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WESTMEATH & DISTRICT
RECREATION ASSOCIATION

WELCOME AUGUST

AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

To rent Community Centre Hall :
613-587-4559/613-587-4838 or email wdra@nrtco.net
Ice bookings: arenas@whitewaterregion.ca;
or call Township office M-F, 8:30 am - 4 pm , ask for Debbie

For Newsletter inquiries:
Email: wdranewsletter@nrtco.net or call 613-587-4438
DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER ENTRIES IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH
www.westmeathtoday.ca



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MISSING PLANTER BOX

The WDRA is extremely disappointed that someone has stolen one of the planter boxes that we purchased and had placed at the boat launch in Westmeath. Our committee was doing our part to try and beautify the area. If anyone has any information as to whom may be responsible for this theft please let us know or contact the OPP or crime stoppers, or simply have the planter returned to where it was taken.

Thanks

WESTMEATH UNION CEMETERY

Westmeath Union Cemetery is applying to the Registrar for a declaration that a number of interment rights be considered as abandoned, as per Section 30 of the Cemeteries Act. The plots or lots were all purchased before 1970. For a list of the names of interment rights holders and plot numbers affected by this application, please contact Patti Desjardins (613) 587-4860 or pick up a copy from the waterproof canister near the tap inside the cemetery gates.

Thank you.
Patti Desjardins

ELECTRONIC VERSION OF WDRA NEWSLETTER

If you are interested in receiving the WDRA newsletter electronically, please send a message to wdranewsletter@nrtco.net

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Westmeath Recreation Household Survey

The Township of Whitewater Region has set up a Task Force to examine all recreation opportunities in the Westmeath and Lapasse area. Feedback is important in order to meet our community's recreation and active living needs.



Surveys have been mailed to residents of the Westmeath and Lapasse area. We encourage residents to fill out the survey and return it in the postage-paid envelope provided. Completed surveys are due by August 31, 2021. The Township will be conducting similar surveys at a later date with other areas of the Township.



Residents of Westmeath & Lapasse area are encouraged to keep an eye out for the Recreation Household Survey in mail boxes. It is being delivered in the coming days.

Your feedback is important to us.

Questions can be directed to parksandrecreation@whitewaterregion.ca

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wdrnewsletter@nrtco.net

50 years ago

We've all heard members of older generations start a story with our eye-roll-prompt, "Back in the day," which is then followed by a seemingly endless list of ways things have changed in the intervening years (generally negatively). Those tales of walking to school in high snowdrifts may be a little stale. There is no denying that life has changed significantly over the last half-century.

From advances in technology and medicine to a major shift in romancing, life is undoubtedly different than it was 50 years ago. Back then, if attracted to someone 'cute' telephone numbers were exchanged or optionally you had someone set you up. Today hundreds of partners are only a keystroke away, thanks to dating apps. When I think of all the time spent pursuing girls and all those rejections compared to the relief of getting a 'yes' today, I could just scream.

Half a century ago to find out what was happening in the world, you had to wait for the morning paper. Now there are loads of news channels available 24/7.

Air travel was once a comfortable experience, with comfortable seats, decent food, and ample room to spread out. Today, unless you're flying first class, your seat is cramped and you're lucky to get a cup of water. So glad my flying days have been over for a dozen years.

If you were wearing anything other than suit or dress to the office then, you were an anomaly. Today, even some of the world's most powerful CEO's wear jeans and sneakers to work.

I compared the village of Westmeath to what it was five decades ago. I recalled 66 homes, 4 grocery stores, 5 gas stations, two garages and a blacksmith shop along with a lumber mill (where the Community Centre rests now). Speeders through the village drew the most complaints, same as today. Fishing tourists were prevalent, mostly from Ohio and Michigan.

Today the number of homes has increased to 70 despite 3 lost to fire and one taken apart. Of the 70 homes, 11 are new ones. An increase of about one every five years – not exactly an economic boom. Scarier is that today only 4 or 5 homes are original families from the past. At one time I knew every name in the village, now only a fraction of them.

Then, playing hockey and ice skating dominated the winter months. The summer was the time to make your own fun. A drive to Pembroke for a burger and a movie was at best occasional but just as exciting as a Blue Jay game in the Big Smoke is now. The only activity for girls was beauty contests. One year nobody won!



FOR HALL BOOKINGS

Please call
Marg Gervais
613-587-4838

