



BEAVER TALES

Canada District West
Region 5



2024-25

C.D.W. Board

Governor

Pat McKinney

Governor Elect

Darrell Blackwell

Immediate Past Governor

Pauline Blackwell

Past Governor Director

Darrell Blackwell

Don Mills, Halton, Kawartha
Lakes

Area Director

Marlyne Van Exan

Dundas, Midland, Oakville,

Jadzia Weir

Barrie, London

District Secretary

Cathy Dunn

District Treasurer

Sue Gibson

Judge Advocate

Lyle Armstrong

**People helping
Clubs stay
united!**

Governor's Message



Hello fellow Civitans,

Well, here it is almost fall and our Regional Convention is just around the corner with London Middlesex hosting what I'm sure will be a great convention.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to my fellow board members who spent so many hours working to bring the bi-laws up to code with ONCA and then again spent hours reviewing the District Policies and bringing them up-to-date, as we no longer have a seat on the International board and we have all become clubs at large. We also redid the training manuals as we only had hard copies and could not make any changes. We have accomplished a lot over the past two years.

This year for the first time we had an Enterprise Customer not pay their complete bill so we have written letters to the Enterprise customers advising that they will be required to pay 50% of their bill before we order Claxton Fruit Cake for them. Hopefully this helps prevent future losses on the profits from Enterprises and clubs can once more receive a rebate from the Enterprise Account.

As my term as Governor comes to an end, I thank you for your support and I wish Darrell continued success as his term begins. I know Darrell will do an excellent job.

Yours in Civitan

Pat McKinney



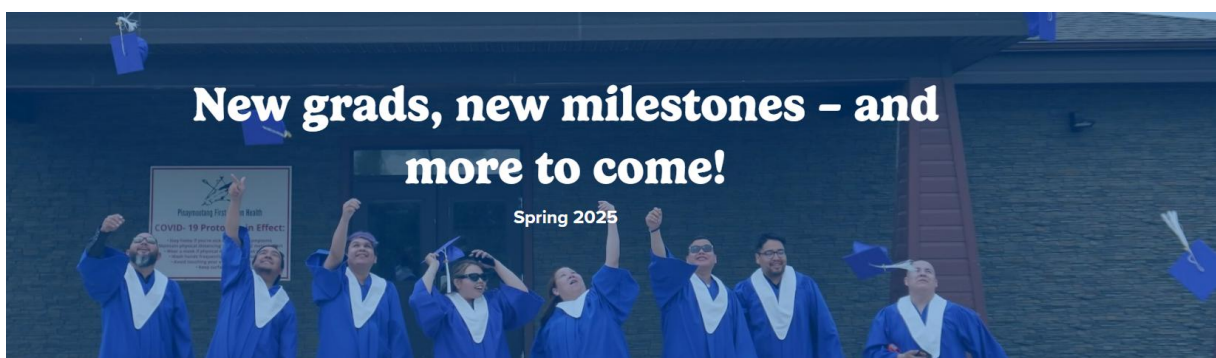


WATER FIRST -Water Internship



After 15 months of hands-on learning and community-based training, 11 interns from Interlake Reserves Tribal Council (IRTC) have graduated from the Drinking Water Internship Program – Water First’s inaugural internship in Manitoba.

The interns have earned 25 certifications, including Class 1 water treatment and wastewater credentials; logged more than 1,800 hours of hands-on experience, and taken part in technical workshops with Water First trainers. Their graduation marks a major milestone – not only for the interns and their communities, but also for the future of the program. Congratulations to all the grads! The ceremony, originally delayed due to wildfires in the region, took place on May 29th in sunny Pinaymootang First Nation. The atmosphere was joyful, full of smiles, photos, laughter, and shared pride. Interns, family members, and community leaders gathered to celebrate the occasion, followed by a dinner feast. It was a fitting way to mark this achievement.



None of this would be possible without the generosity of donors like you.

Your support helps Indigenous adults gain the skills, training, and hands-on experience needed to pursue careers in water treatment and safeguard their communities’ drinking water.

BG's Positively Speaking

Inspiration and Motivation

A reader asked me to write about this topic. They probably think that I forgot all about it—it's been a while. The truth is that these two words have multiple related derivations. They are also closely connected while still retaining their separate meaning. I have researched what others have written about these two words and their 'connectedness.' My research has led me to the conclusion that, when used together, they can have a much more significant impact.

"INSPIRATION" is what you would do, want to do, or could do Your dream

"MOTIVATION" is what you can do or what you are willing to do Your actions

You can have all the inspiration in the world, but your dream will go nowhere without motivation. You can have the most inspired concept, but you will be spinning your wheels without motivation.

INSPIRATION without **MOTIVATION** = **NO RESULTS**

MOTIVATION without **INSPIRATION** = **NO RESULTS**

Individually, the two words have a distinct and separate role in the success of an endeavour. However, they are also entwined, like the strands of a rope. Bringing together these two elements of success creates the strength that will help attain the desired outcome. There are many other elements to success, but without these two, there is no focus, drive, direction, or action. There is only confusion and frustration.

Inspiration is the idea, the dream of what we want to achieve.

Motivation is the engine that drives us into action to realize our inspiration.

Inspiration + Motivation = Achievement

BG's Positively Speaking

The "One Another's" Of Life

Gloria Vanderbilt said that "We were not put on this earth to see through one another, we are put here to see one another through." That philosophy for life is full of meaning and insight into human behaviour. After reading her words, they reminded me of a conversation I had with a friend a short while before. We were talking about our responsibility to one another in all the different aspects of our lives, and we soon had quite a list of those "responsibilities." Here are a few from that list.

We are here...

to help one another,	to comfort one another,
to love one another,	to support one another,
to encourage one another,	to guide one another,
to talk with one another,	to inform one another,
to correct one another,	to care for one another.

You can add to this short list, and each of us can personalize our list to match the circumstances in our lives.

One thing I know is that we were never meant to hate, belittle, condemn or physically harm those who are, in some way, different from ourselves. We all have something different about us, we are all unique individuals, but we all have more in common with each other than we have differences. It is our individuality that gives us the wide range of personalities, viewpoints, outlooks, and innovative thoughts and ideas that make life interesting and adventurous. Without differences, life would be one long, boring, bland, monotonous road to travel. There is a saying that applies to this situation: "Variety is the spice of life".

Let's take our list and put it into practice, start to live according to its principles, allowing ourselves to be guided with sincerity, honesty and caring for those who populate our life, we will find that it will make it easier to... 'Go Along'

Congratulations

to the Toronto Lung Transplant Civitan Club on Another Successful Golf Tournament



The 18th Annual Lung Transplant Open (LTO) Golf Tournament proved once again to be a remarkable gathering of community, compassion, and commitment. This event marked another milestone in supporting lung transplant patients and advancing critical research.

The 19th Annual LTO Golf Tournament is already scheduled for June 4th, 2026

Upcoming Craft Sale

The Toronto Lung Transplant Civitan Club Craft Sale Events have always been a tremendous success, and they are thankful for all the generous support. If you are a crafter and are interested in making a donation to the craft sale, please contact Linda D'Abreu (ldabreu@rogers.com) {905-596-1232} or Mavis Bullock (mrbullock@outlook.com) {416-438-9927}. All proceeds from the Craft Sale directly benefit the Toronto General Lung Transplant Program and pre- and post-lung transplant patients during their hospital transplant journey. Your contributions make a significant impact, fostering hope and healing for those in need.

The date of the event has not as yet been confirmed but will be on a mid-October to mid-November date.

Martha Washington Candy

Prep Time: 45minutes mins

Chill Time 2hours hrs

Total Time 2hours hrs 45minutes mins

Ingredients

- 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 14 ounces sweetened condensed milk
- 4 cups powdered sugar
- 14 ounces sweetened shredded coconut
- 10 ounces maraschino cherries, drained and chopped
- 3 cups pecans, chopped
- 6 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 4 tablespoons shortening



Instructions

- In a large mixing bowl, beat together softened butter, vanilla, and sweetened condensed milk until the mixture is smooth and creamy.
- Add the powdered sugar and beat until combined.
- Mix in the coconut, cherries, and pecans. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 1 to 2 hours to firm up the mixture.
- Line two large sheet pans with parchment paper.
- Use a 1½ tablespoon scoop or a melon baller to form balls from the chilled mixture. You can roll the balls in the palms of your hands to make more even, uniform balls from the mixture.
- Place the formed balls onto parchment paper and place the sheet pans back into the refrigerator.
- Place the chocolate chips and shortening in a large, microwave-safe bowl. You can also divide the chocolate chips and shortening in half and work on dipping one half of the candies at a time.
- Heat chocolate in 30-second increments, stirring between each until chips are mostly melted.
- Stop heating and continue stirring until the mixture is fully melted and smooth.
- Use a fork to dip and roll each candy ball in the melted chocolate. Lift from the chocolate, tap to remove excess chocolate, and place back on the sheet of paper to set.
- Continue dipping and setting all of the balls. Dipped candies can be placed back into the refrigerator to set more quickly.

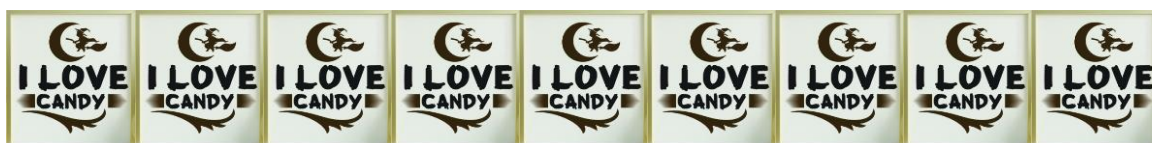
Notes

This old-fashioned candy recipe makes close to 80 candies! You can definitely halve the recipe for a smaller quantity. If you are rolling the balls in your hands and you find that it is sticky work, cover your hands with a light dusting of powdered sugar to prevent the filling from sticking to you.

The butter and large quantity of powdered sugar in the filling for these candies allow the filling to firm up quite a bit. The filling still needs to be chilled before dipping to keep the balls intact until they are coated.

The chocolate chips may be easier to melt and work with if you divide the chocolate/shortening mixture in half and work in batches. You could also roll all your balls, but store half in the freezer and then dip half of them at a time. Three cups of chocolate chips will coat about 40 candies.

Reheat the melted chocolate coating for 15 seconds at a time if it begins to thicken too much for dipping. The shortening in the chocolate mixture helps to make the chocolate more fluid for dipping. It also keeps the set chocolate just a tad softer at room temperature than pure chocolate.



THE BEST SAUCES

you can make from scratch!

YUM YUM SAUCE

1 cup mayonnaise
4 tbsp water
2½ tbsp ketchup
2 tbsp granulated sugar
1½ tbsp rice vinegar
1½ tbsp butter
2 tsp onion powder
1 tsp sweet Hungarian paprika

CHICK-FIL-A SAUCE

2 tsp yellow mustard
2 tbsp barbecue sauce
½ cup mayonnaise
1 tbsp honey
¼ tsp garlic powder

OLIVE GARDEN ALFREDO SAUCE

6 tbsp butter
1 tbsp garlic
1 tsp garlic powder
2 tbsp flour
1½ cups whole milk
1 cup Parmesan cheese
1 1/3 cups whipping cream
½ tsp salt
16 oz fettuccine
Fresh parsley

CHICKEN FINGER DIPPING SAUCE

½ cup mayonnaise
¼ cup ketchup
½ tsp garlic salt
1 tsp black pepper
1 tsp hot sauce (Cholula)
½ tsp Worcestershire sauce

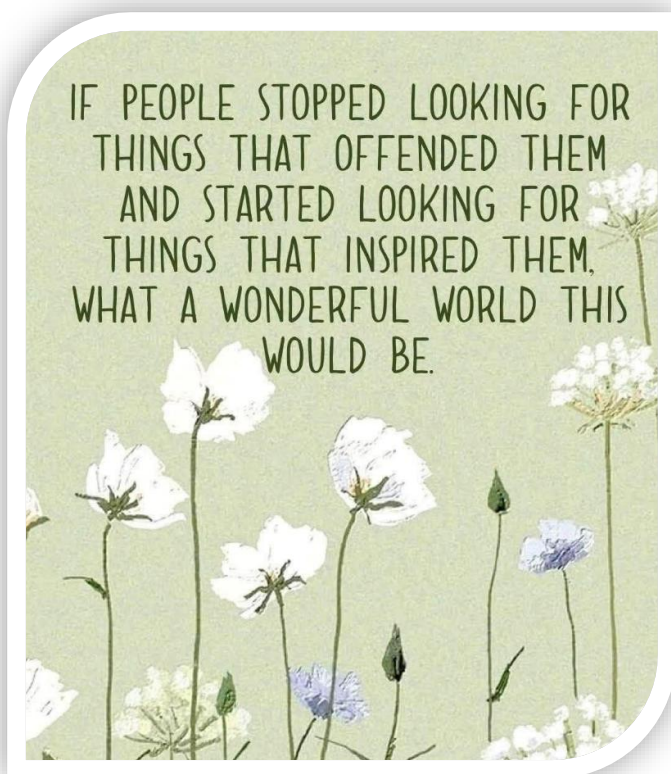
HONEY MUSTARD SAUCE

½ cup mayonnaise
3 tbsp yellow mustard
3 tbsp honey
2 tsp apple cider vinegar
¼ tsp paprika
¼ tsp garlic powder
¼ tsp salt

SWEET & SOUR SAUCE

6 oz pineapple juice
½ cup ketchup
1 tsp soy sauce
½ cup brown sugar
1 tbsp cornstarch
1 tbsp water
¼ cup apple cider vinegar
red food coloring

The biggest country in the world is	Russia
The biggest continent in the world is	Asia
The biggest ocean in the world is	Pacific Ocean
The biggest mountain in the world is	Mount Everest
The biggest river in the world is	Nile River
The biggest hot desert in the world is	Sahara Desert
The biggest cold desert in the world is	Antarctic Desert
The biggest island in the world is	Greenland
The biggest lake in the world is	Caspian Sea
The biggest building in the world is	Burj Khalifa
The biggest airport in the world is	King Fahd International Airport
The biggest dam in the world is	Three Gorges Dam
The biggest waterfall in the world is	Angel Falls (Venezuela)
The biggest volcano in the world is	Mauna Loa (Hawaii, USA)
The biggest cave in the world is	Son Doong Cave (Vietnam)
The biggest forest in the world is	Amazon Rainforest
The biggest peninsula in the world is	Arabian Peninsula
The biggest gulf in the world is	Gulf of Mexico
The biggest bay in the world is	Bay of Bengal





EASY FALL PUMPKIN BREAD

INGREDIENTS:

1 can (15 oz) pumpkin	2 cups sugar
2 cups sugar	1 cup vegetable oil
4 eggs	2 tsp aurppse flour
2 tsp baking soda	1 tsp baking powder
1 tsp cinnamon	½ tsp cinramon
½ tsp nutmeg	½ tsp salt

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease a loaf pan.
2. In a bowl, whisk pumpkin, sugar, oil, and eggs.
3. In another bowl, mix flour, baking soda, baking powder, spices, and salt.
4. Combine wet and dry ingredients. Pour into loaf pan.
5. Bake 50-60 minutes, until toothpick comes out clean.



Halton Civitan Club - #3526 President Marlyne Van Exan

Kindness Bags

The Halton Civitan Club has assembled 11 Kindness Bags and purchased 4 dozen pairs of Posey socks that will be donated to Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital. Each bag includes essential items such as toothpaste, a toothbrush, a nail file, glasses cleaner, hand lotion, lip gloss, pens, and an activity book. The Posey socks are anti-slip and designed to help prevent falls. These thoughtful donations will be distributed to long-term care patients who are most in need. Thank you to Civitan Sharon for arranging this thoughtful project.

LCBO

Our club continues to collect funds from members' bottle returns. Every contribution, no matter the size, helps us enhance the way we serve our community.

Tab Collection

The Halton Civitan Club has started collecting pop tabs, which will be donated for wheelchair production. Thank you to Civitan Linda for initiating this meaningful project.

Churchill Neighbourhood Centre

We are proud to continue supporting the Churchill Neighbourhood Centre with food and clothing donations. A special thank you goes to Civitan Karen for generously donating three bags of baby clothing.

Canada Day

The Halton Civitan Club was proud to take part in Oakville's Canada Day celebrations at Bronte Park. Members handed out Civitan-branded bags and colouring books to families and children throughout the day. We hope this helps raise awareness of our club and its work in the community. Thank you to Civitans Marlyne, Jadzia, and Indira for dedicating their time at the booth and sharing their enthusiasm with everyone who stopped by.



Anniversary Party:

This year, the Halton Civitan Club celebrated its 26th year of service. Members gathered for a wonderful evening of dinner and reflection on all that we have accomplished together. Congratulations to Civitan Karen for receiving the Norm Moffat Civitan of the Year Award in recognition of her hard work and dedication. She is always eager to volunteer, lead projects, and bring fresh ideas to our group. We are excited for you to see the special event she is already planning for December.

Thank you to all of our members for making this year one filled with service, teamwork, and friendship. Together, we continue to make a difference.



Dundas Civitan Club - #3212 President Kelsey George Gaudex

“Through the Decades”. This was the theme of the 2025 Dundas Cactus Festival Parade held in mid-August. Dundas Civitans, along with Special Olympics athletes and volunteers, rode the club’s float at the parade. And what an appropriate theme! This year marks the 50th anniversary of the venerable Festival, and the 35th year of our club’s charter.

It was a great evening for the parade, and a beautiful weekend over all. We thank who came out to participate, including the folks at the Dundas Learning Centre who made props for the float

You could say Dundas Civitan actually started at the 1990 version of the festival. At that event, we provided CHILD ID fingerprinting as our first fun raiser, which helped raise awareness. Soon after, we established the Alley Cats Bowling League.

We are planning to host a “Craft Sale” to be held at the Learning Centre on Saturday November 3, from 11 am to 3 pm. We are in the process of signing up vendors.

On the following Saturday, November 8, from 9 am to 12 pm, we will again be holding a “Closet Clean-Out” event. This time it will be located at two venues, one at the University Plaza parking lot in Dundas, and the other at the Meadowlands Best Buy lot in Ancaster.

Our Alley Cats bowlers and coaches will be back on the lanes in early September.



Meadowlands University Plaza
Best Buy
Ancaster and Dundas

CIVITAN

CLOSET CLEANOUT

9am - 12pm
Saturday

November 8

**donations of clothing and textiles in
clear plastic bags please
(bedding, towels, curtains, etc,)**

**The Dundas District Civitan Club,
supporting our community through
Special Olympics, The Dundas
Learning Centre, and other
initiatives.**



London Middlesex Civitan Club - #2383 President Darrell Blackwell

Midland Civitan Club - #1959 Mike Tinney

The Club continues to work hard. The club made donations for travel expenses for a Community Living Huronia pickle ball team, Georgian Bay Food Network, Vox community choir and the club annual Canadian Foundation Bursaries. Working at bingos allows the club to make these generous donations.

The club had a great turnout for the Adopt A Highway event and their efforts were noticed by several members in the community – such great work for a great cause.

The club also participated in two Seniors Information Day in Penetanguishene and Midland, Community Living Huronia mini putt event, the Canada Day parade, 50/50 ticket draw on Canada Day, Community Living Baseball Tournament and Stuff a Bus.



ASKENNONIAS 16TH ANNUAL SENIORS ACTIVE LIVING FAIR



Obituaries

Midland Civitan Club remembers:



It is with deep sorrow that the family of **Thomas Richard Zummach** announces his passing on June 2nd 2025, at the age of 69.

Born September 28, 1955, Tom is survived by his loving wife of nearly 49 years, Aileen Marie Zummach (nee Burtch). He was the proud and devoted father of Carrie-Lynn Zummach, Christine Marie Zummach, and Catherine June Zummach.

Cherished grandfather of Alexis, Bryor, Reign, Tierney, and Reagen. Adored great-grandfather of Octavia. Tom is also survived by his sister Betty-Jane Lacroix and brother Jim Zummach, and many extended family members and friends who will miss him dearly.

Tom graduated from Georgian College in 1976 and went on to serve his community as an auxiliary Ontario Provincial Police Sargent for 40 years. He later worked for the County of Simcoe as a case worker and fraud investigator with Ontario Works, where his integrity and compassion made a lasting impact.

In addition to his public service, Tom was a proud member of the O.P.P. Pipes and Drums division for 25 years, where he shared his passion for music and fellowship.

Above all, Tom will be remembered as a devoted husband, father, papa, son, brother, and friend. His legacy of love, service, and kindness lives on in those who knew him and loved him.

A celebration of Tom's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to The Canadian Cancer Foundation or the Civitan Club Special Olympics.

"Do Not Stand at My Grave and Weep" by Mary Elizabeth Frye



Do not stand at my grave and weep,
I am not there; I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow.



DESROCHES, Cleo Maurice — July 17, 1940 – July 16, 2025

Midland Civitan Club remembers:

Cleo passed away at the Georgian Bay General Hospital on July 16th at the age of 84.



Son of Lucien & Yvonne Desroches, he will be sadly missed by his long-time companion of 47 years Brenda Buttineau, her daughter Kim & Richard, 2 grandchildren & 2 great grandchildren, by his 2 brothers Gabriel & Marc Desroches of Penetanguishene & his sister Murielle Roy of Midland.

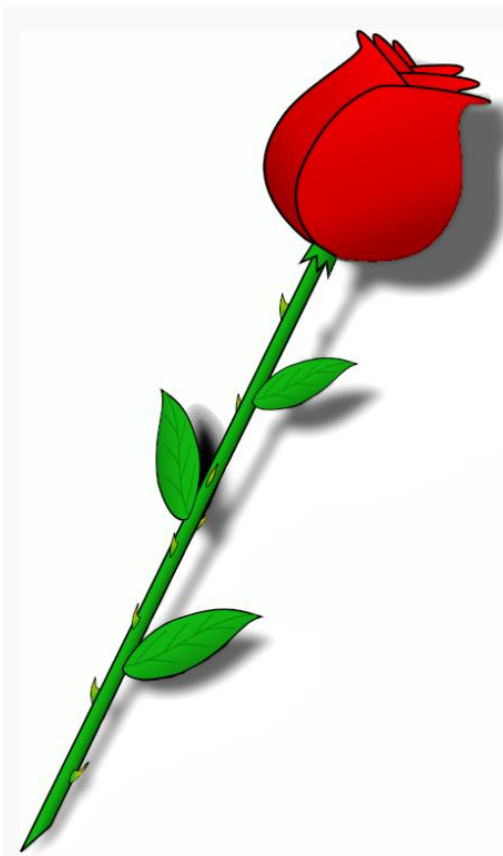
He was a member of Civitan club for more than 50 years and a 4th degree knight of Columbus. He worked for Sergeants ready mix for 33 years.

He will be missed by his many nieces & nephews and his music friends.

A memorial service was held at St. Ann's Church in Penetanguishene Ontario on August 9th followed by a Celebration on Life held at the Penetanguishene Legion.

Their Memory Stays

Although they have passed on,
Their memory forever stays.
Remember how they smiled,
And the joy they always gave.
We'll miss them all the time,
And think of them every day.
Their love filled the world -
A love that will never fade.



PAT MCKINNEY