

# Gossip!

*Personal Notices, Announcements  
& Random Notes*

### Many Thanks....

Many a reader has inquired about the future of *The South Marysburgh Mirror* given my new responsibilities so I am pleased to let you know that I intend to keep publishing on a monthly basis.

Creation and distribution of The Mirror has had to take a back seat during the past several months due to adjusting to my new schedule but should return to normal in the new year. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Many thanks to *The Mirror's* many supporters—advertisers, generous donors, Shirley at Canada Post in Milford, and Heather, Kathy and everyone else at Printcraft. Particular thanks go to you, the readers, for your ongoing interest and enthusiasm for *The Mirror*.

To everyone, all the best for Christmas and the holiday season, and for a happy and healthy 2019!

### Vicki's Back...not that she ever went away

Ms. Emlaw informs that she will be returning to her figurative roots by reviving Vicki's Veggies. The May long weekend will see the return of the tomato seedling sale at the original V V location that she has rented from the new owner of the property. More information is available at [Vickiveggies.weebly.com](http://Vickiveggies.weebly.com)

For anyone who has bought what grocery stores call tomatoes during the past several months, Vicki's return is very good news!

### Daffodil Phones & Party Lines....

... are long gone, replaced by 'devices', social media, 'platforms', and other communications tools.

For anyone confused about all the latest tech tools—or for anyone in need of another refresher course about how to use them—the Milford Library can offer assistance (or a rescue) if so needed. More information is contained in the library column elsewhere in this issue.



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## Local Maple Syrup for Sale

Wilbur Miller  
119 County Road 16  
Black River  
613.476.8350

## Sarah's Research Notes Insight, Information & Anecdotes About Nelson Hicks' Journal Entries

*This month, in the tradition of South Marysburgh Christmas socializing, we transcribed Nelson Hicks diary as a group, with tea: Vicki Emlaw, Liz Driver, Buffy Carruthers and yours truly. The research notes are from our blended experience.*

*First, the plucking and cleaning of birds for Christmas dinner. Vicki was in awe of Mirt for taking on the challenge of the ducks. Many of us have never plucked a bird, but Vicki says that ducks are the hardest. Their feathers are oilier with a gossamer layer to assist their life in cold water! This makes them messier and tougher to pluck. It requires a dunking in hot water, (the bird, not the plucker), but at just the right temperature, steaming not yet boiling, and for just the right amount of time; a very messy job. My grandfather always wore an apron and another source recommends that if you're married, you work on the bird outside!*

*Second, the tree. Nelson notes "Christmas tree at the bay". This was at South Bay church probably; he often describes going to church at the bay. Although there had been concerns about Christmas trees as a pagan tradition, by the 1920s Christmas trees were everywhere. Here's a Christmas tree light box from 1920's to put you in the mood.*





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