

DJ Music For All Ages & Occasions
"music from the party of your life!"

abbey lane
 ~ DJ Music Entertainment & Magician ~

Reserve your Disc Jockey today...
www.abbeylanedj.com
613-587-4615



GOOD FOOD.REAL FAST.™

JOIN THE MOVEMENT
 EPICURE.COM

Dana Nicholson
 National Director
 Independent Consultant, Epicure
 Office: 18667969798
 Email: danasgoodfood@hotmail.com



WDRA

WESTMEATH & DISTRICT
 RECREATION ASSOCIATION

THE WDRA

fully expects the hall to be open for
 bookings starting October 1st
 following the Renfrew County Health
 Unit Guidelines.



**WelcomeTo the Community –
 the La Grotta Family**

Michael La Grotta, with his wife Monica and daughters Fiorella and Andorra, 3 years old and one year, relocated from Toronto to our area. They are planning on increasing the family numbers, talk even now that another one is on the way.

Cooking pizza in their spare time is a specialty. Outdoor activities and gardening are important too. More importantly is spending time with family and with friends.

They are eager to explore the community and to meet many of the wonderful people here. They came to Westmeath because it is beautiful, friendly, quiet, and peaceful and truly is God's country.

Michael had volunteered to help the WDRA and was accepted as a Board member to fill the vacant position of Programming Director.

NOVEMBER 2020 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

WDRA Board of Directors Meeting – October 5, 2020

A discussion took place on the extra cost of sanitizing after a hall rental (Covid-19). The committee wanted to keep the cost the same for all activities. A motion was made to charge \$40 for the extra sanitizing required in the Hall after a rental and usage. Passed.

Our AGM meeting scheduled for October 19th was an item of business. A motion was made to postpone the actual AGM public meeting forward to the AGM in April 2021. The current positions of the board would be maintained for a two-year cycle, instead of the usual one.

Instead, on October 19th, Brenda Grady - President, gave an on-camera overview of committee events since April 2020 to present to our Facebook account.

A motion was made to accept Michael La Grotta as a new member to the board to fill the vacant position of Program Director.

Yoga began its 10 weekly sessions of Yoga on October 7th with 25 participants (max). Cleaning beforehand will be handled by the WDRA.

A New Horizons Seniors Program grant, with the WDRA in partnership with the Riverview Seniors Social Club (RSSC) was submitted by October 20th. The Rest Station committee are prepared the grant and if successful, funds will be available in March 2021. This combined with the funds raised in the three previous Tour de Whitewater events will initiate construction of a Rest Station Pavilion. As well, an extra comfort Portable Toilet will be rented while the Pavilion is in use.

We are investigating the idea of offering the newsletter electronically. If you would be interested in receiving it this way, please contact Heather at wdranewsletter@nrtco.net. We will commence creating an email distribution list.

The WDRA is looking into the idea of starting up a dart league at the hall, however will not start until the new year if there is interest. At the moment we are currently looking for anyone that might have a dart board that they would be willing to donate and or building materials to make some boards to hold the dart board. If you are interested in playing or could help with some of the material please contact Beth at 613 587-4294 or send a message to wdra@nrtco.net



Plan, Build, Maintain...

From decks to fences and everything in-between,

we are your experts in home renovation!


Phone: 1-800-251-1821

Email: steve@whitewatercontracting.ca

KENNY'S
 GAS BAR & GROCERY

Groceries • Confectionery • Ice • Gas • Oil • Diesel • Stove Oil
 Authorized LCBO Agent & Beer Store Retail Partner

at the corner of Westmeath Road & Gore Line
Westmeath 613-587-4468



BEACH-WEST PHARMACY
 1858 Beachburg Road, Beachburg, Ontario K0J 1C0

MATTHEW CONWAY – Pharmacist
Phone: 613-582-3333 Fax: 613-582-3338

Pharmacy Hours
 Monday – Friday: 9:30 am – 5:30 pm
 Saturday: 9:30 am – 12:00 noon

**PRESCRIPTIONS • DIABETIC SUPPLIES
 HEALTH & BEAUTY AIDS
 Photocopy and Fax Service**



MARRIAGE OFFICIANTS
 CÉLÉBRANTS DE MARIAGE
 BILINGUAL SERVICES/SERVICES BILINGUES

DANIELLE THOMAS
 613-635-1485
granielle@nrtco.net

JEANNELLE ROMAIN
 613-295-8618
jeannelleromain@gmail.com

Ottawa River RV Sites
 Fully Serviced, 30 amp Service, Sewer, Water

Spotswoods Landing
 1737 Rapid Road, Westmeath, ON



www.spotswoodslanding.com
email: info@spotswoodslanding.com
1-800-941-0006 • 1-613-587-4829

Celebrating 60 years—we value your business!

FRANK CARROLL
 FINANCIAL
 est. nineteen-sixty

Jennifer Austin, CFP
 FINANCIAL ADVISOR
 720 MACKAY STREET
 PEMBROKE, ON
 K8A 8J8
 T. 613.735.4141 x116
 F. 613.735.7310
 1.877.740.4220
jennifer@fcfinancial.ca



WWW.FCFINANCIAL.CA

Andrew Brotton

Broker

613-633-8661

andrew@thesignatureteam.net



**WHITEWATER FOAM
 INSULATION SOLUTIONS INC.**

- * Spray Foam Insulation
 - * Cellulose
 - * Crawl spaces / basement blankets
- Serving the Upper
 Ottawa Valley

ph: (613) 587-4275

cell: (613) 635-1899

whitewaterfoam@gmail.com

www.whitewaterfoaminsulationsolutions.com





The Volunteer of the Year 2019 is Bonnie Johnson. One of many contributions was her support for the 2019 flood victims in helping to coordinate their greatness needs. She worked closed with volunteer disaster relief groups and the Provincial Disaster Relief Recovery Assistance programmers, ensuring seamless support for the victims with the greatest needs. Her leadership and dedication were vital to the success of Whitewater Recovery committee.

Bonnie, a retired nurse practitioner, was a founding Director of Health Services at the Whitewater Bromley Community Health Centre. Bonny continues to serve on the Lanark Renfrew Health and Community Services Board, on the Save our Scotiabank Committee, the Whitewater Region Seniors and Older Adult Task Force.

Bonnie Johnson, with her countless contributions to our community in so many examples, but explicitly her undying help with the flood victims, is deserving of import honor.

The WDRA Youth Volunteer for 2019 is Jordan Drapeau. An eighteen-year-old, Jordan was most noticeable with his volunteering both at the Rink and the Hall. During ice-cleaning operations, he was the likely one to move the goalposts for the Zamboni to keep moving. In the Hall itself, he often took the initiative to give the older men setting up or taking down tables & chairs a helping hand. He was always on call to take out the heavy garbage bags from the kitchen area. Even if watching a hockey game and asked, he did so immediately. In a positive light, Jordan could be thought of as a 'Rink Rat', a common term used in the day.

As well Jordan was always available to help any of his neighbours with grass or wood-chopping, etc. when was asked. In fact, he would be better named as "Willing" than his own name.

He served as an 'altar boy' to the priest since he was young boy, up until Covid-19 but a damper on it. Back in August, he was seen helping clean-up the cemetery in LaPasse.

The Lifetime Volunteer award goes to Anne Bromley.

Anne has been dedicated in numerous capacities in the community over the years, more than can be counted.

At the Westmeath Public School, young children of this community knew Anne as a caring teacher.

Her many years of work with the 4-H clubs had a positive influence on many local youths. A dedicated teacher to all 4-H'ers, Anne has shown by example how to give back to the community.

The "*Christmas In the Village*" concert is an integral part of the holiday season of Westmeath and Anne works extremely hard to bring it all together. The 4-H children use the proceeds to give a better Christmas to a local needy family.

When the need arose to donate an organ for transplant Anne was tested as a good match and went forward with the donation to give a full life back to the recipient.

The Boys Came Home from the War - By Bob Grylls as told by Noreen (Conroy) Desjardins

Veterans returning home from overseas after WWII were first sent to an auditorium in Ottawa. They were assembled in order of the alphabet. Their contact was informed, and the soldiers stayed until picked up or sent home by train.

Phyllis and June Conroy sisters, and Ruth Robinson, were young girls working in Ottawa. It was an exciting time for them when asked to greet the hometown boys from Westmeath. Many of the parents didn't own a car and couldn't pick their relatives up. Instead, after they were warmly greeted, the soldiers boarded a train to Pembroke, where they were met then by family.

After a vet reached Westmeath, the Women's Institute honoured each one or two with a square-dancing party in the original Town Hall. He had to have been enrolled in the public school to be eligible. At the dance, each was brought onto the stage, introduced, and presented with a wallet with \$25 in it. Noreen was 12 at the time and still vividly remembers some of those guys

Many things were rationed back then – even gasoline. The town was a "dry" one but that didn't prevent people from slipping out between squares to have a drink in their cars.

There happened to be three veterans whose families moved into the area during the war so weren't registered at school - but they were honoured as well.

No one can recall how many dances were held for those who returned from the war, but they all were a cause for celebration. *Hard to imagine unless you were there.*

Noreen said "It was exhilarating for residents and school kids when convoys from Camp Petawawa drove through Westmeath on training sessions. A regular occurrence, every convoy was met by cheering residents. Two teachers taught school while their husbands served, Namely Mrs. Greg Gervais (Inez) and Mrs. Clinton Hennessy (Alice).

"Ditty Bags" were placed in the stores so customers could donate treats such as chocolate bars and candy. Despite food being rationed, many forfeited part of their share when they could. Officials would collect the ditty bags which were sent overseas for distribution to the soldiers.

Many quilts were finished up by the women in the village, all for the war effort. Quilting frames were setup in Conroy's house, Ethier's Hotel and Schultz's Store. The women from outside the village would quilt at any time when available.

Friday afternoons promptly at 3 PM, it was Red Cross time at the school. The students were taught to sing "Rule Britannia" and so on. It was the worst of times and the best of times.



WINMAR® Pembroke or/b Kevin Boire Construction Ltd.
An Independently Owned and Operated Franchise

General Contractors
Property Restoration Specialists
205 Paul Martin Drive
Pembroke, ON K8A 6W7
P: 613-732-9874 | F: 613-732-4922
Toll Free: 1-855-4-WINMAR
kevinboire@winmar.ca
www.winmar.ca

Kevin Boire
President
WRT, ASD, AMRT, OCT

FIRE • WIND • WATER
• MOULD • ASBESTOS

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS WITH US

ONLY \$25.00/MONTH

GET ONE MONTH FREE WHEN YOU

COMMIT TO A FULL YEAR.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ADVERTISE,

PLEASE CONTACT LYNN OR HEATHER AT

wdranewsletter@nrtco.net



FOR HALL
BOOKINGS

Please call
Marg Gervais

613-587-4838