

Annual poppy drive getting revved up at Legion

By Ed Collins

Remembrance Day: It is fast approaching. We start our poppy campaign Oct. 26, so watch out for us at your favorite stores. This is the Legion's only campaign for funds, and it is what we Legionnaires are all about. The money we collect is put in a trust fund and is only used for the benefit of veterans, ex-service members and their dependents. We will be holding our Remembrance Day service on Sunday November 11 at 11 a.m., at our new cenotaph. Everyone is welcome.

Attention all veterans: We will be holding a veterans dinner soon, so if you are a veteran, or know of one (doesn't have to be a member), let us know. This is free to all local veterans and their spouses. We will be sending out invitations, so we will need addresses for non-members. Phone Joyce at 431-9231, or Maggie at 456-7293.

Maritime dinner and dance: We will be holding a Maritime dinner dance Friday December 2, starting at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome. The admission is pot luck, so if you want to

attend just bring your favourite dish, and share it with us. Maggie is making fish and bruise, if you are familiar with that, it is a Newfie dish. You don't have to be fancy, a simple dish, salad, desert, bag of chips, buns or whatever. Bill Van Berkel will be providing the music, whether it be karaoke or your requests. If you can't make the dinner, come out later and enjoy the music.

Saturday meat draws: Come on out Saturday afternoons and get in on the meat draw. Everyone is welcome. We have lots of

good cuts of meat, and the tickets are only \$2 each. You can't win if you don't enter. Lots of fun, good friends, and comradeship. I think I already said that, but what the hey?

Monday night darts: Regular darts are held Mondays at 7 p.m., and usually lasts about two hours. Come on out and join in, we need players of all caliber. Everyone is welcome, you do not have to be a member for our regular darts.

Thursday euchre: Every Thursday afternoon, starting at 1 p.m., we have regular

and bid euchre. Followed by snacks. Everyone is welcome.

Branch Hours: are 2 to 7 Fridays and Saturdays, and 1 to 5 Sundays. New members are especially welcome, so come on in and get your application form the next time you are in the neighborhood.

Hall rentals: Think of us the next time you are planning a party. Our newly renovated hall is large enough for 70 people, or two rooms for over 100.

The lounge is a perfect place to hold informal business meetings, birthday

parties, etc., in a nice relaxed non-smoking atmosphere. The rent is reasonable, it includes a 'Smart Serve' bartender, so you don't need a banquet permit. We also have a DJ available for your entertainment needs. This is the best bargain in town! Word is getting around, so if you are planning a special night, you had better check us out.

Phone 431-9231, or 456-2531 during business hours for more information, or leave a message and someone will get back to you.

Library reaches record circulation numbers

By Janine Harris-Wheatley

How does a library measure success? The number of items circulated is not the sole indicator of how well a library is serving its community but it does help to measure the impact of new initiatives and service enhancements.

Essa Public Library Branches in Angus and Thornton celebrated Canadian Library Month

this October by setting a new record for circulation. From January 2007 to the end of Ontario Public Library Week 2007, more items had been borrowed from the two branches than in all of 2006. This 26 per cent increase is on top of the 100 per cent increase that occurred between 2004 and 2006.

The dedication of the library staff combined with the support and commitment

of the library board and Essa Township council has allowed the library to make its services more responsive to community needs.

An increased collection budget now supplies a bigger and better selection of books, movies, and audio books.

The open hours have increased by five hours in Angus and nine hours in Thornton, following residents' requests for the

branches to be open at more convenient times.

To provide an opportunity for both kindergarten streams, Storytimes are now being held two mornings a week in each branch location.

The community has responded enthusiastically to these improvements.

In Angus, plans are proceeding for a new 10,000 square foot branch, to be built at the Angus

Recreation Centre. In Thornton, the Thornton Action Committee and the Thornton Hydro Fund joined with the municipality to fund a library expansion to provide the new Thornton Community Room and more space to house a growing collection.

Circulation is important but success is also measured by the number of people who visit the library in person or through our

website to study or work on school projects, find information on the internet, ask staff for reference help or advice on books to read, exchange e-mail with their grandchildren, settle into a comfy chair to read a book, download an audio book to their MP3 player, hold meetings, and chat with friends.

For more information on the Essa library, visit www.essa.library.on.ca.

County books it with new website

The County of Simcoe Library Cooperative has announced the launch of a new service - electronic audio books.

Library patrons with a valid card can log onto the new PULSE (Public Libraries Sharing E-Media) website to browse the collection.

They can also check out and download a wide variety of titles to their computers. The audio books can be accessed anytime, anywhere at no cost to patrons.

The collection includes both fiction and non-fiction titles as well as books for children and young adults. All genres are available including romance, mystery, suspense, fantasy, science fiction and western.

The audio books may be checked out for two weeks and at the end of the lending period, they expire from the patron's computer and are automatically "returned" to the Pulse digital collection. Library holds can be placed on titles that are checked out to other patrons.

"This is a terrific new service and we are excited to be able to offer this to county library patrons," said Jane Sinclair, the county's health and cultural services general manager. "This is a leading edge service with many great features. The

digital books cannot be damaged and patrons will never incur any overdue fines. The service is free, easy to use, and accessible 24/7."

The official launch took place across the county Oct. 16, to coincide with Ontario Public Library Week. Individual libraries in our member municipalities celebrated the launch of this new service with specific events at several of their facilities.

Users must first download and install the service's overdrive media console and then they are free to select from the

growing list of titles.

The digital audio books can be transferred to a compatible MP3 player and some can even be copied to CD.

The technology is provided by Overdrive, Inc., a leading provider of digital media.

The service is funded by the library cooperative with additional financial support from a number of member libraries.

Participating public libraries include Bradford West Gwillimbury, Essa, Innisfil and New Tecumseth.

For more, visit www.pulse.simcoe.ca.

Our new phone number at the Innisfil Scope is

1-888-559-2287



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Artist celebrated 25 years

By Susan Stein

Michael Foers at the Gallery on Queen held an exclusive exhibit and sale celebrating 25 years of his painting on Friday October 19.

Titled Michael Foers - A Retrospective, the large and small canvases depicted the artist's love for the forests, bush, and ponds.

Vibrant colours of hues of red, brown,

bring out the essence of Fall's beauty and the subtle colours of Water Lilly Pads and ponds depict nature's tranquility. Michael paints on location, or uses some of his earlier small paintings in creating his new works. Many thanks to gallery owner Ingrid Schienke for hosting this gala event, for giving arts lovers the opportunity to view these masterworks.

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Sunday November 4
2pm • \$25*

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RAY CHARLES

Presented by
Genius & Soul

Saturday
October 27
8pm • \$30*

Play Reading:
STORM WARNING
with David Nairn
and Colleen Williams
Sunday October 28
2pm • \$20*

*plus applicable GST

This Week's Lottery Winner: Deanna Kerr, Oct 2 ticket #994

705-435-2828 www.gibsoncentre.com

The Gibson Centre is an 1889 heritage building that began its life as a factory. Located at 63 Tupper St. W., Alliston, it has been transformed into a Centre for community, arts & culture and offers a performance hall, banquet facilities, art gallery, cafe, studio spaces, Seniors centre and much, much more. Come and experience the transformation. From Factory...to Fabulous!!