offer happen.

The Green Food Box program was originally run by the Township, but it has been administered by House of Lazarus since 2014. The program runs twice monthly, and it provides an opportunity to access fresh produce at wholesale prices.



Operation Backpack was launched in January 2019. It helps 230 children from 12 different schools. Each backpack contains food for two breakfasts, two lunches and snacks, fresh fruit, and vegetables.

Volunteers are very important to the success of their stores. "It takes volunteers to test every electrical item that comes in, to sort out all the craft items and get them organised, and sort all the linens that come in to be ready to be sold or to be given to people in need. We wouldn't be here without the volunteers," said Ashby.

The social enterprise thrift shops operated by House of Lazarus have changed over the years, both in what they carry, but also in the number of people who regularly shop there. HOL Boutique features clothing for men, women, and children, while Mountain Treasures includes electronics, appliances, toys, collectibles, and much more.

There seems to be no limit to the variety of fundraising ventures that House of Lazarus is a part of, it includes: 100 Men Who Care, raffles,

"This philosophy of sharing guides much of what House of Lazarus does."

lotteries, fashion shows, auctions, dinners, luncheons and many, many individual efforts that the House of Lazarus does and all show the degree to which the community supports their mission. There aren't any easy answers or quick fixes to this problem. "Personally, I think we just keep doing what we're doing," adds Ashby, "and try to make sure that there's no one falling through the gaps, that there's nobody sleeping in their vehicle, a tent or a camping trailer through the winter."

Late last year Ashby was presented with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal in recognition of her tireless efforts and leadership. She claims it's easy to be a leader when you have a great team.

House of Lazarus

2245 Simms Street, Mountain

613-989-3830

cashby@houseoflazarus.com

hol.community



Dundas County Players: The Performance of Your Life

If live theatre is what you crave, then you need look no farther than Winchester's Old Town Hall and the Dundas County Players Theatrical Society (DCP). The group has been presenting various forms of theatre since 1996 and later this year will present their 100th production.

"The theatre itself is a real jewel for us and for everybody that gets to use it."

DCP currently has approximately 40 members and in a typical year they will have two major productions, although they have in the past done as many as four. Currently, they are rehearsing "Ken Ludwig's Sherwood: The Adventures of Robin Hood," which opened on April 28th.

In the fall of 2023, Conor McPherson's psychological thriller, "The Birds" will be performed. Directing



will be Shannon Murdock, along with J.P. Leduc and Caroline Roberts, three long-time members who gathered prior to rehearsal one afternoon to talk about their experiences and what DCP has to offer.

Roberts, who has been with the DCP since its inception, and who is the group's archivist says attitudes have changed over the years. "I think typically in amateur groups, everybody wants to have a lead, and they walk away if they don't get cast. I think we have really grown to the point where people just want to be involved."

Sometimes the performance is seen as exceptional because of the complexity of the set, but often because of the way the performers became more entrenched in the role they are playing.



"Theatre carries different meaning for different people."

"We have tried to balance things that are well known with something that's a bit more experimental, because we're not a commercial theatre," said Roberts.

"The theatre itself is a real jewel for us," said Leduc. "And for everybody that gets to use it. Musicians come in and say, 'This is just the perfect space because you can see the people, you can talk to them and banter with them.'"

Theatre carries different meaning for different people. For some, theatre provides a way of remembering. For others, it offers a place to belong.

"Having a theatre enriches not just the people that are in it, the actors and all the team, it enriches the community as well by seeing these performances," said Murdock.

"A lot of young people come in very shy, and they just bloom because they start seeing their lines and see they're appreciated and see the link between hard work and success," adds Leduc. "They feel like they have discovered a place where they belong."

Call it civic pride or community support, but North Dundas seems to have a surplus of it, which is why a group like DCP prospers here. North Dundas seems to understand what is needed to provide a good quality of life, and then people work together to create and maintain it.

Dundas County Players

478 Main Street, Winchester

613-297-0097

info@dcplayers.ca

dcplayers.ca





North Dundas is OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

The Township of North Dundas is your partner in success if you run a small, medium or large business and are looking to expand or get your first location.

We have a community of residents and business owners that support each other to help produce success.

Collaboration and growth are two key pillars that characterize why so many have chosen to operate here. With a growing population and a diverse economy, you will feel right at home and know you made the right choice.

Start the discussion today by contacting the Township of North Dundas' Economic Development Department. Together we will explore your funding options, locations, advertising avenues and local partnerships.

