

Spring Activities



At last we're reaching the end of this winter's snowfalls, ice storms, high winds, days of shovelling and having to dress in layers of clothing. What's your favourite aspect of spring? Is it simply the ease of getting around? How about walking trails without being attacked by biting insects? Or choosing plant seedlings for pots to beautify your home? Maybe rewarding yourself with a favourite beverage outside on a patio? Are you a birder who loves to hear and spot beautiful migrants as they return or pass through? I think we're all looking forward to getting out into a gentler nature, watching the last of the snow melt, inhaling the fresh air, seeing early spring wildflowers, and getting back to our gardens. We'll return to strolling down charming streets, going to cafés, bakeries and restaurants, considering the new offerings in shops,

enjoying new or favourite attractions, and planning stays in resorts and B&Bs.

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In this Issue

Our features this issue are on a variety of topics and locations. Greg Noakes of Georgetown shares some of his beautiful photos of plants and animals. I'm always impressed by nature photographers' patience in getting a lovely subject, and having the technical ability to get an impressive capture.

If you're interested in learning about Ojibwe language, history and culture, Ojibwe Cultural Foundation in M'Chigeeng on Manitoulin Island is well worth the visit. You can even participate in their crafting sessions, as they're open to everyone. You don't need great skills or abilities to take part. If

you can't handle tiny beads, they have "pony" beads that are easier to use.

If there's an animal that simply terrifies you, and you're unable to enjoy the outdoors in case you encounter it, there's hope. Our feature on the most commonly feared animal has suggestions for how to overcome a debilitating phobia. A bit of knowledge has helped me get over an unreasonable fear of frogs and toads.

There have been big changes at Happily Ever Esther Farm Sanctuary (HEEFS), formerly in Campbellville. HEEFS has moved to a larger property in Sheffield, and the original Campbellville farm has resumed its old name of Cedar Brook Farm, with an interesting new mission. Many more farmed animals will be helped as a result. These developments are detailed by Sue Horner.

The United States


Political developments to the south of us have meant that we are unable to mail the

magazine to our subscribers in the U.S. Due to an executive order by Donald Trump, the traditional duty-free "*de minimus*" threshold of US\$800 was suspended indefinitely. All such postal shipments to the U.S. now require additional payments before crossing the border, regardless of value. We are unwilling to support this administrative and financial burden, and have reluctantly suspended mailing paper copies. We look forward to this restriction being eliminated, and being able to resume mailing our magazine to our U.S. subscribers. Meanwhile, we are offering them early free access to electronic copies of our issues. We regret the cause of this disruption in service.


Gloria Hildebrandt
P.S. Wild animals need wild spaces.

The offices of *Niagara Escarpment Views* are located on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, specifically The Ajetance Treaty No. 19, of 1818, when Chief Ajetance sold the lands to the Indian Department of the government.

Let us know what you think!


Write us at editor@NEViews.ca or
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