

The Tweed News

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH



WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

Vol.138, No. 10

Since 1887

Wednesday, March 6, 2024



The Tweed News/RODGER HANNA

Moira Place welcomes international team

Moira Place Long-Term Care Home in Tweed welcomed four internationally trained nurses to their staff on February 12, 2024, with two more coming in the near future. On hand for the celebration were, from left, Hasani Brissett, Vice President of Business Development, Medex Health Services, Michael O’Keeffe, Administrator, Moira Place Long Term Care Home, Cheryl Kerr, Founder and President, Medex Health Services, Ray Barlow, Vice President, AON Inc., Camile Patterson, Medex, nurses, Ester Mbura, Ester Kwofie, Jane Karanja and Faith Karinge, Linda Facey, Director of Care, Moira Place Long Term Care Home, Don DeGenova, Mayor, Municipality of Tweed, and April Coulter, Corporate Nursing Consultant, AON Inc.

Municipality of Tweed Council briefs

By LACY MEEKS
The Tweed News

The Municipality of Tweed held a Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, February 27th, beginning with Open Remarks from Mayor Don DeGenova who shared that Council had recently engaged in a conference call with Ms. Aryn Azzopardi, Chief of Staff for Minister Surma, Ministry of Infrastructure, regarding comments made by the mayor during the February 13th, Council Meeting. “Ms. Azzopardi noted that Minister Surma did not say she supported our 17.8% tax increase during

our delegation. I noted it was a matter of semantics because Minister Surma did note that she supported our efforts to address our financial dilemma, which was based on our tax increase. I would like to note that Ms. Azzopardi was very courteous and wonderful to deal with. We appreciated her reaching out and I noted that I would make it clear that Minister Surma did not say “I support your 17.8% tax increase,” explained DeGenova. “Ms. Azzopardi requested a copy of our letter to Minister Surma and she would see what she could do to help us. We look forward

to hearing from Minister Surma,” he continued.

DeGenova thanked the organizers of the Tweed Winter Carnival for their efforts in bringing a jam-packed weekend of fun activities to the community. “It has been a dark and gloomy winter and we are grateful to you for having brightened our days,” said DeGenova.

He also shared details regarding a meeting with Mike Labbe, Founder and CEO of Home Opportunities. “Home Opportunities strives to develop housing that is accessible to everyone and strengthens
Continued on page B2

International nursing at Moira Place LTCH

By RODGER HANNA
The Tweed News

Four internationally trained nurses, with two others coming, have joined forces at Moira Place Long Term Care Home in Tweed to help solve the ever growing gap in the health care field.

Cheryl Kerr, Founder and President of Medex Health Services purchased a home in Tweed so the nurses have a place to stay when working at Moira Place. The nurses, three from Kenya and the other from Ghana, started working at Moira Place on February 12, 2024. There will be an additional two nurses coming to Moira Place in the near future. Medex Health Services provides innovative rehabilitation and homecare services which are delivered, not only in larger Municipalities but to small towns throughout Ontario. Their mission is to deliver superior services at the highest level of quality, always placing our client needs first.

Hasani Brissett, Vice President of Business Development, Medex Health Services, explained “in order to address gaps in the health care system we worked with AON (Moira Place’s parent company), the Ministry of Health to bring in internationally trained health care professionals to meet the service gaps in health care.” Kerr acknowledged that in the rural areas it is hard to find staff for the positions that are required and she purchased a home in the village so the nurses could walk to work. The nurses are highly proficient in English and have a three year commitment at Moira Place. The four nurses are excited to work in Tweed at Moira Place as they are looking for new opportunities. They are

also given the opportunity to become permanent residents. The work at Moira Place is full time and all shifts. Kerr also noted that Eastern Ontario and Northern Ontario are locations that are finding it hard to fill some of the positions for nursing. All four nurses have been in Canada for approximately 6 months with Moira Place giving them the opportunity as well as helping them acclimatize to their new surroundings. The nurses acknowledged that a young student going to school at Tweed Elementary School rode his bike past their home and in doing so welcomed them to the community. They thought this was a very nice gesture.

Ray Barlow, Vice President, AON, added that they have solved staff housing and care in Tweed. Michael O’Keeffe, Administrator, Moira Place commented “we have a new partnership.”

Barlow explained that this is an innovative system put in place with the skilled nurses from their respective countries. Housing in rural Ontario is an issue and there is a pressing need for staff.

To prepare the nurses for their job at Moira Place they took a 16 hour, two day training and orientation course to help them, and make sure they are consistent with the services that AON and Moira Place have.

Barlow and Kerr met at a health care conference where Barlow pitched the idea to
Continued on page B3



The Tweed News/SHANNON BINDER

Loss of trees at Tweed Memorial Park

The removal of Emerald Ash Borer infested ash trees at Tweed Memorial Park has had a devastating effect on the area with approximately 55 trees cut down the last week in February. More information and photos on page A5.



Open 7 Days a Week

Olympia Cannabis



Tweed
613.478.4848
233 Victoria St
N, Tweed, ON
K0K 3J0

Madoc
613.473.4949
15 Durham St
S, Madoc, ON
K0K 2K0

Shop in-store or online
www.olympiacannabis.ca

International nursing at Moira Place LTCH

Continued from front page
Kerr as she has worked with international health care professionals for years.

O’Keeffe noted three of the four nurses are Registered Nurses with the other nurse a Personal Support Worker. They will work as Personal Support Workers and then after two years, the three Registered

Nurses can become certified in the province after testing. O’Keeffe noted of the challenges retaining PSW’s through the pandemic, not unlike every other business. “These nurses will help fill the void,” said O’Keeffe.

O’Keeffe stated that Moira Place has been using agencies since October 2020 for RN’s and PSW’s. Moira

Place had no issues of hiring prior to 2020, they never used an hour of an agency before the pandemic. “This feels like the new normal,” said O’Keeffe.

The nurses are learning on the job necessities required for the residents of Moira Place, while giving them the time they need to make their time there comfortable.



The Tweed News/RODGER HANNA

The new internationally trained nurses who have joined the staff of Moira Place Long-Term Care Home in Tweed. They started on February 12, 2024 and will offer their services to the residents of Moira Place. From left are Ester Mbura from Kenya, Ester Kwofie from Ghana, Faith Karinge from Kenya and Jane Karanja from Kenya.

The Tweed News DAYS GONE BY

50 Years Ago: March 6, 1974

Club obtains first aid sled - Snowmobile rescue and first aid sled, made by Morton’s Garage in Tweed has been obtained by members of the Wanderers Snowmobile Club of Stoco, in a united effort with the Tweed E.M.O. The sled, to be equipped with a first aid kit, sleeping bag, chains and a limited food supply, will be used in the case of trail accidents and emergencies such as storms, and disasters, that may occur in the community. There is space on the back of the sled for an attendant who will take care of an injured person who is being moved on the sled.

Jack Fisher remembered in special ceremony - Jack Fisher, a former hockey and sports enthusiast, was remembered by his family and friends on Friday night, March 1st, when a new solid state time clock and suitably engraved plaque were dedicated to good sportsmanship, in his memory, during a brief but impressive ceremony at the Tweed Hungerford Community Centre.

Tweed Juveniles lead 3-1 in quarter finals - The Tweed Juveniles are leading Stirling 3-1 in a 4 of 7 quarter final series. They blasted Stirling 11-2 Friday night in Tweed and came back to defeat Stirling 7-2 Saturday in Stirling. The next game is in Tweed. Saturday was a crucial game in Stirling. The game was close in the first two periods. At the 16 minute mark of the first period Jim “Boomer” Boyle scored. In the second Ray Murphy scored to extend the lead. In the third Tweed got 5 goals to Stirling 1, winning 7-2. Saturday night game against Brighton.

25 Years Ago: March 10, 1999

Second major snowstorm sails through Municipality - March most definitely roared in like a lion, leaving behind drifting snow and more than 30 cm of the white stuff for local road crews to deal with. Municipal road crews spent about 19 hours clearing Tweed’s roads while part of highway 401 was closed to travellers off and on all day Thursday. “We were one of the few municipalities that kept our trucks on the road,“ says Tweed Clerk Treasurer Gary Thompson, adding the municipal grader was pulled off the road because the snow was too heavy for it to push.

BIA looks to council for help recovering past due levies from local merchants - Overdue levies have been dogging Tweed’s Business Improvement Association (BIA) for some time now and municipal council has been asked to help. However, council members say they can be of very little assistance. On behalf of the BIA, Councillor Len DaSilva asked if there is any assistance they could give the association in collecting these overdue funds.

North Addington senior girls volleyball team wins COSSA tournament - The North Addington Education Centre (NAEC) senior girls volleyball team were tops after taking first place in COSSA Single ‘A’ play last week. Now, to the delight of coach Ron Pethick, the senior girls are off to OFFSA at St. Mary’s School in London, on March 9, 10 and 11. NAEC hosted the March 2 tournament which saw the junior girls team tie for third place. Schools who participated in the event were Quinte Christian, Haliburton Highlands, Port Hope’s Trinity College and Peterborough’s Holy Cross.

Church Services



ST. JOHN’S UNITED CHURCH

26 Spring St. E., Tweed

SUNDAY SERVICE

11 a.m. • Elevator Available



ST. ANDREW’S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

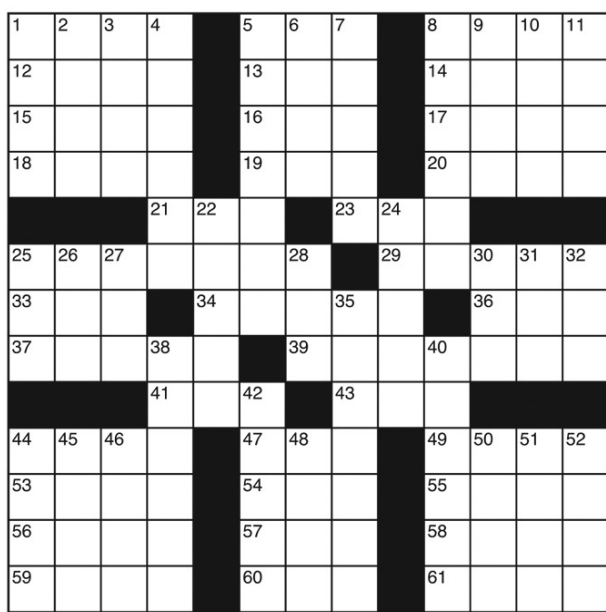
55 Victoria St., Tweed

Join us for **Sunday Services at 10:00 a.m.**
Sunday School during service.

Enjoy coffee and fellowship after worship.

CROSSWORD

PUZZLE NO. 223



Copyright © 2024, Penny Press

- 26. Corn portion
- 27. Have being
- 28. Slurp
- 30. Birthday-candle count
- 31. Pro’s partner
- 32. Baby
- 35. Grove products
- 38. Throws out
- 40. Grinned
- 42. Morning program
- 44. Farm measurement
- 45. Make beer
- 46. Come in last
- 48. Clean
- 50. Lawn tunneler
- 51. Sit for a photo
- 52. Flower stalk

ACROSS

- 1. Nearly all
- 5. Colony insect
- 8. Shark film
- 12. Poker payment
- 13. Herbal _____
- 14. Resound
- 15. Piggy’s dinner
- 16. Large amount
- 17. Lean-to
- 18. Sort
- 19. Squid fluid
- 20. Wallet items
- 21. Go astray
- 23. Bring legal action
- 25. Dog chains
- 29. Piece of land
- 33. Rowboat need
- 34. Foolish person
- 36. Moo _____ gai pan

- 37. Envy’s color
- 39. Gift
- 41. Write hastily
- 43. Furnish weapons to
- 44. Fit
- 47. To each his _____
- 49. Mischievous ones
- 53. Gator’s cousin
- 54. Remove sand
- 55. Plunder
- 56. Relaxation
- 57. Tarzan’s chum
- 58. Alternative word
- 59. They go baa
- 60. Affirmative
- 61. Reckon

DOWN

- 1. Sail pole
- 2. Nothing more than
- 3. Hinder
- 4. Wigwams’ kin
- 5. Dressed
- 6. Electric sign gas
- 7. Military vehicles
- 8. Court clown
- 9. Tooth problem
- 10. “_____ Harry Met Sally . . .”
- 11. Puts down grass
- 22. Horned mammal, briefly
- 24. Express
- 25. Register

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 223



CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWERS
USE AMERICAN SPELLING



ROSEBUSH PROPANE

- Affordable tank rentals
- Free tank installation
- Fuel always delivered on time

Locally Owned & Operated • 613-966-1372 • www.rosebushfuels.ca

