

**sandy
brown
mayor**



**30+ years of
community
advocacy and
volunteerism**

**Mayor from
2018-2022**

**HIGHLIGHTS OF MY
TERM AS MAYOR**

- ✓ Championed OPP transition saving \$4 million annually
- ✓ Championed sale of Orangeville Railway netting \$32.5 million and saving \$450,000/yr in property tax payments to other municipalities
- ✓ 2018-2022 property tax increases averaged 1 per cent per year
- ✓ 2022 fiscal year surplus of \$5.9 million
- ✓ Championed reduction in development charges for long term care homes
- ✓ Initiated negotiations with Wightman Telecom bringing ultra-hi speed fibre optic service
- ✓ Initiated negotiations with Town of Amaranth to resolve 15-year dispute over the Pullen Well

See over for election platform

A lot of talk amongst candidates — no real actionable ideas.

I have read some of my competitors’ campaign messages. There is alot of “vanilla” — a lot of talk about reduced taxation — with no real initiatives. Our ratio of property tax collected — 82 per cent residential to 18 per cent commercial/industrial — has to be corrected. We need more commercial/industrial tax base. We also need to help Dufferin County control its spending. We have enough Town staff — we need to hold the line on new initiatives requiring an increase in FTEs. We also need to look at outsourcing opportunities — where the private sector can provide services at a lower cost — without affecting the level of service. Please find below some creative ideas to make our Town better and more affordable.

KEY PLATFORM ITEMS

•Attract New Employment

Create a Dufferin County Economic Development Corporation with a Board of Directors populated with creative and experienced local business leaders who will help attract businesses and develop vacant land. We need more good employers in Orangeville and Dufferin County — collectively, let’s pursue them. More commercial/industrial and retail tax base growth helps residential taxpayers. Our region is a nice place to live — let’s find and attract some new, well-paid jobs to Orangeville and Dufferin County.

•Hotel Tax

Implement a Municipal Accommodation Tax in Dufferin County. This is allowed under current provincial legislation. This tax on visitors is estimated to bring in \$850,000 annually. Many municipalities around us have this tax. This tax is the difference between “have” and “have-not” communities when it comes to economic growth and tourism. This legislation requires 50 per cent of the tax to be retained by the municipality and 50 per cent to go to a non-profit such as the Dufferin Board of Trade to promote economic development and tourism throughout the County. This will save tax dollars throughout Dufferin County.

•Affordable Housing 1.0

For many years in Orangeville and Dufferin County, there has been lots of talk and no action. A municipal Economic Development Corporation, suggested above, can own real estate. What is wrong with a municipality getting into profit-making housing? A mixed-use building across from Town Hall with commercial/retail space, a parking garage and some residential units would help invigorate the downtown core of Orangeville. Do you know that the Whistler Housing Authority owns 2,000 residential units? Let’s leverage available municipally owned land assets throughout Dufferin County and combine that with CMHC 50-year amortization mortgages to build profitable, municipally owned buildings.

•Affordable Housing 2.0

The current council increased Development Charges by 65 per cent in the midst of a housing crisis. I propose to reduce development charges for small infill ADUs and basement apartments to create income opportunities for homeowners and more affordable housing opportunities.

•Time to upgrade Tony Rose

It’s time to upgrade the Tony Rose “Precinct.” A Sports Dome would allow indoor play during the winter — lacrosse, soccer, football, baseball and cricket. Add a climbing wall and fitness centre, an outdoor pool and pickleball courts, as well as some needed improvements to Tony Rose, such as new dressing rooms and better, expanded seating. A \$20-million loan from Infrastructure Ontario would cost about \$100,000 per month. If we add together savings on police services, Railway Property Tax Savings and interest on the \$32-million Railway Fund, we get \$5,500,000 or \$450,000 per month. Let’s use some of those savings. I have travelled through 20 states and six provinces in the past three years. We are behind in recreational infrastructure. Let’s get this done

•A Sustainable Orangeville

Sustainable Orangeville isn’t just the name of a Town committee — it represents initiatives that ensure sustainability for future generations. I believe this includes caring about the environment, food insecurity, climate change and good municipal and intra-municipal transit. Councillor Grant Peters presented free transit to council when I was mayor. I supported it and still do. Transit is a work in progress — routes, equipment and technology are ever-changing. We also need good intra-municipal transit. Dufferin County Transit helps employees and shoppers move around the County. GO Bus Service helps commuters connect to big-city transit.

•YMCA

The YMCA started in Canada in Montreal in 1851. It has extensive experience running recreational facilities. Former Mayor Rob Adams had the YMCA ready to operate Alder — but lost the election in 2000. Instead, the YMCA went to Wasaga Beach. The YMCA operates all around us — Owen Sound, Cambridge, Barrie, Collingwood, Wasaga Beach and Niagara. Why not in Orangeville? Its fees are less than our municipal recreation fees. The YMCA states on its website that if you are struggling financially, it will help you.

If you’re ready for a change from the status quo, take a closer look at Sandy Brown’s record of community involvement and work on behalf of local residents and taxpayers. Please consider voting for the person with the track record for making good things happen. Vote Sandy Brown online starting Oct. 9, at the advance polls Oct. 10 and 18, and on Election Day — Oct. 26.



I will not be accepting any corporate donations. Personal donations of \$10 - \$100 gladly accepted at: **sandybrown1000@gmail.com**

If you would like a Sandy Brown lawn sign, please text 519-216-3030 with your address and I will be sure to get you one.

Making your house *feel* like home since 1990

Orangeville Food bank purchases more food as donations decline

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

The world is generally a good place. People generally have good intention to do well when they can. People from Dufferin County put themselves up for seats on municipal and county councils, despite the slings and arrows that responsibility can draw.

“And the community cares about its neighbours or we wouldn’t exist,” said Heather Hayes, Orangeville Food Bank’s executive director.

Hayes is a 12-year veteran helping keep the food bank shelves stocked for anybody who needs respite from food insecurity, and she said it never gets easier for her to update councils.

“Generally, I’m an optimistic person,” she said. “But after this many years giving this presentation, I feel like I’m only leaving you with negatives when I come out of a presentation like this.”

She gives presentations to municipal councils and the County of Dufferin. They’re updates on how the need for the food bank has grown since the previous presentation and ideas on how that need may be met.

Most recently, she even provided feedback to provincial Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy as part of pre-budget consultations. That was something she wanted to

include when she spoke to county council on Sept. 24.

She said she started to write that she was optimistic that her three-minute colloquy with Bethlenfalvy moved the needle.

“What I meant to write was I believe my three minutes did not move the needle,” Hayes said.

She began tapping the Delete button on her presentation.

But then she stopped.

“And I thought, No, my three minutes did matter,” she said. “Like all our three minutes in this world regarding any issue we may have.”

Her issue is food insecurity.

“And I will always be a voice for food insecurity,” she said.

The numbers will show that she and the many volunteers at the food banks are moving the needle.

To wit: In 2025-26, the food bank distributed 697,000 pounds of food to clients and community partners. Of that, 235,000 pounds was purchased. Seventy-two per cent of what the food bank distributes is perishable, such as milk, eggs, produce, and proteins.

And there’s been a drop in donated food of 11 per cent, so that meant food had to be purchased.

There were 25,535 visits last year at the

food bank in Orangeville and the Dufferin Food Share in nearby Grand Valley.

Of those visits, 33 per cent are children, 32 per cent of visitors are working people, and 45 per cent of the households were of single adults.

Oh, and there’s been a 20 per cent increase in seniors who used the service because pensions don’t keep up with the rate of inflation.

“You’re doing the absolute best that you can with what you have,” Hayes said. “And often the issues that you face, often the issues that I face are not always in our purview to be able to change.”

Speaking out and trying to find ways to address the issue is important, she said and thanked all the people involved with the food bank for using their voices to make the world a better place.

With an annual operating budget of \$1.8 million, the Orangeville Food Bank is a significant community operation requiring people, facilities, transportation, warehousing, and infrastructure to safely and reliably serve the community, she said.

Every client visit is supported by much more than the food on the shelf. There’s the receiving and sorting of food, storage, transportation, food safety, volunteer coordination and client support.

“Food security is a community issue,” Hayes said.



FILE PHOTO

STRETCHED RESOURCES: The Orangeville Food Bank had over 25,500 visits in 2025, and demand continues to rise.

Councillor James McLean, Melancthon’s deputy mayor, said Hayes doesn’t have to apologize that the information in her presentations isn’t all rosy.

“I think hearing the raw truth is incredibly helpful and we need to hear this from time to time,” he said.

Food security isn’t limited to the responsibilities of a single government portfolio, and no single level of government owns it, he said. It’s a disservice that nobody is accountable for funding food security.

Orangeville turning into ‘Pinkville’ for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Orangeville is preparing to turn into “Pinkville” this October as businesses, schools, and residents come together for a month-long campaign supporting breast cancer research and awareness.

The Pinkville campaign is being spearheaded by Orangeville resident and breast cancer survivor Charlene Judge, a member of the Board of Directors for Breast Cancer Canada and the community’s Pinkville ambassador.

The initiative will bring together several existing local fundraisers while encouraging businesses throughout Orangeville to deco-

rate their storefronts in pink, raise funds and help spread awareness during Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Judge developed the idea earlier this year with the hope of creating a model that could eventually be adopted by other communities across Canada.

“As a board member, I really had a vision that we could take Orangeville and change Orangeville to Pinkville and then potentially challenge other towns and communities to do this kind of fundraising and make a national change in the way that we are doing it,” she said. “I pitched the idea to my board of directors at Breast Cancer Canada, and I challenged my peer board members across the country to do the same thing because I knew that Orangeville would be supportive of this, just because of my past experience in doing fundraising when I was going through my chemo journey.”

Pinkville officially kicks off today (Oct. 1) with Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post proclaiming Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the Breast Cancer Canada flag being raised at town hall, where it will remain throughout October.

The campaign continues Oct. 3 with the fourth annual Team Marathon Row at Headwaters Fitness and Racquet Club. Approximately 50 participants are expected to take part in teams, collectively rowing the 42-kilometre marathon distance on stationary rowing machines. The event will also feature a silent auction, 50/50 draw and raffle prizes donated by local businesses.

Local businesses are also getting involved through fundraising initiatives and pink storefront displays. Judge said the response from business owners has demonstrated how many people in the community have been personally affected by breast cancer.

“It was very powerful and it was very emotional because I heard a lot of stories along the way about people’s wives, mothers, sisters, aunts who had either succumbed to breast cancer, or had a positive outcome like I did,” she said. “Having that in your community is pretty powerful, and to have people be that vulnerable to tell their stories is nothing short of amazing.”

The month will conclude with Westside Secondary School’s annual Day of Pink on Oct. 30, including its pancake breakfast, with

proceeds from the various Pinkville initiatives supporting Breast Cancer Canada.

For Judge, the campaign is personal. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2020 despite having no signs or symptoms, with the cancer instead detected through a routine mammogram. Her mother is also a four-time breast cancer survivor.

Judge said success will ultimately be measured not only by money raised, but by the awareness created throughout the community.

“Raising money and building awareness are super important... so that people don’t forget about this cause, and particularly women, don’t forget to go and have their mammogram,” she said. “Early diagnosis is key. When I was diagnosed in 2020, I had no signs, no symptoms. It was caught through a mammogram, and it wasn’t there in 2019. So it was a very aggressive form of cancer. And had I not gone for my annual mammogram, we might not be sitting here today having this conversation.”

Pinkville is set to be a first in Canada — an entire community united as one to fight breast cancer, raise money and spread awareness.

Correction

A story that ran on Page A5 of the Sept. 24 edition of the Citizen incorrectly stated the Orangeville Antique and Vintage Show will occur on Sunday, Oct. 3. The event actually takes place on Saturday, Oct. 3, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Citizen apologizes for any inconvenience this error may have caused.

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Mondays in October

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BOO! ON BROADWAY (AND BEYOND)

Saturday, October 17 at 9am - 1pm

Dress up for a morning of Trick or Treating, Jack O'Lantern Carve Off, DJ Dance Party, Freaky Face Painting, Petting Zoo, Haunted Houses, Character Visits and lots of other Kids Activities!

BRUCE TRAIL DAY

Sunday, October 4, 10am - 2pm

Discover part of the Bruce Trail at this free event featuring guided hikes and family activities. More info at dufferinbrucetrailclub.org

DUFFERIN COUNTY FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS - CENTRALIZED LOCATION

Orangeville Food Bank, 3 Commerce Blvd.

Tuesday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm & 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Wednesday 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Thursday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Friday 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

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Community invited to join third annual Headwaters Hike to Fight Cancer

Written By **JOSHUA DRAKES**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Headwaters Hike to Fight Cancer returns to the Caledon Ski Club on Oct. 8, bringing the community together for an evening of hiking, fundraising, and supporting local cancer care.

Now in its third year, the event is designed as an accessible fundraising opportunity for people of all ages and abilities.

Shauna Santarossa of the Headwaters Health Care Foundation, who also handles marketing for the organization, said that this year, participants can choose between one-kilometre and three-kilometre routes, following feedback that some of last year's routes were more challenging than expected.

"The one-kilometre and three-kilometre options will be a little bit easier than what was hiked last year because we heard some feedback that the hike was a bit challenging," she said. "The five-kilometre [route] wasn't very popular, so this year we're doing a one-kilometre and a three-kilometre."

Registration opens at 4 p.m., with the hike beginning at 5 p.m. Participants can register individually or as part of a team, with registration costing \$35 per person. The fee in-

cludes the hike, a T-shirt and dinner following the event.

After completing the route, participants will gather at the Caledon Ski Club's Main Lodge for dinner, with salad, lasagna and a cookie for dessert.

Games, a raffle table and silent auction will provide additional opportunities for participants to take part, while coffee and apple cider will be available following the hike.

"The registration fee is \$35 a person, and you sign up online," Santarossa said. "You can create an online page where you can solicit friends, family, co-workers to donate to you directly. You can also sign up as a team, so you can do it with your co-workers or maybe your family, your siblings, your neighbours. We have a hockey team that's signed up already to participate this year."

The event also features a peer-to-peer fundraising component. Participants who register can create an online fundraising page and ask friends, family members and co-workers to support their efforts. Prizes will be awarded to the individual and team that raise the most money.

Funds raised through the event remain local and support cancer care at Headwaters Health Care Centre. The foundation directs

the money toward equipment and programs supporting cancer services, including oncology clinics and diagnostic imaging.

Previous fundraising efforts have supported equipment such as oncology treatment chairs and the hospital's MRI and diagnostic imaging capabilities, with this year's funds going toward the highest-priority needs related to cancer care.

The Hike to Fight Cancer was created to complement the Headwaters Health Care Foundation's other signature fundraising events, including its annual golf tournament and gala, while providing a lower-cost way for the broader community to participate and fundraise.

Santarossa said the event is also intended to provide a way for people to support local health care while enjoying the outdoors and spending time together as a community.

"I personally think that the hike itself is actually beautiful," she said. "It's a great way to get outside, enjoy the fresh air, enjoy the beauty that nature in our region has to offer at this time of year, while making a huge difference to your local hospital."

Organizers are encouraging families, friends, co-workers and community groups to take part. All ages are welcome, with hockey teams and other groups already reg-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SUPPORTING THE FIGHT: More than 150 people participated in last year's Headwaters Hike to Fight Cancer at the Caledon Ski Club, raising \$50,000 for cancer care at Headwaters Health Care Centre. This year's event returns Oct. 8.

Registration remains open for those looking to participate, fundraise or support someone taking part in the Oct. 8 event. The evening offers an opportunity to enjoy the fall scenery at the Caledon Ski Club while helping support cancer care close to home.

Go to hhcfoundation.akaraisin.com/ui/hike2026 to register.

Orangeville Transit to deploy three new buses next week, make route changes

Written By **SAM ODROWSKI**

After a two-year wait for new vehicles forced Orangeville Transit to rely almost exclusively on school buses, new transit buses will hit the town's roads Oct. 8.

The date also marks when new stops will be added along the transit system's Orange route in the Veteran's Way community, now that the Hansen Blvd. connection is complete and connects to Blind Line.

"Good things come to those who wait! Two years after beginning the order process, we are excited to introduce three new buses that will modernize Orangeville Transit's fleet," said Tony Dulisse, Orangeville's transportation and development manager.

"The new buses were built by a Canadian manufacturer," he added.

The estimated cost for each bus is \$1,030,000, according to the town.

The new buses will feature bike racks for combining transit with cycling and digital screens showing bus lines and timing.

The vehicles also feature a modern interior with room for up to 40 riders, clean diesel technology for lower emissions than traditional diesel buses and SmartRider™ ramp technology that lowers to different heights and self-levels. This makes it easier and safer

for riders to get on and off the bus.

"Transit is a vital service in our community, connecting people to workplaces, schools, essential services, activities and loved ones," said Orangeville CAO David Smith.

"Orangeville is changing and evolving every day, and our transit service needs to reflect that with ongoing improvements. Now more of our community will be able to access transit on reliable buses that meet the different needs of our riders."

With the opening of Hansen Boulevard's extension in August, new transit stops have been added to the Veteran's Way community along that road. Other stops have shifted nearby to accommodate this new part of the orange route.

New stops include Hansen Boulevard at Credit Creek Boulevard (Centre Fellowship Church), Parkinson Crescent at Preston Drive, Parkinson Crescent at Laverty Crescent, Hansen Boulevard at College Avenue and College Avenue at Fieldgate Drive.

Three stops have been removed: Blind Line at Hansen Blvd., College Ave. at Elaine Dr. and Fieldgate Dr. at College Ave.

The town will be posting updated route maps and schedules at transit shelters. The maps can also be found online or through the transit app.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT: Orangeville Coun. Rick Stevens, Mayor Lisa Post, and Coun. Joe Andrews stand in front of the town's new bus. Orangeville Transit will deploy three new buses on Oct. 8.

Re-Elect



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Councillor



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This Ad was paid for by the Joe Andrews Re-election campaign.



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7-Eleven	268 Broadway	Orangeville
Daily Convenience	200 Elizabeth St.	Orangeville
Total Convenience & Video	1-41 Broadway	Orangeville
Circle K	400 Townline, Unit 1	Orangeville
Raceway ESSO	87 First St.	Orangeville
Hillsburgh Foodland	102 Trafalgar Rd.	Hillsburgh
Grand Valley Clover Farm	5 Main St. S.	Grand Valley
Marc's Your Independent Grocer	134 Main St.	Erin
Erin Rexall Drugstore	123 Main St.	Erin
Foodland - Caledon East	15771 Airport Rd. #4A	Caledon East
Bolton Milk and Variety	17 Queen St. N.	Bolton
Food Basics - Bolton	301 Queen St. S	Bolton
Home Hardware - Bolton	12833 Highway 50	Bolton
Giant Tiger - Shelburne	226 First Ave. E	Shelburne
Foodland - Shelburne	824 Ojibway Dr.	Shelburne

Headwaters among five Ontario hospitals affected by alleged theft, fraud: OPP

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Sixty-five charges have been laid against a 34-year-old Burlington woman after Ontario Provincial Police officers from the Orillia Detachment investigated hospital theft and fraud.

Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) is among the hospitals impacted in the region, with the alleged theft and fraud occurring between August and September.

The accused, Nassim Eronn, has been charged with 34 counts of fraud under \$5,000, 13 counts of theft under \$5,000, seven counts of disobeying a court order, four counts of criminal breach of trust, two counts of fraud over \$5,000, two counts of possession of property obtained by crime over \$5,000, one count of theft over \$5,000 and one count of personation with intent.

“Headwaters Health Care Centre is cooperating with the Orillia detachment of the OPP in its ongoing investigation into alleged theft and fraud involving several hospitals across Ontario, including Headwaters,” said Kim Dealhunt, HHCC CEO and president.

“As this is an active investigation, we are unable to comment further on the details of the matter.”

Other hospitals affected include Orillia



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

SEIZED PROPERTY: Clothing, furniture and home décor were among the items seized by Ontario Provincial Police during an investigation into alleged theft and fraud at five Ontario hospitals.

Soldiers’ Memorial Hospital between April 2025 and March 2026; Trillium Health Partners between August 2025 and July 2026; St. Joseph’s Health Centre from July 2024 to January 2025; and West Park Health Care Centre from February 2024 to April 2024.

The OPP’s investigation began after receiving several complaints of theft and fraud from patients and staff within the hospital.

Police executed multiple search warrants and seized significant amounts of property.

The investigation remains ongoing and is being carried out by the Orillia OPP Major Crime Unit.

Police believe there may be additional victims who were patients, visitors and staff members in various units of the affected hospitals.

Investigators are asking anyone who attended these medical facilities during the above timeframes to check their financial records for unauthorized transactions and report any fraudulent transactions or cash thefts to the Orillia OPP Major Crime Unit.

The crime unit can be reached by phone at 1 888 310 1122 with occurrence number E250834926.

Dufferin Board of Trade to host forum for Orangeville mayor, deputy mayor candidates

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

The Orangeville Mayor and Deputy Mayor Election Forum is coming to the Opera House (87 Broadway) next Monday.

The Dufferin Board of Trade (DBOT) and Dufferin Federation of Agriculture (DFA) are hosting the forum on Oct. 5 from 7 to 9 p.m.

During the event, candidates will share their priorities and answer questions about Orangeville’s future with past DBOT chair Doug Harkness moderating.

DBOT, DFA and audience members will generate questions during the moderated question period, and they’ll be selected as

time permits.

Rogers will broadcast the forum live on television and a recording will be posted online afterward.

“Municipal decisions affect businesses and communities across Dufferin, from roads and planning to agriculture and economic development. As a nonpartisan organization, DBOT hosts election forums and provides an online Election Hub so voters can hear directly from candidates, compare their ideas and make an informed choice. I hope people will join us at the Opera House, explore the Election Hub — and then vote,” said Diana Morris, DBOT’s executive director.

Voters can also visit DBOT’s 2026 Election Hub at dufferinbot.ca/2026elections for candidate profiles and videos from across Dufferin’s eight municipalities.

All 90 municipal candidates were invited to submit a profile and record a video, and Rogers is sharing the videos to help more residents hear from them.

The Election Hub also features a recording of the Sept. 24 Future Dufferin County Council Election Forum. Eleven candidates from Grand Valley, Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur and Shelburne discussed economic development, agriculture, tourism, infrastructure and county governance.

Visit dufferinbot.ca/future-dufferin-county-council-election-forum-highlights-countywide-priorities to view the Future Dufferin County Council Election Forum.

DBOT shares candidate information and hosts forums to help voters make informed choices while keeping business and agricultural needs part of the election conversation. DBOT does not endorse candidates or receive funding to organize its election activities.

“Explore the Election Hub, join the Orangeville forum on October 5 and make your voice heard in the municipal election,” said DBOT.

Dufferin OPP officers conduct bike patrols throughout the community, engage the public

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers took advantage of good weather over the past week by getting out into the community on bicycle patrol.

“Bicycle patrols provide Dufferin OPP officers with an opportunity to engage with community members while patrolling areas that may be difficult to access by vehicle,” said Dufferin OPP in a press release.

“The bikes allow officers to patrol both downtown areas and the wooded paths and trails found throughout many parts of Dufferin County.”

Officers will be utilizing bicycle patrols throughout the fall, weather permitting. Community members enjoying local trails and paths may see Dufferin OPP officers riding through the area as part of their regular

patrol duties.

“If you happen to see one of our officers out on the trails, don’t be surprised, they may simply be making their way through the community while keeping an eye out and connecting with residents,” said Dufferin OPP.

“Bicycle patrols are one of the ways the Dufferin OPP works to maintain a visible

presence throughout the community and engage with residents in a variety of settings. Members of the Dufferin OPP remain committed to proactive and community-focused policing throughout Dufferin County.”

Officers will continue to take advantage of opportunities to connect with residents and patrol local areas for as long as the weather allows.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2026

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JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTOS

INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES: In recognition of Truth and Reconciliation Day across Canada, the County of Dufferin hosted an event in Grace Tipling Hall in Shelburne, inviting keynote speaker Jennifer David, a member of Chapleau Cree First Nation, to share her family’s story and long road towards reconciliation and regaining traditional lands. The Cedar Drummers were also invited to the event and performed traditional music at the opening and closing of the community event. They are a family hand drum group of Mohawk/Ojibway ancestry and part of Akwesasne First Nation.



Dufferin County marks National Day for Truth and Reconciliation with Community Conversations event

Written By **JOSHUA DRAKES**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dufferin County residents gathered in Shelburne to reflect on Canada’s colonial history and the continuing work of reconciliation through traditional music and the personal story of one northern Ontario Cree family.

The county hosted its latest Community Conversations event at Grace Tipling Hall on Sept. 24 in recognition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, observed annually across Canada on Sept. 30.

The evening featured Jennifer David, a member of Chapleau Cree First Nation, who presented 13 Square Miles: My Cree Ancestors and How Colonization Still Shapes My Life — and Yours. The Indigenous Cedar Drummers group also performed traditional music before and following David’s presentation.

David used five generations of her own family history to examine the fur trade, construction of the railway, Treaty 9, the Indian Act and the century-long struggle of Chapleau Cree First Nation to receive land promised under the treaty.

“I’m not here to make anyone feel guilty about the past, something that you and your ancestors had nothing to do with,” David said. “But how have you, and how have we collectively benefited from colonization? That’s the uncomfortable question. That’s the truth we must all face, and truth comes before reconciliation.”

The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation honours Indigenous children who never returned home from residential schools, survivors and their families and communities, while recognizing the lasting impacts of the residential school system.

Sept. 30 is also Orange Shirt Day, an Indigenous-led commemorative day intended to raise awareness of the intergenerational impacts of residential schools and promote the message that “Every Child Matters.”

While residential schools are an important part of that history, David’s presentation explored reconciliation through the wider history of colonization and its continuing ef-

fects on Indigenous communities.

Under Treaty 9, Chapleau Cree First Nation should have received close to 13 square miles of reserve land based on its population. Instead, the community received 267 acres, including approximately 90 acres of swamp.

“We never forgot, though, that we were owed land, and though it would be dormant for a generation, we knew there would come a time when we’d get our land back,” David said.

David also detailed how the Indian Act affected generations of her family, including provisions that historically stripped some Indigenous women of status when they married non-status men. Following legislative changes in 1985, her father spent approximately a decade researching his family history and corresponding with archives and government departments before regaining his status in 1995.

Chapleau Cree eventually established a new reserve in the early 1990s. The First Nation continued pursuing its outstanding treaty land entitlement until a settlement was reached in 2016, providing 9,884 acres and monetary compensation.

David connected that history directly to Dufferin County, encouraging residents to learn about Treaties 18 and 19 and consider their own responsibilities within the treaty relationship. She emphasized that reconciliation requires continued learning and action beyond commemorative events held each September.

“Reconciliation is not an annual emotion,” David said. “Maybe it’s a book by an Indigenous author that you read and pass on. Maybe it’s the Indigenous caterer you hire for your next work function. Maybe it’s countering the stereotypes that your uncle tries to repeat at Thanksgiving dinner. Maybe it’s doing your homework instead of putting the burden on one of your Indigenous colleagues.”

With the Cedar Drummers returning to perform traditional music following the presentation, the evening concluded with David asking those in attendance to consider reconciliation not simply as looking backward, but as something that must be actively built in everyday life.

Town of Orangeville

Upcoming meetings

October 2026

Committee of Adjustment	Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 6 p.m. Council chambers, 87 Broadway
Heritage Orangeville	Thursday, Oct. 15 at 6 p.m. Council chambers, 87 Broadway
Orangeville Public Library Board	Wednesday, Oct. 28 at 5 p.m. Mill Street Library, 1 Mill St. Call in: 1-289-801-5774 ID: 871 851 66#

Unable to attend a meeting in person? Connect virtually by following the instructions on the council agenda, or request to join committee meetings virtually (subject to availability) by contacting committees@orangeville.ca or 519-941-0440 ext. 7321 during regular business hours and at least one hour before the meeting. Meeting dates/times are subject to change.

For agendas and participation details, visit orangeville.ca/meetings.

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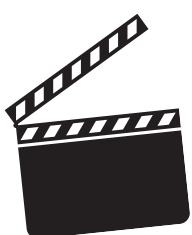
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Arts & Entertainment



LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

Review: How We Got to Jersey is a heartwarming and hilarious story of how two small-town Canadians captured Frankie Valli

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Theatre Orangeville continues to outdo itself in every season I catch, and recently, this has not been more accurate.

Coming in like a blast from the past, How We Got To Jersey is a musical about how actors Jeff Madden and Adrian Marchuk got into one of the biggest musicals of the late 2000s — Jersey Boys.

Throughout the story, Madden and Marchuk dive into their personal journeys and how they landed the role of Frankie Valli — both of them — in the same production, and their views of the production differed from their perspectives.

Starting out as awkward acquaintances in the industry, to rivals and now good friends; the duo met again at auditions in the United States, realizing they both were after the same part.

As fate would have it, two Frankie Valli’s were needed; the production was so demanding one actor couldn’t handle it, and it had already claimed victims in the attempt. Madden landed lead Frankie, Marchuk landed the alternate Frankie.

From there, the story diverges between the two somewhat. Madden experiences the full chaos and insanity that entails being the poster Frankie, essentially having no life for a good part of the run of the show. Rehearsals, media events, performances. Marchuk settles into the role of simply being invisible. No press, less rehearsals, less performance.

This is where How We Got To Jersey really starts to shine for me. We see two identical roles, but two very different lives that play out at the same time. Madden, being a married man, realizes just how little free time he will have to see his family, experience life or even breathe throughout the run of the production. The same could not be said for

Marchuk, who has extra time between sets to live a life, to explore Toronto, but isn’t married at the time.

There is a poignant dichotomy at play here.

Despite getting everything he wanted from this role, Madden was taken away from the things he cared about the most — his married life and family. His life at that point was put on hold for his dream, his passion, and he owned it, delivering show after show for the duration of the run of Jersey Boys.

For Marchuk, he got the opposite experience. He had the time, but he didn’t have the same dynamic at home. But that didn’t last. By random chance, he reconnected with someone he once harboured feelings for, and this time, he didn’t let it pass. He met his future wife.

Both stories are contrasted beautifully on stage with jokes, songs and dance, and tell a beautiful story of how two people with the same role can lead two very different lives at the same time. One experiences everything he wanted but loses what he really cared about, while the other finds everything he could ever need.

The story, which built this musical up as this monolithic opportunity that was capable of defining lives, was systematically deconstructed as we got to experience the toll it had on the performers, and what they sacrificed to stay on the stage.

In the end, they didn’t even choose Frankie Valli; they both walked away from all of it to go back home. There is a beautiful simplicity in that conclusion. Taking huge leaps, sacrificing everything, and then realizing what really mattered most.

Madden and Marchuk are simply excellent on stage. With a live band, some lights and two microphones, they take you back in time to the height of the Jersey Boys with some absolutely phenomenal singing and dancing.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TALE OF TWO FRANKIES: (Left to right) Adrian Marchuk, Jennifer Stewart, Jeff McFadden. Artistic Director Jennifer Stewart poses with How We Got to Jersey co-stars Adrian Marchuk and Jeff McFadden following the finale of their weekend show at Theatre Orangeville. The story follows the pair and their journeys getting the role of Frankie Valli in Jersey Boys. The production was warmly received at Theatre Orangeville, drawing full houses throughout the weekend run.

The music is incredibly well performed, and Madden and Marchuk demonstrated that Frankie doesn’t leave you — especially after the hellish rehearsal cycles they contended with during the production. The pair performed classic hits with a very catchy flair that was very well received by the audience. At points, it sounded like the theatre was singing along in unison.

The accompanying band was equally impressive and delivered an unforgettable per-

formance that left the crowd in a standing ovation for almost 5 minutes through the last song. Each musical track fits perfectly into the stages of the story, from the beginning, middle and sweet ending.

With a captivating, endearing story and catchy, unforgettable musical classics, How We Got to Jersey is an unforgettable road trip down memory lane for fans of Frankie Valli, fans of musical theatre, and, of course, Madden and Marchuk themselves.



David Gauthier
Service Consultant

David brings a calm, customer-first mindset to every service appointment. As a MacMaster Certified Service Consultant, he works hard to ensure every visit is smooth and stress-free. Whether you're dropping in for maintenance or need help navigating a repair, David is ready with clear communication, helpful insight, and a friendly attitude.



Maurice McDonald
Service Consultant

Maurice is the kind of advisor who makes service feel easy. He's known for his warm, approachable style and his ability to keep customers informed every step of the way. With strong product knowledge and a passion for helping people, Maurice takes the guesswork out of vehicle service at Orangeville Chrysler.



Jazz Matharu
Service Consultant

Jazz combines technical knowledge with an easygoing, professional style that customers appreciate. Bilingual in English and Punjabi, he makes sure every guest feels heard and understood. Whether it's a routine visit or a more involved repair, Jazz helps keep the process efficient, transparent, and tailored to your needs.



3 Dealerships, 1 Community

The Citizen CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 26A110 • Solution on page: CLASSIFIEDS SECTION

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	
9				10			11		12
13					14		15		
16				17			18		
19		20		21				22	
	23		24		25			26	
		27		28		29		30	
			31		32		33		
	34				35		36		37
	38			39			40		42
43				44			45		46
48			49	50			51		52
53							54		55
56							57		
	58						59		

CLUES ACROSS

1. Difficult

5. Coarsely ground corn

9. A group of similar things ordered one after another

11. Loved Romeo

13. Something to solve

15. Pelvic areas

16. Informal debt instrument

17. Ineffective

19. A device attached to a workbench

21. Related on the mother's side

22. "Fresh Prince of ___ Air"

23. Astronomer Sagan

25. C. Utah city

26. Turkey

27. Informal terms for money

29. Awakens

31. Those who favored Prohibition

33. Blabbed

34. Looked through

36. Rhode Island rebellion

38. A type of "cast"

39. One's duty

41. Where golfers begin

43. Make a mistake

44. Semitic Sun god

46. Ancient Greek City

48. Removed someone's head

52. A place to stay

53. Unwise

54. Most unnatural

56. "Dennis" is a notable one

57. Ointments

58. Examination

59. Leaked fluid

CLUES DOWN

1. Brave

2. A state of excitement

3. Jest at

4. Sandwich store

5. Chapter of the Koran

6. Dismounted from a horse

7. Small vehicle

8. Irked

9. A disreputable man

10. Monetary unit of Samoa

11. A list of woes

12. Weight unit

14. Alone, single

15. Broadway legend

18. Monetary unit of Serbia

20. Worn by exposure to the weather

24. A body of traditions

26. Students seek one

28. Hydrophilic amino acid

30. Nasal mucus

32. Branch of U.S. Congress

34. Swinish

35. Russian assembly

37. Grant an exemption to

38. Set up in advance

40. Satisfy

42. Felt

43. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls

45. Witnesses

47. Strong insects

49. Gasteyer and de Armas are two

50. One of an ancient people inhabiting Scotland

51. Cheerless

55. Unhealthy

No one has more self-confidence than the person who does a crossword puzzle with a pen.



How they say that in...

English: Engine
Spanish: Motor
Italian: Motore
French: Moteur
German: Motor

Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20. The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

	3	5	28
9			21
	1	0	7
35	14	7	



The bill for repair work on a car or truck will be broken down into these main categories.

Answer: Parts and labor

Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Dashboard gauges

NEW WORD

TRANSMISSION

the mechanism that takes power from the engine and sends it to the wheels of a car

0	1	9
2	01	6
5	3	20

Solution



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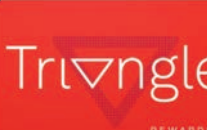
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

FAMILY FUN: Families and community members take part in the 10th Annual Dufferin Autism Walk at Fendley Park in Orangeville on Sunday, Sept. 27. Orangeville councillors Joe Andrews and Debbie Sherwood, as well as MPP Sylvia Jones, were in attendance and met with the walk's ambassadors Brooklyn and Brexton Higgins. Walk attendees met with unique characters like the Grinch, Stitch, Sparky the Fire Dog, the Orangeville Northmen mascot, a Disney princess and the Easter Bunny.

Dufferin OPP reminds motorists to stop for school buses, exercise caution

The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is reminding residents and road users of the importance of stopping for school buses when their red overhead lights are activated and the stop arm is extended.

Children may not always be paying attention to their surroundings when getting on or off a school bus or crossing the roadway. Motorists are reminded to remain alert, slow down and be prepared for chil-

dren who may enter the roadway unexpectedly.

All motorists approaching a stopped school bus with its red overhead lights activated and stop arm extended are required to stop.

Failing to stop puts children at risk and can result in serious consequences, including a fine of at least \$490 and six demerit points upon conviction.

The Dufferin OPP is asking residents and

road users who witness a motorist failing to stop for a school bus to report the incident to police. Where possible, note the vehicle's licence plate, make, model, colour, location and direction of travel. Do not attempt to follow or confront the driver.

The OPP shared several safety reminders for residents:

- Stop when approaching a school bus with its red lights activated and stop arm extended.

- Remain stopped until the bus resumes motion or the red lights and stop arm are no longer activated.
- Watch carefully for children getting on or off the bus and near the roadway.
- Be prepared for children to cross the road unexpectedly.
- Never pass a stopped school bus when required to stop.
- Report motorists who fail to stop for a school bus to police.

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Grand Valley

Dufferin Arts Council celebrates renewed momentum, growth

Written By **CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD**

Co-chair of the Dufferin Arts Council’s board of directors, David Nairn was truly thrilled to discuss the reinvigoration of the organization. He wants to call on members and anyone who would like to become a member to join the council for its Annual General Meeting on Oct. 7, starting at 4 p.m., at the Museum of Dufferin (MOD).

The timing of the meeting aligns with the second After 5 Salon being hosted by the Dufferin Arts Council (DAC), with Beckie Morris speaking, from 5 to 7 p.m., at the MOD’s historic Corbetton Church.

In an interview with the Citizen early this week, Nairn shared very good news about DAC, what is keeping the current members pleased over this past year and why there is so much to look forward to.

“We have had great success,” he began. “Last year, we were facing possibly shutting the council down, but fresh interest came on, and we realized there were many reasons to keep it going. For this year’s meeting, the council has joined partnerships with so many arts organizations from across Dufferin.”

“All strong connections,” Nairn pronounced. “All great partnerships.”

In the course of the last year, a number of initiatives to support and promote Dufferin artists have been released: an online calendar covering arts events across the county, along with an online arts directory, in progress. This is to provide a list of artists for anyone seeking to engage an artist for a project or event.

Yet, Nairn wanted to be clear about how DAC’s definition of an artist covers the whole spectrum of not only visual artists but also dancers, performers, writers, and the many

creators in the world of theatre.

There are scholarships and awards, like the Anne Laurier Scholarship Fund and the Reed T. Copper Bursary, which has been extended to the end of October.

The Reed T. Cooper Bursary is a mid-career award for a Dufferin-based visual artist to expand their work through travel, study, or other means. Originally created by his wife, Jane, in Cooper’s memory, herself a supporter of the arts, the bursary has been carried on by their daughter, Sheila Cooper (McCutch-eon).

Jane Cooper died in 2024.

Donations to the Reed T. Cooper Bursary can be made via CanadaHelps, which issues an automatic tax receipt.

“A year later and we are really moving forward,” said Nairn. “Also, for encouraging people to see what is happening here – a world-class situation.”

Keeping in line and keeping track with DAC’s new schedule, Nairn was so pleased with the community’s reception of the new DAC programs to date. The first After 5 Salon, held in Hockley Village, was a sell-out, and Michael McCreary’s comic evening at the Orangeville Opera House was very well attended by an audience that looks forward to seeing him again.

Nairn explained the style and intention of the salon events as being more a conversation than a lecture, as the flow of the subject could invite comment or question, keeping the conversation fluid. Refreshments will be served at the upcoming After 5 Salon.

The Dufferin Arts Council is a registered charity founded in 1992, a time of something like a renaissance here in Dufferin County.

In 1989, Nancy Frater and her friend Ellen Clare opened their wonderful independent



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

EVENT VENUE: The historic Corbetton Church, built in 1885, will stage the next DAC After 5 Salon. Before that, the Dufferin Arts Council will hold its annual Annual General Meeting on Oct. 7 at the Museum of Dufferin (MOD) at 4 p.m.

bookstore, BookLore. From the beginning, while books were the market, for Frater, the focus was on people and the arts community.

Following this, like something wonderful in nature, the arts made their stamp. In 1994, Signe Ball launched In the Hills Magazine, which covers the Headwaters area.

The same year, 1994, saw the opening of the Museum of Dufferin to a wondrous collection of local history and as a venue for many arts events, with an art gallery displaying works of art on walls rising to the upper floor.

Theatre Orangeville, founded and led by

Jim Betts, lit its stage first in 1993, as the crown of an increasingly vibrant arts community.

And the Dufferin Arts Council supports and promotes these and all the arts organizations in Dufferin.

Dufferin Arts Council invites one and all to attend the Annual General Meeting on Oct. 7 from 4 to 5 pm, after which a walk across to the Corbetton Church will engage everyone on a trip to creating magic with Beckie Morris. Tickets are available online at www.dufferinarts.com/events or at the door of the Corbetton Church.

Teddy Bear clinic brings smiles and health lessons to hundreds of children

Teddy bears and stuffies of all sizes received special care at Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC) on Saturday, Sept. 19, as the hospital welcomed hundreds of children to its beloved Teddy Bear Clinic.

For a few special hours, the hospital was filled with laughter, curiosity and the excitement of children proudly guiding their favourite stuffed companions through their very own health care journey.

“The Teddy Bear Clinic is one of the highlights of the year at Headwaters,” said Kim Delahunt, president and CEO of HHCC. “Seeing children explore the hospital with curiosity and confidence is incredibly rewarding. Through play, we are able to help create positive early experiences with

health care that can make a lasting difference.”

The Teddy Bear Clinic is a free, family-focused event where children bring their favourite stuffed animals to the hospital and guide them through a simulated patient journey.

Along the way, children visit stations such as registration, triage, diagnostic imaging, physician check-ups, pharmacy, and hygiene, helping them learn about health care and become more familiar with the hospital environment. The experience is designed to reduce anxiety and build confidence through play.

This year, 267 children attended the Teddy Bear Clinic, enjoying a variety of activi-

ties alongside their teddy bears. The event was made possible through the support of more than 70 staff, physicians and volunteers who generously gave their time to create a memorable experience for local families.

“The energy throughout the day was absolutely incredible,” said Juliann McArthur, manager of patient experience at HHCC and lead organizer of the Teddy Bear Clinic.

“Everywhere you looked, children were learning, laughing and proudly guiding their teddy bears through the hospital. It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces.”

The Orangeville Optimist Club served as the presenting sponsor for the 2026 Teddy

Bear Clinic.

“The Teddy Bear Clinic is a wonderful example of what can happen when a community comes together,” said Klaus Hoeg, president of the Orangeville Optimist Club. “We are proud to support this event and help create a memorable experience for hundreds of local children and families.”

Headwaters Health Care Centre extends its heartfelt thanks to the staff, physicians, volunteers, sponsors and donors who helped bring the 2026 Teddy Bear Clinic to life.

Together, they created a day that not only entertained and educated, but also helped children build positive and lasting connections with health care.

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Orangeville Transit

The orange route is expanding

See what’s changing Oct. 8

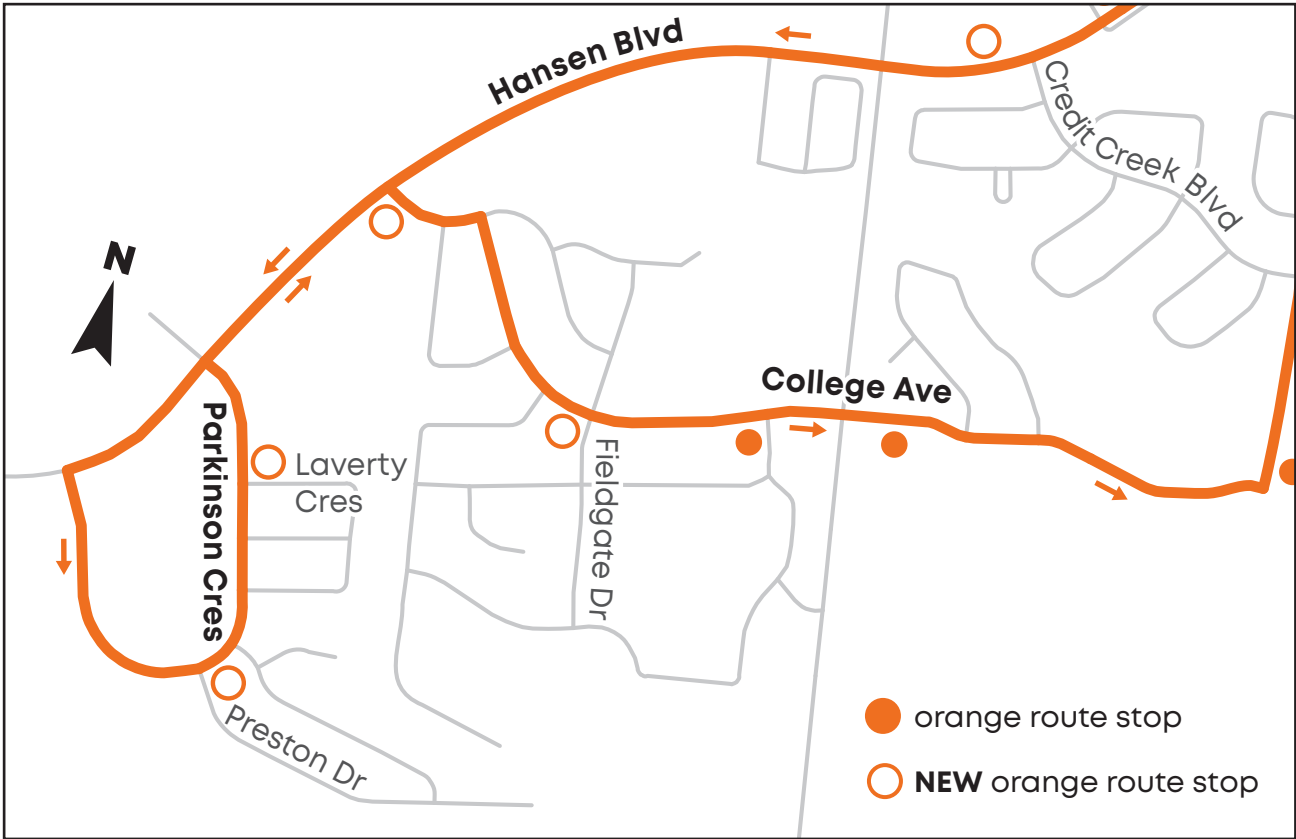
New stops are coming to the Veterans Way community.

Stops to be added

- Hansen Blvd. at Credit Creek Blvd. (Centre Fellowship Church)
- Parkinson Cres. at Preston Dr.
- Parkinson Cres. at Laverty Cres.
- Hansen Blvd. at College Ave.
- College Ave. at Fieldgate Dr.

Stops to be removed

- Blind Line at Hansen Blvd.
- College Ave. at Elaine Dr.
- Fieldgate Dr. at College Ave.



Orange route schedule

Monday to Saturday (except holidays)

Effective October 8, 2026

How to read our schedules

1. Find your stop — stops are listed across the top in the order they are served.
2. Scan across the table to find available departure times.
3. Transfer between routes at the Transit Hub (Center St.) to access the full network.

Note: for stops not listed, estimate arrival times by using the stops shown immediately before and after as a guide.

→ Transit Hub (Center St.)	→ Broadway & John St.	→ Broadway & Fourth St.	→ Hospital	→ Fourth Ave. (Zehrs)	→ Orangeville Mall	→ Hansen Blvd. & College Ave.	→ Hansen Blvd. & First St.	→ ODSS / Tony Rose	→ Transit Hub (Center St.)
Morning service									
6:30 a.m.	6:33 a.m.	6:35 a.m.	6:39 a.m.	6:45 a.m.	6:48 a.m.	6:57 a.m.	7:05 a.m.	7:09 a.m.	7:11 a.m.
Saturday service begins									
7:15 a.m.	7:18 a.m.	7:20 a.m.	7:24 a.m.	7:30 a.m.	7:33 a.m.	7:42 a.m.	7:50 a.m.	7:54 a.m.	7:56 a.m.
8:00 a.m.	8:03 a.m.	8:05 a.m.	8:09 a.m.	8:15 a.m.	8:18 a.m.	8:27 a.m.	8:35 a.m.	8:39 a.m.	8:41 a.m.
8:45 a.m.	8:48 a.m.	8:50 a.m.	8:54 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	9:03 a.m.	9:12 a.m.	9:20 a.m.	9:24 a.m.	9:26 a.m.
9:30 a.m.	9:33 a.m.	9:35 a.m.	9:39 a.m.	9:45 a.m.	9:48 a.m.	9:57 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	10:09 a.m.	10:11 a.m.
10:15 a.m.	10:18 a.m.	10:20 a.m.	10:24 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:33 a.m.	10:42 a.m.	10:50 a.m.	10:54 a.m.	10:56 a.m.
11:00 a.m.	11:03 a.m.	11:05 a.m.	11:09 a.m.	11:15 a.m.	11:18 a.m.	11:27 a.m.	11:35 a.m.	11:39 a.m.	11:41 a.m.
11:45 a.m.	11:48 a.m.	11:50 a.m.	11:54 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	12:03 p.m.	12:12 p.m.	12:20 p.m.	12:24 p.m.	12:26 p.m.
Afternoon service									
12:30 p.m.	12:33 p.m.	12:35 p.m.	12:39 p.m.	12:45 p.m.	12:48 p.m.	12:57 p.m.	1:05 p.m.	1:09 p.m.	1:11 p.m.
1:15 p.m.	1:18 p.m.	1:20 p.m.	1:24 p.m.	1:30 p.m.	1:33 p.m.	1:42 p.m.	1:50 p.m.	1:54 p.m.	1:56 p.m.
2:00 p.m.	2:03 p.m.	2:05 p.m.	2:09 p.m.	2:15 p.m.	2:18 p.m.	2:27 p.m.	2:35 p.m.	2:39 p.m.	2:41 p.m.
2:45 p.m.	2:48 p.m.	2:50 p.m.	2:54 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	3:03 p.m.	3:12 p.m.	3:20 p.m.	3:24 p.m.	3:26 p.m.
3:30 p.m.	3:33 p.m.	3:35 p.m.	3:39 p.m.	3:45 p.m.	3:48 p.m.	3:57 p.m.	4:05 p.m.	4:09 p.m.	4:11 p.m.
4:15 p.m.	4:18 p.m.	4:20 p.m.	4:24 p.m.	4:30 p.m.	4:33 p.m.	4:42 p.m.	4:50 p.m.	4:54 p.m.	4:56 p.m.
5:00 p.m.	5:03 p.m.	5:05 p.m.	5:09 p.m.	5:15 p.m.	5:18 p.m.	5:27 p.m.	5:35 p.m.	5:39 p.m.	5:41 p.m.
5:45 p.m.	5:48 p.m.	5:50 p.m.	5:54 p.m.	6:00 p.m.	6:03 p.m.	6:12 p.m.	6:20 p.m.	6:24 p.m.	6:26 p.m.
6:30 p.m.	6:33 p.m.	6:35 p.m.	6:39 p.m.	6:45 p.m.	6:48 p.m.	6:57 p.m.	7:05 p.m.	7:09 p.m.	7:11 p.m.
Saturday service ends									
7:15 p.m.	7:18 p.m.	7:20 p.m.	7:24 p.m.	7:30 p.m.	7:33 p.m.	7:42 p.m.	7:50 p.m.	7:54 p.m.	7:56 p.m.
8:00 p.m.	8:03 p.m.	8:05 p.m.	8:09 p.m.	8:15 p.m.	8:18 p.m.	8:27 p.m.	8:35 p.m.	8:39 p.m.	8:41 p.m.

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ORANGEVILLE

VOTES

2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

CANDIDATE PROFILES - Part 1

With the upcoming municipal election on October 26, we invited each candidate to respond to the same three questions about their reason for running, priorities and vision for the municipality, qualifications, and contact information. Their responses are published below as submitted, subject only to length and standard copy editing for style, grammar and clarity.

Candidates were asked to keep their responses focused on their own qualifications, priorities and vision for the municipality. Candidates are listed alphabetically within each position they are running for.

Joe Andrews (incumbent) — Running for councillor

1. What made you want to run for municipal office?

Having been heavily involved for almost 40 years within our community through my various professional appointments and volunteer commitments, I already had an established connection to the municipality and higher levels of government.

Seeing first-hand the role and responsibilities of being an elected official truly intrigued me. I was also asked time and time again by so many residents here in Orangeville to consider running for municipal office because of my noted integrity, professional experience, and that I truly care about Orangeville and its future.

I was honoured to be first elected in 2018, successful in my re-election in 2022, and I hope to be re-elected in this fall's Orangeville municipal election. There is still so much to do for our community.

2. What do you see as the biggest issues facing the municipality?

In this elected role now for two terms (2018, 2022), I know we as a community continue to face challenging times economically, including inflationary concerns, balancing the expectations of a growing town, while having additional financial pressures that have been downloaded to our level of municipal responsibility.

What this means: key infrastructure that was neglected for a number of reasons by previous councils now requires immediate renewal or replacement and must be financially supported either through important advocacy to the upper levels of government (provincial, federal) or by long-



term financial planning in order to pay for it.

At this juncture, despite having seen through targeted advocacy the successful financial grant awards from the provincial government of over \$30 million during this term of council, the municipality is still responsible to fund the bulk of infrastructure project support.

From a long-term planning perspective, Orangeville must also consider forms of growth expansion beyond our current borders

in order to address the day to day demands of our community, which is becoming more diverse in its population and business make-up.

There must be an equitable balance between the forms of taxation required from the residential, commercial and industrial tax base to support our commitments.

3. What makes you best suited for this role?

I believe my extensive senior-level leadership experience in both post-secondary education and various business sectors, a genuine duty in making decisions that are based on data, dialogue and critical research and planning, are just a small part of what makes me best suited for this role as councillor.

Yet, it is more than just that.

It is so critical to bring to the table civility, respect and a caring, committed, open form of leadership to everyone who provides a vote of confidence so that I can represent their best interests for the greater good of the community.

I am humbled and honoured to be an elected official for the people of Orangeville.

Boubah Bah — Running for councillor

1. What made you want to run for municipal office?

After several decades of community involvement — including with the Orangeville Lions Club, the Town's Economic Development Office, the Parent-Teacher Association, and through hundreds of hours of community service — combined with my experience in law enforcement, I have gained a deeper understanding of people, their challenges, and their aspirations.

I believe we all want to build better lives and a stronger community. I want to take that experience into public office and serve Orangeville in a role where I can make a meaningful difference.

2. What do you see as the biggest issues facing the municipality?

Fiscal restraint is one of the main challenges facing Orangeville.

We need to find ways to control and prioritize expenditures while increasing non-tax revenues where possible.

There are several avenues to achieve this, but it will require clear explanations, realistic goals, and a recognition that the economic environment has



changed.

We also need to build on Orangeville's strengths: an educated workforce, a clean environment, and our proximity to major industrial and commercial centres.

3. What makes you best suited for the role?

I am a pragmatic and practical person who listens, observes, and engages with people to achieve specific goals.

I know this community well through my years of involvement with local service organizations, fundraising for various causes, and participating in community initiatives.

My professional experience in law enforcement has also taught me the importance of leadership, accountability, and finding practical solutions.

Having travelled extensively across Canada and around the world, I have seen how other communities address similar challenges.

I believe we can learn from those experiences while adapting good ideas to Orangeville's own realities and strengths.

Vote for Boubah for Strong Governance, Smart Spending, Vibrant Orangeville — A Better Future For All! Visit me at: boubah4orangeville.ca

Austin Cotton — Running for councillor

1. What made you want to run for municipal office?

As someone who grew up in Orangeville, I've watched the town grow as well, but I believe there is work to be done for positive change to support this growth.

As a father and homeowner, my passion for municipal issues is greater than ever before, and I believe the best way to enact the change you want to see is to do the work yourself.

I believe in the need for diverse perspectives on town council and collective values that align with citizens' penchant for transparency, accessibility, and affordability.

There are several issues I am passionate about, including fiscal responsibility, public safety and crime, property tax management, disability accessibility, municipal accountability, and our connection to the GTA, particularly since the sale of our railway.

I believe better accessibility between Orangeville and the GTA would improve the quality of life for citizens commuting for work or school and boost our tourism industry and local economy. Orangeville has a lot to offer, whether you live here or are just visiting; let's make the most of it and make it work for us.



2. What do you see as the biggest issues facing the municipality?

I am particularly passionate about our connection to the GTA and the sale of our previous railway corridor. This is a pain point that I have heard from other citizens, whether they want to get to the city for leisure or experience long, traffic-heavy commutes each day.

If elected, I intend to collaborate with council and the provincial government on a plan to improve GO Transit access and shorten commute times.

Before COVID caused more people to move out of the city and up to Orangeville, low GO bus ridership was cited as a reason not to expand service. While attending U of T, I rode the GO bus many times and know firsthand that the service is not ideal. That is why ridership is low. It would take half the day to get from downtown Toronto to Orangeville Mall. This is not feasible for commuters, working families, our growing population, or our local economy.

We need an updated investigation to explore the feasibility and demand for improved GO Transit options. Prioritizing faster connections will make better use of residents' time and strengthen our

tourism industry, helping to reduce the need to rely on residential property taxes.

3. What makes you best suited for the role?

Our town will only benefit from fresh perspectives and better representation for all life stages. I will represent young families and working-age individuals to ensure the needs of our entire community are reflected at a governance level.

All candidates will be touching on similar issues and topics, but my approach to winning your vote is entirely different. I pledge that I will not knock on your door uninvited, solicit donations, or clutter the roads with signs. I believe local leadership should be

about modern solutions, not outdated disruptions.

Instead, as a town council nominee, I am accessible to discuss issues and concerns on your terms, with respect for your doorstep, time, and attention.

As an elected town councillor, I will be proactive in problem-solving and will be here when you need me. I will work for you.

I promise to ensure fiscal responsibility, to hold council to a high level of accountability that considers all citizens' values, and, most importantly, to not take this role lightly.

Have questions or ideas for our town? You can reach me directly at austin.cotton@yahoo.ca.

Carrie-Anne DeCaprio — Running for councillor

1. What made you want to run for municipal office?

I'm running because I love Orangeville, and I believe the people who live here should feel connected to the decisions being made about their community.

Through my work in the non-profit sector, volunteering, and simply being part of this town, I've had the privilege of meeting people from all walks of life. I've also seen what can happen when people, businesses, community organizations, town staff and government work together.

Over the last few years, I've become more curious about how municipal decisions are made and how those decisions affect people in their everyday lives. I started attending council meetings, asking more questions and learning more about the role.

Eventually, I realized I didn't just want to follow those conversations. I wanted to contribute to them.

For me, running for council is another way to serve the community I already call home: listening, learning, bringing people together and helping make thoughtful decisions about Orangeville's future.

Because at the end of every budget, policy, and decision, real people are affected. And People Matter Most.

2. What do you see as the biggest issues facing the municipality?

Affordability is the issue I hear about most, and it touches almost everything else.

I saw the pressure firsthand during my three years working at the Orangeville Food Bank. More families, seniors and working people were asking for help as housing, groceries and everyday expenses became harder to manage.

Municipal council can't solve affordability on its own, and I think candidates need to be honest about that. But the decisions council makes matter.

We need responsible stewardship of tax dollars and careful decisions about spending. We need thoughtful



growth and more attainable housing options while protecting what people value about Orangeville. We need strong infrastructure and municipal services, a healthy local economy, and continued collaboration with community organizations, businesses and other levels of government.

Those priorities compete for limited resources, which means council will sometimes have to make difficult choices.

For me, the question should always be: what is the long-term impact of this decision, and how will the people who live here experience it?

3. What makes you best suited for the role?

I listen. I ask questions. I do my homework. And I'm comfortable bringing people with different perspectives around the same table.

My work in donor engagement, nonprofit leadership, community outreach and governance has taught me a lot about stewardship, accountability and collaboration. I've worked with residents, businesses, nonprofit organizations, municipal staff and elected officials, and I've seen how much stronger decisions can be when people actually listen to one another.

I also understand the role I'm asking voters to entrust me with. Councillors provide direction and oversight; municipal staff bring the operational and technical expertise. A good councillor doesn't need to walk into the room knowing everything. They need to prepare, ask strong questions, consider the evidence, listen to residents and staff, weigh competing priorities and make responsible decisions for the long term.

I bring curiosity, energy, compassion and a willingness to do the work.

Most importantly, I won't forget who those decisions are for. Council deals with budgets, roads, housing, planning and infrastructure, but ultimately, it's all about people.

People Matter Most.

Michelle Hartley — Running for councillor

1. What made you want to run for municipal office?

Truly, my plan, desire, and goal was to run in 2030 as a council candidate — I felt I still had a lot to learn and invest in. But then I saw some councillor candidates that I felt were in it for all the wrong reasons: money, popularity, the title — so I threw my hat into the ring.

The first two people I told were current Mayor List Post and current Coun. Debbie Sherwood at the Alder Library, on the day it's new Makerspace was showcased.

2. What do you see as the biggest issues facing the municipality?

Honesty, transparency, communication, living town experiences first-hand, and apologies. I have gone



before council Monday nights, pointing out big, big errors. No one ever apologizes.

3. What makes you best suited for the role?

I deeply, sincerely, honestly care and have for years. The role is not about the money. I'm in favour 100 per cent to roll that income back to 2024.

I experience our town every day: swimming twice a day, taking the bus, fundraising for the food bank, having been a client at Family Transition Place, budgeting the

gas money to drive just 5 mins out of town for a fun moment.

I dislike liars, bullies, fakes, and phonies.

It takes teamwork to make the town work.

Watch for ongoing Orangeville candidate coverage in the weeks leading up to the Oct. 26 municipal election as part of our Orangeville Votes coverage. We'll continue providing voters with information about the candidates, their priorities and their vision for the community.

ORANGEVILLE

Votes

Orangeville District Secondary School’s senior soccer season underway

Written By **CHRIS PERROTTE**

The Orangeville District Secondary School (ODSS) Bears senior soccer team had a strong start to their 2026 campaign with a 5-1 win over the Centre Wellington District High School (CWDHS) in their season opener on Sept. 22.

In the first half, CWDHS opened the scoring for a 1-0 lead. ODSS tied the game and went up 4-1 thanks to a goal from Kameron Izzard and a hat trick from Grayson Lepage.

“It felt pretty good,” said Lepage, who plays centre-mid. “I think all around the team played well, fed me the ball and I had opportunities to score.”

In the second, the Bears added to the lead with a penalty kick goal scored by Lucas Drennan and won the game.

On Sept. 24, with a win in the record column, the Bears faced St. James Catholic High School Lions, who also won their first game of the season. In their season opener, they faced the Bishop Macdonell Catholic High School Celtics and defeated them 1-0.

Both teams were evenly matched to start, going back and forth until Bishop Mac increased the pressure offensively and created scoring opportunities. The Bears’ defence held its own throughout the first half and responded

with scoring chances.

“I think we are doing really well. I think we’ve had our opportunities that we could have capitalized on. But overall, everyone wants to win. Everyone is not just here for jokes; we want to win, and I think if we continue going, we’ll get our opportunities and we will be able to come out with the win,” said Nathan McLeod, who plays the centre-mid position for the Bears.

Just before the first half ended, the Lions scored the first goal of the game to make it 1-0 for them.

“They’re playing awesome. We came out a little shaky at the beginning, just getting use [to] the climate of things going on here, but I think they really settled in before [the] half and were able to control that midfield, stop their main attackers, and its definitely been a good push,” said Justin Szarabura, head coach of the Lions.

In the second half, ODSS applied the pressure, tilting the field and creating scoring chances that they couldn’t capitalize on. Midway through the match on a Lions possession, it appeared like they scored to make it 2-0. However, the goal was waived off as it hit the player’s elbow first before he kicked it in, which is against the rules.

On another possession, a penalty kick was

awarded to the Bears. Lepage took the shot but couldn’t get it past the goalie.

By the end of the match, the Celtics held on to a 1-0 victory over the Bears, improving their record to 2-0 to start the season.

“We’re not passing the ball well and not moving it through our midfield very well, we’re trying to skip the midfield,” explained Darryn Stevenson, head coach of the ODSS Bears, on what can be improved going forward.

“We also need to stop trying to put balls vertically up the field. Get them on angles and we did that a lot better on Tuesday than we did today.”

The ODSS Bears are 1-1 in the standings to kick off their soccer season.



CHRIS PERROTTE PHOTO

GAME TIME: ODSS Bears players compete against the St. James Catholic High School Lions during a senior boys soccer game on Sept. 24.

Orangeville Rotary hosts 9/11 survivor

Continued from **FRONT**

Dittmar ended his address by asking those gathered to continue carrying the memory of the victims and the events of Sept. 11 with them.

“Always remember and never, never forget,” he said.

The evening event continued Rotary Orangeville Highlands’ tradition of bringing the community together while raising funds that will be reinvested into local organizations through its Community Choice Grants.

The grant program provides funding to local non-profit organizations, with residents helping nominate and select recipients. Five grants are awarded through the program, ranging from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per organization.

Rotary Orangeville Highlands previously organized Canada Day celebrations for 20 years and hosted its annual Taste of Autumn fundraiser for 30 years. Over its three-decade run, Taste of Autumn raised more than \$2 million to support local organizations and international initiatives.

Grand Valley resident charged with impaired driving

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers charged a Grand Valley resident with impaired driving-related offences following a traffic complaint.

On Sept. 26, at approximately 6:00 p.m., officers responded to a traffic complaint regarding a possible impaired driver in the area of Bythia Street in Orangeville.

Officers attended the area and located the vehicle and driver. During their interaction with the driver, officers initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result, Sonny Rumbelow, 36, from

Grand Valley, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

The accused individual is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville at a later date to answer to the charges.

In addition, the individuals’ driver’s licences were suspended, and the vehicles were impounded. None of the charges have been proven in court.

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450 g

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SAVE \$4

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6-10 PIECES 907 g

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16⁹⁹ Asian Party Pack
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SALE

16⁹⁹ Puff Pastry Quartet
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Orangeville Minor Hockey hosts Annual Fall Classic to kick off season

Written By CHRIS PERROTTE

The 2026-27 season kicked off with the Orangeville Minor Hockey Annual Fall Classic at Tony Rose Memorial Sports Centre and the Alder Street Recreation Centre from Sept. 25 to 27.

Five Orangeville Flyers teams represented the Town of Orangeville by making it to the finals in their respective divisions. The championship matches took place on Sunday, Sept. 27, capping off a weekend of tournament competition.

In the U14 Boys AA Division, the Flyers faced the Kingston Canadiens in a very tight defensive match. Both teams exchanged scoring opportunities but didn't have an answer for each other's goaltenders. At the end of regulation, the score was tied 0-0, with overtime solving nothing. A shootout was the only way to resolve this game.

Kingston scored on all three of their shootout attempts while the Flyers went one for three. The final score was 1-0 in favour of the Canadiens, who took home gold medals.

After first- and second-place medals were handed out by some Orangeville Minor Hockey officials, the Flyers skated off the ice to applause from the crowd in appreciation of their hard work during the game.

"I got a great squad in there (dressing room). None of those boys are hanging their heads down low. Very proud, and I couldn't ask for a better squad," said Chris Randell, U14 head coach for the Orangeville Minor Hockey Association (OMHA).

Eighty-Three teams competed this year in the Orangeville Fall Classic across 15A and AA divisions from U10 through U18. The organizers of this year's tournament couldn't be happier with the results.

"We were extremely pleased with the turnout throughout the weekend. With teams travelling to Orangeville from communities across Ontario, our arenas were busy from Friday morning right through championship Sunday. It was great to see so many players, families, coaches and spectators in our community supporting the tournament," said Melissa Wilson, director of communications for the OMHA.

Every rink had supporters in the stands from out of town and right here at home in Orangeville. They cheered on their teams, showing love for the young players on the ice.

"It's a great community [Orangeville]



GAME PLAN: Orangeville Flyers U14 head coach Chris Randell provides instruction to players in between periods during the Orangeville Minor Hockey Annual Fall Classic.

to play hockey in. Everybody supports their Flyers and comes out to root us on. It's amazing," said Justin Deabaitua, head coach of the U16 AA Flyers, who's team lost in the finals against the South Oxford Storm.

A tournament of this magnitude couldn't have been successful without the help of the volunteers, tournament convener, board members, arena staff, officials, timekeepers, vendors, sponsors and everyone who made this tournament what it was.

"It was pretty fun. A lot of aggressiveness, a lot of speed, just an overall fun tournament," said William Nielsen, who plays right wing for the U15 Kitchener Rangers. "Thank you very much [Orangeville]."

There was a buzz of excitement, joy, heartache, anticipation and memories created through the experiences of the weekend tournament. Families and supporters invested time in their players, making this

an event they won't soon forget.

"We've had a lot of positive feedback on how it's been run. With all the vendors that are available. How people are being treated. It's been really good. It's been really positive this year," said Jamie Britt, vice president of rep hockey for the OMHA.

On the whole, the OMHA is proud of the positive impact the Fall Classic has had in the community.

"Beyond hockey itself, we are most proud of the atmosphere the Fall Classic creates. It brings hundreds of players and their families into Orangeville and the surrounding communities for the weekend, while giving our local Flyers teams the opportunity to compete in a large tournament right here at home," said Wilson.

"We are very proud of how the weekend came together and are already looking at ways to continue building and improving the Fall Classic for next year."

The list below shows which team won each division at the Fall Classic. Teams marked with an asterisk (*) indicate the Orangeville Flyers finished second.

- U10AA - Halton Hills Thunder
- U10A - Delhi Norwich 59ers
- U11AA - Centre Wellington Fusion *
- U11A - Southeast Surge *
- U12AA Waterloo Wolves
- U12A - Southeast Surge
- U13AA - SOO Jr. Greyhounds
- U13A - Bruce Grey Bulls
- U14AA - Kingston Canadiens *
- U14A - Cambridge Hawks *
- U15AA - Kitchener Jr. Rangers
- U15A - Copper Cliff Reds
- U16AA - South Oxford Storm *
- U16A - Guelph Gryphons
- U18A - Welland Tigers

For further updates on tournaments and games throughout the hockey season, visit: orangevilleminorhockey.com

Ladies Three Pitch team takes C Division Championship after winning one game all season

Written By CHRIS PERROTTE

"I'm going to tell you something. I had girls who had never played a game in their life this year. A young girl, an older girl, couldn't run. We cried; we were so emotional because we only won one game all year," said Cindy Knie, who's team won the Orangeville Ladies Three Pitch Baseball League C Division Championship on Sept. 19.

Knie's team, PDB Contracting, did what seemed impossible for most of the season.

This team of 12 ladies, ages 18 to 71, came out to play ball for four months, from May to September. Despite their efforts on the dia-

mond, they had only one win after 22 games in the regular season.

When the playoffs arrived on Sept. 19, the 12-team league was divided into three divisions – A, B, and C. Each team was guaranteed three playoff games. The PDB Contracting Team found themselves in the C Division.

With only one regular-season win, their first playoff game was against the M&M's squad. They won that game, then the second, then the third, guaranteeing them a match in the final championship game against M&M's. They defeated them and were crowned the best team in the C Division.

"It doesn't matter how you play all year; it's all about [having] fun with us," said Knie, who has played approximately 33 years in the Orangeville Ladies Three Pitch Baseball League.

This league has been around for 35 years. Games are played twice a week, every Monday and Thursday, with playoffs commencing on the third weekend of September.

Every team, regardless of their record, gets an opportunity to compete in the playoffs.

The PDB Contracting made the most of their opportunity and created memories they will never forget.

At the end of each season, an awards

banquet is held where trophies for both team and individual successes are handed out. Among the awards is a Spirit Award, where one person from each team is chosen for being dedicated and happy. Cindy Knie received the award as the team's ultimate cheerleader.

"Regardless of how you play, it's all about the fun. We just go out for fun, and that's all I want," said Knie.

Registration for this Three Pitch League usually starts around the beginning of March. To sign up, email ovilleladiesthreepitch@gmail.com

As the PDB Contracting team has shown this year, anything is possible.

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CINDERELLA STORY: The PDB Contracting team from the Orangeville Ladies Three Pitch Baseball League receives a championship plaque after winning the C Division Championship on Sept. 19. The team had won only one game out of 22 in the regular season.

OPINION

Campaign to restart property assessments

Numbers. They're all around us. That's according to an advertisement I recently watched from the province's Municipal Property Assessment Corporation. That's the crowd that assesses what properties throughout Ontario are worth. Your home's monetary worth. Not its sentimental worth as the place where a family's memories, good and bad, have been made.

Images in the ad show numbers on a mailbox. The digits that make up a street address. A keypad as part of an alarm system presumably for a house. There are numbers on a sports jersey for some reason. The point is they're all around us, numbers.

Street address numbers don't change. And some athletes have been known, for superstitious and other reasons, to wear the same jersey number even though the jersey's colours and team logo change.

And that's fitting, given that MPAC's commercial and residential property assessments have been frozen for the last decade. Municipalities have been left to maintain and improve infrastruc-

ture and balance budgets according to numbers from assessments last done in 2016.

And in that time, the costs to live have increased, as have prices for much of the materials used to keep towns, townships, and cities in good repair.

Letters have been sent to Ontario municipal councils by a tax policy group called Ryan Canada ULC as part of a campaign to "unfreeze Ontario." Unfreeze Ontario is a lobby effort to get the province to reinstate regular property assessments, beginning with a province-wide reassessment in 2027. That would be handy next year. The opening year of the new term of municipal and county councils.

Part of the campaign is that letters be sent by municipal councils to Premier Doug Ford and Finance Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy calling on them to restore regular property assessments.

The letter has been sent to Mono's elected officials and a number of Ontario municipal councils. Mono council decided to look further into the tax com-

pany before hitching their wagon to the effort. But the letter campaign generated discussion amongst that Dufferin County town's councillors when they met Sept. 22.

In the decade since the last assessments, property values and economic conditions have changed significantly, yet those changes are not being reflected in the distribution of the property tax burden, Ryan Canada states in its letter.

"For municipalities, this is fundamentally an issue of fairness, predictability, and sound fiscal planning. Reassessment does not automatically mean higher property taxes. It simply ensures property values reflect today's market so the tax burden can be shared more fairly."

One of the trusses of Unfreeze Ontario is that this is fundamentally an issue of fairness, predictability, and sound fiscal planning, as reassessment ensures property values reflect today's market so the tax burden can be shared more fairly.

The freeze also makes it harder for municipalities to plan for growth, infrastructure, housing, and development

JAMES MATTHEWS
THE BUSTLE IN THE HEDGEROW



using a tax base that no longer reflects their communities' reality.

MPAC had a presence at the 2026 Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference in August, as you'd expect. According to Ryan Canada, the need for reassessments of Ontario's properties was a concern.

Municipal and county councils are not asking for reassessments to continue because they're trying to collect more property tax at a time when money is for all kinds of reasons tight for taxpayers. Rather, reassessments could make it financially easier for some property owners to live when money is tight today.

From Ryan Canada's website: "When assessments no longer reflect relative market values, some property owners can shoulder more than their fair share of the tax burden while others pay less. The longer assessments remain frozen, the greater those distortions may become."

Numbers are all around us. And some of them are incorrect numbers.

Brazilian election

"Flávio Bolsonaro is Trump's candidate and what Trump wants is to colonise Brazil, take our riches, steal our future and leave us in the dust," claims the latest video released by

President Luiz Inácio 'Lula' da Silva's re-election campaign. The weird thing is about half of Brazil's voters would be okay with Trump running the country (through Bolsonaro).

Nobody in Brazil thinks that Flávio Bolsonaro is his own man. He is the son of Jair Bolsonaro, the hard right ex-soldier and former president who tried a coup after he lost the 2022 election. It was even clumsier and more half-hearted than Trump's brief excursion in sedition after he lost the US 2020 election – but Jair Bolsonaro went to jail for his attempt.

In a strange way Trump even recognises the parallel, showing special sympathy for his imprisoned fellow traveler. He claimed that the senior Bolsonaro was the victim of a "witch-hunt" by the Brazilian Supreme Court and slapped 50% tariffs on the country. And next Sunday (4 October) the junior Bolsonaro faces Lula in another presidential election.

We already know that there will be a second round of voting on 25 October, when the other three candidates have

dropped out and it's a straight race between Lula and Junior. We have no idea what that outcome will be, because the two men have been only one or two points apart (i.e. 'within the margin of error') in every opinion poll for months.

We know where that extraordinary stability come from, because it is the same in the United States and in many other democracies. Most Brazilians have abandoned 'legacy media' and get all their information from a vast network of alternative news sites, YouTube channels, social media influencers, Facebook pages, WhatsApp groups and legions of bots.

Or rather, from two vast and mutually exclusive networks of the same. Whatever your opinion is now, it will likely be the same next year because little else is getting through. Moreover, in the Brazilian case, there's not really much to get excited about.

Inflation is low, unemployment is low, and the economy is growing faster in Brazil than in most other G20 countries. A big bank failed last year causing a long-running corruption scandal and the murder rate is preposterously high, but relatively speaking Brazilians should not have much to complain about, so in the

end it will probably come down to 'sovereignty'.

Lula recently warned on 'X' that Flávio Bolsonaro will "hand our natural resources over to the United States...If it's up to him, Brazil will become a colony again." The president portrays that as a threat, and traditionally the vast majority of Brazilians would have agreed, but both Flávio and his imprisoned father Jair would see it almost as a happy ending.

Neither of them puts it exactly like that in public, but both men see the brutal military dictatorship of 1964-1985 as a lost golden age. Jair served it as an active-service officer and has praised its torturers ("The dictatorship's mistake was to torture but not kill"). His son says "there was security, there was quality health and education, there was respect."

No there wasn't. There was terror, lies and legalised looting, but we need not relitigate that here. The problem is how quickly people forget, and a softer, gentler version of those brutal regimes is taking over all across Latin America.

Keiko Fujimori, the old dictator's daughter, is the new president of Peru. The father of Chile's new president José Antonio Kast was a Nazi who fought for Hitler, and he himself had links to the bloody

dictator Pinochet. President Javier Milei of Argentina is a chainsaw-wielding 'anarcho-capitalist paleolibertarian'.

Abelardo de la Espriella, Colombia's new president, restarted the war with insurgents on his first day in office. Delcy Rodríguez, once vice-president of Venezuela under Maduro, has switched to being president under Trump and signed over the country's oil. There's Daniel Noboa in Ecuador and Nayib Bukele in El Salvador, and Cuba awaits its fate at Trump's hands.

A shady lot, you might say, and they are all selling the same deal: prosperity and security in return for obedience. That's not a terrible deal if the autocrats keep their end of bargain, but generally they can't or at least won't. There will be tears before bedtime.

There are only two big hold-outs to the populist wave in Latin America. Mexico in the north seems all right for the moment, but Brazil in the south is teetering on the brink. All that really stands between it and failure is one 80-year-old man – but he is a very tough old man, and if his health holds he may be able to pull it off.

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



A young girl's strength of character

Sometimes the right thing to do is not the most popular thing to do. But if you have the strength to say "no" to something you know is wrong, you'll ultimately be able to live with yourself long after the moment has passed.

It might feel good in the moment to cave in and say "yes," but it could be something you regret for the rest of your life — especially if you knew it was wrong and sensed you were being manipulated by someone pretending to be your friend.

If you have the courage to say "no," it may feel bad at the time, but down the road you will feel good in your heart for the rest of your life for knowing you stood firm when it mattered most.

One of the hardest places to do this is on the playground. When these situations happen to young children in this setting, the feelings are new and can be especially difficult to sort out, particularly when they're put on the spot and pressured by other kids for an immediate response.

One of my cousins was one of the more

popular girls in her public-school class, but her mother always made sure she was raised with strong values and a down to earth attitude. My cousin always had plenty of friends and always made a point of including some of the less popular students she liked in her social circle — much to the annoyance of a small handful of her snobbish, cliquey "cool" friends.

And because of the way she was raised, one day on the playground she had the strength of character to stand up to peer pressure and do what was right.

When my cousin was having a birthday party and was handing out party invitations at recess, she included some of the less popular kids she genuinely liked. Her decision to invite one unpopular girl in particular did not sit well with one of her snobbish friends.

Supremely confident in her status as one of the "cool" kids in the class, this cliquey friend tried to manipulate the situation. When she received her invitation, she tried to invoke peer pressure and told my cousin she wouldn't come to the party

if that one unpopular girl was invited.

Unfazed by the attempted power play, my cousin didn't argue. She didn't plead. She didn't try to negotiate her guest list to keep the peace. She simply shrugged, said "Okay", took the invitation back, and handed it to someone else. The snobbish girl stood there stunned, suddenly stripped of the power she thought she had.

The less popular girl — my cousin's friend — was deeply touched by this display of loyalty. Wanting to improve her own social standing, she proudly went around the playground that recess telling everyone she had been invited to a popular girl's birthday party.

One of my cousin's teachers witnessed the exchange on the playground that day. At the next parent teacher night, moved by my young cousin's strength of character, the teacher took my aunt aside and quietly said to her, "I want to commend you on the way you're raising your daughter."

While difficult to achieve at times,

strength of character is essential in today's high pressure world. It can be tough to say "no" in the face of modern peer pressure but standing up and refusing something you know in your heart is wrong can save you from a lifetime of regret.

If you cave in and say "yes" to something you know is wrong, it might feel good in the moment, but you will feel bad later because deep down, you'll know it was the wrong choice.

But if you say "no" when it matters, you might feel bad at first, but you will feel good later — and for the rest of your life — because you'll know in your heart that you did the right thing when it counted the most.

As we all know, doing the right thing in the heat of the moment can be very difficult. But sometimes the hardest "no" becomes the one you're proudest of years later.

And it always feels right in the end.

KEITH SCHELL
REMEMBERING WHEN



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COMMUNITY VOICES

Orangeville Food Bank says policy change is needed to fight food insecurity

September is Hunger Action Month. It is marked by delegations to local councils to highlight the need in the community and to advocate for a better system.

This year we are in the midst of a municipal election, and we have increased our efforts to include gathering the voices of those living with food insecurity and bringing their experience to the potential future leaders of our community.

This work is made possible through a Food Banks Canada grant specifically for advocacy because while donations are critical to supporting the work we do, only policy

change will pull us out of the food insecurity crisis we are facing.

Food Insecurity is a failure of policy not a failure of people

I have sat across from countless people who tell me their story to help me understand why they find themselves at a food bank.

Illnesses, injury, domestic violence, job loss, mortgage rates — the list goes on.

No one ever wants to walk through the food bank doors. Sadly, last year 25,000 visits were made to our food bank.

On a monthly basis, we see 1,600 unique individuals, of which 33 per cent are kiddos.

When I started in 2015, we saw 380 people a month, and I used to say that I wanted to be put out of business. Almost 12 years in, I don't believe that will happen. The need has grown by 320 per cent since I started.

Food banks do not receive funding from the provincial or federal government. We have been fortunate to receive funding from the Town of Orangeville and the County of Dufferin, which makes up 6 per cent of our needed funding this year.

Without the support of this community for the last 34 years, we would not have been able to do what we do. Sadly, donations have not kept pace with the increase in need.

Our community has always been our



backbone, but right now, we are facing an unprecedented gap. When donations fall behind a 320 per cent spike in demand, it is the 1,600 real people — our neighbours, our coworkers, and those 500 children walking into our facility each month — who feel the deficit first.

Advocacy and policy changes are the only path to a future without hunger, but policy change takes time.

Our families cannot wait for an election cycle or a legislative shift to eat; they need to eat tonight. As we wrap up Hunger Action Month, we urgently call on the compassion that has sustained us for 34 years. Please consider making a financial or food donation today to help us bridge this gap, meet this staggering new reality, and ensure that no child or family in our community is left with an empty plate.

Thank you for helping us build a well-nourished community supported by kindness, dignity and choice.



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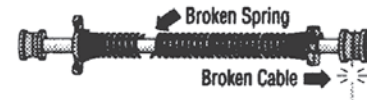
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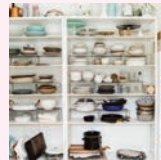
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Fatal two-vehicle collision results in death of 24-year old Toronto man

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers with assistance from Dufferin County Paramedic Services and local fire departments, responded to a fatal two-vehicle collision in Mono.

On Sept. 29, at approximately 12:03 a.m., emergency crews were dispatched to the area of Highway 10 between County Road 10 and County Road 8 in Mono following a collision involving two passenger vehicles, each occupied by a lone driver.

The driver of one of the vehicles was transported to a local hospital before being airlifted to a Toronto-area trauma centre for treatment of injuries sustained in the collision.

Tragically, the driver of the second vehicle, a 24-year-old male from Toronto, was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Members of the OPP Technical Collision Investigation (TCI) unit attended to assist

with the investigation.

The investigation remains ongoing.

Anyone with information or dashcam

footage related to the collision is asked to contact the Dufferin OPP by phone at 1-888-310-1122.



OBITUARIES

EDWARD GEORGE WILLIAMS

Passed away in his cherished home on Saturday, August 15, 2026 at the age of 82. Dearly beloved husband of the late Sheila Williams. Loving Dad of Justin & Melissa, and proud Granddad of Ava and Emma. Edward will be sadly missed and fondly remembered by his family, friends and neighbours.

Visitation at NEWEDIUK FUNERAL HOME, KIPLING CHAPEL, 2058 Kipling Avenue (North of Rexdale Boulevard), on Saturday, October 3, 2026 from 12 p.m. until memorial service in the chapel at 1 p.m.

As expressions of sympathy and in lieu of flowers, donations to the Orangeville branch of the Salvation Army would be greatly appreciated.



In Memory of

Tammy Mulligan

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FOR INFORMATION regarding **HEART and STROKE**, call Dori Ebel (519)941-1865 or 1-800-360-1557.

IF YOU or a FAMILY MEMBER are struggling with gambling, Gamblers Anonymous is there to HELP. Call: (1855) 222-5542 or

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The **LORD DUFFERIN CHAPTER IODE** holds their meetings at the Lord Dufferin Centre on the 4th Tuesday of every month. We are looking for women who would like to help in the Community. Call 519-941-1865.

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COMING EVENTS



**Monticello United Church
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Monday, Oct. 19th
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Dine-In: 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Tickets: Adults: \$25
Kids 6–12: \$15
Children 5 & Under: Dine Free
Reserve your spot before Oct. 17th
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Two Dufferin County residents charged in Shelburne shoplifting investigation

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers charged two individuals with theft-related offences following an investigation at a grocery store in Shelburne.

On Sept. 22, at approximately 5:58 p.m., officers were dispatched to a grocery store located on Ojibway Road in Shelburne regarding a theft in progress.

Police were advised that two individuals had pushed a loaded grocery cart out of the store without making any attempt to pay for the merchandise.

Officers attended the area and located two individuals walking in the area of Highway 89 and the Mulmur-Melancthon Townline, carrying multiple bags.

During their interaction with the individuals, officers initiated a theft investigation.

As a result of the investigation, James Boisse-White, 39, from Orangeville, has been charged with theft Under \$5000 (shoplifting).

Boisse-White was also charged in connection with a separate theft-from-vehicle investigation stemming from a call for service

on Aug. 23, on Gilmour Street in Shelburne. He was charged with one count of theft under \$5,000 from a motor vehicle and seven counts of use of credit card.

Boisse-White was held for a bail hearing in relation to a previous warrant.

The second individual arrested in connection to the Sept. 22 shoplifting incident was Kelsey Bourque-Luck, 31, from Shelburne, has been charged with theft under \$5000 (shoplifting).

Both accused are scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville at a later date to answer to the charges.

None of the charges have been proven in court.

Anyone with information regarding this investigation is asked to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

Those wishing to remain anonymous can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or submit information online through Crime Stoppers Simcoe Dufferin Muskoka.

Interfering with municipal election signs can result in criminal charges, says OPP

Interfering with municipal election signs can result in criminal charges: OPP

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is reminding residents that interfering with election signs may constitute a criminal offence and will be investigated when reported.

During the current election period, Central Region OPP detachments have received reports of election signs being removed, relocated, damaged, discarded, and stolen.

The OPP encourages respectful participation in the democratic process and reminds the public that disagreements with candidates, policies, or campaign messaging should never result in damage to property or interference with election materials.

Election signs are the property of candidates and their campaigns. Tampering with or removing these signs without authorization may result in criminal or provincial charges, depending on the circumstances.

Examples of election sign interference include:

- Stealing election signs
- Removing signs from authorized locations
- Damaging or vandalizing signs
- Relocating signs without permission
- Disposing of signs in ditches, parks, or other public or private locations

Anyone who witnesses suspicious activity involving election signs is encouraged to contact police. If it is safe to do so, members of the public are asked to note suspect descriptions, vehicle information, or obtain video footage that may assist investigators.

Anyone with information regarding election sign interference is asked to contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Those wishing to remain anonymous can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit information online at www.ontariocrimestoppers.ca.



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OCT 30TH - Estate Firearms Auction

NOV 23RD-28TH - Straight Shooter Sale

DEC 11TH - Antiques, Collectibles & Quality Household Items

DEC 18TH - Currency / Art / Jewelry Auction

JAN 29TH - Tool & Equipment Sale



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LIVE AUCTION SALE

Fall Equipment Consignment

Saturday October 3rd, 9:30 a.m.

554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON — Go west through Orangeville on Hwy 9 to County Rd 16 (Veterans Way at Greenwood Cemetery), turn north 5 miles to farm on East side. Or from Shelburne go east on Hwy 89 for 2 miles to Mono-Amaranth Townline, turn south & go 5 miles to farm on East side.

Tractor: JD 3720, 2013yr, 300CX loader, cab, 1331hrs. Well looked after. JD front mount blower & other acc (to be listed later-sold separately); JD 2130 Tractor 2WD with 146 loader & 6ft material bucket; TAFE 450 with 6010 Frey loader & material bucket; 1953 Int Super C tractor; MF 235 tractor, 2WD, no cab; MF 1450 garden tractor; MF 10 garden tractor-not running.

Side-by-Side & ATV: JD 825i Gator-very good; front mount plow for gator. JD broadcast seeder for gator; 1999 Polaris Sportsman ATV, runs good.

Equip/Mach: 2810 JD 5 furrow semi-mount vari-width plow; Kvernland 4 furrow 3pth plow; LandPride 8ft 3pth disc; NI 3632 manure spreader, 2 beaters, older floor; (2)gravity wagons (1-Bruns 10 ton, 1-Kilbros); Kraus 24ft cultivator, Morris harrows; MF 10ft chisel plow; 3pth snowblower, hydr chute, 2 augers, 7 ft; 1100 gal stainless steel water tank on undercarriage; Int 4500, 16ft cultivator; 510 Int Seed Drill; (2) gravity wagons; Frontier RC2084 mower; Agrotrend snowblower; Western plow; Farm King 655 finishing mower; 8 inch Int seed drill; ATV trailer frame; 2002 GMC 8500 sm dump truck, runs, no ownership; NH Hayliner 311 sq baler, with thrower; (2)20ft thrower wagons, wood floor, steel cage; (2)wagon undercarriages; NH 3pth PTO hay tedder; Industries America 9ft SP09 snow pusher; TMG Industrial RT185 PTO 6ft rotary tiller; IH-80 8ft, 2 auger, Dosko chipper/shredder; snowblower; Int 6 row corn planter; 12ft disc; **Sheep Equip:** (8)sheep panels; (1)sheep head gate panel; (5)long creep feed panels; sheep chute with sorting tub; bucket of sheep related accs; (5) wood sheep gates.

Farm Rel/Shop: (A)Antique. Winco WG270 generator/welder combo, Kubota diesel motor; tractor tires; qty hydr cylinders; sheep/hog scale; 400+lb farmer made, rotary feed mixer for dump to feed cart; 7.5hp horiz air compressor; 10in split roll grain roller, 3hp; (2)sm metal cutting horiz band saws; 16x69x36 in HD work bench with cupboards & #986 big metal vise; (2)8in bench grinders; Splitfire double-action log splitter, gas powered hydr power pack; qty hydr cylinders; Pallet forks; HD winch; steel wheels(A); hay grapple(A); poly water trough; (2)skids plastic storage bins; 1.5 in gas water pump; tree dolly mover; sm pto pump & hydr cylinders; trailer hitch, sway bars; sm Quebec heater wood stove; (4) old porcelain gas station lights; (3) old milk cans; (3) tractor seats(A); push lawnmower; 3pth woodsplitter; Champion 11250 generator, GerLink & plug in - very good; Rigid table saw; MTD 28in walk-behind snowblower - like new; (2)rolls wood snow fence; Creekbank Welding 15100 cart to move lg sq bales; market garden trailer; landscape trailer-homemade; Honda 3500 generator; and much much more!

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REMEMBER TO SHOP LOCAL!

Motorcycle driver sustain life-threatening injuries following single vehicle collision in Mono

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers, along with Dufferin County EMS, attended a serious single motor vehicle collision in Mono.

On Sunday, Sept. 27, at approximately 2:00 p.m., officers attended County Road 7 in Mono for the report of a serious collision involving a motorcycle with lone driver.

As a result of the collision, the 67-year-old male driver of the motorcycle sustained life-threatening injuries and was transported by ambulance to a Toronto area trauma centre

County Road 7 between Third Line EHS and Fourth Line EHS will remain closed for several hours as officers continue their investigation.

The investigation is continuing and anyone who may have witnessed the collision is asked to contact the Dufferin OPP 1-888-310-1122.

If you witnessed the collision and wish to speak to victim services, Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services can be reached at 905-951-3838.

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