

# Willa Wick named Senior of the Year

**PATRICK RAFTIS**  
REPORTER

MINTO – Willa Wick has been named Senior of the Year for the Town of Minto.

Mayor Dave Turton announced the award at the June 6 town council meeting.

Wick was the town's nominee for a 2023 Ontario Senior of the Year Award.

The provincial program provides each municipality in Ontario the opportunity to honour one outstanding local citizen who, after the age of 65, "has enriched the social, cultural or civic life of his or her community."

"Willa Wick embodies the very essence of a senior citizen who is active and involved in her community, giving back and sharing her knowledge and gained experience with adults and youth alike," said Turton.

"She is the glue that holds several community committees together by being the chief communicator and author of wonderful and interesting newsletters."

A member of numerous community organizations, including the Harriston and District Horticultural Society, Harriston Historical Society and Carry On Women's Institute, Wick often takes on the task of chronicling and promoting local events with videos, photos and submissions to local publications.

"She is the recorder, both in word and pictures, of the events we hold and the celebrations that we participate in," said Turton.

"If there's an event happening in town, it is likely that Will will be there. Selling sandwiches and pies at Barry Gray's



Senior of the Year – Minto Mayor Dave Turton presents local resident Willa Wick with the 2023 Senior of the Year award at the June 6 council meeting. Submitted photo

auctions to support one group or another, taking the minutes for the horticultural group for many, many years ... helping to plant beds or planters to beautify the town, helping with the youth horticulture programs and at our libraries."

The mayor continued, "She is superb at organizing mystery tours for interested gardeners and can be found at many of the cultural events in town."

"She's a very valued member of our senior community and it is with great pride and appreciation for all of her enthusiasm and dedication that we, the council of the Town of Minto, present her with the Senior of the Year award on behalf of the province of Ontario and the Town of Minto."

Minto councillor Jean Anderson passed on congratulations to Wick from Senator Rob Black on her enthusiasm for volunteering.

Anderson, who is also president of the Harriston and District Horticultural Society, commented, "I wouldn't be able to be the president ... without Willa going 'We have a meeting coming up, and we have this coming up...'"

"She's at everything and she documents everything that goes on picture-wise."

Wick said the recognition came as "a complete surprise."

"I just do my thing. Wherever I can help, I try to," she stated.

"And if I can't, I try and stay out of the way."



Willa Wick recognized – Members of the Harriston and District Horticultural Society were on hand for the recognition of society member Willa Wick as Senior of the Year for the Town of Minto. From left: Mayor Dave Turton, Don Matthews, Alice Douglas, Linda Campbell, councillor Jean Anderson, Wick and Lorna Collins. Submitted photo



Student show – In collaboration with the Minto Arts Council, Norwell District Secondary School's senior art class is hosting the *Two Sides of Life's Coin* exhibition. The exhibition opened at the Minto Arts Gallery on the third floor of the Harriston Public Library at 88 Mill Street on June 6 and continues to June 17. Organizers explained the show is about the two sides of life, showing the dark and the light. It is group project in various media (performance, drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking and installation) created by the students in the Grade 12 Visual Arts class at Norwell DSS. Throughout the semester the students have been expressing their artistic vision in their own ways, officials say, exploring individually determined themes in the media of their choosing – yet all are connected to this over-arching idea of the "two sides of life's coin". For information visit [mintoartscouncil.ca](http://mintoartscouncil.ca). Submitted photos

# Major arts symposium to be held in Minto next May

Provincial event expected to draw over 100 participants

**PATRICK RAFTIS**  
REPORTER

MINTO – A province-wide performing arts symposium will be held in this community next spring.

The Reaseau SPARC (Supporting Arts in Rural and Remote Communities) Network will hold its biennial symposium in Minto from May 23 to 26, 2024, economic and community development director Belinda Wick-Graham advised council on June 6.

In early May, Minto treasurer Gordon Duff, a SPARC member, led a tour of group members around Minto to look at potential venues for the event.

"We are really happy to report that we will be hosting the 2024 summit here in Minto and they loved all of the venues they toured. So we're looking forward to hosting probably close to 100 people next spring," said Wick-Graham.

The conference is expect-



Arts symposium – The Harriston Town Hall theatre will be among the venues for a performing arts symposium to be held in the Town of Minto next spring. Photo by Patrick Raftis

ed to bring people to Minto from across Ontario and beyond to participate in workshops, seminars, tours and activities in venues including the Palmerston Community Centre, Palmerston Lions Heritage Park and Harriston

Town Hall Theatre. SPARC's mandate is to provide networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities for individuals, groups and organizations that make the performing arts happen in rural and remote areas.

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY**

SALES IN EFFECT  
**June 15-25**

**Adult Kuma Lazy Bear Camp Chairs**  
Asst Colours  
SKU 6335-400/463/824/825  
REG. \$149.99

**150cc 2500PSI Gas Pressure Washer**  
SKU 5049-746  
REG. \$349.99

**20V 3/8" Cordless Drill Kit**  
SKU 1239-221  
REG. \$69.99

**18V 4 Tool Cordless Combo Kit**  
SKU 1239-105  
REG. \$599.99

**36" x 12" Camp Fire Ring** SKU 5517-395  
REG. \$99.99

**16" x 20" Steel lawn Roller**  
SKU 5010-127  
REG. \$179.99

**20V 2 Tool Cordless Combo Kit**  
SKU 1239-153  
REG. \$149.99

**18V Bare 6 1/2" Circular Saw**  
SKU 1265-090  
REG. \$149.99

**18V 4 Tool Cordless Combo Kit**  
SKU 1239-105  
REG. \$599.99

**4 Burner 44000BTU Multi Function Propane BBO/Giddle**  
SKU 6421-260  
REG. \$979.99

**3 Burner 42000BTU Natural Gas BBO**  
SKU 6421-718

**\$119<sup>97</sup>**

**\$89<sup>97</sup>**

**\$949<sup>97</sup>**

**\$164<sup>97</sup>**

**\$39<sup>97</sup>**

**\$99<sup>97</sup>**

**\$99<sup>97</sup>**

**\$149<sup>97</sup>**

**\$12<sup>97</sup>**

**\$119<sup>97</sup>**

**SALE**

**\$100 to \$200 OFF**  
Select Traegers

**\$2 OFF**  
Rubs, Sauces & Pellets

**Young's Home hardware building centre**

**525 Main St N, Mount Forest**  
**519.323.1500**  
[www.homehardware.ca](http://www.homehardware.ca)  
**Open Mon-Fri 8-6 | Sat 8-5**  
Delivery available.  
Limited Quantities, No Rainchecks.

