





## Ongoing Communities in Bloom Initiatives

### Ryde Community Co-operative Inc.

c/o R Jorgensen  
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Visit our web-site at  
[www.rydecommunityco-op.com](http://www.rydecommunityco-op.com)

The **Communities in Bloom** project was a great success last year. The community garden between the fire hall and the school was rejuvenated and looked beautiful. This year we are looking for another group of volunteers to maintain this garden and the one along the front of the Community Centre, and perhaps initiate a new project. Anyone who is interested in this is asked to contact the local CIB coordinator **Carol Wagg** at **687-6992**, and a meeting time and date will be set.

As well, some of the properties in our community were selected for Daisy Awards last year by the judges. Let's see more this year and everyone get involved and show our Pride of Living in Ryde! ❖



## Fitness Classes

The next session of **Yoga with Judy** will be starting up on **Monday, April 25th** at 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm - cost will be determined based on the number of registered participants. If you are interested in attending **Tai Chi Classes** on **Saturday mornings** from 11:00 to 12:00, please contact

**Wendy** to express your interest. If we receive a minimum number of persons expressing interest, we will be holding a demonstration class - please contact **Wendy** at **687-4575** or [twsm.pilger@sympatico.ca](mailto:twsm.pilger@sympatico.ca) ❖

## A Mini-History of the Ryde Community Centre

Schools in **Barkway** -S.S.#1 - log schoolhouse (mid-1870's) was replaced with frame school (1902).

**Housey's Rapids** - S.S.#2 - log schoolhouse (1875) built on Lot 25, Conc. 7, replaced by new frame school 1904.

**Lewisham** - S.S.#3 - log school built in 1879 (Lot 10, Conc. 4), was burned and replaced by a frame structure in 1898 on Lot 5 Conc. 5 which was in use until 1949.

**Tryon's Corners** - S.S.#4 - Ceased prior to 1911, became a house, later burned

**Buck Lake** - S.S.#5 - log school built 1880, destroyed by a bush fire in 1881. Log house belonging to Mr. Chris Ruttan used as school until 1890 when the current frame building was

built. Closed June 1961 and pupils transported to Barkway or Housey's Rapids.

**S.S.#7** - Created by splitting S.S.#3 in 1886. Log school built, closed in 1908, eventually sold.

**Ryde Central School** opened 1962 and served students who had formerly attended at Barkway, Housey's Rapids and Buck Lake. Closed as a school in 2000 and taken over by the Town of Gravenhurst, used as a Community gathering place by agreement with the Town.

(Source - A Brief History of the Schools of Muskoka - Gary Dennis) ❖

### This Edition's Sponsor:



**Wit's End Bed and Breakfast** is entering its eighth season of offering accommodation to Muskoka visitors. Tourists and weekend getaways are a mainstay, but weddings, family reunions and local camps provide a lot of our clientele. People love our rural location, the view and the wildlife they see from our sunroom, interaction with other travelers they meet here in our home, and the local information we are able to share. They also enjoy our breakfast specialties which include our "Eggs in Phyllo Cups" and waffles with fresh fruit pictured on the cover of the Gravenhurst Visitor Guide this year. In 2004 we were voted "Best B&B in South Muskoka" by readers of *The Muskokan*. Accommodation Gift Certificates are available.

We are open year round by reservation. Perhaps you saw some of our XC ski workshops in progress this past winter. We'll be offering them once a month from December through February.

We invite you to stop in for a house and garden tour on **Sunday May 22** from 1-3pm. Refreshments will be served. **Wit's End Bed and Breakfast** Carol Wagg and Mike Caslin, 1611 Doe Lake Road, 687-6992 [www.witsendbb.com](http://www.witsendbb.com)

