

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE #15 – JANUARY 2026

MORE THAN HOMEWORK AND HALLWAYS

by Grant, Isla and Avery

Life as a student can be difficult, but high school has helped me grow as a person in many ways. Most of my time is spent in class working on assignments, studying, and trying to manage my time while staying organized.

Student life is really busy, with days packed full of classes, homework, and deadlines, but it's also a lot of fun. Even on stressful days, there is usually something to look forward to that makes it all worth it, like joking around with friends in the hallways, laughing at lunch, or working together on group projects.

Through high school, I have made many friends that I will be grateful for for the rest of my life. I have also learned important skills such as responsibility, patience, and how to work well with others.

Although balancing schoolwork can be exhausting at times, these experiences, memories, and friendships are helping prepare me for my future and the goals I want to achieve.



Our SG Giants travelled to Niagara Falls in November to attend the Ontario Student Leadership Conference, where they connected with peers, built leadership skills, and found inspiration.

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Newsletter created by SGDHS students Grant Emmell, Avery Griffin and Isla Shields.



CURBSIDE TREE COLLECTION

Christmas trees will be collected curbside in Cardinal, Johnstown, New Wexford and Spencerville from January 5 to 16, 2026. Place trees curbside by January 5 with all tinsel, plastic and decorations removed. Trees will also be accepted at the Scott Road Transfer Station in January at no charge.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

NEW CIP OPENS MORE DOORS FOR LOCAL PROJECTS



Council adopted a new Community Improvement Plan (CIP) on December 8, 2025. This Plan represents the most significant update to the Township's CIP in over a decade, replacing the former plans for the Villages of Cardinal (2012) and Spencerville (2013). With the entire Township now included in the Community Improvement Project Area, businesses, developers, and property owners across Edwardsburgh Cardinal can now access the programs.

With support from CF Grenville, the Township expanded its community engagement efforts during the development of this Plan. Working with NPG Consulting and Tim Welch Consulting, residents and stakeholders helped refine existing programs and shape new ones.

Popular programs like the Façade and Property Improvement Grant remain in place, while new supports address emerging needs. The new Signage Improvement Grant assists both commercial and home-based businesses with upgraded, street-facing signage. The Accessibility and Safety Renovation Grant helps improve public-facing spaces through upgrades such as ramps, automatic doors, widened entrances, and improved pathways.

Housing was a central focus. Informed by a dedicated housing workshop, the CIP includes funding to bring existing units into compliance with building or fire code, rebates for planning and building fees to support Additional Residential Units, and temporary tax relief for larger affordable housing projects.

The new CIP also introduces a more flexible funding model. Instead of a single \$10,000 cap per property, the Plan now provides up to \$10,000 per project, allowing property owners to apply for multiple projects over time.

Full program details are available at www.twpec.ca/CIP.



SCAN HERE
[twpec.ca/CIP](http://www.twpec.ca/CIP)



AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP WINS FOOD DRIVE CHALLENGE



TWPEC congratulates Augusta Township on winning the 2025 Tri Municipal Christmas Food Drive Challenge Cup. Augusta collected more than 2,000 pounds of food, including cash donations.

The announcement was made on Saturday, December 20, during a Christmas Open House at the South Grenville Food Bank. Community leaders and residents from all three municipalities gathered to celebrate another successful year of giving across South Grenville.

TWPEC thanks all donors and volunteers and congratulates the three municipalities for working together to support neighbours in need.

Photo credit: Jon Vickers Marshall/South Grenville Beacon
Augusta Mayor Jeff Shaver, Councillor Tanya Henry, Deputy Mayor Adrian Wynands and Councillor Hendrik Pape.

RECOGNITION



TWPEC STAFF SERVICE AWARDS

The Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal celebrated employee service milestones on Monday, November 24, 2025. Mayor Tory Deschamps welcomed employees and their guests and thanked them for their dedication to the community.

The Mayor highlighted the values that guide the Township. These values include integrity, collaboration, dedication, innovation and a strong commitment to public service. He noted that these values become real through the people who uphold them every day.

Mayor Deschamps shared that staff, employees and Council bring these values to life through their work. He stated, "Through challenges and lots of successes, our employees have shown what it means to believe in a vision and work hard together to make it happen."

The Township honoured the following employees for their years of service:

- Richard Lahaie, Recreation, 5 years
- Jay Simzer, Public Works, 10 years, unable to attend
- Vicki Cucman, Fire and Operations Administration, 20 years
- Richard McGuire, Public Works, 35 years

The Township thanks all employees for their continued dedication and their contributions to the residents of Edwardsburgh Cardinal.

COMMUNITY AWARDS CELEBRATE EXCELLENCE

In a ceremony held on December 4, TWPEC celebrated the recipients of the 2025 Community Awards. Each year, Council honours residents, volunteers and businesses whose dedication strengthens community life. This year's honourees represent exceptional leadership, service and community spirit across many areas of local life.

Canadian Rail Equipment Works and Services received Large Business of the Year for its major contribution to economic growth and skilled employment. Burchell's Home Hardware and Happy Little Farmstead were recognized as Small Businesses of the Year for their outstanding customer service, sustainable practices and strong community involvement.

Two organizations received Volunteer Group or Community Organization of the Year. The Spencerville Agricultural Society was recognized for its long history of volunteer leadership and the success of their 170th Spencerville Fair. The Cardinal Festival Committee was honoured for bringing family friendly events and celebrations to the community throughout the year.

Council also recognized the Johnstown Jewels U15 Girls Softball Team as Youth Citizen of the Year and honoured long time volunteer and community champion Sheila Bush as Citizen of the Year.

Read the full story:
twpec.ca/2025Awards

SCAN
HERE



RECREATION



EDWARDSBURGH CARDINAL TAKES ITS SHOT: SPENCERVILLE ARENA NOMINATED FOR KRAFT HOCKEYVILLE 2026

We are proud to announce the Township of Edwardsburgh Cardinal's official nomination of the Spencerville Arena for Kraft Hockeyville 2026, and we're calling on our whole community to join the rally.

For generations, the Spencerville Arena has been more than a rink. It's where early-morning practices became lifelong memories, where grandparents cheer from the same stands they once skated in, and where friendships form between seasons and generations.

This year, we are sharing our arena's story with Canada for a chance to win \$250,000 in arena improvements and an NHL pre-season game.

Share your story

During the nomination and rally phase in January and February, Kraft Hockeyville invites communities to submit stories. Stories can be 150 to 1,000 words or a video under two minutes.

Each story must answer three questions:

- How do we show passion and spirit for hockey? Think about volunteers, teams, fans, traditions, and how hockey brings people together.
- Why does the Spencerville Arena matter? Share what this arena means to you, your family, or our community
- How would our community use the \$250,000 to upgrade and improve the arena? Consider what upgrades would strengthen the arena for future generations.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN KRAFT HOCKEYVILLE

It only takes a few minutes to support the Spencerville Arena in this year's Kraft Hockeyville competition. Here is how you can take part.

1. Visit the Hockeyville website

Go to www.krafthockeyville.ca and search for "Spencerville Arena."

2. Create an account

The first time you visit our arena's page, you'll be asked to register. You only do this once.

3. Submit a story

Share why hockey matters here, why the arena is special, and how improvements would help.

4. Add photos, reactions and notes

These help earn rally points and support our nomination.

5. Spread the word

Invite family, friends, teammates, neighbours, and former residents to participate. Anyone can submit a story.

You can also upload photos or leave encouraging notes to help earn rally points. For full rules, visit www.krafthockeyville.ca.

Let's show Canada the heart behind our hometown rink. Together, we can help the Spencerville Arena take its shot at becoming Kraft Hockeyville 2026.



SCAN HERE

krafthockeyville.ca



The **SPENCERVILLE ARENA** could

**WIN AN NHL GAME
AND \$250,000**

in arena upgrades



Cheer on the Spencerville Arena by submitting your story, photos or notes at KRAFHOCKEYVILLE.CA