

NEWS
FROM BLYTH

From Marilyn's Desk



By Marilyn
Craig
Call
523-9318

On-site construction of the first phase of the Emergency Services Training Centre should begin soon with completion for July 15, the Blyth Business Association was told April 27.

Murray Black and David Sparling of the committee of firefighters building the centre said the scope of the project has snowballed as new needs and new sources of financial

support were developed. Sparling said the centre is now a regional facility. "Twenty-two guys (in the Blyth and District Fire Department) can't justify a three-quarter-million-dollar training facility."

Eventually the centre will take up four-and-a-half acres, he said, including five training centres and perhaps a sixth. Included will be a fire rescue centre, an auto extrication area, a water-rescue pond and a farm-rescue site.

Black said the desire for the centre came from need for more training for the firefighters. It's difficult to get enough time at the busy provincial training station at Gravenhurst, he said.

Black called the support in the form of donations "unreal", everything from fill for preparing the site to a portable classroom to

an older-model firetruck to be used onsite.

"When we started this I had no idea how much this was going to cost to I had no idea of how much people would donate," Black said.

Sparling said the group plans to keep the training centre busy and is seeking sponsorships to help keep the costs down for training.

People coming to Blyth for training will need places to stay and places to eat, Sparling said.

Though the economic spinoff effect for the community is important, "the real win at the end of the day for the firefighters is if you have a better trained firefighter, if you have training areas there for which there is no training now.

"If we're better trained we're doing ourselves a favour and we're doing you a favour," Sparling said.

There's still lots of money to be raised, Sparling said, and firefighters have made presentations to more than a dozen groups in seeking assistance.

The grand opening will be July 30 as part of the Firefighters' Association of Ontario convention.

BBA hears update on emergency training centre

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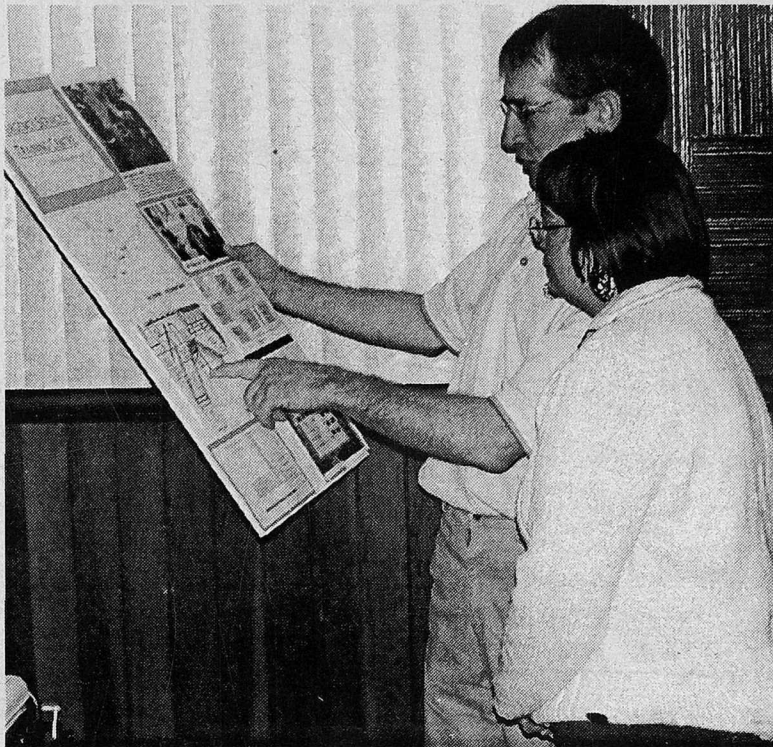
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Explaining the plans

Murray Black shows plans for the Blyth Emergency Training Centre to Lorna Fraser at the spring meeting of the Blyth Business Association, April 27. Black and David Sparling announced the grand opening of the centre will be on July 30. (Keith Roulston photo)

Celebrate Mother's Day with a family walk through nature

Celebrate Mothers' Day with a family walk at Naftel's Creek Conservation Area. The Maitland Valley Conservation Authority and the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund are hosting the walk on Sunday, May 9.

Staff from the Conservation Authority, along with volunteers from the Trust Fund and the Maitland Trail Association, will be leading walks through the property beginning at 2 p.m. Visitors are also welcome to pick up a trail map and explore the Conservation Area on their own.

Visitors will be able to see a variety of wildflowers and hear the calls of nesting songbirds. Naftel's

Creek Conservation Area is located on the east side of Hwy. 21, eight kms. south of Goderich.

The guided walks leave the parking lot. Light refreshments will be available for participants. Admission is free, donations to the John Hindmarsh Environmental Trust Fund will be gratefully accepted.

The Trust Fund supports community conservation projects being undertaken in partnership with the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority. For further information about Sneak a Peek at Spring contact the Maitland Valley Conservation Authority at 519-335-3557.

Yard Sale
Car Wash
Barbecue

Blyth Public School
Saturday, May 8
8 am - ??

Proceeds to
BPS Grade
8 Grad trip

Show her how much you care
WITH FLOWERS, PLANTS, HOME & GARDEN DECOR
from
Luann's Country Flowers & Gifts

409 Queen St., Blyth
523-4440 or 1-800-610-7757

We deliver from Blyth to Clinton, Brussels, Goderich & Wingham & most points in between. Free to funeral homes & hospitals in delivery area.
We will be open Sunday, May 9th from 11~4

Tasty Treats To Go

Let Mom Know How Much You Care!

Cookie Bouquet with Keepsake Mug	\$12.00
Chocolate Bouquet with Keepsake Mug	\$10.00
Happy Mother's Day Cake	
~ variety of flavours	\$15.00
Happy Mother's Day Cookie Gram	
~ large	\$10.00
~ small	\$5.00

To order call 523-4932

Mother's Day Buffet

Sunday, May 9
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

\$6⁹⁵
(Children 1/2 price)

Stickers Family Restaurant

Auburn 526-7759

Treat Mom to something special!

Escape the tensions of your everyday life with a peaceful retreat at our luxurious day spa. We offer sanctuary for the mind, body and spirit with a menu of relaxing services that will refresh you inside and out.

Spa Essentials
Invest in Yourself because you're worth it!

KELLY CLARK
Certified Esthetician
&
CARLA PAWITCH
Certified Esthetician

UPPER LEVEL 211 DINSLEY STREET, BLYTH
523-4793