

*This newsletter has been sent out monthly since 2005. See [www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html](http://www.tawalink.com/newsletters.html) for back issues.*

*Other sources of online community information in Tawa:*

*[www.neighbourly.co.nz](http://www.neighbourly.co.nz) • [www.facebook.com/VibrantTawa](http://www.facebook.com/VibrantTawa) • [www.facebook.com/tawacommunityboard](http://www.facebook.com/tawacommunityboard)*

## **HANGING BASKETS LOOKING GOOD**

Looking good! Well, they soon will be when the new lot of flowers are hung in place this coming Saturday, 30 June. And their future is a whole lot rosier, at least for another 12 months, thanks to the Tawa Business Group.

The Tawa Community Board has already voted \$1000 towards the cost of the hanging baskets over the next year, and the Tawa Business Group agreed a couple of weeks back to contribute \$1500 towards the baskets. Many thanks to both the community board and the business group for their support!

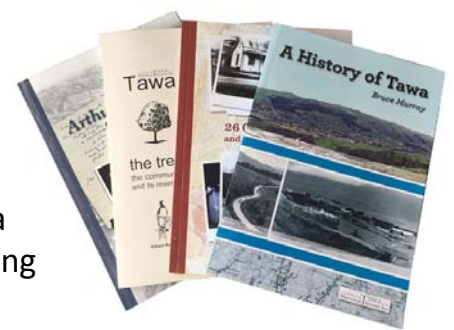


That will mean we look to the community for the remaining \$500 required over the next 12 months. Recent pledges of 'sponsorship' (if needed) for more than 40 baskets should take care of that.

The photo shows preparation for the first-ever round of baskets in late 2012, featuring (from left) Tawa Community Board members Robert Tredger and Chris Reading (both since retired), Brian Frampton whose ITM truck is used to hang the baskets, and Councillor (at the time) Justin Lester.

## **LAUNCH OF "THE MEXTEDS OF PLUCKLEY, KENT AND TAWA FLAT, WELLINGTON"**

The Mexteds were a long-established family of Kent in England, one of whom, George Alfred Mexted (1806-1881) made the decision, with his wife, to emigrate with their children in 1841. They took a 25,000 kilometre journey to spend the rest of their days in the young country of New Zealand, on the other side of the world.



The book not only looks at the Mexted family in New Zealand which sprang from George and Eliza Mexted who made Tawa Flat their home, but also considers why they would have made such a major decision which cut all ties with their places of birth, and whether, in the end, it was all worthwhile.

The Tawa Historical Society, who have published this book, are pleased to invite interested residents of Tawa to the launch of this, their latest book, on Wednesday 26 June at 6.00pm in the showroom of Mexted Motors at 145-151 Main Road, Tawa. The cost of the book, yet to be finally settled, is likely to be in the vicinity of \$25.00.

Having been founded in 2001, this book will be the 19th book about Tawa published by the Tawa Historical Society since their inception.

## TAWA COLLEGE DOES WELL IN SINGING COMPETITIONS

At the highly competitive Regional Barbershop competitions at the end of May, both the Tawa College boys' chorus and the girls' chorus were placed first, as was one of the quartets, as detailed here:

Acafellas – 1st place for boys' barbershop chorus for the eighth consecutive year

Maiden Tawa – 1st place for girls' barbershop chorus

Ladrigals – 1st place for boys' barbershop quartet

Rolling Tones – 2nd place for mixed barbershop quartet

Grace Notes – 2nd place for girls' barbershop quartet

This is a particularly impressive effort considering that all the members of Grace Notes are Year 9 students. Three other quartets – Unaccompanied Minors, Pasifika Boys, and Diminished 5th – also qualified for the Barbershop National Finals.

More recently, the Big Sing Wellington Regionals took place at the Michael Fowler Centre. The secondary school singing competition, which has been running for over 30 years, saw over 1500 students taking part across 38 different choirs.

All four Tawa College choirs taking part in the competition – Dawn Chorus, Early Birds, Blue Notes and the Year 9 Choral Choir – performed with distinction and gained five awards, the most of any school at the event.

Once again, Tawa College excels in the field of music. Congratulations to all those who took part and did so well!

### BARBERSHOP:



### BIG SING:



Xavier with Dawn Chorus,  
Murray Cameron directing



Tawa College Dawn Chorus along with  
Tawa College Music Staff



## TAWA COLLEGE SUPPORT FOR SPCA

In case you missed reading about this at the very end of May, here it is again (as on the SPCA Wellington Facebook page):


“We are so lucky to have so many wonderful supporters who donate so generously to us!

We are so grateful to the students from Tawa College who came to our Wellington centre today to drop off these amazing donations. They delivered eight large dog houses, 20 stackable cat cubbies, eight large fabric dog beds, and two large dog coats. These are all hand-made and created as part of their school course. They had to plan, design, and create these projects all by themselves!

These donations mean so much to the animals in our care.”


Well done, Tawa College!





### Steady As You Go<sup>®</sup>


Tawa Community Centre – 5 Cambridge St Tawa  
Commences Monday 24th June at 1:00pm



### Age Concern

Wellington  
Te Whanganui-a-Tara  
Kaunūtahi

*Serving the needs of older people*



**SAYGo improves:**

- Balance and leg strength
- Flexibility
- General fitness and wellbeing
- And is a great way to meet new people

Three simple tests carried out in the first week and at 10 weeks check improved strength and balance

SAYGo has been shown to provide continuous improvements in strength and balance over time in 56 much-loved community based, ongoing peer-led classes

Classes are one hour each week, \$3 per class

**Please Join Us!**

**ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS**  
Ann Dalziel  
04 499 6646  
communitysup@acwellington.org.nz

- Falls are the most common cause of injury in older people
- Falls can lead to a significant loss of mobility and quality of life
- One third of people over the age of 65 fall each year
- Half of people over 80 fall each year
- Falls in older people are almost always associated with weakened leg muscles and poor balance
- Falls are not a natural part of ageing
- Falls ARE preventable!
- Joining a SAYGo class and improving your strength and balance can reduce falls & injuries

## FIREWOOD SALE

Winter is here. Tawa MenZshed has a fundraiser project to sell boxes of firewood to assist with their shed development and as a service to the community.

Banana boxes of firewood sell for \$5.00 each and can be delivered within Tawa. The firewood comprises cut-up pallets.

To place your order please contact Jim on 232 6297, or email [admin@tawamenzshed.org.nz](mailto:admin@tawamenzshed.org.nz)



## (RE)REGISTER YOUR DOG IN TAWA

Dogs must be re-registered at Wellington City Council by 1 July every year.

There will be a pop-up registration event at the Taylor Park dog park, Tawa (entry by Redwood Station south) from 10am to 2pm on Saturday 29 June.

Come along, register your dog and get the new registration tag on the spot. The friendly Animal Control people will have mobile EFTPOS available for you to use.



## CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU IN TAWA (AND LINDEN)

### Tawa Community Centre

10am to 12pm every second Wednesday:

- Wed 26 June, 10 July, 24 July, 7 Aug, 21 Aug, 4 Sept, 18 Sept, etc

### Linden Social Centre

10am to 12pm every second Friday:

- Fri 5 July, 19 July, 2 Aug, 16 Aug, 30 Aug, 13 Sept, 27 Sept, etc

“We’re free, confidential and friendly and we can help with almost any problem.”

**CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU CLINICS IN TAWA AND LINDEN**

Not sure? ASK US.

FREE and Confidential

Housing & tenancy Mahi

Advice Consumer rights

Kaore i te mārama? Pātai mā! Insurance issues

Health Benefit issues

Relationship problems Need a JPP

Feeling overwhelmed?

Haere mai FREEPHONE 0800 FOR CAB 0800 367 222

Citizens Advice Bureau

Te Pou Whakawhirinaki o Aotearoa

## WOMEN’S PAMPERING DAY IN EARLY JUNE



On Saturday June 1st, Queen’s Birthday Weekend, the Linden Social Centre hosted a Women’s Pampering Day. 50 local Linden women received a day’s FREE pampering and were treated like Queens for a day. The goal was to create a space where they would be taken care of, treasured and indulged. Services provided included free haircuts, body massages, health checks, miri miri, makeup, styling, foot massages, free pre-loved clothes, and a fantastic three course meal.

This event was organised by members of the Linden Community – all volunteers, with the support and help of local businesses. This is the first of a series of four local events that will run under the Te whare tapa wha model, designed to support our Linden wāhine, under the Women’s Welfare Initiative umbrella:

- Taha wairua (spiritual health)
- Taha tinana (physical health)
- Taha whānau (family health)
- Taha hinengaro (mental health)

The event was well received and the feedback from the ladies was awesome. They were all grateful and thankful for the pampering. Each lady left the event with a smile, and bags of goodies. Many were lucky enough to win spot prizes on the day donated by various local businesses. No one went home empty handed!

Special thanks goes to the wonderful businesses and volunteers that made the day such a success.



## INVOLVEMENT IN LINDEN



We are trying to informally gather interest for anyone keen to be involved in conversations and initiatives in Linden. Over the last couple of years there have been surveys and conversations about potential in Linden, what Linden needs, various opportunities and a fair few areas that are lacking. Everything from public toilets to empty shops, to social services, lighting, planting, safety, playgrounds, and community connection.

Some momentum is gathering, and recently a very successful Pampering Day was held, free for 50 local women. Pampering, lunch and goodie bags were all provided. It went really well!

There are a few other things in the pipeline, but we need more local people who are keen to be involved. It could be a little or a lot – as much time or energy as you want to or are able to put in would be awesome!

There is a very new Facebook group for anyone keen to be involved. See <https://www.facebook.com/groups/412575779648745/?ref=share>

## COGNITIVE STIMULATION THERAPY IN TAWA

Cognitive ConnectionZ Rehabilitation Programme is running Cognitive Stimulation Therapy in Tawa. Cognitive Stimulation Therapy (CST) is:

- For people with mild cognitive impairment or dementia
- Internationally recognised and research-based
- A group designed to stimulate the working mind
- As effective as medications designed for this purpose
- Set in a relaxed environment where people have fun

We will be running a seven week programme, for one hour, twice a week at the Tawa Community Centre, 5 Cambridge St, Tawa, starting Monday 29 July on Mondays and Thursdays, 10am to 11am, ending Thursday 12 September.

Cost: \$30 per session (partial funding may be available – talk to us).

Bookings close 14 July. Phone Liz or Claire 027 266 3287 or email [cogconnectionz@gmail.com](mailto:cogconnectionz@gmail.com) [www.cognitiveconnectionz.co.nz](http://www.cognitiveconnectionz.co.nz)

## TOY LIBRARY SALE

Tawa Linden Plunket Toy Library has its pre-loved clothing, toys and baby items sale coming up. Grab a bargain and support our local toy library!

### TAWA LINDEN PLUNKET TOY LIBRARY



## PRE LOVED SALE

29.06.19

Come along and grab a bargain on quality pre-loved toys and baby, toddler and maternity clothing.



**Gold Coin Entry  
Cash Only Sales**

**Tawa Community Centre**  
5 Cambridge St, Tawa  
29 June 2019  
11.30am – 2pm

#### WANT TO SELL?

Contact Tawa Linden Plunket Toy Library  
Facebook page or 021 065 8079  
\$20 / Table (you keep all sale profits)



## APPLICATIONS FOR SPRING INTO TAWA NOW OPEN

We're counting down to Spring into Tawa 2019 which will be held on Saturday 19 October, 10am to 3pm.

Applications for stalls are now open. We've had a massive response already so if you're wanting a stall at this year's event, please register now. The first round of applications will close on 17 July, and applications will only be taken after that date if we have space and if there aren't already stalls offering the same product or service. Visit our website to apply: <https://springintotawa.nz/stallholder%20information?src=nav>

Each year Spring into Tawa supports local causes and organisations. We're asking for suggestions for who we should support in 2019.

In 2018 we were able to support the Tawa Youth and Family Trust, the Tawa Community Patrol and Menzshed. Head over to our Facebook page and look for the pinned post at the top of the page to nominate who you'd like us to support. In July, we'll run a vote to select which organisation to support.

Entertainers wanted – this year we're going to have two stages with entertainment, plus a busking space. If you're keen to perform or busk at Spring into Tawa, please email [spring.into.tawa@gmail.com](mailto:spring.into.tawa@gmail.com) with your details.

Help on the day – we need a small army to help run the event on the day. If you think you might be able to give some time on the day to help with marshalling, crowd and event support, entertainment support and a range of other duties, please email [spring.into.tawa@gmail.com](mailto:spring.into.tawa@gmail.com)



## CONGRATULATIONS TO MEXTED MOTORS

Tawa's Mexted Motors is very proud to announce they have received the Mitsubishi Diamond Dealer award for 2019!

As per their Facebook post: "Don't forget this is also our fourth year on the trot receiving the Excellence in Customer Service award."



Mitsubishi Motors  
**Diamond Dealer**  
AWARD WINNER 2019

We have many achievements to celebrate here at Mexted Motors so we will be running a theme of celebrating our high achievers and accomplishments over the next week."

Mitsubishi New Zealand had this to say:

"Mexted Mitsubishi (Tawa) – Alan and Helen Mexted – retakes its seat at the top table after several



years of coming close. While others have pipped them to the post in holding aloft the Diamond Dealer trophy, Mexted has been leading the way when it comes to service, winning the Excellence in Customer Service award in 2016, 2017, 2018 and again this year.

Mexted's Michael Strudwick was named Best Service Advisor in MMNZ's inaugural Technical Skills competition in 2016 and reclaimed the title in 2018, while John Baker claimed Best Parts Advisor in 2017."



## WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN WILLOWBANK RESERVE

If you have been walking through Willowbank Reserve near the Takapu Railway Station with your dog or may be cycling past, you are likely to have noticed that the blackberry (as shown in the photo below left) has been sprayed and cut down in preparation for native plants to be planted on and around the bank leading from the reserve up to the accessway to Z Service Station in mid-July.

The Willowbank Reserve Care Group in conjunction with Tawa Scout Group and Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves and Wellington City Council Park Ranger have been working on removing various invasive weeds and accumulated rubbish – plastic bags, other hard plastics, old tyres and glass bottles, amounting to six rubbish bags full.

■ Now the site is ready for planting, the Willowbank Reserve Care Group along with Friends of Tawa Bush Reserves are holding a planting event scheduled for the weekend of Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th June 2019. If you would like to participate on either of these two days, please contact us via Facebook, Naturespace, Neighbourly or at [willowbankreserve.caregroup@gmail.com](mailto:willowbankreserve.caregroup@gmail.com)



Bank leading up to Z Service Station  
Before Shot – 25 March 2019



Willowbank Reserve cleared  
Bank site – 6 May 2019

## CAR BREAK-INS IN TAWA

Unfortunately there have been reports on social media of a number of vehicle break-ins in Tawa in recent times. The Police should of course be notified when criminal acts like these are committed. The Tawa Community Patrol who act as “eyes and ears” for the Police, have also responded by producing a form on which those affected can provide information:

“This form has been created by the Tawa Community Patrol to aid them to take note of any vehicle thefts, damage or break-ins happening in the Tawa area. If you have had your vehicle targeted, please help us by filling out this form so we can inform our patrollers and target troublesome areas when patrollers are out and about.”



Here is the link to the form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepeMr2cMyCJ5kVhUZpTyvJLAa6Rdw3DMHRfMZiy30RB74oQQ/viewform>

## TAWA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

If you have an interest in what the Tawa community is doing better to prepare ourselves for a major emergency situation, you're welcome to come along to the yearly "Tawa Stakeholders Resilience Meeting" at the Tawa Community Centre at 7pm on Thursday 27 June.

The guest speaker (at the start) will be the Minister for Civil Defence, the Hon Kris Faafoi. Updates will be provided by WCC, WREMO and Wellington Water, as well as local organisations.

## SUNDAY ROAST AT THE RSA

The next (monthly) Sunday roast at the RSA is this coming Sunday, 30 June, at the RSA complex at the northern end of Oxford St.

\$25 per person for a tasty meal! You do need to book your place by Friday 28 June. Phone Alistair at the club on 232 5788 or email John on [jfgplunkett@gmail.com](mailto:jfgplunkett@gmail.com)

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/Tawa-Returned-Services-Association-195974464553155> to keep up-to-date with events at the local RSA.

## HAMPTON HILL'S MISSING FEIJOA TREES

Hampton Hill School's vision is to Grow People to Thrive!

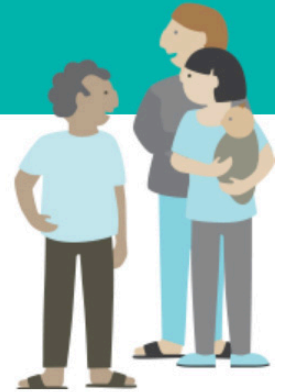
Unfortunately a couple of weeks ago three newly planted feijoa trees were taken from our school garden. These were recently purchased with a grant from Countdown's Gardening for Good scheme, which celebrated the end of single use plastic bags. Hampton Hill School was one of only a handful of schools nationwide to receive the funding as part of a garden development project, says Hampton Hill School parent and garden volunteer Lee-Ann Newton. "Our school community was really excited about these trees. It's amazing how kids get involved in learning when they spend time in nature. That's why this theft is so disappointing."

The feijoa trees were part of a grove planted to shelter the pear and apple trees, and the students are doing most of the work. "Our school's tamariki did everything to plant these trees, choosing the spots, digging the holes, carefully planting and spreading mulch. They remember exactly which one they planted," says Jillian Grant, a parent at the school, who volunteered to help the students plant the trees. She says many asked to have a photo hugging the tree they had planted. The feijoa trees were stolen along with their bamboo stakes and distinctive white and grey ties.

A fruit forest was the first stage of a larger mahinga kai garden development that the school hopes will feed their students, their families and in time, also the Tawa community. Community volunteers are welcome to contact the school if they want to be involved, says Principal Kelly Barker. "We would appreciate having the trees returned so we can continue to grow learning and grow and support our community."

## Helping your Community

Find out what your community is doing to be prepared. You can get through together.





## 2 MINUTES WITH ..... Zubair Saqafi Al Kamil

Zubair Saqafi Al Kamil is the imam at the Tawa Islamic Centre. Since the March 15 Christchurch tragedy closer links have been built with him and other Muslims in the Tawa community. In mid-April an "Invitation from our Muslim neighbours in Tawa" to locals to a Saturday afternoon gathering at Tawa School saw 120 people take part in improving community connections.

Zubair Saqafi is seen in the photo below right with Prime Minister Jacinda Adern at the prayer meeting at Parliament for victims of the Christchurch massacre. He and his family have lived in this country for more than 11 years. He says, "I am a citizen of New Zealand. In all these years I have never come across anyone who nurtures hatred towards Muslims. I move around in my Islamic dress and headgear and no-one looks at me with suspicion or hatred." *May that always be the case! - Ed.*



For an interesting article featuring Zubair, see <https://www.khaleejtimes.com/nation/abu-dhabi/indian-imam-thanks-new-zealand-for-making-muslims-feel-safer-12>

*Where were you born?*

Malappuram in the state of Kerala, India. I grew up there too.

*Where were you educated?*

Jamia Markaz (an Islamic university) in Calicut, Kerala, India.

*How long have you lived in Tawa?*

9 years. We came to New Zealand in 2008 and spent our first two years in Porirua.

*What about family?*

My wife is Fathima. We have four children, two girls and two boys. Three of them were born in New Zealand, one in India. Three of my children go to Tawa school, the youngest one is at Tawa Central Kindergarten.



*Work experience over the years .....*

I have spent 18 years in my field which is as an Islamic priest. My training was at university. I was an Islamic priest in Maha Rashtra in India before coming to New Zealand.

*What are your interests and hobbies?*

Reading books, especially religious books like the Quraan and the Bible.

I used to play football. It was the main sport in my school years. I still enjoy a kicking a ball with my kids.

*Favourite sport or sports team?* Football

*Favourite musical group and/or individual singer?*

Sami Yusuf. [Sami Yusuf is a British singer and songwriter, born in Iran. With over 34 million albums sold, he performs at venues around the world. Wikipedia – Ed.]

*What is your favourite holiday destination in New Zealand?*

As a family we are hoping to visit the South Island. My children in particular want to go there.

*What accomplishments/achievements in your life give you the most satisfaction/pride?*

I am proud of my education in my field. It was my dream to finish my course, mainly Islamic study, and help others. That's what I am doing now.

I gained a B.A. in India, and have recently completed a Computer course Level 3.

..... contd

contd .....

I am now an online student of Massey University studying psychology. My next goal is to complete that course.

*What are three things you would like to do before you die?*

To clear misunderstanding about Islam.

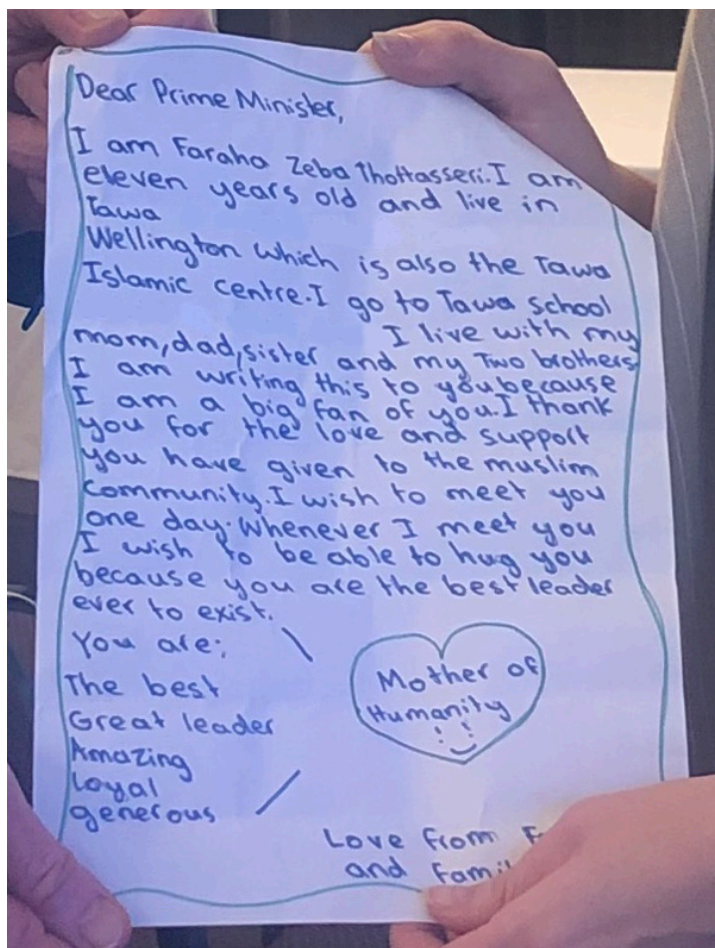
Help to get homes for homeless people. I am mostly responsible for one particular house currently being built in India. People here are helping with donations towards it. I am hoping it will be completed this year.

My university is doing a lot for homeless people in India: it has completed 30 houses, is digging wells, and helping 3000 orphans to get education, and more.



Last month Faraha, daughter of Zubair Saqafi, wrote a letter to the Prime Minister thanking her for her love and support to the Muslim community in the aftermath of the Christchurch tragedy. The letter was presented to the Prime Minister by Greg O'Connor, Ohariu MP, as shown at left.

Faraha's letter and the PM's response are shown below.





## THANKS FOR THE STUFF!

From Karyn Meade on behalf of Tawa Rotary:

“A HUGE thank you to the incredibly generous people of Tawa. Stuff the Trailers was really successful. I’ve just left the Salvation Army food store where they’re finishing organising all the donated goods and it’s amazing to see it so well stocked. It will really help with the increased requests they’re getting as people struggle with extra costs over winter.”

A joint project between Rotary and Inner Wheel.



## OUT AND ABOUT IN TAWA:



Left:

An almost-full Tawa College hall for the yearly Tawa Churches combined service yesterday (Sunday).

Below:

Local resident Stephen Bates who is often seen in the town centre walking Hayley (8) and Laddie (7).



Left:

Tawa Community Centre advocate Mandy Russell flying up the service lane on a Flamingo e-scooter.



## Tawa Community Centre

A friendly place to pop in during the hours of 9am-1pm and 2-4.30pm on weekdays, or hire a room or hall for your community group / birthday party / meeting at reasonable rates.

Like us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/TawaAndLindenCommunityCentres>  
and sign up to our newsletter by clicking the email signup button.

Ngā mihi

Malcolm Sparrow

info@tawalink.com 027 232 2320



*"I used to think that you were pain in the neck. Now I have a much lower opinion of you."*

*"Life is like an onion. You peel it off one layer at a time, and sometimes you weep."* – Carl Sandberg

*"Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, others make it happen."* – Michael Jordan

*"I hate it when I eat the last bite but didn't notice it was the last bite, so I couldn't mentally prepare myself and get closure."*

*This newsletter is emailed monthly to around 1250 Tawa households, businesses, schools, churches and clubs/groups (anyone who has an interest in the community of Tawa).*

*Some articles in this newsletter have been sent through by members of the Tawa community and have been published 'unedited'. They may not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor.*

*If you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please send us an email requesting your name be deleted from our list.*