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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SUPPORTING STUDENTS: Grand Valley Lions Club members presented a \$5,000 donation cheque to the Grand Valley Public School in support of their playground fundraising campaign on May 14. The playground will be more than just equipment, offering a place of connection, where friendships grow, imaginations run free, and families can gather. The Grand Valley Lions would like to thank everyone who supports their fundraising efforts throughout the year. Duck Race sponsors, ticket buyers, volunteers, and community members play a pivotal role. "Your support is what makes donations like this possible," said the Grand Valley Lions. "We are honoured to give back to a community that has always supported us so generously."

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Brampton man charged with striking gas station attendant after fleeing without paying

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers are investigating a serious fail-to-remain motor vehicle collision that occurred following a gas theft.

On May 13, at approximately 2:44 p.m., officers responded to the Pioneer gas station in Mansfield for reports of a serious fail-to-remain collision.

The investigation has revealed that a male suspect operating a black Ford SUV with an attached camper trailer attempted to flee the gas station without paying for fuel. During the incident, the gas station attendant attempted to intervene and was struck by the vehicle, according to police.

The victim sustained serious injuries and was airlifted to a Toronto-area trauma centre for treatment. They remain in the hospital but are in stable condition.

The suspect vehicle is described as a black Ford SUV displaying a stolen licence plate 233 DST. The attached camper trailer was displaying a stolen trailer plate 521 DTB.

On May 14, Nipigon OPP officers located the vehicle and trailer involved in the Mansfield fail-to-remain collision.

After officers deployed a spike belt, the suspect fled from police and entered a wood-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FLEEING THE SCENE: An SUV with a camper trailer attached to attempted to flee a gas station in Mansfield without paying before striking a gas station attendant who attempted to intervene. The victim sustained serious injuries and was airlifted to a Toronto area hospital. After the SUV fled the scene, it was stopped by Nipigon OPP with a spike belt, before the driver exited the vehicle and a foot pursuit ensued in a wooded area. Darbara Singh Mann, 53, from Brampton, was apprehended and now faces several related charges.

ed area. Officers conducted an extensive search of the area and ultimately located the suspect and took him into custody.

As a result of the investigation, Darbara Singh Mann, 53, from Brampton, has been charged with Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5,000 (two counts), Possession Property Obtained by Crime Under \$5,000, Theft, Dangerous Operation causing bodily harm and Fail to stop at accident resulting in bodily harm.

The listed charges have not been proven in court.

Investigators are asking anyone who may have witnessed the incident, observed the vehicle involved, or who may have dash camera or surveillance footage, to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122 with Incident #E260646023.

The investigation remains ongoing.

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Local resident continues community cleaning mission in Mill Creek

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Orangeville resident Terry Brooker has taken it upon himself to clean up Mill Creek, a defining waterway that helped shape the town, which, in his view, has been neglected for far too long.

Motivated by concern for the environment and frustration with inaction, Brooker waded into the creek to haul out debris that had built up over the years. After clearing hundreds of pounds of garbage from other areas of Mill Creek, around Dragonfly Park, he said the section between Bythia and Dawson is the worst he's ever seen.

"The last time I passed by here, I just couldn't ignore what I was seeing down there," he said. "We need to be paying attention to this, we can't ignore this, so I just took it upon myself to get in there and do something about all the garbage that's been thrown in here."

He hopes his efforts will draw attention to the state of the river and spur both the town and residents to take more responsibility.

Over the course of his work, Brooker has pulled out hundreds of pounds of material, much of it soaked with water and silt, indicating how long it remained in the waterway.

He describes finding "almost everything you would expect not to be in a river."

"We definitely have quite a selection of items," Brooker said. "We have a lot of clothing, a lot of comforters and blankets, and they weigh hundreds of pounds because of saturated water and silt. We got

Javex bottles, all sorts of cans and plastics of all sorts of shapes, styrofoam, and shoes, frying pans, electronics, everything you can think of, it's here."

Brooker said that the current state of Mill Creek comes despite a \$1.3 million town investment a decade ago that focused on debris removal, rock work, erosion control, and planting native trees and shrubs.

He said that conditions have since deteriorated again, as a result of human impact. The Town of Orangeville's Parks team is only able to respond to large items abandoned in the waterways when called, and doesn't have the resources for consistent cleaning efforts, meaning that pollution can go unaddressed unless reported.

In the spring, the team said it pulled out enough garbage to fill four two-ton garbage trucks, but Brooker said that it's just not consistent enough with the amount of garbage consistently deposited into the river.

"There was some hope there 10 years ago when they invested over a million dollars into cleaning up the debris, but it looks to me like it's been neglected," he said. "We shouldn't be seeing these things in our rivers, our waterways. There's the spring water runoff, but this isn't spring water runoff. This is neglect, this is littering, and there's no other excuse for it."

Brooker said that local residents have pointed to both individual behaviour and infrastructure as contributing factors. He also noted dumpsters along the creek behind nearby plazas, with no fences or barriers to stop windblown garbage from entering the water.

"I look at the plazas here and all the dumpsters all along the riverbank," he said. "There's no fence or barriers from the river to there... I guess people are pretty carefree with their garbage sometimes, and it just blows right in the river, from the plazas."

Brooker believes a combination of enforcement, better dumpster placement and regular community cleanups could restore the creek.

He also suggests that organized efforts at least twice a year — in spring and fall — could keep Mill Creek close to pristine and make the return of healthy fish populations a realistic goal.

"Already, just on my own, I've pulled a lot out of the water," he said. "I think we can have a community effort here, two days a year to do something with this river, once in the spring, once in the fall. This river could be pristine, and we could brag about speckled trout in the river downtown."

Regardless of whether a community forms around the Mill Creek, Brooker plans to continue his mission to clean up public spaces across town, and while he doesn't view himself as a leader, he said that anyone interested is welcome to join him.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY DONATION: The Orangeville Lions and Shelburne Lions presented a cheque for \$4,000 to the Shelburne Food Bank on Wednesday, May 20. The funds came from the Orangeville Lions weekly TV Bingo, which runs every Wednesday at 7 p.m. on Rogers Channel 63 or online. Funds raised through the program are donated back to the communities where bingo cards are sold. Pictured with the cheque, from left, are Greg Dunne (Orangeville Lions), Bill French (Shelburne Lions), Art Sinkus (Orangeville Lions), Martin Mirander (Shelburne Lions), Andrea Whitten (Shelburne Food Bank), Don Sinclair (Orangeville Lions) and Ed Aukema (Shelburne Food Bank).

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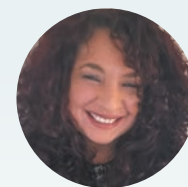


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BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

WINNING A BRAND-NEW CAR: Nicole Graf stops into Orangeville Honda to pick up the grand prize from the CRIC Draw and Dance - a 2026 Honda Civic LX, valued at \$35,330. She is pictured collecting the prize with her family. The Honda Civic was raffled off during the 48th annual CRIC Draw and Dance at the Tottenham Community Centre on Saturday, May 2, and the prize was sponsored by Orangeville Honda. All funds raised during the dance will support improvements to culture, sport, and recreation in the Tottenham community. Tickets were selected throughout the night in an elimination draw, with close to \$50,000 in cash prizes given away.

Compass Run for Food looks to raise \$80,000 to fight food insecurity locally

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

The 13th annual Compass Run for Food is returning on June 13 and organizers are hoping to raise \$80,000 to combat hunger.

Hosted by the Compass Community Church in Mono, the run will get underway at 9 a.m. with opening ceremonies, followed by staggered starts for each group of participants.

The event brings the community together in support of local food banks, school nutrition programs and other food initiatives across Dufferin County.

Five-kilometre and 10-kilometre routes are available, as well as a Team Challenge and KIDS Challenge, to encourage participation across all ages and fitness levels.

As of press time, nearly \$48,000 has been raised through pledges to race participants.

"We are very passionate about what we do, and our race executive understands that there are many hungry people in our community," says Steve Coburn, race executive for Compass Run for Food. "That's why we continue to set ambitious goals year after year. Whether it's supporting school breakfast programs or helping local food banks meet increasing demand, every dollar raised stays local and helps families who truly need it."

The Compass Run for Food has raised nearly \$600,000 since 2014 and the need for

funds is stronger than ever before with local food banks seeing record levels of usage.

Funds raised from the Compass Run for Food directly support the Orangeville Food Bank, Grand Valley Food Bank, Shelburne food initiatives, school breakfast programs, and other local efforts focused on improving access to nutritious food.

The Orangeville Food Bank alone now serves nearly 1,600 individuals every month, including close to 600 children. While more than 56,000 pounds of food are distributed monthly, donations currently account for less than half of that amount. Similar increases in demand are being experienced throughout the region.

"School nutrition programs also continue to play an important role in supporting student health, learning, and overall well-being by ensuring children have access to healthy meals throughout the school day," reads a press release from Compass Run for Food.

"Organizers encourage the community to get involved by registering for the race, donating, volunteering, or becoming a corporate sponsor. One hundred percent of registration proceeds are directed toward local food insecurity initiatives."

To find out more, to sponsor, donate, or register, visit www.compassrun.com or follow @compassrunforfood on Facebook.



FILE PHOTO

FEEDING THE COMMUNITY: The Compass Run for Food is returning to Compass Community Church on June 13, with opening ceremonies starting at 9 a.m.

Three motorists charged with impaired driving in Dufferin over Victoria Day long weekend

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers charged multiple individuals with impaired driving-related offences following separate traffic investigations conducted over the Victoria Day long weekend.

On May 16, at approximately 11:58 p.m., officers from the Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) were dispatched to the area of County Road 23 and Porterfield Road in Orangeville for a single motor vehicle collision after a vehicle struck a road sign and entered the ditch. While speaking with the driver, officers initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Danae Wallace-Dunn, 34, of Erin, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)
- Operation while impaired - alcohol
- Having care or control of a motor vehicle with liquor readily available

On May 17, at approximately 1:29 a.m., Dufferin OPP officers were dispatched to the area of Robert Street in Shelburne for the reports of a possible impaired driver.

Police located the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. While speaking with the driver, officers initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Dustin Marsden, 39, of Dundalk, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alco-

hol concentration (80 plus)

- Drive vehicle or boat with cannabis readily available
- Driving motor vehicle with open container of liquor
- Operation while impaired - alcohol
- Fail to surrender insurance card

On May 17, at approximately 10:16 p.m., Dufferin OPP officers were conducting traffic enforcement in the area of Highway 10 in Mono. Officers observed a traffic violation and conducted a traffic stop. While speaking with the driver, officers initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Renee Massaroni, 21, from Orangeville, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)
- Speeding 1 - 49 Km/h over posted limit
- Driving motor vehicle with liquor readily available
- Fail to surrender permit for motor vehicle

- Fail to have insurance card
- Driver fail to surrender licence

The accused individuals are scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville at a later date to answer to the charges. In addition, the individuals' driver's licences were suspended, and the vehicles were impounded.

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.

'Fine Has to Match the Crime'

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT INTRODUCES PROPOSED CHANGES TO AMPS FOR ILLEGAL LAND USE

Written By RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Ontario Government is set to introduce a change to the Planning Act that would enable municipalities to impose administrative monetary penalties (AMPS) for illegal land uses.

The amounts would be set by individual municipalities, subject to legal constraints, and are intended to promote compliance with local by-laws.

These changes to the Planning Act were said to help prevent illegal land uses, including for trucks and the operation of commercial trucking activities on land not zoned for industrial use.

"We intend to give municipalities the authority to impose administrative monetary penalties on individuals or corporations who contravene zoning by-laws," said Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, at the May 20 press conference in Caledon. "You have to follow the rules."

"Truckers and trucking companies are an important part of our economy. They keep Ontario's economy moving. We need them. They just have to play by the rules," said Flack.

Flack said this proposed legislation would save municipal partners both time and money, reducing the time and effort that's needed to go to court.

He noted the toll that illegal truck yards take on communities, citing noise, odours, excessive lighting, and adverse effects on agricultural lands.

Currently, municipalities can prosecute offenders who contravene zoning bylaws, but doing so requires significant staff time and may take years to resolve in court.

Municipalities can now immediately address these issues through AMPS.

The AMPS can be assigned to the land title, property owner, or corporation.

Flack added the AMPS are designed to en-

force compliance proportional to the offence, "the fine has to match the crime."

"This has been an issue that's been a long-standing issue for us here in this community," said Mayor Annette Groves, noting a time when Caledon was battling 300 illegal truck yards.

"Not only does it have an impact on our quality of life here, but it certainly has an impact on our roads," said Groves. "We fought for change...we raised it at AMO, we raised it at ROMA, and we are so proud of the work that the community did."

"This was one of the key areas that we had to target to ensure we got everyone into compliance," said Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria, Minister of Transportation. "If you do it the right way, there is a benefit to doing that. If you're doing it the wrong way, the full force of the law will be applied."

"Illegal truck yards have been a major concern for residents across Caledon, disrupting rural communities, damaging local roads and threatening the integrity of our agricultural land," said Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin-Caledon.

"These proposed changes would give municipalities the stronger enforcement tools they need to crack down on unlawful land uses, protect our communities and preserve the farmland that is so important to our region."

Alan Boughton, who sits on the Illegal Land Use Task Force, said they've seen too low of fines that also remain unpaid, either switching ownership or moving to another yard.

"The only way we're going to have a positive effect is to put the maximum fines on for the repeat offenders, attach it to the tax roll, so that if they go to flip the land out to somebody else, you've got to discharge the fine on the tax roll before you can do the transfer. It's really that simple," says Boughton.

"The fines have to be such a major deterrent to stop them from doing what they're doing, and it has to be attached to the tax law."



RILEY MURPHY PHOTO

PROPOSED CHANGES: Minister Stephen Lecce, Minister Rob Flack, MPP Sylvia Jones, Mayor Annette Groves, MPP Joseph Racinsky, MPP Zee Hamid, and Minister Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria.

More Portuguese-style rodeos coming to Mono

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Organizers of another, second round of Portuguese-style rodeos slated for this summer in Mono lobbied for an exemption from the municipal noise bylaw.

Their case for an exemption was heard by council during its May 12 meeting, on the heels of a similar request last month by different rodeo organizers.

The most recent calendar of proposed rodeos has events slated for May 23, July 11, Aug. 15 and Sept. 12. Each event will take place from 10 a.m. until about 7 p.m. and can draw as many as 300 people to the Orangeville Agricultural Society (OAS) Events Centre. Amplified noise is part of the rodeos.

Jen Arnold, the society's general manager, in a letter to council said the group supports having the event at the event centre again this year.

"In previous years, this event has been held under the constraints of existing bylaw timeframes, with a noise exemption granted," she said. "These events were successfully conducted, well-attended, and managed responsibly."

The society is committed to working collaboratively to ensure concerns are addressed and that the event continues to be a positive experience for all involved, she said.

And that's basically how it has been over the last eight years at the event centre, said Antonieta Sousa, one of the rodeo organizers.

"It's a Portuguese tradition that's been going on here for over 20 years," she said. "It's just a celebration of our heritage."

There was one complaint about noise during one of the previous editions of the rodeo, she said. So a town official was invited to attend, and it was found that "the noise didn't travel," she said.

Deputy Mayor Fred Nix asked who had attended on behalf of the town.

Sousa said he didn't have that information.

Mike Dunmore, the town's CAO, said he vaguely remembered a town official having visited a rodeo. It would've been somebody from bylaw enforcement, he said, but he would have to review the file to provide a name.

"Are you aware that there's a competing, another rodeo?" Councillor Melinda Davie said.

Those Portuguese-style rodeo events are scheduled for May 30, July 18, Aug. 22, and Oct. 10 at the OAS Events Centre in Mono.

Those events have been given exemptions from the town's noise bylaw.

"I just found out this year," Sousa said and added that she spoke with event centre management eight years ago about exclusivity at the venue.

"There is a lot of competition and we did build a permanent arena there," Sousa said. "The wood and the stands are ours."

She said organizers don't make money off the rodeos. They're always in the red.

"It's more to continue our heritage and introduce new communities, my children and grandchildren to our culture," she said.

Coun. Elaine Capes said she is "very mindful" of the peaceful enjoyment people should have of their properties.

"Especially during fair weather when we've been waiting through a very challenging, long winter, and I have a desire not to cause noisy events every weekend that will impact the neighbouring community," Capes said. "We have to balance things and it's tough to do that."

Mayor John Creelman asked Sousa if she had signed contracts for this summer's four rodeo events.

Sousa said there is a contract of sorts that is renewed each year.

"We didn't sign a contract," Sousa said. "We've never had to."

Creelman said council is not approving or disapproving the rodeo events. The decision is for a noise bylaw exemption.

"And it goes no further than that," he said.

Coun. Ralph Manktelow said there is a larger issue at hand. And that's whether such rodeos are good for the animals "in this day and age," he said.

Sousa said no harm is done to the animals. "We take great pride in them," she said.

"This is another issue that we're getting a lot of push-back on," Manktelow said.

Sousa said her animals are not tormented or negatively engaged to get them to react during a performance. Rather, the bulls are drawn by the movement of cloth.

"Could you run this event with no music?" Davie said.

"We could, but the music kind of adds to the atmosphere," Sousa said.

Manktelow said the event can still proceed, even if the bylaw exemption isn't approved. It would have to proceed within the bylaw's parameters.

Council approved the noise exemption and refunded the \$500 application fee.

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nCourage expansion brings coordinated anti-trafficking support to Caledon

Written By RILEY MURPHY
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

nCourage, Peel's Anti-Human Sex Trafficking Integrated Service Hub, will be expanding its anti-human sex trafficking work in Peel Region into areas such as Caledon.

nCourage delivers trauma-informed, client-centered care by bringing together partners across health, justice, housing, community services, and child welfare.

As of January 2026, they officially moved into their dedicated space within The Circle: Peel Centre of Child, Youth and Family Well-Being in Mississauga.

Now, they're expanding yet again to better serve the areas of Caledon, Brampton, and Mississauga.

Officially, nCourage will launch a new hub at Toronto Pearson International Airport, along with service expansion into the City of Brampton and the Town of Caledon.

In collaboration with various community groups, and led by Peel Children's Aid Society (Peel CAS), a media release from nCourage stated that the announcement comes at a "critical time", as incidents of human sex trafficking "continue to rise across the GTA."

"Since last year, 202 children and youth were identified by Peel CAS as being involved in human sex trafficking, underscoring the urgent need for earlier intervention and stronger system coordination," said Mary Beth Moellenkamp, CEO, Peel CAS. "nCourage's anti-human sex trafficking work is now fully integrated within the child welfare system, marking a critical shift from crisis response to proactive intervention."

This expansion will add two new partner organizations to nCourage's sphere: Victim Services of Peel and Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services.

The release stated this partnership will "further strengthen a coordinated, wrap-around approach to service delivery."

"Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services is proud to be part of a coordinated, trauma-informed response in Caledon, supporting crisis intervention, safety planning, and pathways to care for individuals at risk of human trafficking," says Julie Elsdon-Height, Executive Director, Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services.

It was stated that with 62 per cent of Canadian human trafficking cases originating in the GTA, the new nCourage hub at Toronto Pearson International Airport will serve as a strategic site for disrupting these incidents within a major transportation corridor.

With this week also marking Victims and Survivors of Crime Week, nCourage will also launch their new campaign, "If you see something, say something," which aims to

empower the community to recognize signs of sex trafficking and take action.

Raising awareness was said to be a critical tool in terms of prevention, as it was stated that the average age of recruitment into sex trafficking in Canada is 13-years-old.

nCourage provides indicators that a person may be at risk, such as isolation from family and friends, someone speaking for them, dictated or restricted movement, the youth are always being monitored or controlled, and more.

To learn more about their campaign or visit nCourage, community members can visit nCourage.ca or call 905-866-2831.

If you are a victim or survivor of human sex trafficking or forced labour, or you know someone who is, contact the Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline at canadianhumantraffickinghotline.ca or at 1-833-900-1010.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

INCREASING CONCERN: Gary Kent, CAO, Peel Region, Deborah Riddle, Executive Director, EFry Hope and Help for Women, Christy Upshall, CEO, Our Place Peel, Julie Elsdon-Height, Executive Director, Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services, Sarah Rogers, Executive Director, Victim Services of Peel, Mississauga Councillor Chris Fonseca, Mississauga Deputy Mayor Matt Mahoney, Hon. Charmaine Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social & Economic Opportunity, Mary Beth Moellenkamp, CEO, Peel Children's Aid Society (Peel CAS), Hon. Graham McGregor, Minister of Citizenship & Multiculturalism, Steve Jacques, Commissioner, Human Services, Peel Region, Mississauga Councillor Natalie Hart, Mississauga Councillor Martin Reid, Sonia Sidhu, Member of Parliament, Brampton South, Mississauga Councillor Brad Butt.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ANSWERING THE CALL: Members of the Dufferin County Paramedic Service gather in front of one of their vehicles to mark Paramedic Services Week, celebrated across Canada from May 17 to 23. The week honours the lifesaving work paramedics do in the communities they serve.

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Grand Valley

Dufferin County returns Shelburne bus stop on a trial basis

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Dufferin County will resurrect a transit stop in the Primrose area that was discontinued in 2024.

The Grey County Transit Route 2 connection between Dundalk and Orangeville recorded as many as 7,142 trips in 2025. That showed a continued increase in demand, requiring the addition of a second vehicle and eight daily trips.

And there have been more requests to reinstate a transit stop in Primrose, near the Shelburne Motel, to address growing demand and improve equitable access to essential services for individuals experiencing transportation barriers.

Dufferin County council decided during its May 14 meeting that a six-month pilot starting in July 2026 will go a long way toward assessing ridership, operational impacts, and safety considerations. It could cost \$2,490 and is included in the 2026 budget.

Grey County has delivered transit service for the last six years through the Grey Transit Route, which included a stop in Melancton at the Skyview Motel, two stops in Shelburne, and a connection to GO Transit services in Orangeville.

Grey County advised in 2024 that increasing demand from both Grey and Dufferin County residents had exceeded available system capacity. So another vehicle was added to ensure continued access to the service between Shelburne and Orangeville.

The Primrose stop was discontinued in 2024 due to declining usage. Recent feedback indicates that demand has increased, with several clients now requiring regular and reliable transportation.

"Reinstating the stop would support improved access to essential services and align

with the county's commitment to equitable and inclusive transit," according to a report to county council. "The location serves individuals who may otherwise face barriers to transportation and its addition would strengthen the overall accessibility and responsiveness of the service."

Councillor Chris Gerrits, Amaranth's mayor, asked if there was a particular reason the Shelburne Motel was chosen for the stop. He asked if the county was housing people at the motel.

Brenda Wagner, the county's health and human services director, said the motel is not a part of the county's housing program.

"But we are aware of clients that stay there that are long-term tenants there and we were approached by the Shelburne Motel to make this request on their (tenants') behalf," she said.

Those clients are employed elsewhere, and the motel is a location in which it's difficult to find transportation.

Gerrits said he's struggling with the idea of running a six-month pilot program, given that the stop was previously on the route for 32 months and drew about 15 riders a month.

"I don't know that a six-month pilot make a lot of sense," he said.

The contractor identified a potential safety consideration with the southbound routing to the location. Accessing the stop requires crossing two lanes of traffic on a relatively busy section of highway.

By comparison, a previously utilized stop near the Super Burger location with traffic lights was safer.

"If we're going to run a pilot, I suggest we run it at a different location," Gerrits said.

Wagner acknowledged that the motel stop was one of the lesser-used stops. Regardless

of ridership tallies, the people who require transit are badly in need of that transit.

Coun. Fred Nix, the deputy mayor in Mono, said he is in favour of countywide transit. But he is more strongly in favour of council making decisions "with their eyes wide open," he said.

The bus runs 260 days a year, he said. Last year, the service had about 27 rides daily. Eight trips north and eight south make 16 daily trips.

"On average, that's 1.7 people per trip," Nix said. "Maybe it's a good expenditure of money. Maybe it isn't."

He suggested it may be more economical to use an Uber taxi service for those people

who require the trip, as opposed to what it would cost to expand the bus service.

Coun. Philip Rentsch, who is also Grand Valley's deputy mayor, asked if the clients at Shelburne Motel could find a way to reach a bus stop at the traffic lights at Super Burger for better driver safety.

"That make sense," Rentsch said. Wagner said those locations are a "couple hundred feet" apart.

Coun. Darren White, Melancton's mayor, said there clearly is a need for the service expansion.

Wagner said her Grey County counterpart has investigated the availability of the Super Burger parking lot as a bus stop.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FEEDING THE FRONTLINE: Sunny Johal of 241 Pizza in Orangeville delivered a donation of 16 large pizzas to staff at Headwaters Health Care Centre on May 14, treating the health-care team to a well-deserved meal as a show of appreciation for their work in the community.

Oakville motorcycle driver pronounced deceased following collision in Mono

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers alongside Dufferin County EMS and local fire services, responded to a fatal two-vehicle collision involving a passenger vehicle and a motorcycle in Mono.

On May 16, shortly before 11:30 a.m., emergency crews were dispatched to Hockley Road (County Road 7) following reports of a serious collision.

As a result of the collision, the driver of the motorcycle, a 51-year-old male from Oakville, was pronounced deceased. The driver of the passenger vehicle sustained minor injuries.

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

Members of the OPP Technical Collision Investigation (TCI) unit attended the scene to assist with the investigation.

The investigation remains ongoing.

Anyone with information or dashcam footage related to the incident is asked to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122. To remain anonymous, contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or submit information online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

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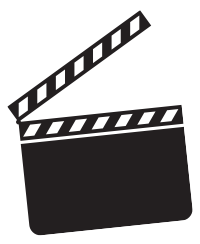
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Arts & Entertainment



LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

George McCart and Joanne Lomas join forces for 'In Harmony' art show

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

There is still time to catch the "In Harmony" show featuring woodworker George McCart and artist Joanne Lomas. These two friends have brought together their individual talents to demonstrate the harmony of nature to the Headwaters Arts Gallery at the Alton Mill Arts Centre in Alton. The show is on until May 24.

The Citizen interviewed each of these artists independently this week.

Currently based in Collingwood, Lomas' background is in the Dufferin County area, where she said, "I have been living in the Dufferin region all my life and am a member of Headwaters Arts for years. I had a studio there for a long time."

For the theme, "In Harmony," coming back to her artistic roots, Lomas commented, "The pairing of the paintings and the wood work well together."

Having always done art since she was very young, in 2010, Lomas enrolled at Georgian College as a mature student to earn her Bachelor of Arts.

Along with her family, they love to go camping and sailing, saying, "We've been sailing for 20 years. When you are sailing, you are part of the water."

Recently, they sold the boat and bought an RV to travel across Canada. That has been rewarding as well.

Passionate about being in nature, Lomas enjoys painting en plein air, like the Group of Seven painters whom she admires so much and who have influenced her as an artist, along with Emily Carr and others. She extends her learning by watching YouTube videos and attending workshops.

Also, since 2010, preferring the style of abstract painting over strict realism, Lomas has learned to appreciate the freedom of the personal reflection that abstract painting encourages.

"It comes from yourself," she said.

For the last few years, Lomas has been part of the #The100DayProject, an online

group of people committing to themselves and, in tandem with others globally, to work on a single project for 100 consecutive days.

"This was something I never did in college," she explained.

Lomas is a member of Southern Ontario Visual Artists, Headwaters Arts, South Simcoe Arts Council and Blue Mountain Foundation for the Arts. To budding artists, she advises visiting galleries and learning from workshops and YouTube videos. Once and as long as they are confident about their work, "just believe in it. Just do it."

Partner for the space and time of the "In Harmony" exhibition, George McCart, living in Creemore, is the husband of Joanne Lomas' best friend. He has brought his beautiful collection of wood-and-epoxy pieces to the art show as a new way to market his work.

"I do quite a few of the markets," he said. "Two-day markets where I sit with my pieces to sell them for the two days and take everything home when it closes. So, this is very different for me."

McCart does well in the two-day markets, and he has high hopes for the Headwaters Arts event as well. He recently became a member of Headwaters Arts, primarily in the short term to participate in this show, and he is very impressed with the Alton Mill and looks forward to returning.

"The artists who have studios there are very welcoming," he said. "It is a place when people visit there, they always want to come back."

McCart told the Citizen about his life as a youngster, every summer on the family farm, where they raise some cattle, working with his grandfather, learning how to repair and make things, how to appreciate working with wood and the importance of doing a job well.

"Our grandkids are growing up on the farm, some joining 4H," he said.

He enjoys working full-time for a com-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

JOINING FORCES: George McCart (left) stands with his artwork, a replica of a Stratocaster guitar, made with ash wood and black epoxy. Each of McCart's wood-and-epoxy pieces is unique and a one-off. The painting by Joanne Lomas (right) is titled "The Glow Above Stubbs Falls" and is a painting of one of her favourite painting areas in Arrowhead Provincial Park.

pany that sells building materials and, at one time, served as its vice president.

Although working with wood has been McCart's focus as an artist, he developed a fascination for using epoxy. Taking advantage of the time Covid restrictions allowed, he learned on his own how to make epoxy. Blending the separate elements together to achieve the very hard translucent product, he went on, learning how to also colour it.

The combination of these skills allows McCart to create stunning pieces with wood and epoxy. This knowledge gives

him the freedom to understand how to layer the epoxy, a defined amount at a time, taking the time for the full effect with each piece as he wants.

"It is a long process making each piece," he noted.

Through his exposure at the markets, he gets commissions to make his guitar clocks, each one different and other imaginative pieces. He could make anything with this combination of materials, and what he does make is his alone, quite unique.

"As a hobby," he remarked. "I can do what I like."

David Gauthier
Service Consultant

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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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The Citizen CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 265310 • Solution on page: CLASSIFIEDS SECTION

CLUES ACROSS

- Government lawyers
- The back of a person's neck
- Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- In a less flashy way
- Living room piece
- Shepherd dog
- A citizen of Iran
- Moved slowly
- Small finch
- Previously
- What a kid does on Halloween
- Monetary unit
- Using dry humor
- Ocean
- Greek goddess of the dawn
- Not close
- NHL legend Bobby
- A ballplayer would love to do this
- Charity
- City in Finland
- Loomed over
- Vaccine developer
- Avoids capture
- We all need it
- Openwork fabrics
- Get away
- Something you might hit
- Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

- Abstain from
- Admirer
- Expedition to observe animals
- Act that is legally void
- WW2 combatants
- A tool
- Looked at
- Showing wild excitement
- Banknotes
- Tired
- Printers need it
- Women's patriotic group
- When you anticipate getting somewhere
- Functions
- Breed of sheep
- Mocking pieces
- A major division of geological time
- Andiron
- Many not ands
- Cuban city
- He voiced "Olaf"
- Criticize
- "Thundercats" character
- Markings
- Gets up
- MLB lefty reliever A.J.
- An assembly of witches
- High energy lasers (abbr.)

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How they say that in...

English: Grill
Spanish: Parrilla
Italian: Griglia
French: Gril
German: Grill

ACROSS

- Cuts of beef
- Curved bones
- Not high
- At any time
- Type of oil
- Contains a letter

DOWN

- Slow-cooked food
- In addition
- A way to hit something

Gas grills are the most popular type of grill, followed by charcoal. Summer is the peak time of year for grilling, and burgers are the most popular food to grill.

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Piera Pugliese's flowers will bloom at the Millcroft this summer

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

"I've come a long way," said Piera Pugliese, a visual artist. "Things have percolated for me recently."

She attributes her success as an artist not only to her considerable talent but to her inclination to say "Yes!" to every opportunity to show her art. Presently, she has two solo shows in Toronto locations. These were collected and installed by Hello Art, the company that seeks art from across Canada, to hang in indoor spaces with plenty of foot traffic. This is meant to enrich the spaces and to promote and support Canadian artists.

Following a Call for Submissions from Headwaters Arts, of which she is a member, Pugliese is most particularly preparing for another solo show at the Millcroft Inn in Alton, from June 1 to August 4.

This show, titled "The Earth Laughs in Flowers," is a flurry of her flower paintings inspired entirely by that quote from the poem "Hamatreya", by Ralph Aldo Emerson in 1847.

In April this year, a letter from Lani Kopczinski, Curator of the Government of Ontario Art Collection, informed Pugliese that her painting, Balsam Lake, which was hung in the Government of Ontario Art Collection is "currently on loan to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, Edith Dumont and is being considered for inclusion in the current exhibition Together – Ensemble at the Lieutenant Governor's suite on the main floor."

Pugliese talked about how she loves Balsam Lake and how her painting of it does not show the water but the trees around it.

"I was up there and there was no view of the lake – it was all trees," she explained.

Balsam Lake was a process that started as abstract, then pastel, and finally oil

paint, and is more abstract than the work Pugliese is doing now, she commented.

"I like to paint flowers but my way. I get to do what I want because that's fun."

Pugliese's real foray into art came once she and her family fully retired. They had owned and run an Italian restaurant for many years in Toronto, where she still lives. By that time, when Covid struck, it was reasonably a time when they might have closed the business anyway, and the struggle other restaurants were making to remain open was more than they wanted to extend.

"Once we were fully retired, I got into it," she said, joking, "My life in art is making more dust than I am."

Last year, through July into August, she staged her solo show, "The Next 50 Years," at the Headwaters Arts Gallery in the Alton Mill, in which she showed a collection of her landscape paintings. Yet, there was more purpose to the exhibition than to simply present a number of attractive paintings in praise of nature. It is a reminder for us to understand and care about how overdevelopment will affect our wonderful and fragile surrounding landscapes. As an artist and environmentalist, Pugliese's paintings will record and report these stories.

Indeed, her next project will revolve around nature and cities and how we can co-exist.

"Alton Mill is a destination," she remarked. "Once you get there, you really understand the emotion the artists are creating; the feeling that comes over when you're there. What I do is engage with the place. Everything there is a one of a kind."

At the moment of this interview, Pugliese was getting ready for the Flowers show in the Millcroft Inn, counting what must be remembered, like having just finished 25



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

UPCOMING SHOW: Piera Pugliese loves to paint en plein air as did the members of the Group of Seven artists and others whom she admires. Her solo show, "The Earth Laughs in Flowers" is at the Millcroft Inn, in Alton from June 1 to Aug. 4.

somewhat smaller pieces. Tabletop signs are needed, as are notes displayed with the artist's statement.

"It's the last of the flowers," she said. "I'm going back to landscapes now."

Pugliese briefly mentioned serving on the Board of Directors of the Women's Art Association of Canada (est. 1887).

"It's still going after 135 years, it has 230 members," she said. "Women artists are still welcomed to apply to a very supportive environment."

She and her artist daughter, Ester, are teaming up to do a show at the Gladstone in Toronto in the fall. When her daughter was 12, Pugliese went to OCAD to study drawing and painting. The education she got there does not exist now, she believes. Then, there was a focus on knowing how to draw and paint in classes discussing those basics for the whole year.

"Once," was Pugliese's touch of irony, "women were only allowed to paint flowers."

Orangeville Ride for SPCA to return next month, supporting animals in need

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

The Orangeville Ride for SPCA, originally started in 2022, will return on June 20.

The annual fundraiser, which has generated close to \$12,000 for the Ontario SPCA Orangeville and District Animal Centre since its inception, will begin at 11 a.m. at the local SPCA building (650 Riddell Rd.).

Motorcycle and scooter riders will leave for Higher Ground Café in Belfountain before travelling to Hockley Valley General Store, wrapping up around 3 p.m.

Event organizer Wayne Sumbler is moving to Langford, B.C., in the coming weeks,

making the upcoming ride his final one in Orangeville. However, he said plans are in place to keep the ride going locally after he moves out west, and he'll look to start something up near his new home.

"We won't be here, but we will be starting something with Victoria SPCA," Sumbler said.

He told the Citizen he is hoping for up to 20 riders, similar to past years' turnout.

So far this year, just over \$1,300 has been raised, with more expected before and during the ride.

Sumbler would like to thank all the sponsors who are supporting the event this year.

Broadway Animal Hospital, Hyde Whipp, Dr. Michael Mori, Hawk Shop, Synergy Exteriors, Animals in Motion, Bar on Broadway, Posh Puppy, Booklore, Midemas, Toads Hollow, and Aardvark Music are sponsoring this year's event.

Sumbler, Stella and his dog Austin would like to thank everyone for their support over the years.

RIDE FOR SPCA: Wayne Sumbler, who started the Ride for SPCA in 2022, is looking forward to holding the event on June 20. Since the event's inception, close to \$12,000 has been raised in support of local animals.





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'Make Grand Valley grand again': Oldest building in town set for new life

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

The oldest standing building in Grand Valley is getting a new life as a restaurant, bakery and ice cream shop. Local resident Joshua Tuck is working to transform the historic 1870 structure into a new community gathering place.

The project, called OG 1870, aims to blend the town's deep roots with a fresh sense of energy and tourism potential. Located across from the site of Canada's first GM dealership, the building was built in 1870. It has long served as an inn and restaurant in various forms but sat vacant in recent years before Tuck and his family stepped in to restore it.

"Since moving to Grand Valley, I have more friends and more support in this community than I ever had in my whole life – it just feels like home," he said. "I want to do something in return. I would like to help make Grand Valley grand again."

When completed, the space will feature a breakfast diner, bakery and ice cream parlour under one roof, while also serving as a tribute to Grand Valley's history through historic displays, murals and memorabilia connected to its past.

For Tuck, the project is about more than opening a business. After moving to Grand Valley a few years ago, he said the welcoming atmosphere and strong sense of community convinced him and his family to put down roots permanently.

"I've only lived here for a short couple of years, and I love it so much," he said. "It gives me such a strong feeling of belonging... It's the best place I've ever been, honestly. There is something about this little place called Grand Valley that just makes me want to stay here forever and put the roots in. That's why we bought this

restaurant."

He saw the town as a place with untapped potential – one that could become a destination similar to communities like Elora or Hockley Valley, where visitors are drawn by history, charm and local experiences.

That vision pushed the family into an ambitious undertaking. Tuck and his wife took possession of the building just one day after the birth of their son and immediately began renovation work, often putting in 14-hour days to prepare for an early summer opening.

Despite the scale of the restoration, much of the work has been completed with the help of local residents and volunteers.

Tuck assembled a small but determined crew made up of tradespeople, retirees and residents who wanted to help bring the building back to life. Friends, neighbours and local supporters have regularly stepped in to assist with cleaning, construction and organizing as excitement around the project continues to grow.

"Our crew to build this place is made up of myself, and then one other guy who is a part time contractor approached me as I started to work on it and wanted to help," he said. "I had two other gentlemen come in off the street, a retired gentleman, one man from Trinidad... He's 67 years old... And another... a Polish man who is 71 and also retired."

He said to Tuck, "Hey, listen, we want to help you. We want to work. We're not concerned about the money."

Tuck said, "It's been a very community focused project."

He believes the revitalization effort could encourage more tourism, attract new businesses and inspire further investment in the downtown core.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

REVIVING GRAND VALLEY: Built in 1870, the newly rechristened OG 1870 is trying to help Grand Valley shine on the map. Vacant and in need of renovations, Joshua Tuck and his wife took over the building with a dream of turning it into a new community hub in town. It will feature a restaurant, bakery and ice cream shop.

By preserving one of Grand Valley's oldest landmarks while creating something new for residents and visitors alike, he hopes the project will remind people what makes small-town communities special.

"We wanted to create something new and exciting for the town," Tuck said. "We want to set a standard of what's possible, because we believe that if we can create one successful business like this... then there's a lot of opportunity for other people within the community to do the same."

"I think that ultimately it will increase people's standard of living and their property values, and say, 'I'm from Grand Valley' with pride. This is Grand Valley, and there's no reason everybody shouldn't

know how grand it is."

As renovations continue and plans move toward an official opening later this summer, Tuck said he hopes OG 1870 will become more than just a place to eat.

By combining local history, community spirit and a welcoming small-town atmosphere, he believes the project can help spark a new chapter for Grand Valley – one that encourages residents to take pride in their hometown while giving visitors a reason to stop, explore and keep coming back.

The business is expected to begin opening in phases this summer, with the ice cream operation anticipated to launch first.

Rotary's 27th annual Wines of the World fundriaser retuns to Caledon Equestrian Park

Written By **RILEY MURPHY**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Returning to the Caledon Equestrian Park on Saturday, June 6, is the Rotary Club of Caledon's biggest fundraising event of the year: Wines of the World.

The Rotary Club encourages the community to attend a night of fun, while supporting a great cause.

Attendees will be able to "sip their way" around the world with more than 30 wines to sample, including favourites from local wineries.

For those who aren't wine drinkers, local

craft beer from Caledon Hills Brewing Company will also be available.

The Rotary Club is encouraging guests to come hungry, as Absolute Catering will bring various delicacies, along with spit-roasted pig from Coyote Enterprises.

Entertainment will include live music from The Edge and the excitement of the Angelstone Grand Prix.

100 per cent of the proceeds from the event support local and international Rotary projects and initiatives, allowing them to continue giving back to the Caledon community.

Janice Bezanson, Treasurer for the Ro-

tary Club of Caledon, says that Wines of the World is their cornerstone fundraising event, from which they raise the majority of their funding to give out throughout the year.

In the 27 years of Wines of the World, more than \$500,000 in proceeds have been returned to the community.

This year, 10 per cent of proceeds will also be donated to Alpha Dogs Robotics.

Each year, the Rotary Club selects a charity or organization to which a dedicated percentage of its funding is directed; last year, 10 per cent was directed to Bethell Hospice. Bezanson adds that they support the Al-

pha Dogs throughout the year and thought the dedicated funds would be a great way to support them.

"It's nice to see the kids in the high school and the community, they have such a passion for it. And, they always need new tools and new toolboxes," says Bezanson.

The event will run from 6 – 9 p.m., and parking is available on site.

Tickets are \$100 per person, non-alcoholic tickets are available for \$40, and discounts apply for groups of 10 or more.

The Rotary Club is also currently seeking sponsors for the event, those interested can contact them at portal.clubrunner.ca/165.

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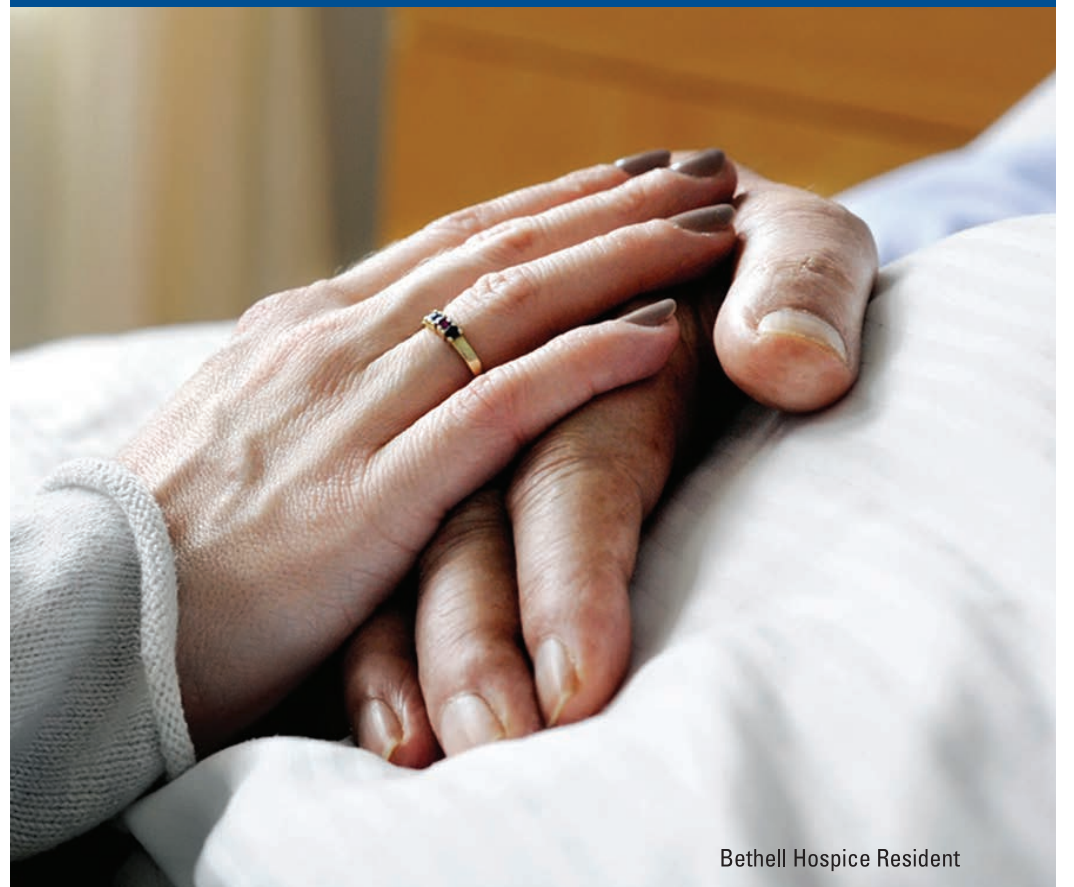
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Dufferin County to launch Green Development Program

The County of Dufferin recently announced that it will launch a Green Development Program later this year.

During a county council meeting last week, the Green Development Program was approved in partnership with Grey and Wellington Counties, with an anticipated launch this summer.

The program aims to support reduced long-term housing costs, improved resilience to climate risks, and economic development in the green building sector. It establishes a consistent regional framework to support higher-performing residential development while reducing duplication for municipalities and the development industry.

“As Dufferin County continues to see sustained population and housing growth, the Green Development Program will support local development that reduces long-term demand on energy, water and stormwater systems, help manage lifecycle infrastructure costs, and improve system resilience,”

said Dufferin County Warden Lisa Post.

“It will support long-term affordability for residents and promote more complete and connected communities while helping us reach our climate and economic goals. We thank NRCan for their funding of this joint County initiative and will provide our community and developers with more information closer to Program launch.”

The Green Development Program has been designed as a voluntary, points-based system with three core components:

Metrics: Recognizing the diversity of projects, the framework offers a flexible menu of 18 possible development features that applicants may choose to incorporate into their projects. These metrics were developed based on best practices, existing building credential programs, and local input from industry, municipal staff, and residents.

Recognition: For each metric incorporated into the project, the project achieves

a certain number of points. Based on their total number of points, the project would be recognized as bronze, silver, or gold achievement.

Capacity Building: To support program implementation, staff will work with the construction and development industry, as well as county and municipal planning and building staff, to share knowledge, best practices, case studies, resources, and training opportunities to overcome local barriers to advancing higher performance construction.

Administration of the Program will be coordinated at the county level, with opportunities for lower-tier municipalities to participate, subject to their capacity and interest.

Georgian College and Sustainable Waterloo Region are currently undertaking an industry readiness assessment to identify opportunities to strengthen local capacity within the construction sector to ensure industry adoption.

To learn more about The Green Development Program, visit www.dufferincounty.ca/gdp

“The Green Development Program is helping the County advance key actions in both its Climate Action Plan and Climate Adaptation Strategy, which prioritize improving building performance and increasing resilience to climate impacts through new development. It also supports the County’s Economic Development Strategic Plan by strengthening local capacity in the construction sector and positioning Dufferin to respond to growing demand for higher performance building practices,” said Sara MacRae, manager of climate and energy for Dufferin County.

“We’re excited to announce the launch of this plan with our partners Grey and Bruce Counties and look forward to celebrating developers who are doing their part to advance sustainable development in Dufferin and beyond.”

Upcoming Shelburne golf tournament looks to fundraise for community projects

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Shelburne EDC and Rotary Club of Shelburne are preparing to welcome golfers and community members back to the greens for the annual Rotary EDC Golf Tournament on June 4 at the Shelburne Golf and Country Club.

The long-running tournament has become a staple community fundraiser, bringing together local businesses, organizations and residents for a day of golf, networking and fundraising aimed at improving amenities throughout Shelburne.

Rotary Club spokesperson Bobbi Ferguson said that the partnership between the Shelburne Economic Development Committee and the Rotary Club began roughly six years ago, when the two organizations joined forces to raise money for the community splash pad project.

“After about three years we had raised enough to build a splash pad,” she said. “From then on we just thought that because it was a success, we would continue the tournament, and the proceeds would always go towards something for town improvement, whether it be parks or whatever was needed within the town.”

Since then, the tournament has continued to fund projects designed to improve community spaces and amenities across Shelburne.

This year’s event will support the completion of the Community Kitchen Project, along with additional recreation initiatives in town.

Golfers will take part in a shotgun start tournament format, with participants heading to their assigned holes at 11:45 a.m. before the noon tee off.

The day will include 18 holes of golf, on-site fundraising games for guests, networking opportunities, an auction, and a gourmet dinner served in the clubhouse dining room following the tournament.

Past fundraising efforts from the tournament have helped support the splash pad, seating improvements at Greenwood Park

and the Community Kitchen project.

Ferguson said this year it will do the same.

“This year, part of the proceeds will go towards the Community Kitchen project,” she said. “The proceeds will also help fund improvements at Greenwood Park, a future snack shack.”

Ferguson said the event will continue to serve as an important way to invest in the community while supporting projects that benefit residents, families, and local businesses alike. Sponsorship opportunities remain available for businesses interested in supporting the event and helping fund future community improvements.

For more information on the event or to get tickets, visit eventbrite.ca/e/rotary-edc-golf-tournament-2026-tickets-1983074451066.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER: Held every year, the Rotary Club’s EDC Golf Tournament is a major fundraising event designed to help fund local projects and town initiatives.

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Orangeville District Secondary School's girls soccer team enters the playoffs

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

After an outstanding regular season, the Orangeville District Secondary School Scarlett Bears varsity girls soccer team has entered the District 4/10 playoffs.

The Bears finished the regular season in second place with a 4-1-1 record.

They played their final regular-season game on May 12 against Centre Wellington District High School and left the pitch with a 2-0 win.

The Bears have managed to shut out their opponents in three games this season.

Heading into the District 4/10 playoffs, Bishop Macdonell Catholic High School got a bye in the first round as the first-place team.

The other six teams played the quarter-final games on Thursday, May 14.

The Bears were up against the Gaels from Guelph Collegiate on the pitch at ODSS for a late afternoon game.

ODDS dominated the game and left the field with a 4-0 win to advance to the semi-final round.

"We've been working together really and everyone has been coming together," said Bears player Ellianna Baldassarra after the quarter-final win. "We had to work just to get the team together this year. Today's game was good. We really pulled it together. We had to get serious about it, and we really wanted the win. We didn't want to get ahead of ourselves and go into it thinking we were going to win."

The team took the challenge seriously and played their best to win the game.

The Bears soccer team had trouble getting players this year, as athletes generally can't play on more than one team at a time, and other school sports were competing for talent.

"I'm really proud of how we played all season," said Bears player Mack Broom. "We had a rough start getting players out and getting a commitment. That was really chal-



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

PLAYOFF MODE: The Orangeville District Secondary School Scarlett Bears take on the Gaels from Guelph Collegiate on the soccer pitch at ODSS on Thursday, May 14, during their District 4/10 quarter-final playoff game. The Bears won the game 4-0 and will advance to the semi-final round. Bears player Emma Stamper takes the ball in the Gaels zone during the second half of Thursday's game.

lenging. It was opened up so players could do multi-sports, and that brought it some more players. I don't think we expected to do this well going into the season. We have a lot of talent. It's hard to guess how we will do at the beginning of the season. In today's game, we split the play a lot. Our forward

players were making a lot of runs, and our middle players were able to find them."

The Bears are taking the playoffs seriously, so much so that they had a practice on Monday during the long weekend to prepare for their semi-final game.

The Bears were scheduled to meet the

team from John F. Ross on Tuesday, May 19, with results not available at press time.

In the other District 4/10 semi-final, St. James will be up against Bishop Macdonell.

If the Bears are successful on Tuesday, they will move on to compete in the District championship game.

Orangeville District Secondary School's varsity girls rugby team completes 2026 season

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Orangeville District Secondary School Scarlett Bears varsity girls' rugby team completed the regular season with a good showing this year.

In their final game, the Bears didn't get the result they hoped for, but they played a good game and can be proud of a strong season.

The Bears finished with a 3-3 record and a fifth-place finish in the District 4/10 standings.

They were edged out of a playoff berth by Centennial Collegiate, who also had a 3-3 record but placed third based on points for/against.

There isn't a quarter-final round in rugby, so only the top four teams advance to the semi-finals.

In their final game, the Bears were up against the Royals from Centre Dufferin District High School in Shelburne.

It was a cool and windy day when the two teams took to the rugby pitch at ODSS for the final regular-season game.

Centre Dufferin took an early lead and managed to hang on for the rest of the game.

The final score was 39-10 for the Shelburne team.

Several of the Bears' veteran players played their final high school game.

"I think we really tried to work hard and better ourselves as a team that worked together really well, and I'm really proud of my girls," said Bears veteran player Melissa Simpson after the game. "We've had some really good wins, and we got through some hard times together, and I'm really going to miss this team. Today, we really pulled through at the end, and we really fought through this game."

The Royals will now compete in the semi-final round of the playoffs against Guelph Collegiate.

The other District 4/10 semi-final game will pit John F. Ross against Centennial Collegiate.

The District 4/10 championship final game will be played today (Thursday, May 21).



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

BEARS BATTLE HARD: The Orangeville District Secondary School (ODSS) Scarlett Bears take on the Centre Dufferin District High School Royals from Shelburne on the rugby pitch on Wednesday, May 13. The Bears lost 39-10 in this game to end their season. Bears player Eden Connelly sprints through a pack of Centre Dufferin defenders during the second half of the game.

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BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

THUNDER STRIKES AGAIN: The Westside Secondary School Thunder girls' varsity soccer team host the Eagles from Emmanuel Christian High School (ECHS) on the pitch at Westside during their final regular season game on Tuesday, May 12. The Thunder came out on top with a 6-3 win in this game. Westside finished in second place in the District 4 standings with a 5-2-1 record. The Thunder went on to win their semi-final game 3-1 over ECHS to advance to the District 4 championship on May 19, with results not available at press time. The Thunder will be up against Erin District High School in the final.

OPINION

It's a funny language

Several years ago, I had a part-time job in a local place doing rather mundane, assembly-line work.

It was unusual, as half of the team there had regular jobs like mine and used this job to make some extra money and pay bills. The other half of the employees there considered the place to be their sole means of support.

It was a real mix of different people.

All in all, I liked everyone there, and we actually had a lot of fun at work.

There was one fellow I worked with who was ethnic Chinese, grew up in Jakarta, Indonesia, and graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from Nebraska State University.

My friend spoke enough English that we could converse; however, he was having trouble obtaining employment as an engineer, as he said no one would hire him because he didn't have a command of the language.

I'm not sure, but maybe being an electrical engineer requires good verbal skills to avoid electrocuting someone on the job.

I asked him, how in the world did he graduate from a university without being able to

speak the language?

He explained that although he understood only about 20 per cent of what the professors were saying, he understood the numbers. I guess that enabled him to pass his exams.

When we worked together, he would often come in and ask me the meaning of a new word he had heard on a television show.

I would explain the word and use it in context so he understood.

I recall one time he came to work and asked me what it meant when you refer to someone as a 'jerk.'

He was watching a TV show the previous night, and the word 'jerk' was used several times.

I explained what it meant, sort of.

That is a hard word to explain. Is a jerk an annoying person? A disagreeable person? Someone you don't want to be around?

I finally poked him in the chest a couple of times with my finger to be annoying. He laughed and said he understood.

I only speak one language, although I took French in college and have been trying to learn more of it over the past year, so I can at least ask for directions if I'm lost in Quebec.

It must be difficult for a person to learn

English as an adult. There are so many words with double or ambiguous meanings that it must be hard to understand how it all works.

I was driving through Alliston a couple of weeks ago with an out-of-town friend of mine, when I pointed out the Honda automotive plant.

To someone just learning English, how would they process that? Isn't a plant something you place in a pot to grow? Or the method of putting seedlings in the ground? What has that got to do with a place where they build cars?

There are words with several meanings, and it is often hard to explain them.

The sun goes UP in the morning, and you also look UP. You get UP in the morning, and rise UP to an occasion.

You can also put UP with something, ask someone to speak UP, find out your time is UP at an appointment, bring something UP for discussion, start UP your computer, start UP your car, and offer UP a solution. On top of that, you clean UP your house, put UP supplies, cut UP a piece of paper, and pull your car UP to the curb.

Try explaining that word to someone who

has never spoken the language.

I used to work with a Polish woman who taught me a little about her first language. That's when I learned that not all languages have articles like the word "the."

That's why you will sometimes hear people using English as a second language utter a phrase like 'close door,' rather than 'close THE door.' The word simply has no context for them, at least at first.

I was once standing next to a woman in a store who was from, I believe, Northern Africa, asking for a box for her purchase.

She simply could not say the word, and it came out something like 'bookus'. I think that whatever her native language was, it just didn't include any pronunciation that ended in an 'x', and that would be a tough one to learn.

Whenever I run into someone who is still learning English, I always take the time to listen to them and help them out.

After all, I may need some directions in Quebec someday, and I hope the person I ask will be just as patient with me.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Taiwan: Invasion is hard

On Donald Trump's flight home from his visit to China, all the journalists wanted to know was whether he had talked to President Xi Jinping about Taiwan. China has been pushing hard for the United States to cancel its military commitment to the island state, and Trump has been hinting that he may at least downgrade it.

So the journalists popped the question, focusing on the \$14 billion US arms sale to Taiwan that is currently awaiting approval. He must have known that question was coming, but he replied as follows: "I have to speak to the person that right now is, you know, you know who he is, that's running Taiwan." [The president of Taiwan is Lai Ching-te.]

Trump couldn't even remember the man's name — and he also seemed to say that he was in two minds about delivering on the previous \$11 billion arms sale to Taiwan. So the following few days have seen a noisy debate in the US about whether Trump is selling Taiwan out to China, but it's a bit late. Any US commitment to defend Taiwan militarily died years ago.

To be specific, it died on 24 February 2022, when Russia began its full-scale invasion of Ukraine and the United States

did not come to its defence. True, Ukraine is not officially an American ally, but then neither is Taiwan. (Joe Biden often forgot and said that the US was committed to defend Taiwan, but his aides and advisers would quickly walk it back.)

What used to exist was an unwritten understanding that the United States would defend Taiwan against an invasion by the People's Republic of China (PRC). Initially it was only unwritten because Beijing gets cross if Washington uses those words, but by Biden's time there was real doubt that the US would fight for Taiwan. And then came the war in Ukraine.

Biden probably made the right choice. Four years later Ukraine is still standing, and there have been no direct confrontations between Russian and American troops. But if the United States won't even risk a war with Russia because it might spiral out of control and go nuclear, then it certainly won't risk one with China, which is a far more formidable opponent.

In Europe, the United States has an entire alliance to back it up (although Mr Trump is now talking about leaving NATO). It has allies in Asia too, but I can't see any of them sending troops to save Taiwan.

Actually, I can't see the United States committing its forces to another ground war in Asia either. The logistics are insane: it is 11,000 km. from Los Angeles to Taiwan, and only 300 km. from Xiamen in Fujian province to the same destination. Taiwan is on its own, and Xi Jinping regularly says that he might resort to force to 'reunite' Taiwan with China.

So is Taiwan doomed? Not necessarily, although the odds against its long-term survival as a separate country have definitely worsened. Taiwan's numbers seem hopeless (23 million Taiwanese vs. 1.4 billion citizens of the People's Republic), but they have a secret weapon. They live on a big island, with 300 km. of open ocean between them and the PRC.

"Oh God! Not another Strait!" I hear you cry, but the Strait of Taiwan works to the country's advantage. In terms of sea conditions, you might as well be in the open Pacific, and the island gets hit by three or four typhoons every year. The Strait is quite shallow and easy to mine, and the beaches are a nightmare for any attacker trying to land troops.

Where the Normandy beaches of D-Day were wide and flat, Taiwan's coastline has

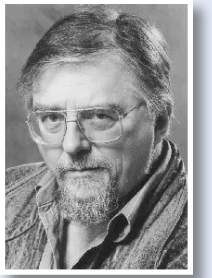
mud flats, cliffs and heavily urbanized areas. There are only 14 stretches along the west coast where landing craft can come ashore, and everybody in the military knows where they are. As for paratroops, forget it. They only carry light weapons and quickly run out of supplies.

Taiwan could not win a war against China, but a seaborne invasion against entrenched opponents is the most difficult military operation of all. If the Chinese regime will not use nuclear weapons against fellow Chinese (which one assumes they will not), it's perfectly possible that Taiwan could stay largely unconquered for weeks or even months.

Taiwanese certainly can't do that now — they have long been free-riding on the imaginary American 'guarantee' — but they could do it in two or three year's time if they are willing to spend the money and the US remains willing to sell them arms. (Nobody else will.)

They still couldn't 'win', but they could probably negotiate a lot better terms for a ceasefire. Look at what the Iranians did.

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



The magic baseball glove

One day on the school playground in grade five, the boys were about to experience a monumental shift in athletic priorities. We had always played sandlot soccer at recess for as long as I could remember, but when spring rolled around that year, the coolest guys in our class decided they were tired of soccer and wanted to try something else.

And so, the sport we transitioned to that spring was baseball.

The problem was, I didn't want to play baseball. I just wanted to play soccer because I was good at it, and I didn't want to lose my exalted place as the third kid always picked for every game. But the rest of the kids decided they wanted to play baseball, so what choice did I have? I didn't like baseball. I wasn't any good at baseball.

And on top of that, I didn't even own a baseball glove! I always had to borrow one from one of the kids who were going up to bat. I couldn't catch, either, which meant I was usually one of the last kids picked for teams.

When I searched around my house for a baseball glove, I found a few old ones in the closet from when Dad was a kid. He told me to pick one of those, but they were hardball gloves with small pockets and fat fingers — old timey mitts that couldn't properly catch a softball, which was all we ever used on the playground.

One early summer day, I was one of the first kids out for recess that morning. I spot-

ted something lying on the ground at the far end of the playground near the fence and went to investigate. Lo and behold, it was an old baseball glove! Since I didn't have one of my own, I decided to try it out. Black, beaten up, and more of a well worn old sock than anything else, it was held together with shoelaces but had a great pocket and was easy to squeeze shut. Looking around and seeing nobody, I decided to claim the glove for myself and headed off to play baseball with the rest of the kids.

After the teams were picked and I was chosen third last as usual, I went out to the field where nobody ever hit and prayed that no ball would ever come my way. And, of course, a line shot came out to me immediately.

OH, NO! I ran toward it, stuck the glove in front of the ball, and hoped for the best. The ball went right into the glove — and the glove automatically snapped shut. I made a great catch! Everyone on the diamond cheered at the surprising play. A little while later, another ball was hit out to me. Again, the glove snapped shut, and I made another great catch. All that day, every ball that came to me at recess, I caught. That glove performed like magic. And because of that old sock of a glove, my confidence soared. That magic glove could catch anything!

Every day that week, I was the master of my position. Everything hit out to me was caught effortlessly, thanks to the magic baseball glove. My self confidence and

my status on the playground soared. I was now a good baseball player, and it was all because of that glove. I wanted to keep it forever.

But I couldn't just take it outright; it wasn't mine. So, I did the next best thing I could think of: I found a secret hiding place on the playground where nobody could see it and hid the glove there at the end of every recess, so I could go back and retrieve it at the beginning of the next one.

My plan worked beautifully for a while. I would play great all recess, then hide the glove before going back inside.

But one day at the beginning of recess, just before our baseball game started, I ran to my secret spot to retrieve the magic baseball glove.

It wasn't there.

Someone had found the glove and taken it from its hiding place. Perhaps the original owner had reclaimed it. Perhaps the custodian had found it and thrown it away. We will never know.

Without the magic baseball glove, everything slowly reverted back to the way things were before I had it. But eventually, my cousin gave me his old baseball glove for keeps when he lost interest in baseball, and with that glove, I finally became a decent baseball player. But I never truly recaptured the fielding wizardry I'd had before that with the magic baseball glove.

Looking back, finding that old glove was probably one of the best athletic things that

could have happened to me at that age. When a child begins to play a sport, they need to be set up for personal success in their formative years in order to develop confidence. In those early years, personal development is more important than winning and losing. Opportunities to win will come later. A proper foundation is crucial, and part of that foundation is having the right equipment. In my case, that old sock of a glove — one that could almost catch a ball by itself — was essential in building my confidence. It helped me realize that I could catch a ball if I had the right glove on my hand. A brand new baseball glove that's too stiff to squeeze shut can destroy a child's athletic self esteem. When a ball clunks off that glove and falls to the ground, the child blames themselves, not the equipment. They don't know any better.

In the years since, I sometimes think about that baseball glove. Maybe it wasn't magic at all — maybe it was just the right tool arriving at just the right time. Sometimes I like to imagine that the glove found me on purpose, just long enough to show a kid lacking confidence that he was capable of more than he believed.

And even though it disappeared just as suddenly as it arrived, the magic baseball glove helped to shape the respectable athlete — and the person — I eventually became.

KEITH SCHELL
REMEMBERING WHEN



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COMMUNITY VOICES

Monthly Message: FTP gives hope to survivors of sexual violence

Three simple yet powerful words — we believe you — are at the core of what the Lotus Centre at Family Transition Place (FTP) is about. Originally established with a grant from the provincial government, FTP's Lotus Centre continues to provide enhanced support to those who have experienced sexual violence, as well as to the family and friends who support these victims.

Working from the premise that sexual violence is “never your fault,” the staff and counselling team at FTP provide a safe place for survivors to flourish and bloom. It is a symbol of strength, resilience and rebirth — of beauty without blemish. At the Lotus Centre, healing is possible, and together, the dedicated team helps clients to discover their inherent strengths and acknowledge their own power.

FTP was granted new annualized funding in 2021 through the Ministry of the Attorney General for Sexual Assault Programming in Dufferin County to enhance its existing sexual violence services. In consultation with partner agencies — Headwaters Healthcare Centre (HHC) and Dufferin Child and Family Services (DCAFS) — FTP developed a model for this new centre to expand the collaborative services available in this community.

HHC provides important emergency medical attention for any victim of sexual violence, and a dedicated nurse collects important forensic evidence. DCAFS provides support and counselling for youth. FTP provides support and counselling for individuals aged 16 and older. The creation of the Lotus Centre allowed FTP to build on the existing services by providing enhanced mobile crisis response; counselling support to survivors, their family members and friends; peer support; and community outreach and education within schools and sports teams. This collaborative approach serves the community well, with each organization delivering services within this scope of practice and expertise.

All genders and identities are served at FTP's Lotus Centre by a team of dedicated experts committed to recognizing the trauma arising from sexual violence—for survivors and their loved ones needing

support. Holding credentials in social work, counselling and psychology, and with many years of experience behind them, the Lotus Centre crisis intake team and counsellors use a variety of strategies, including trauma-focused therapy, to support survivors. Anyone can call directly for help through FTP's 24-hour support line (519-941-4357 or 1-800-265-9178). There is no referral required.

FTP's Counselling Supervisor, Lauren Babcock, comments, “The work of healing trauma related to sexual violence has changed to now include providing support to partners, family members, or friends of someone who has been subjected to sexual violence. This is because the Lotus Centre recognizes the impact this can have on those supporting a survivor and it can be helpful and beneficial to have a space to learn more about the impacts of trauma,

how to respond, and how to take care of themselves and survivors through positive coping.”

What is Sexual Violence?

How do you know if the shame, fear of violence or judgment, or any of the many feelings you might be experiencing are because of sexual violence? The answer is simple: “If something didn't feel 'right,' then it probably wasn't.” Lauren explains, “It's important to help clients understand and acknowledge that what they went through was indeed sexual violence and in no way their fault. Often, there are reasons why people dismiss or downplay their experiences, and it is helpful to explore that. Ultimately, we meet the clients where they are at.”

FTP is not the only agency to have replaced terms like “sexual assault” with

“sexual violence” and “victims” with “survivors.” Empowered survivors who feel “heard, understood and validated” no longer think of themselves as victims.

Sexual violence can be historic or recent, but at its core, sexual violence includes being subjected to an unwanted and non-consensual touch or sexual act, sexual abuse, sexual assault or rape, trafficking, stalking, sexual harassment or exploitation, or being exposed to language or behaviour or the non-consensual sharing of images. What matters most, however, is how you felt about what was experienced. Lauren adds, “We don't want to label people's experience, especially if they don't want it labelled. We want to help people work through how something has impacted them.”

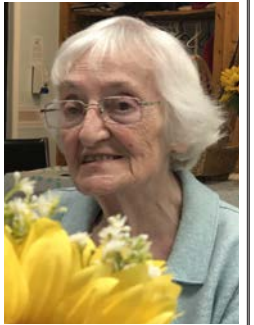
Continued on Page B6



OBITUARIES

JOAN WESTENBRINK

Peacefully at Headwaters Health Care Centre on Wednesday, May 13th, 2026 at the age of 91. Beloved wife of the late John Westenbrink (1985). Loving mother of Helena (Steve Woodland), Bill (Gail), Jim (Charlene) and the late Lisa Jotham (2018). Cherished Oma of the late Jeremy (2021), Melanie, Nathan, Eric, Evan, Jessica, Thomas and Liam. Great Oma of Joe, Elliot, Charlie, Myles, Phoebe, Jacob, Naomi, Aurora, Opal, Rocky and Clover. Joan will also be greatly missed by other relatives and many friends.



Visitation will be held at the Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre, 21 First St., Orangeville on Friday, May 22nd, 2026 from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. Funeral Service will be held at Dods & McNair Friday, May 22nd, 2026 at 11:00 am. Reception to follow. Interment at Greenwood Cemetery in Orangeville. Memorial donations to Canadian Cancer Society or Westminster United Church would be appreciated by the family.

Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com

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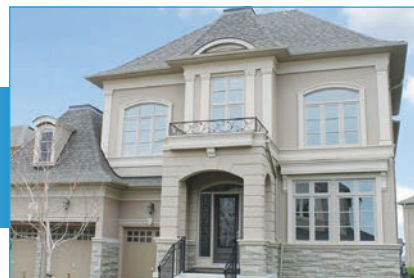
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Monthly Message: FTP gives hope to survivors of sexual violence

Continued from Page B3

Beyond counselling and support, the Lotus Centre has a second and equally important component to its work, and that is the important role that education plays in reducing sexual violence.

Sexual Violence Community Engagement Facilitator Barbara Mason shares that education is an essential aspect of the work the Lotus Centre will undertake in the community: "To be able to provide excellent support to survivors of sexual violence and their loved ones is a priority but, how do we stop the cycle? How do we target the root cause of the issue? How do we get to a point where we actually see a shift in culture that translates into a reduction of sexual violence in the communities we serve? Education is the key to prevention."

Since the centre's inception, FTP has connected with hundreds of individuals through community agencies, youth, school boards,

sports organizations and even area businesses to ensure everyone knows about the Lotus Centre, how it can help, and that eliminating sexual violence is the responsibility of us all.

Sparking a sustained cultural change might seem daunting, but if anyone is up to the challenge, it's the team behind the Lotus Centre at FTP. Here you will find a safe space, counsellors who understand trauma, who are "respectful, gentle and kind," and who will listen so that you feel "heard, understood and validated." Perhaps most importantly of all — you will find people who believe you.

May is Sexual Violence Prevention Month (SVPM)

Alongside agencies across Canada, FTP aims to build important awareness of sexual violence throughout the month of May. Together with members of the Ontario Coalition of Rape Crisis Centres (OCRCC), FTP will raise awareness with community

flag-raising ceremonies, proclamations, and other awareness initiatives throughout the month.

There are over 30 community-based sexual assault centres involved with the OCRCC. These centres provide crisis and counselling support to survivors of sexual violence in communities across Ontario.

Both the Town of Caledon and the Town of Orangeville have recognized this annual awareness-building initiative by proclaiming May as SVPM and raising a flag designed in partnership with the OCRCC by an Indigenous design firm. The County of Dufferin and several municipalities within the county have also proclaimed this important month, urging the thoughtful observance and recognition of SVPM by their residents.

According to Statistics Canada's 2025 Survey of Safety in Public and Private Spaces — the most comprehensive national data available, released March 2026 — nearly 15 million people living in Canada, or 44 per cent

of the population aged 15 and older, have been physically or sexually assaulted since the age of 15. This annual initiative provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of sexual violence support and centres. Critically, only 8.6 per cent of sexual assault victims reported the most serious incident they experienced to police — a stark reminder that community-based supports remain essential.

Local resources, information, and SVPM updates continue to be published on FTP's website and the following social media pages throughout the remainder of the month.

Family Transition Place can be found on Facebook, Instagram, and Threads at @familytransitionplace, on LinkedIn at @family-transition-place, and online at www.familytransitionplace.ca

If you or someone you know needs support, compassionate staff are available to help 24/7. Call 1-800-265-9178. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

Joe Andrews announces bid for re-election to Orangeville council

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Orangeville Councillor Joe Andrews announced on May 15 that he will seek re-election in the fall 2026 municipal race, aiming to serve a third term on council.

First elected in 2018 and re-elected in 2022, Andrews said his track record demonstrates sound fiscal management and accountability in decision-making.

"I have been part of Orangeville's fabric for almost 40 years, being connected in so many ways to a community that I have raised my family in, one that I truly call home. I am proud to be known for my outstanding commitment to this region as a leader in education, business, minor sports, and as an award-winning Volunteer of countless community activities and organizations," said Andrews.

"I have consistently displayed my abil-

ity to focus on the key issues affecting our town today and for the long term. I brought to the table years of senior-level leadership experience in both the public and private sectors, which have paid huge dividends."

Although the councillor position in the Town of Orangeville is part-time, Andrews said he takes the role seriously and treats it as a full-time commitment.

"I have always been readily available to the people of Orangeville no matter how small the issue may be. I have worked extremely hard independently and in unison with my fellow council members to achieve significant results for the betterment of this community," he said.



"I am proud of what has been accomplished, yet there is so much more to do."

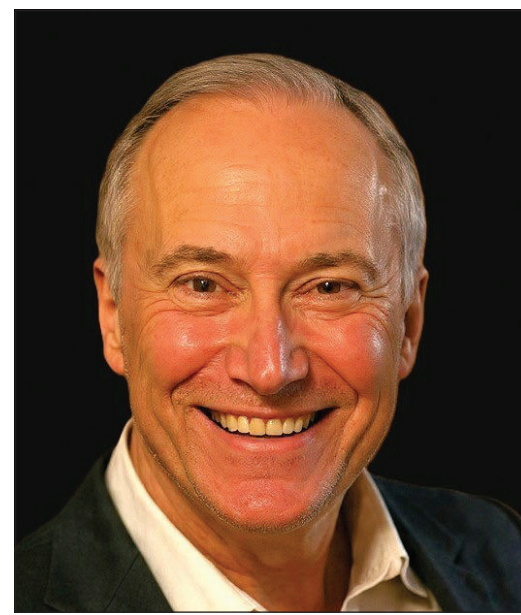
Andrews added, "I truly look forward to continuing representing

the people of Orangeville as a member of council for the 2026 – 2030 term."

The nomination period for people interested in running in the municipal election opened on May 1 and closes Aug. 21 at 2 p.m.

Nominations must be filed with the clerk of the municipality they are running in.

Clerks have until 4 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 24, to certify or reject candidates' nominations.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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- Previous heavy equipment experience preferred.
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To view a comprehensive overview of the position, please go to <https://jobs.dayforcehcm.com/en-US/irss/CANDIDATEPORTAL/jobs/4103>

Interested candidates please send a copy of your resume and cover letter referencing Req#317 to recruiting@iceriversprings.com or write to:

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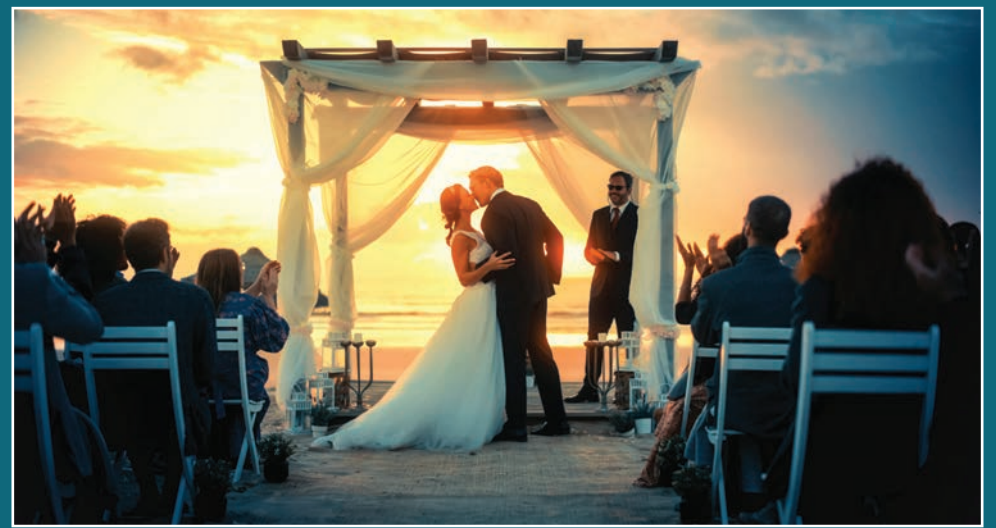
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When you buy from a **small business** you're not helping a C.E.O buy a 3rd holiday home, you are helping a little girl get **dance lessons**, a little boy get his **team jersey**, a mom or dad put **food on the table**, a family **pay a mortgage** or a student **pay for college**.

Thanks for shopping local! ❤️



THERE'S MORE TO MAZDA

— MAY EVENT —



LEASE FROM **2.69%** FOR 36 MONTHS^{††} + UP TO A **\$2,000** MAZDA BONUS[†] + AN UNLIMITED MILEAGE WARRANTY*

ON SELECT CX-70 AND CX-90 MODELS



2026 CX-5 GX AWD

LEASE EQUIVALENT TO
\$115[†]/WEEK AT **4.49%** APR
 \$230[†] bi-weekly for 48 months.
 \$1,425 down. Taxes extra.



2026 CX-30 GX AWD

LEASE EQUIVALENT TO
\$93[†]/WEEK AT **3.99%** APR
 \$186[†] bi-weekly for 48 months.
 \$850 down. Taxes extra.



3-Row Mild Hybrid Inline 6 Turbo 2026 CX-90 GS AWD

LEASE EQUIVALENT TO
\$147[†]/WEEK AT **3.19%** APR
 \$293[†] bi-weekly for 36 months.
 \$1,400 down. Taxes extra.

^{††}Limited-time lease offer provided to eligible clients through Mazda Financial Services, on approved credit. Representative lease offer based on a new and previously unregistered 2026 CX-70 GS-SC Plug-In Hybrid (YXCP86) with a cash purchase price of \$55,915, leased at 2.99% for 36 months. Bi-weekly payment is \$348, which includes \$2,195 freight and PDI; \$100 A/C charge; retailer administration fee (up to \$795); lien registration fees (up to \$53, including lien registering agent fee); \$400 paint charge (Rhodium White); as well as all other applicable fees, levies and duties (all of which may vary by region and retailer). 78 bi-weekly payments required. Licence, insurance, registration, the specific duty on new tires and applicable taxes are extra and due at signing. \$0 down payment or equivalent trade-in and \$0 security deposit due at signing. Retailer may sell for less. Retailer order/trade may be necessary (but may not be available in all cases). Conditions apply. Offer ends June 1, 2026, and is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Visit mazda.ca or your Mazda Retailer for details. [†]NOTE: Weekly lease offers shown above are for informational purposes only. Lease payments cannot actually be made on a weekly basis and are made on a bi-weekly basis. Offer available on retail leases of new 2026 CX-30 GX AWD (ZXXL86AA00)/2026 CX-5 GX (NXXL86AA00)/2026 CX-90 MHEV GS (WXSJ86AA00) with a lease APR of 3.99%/4.49%/3.19% and 78 bi-weekly payments of \$186/\$230/\$293 for 48/48/36 months; the total lease obligation is \$20,201/\$25,370/\$24,255, including down payment (or equivalent trade-in) of \$850/\$1,425/\$1,400. First monthly payment is due at lease inception. 20,000 km per year mileage allowance applies; if exceeded, additional 10¢/15¢ per km applies for CX-30, CX-5/CX-90. Offered leasing available to retail customers only. Licence, insurance, taxes and down payment (where applicable) are extra and may be required at the time of purchase. Retailer order/trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Offers valid May 1 – June 1, 2026, while supplies last. Lease and finance on approved credit for qualified customers only. Offers subject to change without notice. Visit mazda.ca or see your Mazda Retailer for complete details.