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Volume 50, Issue 27

Thursday, May 9, 2024

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PETER RICHARDSON PHOTO

START OF THE SEASON: Children enjoy the petting zoo at the Orangeville Farmers' Market in front of Town Hall (87 Broadway) during its opening day on Saturday, May 4. The market takes place every Saturday morning while the weather is warm. In addition to a petting zoo, children enjoyed free bucket rides courtesy of Orangeville Hydro, free face painting and fun little activities. See more photos on Page A14.

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Mono opens new tennis courts at Lynn Gibson Park

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS
 LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Municipal and provincial dignitaries served up the new tennis courts at Lynn Gibson Park in Mono late last week.

Infrastructure Minister Kinga Surma and Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones joined Mono Mayor John Creelman and Mike Dunmore, the town's CAO, to officially open the new courts on Friday, May 3.

The two fully accessible courts have fencing, LED lighting, and a viewing platform for spectators.

A new playground complete with rubberized surfacing and shade trees is scheduled to be constructed later this year.

The courts are part of a park rehabilitation which included the addition of a new playing field, trail connection, footpaths, a bike repair station, bike racks, picnic tables and benches.

"I think it will be very much enjoyed by the community," said Surma.

The \$100,000 grant from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program was com-



JAMES MATTHEWS PHOTO

TESTING OUT NEW COURTS: Ontario's Infrastructure Minister Kinga Surma tests out the new tennis courts at Lynn Gibson Park during an unveiling ceremony on May 3. Despite the rain, a group of dignitaries and Town of Mono staff gathered at the park to celebrate the completion of the two new tennis courts.

mitted specifically toward the park improvements.

"It truly becomes a partnership when we have municipal engagement, provincial engagement, and federal engagement," Jones said.

The Ontario government has provided this investment through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP) to help the town create new accessible tennis courts.

Continued on Page A14

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MORE WAYS TO SHOP



Bereavement group installs wind phone at Orangeville hospital

Written By **JAMES MATTHEWS**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Orangeville's first wind phone was established, perhaps fittingly, at Headwaters Health Care Centre.

The wind phone, inspired by a Japanese concept, is a tool for people to communicate with loved ones who have passed away. The wind phones will offer a unique space for individuals to find solace and connect with lost loved ones.

The Hills of Headwaters Collaborative Ontario Health Team's (HOHC OHT) bereavement group, in partnership with Headwaters Health Care Centre, unveiled the first of many HOHC OHT wind phones across Dufferin County and Caledon on May 7.

The phone, which is located at Headwaters' Friendship Garden, is a means to support bereaved and grieving individuals in the community. It's a disconnected rotary phone that offers a means to work through grief by using it to "speak" to dead loved ones.

Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post said the phones are a unique way to provide solace and support to people who have lost loved ones.

"Navigating grief is not a linear experience," Post said. "Every experience is unique."

Phones are set to be installed in five initial locations across Dufferin County and Caledon. Some initial locations include the Shelburne Cemetery, Hereward Farms, Bethell Hospice, and Kay Cee Gardens.

More wind phones are to be added at additional locations in the coming months.

"The wind phone will support those who have lost a loved one by providing an outlet for them to communicate with them and help them through their grief journey," said Heidi Vanderhorst, the HOHC OHT engagement



JAMES MATTHEWS PHOTO

LANDLINE FOR LOVED ONES: Maureen Riedler, left, and Heidi Vanderhorst are co-chairs of the grief and bereavement working group that's part of the Hills of Headwaters Collaborative Ontario Health Team. They're part of the effort behind the wind phone installed at the Friendship Garden at Headwaters Health Care Centre in Orangeville.

lead.

She said the HOHC OHT's grief and bereavement group felt it was important to bring these phones to the community to provide bereaved individuals with a safe space to mourn their loved ones.

"We are extremely grateful to all of our current partners who have agreed to install these structures and look forward to creating

more partnerships to increase the number of wind phones available for our community," she said.

This is just the beginning, Vanderhorst said, and she implores people to know they are not alone on their grief journey.

Kim Delahunty, the Headwaters president and CEO, said care for palliative patients and their caregivers is another important facet of

healthcare. She extended a welcoming hand to grieving members of the community.

"Headwaters Health Care Centre is committed to caring for patients in their end-of-life journeys and supporting their caregivers," Delahunty said. "We are honoured to be one of the wind phone sites through this meaningful partnership with our OHT, hospice and health system partners."

Town Page

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GET CONNECTED!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Date	Time	Location	Meeting	To Listen In
Tuesday, May 14	6 p.m.	By Phone	Sustainable Orangeville	1 289-801-5774 ID: 757 931 326#
Wednesday, May 15	6:30 p.m.	Tony Rose Memorial Sports Centre	Mayor Post's Town Hall	
Thursday, May 16	5:30 p.m.	Council Chambers and by Phone	Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee	1 289-801-5774 ID: 632 885 679#
Thursday, May 16	6 p.m.	Main Floor Boardroom and by Phone	Heritage Orangeville	1 289-801-5774 ID: 107 557 720#

*Start time of Council and Committee meetings is subject to change
*For more information on how to participate and to view Council and Committee agendas, please visit calendar.orangeville.ca/meetings

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TOWN NEWS

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- Learn about seasonal-specific hazards
- Make sure your pets are included in your emergency plans



2023 Audited Financial Statements

The Town of Orangeville's 2023 Audited Financial Statements will be presented at the Monday, May 13 Council meeting.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. and takes place in Council Chambers at Town Hall located at 87 Broadway. The meeting is also streamed live on YouTube.

To review the 2023 Audited Financial Statements, or to speak at Council, please visit www.orangeville.ca/council.

To request a copy of the statements or for any questions regarding this matter please email: info@orangeville.ca

Mayor Lisa Post's Quarterly Town Hall Meeting

May 15 | 6:30 p.m.

Tony Rose Memorial Sports Centre

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- Water Conservation
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Dufferin Community Foundation to donate more than \$75,000 in grants, bursaries

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dufferin Community Foundation (DCF) is making leaps in funding available to local students and community charities.

The foundation announced it will be able to give out more than \$75,000 in community grants and student bursaries this year from its funds. According to the Dufferin Community Foundation, this is a 60 per cent increase over last year and a 125 per cent increase since 2022.

"The beauty of a community foundation is that as our charitable investments grow, so does the annual income," said board chair Debbi Goss in a press release. "We started six years ago at zero. With the support of local donors, we have grown to become one of the largest charitable funders in Dufferin County."

The majority of the grant money comes from a number of donor-advised funds and the families and individuals who create those funds help select which charities will receive the grants. All charities that receive funding must serve the residents of Dufferin County.

"The Foundation was created in 2019 with a vision to build permanent charitable funds – or 'forever funds' as we like to call them – to

build our community across the generations. It's wonderful to see this vision start to bear fruit. Every dollar is so urgently needed," said Michele Fisher, executive director of DCF.

A new bursary program available through the Dufferin Community Foundation this year is the W. & M. Edelbrock Fund. Through the fund, one student from each of the three high schools in Dufferin County will be awarded a \$3,125 bursary to make it financially possible for them to attend college, university or trade school. The application process for the W. & M. Edelbrock Fund will be opening soon.

A returning donor-advised fund, the Cedar Fund, which seeks to alleviate poverty and promote the health of women and children, has dedicated two \$5,000 grants to Choices Shelter & Support Services and Family Transition Place for the second year in a row.

"While we live in a beautiful, prosperous community, it is also a place in which many are facing challenges such as poverty, the rising cost of living, unsafe living situations, mental health issues, and food insecurity," said the donor, who wishes to remain anonymous. "We are grateful that our fund is able to support those who work with our most vulnerable neighbours."

Dufferin Community Foundation will open



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SUPPORTING WOMEN AND CHILDREN: Family Transition Place (FTP) received a \$5,000 grant from the Cedar Fund, a donor-advised fund held with Dufferin Community Foundation. Dufferin Community Foundation's executive director Michele Fisher (left) and grants chair Shirley Boxem (right) present the cheque to FTP director of development Brennan Solecky and executive director Norah Kennedy.

grant streams in the fall for its field of interest funds, including the Vision Fund, the Environment Fund, and the Refugee Resettlement Fund. The Arts & Culture grants will also be available, thanks to the W. & M. Edelbrock

Fund. For more information about grants and funds available through Dufferin Community Foundation or to donate visit www.dufferincommunityfoundation.ca.



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SAM ODROWSKI PHOTOS

A HOLE LOT OF FUN: The 10 and 10 Driving Range now features an 18-hole mini-putt. The course opened last month and an additional 18 holes will be opened in the coming weeks.

10 and 10 Driving Range opens first 18 holes of outdoor mini-putt course

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Dufferin County residents who enjoy a challenging game of mini putt can now do so close to home.

The 10 and 10 Driving Range in Mono opened a state-of-the-art 18-hole outdoor mini putt course last month and has plans to open an additional 18 holes in the coming weeks.

Planning for the course began four years ago, and a professional golf course designer developed the layout for the 36 holes. It's been under construction for the past two years.

While the mini-putt is geared towards everyone, the new course is more challenging than most others, with some holes being par five.

"There's going to be very little chance, if any, of getting a hole in one," said 10 and 10 Mini Putt owner Jasbir Kooner. "There might be one or two holes that have that chance but it's very rare."

He added that when it comes to length and design – it's "not your typical mini putt."

"It's definitely a fun thing for the whole family. It's not a putt-putt for just little kids. The real experienced golfer can enjoy it as well," Kooner noted.

The course features fun obstacles and unique pieces of art that putters have to work through.

The 10 and 10 Driving Range formerly had a nine-hole mini putt on site, but it was outdated, and unable to accommodate birthday parties or special outings, so its owners decided to expand.

Kooner said a lot of the golfers who use their driving range would ask about mini-putt, so they knew there was a demand in the community for a high-quality course.

"There were not too many places in and around Orangeville where people could go have a meeting and play mini putt," said Kooner.

The 10 and 10 Driving Range was expanded



by 50 to 75 yards last year, now 300 yards in length. The owners also put in 16,000 sq. ft. of grass tees, so people can practice teeing off on natural grass instead of on a mat.

"We get a lot of seniors, a lot of people that are really into golf, and it seems to be in demand – the grass tea off area," said Kooner. "There was no other place around here that had the grass area, so I thought why not specialize in that?"

Having the 10 and 10 Driving Range, mini-putt and garden centre all on one property makes visiting the business fun for the whole family, said Kooner.

"The kids can do mini putt and the parents can come to the garden centre and shop or if the parents want to hit some balls [at the range] and the kids want to play mini putt – it basically covers the whole family," he noted.

Landscaping work will continue at the mini-putt but it is largely complete.

If any not-for-profit group wants to host a fundraiser at the 10 and 10 Mini Putt, Kooner would like to encourage them to reach out. The business's phone number is (416) 434-9400.

The Lord Dufferin IODE is planning on holding a mini-putt fundraiser there later this year.

The 10 and 10 Mini Putt is located at 634026 Highway 10.

"Bring the whole family, bring the kids, bring the grandparents – there's something for everybody," said Kooner.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP: Young athletes from the Orangeville Otters Swim Club and their families took part in a community clean up on Saturday, May 4, coordinated with the Rotary Club of Orangeville. Garbage was collected around Rotary Park, local businesses and a trailway between Highway 10 and Walmart. The Rotary Club of Orangeville is holding its 34th Let's Make Orangeville Shine community clean-up day on Saturday, May 11, from 9 a.m. to noon. No registration is needed. Stop by Rotary Park to get clean up supplies and be assigned a street or specific area to clean.

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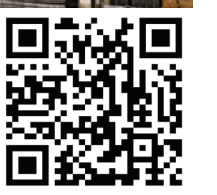
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\$124 WEEKLY + HST
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\$32,912 +HST/LIC
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84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

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C.O.B \$22,139

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\$161 WEEKLY + HST
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Dining in Dufferin: Plant.ed Cafe helps customers embrace plant-based living

Written By GAIL POWELL

A new cafe with fresh plant-forward West Coast energy has opened up beside independent bookstore BookLore on Orangeville's First Street.

Plant.ed Cafe, owned and operated by couple Alex Kiru and Blair Forsyth, offers customers a variety of nutrient-packed smoothies, whole food dishes and (mostly) plant-based options in their newly renovated foliage-adorned establishment.

"Plant.ed Cafe was born out of our immersion in the vibrant cafe culture from around the world," said owner, Alex Kiru.

"On our travels over the last few years, Blair and I experienced the magic that cafes – as hubs for societal connection – can have on a community's creativity and cultural exchange. While living on the West Coast in BC for the last five years, we became inspired by this connection to community, nature and the abundance of well-crafted plant-based cuisine. We want to create a vibrant community space in Dufferin County where everyone feels welcome and there are menu choices for all palates," she said.

Even though the majority of Plant.ed Cafe's menu is centred around plant-based dishes, with an emphasis on vegan options, the pair also offer a few baked goods that may contain eggs and honey.

All dressings, sauces, and spreads, including their vegan cheeses, are made in-house.

All lattes are also made with real, fresh ingredients, no store-bought boxed mixes or powders.

"We want our customers to know that we will also have many gluten-free choices plus a variety of dairy options for hot and cold beverages too. We will also have a big pot of chai on the stove simmering each day," Kiru added.

"We've put a lot of thought into our ingredient sourcing. Many of our ingredients are organic and we will buy local when possible as this is definitely a priority for us. We love supporting other small businesses so if we don't make something in-house, we'll always try to find another small business who can."

This minimalistic and airy loft designed space with subtle pastel pink and sea foam green accent walls pays homage to the look of a modern-day cool vibe oceanside beach cafe. There's seating for six customers on the main level with an upstairs mezzanine area housing multi-use seating for approximately 20 people. A sunny seasonal patio will be opened in the future.

"We've designed the space to be very open and light with some cute, colourful accent walls," noted Kiru.

"Customers will find a lot of homemade touches in our cafe including our tile tables – made by Blair – and our cafe side plates crafted from pottery that I made myself."

Since opening, the duo have fielded a few questions about their establishment's name



GAIL POWELL PHOTO

PLANT-BASED CAFE: Blair Forsyth and Alex Kiru moved back to their home province to open up Plant.ed Café in Orangeville after living in BC and travelling to various vibrant cafes around the world.

– Plant.ed.

"Of course, the obvious reason is because we are plant-based," explained Kiru.

"But the '.ed' is to represent education. We want to be an approachable source of info for people who may be curious about plant-based living, and we want to share what

adaptogens or functional mushrooms are and why we use them. It's also our goal to host workshops and bring in experts in the field to the cafe to collaborate with."

For more information about cafe hours and news, visit Plant.ed's Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/plant.edcafe/>

Walk for Alzheimer's returning to Island Lake Conservation Area with family-friendly activities

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

An annual fundraiser in support of the Alzheimer Society of Dufferin County is returning to the Island Lake Conservation Area later this month, with lots of new family-friendly activities to enjoy.

The 2024 IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's will take place on Sunday, May 26, with registration at 8 a.m. and the walk running from 9 a.m. to noon.

The goal for this year's event is to raise \$60,000 to fund programs in the community that support people with Alzheimer's, as well as their families and caregivers.

Last year, the walk generated \$35,000 for the Alzheimer's Society of Dufferin County.

"We're making it more of a family event," said Maxine Deacon-Morant, community engagement coordinator for the Alzheimer's Society of Dufferin County. "We have family activities that we're planning – face painting for children, rock painting."

A shorter walking loop has also been incorporated into the event for children.

There will be live music and a handful of vendors with refreshments available, as well.

Lemon Heaven will have lemonade available and McDonalds will be serving up ice cream, both free of charge to walk participants. Cookies by Gia will also be on-site and is donating 10 per cent of their proceeds to the Alzheimer's Society of Dufferin County.

"Those funds are utilized to support the programs that we currently run," said Carmelina Cicuto, executive director of the Alzheimer Society of Dufferin County. "Our funds are also used to look at options in creating new programs, which there's a need for in our community. Respite is a huge need for our clients, and we don't offer at the moment."

She added, "So the funds raised definitely support the work we do on a day-to-day basis, but it's also for long-term goals. We as an organization want to grow and be able to offer more services and support within the community."

That growth will become increasingly important as the number of Canadians diagnosed with dementia is expected to rise from

744,040, as of Jan. 1, 2024, to nearly 1 million by 2030. By 2050, more than 1.8 million Canadians are expected to have a dementia diagnosis.

Alzheimer's is the primary cause of dementia.

"Dementia is a health care crisis – I don't think a lot of people realize that," Cicuto said. "I think people need to understand the severity of what's coming in the next couple of years – the number of diagnoses in Ontario alone."

Ontario, which currently has over 300,000 people with dementia, is expected to see a 202 per cent increase in diagnoses from 2020 to 2050.

In Dufferin County, where the total population is just over 60,000, there are 1,500 people with dementia.

"Those are staggering numbers," said Deacon-Morant.

Cicuto noted the impact of donations to the Alzheimer Society of Dufferin County – big or small. A \$200 donation would cover a behavioural support visit for a person with

Alzheimer's, and a \$50 donation would cover a caregiver support group session.

Organizers of the Alzheimer's walk are hoping to see 100 people or more take part, which was the level of attendance seen last year.

"We encourage everyone, the entire family, to come out, register, walk, and have a good time," said Deacon-Morant.

She noted that the walk is a great opportunity to meet and socialize with other people who have family members or friends impacted by Alzheimer's and face similar challenges.

Island Lake Conservation Area is located at 673067 Hurontario St., Orangeville.

"You're supporting a great cause," Cicuto said of the upcoming walk. "It's supporting people within your community."

She added, "This year our walk is on a Sunday. Sundays are typically family day, so what better way to spend a Sunday morning than at Island Lake? Come out, hopefully the weather will cooperate with us and it'll be a bright sunny day. It's an opportunity to get some fresh air and put some steps in."

Lori Wedgewood

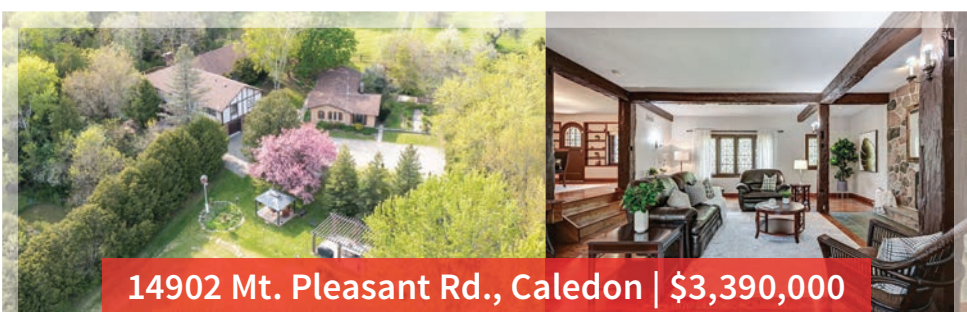
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

RECOGNIZING YOUTH EXCELLENCE: Hudson Krysa (left) receives the Jim Shaw Youth Volunteer Award from Grand Valley Lions President Kevin Ewen.

Jim Shaw Youth Volunteer Award presented to dedicated teenager

Written By **SAM ODROWSKI**

A student of Centre Dufferin District High School (CDDHS) has been named as the recipient of this year's Jim Shaw Youth Volunteer Award.

Hudson Krysa, 14, was announced as the winner of the award on April 24.

The Grand Valley Lions Club is behind the award and said it selected Krysa due to his volunteer efforts in Dufferin County.

"Hudson's dedication to community service is truly inspiring," said the Grand Valley Lions in a press release. "His commitment to making a positive impact shines through in everything he does."

Krysa is a proud member of the Air Cadets and very active in the local community.

From marching proudly in Christmas parades to supporting Poppy sales for the Royal Canadian Legion, Krysa's involvement in community events is nothing short of remarkable, said the Grand Valley Lions.

And his service extends beyond the holidays. As a lunch helper at school since Grade 3, he's been spreading joy and kindness for many years.

Krysa's also a familiar face at various events in Grand Valley, lending a hand wherever it's needed. From assisting the BIA during its Car Show to helping the Grand Valley Lions Club with their annual Duck Race, he has made significant contributions locally.

Other volunteering efforts of Krysa's include cleaning up Grand Valley on Earth Day, helping with the town's Tree Lighting Ceremony, and assisting with the Masquerade on Main event.

"[This] showcases his unwavering dedication to community building," said the Grand Valley Lions' press release. "[Krysa] truly checks all the boxes to be the recipient of the Youth Volunteer Award. His passion, kindness, and tireless efforts make him the perfect candidate. Join us in celebrating Hudson and his incredible contributions to our community!"

NVCA rallies people to plant trees along Mono Centre Creek

Written By **JAMES MATTHEWS**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The effort to repopulate Mono Centre Creek with native vegetation is taking root this weekend.

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority is rallying people to help plant trees and shrubs along the creek on May 11, starting at 9 a.m. Planting trees will help enhance fish and wildlife habitat, shade the stream, reduce erosion, and capture carbon.

Shannon Stephens, the authority's Healthy Waters Program coordinator, said as many as 100,000 trees are planted through the watershed throughout the season. Pre-registration is required. That can be done by way of the NVCA website, at its events page.

Mono Centre Creek is a trout and salmon waterway at the headwaters of four river systems. And repopulating vegetation there is all the more important as trout and salmon are sensitive to water temperature.

Trees shade waterways, keeping the temperature favourable for fish, Stephens said. And shading the waters helps aquatic insects thrive. Those insects are food for many fish species.

"We kind of help those fish survive, especial-

ly in light of climate change," Stephens said.

She said more than 1,000 people participate in the spring planting. Participants for the Mono Centre Creek event can meet at 754387 Mono Centre Road where parking will be available at roadside.

"It's amazing," Stephens said. "It's always a fun event."

An orientation and tree-planting tutorial will be provided to participants. Washroom facilities will be on site.

The planting will take place rain or shine but will be rescheduled if there is extreme weather. As such, organizers are asked to dress for the weather. Wear closed-toed shoes or rubber boots, use sunscreen and bug spray, and pack extra water, snacks and a lunch. Don't forget work gloves, said the event's organizers.

Spring is tick season and participants should be aware and take precautions. Being tick-aware means wearing light-coloured clothing to make ticks easier to spot, long-sleeve shirts, pants, and closed-toe footwear. Tuck your shirt into your pants and tuck your pants into your socks.

"This can help prevent ticks from crawling onto your skin where they can feed," said event organizers. "Permethrin-treated clothing may provide protection against ticks and mosquitoes."



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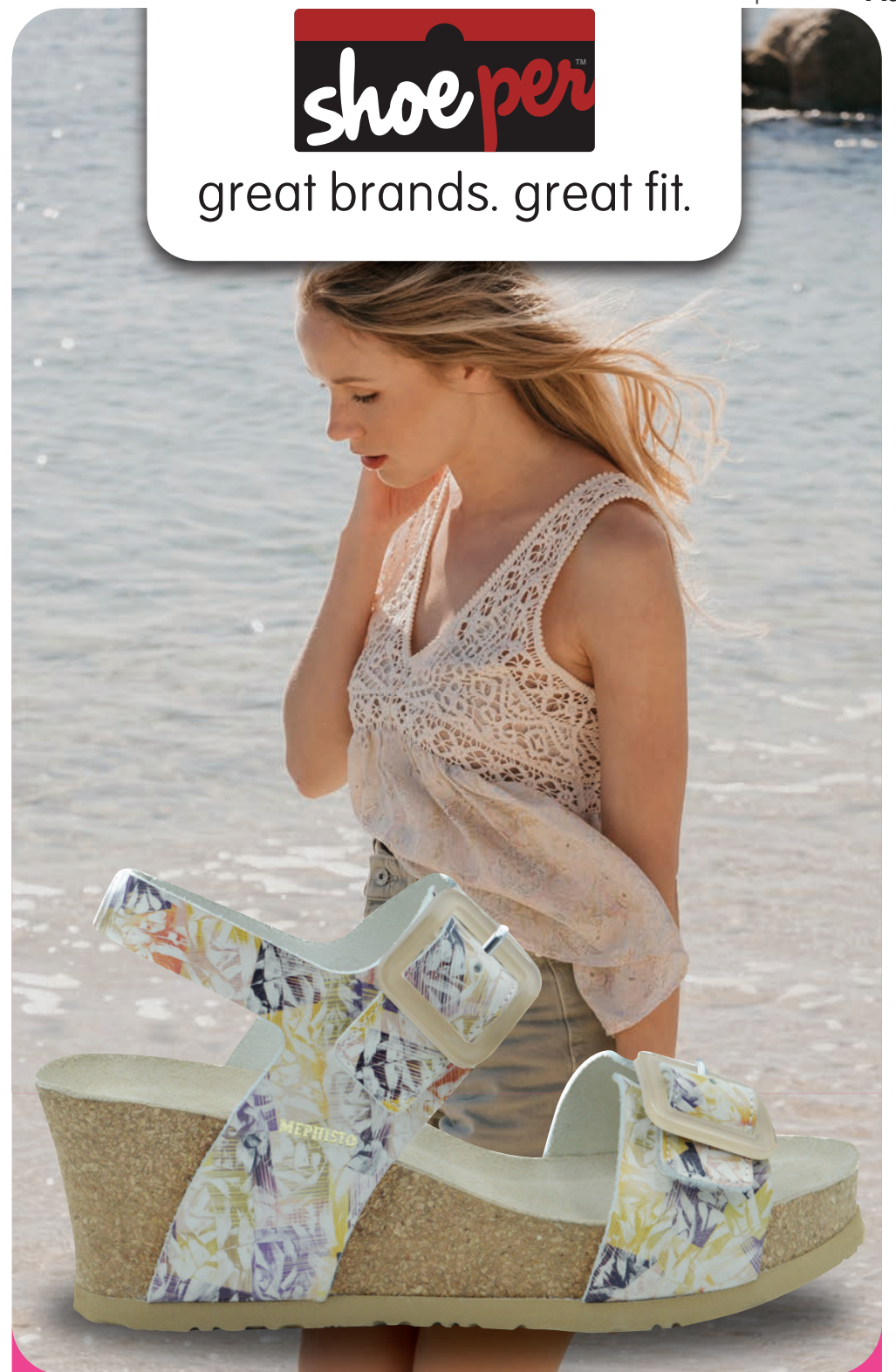
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LOCAL Arts & Entertainment

Local musician discusses role in Theatre Orangeville's latest play

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

Multi-award-winning musician Nicholas Mustapha is the music director for *The Darktown Strutters' Ball*, Theatre Orangeville's brilliant new show, on now until May 12. Given that, he is also the accompanist for the show, forming a band with Matthew Leombruni on Bass and Matteo Romaniello on Drums.

Nicholas is a busy musician too, outside his involvement with Theatre Orangeville and its Young Company Musical program.

In a telephone interview with the Citizen this week, he spoke about his band ToneFusion, who play a blend of jazz and R&B. His grant application for funding to help put out an album was approved this year by FACTOR, an association dedicated to the growth and development of the Canadian music industry. So, you can pay your musicians.

"It's expensive to create good music," he remarked.

Sometimes, he performs at Revival, located underneath Barley Vine Rail Co., with his old friend, Frank Adriano "when we can," he said. "Frank is super busy."

Our talk turned to Theatre Orangeville's latest production, *Darktown*. "The show is an amazing process," was his comment. "Working with adult actors, professionals. I got to bring Matteo and Matthew to do something we do for fun and it is still fun. We play whatever the show needs. They're loving it, being on stage."

An explanation: "A theatre musician is different. You have to deliver every single night. It comes a point where it's two shows a day and they weren't used to how taxing it is."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

LOCAL TALENT: Nicholas Mustapha, who performs at festivals and other venues, is the music director for Theatre Orangeville's latest play, *The Darktown Strutters' Ball*, on now until May 12.

It was accompanying [Young Company's] production of *Les Miserables* that taught him what to expect.

He added, "I love working with Theatre Orangeville. We're treated like family."

The Darktown Strutters' Ball is mainly jazz, so there is some room for change within the show, understanding with live music, it's never the same every show.

Summer brings festivals and Nicholas is performing in festivals in Niagara, Toronto and Peterborough.

ToneFusion has been selected to play at the music festival, *Toronto North by North East (NXNE)*, in mid-June as one of the top

bands in Brampton.

Last summer, Nicholas won the Jazz Youth Competition in Niagara.

"We opened for Laila Biali, Juno nominated musician. This was wonderful for me to play my more jazz style. ToneFusion is more R&B."

They are playing for Celebrate Your Awesome and with the Orangeville Jazz Society at the Blues & Jazz Festival.

Still with Young Company, as musical director of *Mean Girls* this summer, Nicholas noted 24 young people auditioned this year.

"That was awesome," he said.

Nicholas will be working soon with Debbie Collins and David Nairn on Theatre Orangeville's upcoming panto, *Sleeping Beauty ...a Fairy's Tale*.

Arranging some of the music for *Darktown* has been very interesting, as he outlined, "You don't really get told how to do it...when you're basically writing, there's no bound to what you can do but when it's the right time to do it. Having it in your brain, I had no idea how the 'mash up' was going to sound or if it was going to sound as good as I thought. Once it comes to fruition, then you know the dancing and singing, how to make it work."

It has been "phenomenal" working with Leslie McCurdy and Cassel Miles, with such age differences between himself and them. Yet, he suggests different ways to sing a well-known song.

Remember *Darktown Strutters' Ball* is about more than just entertainment.




"The message is profound enough to be told over and over," he attested. "Watching the kids for the school performances, they responded; they definitely held the message. It was really good we could be heard and this part of Canadian history still can be told."

He admitted he understands there are protests for good reasons, "but I never felt that was my way to do it. Doing this show has given me this spark of activism."

"This show - I can see how it affects change."

Finally, Nicholas' big goal this year is to tour, he really "has a hunger to do that," he said.

For tickets to *The Darktown Strutters' Ball*, go to theatreorangeville.ca or call the Box Office at 519-942-3423.

 <p>MacMaster 9779 BUICK GMC Nick Sinniah Sales Consultant</p>	 <p>Orangeville Chrysler Jeep RAM Alex Messina Sales Consultant</p>	 <p>Orangeville Volkswagen Norm Centofanti Sales Consultant</p>
<p>Dream Car - 2023 Corvette Z06 Fav Roadtrip Song - In My Feelings - Drake First Vehicle - 2014 Subaru BRZ When I'm not at work you can find me - On the farm</p>	<p>Dream Car - Ferrari Laferrari Fav Roadtrip Song - Freebird - Lynyrd Skynyrd First Vehicle - Toyota Corolla When I'm not at work you can find me - Outdoors</p>	<p>Dream Car - 2023 Ram TRX Fav Roadtrip Song - Sweet Home Alabama First Vehicle - '68 Barracuda Formula S When I'm not at work you can find me - On the trails hiking or cycling</p>

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The Citizen CROSSWORD Puzzle No. 245210 • Solution on page: CLASSIFIEDS SECTION

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11			12		13			14	
15				16				17	
	18			19		20			21
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48				49			50	51	52
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59							60		
62							61		
							62		

CLUES ACROSS

- It wakes you up
- A place to sleep
- Czech village
- Appetizer
- African country
- Dark brown or black
- Parent-teacher groups
- Saturates
- ESPN personality
- Kimes
- Songs to a lover
- Cavalry-sword
- Begat
- Patriotic women
- Famed Princess
- One who does not conform
- Neither
- Nigerian monetary unit
- Body parts
- Hit Dave Matthews Band song
- Depicts with pencil
- Make into leather without tannin
- Plants grow from them
- Alias
- Fingers do it
- More dried-up
- Clod
- Senior officer
- A way to listen to music
- The bill in a restaurant
- Historic center of Artois region
- Cyprinid fishes
- Poisonous perennial plant
- Scottish Loch
- Heads
- Extra seed-covering
- Wings
- Britpop band
- Forearm bones
- Small immature herring
- Female sibling
- Hymn

CLUES DOWN

- Vipers
- Not on time
- Resembling a wing or wings
- Tears down
- Professional designation
- Noise a sheep made
- Type of lodge
- Speak poorly of
- Ties the knot again
- Apron
- Studied intensively
- City in Finland
- One who monitors
- 18-year astronomical period
- Trent Reznor's band
- Takes to the sea
- Split pulses
- Valentine's Day color
- Wyatt
- Type of rail
- One from the Big Apple
- Asteroids
- Made more sugary
- Change in skin pigment
- Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- Koran chapters
- A place to relax
- Young woman ready for society life
- Female horses
- Half of Milli Vanilli
- Icelandic poems
- Indiana town
- Golden peas
- Closes tightly
- It's mined in mountains
- Cliff (Hawaii)
- Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- Monetary unit
- Primordial matter
- TV station
- Rise

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

kids' corner

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Tear
SPANISH: Lágrima
ITALIAN: Lacrima
FRENCH: Larme
GERMAN: Träne

Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the words to reveal the sentence.

EEY [] [] []
5 4 2

SOIINV [] [] [] [] []
8 6

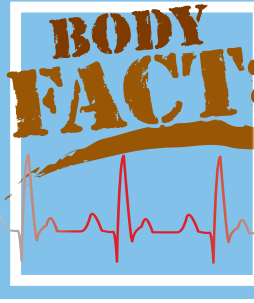
EAXM [] [] [] []
3

NAOTCTCS [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
1 9 7

[] H [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 3 2 8 9

Answers: Eye, Vision, Exam, Exam, Contacts. The eyes see it.

BODY FACT:



THIS CURVED PART OF THE EYE BENDS LIGHT AND FOCUSES IT ON THE RETINA TO HELP A PERSON SEE CLEARLY.

ANSWER: LENS

Did You Know?

20/20 VISION REFERS TO AN ABILITY TO SEE OBJECTS CLEARLY AT A DISTANCE MEASURED AT 20 FEET.

New Word

HYPEROPIA

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Dufferin OPP launch Collision Reporting Centre

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has launched a Collision Reporting Centre (CRC) in Dufferin County.

Motorists involved in a property damage collision in Dufferin County are now able to report their collision at the Dufferin CRC which is located at the Dufferin OPP Detachment at 506312 Highway 89, Mono.

In many instances, there is no need for police to respond to property damage collisions in which no injuries are sustained. Drivers involved in a property damage collision, can now conveniently report their collision within 48 hours of the occurrence.

The Highway Traffic Act requires that all collisions where people are injured or property damage is valued at more than \$2,000 to vehi-

cles or property, or damage to any highway property to be reported to police forthwith. Reporting to the CRC will meet this requirement. In many instances, there is no need for police to attend the scene of collisions in which no significant damage or injuries are sustained.

"The CRC expansion is an excellent example of Dufferin OPP's commitment to road safety and enhancing its policing services to road users and communities. Property damage collisions consume a large amount of police resources and time as well as put all involved occupants at risk of being involved in a secondary collision," said the Dufferin OPP in a press release.

Dufferin OPP attended 1,282 collisions between May 1, 2023, and May 1, 2024. If officers do not need to attend and investigate minor collisions, this makes them available to

tend to other policing services.

The CRC will provide a more effective use of police resources and allow frontline officers to focus more time on proactive efforts to enhance public safety. The Dufferin OPP will continue to provide the same excellent service in responding to collisions that require an officer to attend.

Collisions involving the following will continue to have an officer investigate the collision at the scene:

- Death or Injury
- Transportation of dangerous goods
- Involving large commercial motor vehicles
- Fail to remain (unless no driver or vehicle information available for follow up)
- Collision where there is suspicion of criminal activity including impaired driving
- Suspended or unlicensed drivers
- Uninsured vehicles

• Drivers refusing to share required information to other drivers

• Vehicles blocking live lanes of traffic

• Damage to private, public or government property

• Government vehicles, or

• Collisions involving a pedestrian or cyclist
The Collision Reporting Centre at Dufferin OPP Detachment - Mono Site is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Saturdays and Sundays it is closed.

"If you're not sure if the collision meets the criteria, call the OPP at 1-888-310-1122. The call taker will determine if it meets the CRC criteria and determine if an officer needs to be dispatched to the scene," said the Dufferin OPP in a press release.

For information on the OPP's CRCs, including locations and how to use them, visit www.opp.ca/collisions.

OPP provides shelter in place instructions during Emergency Preparedness Week

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) issues multiple public safety (policing) emergency alerts each year on behalf of police services across the province. During Emergency Preparedness Week, taking place May 5 to 11, the OPP is reminding the public of the steps they can take to secure their safety if they are faced with a significant threat to their safety.

The most common direction the public will receive during an emergency alert is to shelter in place. If you receive instructions to shelter in place, you should:

- Immediately move to a safe place where you can remain until further notice. The ideal location has few or no windows.

- If outside or driving, seek shelter in the nearest building, preferably in an interior

room with few windows.

- Bring pets inside.
- Lock doors, even in businesses.
- Shut and lock all exterior doors and windows.
- Avoid overcrowding by using several rooms if necessary.
- Do not approach or engage the suspect if observed.
- If you see the suspect, dial 9-1-1. (Do not call 9-1-1 for information or updates.)
- Wait for and follow further instructions from local authorities.
- Look after each other. You will be notified when it is safe to leave."

"If you receive a public safety (policing) emergency alert, stop and read the alert. For your own safety, immediately follow any

instructions provided. Emergency alerts are character limited and as a result, additional information will be available in the link contained within the alert," said Central Region OPP in a press release.

The OPP has delegated authority from the Solicitor General to issue two types of broadcast intrusive alerts: AMBER Alerts and public safety (policing) emergency alerts.

The OPP issues broadcast intrusive alerts via Alert Ready, Canada's emergency alerting system, on behalf of all police services in Ontario. Public safety (policing) emergency alerts are only issued when there is an ongoing, urgent and significant threat to life that is neither isolated nor contained. The purpose of a public safety (policing) emergency

alert is to provide critical and potentially life-saving information to the public.

While public safety emergency alerts and AMBER Alerts have some similarities, they also have notable differences:

- Emergency alerts have very different criteria than AMBER Alerts. Each alert type has set criteria that govern when an alert can be issued.
- Emergency alerts are geographically targeted. AMBER Alerts are issued province wide.

- AMBER Alerts are issued in order to garner public engagement to help locate an abducted child that is at risk of serious bodily harm or death. Emergency alerts deliver critical and potentially life-saving information to the public.

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Local author and musician teases upcoming novel following album release

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES

Angela van Breemen is poised to publish a new novel, *Past Life's Revenge*, following her recently released album, *In the Breeze*.

She is an Orangeville native, having lived here her entire life. Van Breeman frequents the downtown area, enjoying the many unique experiences that define the town.

"I go to Orangeville all the time, because it's a beautiful, beautiful place," she said. "I really enjoy visiting the town and experiencing the rich cultural events, like Theatre Orangeville."

Van Breemen's novel, *Past Life's Revenge*, is a unique hybrid of crime thriller and spiritual ideas. She credits this to her unique upbringing, which has influenced her writing.

"I grew up in an unusual household, which was surrounded by people visiting all the time," she said. "There were mediums and psychics. And so I guess I got steeped in the culture of past lives and reincarnation. And so I've always toyed with the idea about what if someone was murdered in a previous life, and reincarnated soon enough that the killer is still alive."

The story is a compelling murder mystery, with the victim himself looking for his killer.

"The story follows this young man, David Harris," she said. "He's had terrible nightmares and visions his entire life. During a past life regression, he goes to his most recent past life, and he realizes that he was murdered, in fact, and the reason why he is so unsettled is because his soul is restless from having been killed,"

"And from there, he realizes there's a chance that his killer could still be alive, and so the story goes from there about hunting down the killer of his previous life."

While van Breemen did write the book primarily from an entertainment mindset,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CELTIC INSPIRED MUSIC : Orangeville artist Angela van Breemen recently released a Celtic-inspired album and is soon releasing a new crime-thriller book with a spiritual component.

she said that the story carries a message of closure for those who may seek it.

"I feel really sorry when I hear on the news about cold cases that never get solved," she said. "And so one of the messages is that perhaps we should be looking at unconventional methods sometimes to try and solve a case because who knows?"

Van Breemen has already begun plans to continue the story into a greater tale of helping other lost souls find peace, making this book the first of a new series.

This book will follow the release of her first-ever album.

In the Breeze, released on April 16, features a Celtic-inspired theme. She credits her inspiration in music to her life's experiences and time spent outdoors, where

ideas are plentiful.

"I live in the country, so a lot of the inspiration comes to me when I'm walking in the woods," she said. "And so what I do is I keep my phone with me, and I record. If I have snippets of words that come to mind, I find it easier to quickly record it than try to type it in. I just let it flow."

Her three original pieces featured on her album are in fact earlier poems that were adapted into musical pieces, each one based on a specific moment or feeling.

"One of the poems came to me while I was working in the garden," she said. "It was close to Mother's Day, and I was thinking about my mom who had passed away a number of years ago. So I wrote the poem, and a friend of mine who is a musician said

it was a beautiful poem, and asked to write it as a song,"

"The song is called *I Will Be In The Breeze*, and there is minimal music accompaniment, it's contemporary, it's beautiful."

Despite the time and effort required to produce poetry, music and novels, van Breemen continues to give back to the community.

She has, throughout her career, performed at charity concerts for a wildlife conservation group, Procyon Wildlife. She is a strong supporter of wildlife and helps run the administration side of the group. Her artistic side overlaps greatly with her conservation work

"Procyon Wildlife is a rehabilitation and education center, which is located in Beeton, Ont., and we service a very large area, which includes Orangeville," she said. "We focus on rescuing wildlife that have been displaced from their natural habitats by human development,"

"It's very important to give these creatures a second chance. And right now we're particularly busy, because it's baby season. Sometimes wildlife removal companies, by mistake, will remove the parents and then the babies are left behind."

She said that it is more important than ever to help wildlife, as humans push development farther into animal habitats. She encourages everyone that can, to volunteer, as the strains of maintaining wildlife services remain costly.

In *Past Life's Revenge*, van Breemen not only crafts an intriguing tale of mystery but also subtly advocates for the importance of seeking closure, whether in fiction or reality.

As she delves into the depths of the human mind, van Breemen's dedication to wildlife conservation parallels her narrative's themes of second chances and the pursuit of peace.

Orangeville Girl Guides hosting spaghetti dinner in support of Montreal trip

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The 1st Upper Grand Rangers Girl Guide Troupe, based out of Orangeville, is heading to Montreal for a fun-filled excursion as a group. They will see interesting sites during the trip and visit with a local Girl Guide group in the area.

To help defray the cost of the trip, the Guides are hosting a spaghetti dinner night at the Senior Centre in Orangeville.

Several girls from other Girl Guide groups, including Pathfinders, which are younger

members of the Guides, will join the Rangers on this trip.

"This is the first time we've ever done this," explained Sharon Neal, Girl Guide contact guide. "We have a full schedule for the trip. We're going to Old Montreal and a day trip to Mount Royal. We going to be taking a speed boat down the river so they'll all have to wear their life jackets – they're all excited about that."

When they meet up with the Montreal Guides group they will meet some new people. Several of the local Guides speak French and

they are excited to have a chance to practice their language skills.

The upcoming fundraiser will be an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner. There is a vegetarian sauce available. The meal comes with garlic bread, Caesar salad, dessert, and a drink.

There will be two seatings – one at 5:00 p.m. and one at 7:30 p.m.

The cost is \$25 for adults and \$15 for seniors or children.

There will also be two celebrity guests at the spaghetti dinner. Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin-Caledon, will attend the 5 p.m. dinner and

Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post will attend the 7:30 p.m. dinner.

The dinner will be held at the Senior Centre on Bythia Street in Orangeville on Saturday, May 11.

Tickets are still available.

You can order tickets by messaging via e-mail to Sharon and Sara Neal at love2camp789@gmail.com.

There will also be a silent auction.

The Guides are receiving help for the event from one of their sponsors, Dave's Butcher Shop.



Notice of Planning, Environment & Natural Heritage Committee Public Meeting: Backyard Hens

MEETING DATE & TIME: THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024 AT 7:00 PM

Town of Mono PENHC will hold an In-Person meeting to review a Planning Report on Backyard Hen. Any person or agency may participate in the meeting and/or make written submission either in support of, or in opposition to, the proposed Application. Written comments must be submitted to the Town in conjunction with the Public Meeting.

TAKE NOTICE: "Backyard Hens Information summary" will be heard by Planning (PENHC) Committee on:

Thursday, May 16th, 2024 at 7:00 pm

The meeting agenda will be available online at:

mono.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingInformation.aspx?type=13



Subject: Report for Discussion: "Review of Backyard Hens – Information Summary"

Purpose: To provide PENHC with an overview of this subject including potential for the Town to permit the keeping of hens on residential properties outside of the "Rural (A) Zone". In addition, this report will provide a summary of relevant Town of Mono Zoning Bylaw provisions which regulate permissions for the keeping of hens in Mono.

Notes:

1. PENHC makes only recommendations to Council, it does not render decisions on applications.
2. Any person or agency may participate in the meeting and/or make a written submission either in support of, or in opposition to, the proposed Applications. Written comments must be submitted to the Town Clerk prior to the Public Meeting on May 16th, 2024 at 7:00 pm.
3. Comments and opinions submitted on this matter, including the author's name, address and/or email address, become part of the public record and may be viewed by the public and/or published in Municipal reports, documents and/or agendas.
4. If you wish to be notified of any Town Council decision(s) regarding the proposed Applications, you must make a written request to the Town Clerk.
5. If a person or public body would otherwise have an ability to appeal the decision of Council to the Ontario Lands Tribunal (OLT) but the person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting or make written submissions to the Town before the by-law is passed, the person or public body is not entitled to appeal the decision.
6. This Notice provides interested citizens and stakeholders with an opportunity to attend this In-Person Meeting concerning of keeping backyard hens.

For more information, please contact the Town of Mono Planning Department: 519-941-3599 ext. 224 planning@townofmono.com

Headwaters shares vision for future with Orangeville council

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Headwaters Health Care Centre wants you to be part of health care in the community.

Kim Delahunt, the hospital's president and CEO, provided a rundown of priorities and recent successes to Orangeville council when it met on April 29.

The hospital recently launched its new five-year strategic plan. But Delahunt said the vision of one community caring together hasn't changed.

"Really proud of the engagement that we completed," she said. "There were almost 3,000 individual voices and inputs that informed this plan."

One of the proudest achievements of the health care facility is it's having been accredited with exemplary standing. Accreditation is a week-long process that includes inspections of all wards and floors at the hospital.

The status is good for three to five years, she said.

"It is the highest achievement which can assure members of the public and all of our constituents that our hospital has the highest standards in place," Delahunt said.

Headwaters launched its Clinical Priority Plan in 2023. It's an action plan that outlines a number of focus areas for the following five years. It basically lays the foundation for strategic directions into the future.

About that future, Delahunt said Headwa-

ters will continue its People Strategy Plan to recruit, retain, and develop hospital staff. There will be a continued focus on improving surgical wait times and being a data-informed organization.

Headwaters will continue its attention on its financial position and its physician recruitment task force.

"There is lots on the horizon for the hospital and our team," she said.

The new on-site MRI equipment is expected to be operational early next year.

The Master Plan and Program look at the footprint needed for the hospital to be able to accommodate future population growth and meet its health care demands.

That will support the administration's future submissions to the provincial government for funding for capital projects.

"It will support our hospital's expansion and growth in the future, ensuring that we have the right space and services, ready to serve anyone that walks through our doors at the hospital," Delahunt said.

Councillor Joe Andrews said it is wonderful to see the hospital has a new geriatric physician. The town's demographics are aging and it's good to see the hospital responding to that.

He asked about parking at the facility and plans for improvements.

Delahunt said the existing parking lots will be resurfaced and the staff overflow lot on the grass will be developed.

"That is underway as we speak," she said.

Hospital launches new MRI fundraising campaign

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

A new fundraising campaign is underway in support of local health care.

Dufferin residents may find representatives from the Headwaters Health Care Foundation (HHCF) in their neighbourhood this spring asking for financial support.

The HHCF team is canvassing door-to-door from May 6 to June 30, seeking monthly donations and raising awareness about the ongoing Smart Headwaters campaign. The campaign seeks to purchase the first-ever MRI machine at Headwaters Health Care Centre.

HHCF is partnering with Globalfaces Direct Inc. to execute the door-to-door fundraising campaign in the community.

When knocking on doors, the Globalfaces Direct canvassers will have a lanyard

with a photo I.D. badge that will be clearly visible. They will also be wearing teal vests with the Headwaters Health Care Foundation logo.

Canvassers will be in neighbourhoods Monday through Saturday, excluding major holidays, asking potential donors to consider contributing to the hospital. Those looking to give are reminded that canvassers will not accept cash at the door.

"Because hospital equipment is funded by donations, your continued support helps the hospital ensure it is prepared for any circumstance," said K.C. Carruthers, CEO of the Headwaters Health Care Foundation. "The monthly giving program provides a simple and convenient way for residents of our community to support the exceptional care provided at Headwaters Health Care Centre."

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BOOK ONLINE



Question: I am a shareholder in a private company and I believe that the decisions being made by others are hurting the company. What can I do?

Answer: If you are only a shareholder, your options, other than court proceedings, are limited by your rights under the shareholder agreement (if there is one). If you are also a director or officer of the company, then you typically have additional rights under the corporation's bylaws as well as under relevant legislation. When you form a new corporation with business partners or buy shares in an existing corporation, you should have a shareholder agreement (and hopefully you had it reviewed by a lawyer before signing it and/or purchasing shares). Generally, a shareholder has the ability to vote at shareholders' meetings, elect directors, and receive residual equity upon the sale or dissolution of the company, however, it is dependent on the types of shares you own. A shareholder is also entitled to review corporate records and financials. The directors of the company are responsible for the management of the company. If they manage the company in a manner that is not in the best interests of the company and its shareholders, then it may make sense to ask the courts for help. Whether it affects you individually as a shareholder, or the corporation itself, will determine how you proceed.



J. David Keith Lawyer

Email: dkeith@lhlaw.ca
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Continued from FRONT

Mono opens new tennis courts at Lynn Gibson Park

“This funding will provide a great outdoor space for our community to enjoy for years to come,” Jones said.

Mayor Creelman thanked recreation director Kim Heaton who couldn't attend the opening, for all the hard work that went into bringing the new tennis courts to fruition. He said the tennis courts will provide another avenue toward active living for Mono residents and those from surrounding communities.

“The town recognizes the important role parks and green spaces play in contributing

to the physical and mental well-being of residents,” Creelman said.

Surma echoed the importance of mental health being included in the work toward physical well-being.

“Investing in outdoor recreational and community infrastructure allows people to participate in fun and engaging outdoor activities that will improve their well-being and strengthen their communities,” Surma said.

“These brand-new tennis courts will bring more amenities to Lynn Gibson Park, giving

the residents of Mono and neighbouring communities more convenient and accessible opportunities to lead active and healthy lives.”

Jones said the redeveloped park will be a well-used and valued facility.

Federal Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Minister Sean Fraser agreed that infrastructure plays a fundamental role in helping people stay healthy and active while also enjoying their hobbies.

“The Lynn Gibson Park is incredibly important in Mono as it gives people a place to

come together,” Fraser said. “The new tennis courts will add to it and provide a new way to play and have some friendly competition with family and friends.”

Creelman said he's certain the park will see a lot of activity in the months to come.

Dunmore acknowledged how crucial support from the provincial and federal levels of government is for such municipal developments.

“You put Mono at the top of the list all the times, and we love it,” Dunmore said.

Ontario SPCA urges pet owners to include them in emergency plans

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Emergency Preparedness Week runs from May 5-11 and safety tips are being shared by the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society as well as the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC).

The two groups are asking pet owners to prepare for unexpected catastrophes by having an emergency preparedness plan in place that includes their pets.

Those who promise to prepare by visiting ontariospca.ca/ep will be entered in a draw to win a pet first aid kit, and they will receive a free digital Emergency Preparedness

Workbook outlining everything they need to include when assembling your pet's survival kit.

The Ontario SPCA is also giving away free emergency decals this week for anyone who has pets at home to let first responders know there are pets inside.

In the event of an emergency like a fire, it can help the chances of firefighters being able to rescue pets. Drop by the Ontario SPCA Orangeville & District Animal Centre this week to get yours.

“We're asking everyone who has a furry family member to promise to prepare,” says Jennifer Bluhm, Vice President of Commu-

nity Outreach Services for the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society. “By having an emergency plan and the necessary emergency supplies to shelter in place, you will be in a better position to help the ones you love, including your pets.”

Deputy Chief Rob Grimwood, O AFC President, said, “The Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC) is very pleased to join forces with the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society in observing, and raising awareness around Emergency Preparedness Week this May.”

He added, “As a non-profit organization committed to fire and life safety and the well-being of our community, we understand

the critical need for readiness in the face of potential emergencies and disasters, including those that may impact our furry friends. By working together with the Ontario SPCA, we aim to increase awareness and advocate for preparedness strategies that protect both human and animal lives during emergencies. This partnership is a testament to our shared dedication to safeguarding lives, including those of our beloved pets, and highlights our proactive approach to ensuring, and safeguarding, our community's well-being.”

For emergency preparedness resources, and to promise to prepare, visit ontariospca.ca/ep

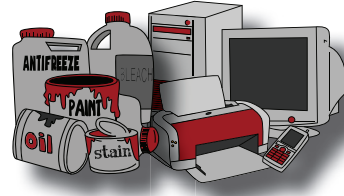
Community celebrates Opening Day at Orangeville Farmers' Market



PETER RICHARDSON PHOTOS

hazardous & electronic waste event COMING SOON!

Date: Saturday, May 25, 2024
Time: 8am-3pm
Location: Orangeville Agricultural Society Event Centre
 247090 Side Road 5, Mono



- Hazardous waste** includes automotive containers, cleaning products, fluorescent lights, batteries, paints, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, syringes, and much more.
- Electronic waste** includes audio equipment, cameras, computers, home entertainment equipment, phones, and household electronic items, including lamps, alarm clocks, microwaves, toasters, and small appliances.
- Limitations** No waste from industrial, commercial, or institutional sources. No white goods/large appliances (including any appliances with freon). No garbage, or recycling. No unidentified/unknown materials. No drums of materials.

Visit dufferincounty.ca/waste for updates and a full listing of acceptable materials & limitations.
 Future events: June 15, July 24, September 21, October 5, November 9.

See website for details on hours & locations for each scheduled event.

For Residents of Dufferin County, including Amaranth, East Garafraxa, Grand Valley, Melancthon, Mono, Mulmur, Orangeville and Shelburne.

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The 2024 dufferinwaste guide is here!



If you didn't receive a guide in the mail, contact Dufferin Waste for a copy!

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compost give away

May 11, 2024
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Orangeville Farmers' Market
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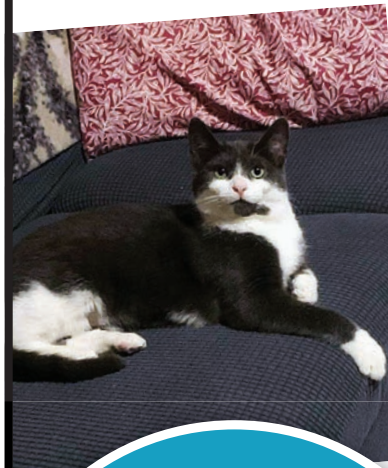
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BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

BARRELING THROUGH: The Orangeville District Secondary School (ODSS) Scarlett Bears girl's rugby team takes on Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute on the field at ODSS on Monday, May 6. The Bears took a 29-7 loss in this game and are still looking for their first win of the season.

Junior C Northmen leading conference after the weekend

Written By **BRIAN LOCKHART**

The Orangeville Junior C Northmen have moved into first place in the Western Conference of the Ontario Junior C Lacrosse League after splitting the weekend with a win and a loss.

On Friday, May 4, the Northmen hosted the Brantford Warriors at Tony Rose Arena.

The Northmen stormed into the first period scoring four goals while shutting out the Warriors for the frame. Orangeville goals came from Logan Marshall, who opened the scoring at 3:09 into the first period, Jack Fitzpatrick, and two from Luke Downard.

Brantford started scoring in the sec-

ond period and the Northmen kept pace, responding to every goal.

The Warriors managed to score four second-period goals.

The Northmen kept ahead in the game scoring five of their own to lead the game 9-4 going into the final period.

Second-period Northmen goals came from Keaton Walsh, Josh Presley, Nick Haladuick, Logan Marshall, and Aidan Toogood.

Orangeville scored two third-period goals with Downard getting his second of the game midway in the frame, and Presley getting his second of the night.

Brantford managed two late-game goals but that's all they could do for the night, and

the Northmen left the arena with an 11-6 win.

The Northmen were back at it the following day, Sunday, May 5, when they were on the road to take on the Wilmot Wild.

This time the first period did not go as well. The Northmen managed only a single first-period goal and gave up five goals to Wilmot to put them at a disadvantage early in the game.

Josh Presley got the Orangeville goal in the first period.

The Northmen were again outgunned in the second period when they were outscored 3-2 for the frame, giving the Wild an 8-3 lead heading into the final period.

Logan Brake and Jack Fitzpatrick got the Northmen second-period goals.

Orangeville had a good third period, shutting down the Wilmot attack and keeping them to zero goals while scoring two of their own.

However, that first period cost them, and

the Northmen had to settle for an 8-5 loss in their fourth game of the season.

Logan Marshall and Josh Presley scored the two third-period Northmen goals.

After the weekend, the Junior C Northmen have moved into first place in the Western Conference of the Ontario Junior C Lacrosse League with a 3-1 record.

Brantford is in second place, followed by Barrie, Wilmot, Fergus, Six Nations, and Halton Hills.

In the Eastern Conference, the Peterborough Lakers have moved into first place.

They are followed by the Huntsville Hawks and the Cornwall Celtics.

The Northmen hosted the Barrie Bombers on Tuesday, May 7, with results not available at press time.

The Northmen will return to Tony Rose Arena on Friday, May 10, to meet the Six Nations Stealth.

Game time is 8:00 p.m.

PJHL starting Schmalz Cup championship series

Written By **BRIAN LOCKHART**

Junior C hockey in Ontario is now moving into the provincial Schmalz Cup championship series as two teams will now battle it out for the 2024 Junior C title.

The Clarington Eagles and the Lakeshore Canadiens are the final two teams remaining in the League after a season that got underway way back on September 13, 2023.

Four teams were battling it out in the PJHL semi-finals.

The Clarington Eagles, representing the East Orr Division, eliminated the Hanover Barons, representing the North Pollock Division, in a series that went six games and wrapped up with a 4-2 Clarington win on Sunday, May 5.

Hanover had an early 2-1 lead in the series. The Eagles turned it around with a win in game four, then capped the series with wins in Games five and six to take the series.

In the other series, The Lakeshore Canadiens, representing the West Stobbs Division,

knocked out the New Hamburg Firebirds of the South Doherty Division.

The series went six games. Lakeshore won the first two games before giving up a loss in Game 3.

The Canadiens won game four with a 4-0 shutout, but the Firebirds kept the series alive with a 4-2 win in Game 5.

Lakeshore ended the series with a 5-2 win in Game 6, on Saturday, May 4.

The championship series schedule has not yet been announced as of press time.

This year the Schmalz Cup will once again be using a best-of-seven series format to determine this year's provincial championship team.

The Cup was decided in a tournament format for the previous two years, as a result of the pandemic, but will now go back to the pre-pandemic format.

With the tournament format, teams had been playing in neutral territory and saw dwindling attendance due to travel time for fans.

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Trillium Grant helps Shelburne Curling Club fund needed repairs

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Shelburne Curling Club will benefit from a \$23,200 Capital Grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation that will be used to complete damp proofing and drainage to the exterior of the Club building.

The project will ensure the Club can continue to provide reliable and quality curling programs for the community.

"The Ontario government has provided this investment through the Ontario Trillium Foundation to repair and improve the foundation of the Shelburne Curling Club," said Sylvia Jones, MPP for Dufferin-Caledon. "This funding will improve and preserve the building while providing high quality curling programs for years to come."

MPP Jones visited the Club and met with the Board of Directors and the Grant Committee on Friday, April 26.

The grant funds will be used for a project to ensure the Club won't experience any more flooding on the ice surface and loss of programming times due to no ice availability.

"This grant will allow us to repair an on-going problem at our Club to ensure we can

continue to have quality ice for our various curling programs with no interruptions," said Ross Fins, Project Chair for the Shelburne Curling Club. "This funding helps ensure the long-term viability of the Shelburne Curling Club."

The Shelburne Curling Club has historically provided essential recreational and social opportunities to all members of the public, through a multitude of curling programs and winter recreational opportunities. The Curling Club strongly promotes social interaction through its curling programs, bonspiels, fundraisers and facility rentals.

"Non-profit organizations across Ontario deliver programming that makes a difference," said Neil Lumsden, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Sport for Ontario. "That's why funding that my ministry is providing through the OTF is so important. Our government wants to ensure that these programs and spaces remain at the heart of communities across our province."

Last year, The Ontario Trillium Foundation invested more than \$110 million into 1,044 community projects and multi-sector partnerships.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BOOST IN FUNDING: The Shelburne Curling Club received an Ontario Trillium Foundation Grant to help with needed repairs to the Club's facility. Caledon-Dufferin MPP Sylvia Jones visited the club on Friday, April 26, to meet with the Board of Directors and the Grant Committee.

Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives celebrating Museum Month with new exhibits

Written By ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

May is Museum Month and the Region of Peel's Museum has a number of exhibitions and events planned to mark the occasion.

The Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) recently launched a new exhibition: Kimutsik, which means "dog

team". The exhibition is being hosted in partnership with the CONTACT Photography Festival and it's by Glenn Gear.

Gear's artwork portrays untethered dogs running freely and returning as spirits, set against a kaleidoscopic backdrop of beadwork crafted and photographed by the artist, according to a Region of Peel media release.

It adds the artwork is based on a time in the mid-twentieth century when the Canadian government enforced laws that caused the demise of Inuit-owned dogs as a way to push Inuit into settlements.

Beginning May 25, the "Oh My Dog!" exhibit will be opening at PAMA. According to the release, this exhibit will showcase a variety of historical and contemporary art-

work, from artists of diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds who have focused on the dog as a symbol. PAMA adds the exhibit will consider a variety of perspectives on dogs' relationships with humans.

From 7 to 9 p.m. on May 24, there will be an opening exhibition for "Oh My Dog!" at PAMA. There, guest curator Chris Finn will preview the exhibition, and there will be light refreshments served. The event is free, though those wanting to attend must reserve a spot by emailing pamaevents@peelregion.ca by May 20.

From 7 to 8:30 p.m. on May 9, the Brampton Folk Club will be hosting a music night at PAMA.

Led by Leah Holtom, Jamie Reilly and Sally Campbell, the night is called "Finding the Creative Spark" and will feature songs and stories about the creative process.

From 1 to 3 p.m. on May 12, PAMA will host a Mother's Day Tea with sweets, finger sandwiches and, of course, tea. The event will be paired with an art workshop and is for anyone aged 10 and up. This event costs \$50, or \$45 for PAMA members.

For more information about these and all PAMA events, those interested can visit pama.peelregion.ca.

PAMA is located at 9 Wellington St. East in Brampton.

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Premier Doug Ford announces construction of Highway 413 to begin in 2025

Written By ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Highway 413 is going to be built, according to Premier Doug Ford.

Ford made the announcement at an April 30 press conference in Caledon.

"I'm thrilled to announce that construction on this highway will begin in 2025," said Ford. "We're already starting field work and land acquisition that will help make sure we get shovels in the ground on time."

The Premier said in mid-May, the Province will host a market sounding event with "key private sector experts" to discuss ways to move construction of the highway forward quickly and efficiently.

Ford was joined at the press conference by David Piccini, Minister of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development, and Vijay Thanigasalam, Associate Minister of Transportation. Also at the announcement were Brampton Mayor Patrick Brown, Region of Peel Chair Nando Iannicca, and representatives from numerous labour groups and industry associations.

"We're getting shovels in the ground for new roads and highways... Highway 413 is going to be a game changer for the region,"



FILE PHOTO

SHOVELS IN GROUND: Premier Doug Ford was in Caledon on April 30 to announce that his government plans to start construction of Highway 413 in 2025.

said Ford, citing job creation and travel time reduction.

Tim Gray, the Executive Director of Environmental Defence, a non-profit that's been leading advocacy efforts against Highway 413, said the announcement was just "bluster."

"The Premier is hoping that bluster is going to help make people stay at home and not say anything about this, but I think he'll be proven to be wrong..." said Gray.

Gray said Highway 413 will not save drivers any more than 30 seconds. He said allowing trucks to use the 407 would be a much better way to alleviate congestion on the 401.

"This highway is really not about transportation, it's really about enabling sprawl," said Gray. "It's about building a highway to enable big boxes and warehouses and low-density sprawl on land owned by developers connected with the Provincial Government."

The Premier said the Province is going to continue building highways and roads and said "we have more exciting announcements to come."

The Province has started planning for the release of the first early works contracts for the highway, said Ford.

"It's expected during construction, this project will support 3,500 jobs each year and add \$350 million to Ontario's GDP," said Ford. "We look forward to building the 413 and to building Ontario."

In an emailed statement, Caledon Mayor Annette Groves said environmental impact and road safety are key priorities for Caledon residents.

"With the Province moving forward with the 413, Caledon will bring a strong voice to protect the environment and consider

impacts to species at risk to the joint environmental working group announced April 15," said Groves. "We will also bring road safety and traffic flow, especially at planned interchanges in Caledon, to the planning and design tables, so the needs of residents and the business community are balanced."

Phil Pothen, the land use and land development program manager for Environmental Defence, said Ford's April 30 announcement was "wishful thinking."

Pothen said Highway 413 will not be built so long as the federal government denies permits that would see federally-protected species at risk and their habitats destroyed; and, acts quickly to designate Highway 413 for a full impact assessment under the updated Impact Assessment Act.

"It's not difficult to see why Premier Ford chose (April 30) for his press conference. (April 30) proposed updates to the Impact Assessment Act, which were tabled by the federal government as part of its budget implementation law — very clearly restore the power of the federal Minister of Environment, and the federal Cabinet to ensure the impacts of Highway 413 are thoroughly examined — by once again designating 413 for Impact Assessment," said Pothen.

Caledon mayor pauses fast-tracked zoning bylaws after significant public backlash

Written By ZACHARY ROMAN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Many Caledon residents were not happy with a recent decision, made using Strong Mayor powers, to advance zoning bylaws for 12 development applications that would bring 35,000 housing units to Caledon.

Residents made their voices and concerns heard at an April 17 citizens' forum (held by newly-formed volunteer group Democracy Caledon) and April 25 public meeting (held by the Town of Caledon) on the zoning bylaws for the 12 development applications.

The mayoral decision residents took issue with was issued by Groves on March 26.

There were around 150 people at the citizens' forum, and even more at the April 25 public meeting, which had well over 30 delegates.

Caledon's Town Hall was packed past capacity, and the meeting didn't finish until nearly 2 a.m. — lasting around seven hours.

Groves said there were nearly 200 people at the public meeting, while Democracy Caledon volunteer Nicola Ross said there were 350.

"The Council chamber was filled, the atrium was filled, the cafeteria was filled, the basement was filled... then they took

people over to the community center which is where we asked the meeting to be held in the first place because we knew it was going to run over this space here," said Ross in a delegation at Caledon Council's April 30 meeting at Town Hall.

Regional councillor Christina Early also estimated around 350 people were at the public meeting, and called it unprecedented.

As a result of residents' concerns, Groves removed the 12 zoning bylaws from the agenda of Council's April 30 meeting, where they could have been approved if just one-third of Caledon Councillors supported Groves' decision.

At the April 30 meeting, Groves said there were questions and concerns about the zoning bylaws that weren't addressed.

"The message was loud and clear that people in Caledon need and deserve more information, information about the process and why we are considering this action, and the details about each of the 12 parcels of land," said Groves. "We're scheduling three public information sessions for the next month in different areas of the town to provide more transparency and share detailed information with residents and stakeholders."

Groves said she'll address the questions and concerns of residents, and encouraged

residents to keep checking the Town of Caledon's website (caledon.ca) and social media feeds for information about the upcoming public information sessions.

"Thank you, Caledon for helping us realize we must do better," said Groves.

Groves' decision, now on hold, was expected to expedite planning procedures by one to two years for 12 development applications which are generally in the areas of Mayfield West, Tullamore, Alloa, Wildfield and Bolton. Loopstra Nixon, an outside law firm, was used to draft the zoning bylaws for the 12 applications.

During her April 30 delegation, Ross said the minutes from the April 25 public meeting do not accurately represent the comments made by many of the delegates on April 25.

"I could not find reference to the criticism many delegates expressed... from reading the notes, the unassuming reader may understand that the delegates were in favor of the process with only minor technical comments," said Ross, reading a letter from a delegate. "You were there... you know it could not be further from the truth."

Later in the Council meeting, Caledon Council unanimously voted in favour of referring the minutes from the April 25 public meeting back to Caledon's town clerk so

they can be amended to more accurately represent what was said at the public meeting.

Democracy Caledon volunteer Debbe Crandall also delegated at the April 30 Council meeting.

"Zoning is not supposed to precede secondary planning, zoning is not supposed to precede detailed environmental studies, fiscal analysis, transportation planning, allocation of water and wastewater servicing, and community building," said Crandall. "Zoning is supposed to codify all of that work; zoning is a municipal tool to ensure that all the work is done properly and that it reflects what is truly needed to meet the affordable housing crisis with input from all of council and input from the public."

Crandall said Democracy Caledon will be attending the three public information sessions and continuing to ask questions.

"We will continue to ask you, Mayor Groves, why you are using your Strong Mayor powers to pre-zone to allow 35,000 homes that far exceed the 2031 housing pledge," said Crandall.

Caledon's housing pledge to the Province of Ontario says Caledon will have 13,000 new housing units by 2031. Council endorsed this pledge in 2023.

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When in Rome

When in Rome, do as the Roman do. That's an old saying with some common sense. It means when visiting another place, abide by the laws and customs of the land. You shouldn't have to be told this. You should have already figured this out before you arrived. There are some cities and towns in Europe that are now putting out information, and in some cases, putting up signs that say 'tourists not welcome.' These towns, which may be historically important or have a certain charm or nice beaches, and are a destination for tourists, are also home to the people who actually live there. Many tourist towns rely on the influx of visitors to fuel the local economy. These towns, however, are fed up with tourists who flout local convention. This includes bad behaviour by drunks who act in an inappropriate way, cause trouble, throw garbage around, and just the disrupt the town. For some reason, some people think that just because they are on vacation, it's acceptable to get in a bar fight and make

noise at all hours of the night. Some travellers have found themselves in trouble in Asian countries after drawing graffiti on local historic buildings, or behaving in a disrespectful manner in a holy shrine. It's just common sense that carving your initials into the side of an historic building, or posing for selfies while inappropriately dressed in a place considered sacred or holy by locals, won't win you any friends and it won't garner you an invitation to come back and visit any time soon. In some cases, this behaviour has resulted in criminal charges. It's bad enough that tourists can't control themselves while on vacation, but it's worse when foreigners arrive on Canadian soil and cause trouble – violent trouble. Police in Edmonton have arrested three alleged 'hitmen' in relation to a murder in British Columbia. More arrests are expected. All three are Indian nationals and non-residents, and have been here for three to five years. Some arrived on student visas, but never set foot in a school. None have permanent residency.

Yet, here there are, shooting up the streets – in our Country. It is believed the shooting, and a few others, have ties to the Indian government. The victim, was a local prominent Sikh separatist, and apparently not liked by the Indian government. Why was he on Canadian soil and promoting a foreign agenda here? If you want to start political turmoil, do it on your own turf. This incident is tied in to other criminal behaviour both in the West and Ontario. It doesn't take a genius, and these three men that were arrested obviously don't fit into that category, to know that you don't go to another country and cause trouble. The truth is, no one here would care if Indian nationals are shooting each other – in India. However, when you land on Canadian soil, you're expected to obey the laws – and that includes not killing people and shooting up the streets. These criminals have a tendency to murder other criminals, however that doesn't mean an innocent person walking down the street won't be a victim of a stray bullet

once these idiots start pulling the trigger. There are other concerns about criminal activity both out West and in Ontario, where Asian business people are being intimidated and threatened with violence in an effort to extort money. The orders are given from a group in India, and carried out by thugs who live here. How would you like to be home one evening, hear gun fire and have bullets flying through your home, because this group of criminals are trying to convince your neighbour to pay up? The government needs to do a better job of vetting people who arrive on our shores. The three people arrested did not go to school, as claimed during their arrival, and apparently did not have any kind of legitimate job to support themselves. Why were they even here other than to take part in criminal activity? Canada is an open, welcoming, and tolerant society. However, there needs to be a clear message sent – When you come to our house, you play by our rules.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



The elusive cease-fire

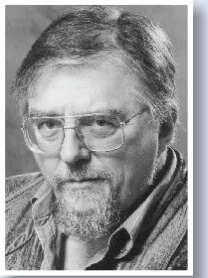
Hamas did not need a cease-fire. It had already demonstrated that Israel could not eradicate it. It had achieved its primary goal of wrecking the anti-Iran alliance that was brewing between Israel and the major Arab Gulf states. And it doesn't care about how many Palestinians get killed; they are all 'martyrs' for the cause. So why would it have agreed to a cease-fire that isn't permanent? Israel's Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu was and is absolutely committed to continuing the war. He declared on Saturday that with or without a cease-fire "We will enter Rafah and eliminate the remaining Hamas battalions." His job and perhaps even his freedom depend on the war continuing, even if there were a temporary cease-fire. But Israel cannot force Hamas to settle for less than a permanent cease-fire either. Hamas doesn't depend on outside support and it can go on fighting from its tunnels for as long as necessary, doing relatively little damage but making any kind of stable peace impossible. There is only one outside power that could impose a cease-fire: the United States. However, so long as Joe Biden clings to his unquestioning loyalty to Israel

regardless of its behaviour – even regardless of his own re-election prospects next November – Netanyahu will remain free to sabotage any and every cease-fire proposal. So there we are: perma-war. Except for the old adage which states that if you can plausibly say "This can't go on forever", then logically it must one day come to an end. Which day depends on one of these three men changing their minds: 'Bibi' Netanyahu, Hamas leader Yahya Sinwar or Joe Biden. Sinwar is presumably still alive in the tunnels under Rafah. He is now Hamas's unchallenged leader: the resounding success of his strategy of slaughtering Israeli civilians in their beds, which suckered Israel into a full-scale invasion of the Gaza Strip, means that he no longer has to defer to the views of the senior Hamas leadership in self-exile in Qatar. His attack has already thwarted the Israeli-Arab alliance foreshadowed in Donald Trump's 'Abraham accords'. What remains is to restore Hamas's position of absolute political dominance in the Gaza Strip, and for that he needs a permanent cease-fire accompanied by a full Israeli withdrawal from that territory.

This has been his unwavering demand in every negotiation for a cease-fire, and it's hard to see why he would ever change it. Then there's 'Bibi' Netanyahu, whose political career should have ended in disgrace seven months ago when he failed to foresee and prevent the devastating October 7 attack on Israel. He is a genuine political wizard who has manipulated popular outrage at the attacks into support for a war of vengeance – again led by him – against the authors of that atrocity. Netanyahu also faces a probable conviction on corruption charges and even possible jail time if he loses office, not to mention an official inquiry into his prewar actions that would destroy what remains of his reputation. This is not a man who will act in the higher interests of the nation; he will cling to power at all costs. To stay in office Bibi must continue the war at least until some sort of 'victory', so he cannot possibly compromise with Hamas's demands. That's why he is currently determined to attack Rafah, the last relatively intact city in Gaza. It's no Stalingrad, but symbolically it serves his purposes well enough. This leaves only Joe Biden to end this war, and he could certainly do it if he chose.

Israel is so dependent on American arms, money and even direct military support (as in the recent downing of almost all the Iranian missiles launched at the country) that it really could not say no. An American intervention imposing a permanent cease-fire would not just bring down Netanyahu. (His coalition would instantly break up.) It would have to include the sidelining of Hamas, the creation of an independent Palestinian state in Gaza and the West Bank, and American security guarantees for everybody in the region. Biden's nostalgia for an older Israel is doubtless a factor in his reluctance to intervene, but any sane American president would be reluctant to make such a huge and risky commitment. It could easily blow up in his face, and there is no gratitude in politics. On the other hand, non-intervention just prolongs the war and accelerates the erosion of Biden's political support at home. When faced with a choice between damned if you do it and damned if you don't, doing it is sometimes the better course.

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



In society's basement

In Patricia's Twitter life – she still calls it Twitter because she thinks calling it X was a twit's idea – a large number of her associates are disabled. Some of them are homeless; many of them are poor in the extreme, forever scrambling to cover the costs of very meagre accommodations and minimally nutritious food, certainly nothing like a luxury; most of them are advocates for the plight of their community, doing interviews with politicians, celebrities and one another. All of them are devastated by the budget's \$200 offered by Bill C22, the Canada Disability Benefit that passed so cheerfully across all parties in parliament when it was still unfunded. It rode under the flag of a promise to "lift them out of poverty." Like a bitter joke it is, to say that \$200 a month will achieve that. Fellow columnist and businessman, Frank Stronach tells us about his Economic Charter of Rights and Responsibilities, in which he offers his "7-point program" to bring down Canada's massive debt over five years and, just as importantly, bring balance to the "wealth gap in our country." Mr. Stronach tells anyone who looks into his site that he came to Canada in the '50s and started a tool and die company. After an early success, he began to share profits with his employees which helped him

build his company, Magna International Inc. See www.economiccharter.ca The heavy insult to the disabled community by Bill C22, the Canada Disability Benefit of calling \$200 per month as a "benefit," also without the promise of stopping provincial claw-backs, was explained in Parliament as being all that was possible, given the heavy burden of Canada's debts. Yet, there are mountains of money in the hands of the spoiled brats of our economy, the special interest groups who enjoy very large benefits in their taxes by exemptions, loopholes and write-offs. Funnelling that money back into the country will provide steps to supporting such social programs as the Canada Disability Benefit in ways that could actually lift people from poverty. In my early days of travel some years ago and living in Europe, I – quite naively – declared definitely that there were no poor people in Canada. I portrayed Canada as a country of wealth and opportunity where getting a job was easy, even for a relatively unskilled person and where we took care of our own. Nonsense to a large extent, of course, but somehow I imagined it was true. Fast forward to 2023-24 when MAiD is being offered as an alternative to sufficient care and being accepted by martyrs, one

might say, who hope their death will stir the provincial and federal governments to truly be moved to care for Canadians in conditions of homelessness, unsurmountable poverty and disability. The notion that \$200 is a sum that will not discourage the disabled from attaining work is another slap. We are acquainted with disabled people who would work if they could find employers – but take a look at how employers are laying people off by the thousands, in favour of computers, which can take on customer service departments, for example, by text, email and even voice. Even one of Patricia's friends on Twitter (X) who has found work as a dishwasher in the past, can no longer find a job because he moves too slowly. He, like the others of our acquaintance, receives about \$1,306 to cover rent, food, medicine, and public transportation. There are no funds to cover such a problem as environmentally safe housing for a person with severe allergies (she gave up her life to MAiD in the hopes it would make a difference). It should be clearly understood that being disabled is already a lot of work. Those of us with reasonable to good health must understand that, as we stand, we cannot know what it is like to be immobile, in constant pain, of limited mobility and much more, plus having to decide between rent

and eating, rent and medication, never knowing how long we will be able to live in – however humble – our current dwelling. It took Tommy Douglas, founder of our universal Medicare, decades of knowing the need for it and finally seeing it come to fruition. He has been called the most important Canadian but I believe he would grieve to see the vast wealth gap of today and to witness how we treat Canadians in crises. Yet and yet, a large orange box I saw one day in a Loblaws summed many things up for me. In Loblaws, where we are constantly shocked at the increased cost of food and we are aware of how overpriced they are and how greedy this grocer is, was this orange box with a sign: donations to the Food Bank. The expectation was clear: we would shop for overpriced food and goods, paying into massive profits and put those items into the food bank orange box. That and the sign by the pharmacy, that says "help us feed a million children" just make me burn. Dear Loblaws: feed the children; fill the shelves of the food bank. For sure, you don't need our help.

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Trade apprenticeships: pathways to prosperity and happiness

A new survey last week showed young Canadians were among the least happy group of people in the country based on age and also one of the most discontented in the developed world.

It's not hard to understand why young Canadians aren't jumping for joy these days.

For one, many of them have abandoned the hope of one day owning their own home.

According to a Statistics Canada report published in March, overheated housing prices are "casting a shadow over the homeownership dream for many households – and, in particular, for young families."

But the fading dream of home ownership is not the only reason young Canadians are gloomy nowadays: they're also having difficulty finding good-paying jobs. Many of them are college or university graduates who thought a degree was the ticket to a lucrative career.

Pursuing a trade apprenticeship, however, may have been the better option for some of these students. A number of trades pay higher-than-average salaries – especially for young people just starting out in their career.

Consider the other advantages to learning a skilled trade.

The average debt incurred by students who pursue a college or university degree has been steadily climbing for the past two decades, according to a Statistics Canada report published in March.

But because tuition costs for trade school are significantly lower than college or university, students typically shoulder little or no student debt after graduating and find a job much more quickly, according to Finishing Trades Institute of Ontario.

So given all of the financial benefits – not to mention the fact that trade apprenticeship students can often "earn while you learn" – it's not surprising that enrollment in skilled trades programs is booming,

according to Statistics Canada.

A skilled trade was my road to success in life: it gave me the chance to open my own business and I was able to build that business into a successful multinational, Magna International Inc., with operations throughout the world and more than \$40 billion in annual sales.

When I was chairman of Magna, a lot of bankers, lawyers and automotive executives came through the doors of our head office in fancy suits, briefcases in hand. But the visitors who came in wearing blue overalls – Magna's factory managers and assistant managers – often made far more in annual income than the "suits" who showed up for business meetings or worked in the head office.

Beyond providing good-paying and fulfilling careers for many young Canadians, we need technically skilled trades people in order for the economy to function. Trades people build our homes and roads and cars, grow and cook our food, and keep

the lights and water running inside our schools, factories and offices.

It's why I believe we should require students in their final two years of high school to be exposed to one or more technical trades at businesses outside the schools. Under my proposal, students would gain hands-on training in four different trades over two years in a wide range of skilled trades such as bricklaying, hairstyling, carpentry, and the culinary arts.

Skilled trades training for young Canadians is one of the key principles in the economic charter of rights I've been championing for the past year. It will give Canada the skilled workforce it needs to grow our economy – and it will give young Canadians the means to earn a good income and enjoy a higher standard of living.

To learn more about how an economic charter could help revitalize our economy, contact info@economiccharter.ca.



FRANK STRONACH
CREATING AN ECONOMIC CHARTER OF RIGHTS

Selectively targeting Loblaw

For months we heard rumblings of a Loblaw boycott organized by a clandestine group aiming to penalize grocers for their perceived profiteering. The boycott began on May 1, with participants calling for a reduction in food prices. However, it's important to note that many food prices have already been declining for weeks, rendering the movement somewhat misguided in achieving its purported goals.

Canadians justifiably feel frustrated and unprotected and deserve a platform to be heard. While boycotts can be effective in the food sector, successful ones are logically sound and coherent. This boycott targets Loblaw, Canada's largest grocer, which controls less than a third of the market.

Moreover, the boycott overlooks foreign competitors like Costco and Walmart, which are inexplicably exempt from the movement. The arrival of both Walmart and Costco led to the consolidated grocery industry we have today. This selec-

tive targeting undermines the boycott's credibility.

If the goal truly is to enhance food affordability, the boycott should encompass all major box stores, not just focus on one company. Moreover, to truly address the issue, the movement should support independent grocers who compete against these large players without any substantial backing.

Independent grocers often promote local foods and innovate across various food categories. Despite their contributions, these smaller entities seldom receive the recognition they deserve and are prevalent in communities nationwide. Contrary to popular belief, smaller does not inherently mean more expensive, and the boycott could have highlighted the value of supporting independently owned and operated stores.

Furthermore, any Canadian who takes two minutes to read and assess the financial reports of top grocers like Loblaw,

Empire/Sobeys, and Metro will quickly realize that accusations of profiteering are largely unsubstantiated. Not only have these companies seen same-store food sales growth generally below food inflation rates in recent quarters, but their gross margins – a true indicator of profiteering – have remained stable for at least five years across all three corporations. These firms are highly diversified, earning significant revenues from cosmetics, clothing, pharmaceuticals, financial services, and real estate, benefiting from their varied market positions.

The boycott also raises concerns regarding its underlying motives. Some members of the group are targeting and threatening experts and academics who disagree with their stance and have attacked journalists who report dissenting opinions, exhibiting almost cult-like behaviour. This aggressive and confrontational approach is uncharacteristic of Canadian social movements and sug-

gests a politically motivated campaign rather than a genuine grassroots effort.

Originally well-intentioned instigators seem to have lost control of the movement.

While Loblaw is not entirely without fault – particularly concerning its intense pressure on suppliers, which can stifle competition and reduce consumer choice – the boycott is missing a crucial opportunity to educate Canadians about the real issues within the food industry and the role of major grocers like Loblaw. We need a code of conduct to establish a level playing field for all grocers and food manufacturers in Canada.

Instead, it has opted for sensationalism and quick publicity, a disappointing and ineffective strategy that ultimately fails to address the systemic issues it purports to confront.



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Our Readers Write

Highway 413

Why is it that our provincial government, also known as Doug Ford's government, is so headstrong set on building Hwy 413? The majority of residents don't want it. The media has stated over and over again that it won't save commuters significant time, so why the insistence that it be built?

It's going to cost the taxpayers billions, a very serious concern since the latest provincial budget carried an almost \$9 billion deficit. Why add to that unnecessarily?

The highway will cut through prime farmland and the Greenbelt lands, even though Doug Ford made a campaign promise not to touch the Greenbelt. Building the highway will require volumes of concrete, which alone is one of the highest Greenhouse gas producers. The gravel for the concrete will have to be transported from the Caledon pit (yet to be approved and a whole other, but connected, issue) to the building site. More pollution, more loss of farmland and more sprawl.

The costs do not end with the loss of farmland, Greenbelt land and added pollution,

but if the highway is built, there are the on-going costs of maintenance for the highway – not a cheap undertaking - when many of our present roads are disintegrating from lack of upkeep.

Somebody, somewhere crunched the numbers for the cost of the 413 vs subsidizing trucks to use the woefully underused Hwy 407. If the provincial government were to subsidize trucks on the 407, then that would be considerably cheaper than building 413. It's an obvious solution to the congestion on Highway 401. The added bonus is that, by subsidizing the 407 tolls, you are contributing to the Canada Pension Plan, the major shareholder of Hwy 407 – a win-win situation.

Again, why the insistence to build Highway 413?

Is it because Doug Ford wants to leave a legacy? Is it to reward the developers who have supported him politically, those who have bought land along the proposed route? Without a rational reason, we are left to speculation.

Something doesn't smell right.

The Ministry of Transportation of Ontario (MTO) has yet to state a cost for the highway, probably because it's going to leave a BIG DENT in the taxpayers' pockets – mon-

ey that would be better spent on housing, health care and education.

Regards,
Barbara Bailie
Mulmur, Ont.

Letter re: Mono asking County for vacant homes tax

Politicians who enforce this tax should first put people in their spare bedrooms, basements and garages. Also, let a family live in a tent in their front yard.

What a headache (stress, expense, damage, privacy, etc.) this becomes!

I worked hard and saved for what I have, doing without things in the process.

This tax will not create housing.

Instead, get rid of the red tape and charges to build houses that the townships impose on builders. If you eliminate the carbon tax, materials will cost less. Therefore houses will cost less. Also, regulate insurance policies so that people can afford a home.

Mary Glinka
Mono, Ont.



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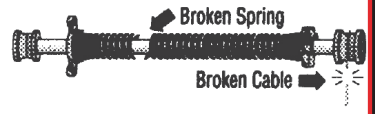
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County releases 2024 Explore Dufferin Guide

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The County of Dufferin has officially announced the launch of its 2024 Explore Dufferin Guide.

The Explore Dufferin Guide features a "Don't Miss List," a trailhead map, an event listing and information on local amenities and services such as electric vehicle charging stations, summer camps, parks and recreation centres, libraries and more.

The Explore Dufferin Guide also includes day trip itineraries for five different tourist profiles – the Epicurean Explorer, Terra Trekker, Thrill Seeker, Cultural Curator and Family Funatic. The profiles were created based on local data and are unique to Dufferin County.

The Guide was developed in partnership with Central Counties Tourism through its Partnership Program.

"The Explore Dufferin Guide highlights everything that makes Dufferin County so amazing, from our local events, to restau-

rants, to outdoor recreational opportunities and services and amenities for all," said Janet Horner, chair of the Community Development and Tourism Committee. "We encourage residents and visitors to check out the Guide – it will be a great resource for vacation planning during the warmer months. We are excited to share all that the county offers with local and visiting tourists alike."

The Explore Dufferin Guide was developed to encourage community engagement and participation as well as drive tourism to the community.

"With detailed itineraries for unique Dufferin tourists, there is truly something for everyone to enjoy. We look forward to welcoming new visitors to the county and encourage residents to discover something new to enjoy in our own backyard with the help of the Explore Dufferin Guide," said Dufferin County Warden Darren White.

This year, the County of Dufferin has created the Guide to be even more interactive for users, with all links clickable – including

icons on the maps. The locations on the map also take users to the exact Google location of each spot, which will provide ease of directions for users.

Postcards with a QR code linked to the Explore Dufferin Guide will be mailed to households in the county at the beginning of May. The Explore Dufferin Guide will also be

available at hotspots within the county and at visitor offices.

The interactive Explore Dufferin Guide is available on the County of Dufferin website – www.dufferincounty.ca.

The Guide will be updated annually to showcase what there is to see, do and experience in the community.

Dufferin Community Foundation fills void in the community, says Orangeville's deputy mayor

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Dufferin Community Foundation funds charities and builds community year after year.

And Michele Fisher, the foundation's executive director, showed Orangeville council on April 29 just how it accomplishes that feat.

"We like to call ourselves the forever fund for Dufferin County," she said.

That's because the organization invests donor gifts into permanent endowed funds. The income earned from interest goes toward grants to charities every year.

"The capital remains largely untouched unless we have a very poor market year," Fisher said. "What that means is we can continue funding forever."

The foundation is completely local to the county, she said. And grants go to Dufferin County charities.

"With a community foundation, the way the model goes, there's no going back to zero," she said. "There's no going to the bottom of the mountain."

"You just keep going up the mountain in new steps."



The crowd at the foundation has the lofty goal to raise \$10 million in its first 10 years. That would mean a minimum of \$450,000 to local charities every year, she said.

Last year, the foundation distributed about \$50,000. So \$450,000 is going to be a massive boost to local charities.

After the foundation's first five years, \$3.5 million of that goal has been raised. That means as much as \$75,000 can be donated this year.

Fisher said there are a number of ways the foundation and the Town of Orangeville can work together.

They can manage any grant programs or scholarships the municipality has, she said. An endowment fund for Orangeville can be established to help with sustainability for municipal grants.

"The things that you guys are doing fills a void that our community never had before," said Deputy Mayor Todd Taylor.



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Saturday, May 11th
8:00 to 11:00 a.m.
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May 22nd 2024

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- Pick up Grand Valley 90 Main St at 10.30a.m.
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- JUNE 14TH.....CURRENCY SALE.
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- JULY 26TH.....ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & QUALITY HOUSEHOLD ITEMS.
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OBITUARIES

GARY "SATCH" ALEXANDER SMITH

JULY 14, 1948 - MARCH 27, 2024

Died peacefully with family by his side at Victoria General Hospital in Halifax, Nova Scotia on March 27, 2024. Predeceased by his parents George Smith and Joan (Hall); survived by his three children Julie Janisse (Greg), Greg Smith (Laura Beth) and Megan Bruce (Jarel) and his grandchildren Emily, Lauren, Isla, Reece, Grayson, Nora and Priya Rose. Also survived by his siblings Richard, Barb and Brian.



Gary was born July 14, 1948, in Toronto ON, the youngest of four. He was a consummate story teller and regaled many with his adventures of growing up in the city. Formative summers spent in Algonquin with his family inspired a life-long love of the outdoors, fishing and camping and forged a deep connection with Lake Opeongo.

He married Susan (Canning) in 1971 and settled in Orangeville where they raised their three children together. He was a dedicated and loving father and extremely hard worker who took great pride in providing for his family; working his way from a steel mill foreman to a well-respected salesman for FUCHS in the automotive industry. His life took a turn when he became the victim of a drunk driver in 2003, forever living with the devastating consequences. He moved to Halifax in 2019 and spent the last few years of his life under the loving care of Greg and Laura Beth and their family.

Gary will be remembered for his great love of travelling, golf, music, cottage time at Nine Mile and Turtle Lake and hosting endless pool parties and dinners for family and friends. He was truly at his happiest when he had his backyard and bbq full and an audience for his grand stories. He had a deep love for his friends and family (especially his grandchildren), his beloved dogs and his favourite sports team, the Toronto Maple Leafs. His kindness, sense of humor, generosity and ability to put others at ease will be missed by so many.

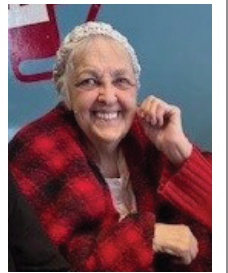
Special thank you to the staff at Queen Elizabeth and Victoria General Hospitals for their care in Gary's final months. Arrangements are in care of Atlantic Funeral Home-Sackville and honoring Gary's wishes, cremation has taken place. Donations in memory of Gary may be made to MADD Canada (www.madd.ca) or Alzheimer Society of Canada (www.alzheimer.ca).

OBITUARIES

HENKE, GERALDINE (GERRI) MARGARET (NEE: BICKNELL)

OCTOBER 17, 1939 - APRIL 29, 2024

Passed on her terms on Monday, April 29, 2024 at Southlake Regional Health Centre, Newmarket at the age of 84. She will be starting a McDonalds Table 5 in heaven. Gerri will also be greatly missed by her many friends.



Celebration of Life will be held at the Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre, 21 First St., Orangeville on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers donations made to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated.

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



IN MEMORIAM

George Agar

December 15, 1940 - May 11, 2022



Lovingly remembered by Freda, Sharon, Janice, Betsy and families.

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PERSONALS

ST. JUDE NOVENA PRAYER: "May the Scared Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, please pray for me. Saint Jude, worker of miracles, please pray for me. Saint Jude, helper of the hopeless, please pray for me. Amen."

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WENDY MARIE HAMILTON (NEE SWITZER)

Peacefully at Matthews House Hospice on Wednesday, January 27th, 2021 at the age of 59. Beloved wife of 34 years to Sean Hamilton. Dear mother of Garrett, Brendan (Amanda). Cherished grandmother of Sienna. Remembered by her brothers Joe (Sue) and Mark (Angeles). Loving daughter of mother Betty and her father George Switzer (deceased). Remembered by her mother & father-in-laws Ron & Karen Hamilton and brother-in-law Mike (Rita) and sister-in-law Kelly. Wendy will also be greatly missed by her 8 nephews and 1 niece other relatives and many friends.

A celebration of Wendy's life will be held on Saturday May 25th, 2024 from 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm at the Caledon East Complex - (Please enter through the west entrance)

Wendy's interest was nursing at an early age and made it her profession. Her special past times included Ballroom dancing and soft ball. Her greatest pleasure was watching her boys in their activities. Wendy's family wish to extend a special thank you to the support staff that helped me keep her at home and to the staff at Matthew's House in Alliston that brought her comfort in her final days. Cremation has taken place and a celebration of life will be held where hugs will be encouraged. In lieu of flowers donations to your own local hospice would be appreciated by the family.

A tree will be planted in memory of Wendy in the Dods & McNair Memorial Forest at the Island Lake Conservation Area, Orangeville. The next annual dedication service will be held on Sunday, September 12, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.dodsandmcnair.com

WENDY JAQUELINE GREEN (NEE CHRISTIAN)

Peacefully at Dufferin Oaks Long Term Care, Shelburne, Ontario, on Friday May 3rd, 2024 in her 73rd year.

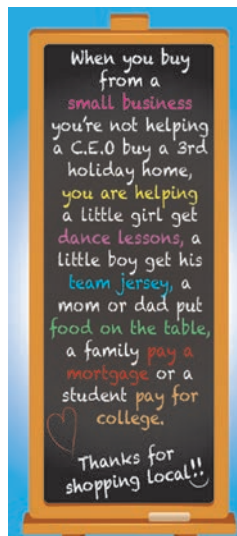


Cherished mother of Andrea (Jeff), Raegan (Dave), and Aaron Green. Devoted grandmother of 8 and great-grandmother of 3. Left behind are her 3 sisters, Carolyn Wright, Teresa Bourne and Lois Moore. Predeceased by Elaine Orvis.

The family received friends at the Jack and Thompson Funeral home on Thursday May 9th, 2024 at 1:00 pm. The funeral service was held in the funeral home chapel at 2:00 pm. If desired, donations to Bethel House Hospice or the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated as expressions of sympathy. Online condolences and donations may be placed at www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com

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OBITUARIES

BRENDA JANE FERGUSON

Suddenly at her home, Bolton, on Saturday, May 4, 2024, Brenda Ferguson, at the age of 68 years. Loving daughter of the late Byng and Uberta Dean. Dear sister of William Dean (deceased), Daniel and his wife Alice Dean, and Paul Dean (deceased). Cherished aunt of Samantha Dean. Fondly remembered by her boyfriend for many years, Bruce Chalmers and his family. The family will receive their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S. (Hwy. 50), Bolton (905-857-2213) on Thursday evening, May 9 from 5 - 7 o'clock and on Friday morning, May 10 from 10 o'clock until time of funeral service in the chapel at 11 o'clock. Interment Providence Cemetery, Caledon East. Reception to follow back at the funeral home. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

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<p>2019 VW ATLAS 3.6 HIGHLINE 4MOTION</p> <p>STK# 6549P - 89,826 KM - 3.6L, HEATED LEATHER SEATS, BACKUP CAMERA, FENDER PREMIUM AUDIO, LANE KEEP ASSIST, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, NAVIGATION, APP-CONNECT, ANDROID AUTO/APPLE CARPLAY, 6.5" TOUCHSCREEN.</p> <p>\$163 WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 60 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA \$35,859 +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN @ 6.79% O.A.C. C.O.B \$6,454</p>	<p>2021 VW JETTA COMFORTLINE</p> <p>STK# 6944P - 29,139 KM - ONE-OWNER, ACCIDENT-FREE, AUTOMATIC, 1.4L 4-CYLINDER, CRUISE CONTROL, BACKUP CAMERA, 6.5" TOUCHSCREEN, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, BLUETOOTH, LED TAIL LIGHTS, 16" ALLOY WHEELS, HEATED CLOTH FRONT SEATS, AND MORE!</p> <p>\$102 WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 72 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA \$25,953 +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN @ 6.99% O.A.C. C.O.B \$5,839</p>	<p>2023 VW TAOS HIGHLINE 4MOTION</p> <p>STK# 6953T - 26,477 KM - AWD, LEATHER, DUAL-ZONE CLIMATE, NAV, HEATED SEATS, 8" TOUCHSCREEN, 8-SPEAKER BEATS AUDIO SYSTEM, APP-CONNECT, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, BLUETOOTH, 19" ALLOY WHEELS, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, REMOTE START, LANE ASSIST, BACKUP CAMERA, POWER SUNROOF.</p> <p>\$163 WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 60 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA \$35,876 +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN @ 6.79% O.A.C. C.O.B \$6,457</p>	<p>2022 VW TAOS TRENDLINE 4MOTION</p> <p>STK# 6946T - 44,100 KM - 4MOTION AWD, ONE-OWNER, ACCIDENT-FREE, CLOTH, CRUISE CONTROL, BACKUP CAMERA, 6.5" TOUCHSCREEN, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, BLUETOOTH, KEYLESS ENTRY, DIGITAL COCKPIT, 17" ALLOY WHEELS, LED HEADLIGHTS, LED TAILLIGHTS, POWER HEATED MIRRORS.</p> <p>\$125 WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 60 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA \$27,650 +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN @ 6.79% O.A.C. C.O.B \$4,977</p>

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