



HCM Newsletter

The United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria

MARCH 2013

CONGRATULATIONS Mr. Antler!

Mr. Doug Antler has been acclaimed to the position of Council member to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation of Mr. Dave Foote in December.

Mr. Antler will begin his journey as representative of the public of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria at the first meeting in March, Friday the 8th.

This is the first time in many years that there has been representation at the Council table from Deux Rivieres. Staff and members of Council welcome the opportunity to work with Doug to continue to provide you with the services and programs which you request.

Welcome Councillor Antler

MUNICIPAL TAXES DUE

Tax bills will be mailed out the first week of March to be due March 31st 2013. The first installment of municipal taxes is set by legislation at 50% of the taxes owing the previous year.

Although dependant on when the county and the other area municipalities finalize their budgets and freeze rates, HCM usually sets the remaining two tax installments to be due at the end of each of July and October.

For 2013 staff and Council prepared a budget which allowed for a reduction in your residential tax rate by 4.22% or \$11.56 of taxes owing per \$100,000 of assessed value.

The County's rate on its portion of taxes will be an increase of .20% or .73 cents per \$100,000 of assessed value. The provincial education rates were reduced by .009% or \$9 per \$100,000 assessed value. The County also sets tax ratios (sometime in May) which need to be allocated to determine a final tax rate.

All of these variables, including your most recent property assessment, need to be determined and considered before you will know whether your tax bill for 2013 will ultimately increase or decrease. At this time, we can not know what the final rate is.

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Tuesday, April 2 at 12:00 staff and members of Council will raise a Flag in support of **World Autism Awareness Day**. Please drop by if you have a few minutes to show your support! Coffee will be on.

Aim not for what you are, but for what you could be.
Lucas Hellmer

MMAH Councillor Guide

Council Representative Role

“The Integrity Commissioner reports to council and performs in an independent manner. His or her role is to perform the functions assigned by council with respect to the application of a code of conduct for members of council and local boards as well as the application of procedures, rules and policies governing the ethical behaviour of members of council and local boards.

The Commissioner’s functions may include conducting inquiries into complaints from council or a local board, a member of council or a board, or a member of the public. If the Commissioner reports that a member of the council or local board has contravened the code of conduct, the municipality may impose a penalty in the form of a reprimand or a suspension of pay for a period of up to 90 days.

The municipal Ombudsman’s function is to investigate, in an independent manner, decisions, recommendations and actions of a municipality, local boards or certain municipal corporations.

In addition, section 239.2 of the act provides that municipalities may appoint investigators for closed meetings. Should a municipality not appoint an investigator, the Ontario Ombudsman is the closed meeting investigator, by default, for the municipality (see **Public Business is the Public’s Business** on page 30 below).

The Auditor General may assist council in holding itself and municipal administrators accountable for the quality of stewardship over public funds and achieving value for money in municipal operations. The Auditor General’s responsibilities do not include the responsibilities of the municipal auditor.

The Municipal Act, 2001 authorizes a municipality to establish a public registration system

for lobbyists and to do other things in relation to the lobbyist registration system, such as establishing a code of conduct for lobbyists and prohibiting former public office holders from lobbying for a designated time period.

Other statutes may require specific or general codes of conduct as well. For example, section 7.1 of the Building Code Act, 1992 (BCA) requires municipalities to establish and enforce a code of conduct for the chief building official and inspectors. Municipalities may choose to include the code of conduct in their building bylaw. The BCA outlines the purposes of the code of conduct and requires that the code of conduct provide for its enforcement.

The code of conduct must include policies or guidelines to be used in responding to allegations that the code of conduct has been breached and must set out the necessary disciplinary actions. The BCA also requires the municipality to ensure that the code of conduct is brought to the attention of the public.

Stewardship Role

The public may view council as responsible for ensuring that the municipality’s financial and administrative resources are being used as efficiently as possible, and in a way that is consistent with council’s objectives. To refer back to section 224 of the Municipal Act, 2001, part of your role, together with the rest of council, is to ensure that administrative policies, practices and procedures are in place to implement the decisions of council and to maintain the financial integrity of the municipality. All of this can be promoted through good policy and monitoring practices.”

(MMAH) From
<http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=4965>.

FIGHT AGAINST PROSTATE CANCER

On Saturday, February 16th, 2013 I was privileged to participate in the third annual Pembroke Snowmobile Ride for Dad in support of the fight against prostate cancer.

My goal this year was \$3000 which was quite a stretch but thanks to your very kind generosity I was able to present \$3484 to the event organizers and achieve my goal for this very worthwhile cause. This was the highest individual contribution for this year's ride.

My very favorite part of the ride is when the P A announcer says "Ladies and gentlemen, start your engines". My second favorite part is when we all do start our machines: the fancy new ones can't move until their engine computers decide the engine is warm enough to go, whereas folks with old clunkers like mine are ready at the first pull of the starting cord and we sit and wait for the new machines to finally move ahead in line.

A total of 232 riders took part in the ride and made a very impressive sight when we were all lined up along Petawawa Boulevard for a rest stop.

When I reflect on my pledge efforts this year and the last two years it makes me feel so very good to be able to count on all of you—friends, relatives, neighbors, and acquaintances.

You truly are an amazing bunch of generous people and I feel so privileged to know each and every one of you. Together we have raised a total of just above \$6000 over the last three years.

Thank you again for all your help in this very worthy cause.

I feel good!

**Jim Gibson—Councilor
Head, Clara Maria**

Carefor Volunteers will help with Income Tax Returns

Volunteers trained by Canada Revenue Agency will be available from March 4 to April 5 to assist individuals on limited incomes with their income tax returns again this year. This includes, but is not limited to, students, new immigrants, pensioners, recipients of social assistance and individuals on disability pensions.

For the purposes of this program, limited income is defined as \$30,000 for an individual, and \$40,000 for a couple, with an additional \$2,500 allowed for each child.

This assistance is only available till April 5. There will be no extensions so be sure to get your information in early.

Tax forms may be dropped off at the Municipal Offices in Point Alexander and Stonecliffe and the Long Term Care in Deep River between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm, Monday to Friday.

This is a free service sponsored by the Carefor Health and Community Services. Anyone wishing more information on the service should call Jim at 613-589-2788.

Hey Grandparents!

Have you brought your grandchild to Old Mackey Park only to be asked “Hey, where’s the slide”?

We have heard from many residents who have that story to tell. To help remedy this situation we are attempting to raise funds through grant programs to erect a slide(s). The costs of purchasing industrial playground equipment is surprisingly high. Two generous ratepayers are donating their time and expertise to search out slides at lower prices and staff thank them for their efforts.

As with any grant application, the funders give points for fundraising and having other funds committed to the project.

If you are in a position and of a mind to do so, we welcome your financial contribution to this specific proposal. Please send donations to us with this project noted. Tax receipts will be generated for donations over \$10. Thank you for your help in making our community one for everyone to enjoy.

HALL USE CLARIFICATION

Since 2011 Council has permitted the use of the community centre for recreation purposes when it was otherwise unoccupied, free of charge.

To be eligible to participate in these exercise mornings you have to be willing to sign a waiver of liability for any injury you may sustain. Council agreed to provide the hall for two mornings a week with the understanding that the request for hall use for other events would result in the exercise group losing their set time. That exercise group and hall use has evolved into four days a week between Yoga and the Wellness Group.

The next few weeks will bring about some dates in which the hall will not be available at normal times due to other uses. We do apologize for the inconvenience of loss of your normal times however; you may be able to make other arrangements. Please see us in the office to see if its possible to rearrange times and dates.

YOGA for all ages and abilities...

Thursdays: 10 - 11:15 am. with certified instructor.

Cost: \$60 for 6 sessions;
\$15 for drop-in session.

Bring mat and comfortable clothes. Extra mats available.

Play area for kids.



Call Cathy: 586-2634, or email: ballaboudreaudc@hotmail.com.

EXERCISE MORNINGS

A group of women in the community continue to meet regularly now Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 9:30 until 10:30 (for the winter months) to participate in a low impact exercise session led by a qualified instructor via DVD and projector. An additional session may be held Saturdays, if access is available.

All you need to begin is comfortable clothes and shoes, a bottle of water and a towel. Everyone is welcome.

CWL—Spring Bingo

The CWL's annual fundraiser Bingo is to be held on Sunday, March 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Centre in Stonecliffe. Cash and other prizes. Come out, support your community and maybe support yourself. Everyone welcome. Please invite your friends.



As usual donations for prizes are gratefully accepted and eligible for a tax receipt. (Thank you to those who have already made contributions.)

Contact Linda Chartrand @ 613-586-2366 for more information.

Hope to see you there.

THE MISSING LINK SNOWMOBILE CLUB COMING EVENTS

16th Annual Bow-Tie Classic
Saturday, March 2, 2013

POKER RUN REGISTRATION
9AM—NOON Missing Link Trailer at
Yates General Store, Stonecliffe

\$20 per hand

\$1,000 Grand Prize

SILENT AUCTION

Viewing Starts at Noon

Bidding Starts at 2:00 pm

Auction starts at 6:00 pm

BIDDER NUMBERS ARE FREE!

**CASH, CHEQUE, VISA, MASTER-
CARD ACCPETED!**

**HOT FOOD AVAILABLE AT THE
TOWNSHIP HALL 2:00—7:30 pm**

Show your support for Bullying Awareness and on the **last Wednesday of each month**, wear a **PINK SHIRT**. If people notice and ask why, explain how you support standing up for others and not being a bystander. Focus on the positive. Bullying is prevalent in our workplaces, schools and our communities. Please join in to affect positive change.

Council Meeting Schedule

MARCH

- Friday—8—2:00 p.m.
- Friday—22—2:00 p.m.

APRIL

- Friday—12—2:00 p.m.
- Friday—26—2:00 p.m.

MAY

- Friday—10—2:00 p.m.
- Friday—31—2:00 p.m.

JUNE

- Thursday—13—7:00 p.m.

JULY

- Thursday—18—7:00 p.m.

AUGUST

- Thursday—15—7:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

- Thursday—12—7:00 p.m.
- Friday—27—2:00 p.m.

OCTOBER

- Thursday—10—7:00 p.m.
- Friday—25—2:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- Friday—8—2:00 p.m.
- Friday—22—2:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

- Friday—13—2:00 p.m.

Gospel Sounds

Come & Enjoy an evening of Live Music and your favourite Gospel Songs on Friday, March 22, 2013 from 7:00 —



9:00 at the Community Centre in Stonecliffe.

Light refreshments will be provided.

If you would like to participate by singing or playing, please call Laurel ahead to make arrangements.

613-586-2649

Autism Facts

- ◇ In Ontario, there is an estimated 100,000 individuals with ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder).
- ◇ The Canadian prevalence rate of Autism Spectrum Disorder is 1 in 94.
- ◇ Autism is a result of a neurological disorder that affects the functioning of the brain.
- ◇ Autism Spectrum Disorder is more prevalent than Down Syndrome, Cystic Fibrosis, Childhood Cancer or Multiple Sclerosis.
- ◇ Autism is not a mental illness it is a neurological disorder.
- ◇ There is no cure for Autism.
- ◇ Autism is a lifelong disability however, with coping mechanisms individuals can lead productive and fulfilling lives.

For more information please visit www.autismontario.com.

In the Community—Public Library

There are exciting happenings at the HCM Public Library!

The library is pleased to announce the Book Bingo Challenge which is currently running. This challenge will offer you the opportunity to read books of different topics and at the end of the year it is possible you may win a prize. The challenge runs from January 2013 to the final board meeting in December of 2013. You will find details displayed at the library.

Due to stormy weather our February Coffee Morning has been moved to March 19, 2013 with Cecilia Buelow from MPAC as our Guest speaker. The event runs from 10 – noon in the Stonecliffe Municipal Hall. Do you have questions about how your property is valued? Do you have a question about your MPAC Assessment, bring it along and hopefully we can get you some answers? Refreshments will be served, hosted by Library Board members Cathy Balla-Boudreau and Betty Condie.

A craft afternoon/evening is planned for March 13th from 4:30 – 8:30 p.m. here in the library featuring Anne Mykolshyn. We currently have a group of 11 attending including some children here on March Break. I am very much looking forward to the response from the kids. A small donation has

REMEMBER YOUR VALU- MART SLIPS

been agreed to by attendees so if you want to be added to the list please call Gayle Waters for details. Everyone is responsible for their own meals or snacks as this craft will be over the dinner hour. Most are going to eat early.

What other exciting news do we have? Well, we will have the current Oscar nominated DVDs to add to our growing collection. These items include - Beasts of the Southern Wild, Argo, Anna Karenina, which are available now; available later this month - Les Miserables, Life

of Pi, Zero Dark Thirty and to be ordered when they are released - Lincoln, Silver Lining Playbook, Django Unchained. How wonderful is that?

Dates are set but details are pending for the Spring card party (April 18, 2013) and our May Madness event (May 11, 2013), so mark these important dates on your calendar so you will not miss out.

Of course the library is still collecting Valu Mart receipts so save them up and drop them off to the library or to any board member for delivery. As of February 2012 we have received \$820. This year's receipts will totalled soon. Something so simple can make a huge difference for us.

For your community networking and a chance to escape the humdrums of life we encourage you to visit the library; read a magazine, check your emails or just visit with friends and staff, but come, it's like a dose of spring. (GW)

RECYCLING COLLECTION DATES FOR 2013—

Mackey and Stonecliffe

FEBRUARY 4, 19—Tuesday

MARCH 4, 18

APRIL 1, 15, 29

MAY 13, 27

JUNE 10, 24

JULY 8, 22

AUG. 6—Tue., 19

SEPT. 3—Tue., 16, 30

OCT. 15—Tue., 28

NOV. 11, 25

DECEMBER 9, 23

Bissett Creek and Deux Rivieres—each Tuesday with garbage collection.

GARBAGE COLLECTION DATES FOR 2013

Deux Rivieres

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Bissett Creek

Tuesday 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Stonecliffe

Thursday 11:00 - 12:00 noon

Mackey

Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

*Times are approximate, please be sure you have your material out on time. If you have any challenges with your collection service, speak to our attendant or call the office.

DISPOSAL SITE HOURS

January, February and March ONLY

Bissett Creek Road Site

Tuesday 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm (1.5 hours)

Saturday 12:45pm - 3:45pm (3 hours)

Stonecliffe Site - Kenny Road

Thursday 12:45pm - 2:30 pm (1.75 hours)

Saturday 8:30 am to 12:00 noon (3.5 hrs.)

April—December

Bissett Creek Road Site

Tuesday 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm (3 hours)

Saturday 12:45pm - 3:45pm (3 hours)

Stonecliffe Site - Kenny Road

Thursday 12:45pm - 4:15 pm (3.5 hours)

Saturday 8:30 am to 12:00 noon (3.5 hrs.)

CONTACT Council or Staff

15 Township Hall Road

Stonecliffe, Ontario

K0J 2K0

Phone: 613- 586-2526

Fax: 613- 586-2596

Email: twpshcm@xplornet.com

CBO/Fire Safety Officer : 613-586-

1950 or 613-401-6955

www.townshipsofheadclaramaria.ca

EMAIL LIST If you would like to be on our community email list please contact the Municipal Office. It is the intent of staff to keep email addresses secure by using BCC however; we can not guarantee confidentiality.

COUNCIL CONTACTS

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