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GAVIN WALKER PHOTOGRAPHY

INTERACTING WITH THE ANIMALS: Children gather hay to feed horses during the 2026 Dufferin Farm Tour on Oct. 3. The annual self-guided tour welcomed families to five working farms in Amaranth and East Garafraxa, offering visitors opportunities to interact with livestock, explore farm equipment and learn about local agriculture.

Mayoral candidate charged with election sign theft

Nick Garisto denies removing Lisa Post's sign, saying the person shown in surveillance footage is not him

Written By CITIZEN STAFF

Charges have been laid after a mayoral candidate's election sign was removed from private property.

Dufferin OPP received a call for service at about 4:30 p.m. on Oct. 4 regarding the alleged theft of an election sign for incumbent mayor Lisa Post's re-election campaign. The incident occurred at a private residence on Elderberry Street.

As a result of the investigation, Nick Garisto, a 77-year-old Orangeville mayoral candidate, has been charged with theft under \$5,000 and mischief which obstructs, interrupts or interferes with the lawful use, enjoyment, or operation of property.

Garisto, who denies the allegations, is slated to appear in Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville at a later date to answer the charges. The charges have not been proven in court.

Post said a resident contacted her after allegedly capturing footage of her campaign sign being removed from the property. The homeowner posted photos and video of the alleged incident on social media.

Garisto denies removing the sign and says the person shown in the video was not him.

Post expressed frustration and disappointment about the incident. She said all electoral candidates are working hard to show why they're the best person to lead the community.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

STOLEN SIGN: A person is shown holding an election sign belonging to Orangeville mayoral candidate Lisa Post in surveillance footage from an Elderberry Street residence. Nick Garisto, 77, who's running for mayor in the municipal election, has been charged in connection with the alleged theft.

For Post, the incident was about more than the loss of a campaign sign.

"The issue to me really isn't about one lawn sign, right?" she said.

"Signs can be replaced. It's not about that at all.

"It's really about respect for the law, for the rules of the election, respect for the other candidates who are running and working hard for their campaigns, and really, it's a dis-

respect to the community that we're all asking to serve."

She said a "significant" number of her re-election signs have disappeared. The Elderberry Street incident is the only one in which she's gotten footage of someone.

Nobody at the Town of Orangeville would comment on specific incidents of sign theft.

Continued on Page A2



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Orangeville mayor candidate charged with election sign theft

Continued from FRONT

But since nominations closed for candidates in August, the town has gotten 27 sign-related complaints. And Raylene Martell, the town's clerk who spoke about by-law enforcement, said that while 16 of those complaints were specifically related to election signs, some may be duplicate complaints submitted by multiple individuals about the same concern.

The municipal election sign bylaw was updated this year. The new rules apply only during a limited period of the election cycle, she said.

“So some increase in related inquiries and complaints is expected while those rules are in effect,” Martell said.

The new bylaw promotes equitable treatment of candidates, provides clearer expectations for campaign teams, and strengthens the town's ability to regulate election signage in a manner that is consistent with governing legislation.

The bylaw remains content-neutral while regulating placement, timing, and safety considerations within the town's jurisdiction.

Garisto said the person in the video who allegedly stole the sign wore a black rubber coat.

He said he doesn't own such a garment. Further, if he's there to leave campaign literature in a house mailbox, he certainly wouldn't remove a sign from another campaign.

That would be like signing his name to it by way of the brochure left behind.

“What do you think the people will think, the owner of the house, when they see my flyer there?” he said, and added that a number of his signs have also been taken out of the ground, but he's never complained about it.

“I'm the type of guy, if I see my sign down, I stop [and] pick it up,” Garisto said. “And if

I see one of the other candidates' sign that it's down, I put it back in the ground. I don't care who it is, mayor, deputy mayor, or councillors.”

By putting their name on the ballot, Post said candidates ask residents to trust them with a significant responsibility.

“Every candidate should really be focused on showing residents why they're the right person for that job, and it should be based on their own experience, their own ideas, their own skill set for the position,” she said.

“It shouldn't have anything to do with interfering with another candidate's campaign.”

Orangeville mayor, deputy mayor candidates lay out priorities at election forum

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Candidates vying to become Orangeville's next mayor and deputy mayor laid out their priorities and differing visions for the community during the Dufferin Board of Trade's 2026 municipal election forum, tackling issues ranging from taxation and economic development to growth, farmland protection and public transit.

Incumbent Deputy Mayor Todd Taylor is campaigning on affordability, accountability and responsible growth, with a focus on controlling spending, protecting services and ensuring growth does not overwhelm Orangeville's infrastructure.

Former councillor and deputy mayor Nick Garisto is campaigning on controlling taxes, encouraging economic development and increasing public involvement in municipal decision-making.

Political newcomer Sheila Hall is focused primarily on property taxes, municipal services and transparency, calling for the town to find savings and give residents a greater voice in spending decisions.

Incumbent Mayor Lisa Post is campaigning on continued long-term planning around infrastructure, housing, growth and municipal finances, while strengthening partnerships with other levels of government.

Former mayor Sandy Brown is focused on economic development and expanding Orangeville's commercial and industrial tax base, alongside increasing housing supply and investing in recreational amenities.

Chris DeCastro is campaigning as an alternative to the current direction of town hall, emphasizing new approaches to local issues and stronger advocacy with provincial and federal governments.

Former mayor Jeremy Williams has made



controlling municipal spending and taxation his central campaign priority, arguing the town can find significant savings without cutting services or selling municipal assets.

Following their introductions, candidates moved into the question period, where they were asked to address a range of municipal and county issues.

The Dufferin Board of Trade had several questions prepared in advance, while audience members were also invited to the microphone to raise issues they wanted candidates to address.

While the candidates found common ground on several topics, including opposition to the province's strong mayor powers, other questions exposed clearer differences in how they would approach Orangeville's future.

All seven candidates said they would not seek to use strong mayor powers, with several describing the authority as an erosion of the traditional council decision-making process.

Future growth

One of the clearest divides came over how Orangeville should accommodate future growth while protecting the agricultural land surrounding the municipality.

With Orangeville facing limited land for new commercial and industrial development, candidates were asked whether they would commit to maintaining the town's existing urban boundary rather than expanding onto surrounding farmland. They were also asked what they would do as members of Dufferin County council to protect agri-



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

CANDIDATES SQUARE OFF: Orangeville mayoral and deputy mayoral candidates take part in the Dufferin Board of Trade's 2026 municipal election forum, where they discussed issues including growth, taxation, transit and economic development.

cultural land across the county.

Post stopped short of committing to maintaining the existing boundary, pointing to a growth study recently undertaken by the town and saying the municipality will need to weigh its options against the potential impact on the agricultural community.

“The town has just actually undertaken a growth study because if we do want to continue to expand lands for industrial or commercial space, we need additional land for it,” Post said. “We don't have it right now. So that growth study right now, what it's pointing towards is that there are a few different paths that we could take. The next step over the next couple of years is to determine whether that's a path we want to go down or not. We need to weigh the pros and cons of it. Of course, we do not want to impact our

agricultural partners.”

DeCastro took a more direct position in favour of expansion, arguing Orangeville needs additional land to support economic development and secure access to water.

“We need to expand our area,” he said. “We need to protect our water rights. We get a larger land area, we can have more water access. We need to go to the provincial government to amalgamate and make Orangeville larger, and it is not going to be impacting the farmland that's around Dufferin County. Orangeville needs to expand, and we need to send a strong message to the province to make it happen for us to protect our water and to have economic development in this area.”

Continued on Page A3

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Candidates debate Orangeville’s future at municipal election forum

Continued from Page A2

Williams favoured a more restrained approach, saying he wants Orangeville to maintain its small-town character and that future growth should happen slowly and in a controlled manner.

“I like Orangeville as a small town,” he said. “I don’t want it to be another center of huge amounts of growth, and so yes, protecting the farmland is important, but also protecting Orangeville itself. I feel it is important. We need to have some growth, but it must be slow and controlled. And I think it’s a bigger conversation than just protecting the farmland. It’s about protecting our town of Orangeville.”

Taylor and Garisto also supported obtaining additional land for Orangeville’s future growth, while Brown emphasized protecting prime agricultural land and supported the concept of a farm belt.

Hall said she had not yet determined her position on the issue.

Transit system

Candidates were also divided over the fu-

ture of Orangeville’s public transit system, particularly its current route structure and whether the service should remain fare-free.

A resident raised the issue, telling candidates that changes to the system had moved the nearest bus stop farther from her home and that lengthy routes could make trips take several hours.

Post acknowledged the system has faced challenges following significant growth in ridership. She said three new buses have now arrived, allowing the town to reconsider route design, timing and whether fare-free transit should continue.

Brown called for significant changes to the current routes, suggesting the town consider returning to approximately four routes to provide riders with quicker service.

“Transit’s been a work in progress for many years now, and I think there needs to be some serious work done on these routes,” Brown said. “I’ve heard from a lot of residents that they’re having trouble with the timing of our transit system. So I’d like to see us go back to maybe four routes, bringing back that more rapid return to the

transit hub, and I think that’s the way to get this transit system back working properly.”

Williams described the current system as “a mess” and opposed fare-free transit, arguing users should contribute toward its cost while assistance could remain available for residents who cannot afford fares.

“Quite simply, it’s a mess,” he said. “I have no doubt that it will be sorted out, regardless of who gets elected. And I also have to say, though, that I don’t believe in free fare. There is no such thing as a free fare. There is either paid for by the taxpayers or is paid for by the users. There are ways to make sure that people that have income issues can still get free vouchers through the food bank or through the town or other ways.”

Taylor pushed back on Williams’ characterization of the system, arguing transit is already moving toward improvements.

“The budget that we put forward, we will have expanded transit support,” he said. “This is going to be a better system. The mayor talked about the more reliable service and the better road design. But I’ll also add that we’ll have improved connections to

employment and shopping areas. Accessible sidewalks will be part of it. Crossings and public facilities, transportation solutions for seniors and residents with disabilities, and we’re working on better regional connections as well. It is not a mess.”

DeCastro proposed replacing the existing loop system with point-to-point routes and transfers, while Garristo joined Williams in opposing fare-free transit and argued riders should contribute toward operating costs.

Hall did not provide a response to the transit question.

While candidates found common ground on some issues, the forum highlighted differing approaches to how Orangeville should manage its growth, municipal services and finances in the years ahead.

For residents interested in hearing the candidates’ responses to the full range of issues discussed during the forum, the Dufferin Board of Trade will be posting the full debate on YouTube, and more information on candidate platforms and goals can be obtained through ongoing election coverage in the Orangeville Citizen.

Fourth Annual Team Marathon Row for Breast Cancer held at Headwaters Fitness & Racquetball Club

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The marathon row was held on Saturday, Oct. 3, and ran from the early morning through the early afternoon, as teams worked together to row a complete marathon of 42,195m.

As Pinkville begins in earnest across Orangeville, and businesses continue to decorate their storefronts and add pink themed menu items, it all centers around supporting Breast Cancer Canada and furthering funding for breast cancer research and treatment.

Organizer Charlene Judge doesn’t plan on stopping at just decorations. Judge partnered with the Headwaters Fitness and Racquetball Club to host a physical challenge for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

“I approached Tyler Robbins, who’s the general manager, four years ago,” she said. “I explained to him about my journey, my role on the board of directors for Breast Cancer Canada, and we kind of put our heads together and decided, hey, why don’t we do a marathon row and see if we could start to raise some money for the cause.”

The campaign was successful, and the event is now in its fourth year.

Attendees form groups of four or

more rowers and find themselves a rowing machine at the gym. At the synchronized start, all teams start rowing, with the goal of working together to complete a full marathon, which is a total distance of 42.19 kilometres.

The gym also hosted a silent auction to raise additional funds throughout the rowing marathon.

The gym, Judge said, went above and beyond just lending them their space; they actively got involved to help promote and encourage participation, which Judge said she is very grateful for.

“I can’t thank them enough for letting us use their facility and for letting us basically take over,” she said. “They’ve also been very generous in donating a prize for the largest individual fundraiser and the largest team fundraisers. The largest team fundraisers are going to get a one month each free membership here, which is also very generous. And the largest individual will be getting quite a few hours on the golf simulator upstairs.”

The event was also supported by the Town of Orangeville, with Mayor Lisa Post attending the kickoff of the event, highlighting the already large sum raised before the row even began.

“Thank you all so much for being

here on a bright and early Saturday morning,” she said. “Did you know that Orangeville has officially been converted to Pinkville for the month of October? And a huge shout-out to Charlene.”

“When we have people in our community with passion for a cause, great things can happen, as can already be seen today, with over \$10,000 already being raised, and it’s only the beginning of October. We’ve got tons of time, so thank you all for being here. Row safely, and have a good time,” Post added.

At the beginning of the row, donations stood at \$10,500.

The strong turnout to the row and the donation count are just two examples of the strong community support Orangeville displays for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

With more events and fundraisers planned throughout the rest of October, there is plenty more time for Orangeville to prove

To learn more about Pinkville, and to donate, go to breastcancer.ca/pinkville.



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

ROWING FOR A CURE: Local community teams gathered early at the Headwaters Fitness & Racquetball Club for the Fourth Annual Team Marathon Row, a fundraising event for Breast Cancer Canada. Teams took turns rowing a full marathon (42.19 kilometres) as part of the challenge, and the gym provided food and drinks to keep everyone moving. Before the row even began, donations had already exceeded \$10,000.

KEY PLATFORM ITEMS

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Inventory available land throughout Dufferin County. Create an Economic Development Corp with a Board of experience local business people. Sell Orangeville and Dufferin County to good employers. Reduce the chaos on Hwy 10.

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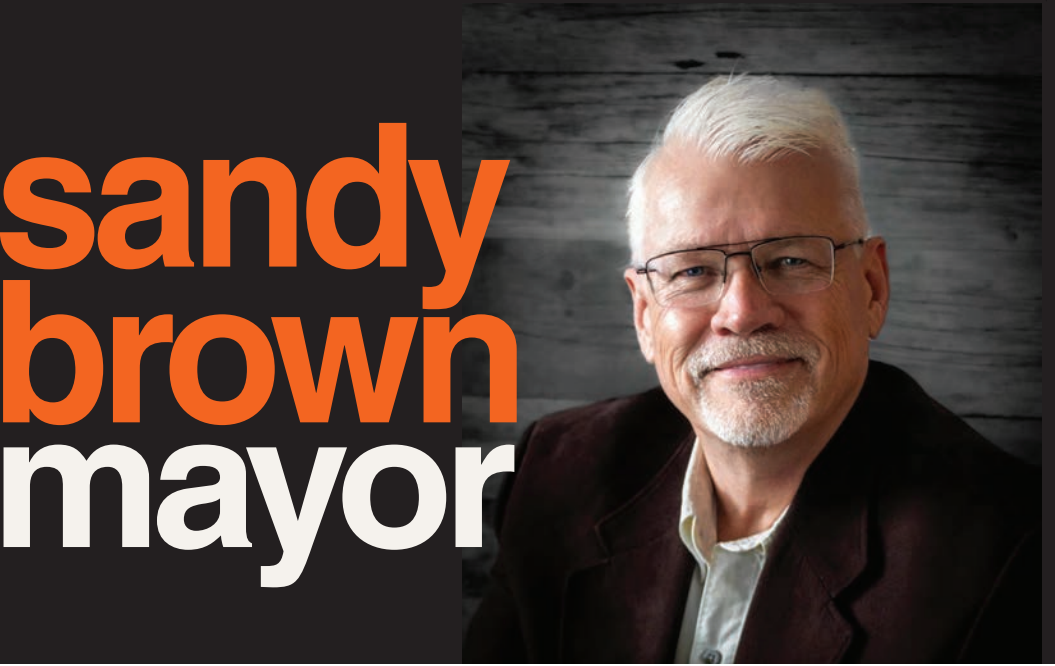
Better Recreation Services

YMCA offers better services for less money. YMCA is in municipalities all around us — why not Orangeville? Tony Rose needs an update. A SportsDome can provide winter training and games for lacrosse, soccer, baseball, cricket, football and rugby. Convert the old pool to a fitness centre, improve the seating and locker rooms in Arena A, add an outdoor pool and pickleball courts. Paid for by tax savings in other areas.

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	Lisa Post	Sandy Brown
\$32 million Fire Station (Initial estimate was \$8-10 million - \$32 million is outrageous)	YES	NO
Property Tax Increases Above the Cost of Living (COLA should be legislated as the max property increase IMO)	YES	NO
Increase Council Salary by 37% (Lisa Post’s current combined salary is \$170,325 BEFORE the increase)	YES	NO
\$300,000 rescue of Theatre Orangeville after \$4 million received in taxpayer benefit (Complete financial transparency required for any bailout using public money. The profitable Drayton Entertainment is a business model to follow)	YES	NO



Council candidates tackle policing, accountability at food bank forum

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Orangeville voters heard where candidates for town council stand on policing, affordability, accountability and other community issues during a municipal election forum hosted by the Orangeville Food Bank on Oct. 1.

Held at Orangeville District Secondary School (ODSS), the 2026 Orangeville Municipal Council Candidate Forum focused on social and community issues raised by residents and local agencies.

Organized by the food bank’s Community Advocacy Working Group, the organization said its move into advocacy comes as demand for its services continues to grow. Organizers said use of the food bank has increased 88 per cent since 2021, compared with a 22 per cent increase in food donations, arguing long-term solutions to food insecurity require changes in public policy.

Before moving into questions, moderator Bernadette Hardaker gave each of the 16 council candidates in attendance one minute to introduce themselves and outline what they would bring to council.

Boubah Bah pointed to more than two decades in Orangeville and 33 years of public service experience. He identified affordable housing, responsible spending, transportation, community safety and open communication as priorities.

Bryna Sabourin said she wants to represent voices she believes are frequently missing from council discussions, particularly students, commuters and young professionals. She also highlighted her education in early childhood and disability studies.

Carrie-Anne DeCaprio drew on her own experiences with financial hardship and food insecurity, as well as her later advocacy work with the Orangeville Food Bank. She said she wants to bring the perspective of residents facing affordability challenges to council.

Incumbent councillor Debbie Sherwood highlighted her 47 years in Orangeville, eight years on council and a 33-year career as a deputy treasurer and tax collector. Her priorities include responsible growth, community programs, municipal services and careful management of taxpayer dollars.

Incumbent councillor Joe Andrews pointed to his leadership, community experience, and council work on economic development, homelessness, affordable housing, and equity, diversity, and inclusion. He emphasized listening, collaboration, and practical solutions.

Lindsay Lupton highlighted 42 years of experience in municipal recreation and her



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

VOICING OPINIONS: Orangeville municipal council candidates take part in an election forum hosted by the Orangeville Food Bank at Orangeville District Secondary School on Oct. 1.

current work in Orangeville. She pointed to her experience with municipal budgets, infrastructure and community services as well as her connections with residents.

Matthew Smith highlighted his municipal infrastructure work, service on town committees and volunteering with the Orangeville Food Bank and Orangeville Urban Harvest. A transit advocate, Smith identified public transportation as one way to reduce financial pressures on residents.

Michelle Hartley reflected on moving to Orangeville in 1996 and raising her family in the community. She contrasted the affordability that originally attracted her to town with the circumstances facing residents today and highlighted her involvement with the town’s accessibility committee.

Incumbent councillor Rick Stevens pointed to more than two decades of service with the Town of Orangeville and 20 years of volunteering. He said he would continue listening to residents, asking difficult questions and scrutinizing municipal spending.

Rob Woon-Fat centred his introduction on government transparency, proposing a digital platform to give residents greater insight into municipal decision-making and improve accountability.

Sandra Pratt highlighted her experience as a parent, business owner and longtime volunteer, along with professional experience in manufacturing, housing planning and continuous improvement. She emphasized listening to residents, examining data and measuring results.

Viktor Karklins pointed to his Orangeville roots, previous federal candidacy and professional and municipal experience. He identified parks, recreation, small businesses and infrastructure among his interests.

Tricia Hebert said fiscal responsibility and compassion should work together in municipal government. She emphasized responsible use of taxpayer dollars alongside support for businesses and community organizations connecting residents with housing, employment and other services.

Incumbent councillor Tess Prendergast highlighted her four-year record on council, including environmental advocacy, securing outside funding and service improvements. Her priorities include attracting external funding, improving value for municipal services and building a more resilient Orangeville.

Vivian Petho highlighted a decade of community involvement, including parent council, Project Lifesaver and the Orangeville and District Horticultural Society. She also pointed to her work with the Opportunity Garden.

James Jackson, making his third run for council, said he wants to bring the perspective of residents living with disabilities and poverty to the council table. He highlighted his involvement with accessibility and municipal planning committees.

Following the introductions, candidates moved into questions submitted around issues affecting the community. An early question focused on community safety and the role that council plays in shaping policing priorities through its representation on the Orangeville OPP Detachment Board.

Matthew Smith focused on traffic and pedestrian safety, calling for a greater OPP presence around schools during pickup and drop-off times.

“One of the things I’ve heard about a lot in my door knocking is some of the chaos that goes on when you have to pick up and drop off students in schools,” he said. “So it would

be nice to have the OPP there to make sure everything is flowing smoothly.”

Smith also supported continued use of the Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT) for mental health-related calls.

Carrie-Anne DeCaprio called for an increased police presence in downtown Orangeville, citing concerns she heard from residents and business owners.

“One of the priorities I believe would be an increased presence in policing in downtown Orangeville,” she said. “I’ve spoken with residents and business owners downtown who have told me they don’t always feel safe. Increased foot patrols combined with access to trained crisis professionals can help address both sides.”

Vivian Petho called for greater police training on interactions with autistic people experiencing distress.

“I would love to see training for how to deal with an autistic person who’s in distress,” she said. “We’ve had members and friends where the police are called, and the police do not know how to deal with somebody who’s having an autistic meltdown and doesn’t know how to communicate with the police.”

Viktor Karklins argued community safety also requires addressing the underlying issues that can contribute to crime and disorder.

“The challenge is not just dealing with the symptom at the end, but dealing with the cause,” he said.

The discussion later shifted from the services residents expect from the town to what they should expect from their elected representatives.

Continued on Page A5

CARRIE-ANNE DECAPRIO

FOR ORANGEVILLE COUNCIL

People Matter Most



Affordability
Accessibility
Responsible Growth
Partnerships & Advocacy

*When you vote
between October 9
and 26, I'd be
honoured to be one
of your choices.*

Let's Chat

416-816-9725
carrieanneforcouncil.com



SCAN TO
CONNECT

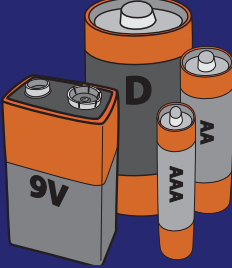
Brought to you by:



TO COINCIDE WITH DAYLIGHT SAVINGS!
Change your clocks. Change your smoke alarm batteries. Then...

BATTERIES DEAD? RECYCLE INSTEAD!

Single-use alkaline & rechargeable batteries are collected curbside twice a year, during the week following the time change. Scan the QR code or visit our website to follow instructions for proper recycling!



SPECIAL CURBSIDE COLLECTION

November 2 - 5, 2026

place battery bag on top of your Green Bin or beside your Garbage on your regular collection day.



NO loose batteries in the Blue Cart, Green Bin or Garbage.

Use any clear resealable bag or pick up a battery bag from a participating location. Visit dufferincounty.ca/waste to find a list of locations near you.

If you miss the collection date, or do not receive curbside collection, visit our website for a battery recycling location near you.

dufferinwaste  

519.941.2816 ext. 2620 • dufferincounty.ca/waste • dufferinwaste@dufferincounty.ca

Orangeville council candidates discuss issues facing residents

Continued from Page A4

With salaries for Orangeville’s incoming council set to increase by 37 per cent for the 2026–2030 term, candidates were asked what level of accountability, workload and measurable service residents should expect in return.

Incumbent councillor Rick Stevens supported phasing the pay increase in over four years rather than implementing it all at once, while defending the workload expected of councillors.

“I voted in favor of the raise, but I was one of three other councillors that voted to tier the raise over four years,” he said. “I didn’t think it should all start at once. I think the workload proves itself. We work all the time. My phone’s on all the time. Email. I answer everybody.”

Boubah Bah opposed the increase and questioned the process of the council approving its own compensation. If elected, he said he would push to rescind it and give residents a role in determining council pay.

“We have accountability every four years,” he said. “Are you better today than you were four years ago? As for the decision to increase the pay, to me it was a bad decision. You don’t vote yourself in. If elected, I will push to rescind that, and we’ll have a group of residents who will make a decision whether we deserve to have that pay or not.”

Bryna Sabourin defended the principle of increasing wages, arguing the larger issue is that other residents are being left behind economically.

“My day job is to be an assistive technolo-

gy advisor for the Ministry of Education,” she said. “I train teachers to save PDFs during the day. The wage increase is not the problem. It’s everyone else getting left behind. That’s the problem. Wages are supposed to increase. You are supposed to be paid for your work. We live in a town always focused on rallying volunteers and not asking the question, why do we rely on volunteers in the first place?”

Incumbent councillor Tess Prendergast said council positions are officially part-time, but they require a greater commitment. If re-elected, she plans to reduce her teaching workload, establish office hours and pursue outside grants.

“This job [is] part-time, which is, by the way, not a part-time job,” she said. “I’m going down to part-time teaching next year, so I can commit fully to council for two days a week. I’ll have office hours. I’ll write grants. That’s how I’m going to be accountable to you through my time, my energy, my effort and my commitment.”

The forum gave voters a chance to compare not only the backgrounds of those seeking a council seat, but how candidates would approach some of the social, financial and public safety issues facing Orangeville.

With election day approaching, residents will ultimately decide which of those priorities and perspectives they want represented around the next council table.

For the full forum, go to youtube.com/@orangevillefoodbank2813 to see the recorded livestream.

Read the Orangeville Citizen for more election coverage, including candidate profiles.

Bruce Trail Day draws hundreds to Splitrock Narrows Nature Reserve

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club’s 2026 Bruce Trail Day brought people to Splitrock Narrows Nature Reserve on Oct. 4, giving families, hikers and community members an opportunity to explore the local trail and learn more about the natural environment.

Vice President and event coordinator Lorraine Campbell said that the club was pleased with the turnout, despite the rainy conditions that started the day.

“We had about 300 people come out, and they were fantastic,” she said. “They were such a diverse group of people. We had families, we had seniors, we had young people. We had lots and lots of great representation from the community.”

The weather quickly cleared, allowing visitors to take advantage of the activities throughout the day. The turnout included families, seniors and young people, with organizers pleased by the diversity of visitors who came out to experience Splitrock Narrows.

A major goal of this year’s event was to introduce more people to the Bruce Trail and encourage new visitors to explore the area. The approximately 2.5-kilometre loop through Splitrock Narrows provided an accessible route showcasing the area’s varied landscape, including forests, open fields, cliffs and natural crevices.

Music was a major part of the day, with visitors able to hear local musicians as they travelled along the trail.

A variety of musical performances provided entertainment throughout the property. Families also took part in a children’s music circle, which featured singing and rhythm instruments.

Campbell said the music and kids event were very well received by guests, who were extra appreciative of the diverse music lineup.

“The children’s music circle was a lot of fun,” she said. “I think they had about 15 kids in the children’s music circle, and both adults and kids loved the rhythm instruments and



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

TRAIL TUNES: With musicians scattered throughout Splitrock Narrows, guests of Bruce Trail Day 2026 could enjoy a short, simple hike around the nature reserve, one of the Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club’s best properties, featuring fields, dense forests, cliffs, natural crevices and more.

loved singing along. We tried to have a lot of different types of music, like we had the Celtic Orchestra and the clarinetist and more, and the people seem to really appreciate that diversity.”

Other activities highlighted the conservation work connected to the Bruce Trail.

A biodiversity hike introduced participants to the natural features and species found throughout the property, while a demonstration at the club’s seed orchard highlighted efforts to regenerate native species. The orchard is being used to help establish species such as American chestnut and milkweed for future planting.

“The other element that was successful was the biodiversity aspect,” Campbell said. “There was an organized biodiversity hike that went through, and we had I think 10 people on that, and then there was also the seed orchard presentation. We got a bunch of new memberships.”

The free barbecue was also well attended, while the event resulted in new club memberships and strong merchandise sales.

For many visitors, the day offered more than simply a hike, combining recreation, music, family activities and conservation education while showcasing one of the Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club’s key properties.

For more information about upcoming events, go to dufferinbrucetrailclub.org.

SOURCE FLOORING

LONG WEEKEND

PRICE DROP SALE

4 DAYS ONLY!

THURSDAY - FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY

OCT 8THOCT 9THOCT 10THOCT 11TH

WATERPROOF 5.5MM - PAD ATTACHED VINYL PLANKS PRICE DROP! REGULAR 3.99 FROM 99¢ /SQFT	WATERPROOF 6.5MM - PAD ATTACHED LUXURY VINYL PRICE DROP! REGULAR 3.99 FROM 1.99 /SQFT	WATERPROOF 4.5MM - LOOSE LAY LUXURY VINYL PRICE DROP! REGULAR 4.99 FROM 2.99 /SQFT
8MM THICK CLICK LAMINATE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 1.99 FROM 99¢ /SQFT	WATERPROOF + PAD 14MM LAMINATE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 3.99 FROM 1.99 /SQFT	LAMINATE STAIR TREADS PRICE DROP! REGULAR 89.99 FROM 59.99 /EA
12"X 12" PURE WHITE PORCELAIN TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 1.99 FROM 99¢ /SQFT	12"X 24 CALACATTA PORCELAIN TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 2.99 FROM 1.79 /SQFT	24"X 24 LUXURY PORCELAIN TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 3.99 FROM 1.99 /SQFT
3"X 6" SUBWAY TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 9.99 FROM 1.89 /SQFT	2" HEXAGON MARBLE TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 6.99 FROM 5.99 /SQFT	NEW ITEM! PEBBLE TILE PRICE DROP! REGULAR 9.99 FROM 5.99 /SQFT
3/4" WHITE OAK HARDWOOD PRICE DROP! REGULAR 5.99 FROM 3.99 /SQFT	3/4" WHITE OAK 6" WIDE HARDWOOD PRICE DROP! REGULAR 6.99 FROM 4.99 /SQFT	HARDWOOD OAK/MAPLE STAIR TREADS PRICE DROP! REGULAR 79.99 FROM 59.99 /EA
5"X 8" AREA RUGS PRICE DROP! REGULAR 1.99 FROM 99¢ /EA	14 FOOT LENGTHS BASEBOARDS PRICE DROP! REGULAR 1.49 FROM 99¢ /LFT	CLEAROUT! VINYL STAIR TREADS PRICE DROP! REGULAR 59.99 FROM 39.99 /EA

SHOP ONLINE 24/7

SOURCE FLOORING

SOURCEFLOORING.COM

1362 VICTORIA STREET NORTH KITCHENER

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM-9PM SATURDAY 9-6 SUNDAY 10-5

ELECT

NICK GARISTO
MAYOR

More Open Government
Control Taxation
Business & Industry
Safety A Priority
Recreation
Scrap 35% Mayoral Pay
Increase That Was Designated
By A Consultant

A STRONG VOICE
FOR THE PEOPLE OF
ORANGEVILLE

Experience Matters

✓13 years in Council ✓3 years as Deputy Mayor ✓10 years as Councillor

On October 26, 2026 Vote Nick Garisto

Authorized by the CFO for the Nick Garisto Election Campaign

FARMING AROUND: The 2026 Dufferin Farm Tour welcomed visitors to farms across Amaranth and East Garafraxa on Oct. 3, offering families a chance to explore local agriculture and experience farm life up close. Families with young children were among those taking part, with kids enjoying opportunities to interact with animals, explore farm machinery and learn more about where their food comes from. This year's farm tour host farms were Barnarow Farm, Elliott Tree Farm, Bowling Green Farms, Genvers Holsteins and Hereward Farms.



ANNUAL 25KM CHALLENGE HIKE

Think you've got what it takes?
We challenge you!

When: **Saturday, October 17 at 8:30 a.m.**
Where: **Boyne Valley, Mulmur**
Start Location: **Bruce Trail Mulmur Hills Parking Lot**
Distance/Terrain: **25km, Strenuous sections**
Why: **Fundraising event supporting trail care**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED →
Members: \$45 Non-Members: \$55
*Not suitable for children under 13

Checkpoints with homemade treats and BBQ & refreshments at the finish

Bruce Trail CONSERVACY
DUFFERIN HI-LAND CLUB

dufferinbrucetrailclub.org



TOWN OF
MONO  Presents

GREEN FEST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026 from 1:00-4:00 PM
at Monora Park Pavilion (500 Monora Park Drive, Mono, ON)

Green Solutions That Save You Money

EVs & Test Drives • E-Bikes • Green HVAC Systems •
Solar Power • Home Improvement Consultations

Expert Perspectives on:

- **Green Technologies**
- **Climate Resiliency**
- **Our Relationship with
the Natural World**
- **Naturalizing Your Garden**

Meet Local Farmers
Family Activities

For more information, visit: townofmono.com/greenfest

2026



Orangeville Municipal and School Board Election

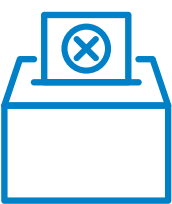
Your ballot is so much more than a vote—it’s your voice. It’s active participation in the way Orangeville adopts policies, develops and continues providing services and programs reflecting the needs of the entire community.

This election, let your voice be heard.

When and where to vote

Vote online

**Friday, October 9 at 10 a.m. to
Monday, October 26 at 8 p.m.**



Advanced voting

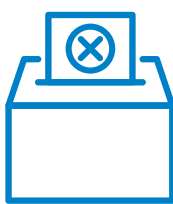
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday, October 10

Tony Rose Sports Centre

Sunday, October 18

Alder Recreation Centre



Election day

10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Monday, October 26

Tony Rose Sports Centre

Alder Recreation Centre

Need to update your information or get on the Orangeville voter’s list?

Stop by Town Hall to speak to a member of our Clerks team.

87 Broadway

Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Or visit us at either of our advanced voting locations.

orangeville.ca/Election

2025 GMC SIERRA 1500 ELEVATION CREW CAB SHORT BOX 4X4



STK# 261111

FINANCE FROM
\$233
WEEKLY +TAXES

\$74,835+HST/LIC
OCTOBER OFFER: \$10,000 NSCDA
APPLIED TO \$64,835 MSRP
MACMASTER DEAL \$74,835
OFFER SHOWN OCTOBER 2-26, 2026
\$0 DOWN PAYMENT

0%
FOR 84 MONTHS

FINANCE FROM
\$181
WEEKLY +TAXES

\$66,050+HST/LIC
\$0 DOWN PAYMENT

0%
FOR 84 MONTHS

2026 GMC SIERRA 1500 PRO CREW CAB SHORT BOX 4X4



STK# 261123



STK 257384 • 18,292 KM • 4X4, 3.0L DURAMAX DIESEL I-6, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 6-FT FIRM, 3.2 AXLE, DOUBLE RAIL, SURROUND, HEATED/COOLED LEATHER BUCKET SEATS, 22 INCH ALLOY WHEELS, STEP BASIS, FRONT REAR PARK ASSIST, REAR CAMERA, DENALI CHROME TRIM, ROOF, TOW PACKAGE, POWER LIFTGATE, MULTI-VIEW TAILGATE, AND MORE!
\$232 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$69,821 MSRP
\$5.59 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$14,586.15



STK 259784 • 112,705 KM • CREW CAB, 4X4, 5.3 ECOTEC V-8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, POWER SURFING, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, BOSE PREMIUM AUDIO, FRONT AND REAR PARK ASSIST, BACKUP CAMERA, REMOTE START, 20 INCH POLISHED ALLOY WHEELS, TOW PACKAGE, MULTIVIEW TAILGATE, AND MORE!
\$156 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$46,989 MSRP
\$5.59 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$9,816.37



STK 261134 • 97,458 KM • BLACK CLOTH INTERIOR, 2.4L FOUR CYLINDER, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC, FRONT WHEEL DRIVE, CONNECT THROUGHTS, APPLE CARPLAY AND ANDROID AUTO, BACKUP CAMERA, BLUETOOTH, HEATED FRONT SEATS AND STEERING WHEEL, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, REMOTE START, SECURITY, ALLOY WHEELS, BOSE BASE, AND MORE!
\$136 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$18,621 MSRP
\$8.99 FOR 36 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$2,833.77



STK 254548 • 56,750 KM • 3.0L CUMMINS RD DIESEL, 6-SPEED ASIN AUTOMATIC, 3.73 AXLE, 8FT BOX, 4X4, HMC, SURROUND, CONNECT, HEATED/COOLED LEATHER BUCKET SEATS, HEATED SECOND ROW, HARMAN KARDON AUDIO, LONGHORN LEVEL 1 GROUP, SURROUND VIEW CAMERA, TOW PACKAGE, REAR AIR SUSPENSION, 27 INCH WHEEL, PWD TOWING TECHNOLOGY GROUP AND MORE!
\$323 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$89,989 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$27,586.47



STK 251684 • 87,865 KM • 4X4, 6.2L V-8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 3.23 AXLE, 5.8-FOOT BOX, NAV, POWER SURFING, HEATED AND VENTILATED LEATHER BUCKET SEATS, HEATED REAR SEATS, STEP BASIS, FRONT AND REAR PARK ASSIST, SURROUND VIEW CAMERA, BOSE AUDIO, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, MULTIVIEW TAILGATE, TOW PACKAGE, TRAILERING MIRRORS, AND MORE!
\$166 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$49,989 MSRP
\$5.59 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$14,443.09



STK 259184 • 133,643 KM • 6.2L V-8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, MYLINK NAVIGATION, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, TRIM ZONE A/C, 22 INCH ALLOYS, 7-PASSENGER, SUPER CRUISE, HEATED/COOLED LEATHER, FRONT/REAR PARK ASSIST, SURROUND VIEW CAMERA, REAR ENTERTAINMENT, LOADER, AIR RIDE, TECH PGM AND MORE!
\$228 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$68,789 MSRP
\$5.59 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$14,370.56



STK B12084 • 170,509 KM • 3.6L PENTASTAR V-6, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC, GUARDA-TRAC II 4X4, SELLE-TERRAIN SYSTEM, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, NAV, HINE SPEAKER ALPINE AUDIO WITH SUBWOOFER, HEATED FRONT AND REAR SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, TRAILER TOW PACKAGE, CLASS IV Hitch, REAR LEAD-LEVELING SUSPENSION, AND MORE!
\$146 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$19,889 MSRP
\$9.29 FOR 36 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$2,819.53



STK 251434 • 158,771 KM • RET BLACK LEATHER, 6.2L V-8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, AUTOMATIC 4X4, SEVEN PASSENGER SEATING, POWER SURFING, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED SECOND ROW, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, GOOGLE W/TECH, NAVIGATION, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, FRONT AND REAR PARKING SENSORS, LANE KEEP ASSIST, AND MORE!
\$186 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$55,989 MSRP
\$5.59 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$11,696.54

2026 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LT TRAIL BOSS 4X4



STK# 23606

FINANCE FROM
\$257
WEEKLY +TAXES

\$80,704+HST/LIC
OCTOBER OFFER: \$10,000 NSCDA
APPLIED TO \$90,704 STARTING PRICE
SALE PRICE \$80,704
OFFER SHOWN OCTOBER 2-26, 2026
\$0 DOWN PAYMENT

0%
FOR 84 MONTHS

FINANCE FROM
\$199
WEEKLY +TAXES

\$57,320+HST/LIC
\$0 DOWN PAYMENT

5.49%
FOR 84 MONTHS
C.O.B. \$12,301.00



STK 10854 • 36,525 KM • BLACK LEATHER, PLUG-IN HYBRID, 4X4, DUAL-PANE, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, NAVIGATION, SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, HEATED AND VENTILATED SEATS, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, WIRELESS CHARGING, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, LANE ASSIST, REMOTE START, POWER LIFTGATE, AND MORE!
\$146 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$40,620 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$12,443.19



STK B704 • 9,387 KM • HEATED/COOLED SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, HEADS UP DISPLAY, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, WIRELESS CHARGING, BOSE SOUND SYSTEM, 360 CAMERA, HIFI HOT SPEAKERS, AND MORE!
\$332 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$92,616 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$28,371.20



STK B734 • 11,937 KM • 6.2L V-8, 4X4, 4TH PREMIUM AND TECHNOLOGY PACKAGES, POWER SURFING, HEATED AND VENTILATED LEATHER SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, BOSE AUDIO, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, TONNEAU COVER, AND MORE!
\$279 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$77,615 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$23,775.92



STK 238284 • 171,272 KM • ONE OWNER, HEATED SEATS, REMOTE START, 360 SURROUND VISION, SUNROOF, WI-FI HOTSPOT, XM RADIO, LEATHER SEATS, AUTO CLIMATE CONTROL, 20" WHEELS, POWER LIFTGATE, BOSE SOUND SYSTEM, TRAILERING PACKAGE AND MORE!
\$110 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$22,995 MSRP
\$8.99 FOR 22 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$5,572.55



STK B3367 • 12,231 KM • ONE OWNER, ACCIDENT-FREE, HEATED AND VENTILATED SEATS, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, SPRAY-ON BEHINDER, TRAILERING PACKAGE, WIRELESS APPLE CARPLAY, WIRELESS ANDROID AUTO, REMOTE START, AUTOMATIC BRAKE, 360 CAMERA, INSTA, DUAL-ZONE AUTOMATIC CLIMATE CONTROL, AND MORE!
\$202 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$56,216 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$17,220.73



STK 22554 • 7,547 KM • 27L 2.5L TURBO FOUR CYLINDER, LI-WHEEL DRIVE, SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, REMOTE START, HEATED FRONT SEATS AND STEERING WHEEL, WIRELESS CHARGING, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, AND MORE!
\$193 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$53,715 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$16,454.60



STK B7167 • 65,800 KM • CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED, ACCIDENT-FREE, MIDNIGHT SHY BLACK METALLIC, BLACK LEATHER INTERIOR, 23.5K KM, TURBOCHARGED ENGINE, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, SPORT SUSPENSION, ULTRAVIEW SUNROOF, HEATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, WIRELESS APPLE CARPLAY & WIRELESS ANDROID AUTO, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, POWER LIFTGATE, FRONT AND REAR PARK ASSIST, AND MORE!
\$173 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$48,216 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$14,770.08



STK 188768 • 82,276 KM • BLACK LEATHER INTERIOR, 6.2L V-8, 4X4, SPORT TRIM, 22-INCH ALLOY WHEELS, SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, NAVIGATION, PREMIUM AUDIO, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, POWER LIFTGATE, FRONT AND REAR PARK ASSIST, AND MORE!
\$351 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$97,716 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$29,933.49

2026 DODGE DURANGO GT AWD



STK# TC0004

FINANCE FROM
\$165
WEEKLY +TAXES

\$54,501+HST/LIC
OCTOBER OFFER: \$3,000
DCL DISCOUNT PLUS \$8,500
CONSUMER CASH APPLIED TO \$66,001
SUGGESTED PRICE
OFFER EXPIRES NOVEMBER 2, 2026
\$0 DOWN PAYMENT

5.99%
FOR 96 MONTHS
C.O.B. \$14,128.20



STK 170021 • 4,889 KM • DEMO WITH A SLEEK BLACK EXTERIOR AND ROBUST 4X4 DRIVETRAIN, THIS SUV DELIVERS A TRIMMING, CONFIDENT DRIVE IN DIVERSE CONDITIONS. IT BLENDS FUNCTIONALITY AND SOPHISTICATION WITH A SMOOTH AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, STYLISH ALLOY WHEELS AND A SPACIOUS INTERIOR.
\$219 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$57,246 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$23,012.24



STK 590001 • DEMO • FINISHED IN STRIKING WHITE WITH A ROBUST 4X4 DRIVETRAIN, THIS SUV PROMISES SMOOTH HANDLING EVEN ANY TERRAIN. ITS BOLD ROAD PRESENCE AND ICONIC DESIGN MAKE A STRONG STATEMENT, WHILE THE INTERIOR DELIVERS SOPHISTICATION AND COMFORT.
\$209 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$58,106 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$17,799.70



STK B17088 • 45,489 KM • 4X4 OFF-ROAD PACKAGE, 3.0L DURAMAX TURBO-DIESEL, NAVIGATION, POWER HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, REMOTE START, SMART DEVICE INTEGRATION, WI-FI HOTSPOT, BLACK LEATHER INTERIOR, 4X4, ALLOY WHEELS, BACKUP CAMERA, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, FRONT AND REAR PARKING SENSORS, LANE KEEP ASSIST, AND MORE!
\$248 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$69,086 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$21,163.22



STK 187712 • 15,000 KM • 3.5L V-6, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC, ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, 21-INCH ALLOY WHEELS, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, BOSE AUDIO, APPLE CARPLAY AND ANDROID AUTO, WIRELESS CHARGING, DIGITAL CLUSTER, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, LANE KEEPING ASSIST, POWER LIFTGATE, AND MORE!
\$219 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$60,971 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$18,677.34



STK 590002 • DEMO • AN ADVENTURE-READY SUV WITH AN EYE-CATCHING GREEN EXTERIOR AND ROBUST 4X4 DRIVETRAIN, THIS TRUCK DELIVERS CONFIDENT HANDLING ON ANY TERRAIN AND IS DESIGNED TO CONQUER BOTH CITY STREETS AND OFF-ROAD ADVENTURES.
\$217 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$60,521 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$18,539.49



STK 170034 • DEMO • PRESENTED IN A STRIKING BLACK FINISH WITH A 4X4 DRIVETRAIN, THIS TRUCK DELIVERS CONFIDENT HANDLING ON ANY TERRAIN AND IS DESIGNED TO CONQUER BOTH CITY STREETS AND OFF-ROAD ADVENTURES.
\$354 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$83,396 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$30,192.65
APPROVED FINANCE OFFER IS BASED ON A \$10,000 DOWN PAYMENT



STK 183621 • 179,414 KM • LONGHORN LEVEL 1 EQUIPMENT GROUP, TOWING TECHNOLOGY GROUP, SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED SECOND ROW SEATS, 17-SPEAKER PREMIUM AUDIO, POWER FOLDING MIRRORS, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, BOSE AUDIO, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, CLASS IV TRAILER BRAKE CONTROLLER, 6.7L CUMMINS TURBO-DIESEL, 4X4, AND MORE!
\$287 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$60,021 MSRP
\$8.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$14,547.94



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\$186 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$45,995 MSRP
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STK 76869 • 27,412 KM • 2.0L TURBOCHARGED 4 CYLINDER ENGINE, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, 4X4 WITH ANTI-SPIN DIFFERENTIAL, SILVER PINTH EXTERIOR, HEATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, APPLE CARPLAY AND ANDROID AUTO, NAV, ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, COLD WEATHER GROUP, TECHNOLOGY GROUP, CONVENIENCE GROUP, AND MORE!
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STK 81287 • 60,183 KM • TITAN BLACK LEATHERETTE, 2.0L TURBO, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 4MOTION ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, DIGITAL CLUSTER, NAV, WIRELESS APPLE CARPLAY AND ANDROID AUTO, HEATED FRONT SEATS AND STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, FRONT CROSS-REAR VIEW CAMERA, DUAL-ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, KEYLESS ACCESS, AND MORE!
\$99 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
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STK 79507 • 15,489 KM • 4MOTION ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, TURBOCHARGED 2.0T ENGINE, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, HEATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, APP-CONNECT SMARTPHONE INTEGRATION, APPLE CARPLAY AND ANDROID AUTO, DUAL-ZONE AUTOMATIC CLIMATE CONTROL, REARVIEW CAMERA, FRONT ASSIST WITH AUTOMATIC EMERGENCY BRAKING, AND MORE!
\$165 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$46,195 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN C.O.B \$14,150.99



STK 81021 • 43,222 KM • 2.5L I4 ENGINE, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, 12.3-INCH DUAL-CURVED DISPLAYS, NAV SYSTEM, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, HARMAN KARDON PREMIUM AUDIO, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED REAR SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, BLIND-SPOT MONITORING, SMART POWER LIFTGATE, AND MORE!
\$117 WEEKLY +HST & LIC
\$32,695 MSRP
\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS
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Arts & Entertainment



LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

Theatre Orangeville opens new season with pair of comedies

‘Love or Nothing: A Double Bill’ to run at the Opera House from Oct. 15 to Nov. 1, featuring two one-act plays

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Theatre Orangeville is opening its 33rd mainstage season with something audiences at the local theatre are not used to seeing — two distinct plays sharing the stage in a single evening.

Love or Nothing: A Double Bill runs from Oct. 15 to Nov. 1 and pairs two one-act comedies by Canadian playwright Stewart Lemoine.

Rather than following the traditional two-act format, the production will feature *Love is for Poor People*, starring Emma Grabinsky, followed by *Or You Could Do Nothing*, starring Ron Pederson.

Both are solo performances built around characters looking back on their lives, but each approaches that reflection from a different perspective.

Pederson said that the plays combine comedy, imagination and elements of absurdism while gradually revealing more about their central characters as their stories unfold.

“I think Stewart Lemoine’s plays are pretty singular,” he said. “They’re different from anybody else’s plays. They’re comedies - literate comedies. They’re sort of fantastical and absurdist. I mean that in the best way. Often absurdist theatre is kind of existential, but this is sort of more hopeful. It’s its own world. They’re solo pieces, one actor in each, and they’re tricky to talk about because they’re so full of mystery. The whole story is about the unfolding, and there’s lots of surprise and variety in both of them.”

Love is for Poor People follows a glamorous and outspoken woman reflecting on the trajectory of an eventful life, including her career, relationships and experiences.

Grabinsky prepared for the role partly by reading autobiographies from larger-than-life entertainers including Liza Minnelli, Tallulah Bankhead and Carrie Fisher as she developed the perspective of a similarly ec-



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO
SEASON OPENER: Improv actors Emma Grabinsky (left) and Ron Pederson (right) stand with Theatre Orangeville’s artistic director Jennifer Stewart as they prepare for the first theatrical performance of the season, *Love or Nothing: A Double Bill*. The show features a pair of comedy plays by Stewart Lemoine.

centric character.

The second half, *Or You Could Do Nothing*, introduces Owen Fyfe, a man with an unusually large home and an ability to recognize potential in people who may not see it in themselves. He opens his home to a collection of people searching for direction, with those relationships eventually leading Owen toward discoveries about his own life and family.

While the stories and characters differ, the two plays are connected by their focus on positivity, imagination and human connection.

Music also runs through both stories, while the characters share an ability to reshape the way they understand their lives and the people around them. *Love is for Poor People* leans toward a faster and more eccentric comedy, while *Or You Could Do Nothing* takes a more reflective and philosophical approach.

Grabinsky said that these plays are designed to directly appeal to the audience and allow audience members to see themselves in the characters on stage.

“I think a big part of the plays is connecting with the audience and not being afraid of the audience,” she said. “I think people who are watching this play are going to walk away feeling like they have been in a friend’s living room. It feels intimate. It feels really close in the way that I hope that we’re moving towards in theatre in Canada.”

“Sometimes you walk away from a play and think that was amazing, but I don’t really know who it’s for. This play, people are going to walk away and they’re going to go, ‘That’s for me. They said that to me. They were connecting with me,’ and personally, that makes working on these plays a joyful process,” Grabinsky added.

The double bill also marks a first for The-

atre Orangeville.

Artistic director Jennifer Stewart was introduced to several of Lemoine’s works through Pederson and saw an opportunity to bring a Canadian playwright whose work has not been widely produced in Ontario in recent years back before audiences.

“I’d read a few Stewart Lemoine plays that Ron had given me, and I just thought it was a new, fresh voice that we haven’t seen in Ontario in a really long time,” she said. “He had some productions at Factory Theatre in Toronto, but that was in the ’80s. So I thought, here’s another untapped Canadian playwright, because that’s our mandate. I’m always trying to find new voices, or voices we haven’t heard in a while.”

Looking for a companion piece that could create a full evening, Stewart approached Lemoine, who provided several possibilities. *Love is for Poor People* was ultimately selected for the contrast between its central character and Owen while maintaining themes that allow the two stories to complement each other.

The unusual format has also created a different production process.

With only one performer on stage during each play, rehearsals have been divided between Grabinsky and Pederson. The two productions must also share a single set, designed by Theatre Orangeville production manager Becky Morris, that can serve both stories without requiring a major transformation during intermission.

Opening Theatre Orangeville’s “Season of Discovery,” the production centres on two characters discovering themselves through reflection and their relationships with others.

The minimalist nature of the solo performances also leaves space for audiences to use their own imagination to fill in the people, places and experiences described on stage.

Love or Nothing: A Double Bill runs at Theatre Orangeville from Oct. 15 to Nov. 1.



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.



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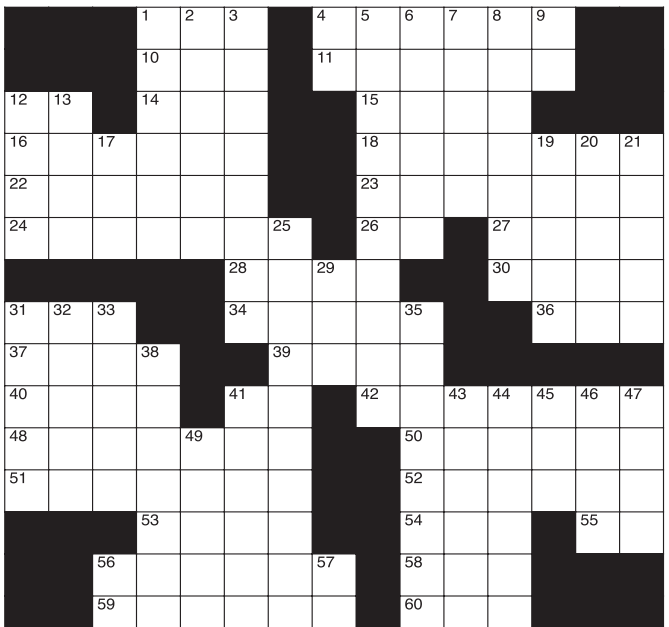


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Puzzle No. 26A210 • Solution on page: CLASSIFIEDS SECTION



CLUES ACROSS

1. Small Eurasian deer
4. Province in Northern Ireland
10. A major division of geological time
11. Broadway actor Lane
12. Canadian province (abbr.)
14. Human gene
15. Two
16. A notable one was "blue"
18. Utter repeatedly
22. Ring-shaped objects
23. Sullies
24. Occurs
26. Commercial
27. Near
28. Tools you may need
30. A pledge
31. They start the alphabet

CLUES DOWN

34. Silk garments
36. Soviet Socialist Republic
37. Longtime mayor of Rio
39. Hot meal
40. A type of gin
41. Atomic #84
42. \$10 bill
48. About ground
50. Medicine man
51. Seedless raisin
52. National capital of Albania
53. Appendage
54. OJ trial judge
55. European government entity (abbr.)
56. Bike parts
58. Friend to "Barbie"
59. Stretched to see or hear
60. Commercials

CLUES DOWN

31. Recesses
32. Largely forested municipality in Germany
33. Rider of Rohan
35. Ancient symbol co-opted by Nazis
38. Pioneer
41. Scribe
43. Painted a bright color
44. Member of British nobility
45. "Pulp Fiction" actress Thurman
46. Helps people walk
47. Crest of a hill
49. People of southeastern Alaska
56. One's own device
57. The Mount Rushmore State

Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the individual words to reveal letters for the phrase.

ELSAH
CERTA
YPAL
OFOD



Watershed Guardians of Dufferin County to host ‘Ask the Candidates’ meeting at Horning’s Mills Hall

Melancthon residents can pose questions directly to municipal election candidates at the Watershed Guardians of Dufferin County’s “Ask the Candidates” meeting on Oct. 14.

The meeting runs from 7 to 9 p.m., with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. at the Horning’s Mills Community Hall (14 Mill St., Melancthon).

The Watershed Guardians are hosting the meeting to give residents an opportunity to hear candidates outline their priorities, respond to questions and explain their positions on issues, especially those concerning the Strada Quarry Application and its repercussions.

All the candidates will get a chance to have a three-minute quick introduction. They will get to share their background and discuss the issues that are important to them.

Guests will have the opportunity to speak directly to candidates either by formal questions during the Q&A or informally before or after the meeting.

After the candidates introduce themselves, the meeting will then move into a short period of quarry questions followed by a period of question-and-answer session with the audience.

Audience members posing questions are invited to address them to a particular candidate. Once that person has answered, all the other candidates are given the opportunity to answer the same question, so everyone is heard.

Candidates will generally have one to two minutes to answer each question before the meeting moves on.

Each candidate will have two minutes at the end of the meeting for closing remarks.

The Watershed Guardians are expecting 11 candidates to participate. Candidates who have been acclaimed have also been invited to this meeting.

This meeting is intended to give voters an opportunity to hear from candidates in

person and make their own decision about who they want representing their communities.

For residents, this event also provides an opportunity to raise questions about issues directly concerning the Strada Quarry Application and how it would affect day-to-day life in Melancthon and beyond.

Topics expected to come up include water supply and quality, protection of the rural environment, farmland, municipal roads, air quality, fly rock and setbacks.

With local government having a direct impact on many aspects of residents’ lives, organizers of the candidates meeting say it’s important for voters to learn about who’s running and where they stand on key issues issues before casting their ballots.

The newly elected council will play a significant role in shaping the future development of Melancthon. Its members will engage with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR), as well as other government agencies, on matters involving aggregate extraction and the long-term future of the region.

Watershed Guardians of Dufferin County is a small, grassroots organization.

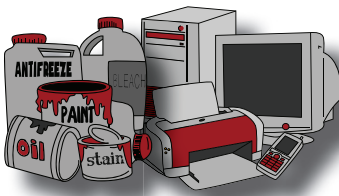
The organization’s goal is to keep residents informed about issues affecting our water, farmland, air, landscapes, traffic and the way of life that defines not only Melancthon Township, but Dufferin County and surrounding areas across Ontario.

“We have come to understand that these issues do not stop at municipal boundaries,” said Watershed Guardians of Dufferin County in a press release. “Water flows. Air moves. And the impacts of development can ripple outward, affecting communities far beyond the immediate site.”

The Watershed Guardians are encouraging residents to take advantage of the opportunity to meet the people seeking office and join the discussion ahead of the 2026 municipal election.

hazardous & electronic waste event COMING SOON!

Date: Saturday, October 31, 2026
Time: 8am-3pm
Location: Orangeville Operations Centre
500 C Line, Orangeville



Hazardous waste

includes automotive containers, cleaning products, fluorescent lights, batteries, paints, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, syringes, and much more.

Electronic waste

includes audio equipment, cameras, computers, home entertainment equipment, phones, and household electronic items, including lamps, alarm clocks, microwaves, toasters, and small appliances.

Limitations

No waste from industrial, commercial, or institutional sources. No white goods/large appliances (including any appliances with freon). No garbage, or recycling. No unidentified/unknown materials. No drums of materials.

Visit dufferincounty.ca/waste for updates and a full listing of acceptable materials & limitations.

This is the final event of the year.

See [website](#) for updates on events in 2027.

Dufferin County residents, including Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Grand Valley, Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur, Orangeville and Shelburne can attend any of these events.

Dufferin
county

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dufferinwaste

HOLIDAY INTERRUPTION FOR WASTE COLLECTION

Collections for the day of the holiday and the rest of the week will be shifted to one day later.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 4	October 5	October 6	October 7	October 8	October 9	October 10
October 11	THANKS GIVING	October 13	October 14	October 15	October 16	October 17
October 18	October 19	October 20	October 21	October 22	October 23	October 24

Monday
ZONE

Tuesday
ZONE

Wednesday
ZONE

Thursday
ZONE

Interruption
no collections

Happy Thanksgiving!

Due to the holiday on Monday, October 12th, garbage, Blue Carts and Green Bins will be collected **one day later** that week. Regular collection will resume the following week.

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ORANGEVILLE VOTES

2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

CANDIDATE PROFILES - Part 2

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.

Paul Hinsperger — Running for councillor

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

With property taxes already one of the highest in the province, I've watched them continue to increase steadily year after year, without a proportional increase in the services and infrastructure improvements the residents receive in return.

I believe I can bring a rational, questioning voice to town leadership. A voice that asks whether there's a more cost-effective approach before defaulting to "that's how it's always been done."

Taxpayers deserve a council member who will push for solutions that are both fiscally responsible and genuinely agreeable to the people footing the bill.

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

Several issues stand out to me:

- Development planning: Ensuring growth is managed thoughtfully. Holding development contractors accountable for missing contractual deadlines/milestones.
- Mix of Housing: Ensuring new housing developments take in to account all age groups propor-



tionally. Not just housing geared to middle age.

- Transit reliability: Town buses not consistently running on schedule, which undermines confidence in the system.
- Traffic flow and parking: Particularly along Broadway and some of the side streets nearby.
- Communication from the town: Especially from Public Works, where residents often wondering why something is happening.
- Property taxes and fiscal

management: Topping the list, not surprisingly, is the broader issue of ensuring the town practices sound, responsible fiscal management so that tax dollars are spent wisely and efficiently.

3. What makes you best suited for the role?

Having grown up in Orangeville and lived here for most of my adult life, I've witnessed firsthand the growing pains our small town faces as it balances growth with preserving its small-town character.

As a self-employed individual, I've developed the discipline and skills to manage and deliver results on tight budget constraints. This is a skill set I believe would be beneficial to municipal governance while preserving our small town feel.

Viktor Karklins — Running for councillor

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

After running as a candidate in the last federal election, I noticed that so many of the issues that I cared about most were local municipal issues. So much so that one of the active council members came up after the debates and recommended I consider running for town council in the next election.

And they were right, seeing as one of the things I cared most deeply about was making sure that our municipal infrastructure can support not only current but future growth.

If you don't have enough water purification capacity, you can't build houses or attract businesses, and if you don't have future-ready internet capacity in the ground, you can't bring in new businesses, let alone work comfortably from home!

I've also always felt like if you can make a difference you should, so when my kid asks why his favourite playgrounds keep getting torn down so quickly but are so slow to go up, it makes me want to roll up my sleeves and make things happen instead of just ignoring it.

So, simply put, I want to run for municipal office because I care about Orangeville and want to help make it even better.

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

I'm deeply passionate about outdoor activities and youth sports and recreation, and while many things are good right now, I think they could be great with continued focus and investment from the municipality.

Some of my fondest memories are of playing youth sports as a kid in Orangeville (and our team photo is still hanging in Guest Wok after all these years!)

However, I think if we aren't careful, many of the sports and recreation facilities and programs avail-



able locally will fade, and that would be a huge loss to the community and the businesses that partner with them.

Additionally, the bones of our town, meaning the pipes, roads, and cables that connect us and make up our infrastructure, need to be invested in.

Having worked in municipal government, I saw firsthand how a lack of investment in key infrastructure can lead to a cap on growth and scare away tourism and business investment. I was even able to be a part of multi-million dollar projects to help fix those issues, and I don't want to see Orangeville end up in the same predicament.

Finally, I think we need proactive zoning to protect our community from AI data centres and more.

3. What makes you best suited for the role?

Orangeville is my home. It is where I grew up, and it is a community that I care deeply about. The same school that I went to as a kid is where I now drop my kid off in the mornings, and I still smile nostalgically every time I drive by the places that I used to live.

I also left for a while, as many of us do, and lived in communities both large and small. I worked in municipal government, worked for a telecommunications company that brought internet to rural communities, and even finished up a Master's in Business Administration before coming back here, where I now teach business, design, and finance courses at a nearby college.

One of the things that makes Orangeville so great is that it is an amazing place to call home and raise a family.

With Island Lake right there, multiple swimming pools and arenas, and small-town charm that's movie-set worthy, I think this is a community worth fighting for in battles both big and small.

I also think I'm uniquely suited for the role as someone who cares both about balanced budgets and the heart and soul of this community.

Lindsay Lupton — Running for councillor

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

I have lived in Orangeville for more than 30 years, and I believe in being part of the change.

I have worked, raised my family, volunteered, and built my community connections in Orangeville. I have also lived with the decisions made by council over the years. The decisions we make today — and the decisions made 30 years ago — shape the Orangeville we live in now.

Orangeville has always valued its small-town charm. In the past, opportunities for substantial industry were turned down for a variety of reasons, in part to protect that character. Fast forward 30 years, and we are facing the consequences of those choices. Our infrastructure has been neglected for too long, our costs are increasing, and without a substantial industrial tax base, more of the burden falls on residential taxpayers. Orangeville is at a crossroads.



I want to be part of the decision-making process that guides our community into the future — protecting what makes Orangeville special, while making the responsible decisions necessary to ensure it remains a strong, sustainable and affordable place to live.

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

The biggest issues are taxes, infrastructure and growth.

A stronger and more bal-

anced tax base
We need to find ways to reduce the pressure on residential taxpayers. I feel we can accomplish this by attracting industry and employment opportunities that can contribute to our tax base.

We also need to actively pursue partnerships and grants, identify efficiencies in how services are delivered, and look for innovative ways to share costs.

Infrastructure

As our population grows, we need to address our existing infrastructure while planning and paying for the new infrastructure that growth requires.

We cannot continue to defer necessary maintenance and then expect future generations of residents to carry the entire cost. We need long-term planning, responsible budgeting and creative partnerships to make sure infrastructure keeps pace with growth.

Orangeville as the business hub of Dufferin County

Orangeville is a business and service hub for Dufferin County. Residents from surrounding municipalities use our recreation facilities, library and other services. This places additional pressure on Orangeville taxpayers to fund facilities and services that benefit the broader community.

The communities that benefit from a service should contribute fairly to its ongoing maintenance and operating costs.

That approach could help us manage growth and invest in infrastructure without placing the entire financial burden on Orangeville residents.

3. What makes you best suited for the role?

I feel I am deeply connected to the community. I have volunteered with the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), Girl Guides of Canada,

Princess Margaret Public School Parent Council, and the Heritage Committee for 25 years.

I am also a dog mom who uses our local dog park.

Currently, I work at a big-box retailer in Orangeville. That experience has given me daily contact with people from every part of our community. I interact with residents of different ages, backgrounds and socioeconomic circumstances. This gives me a real understanding of the issues people are experiencing in our community.

Also, I bring 42 years of professional experience in recreation. I have spent my entire career working in small-town recreation facilities. I understand the realities of operating community facilities, managing budgets, maintaining infrastructure and delivering services in smaller municipalities.

Most importantly, I bring community connections backed by both my personal and professional life. I know Orangeville. I know its people. I understand the challenges facing small-town municipalities, and I understand the importance of making responsible decisions today that will shape our community for decades to come.

I am running because I believe Orangeville is at a crossroads—and I will help lead us forward.

My candidate email is Votelindsaylupton2026@gmail.com

Vivian Petho — Running for councillor

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

I have been a resident of this community for 10 years now. In that time, I have worked in many capacities in this town, including committees (EDI and Age-Friendly) and volunteering through various organizations (Equity of Access Committee for UGDSB, Parent Council co-chair, Orange-ThREADs, and Orangeville Food Bank).

As the president of the Orangeville & District Horticultural Society, I have run a board of directors and helped to make key decisions to shape the future of the society. My proudest achievement is "The Opportunity Garden," a project that gave neurodivergent adults from Branching Out Support Services the ability to grow pea shoots and donate them to the food bank.

In terms of the town, I have often advocated for change to policies and procedures within Orangeville. For example, when challenged with service dog access on transit, my family and I worked with the town to create a policy for service dogs on transit.

We additionally helped make amendments to the by-law policy and instigated the Proclamation of Service Dog Month in September. What I have done is not just for me and mine, but for the betterment of all of Orangeville.

Now, I want to be on the side of the table where I can help make change for the future of both my family and our beautiful community.

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

Our municipality faces a variety of issues. One of the biggest concerns is taxes and the rate of increase. Taxes are a necessary thing. We need to be able to support the infrastructure and services that we want Orangeville to provide.

However, this leads into another issue: jobs and industry.

To have our residents be able to work, live and thrive, Orangeville has to become a more attrac-



tive place to bigger industries to keep people in this town, rather than having to commute out for employment.

Bigger industry would mean that the tax burden could be better distributed, leaving less upon the residents.

Another issue is accessibility. When I say this, I do not mean just transit, or ramps into businesses. I mean that working to AODA compliance would help many individuals who have mobility challenges. Equity in accessibility is import-

ant.
The final issue that I want to focus on is recreational spaces. We do have a variety of them, but it is time to diversify by attracting different types of sports to town, such as cricket or looking at a secondary swimming pool facility.

More houses are being built right now, which means more families moving to Orangeville. We need to be thinking ahead as to how we will serve both the new and current residents' ongoing recreational needs.

3. What makes you best suited for the role?

I am best suited to the role as councillor because I bring a unique take to the situation. I am a multi-racial woman with lived experience.

I have autistic family members that I support. I have volunteered extensively within this town, and continually speak to residents about the issues that they are facing.

If faced with a problem, I have no problem with doing the reading and research necessary to make an informed decision and vote appropriately on the issues.

As a resident, my work has always been to not only improve my family's life, but also benefit others in the community. I have taught my children that you are only as good as your word, so if you say you will do something, you do it. I am not afraid to tell you if I don't know the answer, but I will research and find the best answer to the situation.

I look forward to making Orangeville great!

Sandra Pratt — Running for councillor

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

Orangeville is not just where I live — it is my home. I have watched this community grow and change over the years, and I have felt the frustration that many residents share about decisions being made without their voices truly being heard.

As a volunteer in this community, I have already had the privilege of contributing to meaningful projects that made a real difference for Orangeville residents. These experiences show me that one person with conviction and commitment can genuinely move the needle.

I am not a career politician. I am a neighbour, a business owner, a volunteer, and someone who has spent over two decades building relationships and trust in this community.

I decided to run because I believe Orangeville deserves a councillor who is accountable, accessible, and genuinely invested in the people who call this town home — someone ready to do the work.



Orangeville has given a lot to me, and running for council is my way of giving back.

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

The issues I hear most consistently from Orangeville residents are fiscal responsibility, community safety, and access to recreation.

Council recently approved significant pay increases for elected positions, and while I respect the

role, I believe councillors should be driven by service — not compensation.

Residents are watching where every tax dollar goes and they deserve complete transparency.

Safety is also a growing concern. Our public spaces, lighting, and community infrastructure need attention, and I am committed to working collaboratively with the OPP and community partners to make Orangeville safer for families/people of all ages.



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JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

PINK EVERYWHERE: Mayor Lisa Post joined town staff, Pinkville organizer Charlene Judge, and representatives from Breast Cancer Canada to mark Breast Cancer Awareness Month with a ceremonial flag raising and proclamation on Oct. 1. The event coincided with the kickoff of the town-wide Pinkville campaign, with buildings all across Broadway putting up pink decor and offering pink-themed products to fundraise for Breast Cancer Canada.

Town of Orangeville Hosts flag raising for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of Orangeville recognized and commemorated Breast Cancer Awareness Month on Oct. 1 with a ceremonial flag raising outside of town hall.

The flag raising coincided with Orangeville's first-ever Pinkville campaign, an ambitious grassroots objective to turn Orangeville pink for the month of October in solidarity with breast cancer survivors, families, and patients still undergoing treatment.

Mayor Lisa Post joined councillors, town staff and representatives from Breast Cancer Canada to mark the occasion, and thanked the Pinkville team and Breast Cancer Canada for their ongoing missions and constant support.

"We're really grateful that you've got the passion that you do for this," she said. "I think that we've got a really unique opportunity here in Orangeville this time to celebrate Pinkville, and I'm really excited to see what we get to do."

Some businesses on Broadway had already begun to decorate their storefronts pink with signs, curtains, or other decorations. Some restaurants and cafes are also offering pink-themed food and drinks. Storefronts that can't use pink are mounting large

signs in their windows to share helpful links to make donations or learn more.

Pinkville organizer Charlene Judge, also in attendance, shared her excitement about the transformation beginning downtown, and expressed her gratitude to the community and the town for all the support her campaign has received.

"I am so excited to see our sea of pink that has started already," she said. "I'm so energized by our business owners who have been extremely supportive, and I can't wait to see how we end up in our campaign. It's all going to go to a cause near and dear to my heart. So thank you very much."

Following a reading of the proclamation by Mayor Post, attendees gathered at the flagpole and officially hoisted the purple and pink flag over town hall, marking the first day of Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the Town of Orangeville.

Organizers are hoping the campaign receives similar community support elsewhere, with the Pinkville campaign inspiring other communities to follow suit and inspire other town governments to follow Orangeville's example with flag raisings and further community advocacy.

For those looking to learn more about the Pinkville campaign, or to donate, go to: breastcancer.ca/pinkville

ORANGEVILLE

VOTES

2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

CANDIDATE PROFILES - Part 2

Continued from Page A13

Finally, recreation and community programming are the heartbeat of a healthy town. Many residents, especially youth and seniors, feel that programs and facilities are not accessible or available. Smart growth must include investment in the community spaces and services that bring people together, not just infrastructure and development that serves a narrow interest. Orangeville's character is worth protecting, and I will fight to preserve it.

3. What makes you best suited for the role?

Working as a realtor for over 22 years has given me a deep understanding of financial planning, negotiation, budgeting, and community development.

I know how to read numbers, ask hard questions, and advocate firmly for the people I represent. That kind of strong business background is exactly what

responsible municipal governance requires, and it is something I bring to the table.

With my manufacturing experience, I bring a commitment to process control and continuous improvement. I believe local government should constantly be evaluating how it operates, identifying inefficiencies, eliminating waste, and finding smarter ways to deliver results for taxpayers.

Good governance is not just about making decisions — it is about making better decisions over time through accountability, key measurements, and a willingness to improve.

As a volunteer first responder, I understand urgency and accountability. As a certified soccer referee, I understand fairness and making tough calls under pressure. As someone who has already contributed lasting initiatives to this community, I know how to turn ideas into real impact.

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.



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Orangeville Transit

The orange route is expanding

See what’s changing Oct. 8

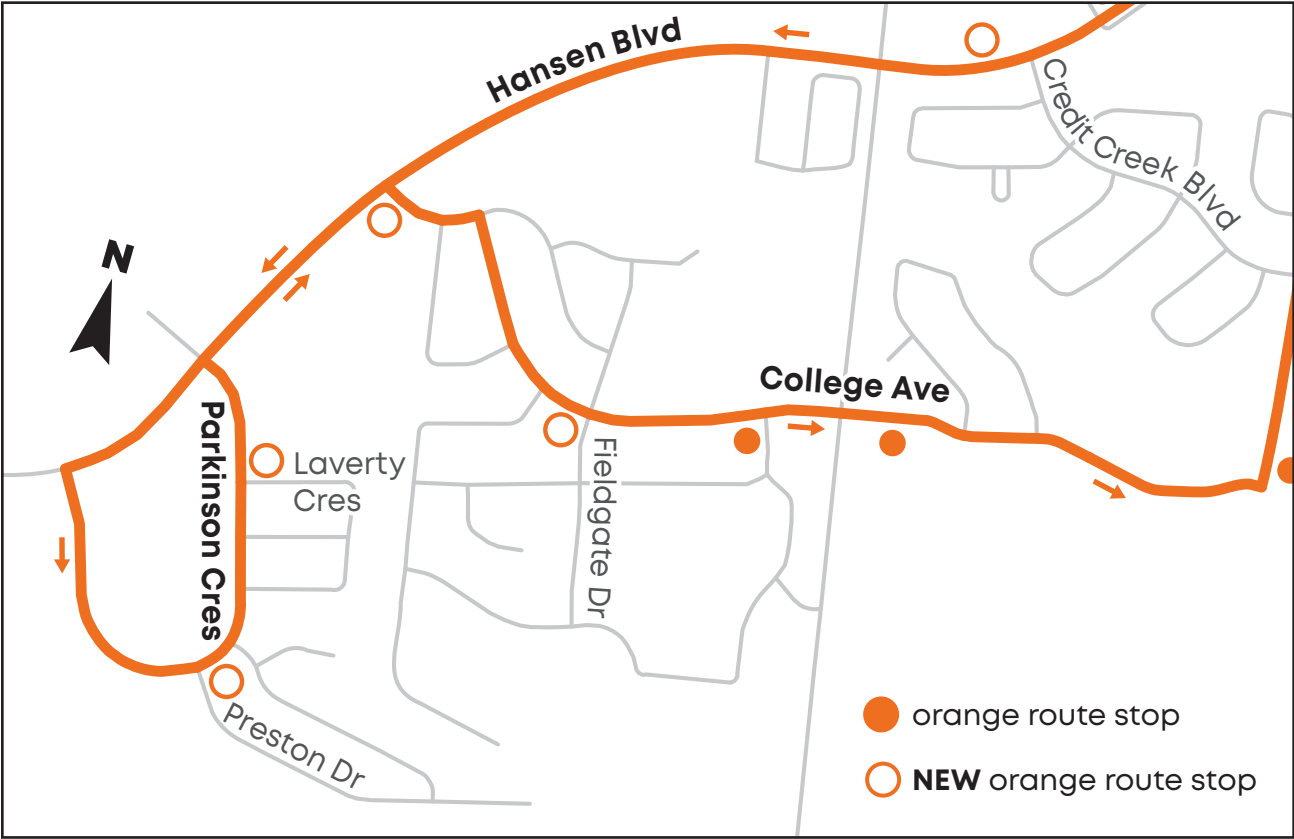
New stops are coming to the Veterans Way community.

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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- ☎ 519-941-0440 ext. 7301



100 Realtors Who Care pool funds to provide quarterly support to local charities

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A group of Dufferin County realtors is turning individual donations into a larger pool of funds for local charities through a simple model built around collective giving.

The 100 Realtors Who Care Dufferin brings local real estate professionals together four times a year to hear from nonprofit organizations in the community, vote on which causes should receive funding and provide direct financial support.

The group's model is based on one hour of members' time and a \$100 contribution each quarter, with the goal of eventually reaching 100 members and generating \$10,000 per event for local charities.

The group is volunteer-run and focused exclusively on registered charities serving Dufferin County, with members able to nominate organizations they believe deserve support. Three charities are selected each quarter under the group's regular model, with members then meeting to hear their presentations before deciding where the money should go.

Realtor John Walkinshaw, who hosted the group's recent event in Orangeville on Sept. 24 at the Lightcaster Taphouse, said the organization is currently working toward growing its membership and increasing the amount it



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

100 REALTORS STRONG: While not at full capacity just yet, the 100 Realtors Who Care Dufferin are forging ahead with their goal to give back to the community. At the quarterly event held on Sept. 24, the group awarded \$3,500 to the Orangeville Food Bank and \$1,000 to the Headwaters Health Care Foundation.

can give away.

“We’re currently sitting with 45 realtors,” he said. “So, if you have a good time here today, if you believe in this after today, talk to other realtors that you’re dealing with on a day-to-day basis. If everybody in this room invites someone, we’re pretty much at the number we need. Today we’re going to be giving away \$4,500 to two charities, but if we could be giving away \$10,000, that’s a really big deal.”

At the Orangeville gathering, members heard from representatives of two local organizations: the Orangeville Food Bank and the Headwaters Health Care Foundation (HHCF).

Walkinshaw explained that the two organizations had both been frequently nominated by members, leading the group to put them directly against one another for the event's funding. Rather than pitting either organization against a smaller charity, members were given the opportunity to hear from both before casting their ballots.

K.C. Carruthers, CEO of HHCF, outlined the role of hospital foundations in Ontario, explaining that while provincial funding supports hospital operations, foundations raise money for equipment and other needs.

“Why is the hospital here today?” he said. “You pay a lot of taxes. Doesn’t that pay for healthcare? Well, the way healthcare and hospital funding works in Ontario, every hospital has a foundation, a separate organization from the hospital that raises funds for the equipment. Because yes, the Ministry of Health does pay Ato operate healthcare and operate hospitals, but they don’t pay for any of the equipment.”

Carruthers continued, “We need to expand the emergency department. We’re going to grow it by over a third. We’re going to expand it into where the lab is today, and we’re going to add two very interesting features that we don’t have right now. One is going to be a rapid assessment zone... And the other one we’re very excited about is a mental health unit.”

Carruthers also highlighted plans for a major expansion of the hospital's emergency department, including a rapid assessment zone and dedicated mental health space. The planned project is expected to cost approximately \$30 million and would represent the foundation's largest fundraising campaign to

date.”

Heather Hayes, executive director of the Orangeville Food Bank, discussed the organization's growing demand and its efforts to provide food and related services across the community. The food bank recorded approximately 25,000 visits last year and now supports about 1,600 people each month, according to Hayes.

“As the need continues to grow in our community, so has the need for space with the volunteers, the staff that provide the services, the cold storage, the non-perishable storage, the kitchen space,” she said. “The space has outpaced what we can do, and now we’re playing a serious game of Tetris every day. Sadly, needs have grown 320 per cent since I first started. Food banks do not receive funding from the province... We get funding by asking, being out there and telling our story.”

Hayes added, “We appreciate the support that the community has provided us for the last 34 years. And while donations sustain us, only policy change will pull us out of food insecurity and prices that we’re facing in Dufferin, in Ontario, and across Canada.”

After hearing from both organizations, members voted on which charity should receive the larger share of the event's \$4,500 in funding.

The Orangeville Food Bank received the top vote and was awarded \$3,500, while HHCF received the remaining \$1,000.

Walkinshaw said the event demonstrated the impact that can come from combining relatively small individual contributions, while also giving local charities an opportunity to tell their stories directly to members of the community.

The group hopes to continue growing toward its goal of 100 members, which would allow it to direct as much as \$40,000 toward Dufferin County charities each year.

WINTER WARMTH

Clothing Swap & Share

Saturday, November 7th
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sunday, November 8th
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Grand Valley Public Library
4 Amaranth St. E, Grand Valley

Bring your unwanted hats, mittens, jackets and other winter clothing, and swap them for something else for free!

Don't have anything to bring? Stop by anyway!
All are welcome!

Clothing drop-off options:
November 4th (10am - 6pm)
November 5th (10am - 8pm)
November 6th (10am - 6pm)
November 7th (before noon)

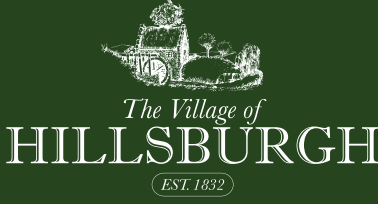
All clothing must be clean and in good condition.

For all event guidelines, visit dufferincounty.ca/waste





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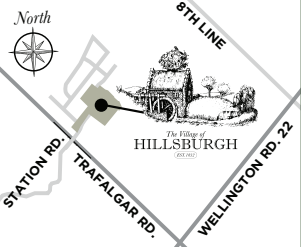


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4⁹⁹ Bistro-style
Green Beans 300 g

SALE



French Onion Soup

SOUPS
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ONLY
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5 VARIETIES



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Asian Party Pack
38-46 PIECES 632 g

SAVE
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Nanaimo Bars
850 g

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Shrimp Ring
42-48 SHRIMPS 454 g

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Sirloin Beef Meatballs
60-70 PIECES 907 g

SAVE
\$5



Mozzarella Sticks
15-21 PIECES 454 g

SAVE
\$2



Jumbo Coconut Shrimp
16-19 SHRIMPS 340 g

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\$2



Mini Quiche
16 PIECES 340 g

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Sausage Rolls
26-28 PIECES 500 g

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INCREDIBLE PRICE

29⁹⁹
Boneless, Skinless
Chicken Breasts
8-12 BREASTS 1.36 kg

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ONLY
3⁹⁹
each
Bistro Chicken®
114 g
Choose from:
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each
Stuffed, Breaded Chicken
142 g
Choose from: • Kiev • Parmesan
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26⁹⁹ Cabbage Rolls
1.81 kg

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STK# U58251 • 179,414 KM • LONGHORN LEVEL 1 EQUIPMENT GROUP: TOWING TECHNOLOGY GROUP: SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED SECOND-ROW SEATS, 17-SPEAKER PREMIUM AUDIO, POWER RUNNING BOARDS, REAR AUTO-LEVELING AIR SUSPENSION, CLASS V HITCH, TRAILER BRAKE CONTROLLER, 6.7L CUMMINS TURBO-DIESEL, 4X4, AND MORE!

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We will be back to regular hours on Tuesday, October 13th.



How to create more interior space for the winter

After a summer and fall spent outdoors, winter drives many people back inside. Homeowners may take inventory of their interior spaces in winter and find that there isn't as much room as they would like. When entertaining inside, a home may feel particularly cramped.

CREATING AN OPEN, inviting indoor environment requires maximizing spatial design but not necessarily expanding square footage. By focusing on a few strategies, homeowners can maximize interior flow.

Change up the layout of furniture

Being able to move around a space more easily may come down to rethinking the furniture layout. Interior design experts often emphasize traffic flow in a space, which can determine how comfortable homeowners and their guests feel. Universal design methodologies point to establishing clear, unobstructed routes to link different zones of a room. This will minimize physical congestion in the space. When entertaining, homeowners can push larger pieces of furniture against the perimeter of a room to open up a central gathering area. Heavy coffee tables can be swapped out for smaller tables to allow the rearrangement of the layout depending on how many people are spending time in a given space.

Subdivide rooms

Open-concept spaces might have lost some their appeal in recent years. Designers are now going back in the direction of room-based layouts over open concepts, according to Martha Stewart and New York-based designer Madeline Merin. Some homeowners now have a greater need for definition of the spaces they have to work with. Instead of one open room, dividing the space can create the illusion of having more square footage while providing distinctive spots for privacy and other room functions. An open-concept family room, for example, can be divided into a gaming room on one side and a home office space on the other.

Change how spaces are perceived

Lighting and visual elements can make spaces feel more roomy and inviting even if they haven't gotten larger. Painting walls in soft tones will help them reflect more

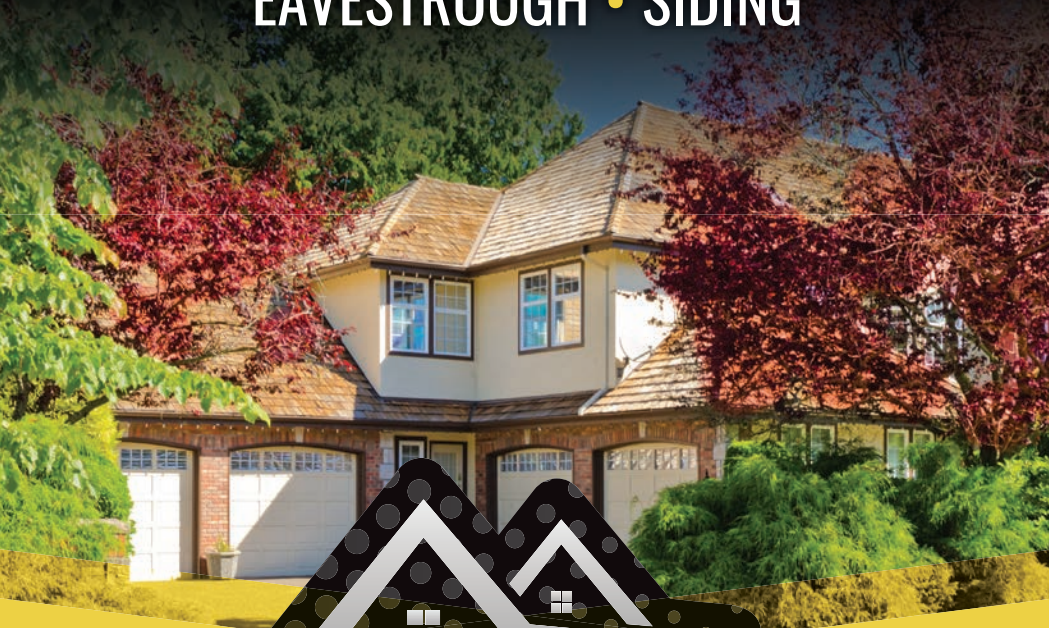
light, making boundaries feel like they are receding. Incorporating more natural light by removing heavy draperies is one strategy. According to the Journal of Biophilic Design, biophilic design is the intentional integration of nature into buildings and spaces to improve human health and productivity. Homeowners can incorporate natural lighting, living plants, organic materials, and organic patterns into their interior designs to make spaces feel more inviting.

Homeowners can look to various design strategies to open up interior spaces in their homes with a goal toward making them more comfortable places to ride out the winter.



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The Fireplace Stop

Taking care of you every step of the way

BY JIM STEWART

‘Lighting the fires for the first time and seeing the happy faces of customers’ fuels Fireplace Stop owner Andy Leonard in his 40th year of service in Schomberg

The Fireplace Stop owner and operator Andy Leonard has been serving customers from his Schomberg store since 1987 and bought out a competitor in Parry Sound in 2025 to consolidate a second location. The amiable and engaging fireplace expert explained the satisfaction he derives from looking after his customers in the store’s far-flung locations. “To put a smile on a customer’s face is a real achievement. You deal with all kinds of personalities in any business, but we’re confident in our range of products — that they’ll look after all the different tastes of our customers. We’ve got the Buicks, the Porsches, and the Lamborghinis in our showroom. It’s also really about the people — my staff — that make Fireplace Stop what it is. We’re pleased to have twenty home-grown employees who look after our customers with installations and service our range of products properly. Specs change constantly in this business so we’re happy to be connected to a Georgian College co-op program. We’re able to bring in cutting edge, talented technicians in the fall and train them during their co-op placements,” said Leonard. Responding to an ever-evolving economy is a requirement for any successful business and Leonard acknowledged this decade’s unique challenges. “The only constant in the twenty-first century is change and we are living it. It’s changing all the time. The models we sell have changed so much even in five years. Each piece of equipment has its own bible

and keeping up with the changes keeps us energized. New product lines can change every six months so we keep pace with new specs and installation methods. Staying current is what creates our relationship with our clients — meeting their needs gives us so much satisfaction. We like these challenges — we built this company on that level of service that responds to change,” said Leonard. Those myriad services are manifested in the company’s recent radio ad which is in regular rotation on local radio stations around Central Ontario. The thirty-second spot outlines home and cottage products offered at both Schomberg and Parry Sound locations, including fireplaces, fireplace inserts, free-standing stoves, outdoor living, and venting components. The company’s impressive range of brands is referenced in the radio commercial and reinforced with a visit to its expansive showroom at the Crossroads Mall at Highways 9 and 27: DaVinci Custom Fireplaces; Enviro Fireplaces; Fireplace Xtordinaire; Jotul North America; Lopi Stoves; Marquis Fireplaces; Pacific Energy; Regency Fireplace Products; Renaissance Fireplaces; RSF Fireplaces; Spartherm

Fireplaces; Stuv America; Tempest Touch; and Town and Country Fireplaces. The congenial owner of The Fireplace Stop was pleased with the lively, invitation-al, and engaging voiceover that moves the ad and deepens the connectivity of his brand with homeowners and cottage owners across multiple regions. In addition to connecting with prospective customers via radio waves and the company’s navigable, interactive website, the diligent and dedicated owner is deeply connected to his community through sponsorships. “We purchased the #1 sponsorship at a MacTier/Parry Sound Charity Walk on behalf of the Lion’s Club that will raise funds for Diabetes Canada on Oct. 3. We’ve sponsored a number of local hockey teams and individual hockey players, but the players have to come in and visit with us before any sponsorship funds are dispersed. Our company raised money for cancer research through golf tournaments for many years, but we found that that kind of fundraising got old due to so many tournaments having the same goals. Most importantly, when we have the chance to give back, we do,” said Leonard.

Leonard acknowledges at the end of a busy Friday afternoon that their customers also give back to them in meaningful ways, it’s a two-way street of customer service. “It’s very rewarding to help and direct our customers. They make us feel so great when we help them achieve what they set to accomplish. We build our relationships with people and enjoy showing interest in their plans and, by extension, the things they do in their own lives. We learn so much in our conversations at various stages of our installations,” he said. Leonard concurs along with his staff: “We’re so blessed to have so many great customers and to be able to do something that we enjoy doing each and every day. It’s great to see when our clients are so ecstatic that the fireplace has become the focal point of the room. Lighting the fires for the first time and seeing the happy faces is an amazing experience for both of us. We’re making them more comfortable and they’re so happy with the installation.”







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Fall is one of the best times for planting trees, shrubs and perennials for several reasons. The combination of cool air temperatures and warm soil creates the ideal environment for vigorous root establishment before winter dormancy. Soil holds onto summer warmth long after the air turns cool which allows roots to continue growing until soil temperature drops below 50° F (10° C).

There is reduced transplant shock as milder air temperatures and weaker sun prevents rapid moisture evaporation through leaves. Also, natural seasonal watering from autumn rains are important for the plants and less work watering for the homeowners.

Destructive garden pests/insects are less active as they are themselves settling into dormancy, so less stress from them as well as reduced weed competition to contend with.

Your plants are getting an advanced head start for Spring. The plants will already be established, ready to channel energy into leafing out and blooming. Another benefit is the more comfortable environment for us, the homeowners. Being outside, planting on those glorious fall days

is good for us both mentally and physically.

Another excellent reason for fall planting is there are often fall sale on many of the plants so savings for you that you are unlikely to see in the Spring.

Now onto the acutal planting, whether they are trees, shrubs or perennials, you should dig a hole a few inches wider than the plant but a little shallower as plants are better slightly higher by an inch or two than ground level. Mix the native soil with compost enriched soil to help roots grow strong before winter. Water slowly and deeply to settle the soil and continue watering until the ground freezes completely. Rainfall is generally more plentiful so this helps as well.

After planting, use a liquid transplanter fertilizer ideally with rooting hormones as liquid is more readily available to the plant. For trees generally they should be staked on both sides to prevent winds from uprooting them. The stakes can be removed after 2 winters.

Have fun and enjoy the rewards of your labour!

EDITORIAL SUPPLIED BY VALERIE WYLIE, GLEN ECHO NURSERIES.

All-Mont Garage Doors: Fall Tips for a Warmer, Safer Winter



As autumn leaves begin to fall and temperatures drop, it's the perfect time to prepare your home for the colder months ahead. One of the most overlooked—but most important—areas to check before winter is your **garage door**.

For over 40 years, **All-Mont Garage Doors** has helped homeowners across Orangeville, Caledon, and surrounding areas stay safe, warm, and energy-efficient through every season. Family-owned since 1983, All-Mont specializes in installing and servicing **Canadian-made Garaga garage doors** and **LiftMaster openers**—both built to handle the harshest Ontario winters.

Fall Garage Door Maintenance Checklist:
Check weather stripping for cracks or gaps that can let in cold air, moisture, or pests.
Listen for unusual noises when opening/closing—squeaks or grinding can indicate worn rollers or dry hinges.
Test the balance of your door; if it doesn't stay halfway open when released, your springs may need adjusting.
Inspect your opener—replace batteries and ensure

safety sensors are clean and aligned.

If your garage feels drafty or your energy bills spike in winter, your garage door may be the culprit. A properly insulated door not only improves comfort but also protects tools, stored items, and even plumbing in adjacent walls from freezing.

At All-Mont, we offer **free consultations** and a wide range of insulated garage doors in styles from rustic carriage-house to sleek modern. Our team handles everything—from seasonal tune-ups to full replacements—with the professionalism and attention to detail we're known for.

Most of our work comes from referrals and repeat clients who value our honest advice, fair pricing, and dependable service.

Before the first snowfall hits, give your garage the care it needs. With a quick fall checkup or upgrade, you can enjoy peace of mind all winter long.

Visit www.allmontdoors.com to book your seasonal service or explore garage door options or drop by our showroom at Unit 20, 48 Centennial Rd, Orangeville.

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ALLEN HVAC SOLUTIONS is a family-owned and operated HVAC company led by Garfield Allen and his children Maddison and Keegan. Their mission is to deliver a thorough, consistent, and trustworthy service experience to homeowners and businesses.

They offer a full suite of heating, cooling, and ventilation services, from regular maintenance to emergency repairs and full installations. They emphasize individualized service: rather than promoting one-size-fits-all solutions, Allen HVAC works with customers to assess their specific heating and cooling needs and present tailored options.

A key focus of their offering is indoor air quality (IAQ). They note that HVAC systems in homes move over a million cubic feet of air daily, making them prime places to address air purity. They provide products such as:

- Whole-house humidifiers to help with respiratory comfort, dry skin, allergies, and snoring
- An IAQ 1000 Polarized Media Air Cleaner

capable of removing particles as small as 0.3 microns, helping allergy and COPD sufferers and improving system efficiency and comes with a lifetime warranty.

- An IAQ 3000 dual-wavelength ultraviolet purification system (using UVC and UVV) to control viruses, bacteria, mold, chemicals, odors, and off-gassing, and comes with a lifetime warranty.

Allen HVAC services both residential and commercial clients. They combine high-quality parts and equipment with a commitment to workmanship, backing their installations and repairs with warranties.

In short, Allen HVAC Solutions positions itself not just as a repair or installation company, but a partner in home comfort and air quality. By taking time to understand each customer's needs, offering advanced IAQ solutions, and guaranteeing their work, they aim to build long-term trust in the communities they serve.





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DECADES OF DEDICATION: FOCUS ON DECORATING ATTRIBUTES NEARLY 30 YEARS OF SUCCESS TO LOYAL CUSTOMERS AND UNWAVERING SERVICE

BY SAM ODROWSKI

FOCUS ON DECORATING – BENJAMIN MOORE has proudly served the community with quality paints, stains, wallpaper and window coverings for nearly 30 years.

The family-owned, independent premium paint store offers colour consultations, custom colour matching, jobsite delivery and expert advice on projects of any kind.

Business owner Ken Eppenberger said Focus on Decorating is built upon a long-standing customer-first philosophy passed down from his mother, who opened the store in 1997.

He attributes the company's long-standing success to its loyal customer base and word-of-mouth reputation within the community.

"We really want to express our thanks and appreciation to the customers who have stuck with us for the past 29 years that we've been here. That loyalty means everything to us," said Eppenberger, who has been involved with the family business since it opened and took over management about 15 years ago.

"A big part of what we do is build relationships. We still have customers today who my mother knew decades ago, and they continue to come back because that sense of trust and rapport has carried through over time."

Beyond paint, Focus on Decorating carries Hunter Douglas Blinds, Alta Window Fashions, Maxxmar Window Fashions, Hickory Hardware products, wallpaper ordering through supplier books, and a wide selection of decorative home-finishing solutions.

Personalized service and product quality are what define Focus on Decorating, according to Eppenberger.

"People who have tried our brand are generally impressed with the quality, the lasting finish, and the coverage they get compared to other products on the market," he said.

"Our staff is very knowledgeable, and when people come in with an issue or a problem, we take the time to work through it with them and try to resolve it properly, not just send them away with a quick answer."

Benjamin Moore products are known for their high solids content, which results in better coverage because there is a higher percentage of actual pigment-binding material in their paints rather than solvent. This means fewer coats of paint are needed, improving durability and providing a thicker, longer-lasting finish.

What sets Focus on Decorating apart from other retailers is its independent-store atmosphere and its emphasis on greeting customers and providing immediate assistance with a personal touch.

Eppenberger said he has a small but highly dedicated team of seven employees who ensure customers walk out the door with everything they need.

"Most of our staff have five to seven years of experience here, so customers are dealing with people who really know the products," he said. "My philosophy is that it shouldn't matter who you're talking to — you should be getting the same answers and the same advice from everyone here."

Focus on Decorating is very active in the community, supporting service clubs and church groups throughout the year. The business recently donated paint to the Orangeville Curling Club for facility improvements and has donated gift cards to support its fundraising efforts through annual bonspiels.

"We try to assist where we can," Eppenberger said.

Monthly specials are always available, and there is pricing flexibility for whole-home projects. Staff work with customers to help manage project costs where possible.

Focus on Decorating is located at 88 First St., Orangeville, and is open seven days a week. Its hours of operation are from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays, and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

The weekday hours serve contractors by opening early at 7 a.m. and the general public by keeping it open until 7 p.m.

Eppenberger says he's always happy to help customers, no matter when they come through the door.

"The consumer coming in is never an



inconvenience to us – they are the reason we are in business. If you lose sight of that, you lose what makes a small business work in the first place," Eppenberger explained.

"We try to go out of our way to provide a level of service where the customer doesn't have to figure everything out themselves. We

guide them through it, we help them make decisions."

To learn more about Focus on Decorating, visit focusondecorating.ca or call (519) 942-8171 during regular business hours.



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HunterDouglas



A GUIDE TO FALL LAWN CARE FOR

cool-season grasses



Spring might mark the time when many homeowners begin tending to their lawns each year, but it's important to recognize the significance of fall lawn care as well. Grasses vary, and homeowners are urged to identify which type of grass is in their lawn so they can ensure it gets the care it needs before winter's first frost. Cool-season grasses like perennial ryegrass and Kentucky bluegrass are common in various regions, and the following strategies can help homeowners with these types of grasses tend to their lawns this fall.

• **STICK TO YOUR RECOMMENDED FERTIL-**

IZATION SCHEDULE. Homeowners who have been fertilizing since spring are urged to continue doing so in fall at the recommended interval. It's easy to forget to fertilize in fall thanks to cooler temperatures that don't call lawn care to mind and busier schedules after school starts again and summer vacation season ends. But many fertilizer manufacturers advise users of their products to fertilize several times over the course of the year, including in fall. Stick to the intervals recommended on the packaging of the fertilizer you've been using, making sure not to forget to fertilize this fall.

• **CONDUCT A SOIL TEST.** A soil test can deter-

mine if the soil is lacking any nutritive elements it needs to come back strong in spring. Certain amendments can restore pH balance if necessary and foster stronger growth when lawns come back in spring.

• **AERATE, IF NECESSARY.** Soil can become compacted over time, and that can cause a range of problems for a lawn. Compacted soil can make it harder for water to reach the roots of grass, which weakens grass and makes it more vulnerable to damage during adverse weather events like drought. Compacted soil also makes it harder for nutrients in fertilizer to get into the soil. Aerating is best left to professionals, particularly in larger lawns, as the job can foster strong root development when done properly.

• **REMOVE THATCH WHERE IT'S EXCESSIVE.** Thin layers of thatch can benefit lawns by delivering nutrients from grass clippings and leaves to a lawn. However, when thatch is excessive, it can block air, water and even fertilizer from reaching the soil. Thatch often can be removed with a rake, but lawns with especially thick layers of thatch may need to be scarified.

Homeowners can take a DIY approach to scarifying or hire a landscaping professional to dethatch the lawn and remove the thatch from their properties.

• **CONTINUE TO WATER THE LAWN.** A cool-season grass will continue to require water into the fall. Though the lawn won't need to be watered as frequently in fall as in summer, various lawn care professionals note cool-season grasses still need roughly an inch of water each week in fall.

• **REMOVE LEAVES AS THEY FALL.** Fallen leaves can affect a lawn in much the same way as excessive amounts of thatch, blocking water and nutrients from reaching the soil. So it's best to remove fallen leaves, especially when they begin to fall in large quantities.

Fall is an opportune time to tend to a lawn to increase the chances grass grows back strong in spring.

CALEDON FIREPLACE: OVER 35 YEARS OF CANADIAN WARMTH AND UNMATCHED CUSTOMER SERVICE

BY SAM ODROWSKI

CALEDON FIREPLACE has been warming families' homes and hearts for over 35 years, with an extensive selection of fireplaces, inserts, and stoves. Whether it's wood, gas, or electric, this friends-and-family-owned specialty fireplace store has you covered, with a cozy showroom to browse at 2999 King St., Inglewood. "Buying a unit — whether it's wood, gas or electric — isn't cheap, so people really like to come in and see it in person. We have a lot of options in the showroom to help them choose what works best," said Lynn Macdonald from Caledon Fireplace. "In the summer, we set up several barbecue models so customers can lift the lid, see the grill and compare them. We also carry an array of accessories to compliment your grill." Pellets for pellet stoves are also available, offering a cost-effective, efficient, and clean fuel source. Caledon Fireplace carries all-Canadian PitMaster Pellets, from Grand Valley, Ont. Macdonald said their business has a strong

focus on Canadian suppliers and recently added a lineup of products from Valor Fireplaces, based in British Columbia. Other Canadian brands available at the store are Regency, Blaze King, Kingsman, Supreme, Montigo, Continental, RSF, Pacific Energy, Amantii, and Valcourt. Caledon Fireplace has WETT-certified installers and experienced staff who ensure customers' expectations are met with every purchase. "What sets us apart is our customer service. We really try to go over and above," Macdonald said. "If there is a challenging install, we'll go back until the customer is happy." The small but dedicated team at Caledon Fireplace is knowledgeable, and clients will often speak to the same person from start to finish, providing a consistent point of contact. If they don't know the answer to your questions, they are happy to contact tech support for the product and supply you with all the answers you need. "We've had customers come in here who



bought units somewhere else and then couldn't get anyone to answer the phone," Macdonald recalled. "They won't have that problem here. Customers are usually dealing with me or Heather, and we try to follow each order right from beginning to end. It's less confusing and better for the customer to have one person handling their order," said Kim McKenzie from Caledon Fireplace. The friendly team at Caledon Fireplace is happy to help narrow down or determine the unit that best suits their needs. "Customers often ask for quotes on several options — gas, wood, inserts or freestanding stoves — and we'll give them as many quotes as they want to help them figure out what works best," said Macdonald. Caledon Fireplace supports the Dufferin-Cale-

don community where it can, recently donating silent auction items to local fire services, contributing to the annual Coldest Night of the Year Walk, as well as to Cheltenham Day, which raises funds for the community. They also often donated to Bethell House Hospice and, in the past, have sponsored minor hockey teams in the BYHA & Canadettes. The showroom is open Monday to Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 2999 King St., Inglewood — a short drive from Orangeville. To learn more about Caledon Fireplace, contact the company by phone at 905-838-1114, visit its website at caledonfireplace.ca, or email caledonfireplace@rogers.com, and they will be more than happy to help you out.



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THE BENEFITS OF A PROFESSIONAL GUTTER CLEANING

GUTTERS serve an important role on a building, catching rainwater from the roof and channelling it away from the structure. Without properly functioning gutters and downspouts, basements can flood, foundations may become cracked and soil can erode. Gutters also help maintain roof and siding longevity, ensuring that rainwater will not pool under shingles or siding. Wet leaves also create habitats for pests to live, notably for mosquitoes, termites, rodents, and birds.

Homeowners can clean their own gutters, but the job is often best left to professionals. Here are some of the reasons to leave gutter cleaning to an expert.

Pros have the equipment

As with any project, having the right equipment means it will be done correctly. Handyman services and professional gutter cleaners already have the gear to reach gutters and tackle the mess, unlike some homeowners who will have to purchase tools.

Pros are trained in safety

Gutter cleaning professionals are trained in proper safety procedures and have the right equipment to safely scale homes. Gutter cleaning involves climbing ladders, walking on roofs, and handling slippery debris. It also may require working close to electrical and cable wires entering the home. Homeowners who don't know how to navigate these conditions safely risk falls or other injuries.

Pros can spot other damage

Professionals may spot damage to a home that homeowners do not see. This may include cracked seams, loose fasteners, sagging sections, and even roof damage. This allows homeowners to get a jump on the problem early on before it progresses to something



more serious.

Pros save homeowners time

One of the obvious perks to letting a professional clean the gutters is that it saves homeowners time. The expert can get the job done in less time and more efficiently than a novice weekend warrior.

Mr. Handyman, a home improvement service, says the general recommendation is to get the gutters cleaned at least twice a year: once in the spring after trees have dropped their seeds, and again in the fall after all leaves have fallen. People with heavier amounts of natural debris may need more frequent cleanings. A professional gutter service will typically include inspection of the entire gutter system; removal of all debris from gutters and downspouts; flushing of gutters and downspouts to ensure water flows correctly; assessment of water being directed away; and identification of areas in need of repair.

Gutter cleaning is an important step that safeguards a home by keeping gutters and downspouts in working order.

HOW HOMEOWNERS CAN TURN ATTICS INTO LIVABLE SPACES

HOUSES TYPICALLY FEATURE various areas that are traditionally designed for storage, such as garages, basements and attics. However, with some renovation, these spaces can be transformed into livable areas.

Homeowners who would like to convert attics into livable spaces need to take certain things into consideration before starting an improvement project. While the attic may seem like it has plenty of room and is structurally sound enough to walk in, that's not necessarily so. To be converted into usable living space, an attic must be brought up to the standards of modern building codes, according to the design experts at Board & Vellum. Retrofitting beams and insulation can eat up available space in an attic. Thus, it is best to consult an expert to see if an attic can be converted.

Furthermore, an attic that was not initially designed as a room when the house was built can add extra "load" upstairs if it is converted. That could present certain structural problems. That means a structural engineer also must be consulted to see if adding beams, flooring and dry-wall will necessitate other changes elsewhere in the home to accommodate the extra load.

In order to have a functional attic room, building codes will dictate that it needs to be accessible by a full-size staircase. Also, it will need to have

another exit in case of an emergency so that will likely be an accessible window, according to the home information site The Fill. Homeowners' budgets and renovation plans will need to factor into these considerations. Homeowners also are advised to check local permits to determine what else may be required to go forward. It is best to follow the rules. Lack of a permit for work can affect the ability to sell a home down the line.

Individuals also should plan for heating and cooling upgrades as the home will need to have ductwork installed in the attic, or at the least, a stand-alone heating and cooling unit. As heat rises, it can get quite warm in an attic, so ventilation and comfort should be considered. The attic will need to be wired for electricity for lighting and other needs. Air sealing and additional insulation can the attic space more comfortable as well. Consult with a qualified electrician and an HVAC technician and have an energy audit done to discuss needs.

Attic renovations can give homeowners more space in their homes, which can be used as offices, bedrooms or cozy corners. This is no small undertaking and all of the right steps need to be followed to ensure a legal, safe and successful renovation.

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Dirty Dawgs cement softball dynasty with seventh title in 11 years

Written By **CHRIS PERROTTE**

In the Orangeville Slow Pitch League, the team known as the Dirty Dawgs are cementing their legacy as a dynasty.

The Dirty Dawgs won their second straight Slow Pitch A Division Championship on Sept. 29, marking their seventh title in the last 11 years.

“Winning a championship at any level is always special, and to have accomplished it seven times over the last 11 years means a great deal to all of us,” said Sam Greene, who plays first base and pitcher for the Dirty Dawgs.

“For me, softball has always been about a balance between the social aspect of getting together with friends and that competitive drive we all share to win. We enjoy the friendships, the laughs, and the camaraderie, but once we step onto the field, we’re there to compete.”

Greene has been a part of the Dirty Dawgs’ success since joining the team in 2014. But this championship is a little more special to him than the others.

“This championship was certainly special, particularly because it was a repeat from last season. I believe we had come up short in the two years prior, so being able to get back on top and defend our title made the accomplishment that much sweeter,” said Greene.

“Every championship is rewarding. It represents the effort, commitment, and work everyone puts in throughout the season. At the end of the day, everybody likes to win, especially when you’ve invested so much time and energy into competing together.”

The Dirty Dawgs consist of approximately 15 players who work together like a well-oiled machine. This has been key to their overall success.

“Team chemistry is key. Zero drama, keeping it light, everyone accepting their role and believing in each other! Team beers are essential,” said Perry Levine, the Dirty Dawgs coach.

Prior to their back-to-back championships, the team hadn’t won one since 2022, so getting back into the winner’s circle and staying on top has been special.

Even more rewarding is the opportunity to play alongside the children who once watched them play. Now their kids are older and join them on the field to play the game they love together.

“There’s something pretty special about that father-and-son connection, sharing the same game and being part of the same team. It really puts into perspective how much time has passed and how softball has become part of our lives beyond just the competition. Those are the moments that make these championships even more meaningful,” said Greene.

To stay on top and win consistently takes more than just skill, he said.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
TOP DOGS: The Orangeville Slow Pitch League’s Dirty Dawgs pose with their trophy after claiming the second consecutive A Division Championship.

“One thing I’ve learned from those experiences is that talent alone isn’t enough,” Greene explained. “You need positive energy, trust, chemistry, and a shared commitment. When all those things come together, you build something that can remain competitive year after year.”

With another baseball season over, the Dirty Dawgs are looking forward to next season to defend their title and three-peat.

Raiders advance to U10 Orangeville flag football championship against Texans

Written By **CHRIS PERROTTE**

With the sun beginning to set and a cool breeze that blew across the field, the scene was set for Orangeville Flag Football League’s playoffs.

The Lions Park field hosted the semi-final matches that began at 5:30 p.m., with three fields: U10 Texans vs. Cowboys in Field One, U12 Chiefs vs. Patriots in Field Two, and U10 Raiders vs. 49ers in Field Three.

In the Raiders game, running back Evie McAuley led the offence, scoring all three touchdowns in an 18-12 win over the 49ers.

“It was amazing to see Evie do so well and score all of those touchdowns for our U10 Raiders,” said head coach Alyssa Lavery. “She worked really hard, and it was so exciting to see her efforts pay off.”

With the win, the U10 Raiders will face the U10 Texans in the playoff finals on Friday, Oct. 9.

Oct. 9.

“I’m so proud of our team for winning our semi-final game. Everyone worked together, locked in and gave it their all even for being so young. It was a great team effort, and I’m really proud of everyone,” said Lavery.

Every game played throughout the evening had people out in support of the teams and their players. With music in the background, families were cheering on their children as they strived to do their best during the games.

“It is incredibly rewarding to see the support from our families and the community. Our league is about so much more than flag football,” said Paula Lavery, one of the Orangeville Flag Football League’s executives.

“It’s about creating a place where kids can build confidence, make friends, learn teamwork and simply have fun.”

“Watching families make Friday nights

part of their routine and seeing the kids excited to come back week after week is one of the best parts of running Orangeville Flag Football,” she added.

Other notable Friday night wins included the U10 Texans, who defeated the Cowboys 19-6. In the U12 Division, the Chiefs edged the Patriots 14-12, the Broncos blanked the Falcons 30-0, and the Vikings beat the Seahawks 14-8.

In the U14 Division, the Eagles beat the Bucs 34-12 and the Lions shut out the Bengals 13-0. The U18 Division saw the Broncos take down the Dolphins 19-7, and the Saints had an 18-6 win over the Jets.

In the Girls Division, the Chiefs beat the Seahawks 12-0, and the Steelers edged the Bills 7-6.



CHRIS PERROTTE PHOTOS
SIDELINE STRATEGY: U10 Raiders head coach Alyssa Lavery goes over the game plan with her players during the team’s playoff semifinal against the 49ers at Lions Park on Friday, Oct. 2. The Raiders won 18-12 to advance to the U10 final.



BIG WIN: U12 Broncos players Sawyer Berkley, Jaxon Fernandez, Troy Redmond, Noah Stewart, and Ben Adam helped their team secure a 30-0 win against the Falcons.



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OPINION

Of salt bags, salty souls, and existential change

Autumn, and there's frost on the ground in the morning. Change, seasonal and political, is descending across the province like the blanket of red, orange and yellow of the deciduous canopy this time of the year. People will go to the polls throughout Ontario this month to mark ballots in political contests to choose municipal governments. Many of those people and others are watching store shelves, but not for Halloween treats or yuletide affectations. Nope. Election campaigns aren't as high a priority as the first bags of walkway de-icer that will hit the shelves.

Candidates might hope to get a smidgen in votes of the number of bags homeowners hope to stock up to get through the now-familiar February and March salt shortages.

I've never liked change. I suppose it's indicative of a laziness on my part. Change means adjustment, and that likely entails mental maneuvering, possibly with a certain amount of physical movement involved. Depending on the change. The mental is more the heavy lifting, in my

experience.

I'd often be spun out because things changed. So often that I dreaded change would happen. Often that dread kept me from enjoying the things that I feared would change. So I would miss in the moment what I hoped would not change. A perpetual churning inside, becoming spun out that something had changed or just a certainty that, by gawd, that particular something sure was going to change.

Because everything, all of it, changes. I've always known that.

A clich : The only certainty is that nothing is certain. And nothing will always be as it is in a moment. That's the very stink of change right there.

It recently dawned on me that much of what I wanted to remain unchanged was actually unimportant. But I couldn't see that.

I saw on a business door recently a notice for services. It was a price list, that notice on the door. Something about physiotherapy. Maybe therapeutic massage and spinal adjustments. It isn't important because

what stuck out to me was the bolded font that screamed that people 55 years old can avail of the seniors' discount.

And that's a change for me. It signalled an existential shift.

I'm four years from the seniors' discount. Four years. I'm still older than that number in months.

Age never mattered to me. It still doesn't matter to me beyond that it has become a measure of something other than years. I've come to the point where I've seen that much of my concerns had been foolish. Trite. Unimportant. I look back at the years now, and I see the people who are missing today.

An aunt died, and then my father died last year. Another aunt died last month. Two people I would go to about everything are not around anymore. A large Newfoundland family. My father had 12 brothers and two sisters.

All close in age, it was as if my grandmother had the same box of Tampax for a dozen years or something. Somebody once asked her how long she and grandfa-

ther would wait before the next pregnancy. Nan was the one who said it depended on whether the hospital room was private or semi-private. A laughing lot, they were.

The changes are heavier now. More real in ways I'd never considered before. I remember talking with my father, a box of beer at our feet in his shed. There was always a box of beer or two the times we ever really talked in a meaningful way. One thing that stands out in memory is my father saying how the family had been pretty lucky health-wise. But when it happens, he said, it would all happen fast, in quick succession.

Those changes signal a life shift that is irrevocable. He wasn't talking about bags of sidewalk de-icer flying from department store shelves.

All I can hope is that maybe there will be a place where bags of walkway winter salt are eligible for the seniors' discount. That's a change I can get my head around



JAMES MATTHEWS
THE BUSTLE IN THE HEDGEROW

Iran's virtual nukes

"Devastating Iran's nuclear facilities was...very hard to do," Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin 'Bibi' Netanyahu told the United Nations General Assembly last month, "but for me it was one of the easiest decisions I've ever had to make as prime minister. Because if we hadn't done it, we'd all be dead."

Really? Everybody dead? All at once, everywhere? Those Iranians are evil geniuses.

It's not clear whether Netanyahu meant the nuclear weapons that Israel and the United States claimed to have destroyed "just in time" last February, or the ones that Donald Trump said his bombers "obliterated" in the previous year, or perhaps the nuclear weapons that 'Bibi' said Iran would have within one year in 2024. It doesn't matter, because they are all virtual nukes.

'Virtual', in this context, means imaginary but very useful. Those imaginary Iranian nuclear weapons provided the pretext for the Israeli-US assault on Iran in the Twelve-Day War of June 2025 (1,000-plus deaths). Magically reincarnated, the same virtual nukes also served as an excuse for this year's much larger US-Israeli surprise attack (Iranian deaths so far around 3,500).

Weirdly, the fact that thousands of real people are now being killed in the name

of eliminating these non-existent nuclear weapons lends weight to Netanyahu's and Trump's persistent claim that they really exist. People find it hard to accept the idea that their leaders would kill all those Iranians if the 'nuclear threat' is false. But of course it is.

Bibi has been warning that Iran is on the brink of getting nuclear weapons for the entire length of his political career. In 1992 he predicted they would have them by 1995-97, and he has made similar predictions at frequent intervals in venues like the Knesset, the US Congress and the United Nations, adjusting the dates so that Doomsday is usually just 2-5 years away.

The media always pick it up (which is why he kept doing it), but his own intelligence services have never believed him. They deal in actual evidence, and Mossad told him in 2023 that Iran was enriching uranium but was making no effort to turn its nuclear fuel into bombs. The US intelligence agencies were telling Trump the same thing, but he chose to believe Bibi instead.

Just three months before the first American air strikes on Iran in June 2025 Tulsi Gabbard, U.S. Director of National Intelligence, told Congress that Iran was not yet trying to weaponize its enriched ura-

nium, but Trump believed Netanyahu and bombed three key Iranian nuclear facilities. He crowed that the strikes were "a spectacular military success. Iran's key nuclear enrichment facilities have been completely and totally obliterated." Gabbard recanted, saying Trump was right about everything, and resigned soon after. But the point about virtual weapons is that they can't be destroyed. In less than a year they were back and ready to be bombed again.

Israeli intelligence found out early this year where and when the entire Iranian leadership would be meeting in person, and Netanyahu realized it was a golden opportunity to kill them all. Recollections vary about how Netanyahu persuaded Trump to join in this surprise attack while he was still in active negotiations with Iran, but it probably wasn't hard.

Iran's virtual bombs were resurrected, and the public was told that in only two weeks they would be ready to deliver nuclear death and destruction all the way to the United States. So Netanyahu and his ignorant American sidekick started their next war on 28 February, and bits of it are still flaring up from time to time.

Interestingly, Iran's virtual nuclear weapons are hardly mentioned any more apart from occasional chanting of the mantra

'Iran must never have nuclear weapons'. It probably won't, although the continuing attacks on the country certainly give it a reason to wish that it did.

But how did Iran get this status of World's Most Dangerous Country?

North Korea has a brutally repressive regime, a militarized frontier with South Korea, and dozens of nuclear weapons, some of which can now reach the United States. President Trump is currently seeking another meeting of the Mutual Admiration Society with President Kim Jong Un.

Israel fights many wars, some of which are not its fault, and it has about a hundred nuclear weapons deliverable via air, space and sea. They can certainly reach anywhere between Ireland and India. It refuses to answer any questions about its nukes, and nobody asks.

Iran has an extremely nasty regime, but it doesn't have nukes and it doesn't start wars. (It backs some insurgencies in other countries, but who doesn't?) How did Iran become the pariah of the world?

Thirty years of dedicated work by Binyamin Netanyahu, plus the world's worst PR department.



GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY

When it's impossible to exaggerate

Finally, I am reading Stephen Hawking's book, A Brief History of Time. Hawking was a very famous British scientist, professor and author who performed groundbreaking work in physics and cosmology. His books help to make science accessible to everyone.

Published on April Fool's Day, 1988, it outsold every book ever printed, except the Bible and Shakespeare.

I could not know if Hawking's writing is used to access his work, since the study of space is mandatory in Orangeville's schools.

It really does not matter how long I spend reading it because, while one could run out of time and even that is negotiable, depending on what mountain one is living on, one cannot run out of space.

The thing is, you see, all the historical thinking about the universe as a package has led repeatedly to asking what is beyond that package. Irresistibly, we have come to admit that which truly overwhelms and confounds us and then lets us relax because there is no way to struggle with the idea: the universe is unending, with no beginning and no end.

In other words, there are no borders to the universe.

Of course, we would like to divide it, preferably, so it inevitably seems, between war-

ring factions on a very big scale — just like all our favourite Star Wars, Star Trek — and the rest of sci-fi that insists on predicting, just like here on Earth.

There is a World War I Christmas story about a moment and space when German troupes were in trenches on one side of a battlefield, and British troupes were in trenches on the other side.

It was Christmas Eve.

A calm in the exchange of fire had come, and someone began to sing Silent Night — Stille Nacht in German. Their united voices — English and German — rose above them and the truth rang out in the moment.

The story goes that the soldiers actually left their holes to greet and shake hands with each other — a brief moment — a passing miracle, but miracle it was. Yet, they returned to their trenches, and the sound of grief and pain began again.

In a limitless universe, we need a Silent Night moment.

The failure of our beloved science fiction stories is that they take all their plots from the battle soaked example of earth but who is to say that in this unending universe of countless stars and planets, there must be many life forms that have figured out how to live reasonably with each other.

There is plenty of stargazing technology on Earth and spinning in space; there are

gadgets on the moon and nearby planets, delivered and followed here to see what they can see and even to sending samples of alien ground back to us.

Yet, what fun it is to know that however far we look and yearn, we will never see a final border to breach. We can live with the hope that in that distant time when space travel is possible, we will have evolved beyond the senseless pain of war.

Here is how Hawking described galaxies in the universe: he talked about Edwin Hubble, an American astronomer who finally demonstrated, following in the shoes of other astronomers all the way back to ancient Greece, that ours is not the only galaxy.

Back in 1924, by measuring the "luminosity" of stars both nearer and further away, Hubble was able to work out the distances of nine other galaxies.

"We now know," writes Hawking, "that our galaxy is only one of some hundred thousand million that can be seen using modern telescopes, each galaxy itself containing some hundred thousand million stars."

An illustration of a central spiral cluster of stars encompassed by irregular matching arcs of stars one above and one beneath the centre presents an image many of you have seen of our galaxy. Hawking posits the illustration must look like this to some-

one living outside our galaxy. Someone should draw it.

"We live in a galaxy that is 100,000 light-years across and is slowly rotating; the stars in its spiral arms orbit around its centre once every several hundred million years."

"Our sun," he sums it up, "is just an ordinary, average sized yellow star, near the edge of one of the spiral arms."

"We've certainly come a long way," Hawking jokes, "since Aristotle and Ptolemy when we thought that the earth was the centre of the universe!"

Once, I stood in the middle of the Sahara desert and tipped my head back to wonder at the clear canopy of stars, some formations I recognized and others not, as the sky changes on the way south.

In Hockley, my daughter Patricia and I would share a sleeping bag and lie on our picnic table to watch the dance and dash of the stars' grand displays.

There are plenty of interpretations to consider under a starry sky, making us feel tiny; making us feel like giants with such a background to support our best plans and wishes.

There is peace in the thought that no one can conquer infinity.



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Creating an inclusive Halloween experience for every child

Halloween is all about fun, but for some kids, the sights, sounds and communication demands that come with it can make the spooky season feel a little tricky.

With a few simple supports and flexibility, families and communities can help make Halloween a fun, inclusive, and welcoming experience for all children.

Community role in creating an inclusive Halloween

While families can prepare and bring supports, the community also plays an important role in creating an inclusive Halloween. Small changes can make it easier for children with different communication, sensory, motor, or dietary needs to participate.

Clear, well-lit pathways and easy-to-reach treat bowls can make it easier for children to approach homes. Giving out candy at the bottom of a stairwell, bringing the treat bowl closer to a child who has difficulty reaching the door, or keeping pathways free of obstacles can support children with motor differences.

Turning down loud music, limiting flashing or motion-activated decorations, and offering a quieter space can also help children who find some sensory experiences overwhelming. Offering non-food treats, such as stickers or small toys, can make Halloween more accessible for children with food allergies and other dietary needs.

We can also make Halloween more inclusive by accepting different ways of commu-



nicating. A child may not say “trick or treat,” make eye contact, or respond when spoken to. They may point to a treat, use an AAC device, hold out their bag, wave, or simply move on to the next house. These are all valid ways of participating.

There is no need to ask a child to “say the magic words” before giving them a treat. Giving children extra time and avoiding assumptions about what they can or should do allows them to participate in ways that work for them.

Communication supports

Visual and communication supports can make Halloween easier to understand and participate in. A “trick or treat” choice board, visual schedule, or picture system can help children understand what is happening and communicate throughout the evening.

Pre-teaching Halloween vocabulary such as “costume,” “candy,” “mask,” “scary,” and “treat” can also help. For children who use

fill-in-the-blank sentences, simple starters like “My costume is __,” “I feel __,” or “I want a __ treat” can support communication.

Children who communicate without spoken language can participate in many ways, including using a “trick or treat” button on an AAC device, pointing to a communication card or picture symbol, waving, or holding out their bag.

These are all meaningful ways to take part in the tradition. For more ideas, check out these free Halloween communication supports from Breezy Special Ed: <https://www.breezyspeciald.com/2022/09/a-more-inclusive-halloween-supports-for.html>

Making Halloween predictable

Knowing what to expect can also make Halloween easier to navigate.

A visual sequence can show the steps of walking to a house, knocking, saying or communicating “trick or treat,” receiving a treat, and moving on to the next house.

Families can also practice these routines at home or with familiar people beforehand.

It can also help to talk about what might change from one house to the next, such as different decorations, sounds, or ways of handing out treats.

Supporting sensory needs

Halloween can also bring lots of sensory experiences, including flashing lights, loud sounds, motion-activated decorations, and unexpected surprises.

For some children, these are exciting; for others, they may feel overwhelming. Offering choices, such as “Would you like to walk past the haunted house or skip it?” can help children feel comfortable and in control.

Headphones, sunglasses, a fidget, or a comfort item may also help. Taking a break or heading home early is always an option.

Inclusion can also mean celebrating Halloween differently. Decorating at home, making crafts, baking, watching a favourite movie, handing out treats, or attending a quieter community event can all be meaningful ways to celebrate.

There is no single “right” way to enjoy Halloween!

If you want more help supporting your child’s communication and sensory needs or navigating new and challenging experiences, WonderTree clinicians are here to help!

Happy Halloween from all of us at WonderTree!

Storytelling, creativity and a little spookiness at your library this October

October is the perfect month to rediscover your public library. Perhaps you have wondered what homesteading involves, wanted to hear a local writer read their work, or been looking for an excuse to revisit a Halloween movie. This month, Orangeville Public Library brings those opportunities together in fall programming and resources for all ages.

We are also celebrating Canadian Library Month and Ontario Public Library Week from Oct. 18 to 24. The theme, “Loud for Libraries,” invites us to “get loud” and share everything a library makes possible. Our October calendar offers plenty of reasons to come through the doors and discover something new.

For Latin American Heritage Month, also in October, we are partnering with the Hispanic Canadian Alliance of Dufferin Peel and the Toronto Latin American Film Festival for a movie screening. Film offers

a different way of encountering different perspectives and stories. We are excited to work with community partners to bring this opportunity to local audiences and celebrate Latin American storytelling.

Our Experts in the Library series welcomes Aly Nickling-Riddle for a discussion about the realities of homesteading. If a more self-sufficient lifestyle appeals to you,

this is a chance to explore what it takes beyond the appealing photographs and social media posts. Bring your curiosity and questions to explore a way of life that continues to capture people’s imaginations.

Readers can also look forward to an Author Spotlight with Andrew James, who will discuss his book Presumptuous. Hosted at the Shelburne Public Library, this event provides an opportunity to hear from an author and discover a book through the person who wrote it. It is another reason to explore the literary experiences available across our neighbouring communities.

Closer to home, we will celebrate Allison Bothley’s debut poetry collection, Practice for Drowning, with a book launch and a “Loud for Libraries” open-mic session. Community members can register to perform and share their favourite library stories with others that evening. Come to listen, support a local writer, or take your turn sharing words with the audience.

Of course, October would not be complete without a little spookiness. Teen Chronicles Book Club will host a Spooky Movie Night featuring Hocus Pocus, bringing a favourite

to the library. It is a chance for teens to enjoy a movie together and connect through a shared love of stories.

The Headwaters’ Writers Guild joins us for a Spectacularly Spooky Open Mic, while the Museum of Dufferin brings us Ghostly Tales from Orangeville. Whether you enjoy creative storytelling or are curious about the eerie tales associated with our community, these events offer ways to get into the Halloween spirit.

Meanwhile, creativity continues in the Makerspace at Alder Street. October highlights include Laser Engraving 101, Heat Press Everything, and All About Coasters. These sessions offer opportunities to explore equipment, build skills, and discover what you might enjoy making next. An idea can begin with a question, a demonstration, or simply seeing what someone else has created.

Visit orangevillelibrary.ca for program dates, locations, age requirements, and registration details. Whether you are a regular visitor or have not stopped by recently, we would love to welcome you this October.

Come discover your library.



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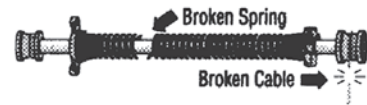
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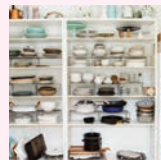
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CHRIS PERROTTE PHOTOS

ON THE ATTACK: John F. Ross Royals players set up to send the ball into the Orangeville District Secondary School Scarlet Bears' zone during their game against ODSS on Oct. 5. The Royals defeated the Bears 3-2, handing ODSS its first loss of the season.

ODSS field hockey team takes first loss after five straight wins to start the season

Written By **CHRIS PERROTTE**

The Orangeville District Secondary School (ODSS) Scarlet Bears opened their first home game with a 2-0 win over the Bishop Macdonell Celtics on Oct. 5.

They played a good all-around game, dominating on both sides of the ball defensively and offensively. McKenna Bryant and Selah Gowing scored the goals for the Scarlet Bears to secure the victory. With their win, the Bears went to a 5-0 record for the season.

In game two, they faced the John F. Ross Collegiate Vocational Institute Royals, who had a 3-2 record going into the game. The Ross Royals scored first to make it 1-0 in the first half. ODSS continued to battle, applying offensive pressure. They were able to tie the game at one apiece before the first half ended.

"We've been working on our passing, like square and through, to get it down the field as well as sweeping, which moves the ball faster than people can run so it really helps us get ahead of them," explained Bears player Ruby Kalverda.

Her teammate Katie Raue echoed what the Scarlet Bears need to do to succeed in this game.

"I think the one thing [that's] working is passing. We've been finding open spaces and working on our defence, making sure we're not getting as many calls so we can keep playing," said Raue.

In the second half, ODSS had their scoring chances but couldn't find the back of the net. The Ross Royals had a different outcome as their offence continued to connect, scoring two goals to take a 3-1 lead.

With time winding down, the Scarlet Bears managed to score in the final seconds to close the gap to one goal. However, time ran out, and the John F. Ross Royals walked away with a 3-2 win over ODSS, giving them their first loss of the season.

"You can't win every game, they played really well. That was anybody's game and it was 3-2 so they still scored twice which is a pretty high scoring game. We are proud of them. They are a good team," said Scarlet Bears head coach Jen Coleman.

After six games, their opponent, John F. Ross, improved to a 4-2 record while ODSS has a 5-1 record and sits in first place in the Varsity Field Hockey League.

The next game for ODSS is against GCVI later this week at Centre Wellington District High School's field.



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to be held at 554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON
Preview on day of sale, or by appointment

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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: 1(855) 222-5542 or visit www.gato-ronto.ca.

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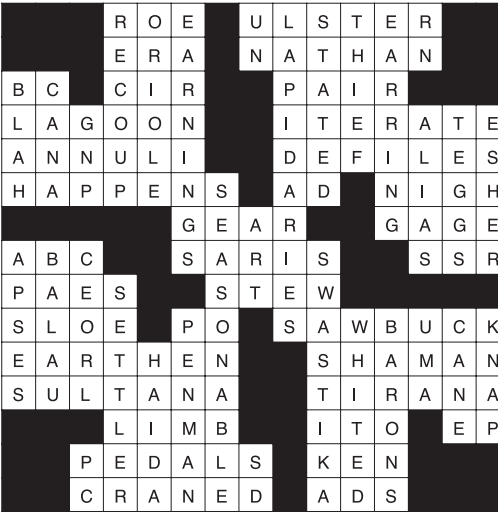
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