



NOTICE

TOWNSHIP OF
ALNWICK/HALDIMAND

The Township of Alnwick/Haldimand has submitted by-laws to the Registrar of the *Cemeteries Act (Revised)*, **Maclain (Bethany) United Church, Bethesda North United Church and Centenary Cemeteries**. Any interested parties may contact Robin van de Moosdyk, Clerk at 905-349-2822 (ext. #32) for information, or to make copies.

These by-laws are subject to the approval of the Registrar, *Cemeteries Act (Revised)*.

KAREN LONGWELL / THE INDEPENDENT
CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP -- Fire crews were called to a structure fire at Steacy Dismantling, 170 County Road 25, near Colborne, on Oct. 20.

Cramahe fire evacuees raise concerns on process

INDEPENDENT 04.25/12
Owner plans to rebuild

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CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP -- Early Saturday morning, John Jouvstra woke to the sound of his dog barking. A large fire broke out at the hydro transformer recycling facility across the road from his and wife Jennifer's home on County Road 25. The house shook with explosions during the fire at Gary Steacy Dismantling Inc., said Mr. Jouvstra. About an hour later at 7:30 a.m., there was a knock on the door and an OPP officer ordered the family out of the house as quickly as possible. But they were never told when they could return. The residence was one of two homes evacuated in the fire on Oct. 20. Mr. Jouvstra said they had no idea how long they were meant to be away from their house. There was a sense of urgency and they rushed out of the home. On Sunday morning they still didn't know if the evacuation order was lifted, but they returned home on Saturday evening. Fire crews left the scene around 6 p.m. on Saturday. "We were never told (when to return) and we still don't know," said Mr. Jouvstra on Sunday. "We didn't know what to do." The OPP was acting on behalf of the fire department, said Northumberland OPP Constable Karen German. "Our paramount interest is public safety," said Const. German. Initially there were concerns about PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyl) on site, she said. There were ramp closures to both east and westbound lanes of Hwy. 401 at County Road 25 and the OPP implemented Shelter in Place, meaning nearby residences were asked to stay indoors. Later, Fire Chief Brandon Northrup said the fire was contained to one building, which did not contain PCBs. Chief Northrup said the situation could have been much worse had the wind been

blowing the opposite direction. The Town of Colborne could have been evacuated, he said. A state of emergency was not declared, but if it had been there would have been a central evacuation point such as the Keeler Centre, he added. The evacuation on Oct. 20 was a joint effort between the fire department and the OPP, he said. The OPP acted quickly and he understood the people evacuated would leave temporarily, said Chief Northrup. The danger was over when the smoke dissipated, he said. Cramahe Township Mayor Marc Coombs said the evacuation and road closure went smoothly. The fire department, OPP and town crews worked to close roads and secure the scene, he said. The OPP visited homes to advise residents of the situation, he added. Residents who had concerns about the evacuation and air quality could have contacted their representative on council or the fire department, he said. Mr. Jouvstra said he knows Mr. Steacy and trusts his operation. He doesn't have concerns about the business and wished Mr. Steacy well in the future clean-up and rebuilding. "It's going to be a big job," he said. The clean-up was well underway on Sunday and Mr. Steacy said he does plan to rebuild. In 28 years of operation, he has never had a fire. Chief Northrup said the cause is still under investigation, but lightning is a possibility. The building was for storage and contained metals, two fork lifts, tires and hydro transformers, said Mr. Steacy. He estimates the damage at more than \$500,000. He currently employs 19 people and wants to ensure they continue to have jobs. "We are like a small family here," he said. Employees came immediately to help Mr. Steacy and continued to work on Sunday and Monday, he said. Mr. Steacy praised the work of the fire crews who came from Cobourg, Brighton and Cramahe to battle the blaze. "The firefighters did an excellent job," he said. Chief Northrup commended Mr. Steacy, his staff and Ed Dekeyser of Dekeyser Excavating for assisting the fire department.

NORTHUMBERLAND UNITED WAY Harvest Stew event offers dizzying variety

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY
CECILIA NASMITH 04.25/12
Northumberland Today

COLBORNE -- The annual Harvest Stew Competition that Northumberland Big Brothers Big Sisters organizes for United Way just seems to get more exotic each year, with a spicy goat curry and dumplings taking one of the top prizes at this year's event. But amid all the fun, some serious good work was done -- some \$900 raised for the cause. With Brighton and Colborne businesses donating everything from plates to buns, it was truly a community effort. In its 13-year history, communications co-ordinator Sophie Kneisel added, the event has raised a total of \$15,000 for United Way. Some 80 people showed up for lunch at the Colborne Legion and the chance to try a dizzying array of stews topped off by home-made desserts. Judging duties were performed by campaign co-chairs Mark Holmes (of Northumberland Today) and Peter Dounoukos (of Northumberland News), along with Donna Rusaw of Black Dress Catering and former Northumberland Big Brothers Big Sisters board member Cindy Stewart and her partner Peter LaBrash (who has catering experience of his own). Twelve individual and 11 commercial entries from businesses, restaurants and community groups were tried and tasted in three categories: traditional, international and most-original. Prizes for first-, second- and third-place winners were a Hoselton sculpture, a \$20 gift certificate from Cobourg's Leclerc's Butcher Shop and United Way bowls, respectively. The winner's list was released last week.

- Commercial division, original: Trinity College School's Goat Curry with Dumplings first, McAllister's Stout 'n' Steer second, and Dutch Oven's Here's The Beef third.
- Individual division, traditional: Min Naylor's Best o' Beef first, Cheryl Langdon's Hearty Beef second, and Helen Lawrie's Just Beans third.
- Individual division, international: Sophie Kneisel's Thai One On first, Barb Keenan's Pulled Pork with Biscuits second, and Melissa Charles's Mexican Pork Melange third.
- Individual division, original: Camilla Millar's Southwestern Stew first, Debbie Smith's Chicken Charmer second, and Betty Adams's Harvest Pork With Cider third.
- Commercial division, traditional: Grafton Village Inn's Big On Beef in first place, Town & Country Salon's Country Beef second, and Tip Top Realty's Over The Top third.
- Commercial division, international: Helen Charette Law's Old Mexican Beef (courtesy of Mary Charette) first, Gilligan's Pub's Irish Stew second, and Colborne Rotary's Hungarian Goulash third.

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