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BILL TREMBLAY PHOTO

ALL ABOARD: The Mojo Train's frontman Glenn Marais belts out the big notes during his performance on the Orangeville Blues and Jazz (OBJF) TD Main Stage on Saturday, June 6. The four-piece blues-rock band was a semi-finalist at this year's International Blues Challenge in Memphis and delivered its signature high-energy set, to the OBJF crowd. Their music blends blues grit with funk grooves and plenty of on-the-spot improvisation. Known for their relentless live shows, the Toronto-based group had been rehearsing since February, aiming to raise the intensity of their set while delivering what Marais describes as "midnight energy in the middle of the day." Turn to Page A12 and A13 for a full story and photo spread.

Council gives nod for York Street heritage designation

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Orangeville's York Street neighbourhood is on its way to becoming a heritage conservation district. Council decided unanimously that the York Street corridor be enshrined as being important to the area's heritage, culture, and history. Orangeville has 27 properties along York Street designated for heritage status. Two of those are already designated as significant under provincial heritage legislation. Another 17 properties are listed on the municipal heritage register. The remaining eight properties have no heritage status. Councillor Debbie Sherwood pored over a list from residents in favour of the heritage designation, hired consultants, the Heritage Orangeville Committee, and municipal staff as she lauded the persistent efforts of heritage designation proponents. "I've gotten to know many of you during this last couple of years," she said. "And I

truly feel all the passion you have for your neighbourhood." It was determined through the process that the York Street neighbourhood contains a concentrated collection of historic residential properties and streetscape features that together express a distinct and recognizable heritage character associated with Orangeville's late-19th-century growth. The study also confirmed that the area satisfies the legislative test for designation. A strong proportion of properties met the prescribed criteria under the Ontario Heritage Act (OHA). According to a report to council, the proposed designation is grounded in extensive background research, property inventory work, consultant-led analysis, public information sessions, an online survey, consultation with Heritage Orangeville, and a statutory public meeting. The HCD Plan identifies the district's cultural heritage value and attributes, distinguishes between contributing and non-con-

tributing properties, and provides a policy framework, guidelines, and an implementation process to manage alterations, additions, demolitions, new development, and works on public lands. The plan is intended to conserve the area's heritage character while still allowing change, including a delegated heritage permit process and a list of minor works that do not require heritage approval, according to a report to council. The council report goes on to further state that, in response to consultation feedback, the final recommended district boundary has been refined to focus more precisely on the York Street corridor and the lands that most clearly contribute to the neighbourhood's heritage character, while retaining the adjacent Kay Cee Gardens because of its contextual and historic relationship to the neighbourhood. "Overall, the boundary presented satisfies all the needs and the wishes of the community, particularly York Street and some of its area," Sherwood said.

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First-degree murder charge laid after Dufferin OPP officer struck by vehicle during arrest

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

A Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officer has died after being struck by a vehicle during an attempted arrest in northern Ontario. The incident resulted in a first-degree murder charge and prompted an outpouring of grief from police and political leaders.

Provincial Constable Tarun Bali, 29, of the Dufferin OPP Detachment, was killed in the line of duty on June 9, near Hearst, Ont., while on a short-term deployment with the OPP's James Bay Detachment.

OPP Commissioner Thomas Carrique said the incident occurred at approximately 12:30 p.m. as officers attempted to safely apprehend an 18-year-old man who had fled from a hospital where he was being assessed under the Mental Health Act.

"As officers attempted to safely apprehend the accused, our officer was struck by a motor vehicle and killed while that motor vehicle was being driven by the accused," Carrique said.

Carrique said officers from multiple detachments, along with a member of the Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service, were involved in the response and arrest.

"We're one big team here at the OPP, and he was one of our own. Everybody leans in to lend a hand," he said, adding that officers from across the province were deployed to assist in the search and apprehension.

The commissioner said Const. Bali, who served with the force for 2.5 years, had volunteered for the northern deployment from his home base in Dufferin County. Carrique described him as a dedicated officer who had "dreamed of being a police officer" from a young age.

"We know, we saw a picture when he was two years old where he stood there saluting, as in the image of a police officer," Carrique said. "This was a lifelong dream for him."

He said Const. Bali had been deployed in the region for four days at the time of the incident and had previously served in similar northern assignments.

"He's truly an officer that in two and a half years made a difference everywhere he'd go," Carrique said.

The accused, identified by police as 18-year-old Justin Veronneau of Hearst, faces charges of first-degree murder, flight from police (two counts), dangerous oper-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FALLEN OFFICER: Dufferin OPP Const. Tarun Bali, 29, was killed in the line of duty on June 9 near Hearst, Ont., while on a short-term northern deployment.

ation causing death, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle, assaulting a police officer and resisting arrest. He remains in custody and is scheduled to appear in court on June 24, 2026.

The charges against Veronneau have not been proven in court.

The investigation is continuing under the direction of the OPP Criminal Investigation Branch, with support from the Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario and the Ontario Forensic Pathology Service.

Dufferin County Warden Lisa Post said flags have been lowered to half-mast in honour of Const. Bali and extended condolences on behalf of county council and residents.

"On behalf of Dufferin County Council and staff and our entire community, we extend our sincerest condolences and thoughts to Constable Bali's family, friends, loved ones and fellow police community members," Post said.

The OPP said support is being provided to the officer's family and colleagues as the province's policing community mourns his death.

"Let's give them time to grieve. Let's pay our respects to them and show some sympathy and support," Carrique said.

Orangeville council votes against Ontario e-scooters pilot program

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

The growing popularity of e-scooters in Orangeville has garnered much attention from residents.

And some arguments about the conveyance's use were broached during town council's June 8 meeting when council voted unanimously not to opt into Ontario's e-scooter pilot program.

Municipal communications staff were tasked with informing residents about the proper and safe use of the vehicles.

Broadway resident Chuck Simpson said he's seen more and more e-scooters being used in town over the last few weeks. And he has a number of concerns about their growing popularity.

For one, it seems many riders are unaware of the basic rules of the road. Many riders he's watched don't use signals and seldom stop or walk the scooter across an intersection. He's troubled by how riders scooting down a sidewalk will dodge onto a street and into intersections against traffic lights.

And it seems they believe safety equipment, like a simple helmet, is optional.

"If you get hit by an object in the head, even if you're doing 25kms/hr, the so-called maximum speed allowed, you're going to get hurt and the possible loss of control of your scooter," Simpson said.

He witnessed a couple of young riders blow through a red light, so he spoke to them about the rules of the road.

"I got a new set of hand signals and very colourful reply, which was shocking," he said of the young riders' response.

The province established an e-scooter pilot program in 2020 to evaluate their use. That program will run until November 2029 to enable an optimal timeframe to collect data and evaluate policy.

Regulations don't automatically allow e-scooters everywhere in Ontario.

In fact, the rules stipulate that no person shall operate an e-scooter on a highway, sidewalk, trail, path, walkway, public park, or exhibition ground unless the municipality has adopted rules or a bylaw permitting their use.

"In practical terms, this means municipalities control whether e-scooters are lawful locally and on what terms of use are dictated under the enacted local bylaw," according to a report to council. "Ontario's municipal guidance reinforces that point, stating that municipalities wishing to allow e-scooters on their roads must pass bylaws and decide what is appropriate for their communities."

James Bramley, the town's licensing and



bylaw enforcement supervisor, said e-scooters are prohibited within Orangeville on any sidewalks, roadways, and trailways.

"And this is governed by the province through the Highway Traffic Act," he said, and added that their use on private property isn't regulated.

There isn't a common practice among all the Ontario municipalities that allow e-scooters. There are many that have opted into the province's pilot program, but many big cities have instituted prohibitions because of safety concerns, he said.

"There are significant challenges," Bramley said. "Safety concerns as rules aren't enforced and the challenge to enforce them ... due to the fact there are no license plates on these vehicles."

They're often operated by young children, and there are prohibitive rules for bylaw staff that complicate charging minors. And he said that bylaw enforcement officers lack the authority to stop a vehicle as police do.

"We can ask for an identification, but we cannot compel identification," Bramley said. "That's a very large factor."

There are no consequences for refusing a bylaw officer's request for identification.

And that's why municipal enforcement staff recommend the town not buy into the pilot program.

"If we bring in these regulations and rules, we are a reactive team," he said.

Councillor Andy Macintosh asked how the town could realistically offer residents education on e-scooter use when that activity is prohibited.

Coun. Tess Prendergast suggested the town take part in the provincial pilot program only as far as its educational ends, and to leave out the enforcement side.

"Because we can't enforce this," she said. "That's the reality. It would be impossible to enforce this by the OPP. But the province is seriously lacking education for kids, parents, and families, and drivers. The onus is now on us as a municipality to pick up that slack."

Kids can modify those e-scooters to enable them to achieve 40 km/hr, she said.

"These are dangerous," she said. "Acquired brain injury is no joke."

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Mrs. Roper Romp draws large crowd in support of Alzheimer's

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

More than 100 colourful caftans, red wigs and oversized glasses filled the streets of Orangeville as the community gathered for the second annual Mrs. Roper Romp, raising more than \$1,200 for the Alzheimer Society of Dufferin County.

Organizer Sofie Weber described the 2026 event as an overwhelming success, with participants – affectionately known as “Rompers” – turning out in force to celebrate the beloved television character while supporting a local cause.

Weber said that the fundraiser surpassed expectations and continued the momentum established by the inaugural romp last year. In a follow-up Facebook announcement to confirm the final donation tally, she thanked the crowd who attended.

“Season two of Orangeville’s Mrs. Roper Romp was a huge success with over 100 Rompers in attendance; we were able to raise over \$1,200 for the Alzheimer Society of Dufferin County,” she said. “We had such a blast, and we can’t wait to do it again next season. A big thank you to all who joined us - especially our VIP guest and cast member of The Ropers – Stevie Vallance – who reprised her role as the lovable Jenny after 46 years.”



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

ROMPING ‘ROUND TOWN: Following the Romp across Orangeville, an army of Mrs. Ropers met at Josie’s Taphouse on Mill St. for an afternoon celebration, with food and entertainment. In total, the Romp saw over 100 participants and raised \$1,200 for the Alzheimer’s Society of Dufferin County.

Following the walk through downtown Orangeville, participants gathered at Josie’s Taphouse, where the festivities continued with music, prizes and plenty of opportunities to show off their best Mrs. Roper-in-

spired outfits.

One of the highlights of the afternoon was the crowning of the 2026 Romp Queen. Steven of British Columbia claimed the title, while last season’s original Romp Queen, Lisa, was named first runner-up.

This romp was also a very special one for fans of the TV show, as it featured an actress from one of the original series. Stevie Vallance, who portrayed Jenny Ballinger on the sitcom *The Ropers*, joined the celebration and reprised the role more than four decades after appearing on television.

Vallance said that she was overjoyed to see such a strong turnout for a classic series. While she wasn’t originally interested in the events, the Romps eventually grew on her with some encouragement.

“It’s been 46 years since I played Jenny on *The Ropers*, and I’ve heard about these

Romps happening across North America, and I didn’t really think it was for me,” she said. “Then I thought, wait a minute, this would be really fun, so here I am. I think it’s just incredible that the show is still having such an impact.”

It was also an emotional experience for Vallance, who remembered working with the original cast and crew decades ago.

“I kind of just have been crying seeing all of this in person,” she said. “It’s actually emotional for me to see all these Mrs. Ropers around. She was a mother figure for me on the show. This is pretty amazing. Audra Lindley would be so over-the-moon happy. To think they missed this, it would have been just so incredible for all of them. I feel like Audra’s got to be working it from the other side.”

Mrs. Roper Romps have become a growing phenomenon across North America.

Inspired by Helen Roper, the warm-hearted and eccentric landlady portrayed by Audra Lindley on ‘*Three’s Company*,’ participants dress in her trademark caftans, chunky jewelry and bright red hair.

Organizers say the events celebrate Mrs. Roper’s humour, inclusiveness and ability to bring people together for a good cause.

That was undoubtedly the case in Orangeville. The second annual Mrs. Roper Romp more than doubled last year’s head count and brought in over a thousand dollars in donations. It was another reminder that the Orangeville community is one that cares.



Town of Orangeville

Notice of public meeting

Sign Bylaw

We are reviewing Sign By-law 2013-028 and invite the community to review and provide input on the proposed new bylaw. The sign bylaw sets out the size, type, location, placement and maintenance of signs within the Town of Orangeville. The rules are developed with public safety, community aesthetics and effective communication in mind, making sure signs are the right kind for the area they’re going to be installed in.

Public meeting

Date: June 22 at 7 p.m.

Location: Council Chambers, Town Hall – 87 Broadway

Public participation: Residents, taxpayers, service providers or those speaking on behalf of an association or organization in Orangeville are invited to participate during the public question and comment period.

Virtual viewing options

- view the livestream at the above date and time at orangeville.ca/WatchLive
- to attend via Zoom visit the meeting agenda at orangeville.ca/Meetings

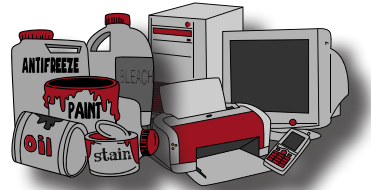


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Visit dufferincounty.ca/waste for updates and a full listing of acceptable materials & limitations.

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

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Pump Track at Alder receives new name reflecting Orangeville Lions' contributions

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

The Orangeville BMX park near the Alder Street arena is now the Orangeville Lions Club Pump Track.

The name change came about when town council met on June 8.

The municipality and the local service club partnered last year to convert the BMX track into a new pump track. Lions contributed \$100,000 toward the work. The club wanted naming rights as part of the donation.

But that wasn't when the partnership between the club and the town started at what became the Alder Parklands BMX track.

The BMX facility was designed and built in 2010 using a dirt-and-gravel concept. That led to maintenance issues for municipal parks staff. The idea was broached in 2024 to pave the pathways as part of a pump track conversion.

"I think this is a really great way to honour (the club's) contribution and their ongoing

work to our parks system," Mayor Lisa Post said.

Councillor Rick Stevens lauded the recognition of the Orangeville Lions Club's support of the project. He asked Heather Savage, the town's community services general manager, when the pump track will be resurfaced.

The asphalt trail surfaces began cracking within a week of being paved and were removed earlier this spring, Savage said.

"At that time, they were hoping to regrade the soil, but it was too wet," she said. "We've been up against some weather conditions in this area."

She said the town is waiting for the asphalt plants to reopen after the winter. There is signage and flower beds that will be installed soon.

David Smith, the town's CAO, said the work on the trails thus far is covered by warranty from the contractor.

"There is not an additional cost to taxpayers," Smith said.

Woman charged with attempting to flee in police cruiser and impaired driving after rolling vehicle

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers have charged a Woodbridge resident with impaired driving-related offences following a single motor vehicle collision.

On May 23, at approximately 10:09 p.m., officers were dispatched to the area of Broadway and Blind Line in Orangeville, where a vehicle travelled through the intersection before flipping onto its roof in a wooded area.

Due to the severity of the damage, officers quickly attempted to locate the individual, as they believed the occupant may have suffered significant injuries as a result of the collision.

Officers arrived on scene and began assessing the situation. While conducting their investigation, the occupant of the vehicle who had initially left the scene prior to police arrival returned and gained entry into a fully marked police cruiser, then attempted to drive away.

Dufferin County Paramedics, who were on scene, quickly intervened and placed the vehicle in park, preventing it from being moved further. The officer immediately returned to the cruiser and placed the female under arrest. An impaired driving investigation was subsequently initiated.

As a result of the investigation, Sarah Giannini, 48, from Woodbridge, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Take Motor Vehicle Without Consent
- Careless driving
- Drive motor vehicle - no licence
- Possess unmarked cigarettes
- Red light - fail to stop

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

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.

Single vehicle collision claims life of 81-year-old Mono resident

Single motor vehicle collision claims life of 81-year-old Mono resident

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), along with local EMS and fire services, responded to a serious single motor vehicle collision in Mono.

On May 20, shortly after 12:30 p.m., emergency crews were dispatched to the area of 3rd Line EHS, just south of 5 Sideroad, for a single motor vehicle collision.

The vehicle involved was a passenger van towing a small utility trailer at the time of the incident. The driver, an adult male, was transported to a local hospital and subsequently airlifted to a Toronto-area trauma centre due to the severity of his injuries.

As a result of the collision, on May 22, the 81-year-old driver from Mono was pronounced deceased.

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

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

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

Man charged with failure to wear seatbelt, comply with order

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers charged a driver when conducting Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) program in Shelburne on June 9.

Shortly after 2:48 a.m., a vehicle entered the checkpoint on Owen Sound Street at First Avenue and officers noticed that two rear-seat occupants were not wearing seatbelts, and that a small child was seated between

them. Further investigation revealed that the driver was bound by conditions not to communicate, directly or indirectly, with one of the passengers in the vehicle.

Rodrigo Matias Dasilva, 21, from Southgate, has been charged with failure to comply with release order - other than to attend court and passenger - fail to properly wear seat belt. The charges have not been proven in court.

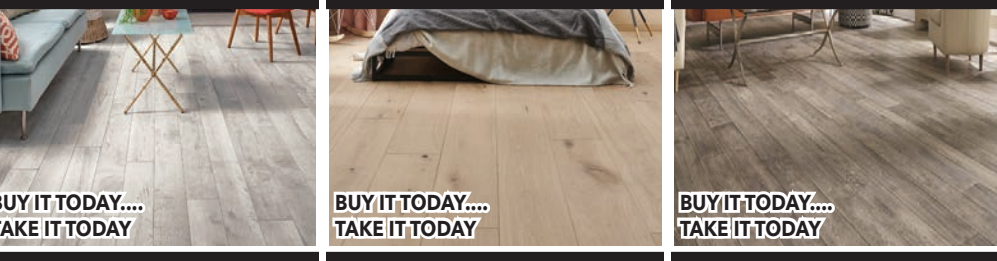
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GLEN RODGER PHOTOS

BULLS, BOOTS AND BARRELS: Cowboys and cowgirls compete during the Headwaters stop on the annual RAM Rodeo Tour at the Orangeville Fairgrounds on June 6 and 7. The two-day event featured bull riding, barrel racing, saddle bronc riding and other rodeo events, alongside family entertainment and fundraising in support of TUFF Therapeutic Riding in Mono.

Headwaters Region gets a new tourism campaign centred on local breweries

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

The Headwaters region is introducing a new tourism initiative designed to showcase its growing craft beverage scene while driving traffic into local downtowns.

The Headwaters Crafted Journey, curated by Central Counties Tourism, brings together eight breweries, cideries, and wineries across Caledon, Erin, and Dufferin County in a passport-style experience that rewards exploration over time.

Chuck Thibeault, executive director of Central Counties Tourism, said that the journey begins with a passport.

"It looks like an actual passport," he said. "As the person travels from brewery to brewery, they get a stamp in their passport, and when they've completed and gone to each of the stops, they take a picture of their stamped passport and upload it to a contest page, and then in the fall, we'll be doing a random draw to give away some prize packages, which are gift certificates for each of the producers."

The format is designed to benefit both visitors and locals. For out-of-town guests, the journey provides a clear, curated path through the region, turning a day trip into a broader tour of small towns, countryside, and main streets.

Rather than travelling for a single attraction, visitors are given multiple reasons to stay longer, spend more, and return. For residents, the passport offers a structured way to discover breweries and attractions they may not have tried before, keeping more spending within the local economy. Every community working together is the best way to keep people visiting the wider region, Thibeault said.

"When it comes to destination development and tourism, the visitors don't see walls between the towns," he said. "We don't want people to do everything in a day. We want them to come back multiple times, to explore these initial businesses, and explore the historic downtowns across the Headwaters as well. It's a great opportunity to get people to spend more time and more money in each of the communities

that Headwaters has, because now, you're not just coming up here for one thing, you have a list, there's so many places to see."

Thibeault said that the initiative is a true collaboration between townships and businesses. He added that only by pooling resources together to promote the region can they punch above their weight. Most contacts were receptive to the idea, so getting organized didn't pose a large challenge.

"It really wasn't a hard sale to get everyone on board," he said. "The idea is to get visitors to come up, go to the wineries, breweries, and cideries, but then also go and explore the downtowns, which is exactly what the businesses and the communities want as well. It's a great journey to follow and win-win for everyone."

The initiative grew out of a discussion between tourism leaders and local craft producers about how to better link individual businesses with regional destination marketing.

"I was talking with Phil from GoodLot," Thibeault said. "We were wondering about what we could do to help (drive up tour-

ism), and he actually proposed that we could start a route for people to take."

From that conversation, a route-based passport was proposed. One organizer took on the task of rallying producers, while another approached municipalities and business improvement areas for financial support.

"I said, if you can get all the producers, all the different businesses involved, I'll reach out to the communities, the municipalities, the BIAs. Phil went to work, and he got everyone on board from all eight different businesses."

Participating businesses now include Adamo Estate Winery, Badlands Brewing Company, Caledon Hills Brewing Co., GoodLot Farmstead Brewing Co., Grand Valley Brewery, Mono Centre Brewing, Sonnen Hill Brewing and Spirit Tree Estate Cider.

With eight producers and several municipalities across the region on board, the program is off to a strong start with plans to review results in the fall and explore expansion for future seasons.

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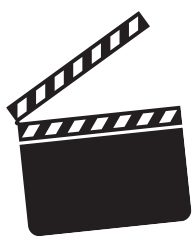


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Arts & Entertainment

LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS



Peter Dusek explores water, art and environmental awareness in new work

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

Hockley-based minimalist and abstract artist/photographer, Peter Dusek, is happy to report that his Peter Dusek Gallery in the heart of Creemore "is doing very well."

The gallery has been open for four years in August, with help from his wife, Victoria.

Dusek met with the Citizen to discuss his introduction to Swim Drink Fish. This is an organization working with communities to improve the local water with science-based data and information on how to improve local water conditions.

Dusek outlined his introduction, "A couple bought one of my pieces in the gallery. They were members of Artists for Water and invited me to donate one of my prints for the fundraising Gala for Swim Drink Fish. It was held at the Design Exchange building in downtown Toronto."

The gala was attended by 250 supporters, where they celebrated the vital role of art and music in protecting our waterways, raised \$417,000 for swimmable, drinkable, fishable water.

The reasons for the founding and growth of Swim Drink Fish were the increasing number of waterfront spots festooned with warning signs reading, "do not drink; do not swim; do not fish in this water."

Over the years, Swim Drink Fish has helped communities not only in Canada but also in 11 other countries and over 170 communities.

Dusek was impressed, commenting, "Swim Drink Fish collects data on restoring water for safe use."

The issue of clean water is important to Dusek, as so many of his art photographs are taken around water. It is his custom to ride his motorcycle at will in rural areas, to the Canadian Great Lakes, especially Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. What he really loves is how the water is so different. Lake Huron up to Killarney, everything is wild with lots of little islands until Midland and the Bruce Trail, where the water looks different, but it is the same lake.

"An artist's work is about the land and the water," Dusek observed. "People come to see exhibitions and we have to care."

He talked about the Aliston Aquifer, a massive, ancient underground reservoir located beneath the Simcoe Uplands in central Ontario, renowned as some of the purest water globally and designated by leading scientists as a global benchmark for water purity.

Unbelievably, this world-renowned aquifer, with the purest water in the world, is at risk from gravel companies wanting to expand their mines in the area. This water source dates back 3,000 years.

Fifteen artists came and painted, and were joined by photographers to create an exhibition used by the Canadian Museum of Water.

"These events inform artists who reflect it in their art," Dusek noted.

Another area of interest is the White Bear Forest in Temagami, an old-growth forest valued for its opportunity for scientific research and environmental monitoring.

Travelling the roads around Nottawasaga Bay, in his quest to find places to photograph, Dusek has discovered. "With the privately owned cottage properties, I was surprised how little I could get to the shore," he commented.

He went on to describe his new work, with more expanding into colour.

"Over the last five years, most of my work has been photos of wind and water. And I



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

WATER WORKS: Photographer Kevin Wesh captured a 13-second-long exposure of Peter Dusek at Lora Bay, standing still in-frame. The extended exposure rendered the water as an ethereal surface while keeping stationary elements, including rocks, plants and the subject, in sharp focus.

have gone completely abstract, doing photos in full colour, where the sun decides. I call it Water Music," Dusek said.

He mused, "Artists are witnesses of nature to pass it on to others who might not realize the risks to the environment."

He has spent a lot of time thinking about how water can be used artistically, for it is very active, then very calm. Is there a message in calm water?

There is something about being on a boat – why does everyone love that specific feeling of calm?

And he offered the answer: In a forest, you can't see what could be near you. Danger can come suddenly.

But on the water, you can see. Danger can come, but on the water, you can sense danger coming. There is that feeling of safety.

Thinking a lot about water – it is both soft and hard. "We are 80 per cent water."

While he had an exhibit of barns at the Museum of Dufferin recently, Dusek really likes to spend time in his gallery, with his choice of a broad representation or a more focused theme.

"I meet so many great people, one who bought a nice water piece for donation for Swim Drink Fish.

Showing pieces at an exhibition or in another gallery is a passing "exist," but being in his gallery means he "exists" all the time.

David Gauthier
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Maurice McDonald
Service Consultant

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

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

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The Citizen CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 266210 • Solution on page: CLASSIFIEDS SECTION

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
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59				60					61		
62				63					64		

CLUES ACROSS

1. Sealed with a kiss
5. Large sandwich
8. Swiss city
12. Japanese persimmons
14. When you hope to get somewhere
15. Wings
16. A name of God
18. Elected official (informal)
19. Abnormal breathing
20. "Seinfeld" character
21. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
22. Something for sale
23. Gets rid of
26. One who touts
30. Blemished
31. Less than exciting
32. Born of
33. N. German town
34. Notes
39. Move away from land
42. Vulcanite
44. More ignoble
46. Child actor Kirk
47. Written works
49. Sea vessel
50. Residue
51. Engraved
56. Having sufficient skill
57. One and only
58. Erase
59. Broad inlets
60. Nightmarish street
61. Play again
62. Formerly (archaic)
63. Add a color to change the color
64. Move swiftly and lightly

CLUES DOWN

1. Scottish island
2. River in the Netherlands
3. Asian people
4. Fuzzy fruit
5. Ninth month (abbr.)
6. An idealistic social reformer
7. What you owe
8. Colorless mineral
9. Overjoyed
10. Rattling breaths
11. Tropical Old World tree
13. A citizen of Senegal
17. Greek mythological beauty
24. Wrath
25. Instrument to measure wind speed
26. Luxury carmaker
27. Bitterly regret
28. Not or
29. Google certification
35. Midway between northeast and east
36. Space station
37. Relating to the cars
38. Congressman
40. Yelled at
41. Rudely assertive
42. Defunct European money
43. Shared one's soul
44. Onion rolls
45. A way to state clearly
47. Relating to a lobe
48. Underlying message
49. Hollywood pig
52. Indicates pitch
53. Filament of a feather
54. Small ornamental ladies' bag for small articles
55. Diminish

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

How they say that in...

English: Ride
Spanish: Atracción
Italian: Giostra
French: Attraction
German: Attraktion

Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the individual words to reveal letters for the phrase.

CKATR

LAFLL

PSDEE

CITTEK

O N

Answers: Track, Fall, Speed, Ticket, Front car rider

INVERSION

a roller coaster that turns riders upside-down

World FACT:

The roller coaster that will be the tallest and fastest in the world is being built in this country.

Answer: Saudi Arabia

CANADA MONTH 1976

The Opening Ceremony of the Montreal Summer Olympics draws millions of fans.

HISTORY

Get the PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Roller coaster trestle

Dufferin Arts Council revives programming with After 5 Salon event

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

The Dufferin Arts Council is well and truly back, as a revitalized organization and it is inviting you to attend the first of its planned four "Salons" on June 16 at the Hockley Historical Community Hall in Hockley Village.

Running from 5 to 7 p.m., this is a pleasant couple of hours during which a short video presentation is offered by Art Conservator Alison Douglas, followed with refreshments and a chance to discuss the information in the video with its author.

A "salon" has a historical tie to a time of a less structured, more casual style to socializing, enjoyed for its relaxed yet informative approach to a subject.

The dates and venues for the additional three salons are not confirmed at this time but announcements will be made as plans come into place.

The Dufferin Arts Council (DAC) will launch its summer programming with an After 5 Salon at the Hockley Historic Community Hall on June 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. The informal gathering will feature a short video presentation by a guest speaker, followed by a relaxed question-and-answer discussion, alongside light refreshments and a social setting designed to encourage conversation and connection among attendees.

The event marks the first in DAC's summer lineup, as the organization moves forward with renewed energy after discussions last fall about its future.

"Last autumn, there was talk of shutting down the Dufferin Arts Council," said David Nairn, co-chair with Signe Ball of DAC. "But there were some young people who came on board and said that we should bring new life into it and keep it going."

The mantra of the Dufferin Arts Council is to enrich the community by actively supporting the arts and artists through communication, resources, programs, and partnerships. This is partly achieved through grants and awards for post-secondary education and travel to learn new techniques and to study how art is expressed in other countries and cultures. There was every reason for the idea of revitalizing DAC.

In an interview with the Citizen last week,

Nairn provided some details about the After 5 Salon event.

"This is a casual conversation, starting with a video presentation by the speaker," he said. "That will be followed by a Q and A of sorts but more relaxed."

Catering with a collection of hors d'oeuvres by the local restaurant, The Goodhawk, is matched by a glass of wine from Adamo's winery or beer from one of the community's very fine local breweries.

The speaker for this first Salon is Art Conservator Alison Douglas, whom the Citizen interviewed this past weekend.

"Signe [Ball] asked me to speak at this – out of the blue," Douglas said. "She had put a feature about me in her magazine, In the Hills."

While doing a project in grade 13 at high school, Douglas learned about the fantastic 10-year cleaning of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican. At the time, as she noted, there were the beginnings of her feeling, "I knew I was going to do that."

Still in grade 13, she did chemistry and organic chemistry, moving on to get her Honours B.F.A. and Master's of Art Conservation at Queen's University.

While there were longings to be an artist, it was clear that conserving art was her better calling. A member of the Canadian Association of Professional Conservators (CAPC), Douglas has years of stories her work has seen, commenting, "Every piece is different."

"It really is a labour of love," she admitted. "Sometimes, it's like opening Pandora's box."

In addition to working for establishments, like the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, Douglas also offers her talent as a Conservator to individual owners, making a point to see where the work is usually displayed and then giving an estimate of what it will need to be conserved.

Her base for the last 23 years has been with the McMichael, where there are the realities of the work, as well as putting together shows for galleries across Canada and into the US. Diligence is required for every detail needed for safe arrival and handling of the pieces shipped, to be hung and admired and then returned.



MIRIAM WISON PHOTO

SALON SPEAKER: Alison Douglas works on a painting by an unknown Dutch artist and owned by Wayne Biegel.

Douglas wanted to emphasize that conservators cannot do their job without the contribution of the team that works with them. "A whole team have to work together, an entire crew making the work look as beautiful as we can."

David Nairn has always and still does aver and insist that "there is no other community in the country more passionate about art than this most vibrant arts community. Our goal is to promote the work of the artists – the creators."

"This was not a Salon, but rather a curated day trip."

He went on to say there will be an art show in Alexander Park in the summer, and comedian Michael McCreary will be on stage at the Orangeville Opera House early in the fall.

Staging fresh events to attract young artists, with the Salons and awareness pieces, begins the plans.

"To share a love of art with a wider palette, the support of grants; announcing this at the end of the school year, there was a ground swell of renewed energy," Nairn was enthusiastic to say.

A new Board of Directors is established with co-chairs Signe Ball and David Nairn, who are passionate about people joining. There will be a list of all members on the DAC website, so when there is a need for talent, there will be a hub of information about artists and creators.

A fully reinvigorated DAC welcomes new artists and creators. Visit www.dufferinarts.com/dac-newsletter/ for tickets at the Hockley Salon at \$25.

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FEEL THE BEAT...

Blues, jazz and 40,000 people pack downtown Orangeville for annual festival weekend

Photography by BILL TREMBLAY

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

About 40,000 people flowed through downtown Orangeville this past weekend as the Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival once again turned the town into a multi-stage celebration of music, food and local culture — despite financial headwinds behind the scenes.

Festival founder and artistic director Larry Kurtz said the lineup of over 40 bands struck a strong balance between blues and jazz, with fans able to enjoy JUNO-award-winning and nominated acts across all three stages from June 5 to 7.

“Overall, I felt it went great. We had lots of happy, smiling people throughout the downtown,” Kurtz said. “The headliners on Friday, Saturday, Sunday — all three acts were excellent.”

He added, “It was a thrill for me personally to have Emily-Claire Barlow come and play jazz for us on the main stage. I feel she’s one of the greatest jazz singers in the country.”

Other headliners included Alex Pangman & Her Alleycats, Blackburn Brothers, Miss Emily and Paul James Band.

Beyond the main stages, much of the festival’s impact could be felt in the streets of downtown Orangeville itself, where crowds spilled well beyond the performance areas and into the core’s shops, patios and sidewalks.

Kurtz said that atmosphere is an intentional part of how the festival is designed, with programming structured to keep activity flowing across multiple spaces rather than centred on a single stage.

“It’s a showcase for the beautiful downtown, for sure,” he said. “Showing us at our best, where there’s tons to do and it’s very welcoming.”

Even after scheduled performances wrapped on the street in the evening, the energy didn’t dissipate.

Kurtz said that the pause in programming is deliberate, creating a transition point between outdoor stages and continued performances in the park.

“We plan it that the music wraps up on the street,” he said. “We’re hoping people come into the park, where it continues to 11 p.m.”

But what stood out most, he said, was how the downtown continued to function as a gathering place even without live music as a focal point. On Saturday night, he described seeing Broadway filled wall-to-wall with people simply lingering, talking and moving through the core.

Continued on Page A13





Continued from Page A12

“At 8 p.m. when everything had ended on the street, it was totally packed as far as the eye could see — from Wellington all the way up First Street,” Kurtz said. “No



Peter Richardson Photo

music happening, no entertainment, just people milling about and socializing.”

He said that kind of gathering captures what the festival has become over its 20-plus-year history: not just a series of performances, but a shared space where the town itself becomes part of the experience.

“It was amazing to see,” he said. “They’re entertaining themselves just by hanging out and talking and enjoying it.”

Still, Kurtz said the festival’s success on the ground comes alongside mounting financial pressure behind the scenes. While attendance held steady at around 40,000 people, he said, reduced government funding has created a noticeable gap in the organization’s budget this year.

He pointed to a significant drop in grant support, including the loss of a \$50,000 Experience Ontario grant that the festival received the previous year. Heritage funding was also cut nearly in half, dropping from about \$23,000 to \$14,000. Kurtz said those

reductions have forced organizers to reassess how the festival is financed moving forward.

Despite those challenges, Kurtz said the festival continues to rely on a combination of community support, sponsorship and volunteer effort to keep operations running. He noted that while local backing from the town and Orangeville BIA remains strong, replacing lost funding at higher levels of government is an ongoing concern.

“The financing of the festival... we don’t know the balance sheet yet,” he said. “We have to work on that and find other alternatives.”

He added that organizers are already

exploring new fundraising approaches, including expanding a 50/50 draw introduced this year to generate additional revenue.

For Kurtz, the music may draw the crowds, but it’s the shared social experience that defines the festival’s success.



A VERY BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS!

22nd Annual

ORANGEVILLE

BLUES and JAZZ festival

The Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival gratefully acknowledges and thanks our partners, funding agencies and sponsors for their generous support of this year’s Festival. We would also like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to the hundreds of volunteers who work so hard to make the Festival such a great success every year.

We look forward to welcoming everyone to another outstanding Festival in 2027!



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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT orangevillebluesandjazz.ca

Orangeville scleroderma awareness walk exceeds fundraising goal

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

An inaugural fundraising walk in Orangeville has surpassed expectations, raising more than \$12,000 to support scleroderma awareness and research.

On June 7, Orangeville witnessed its first-ever Make a Move for Scleroderma Awareness, a local walk to raise awareness and funds for Scleroderma research.

Organizer Stephanie Janes said that the walk was a complete success.

"Thanks to the incredible support of our community, we raised a total of \$12,438, surpassing our goal of \$10,000," she said. "We had an amazing turnout, wonderful community support, and an overwhelming amount of generosity from local businesses, sponsors, volunteers, friends, family, and donors."

The community event, which coincides with Scleroderma Awareness Month, brought together residents, local businesses, sponsors, volunteers, friends, and family members in support of those affected by the disease.

Janes said that she was deeply moved by the outpour of community support she received in such a short time. She thanked every one of the 57 attendees and donors who demonstrated their support.

"What started as an idea just six weeks ago turned into something truly special. As someone who organized this event in memory of my father, I am beyond grateful," she



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

WALKING WITH PURPOSE: With a strong showing of 57 participants, the inaugural Make a Move for Scleroderma Awareness walk on June 7 surpassed expectations with \$12,438, sailing well past the goal of \$10,000 set prior to the walk. Organizers remain deeply thankful for the strong community support, and donations will remain open throughout June, which is Scleroderma Awareness Month. The walk took place at Island Lake Conservation Area.

said.

"Seeing our community come together to raise awareness and support those affected by this disease was incredibly moving."

The walk was organized in memory of Janes' father, who lived with the disease for 16 years. The event aimed not only to raise funds but also to increase public understanding of scleroderma and the challenges faced by those living with the condition.

Scleroderma is a chronic autoimmune

disease that causes the body to produce excess collagen, leading to the hardening and tightening of the skin and connective tissues. In some cases, it can also affect internal organs, creating serious health complications.

Community members turned out in large numbers to participate in the walk, donate, and help raise awareness. Support also came from a variety of local businesses and sponsors who helped make the event possible.

Janes said that the success of the first

event has highlighted the importance of continuing education and advocacy efforts surrounding scleroderma.

Donations will continue to be accepted throughout Scleroderma Awareness Month in June, with funds supporting ongoing awareness initiatives and programs for those affected by the disease.

The event marked a strong start to Scleroderma Awareness Month, raising awareness and generating support for more research.

Orangeville Canadian Tire donates six-burner BBQ to Shelburne Legion

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Orangeville Canadian Tire is stepping up to help the Shelburne branch of the Royal Canadian Legion prepare for summer by donating a new, large barbecue on June 5.

As the summer weather kicks into full gear, outdoor activities are popping up all across the community. The local Royal Canadian Legion in Shelburne has been planning events of its own, including an upcoming barbecue.

Deputy Zone Commander Chris Skalozub

said there was just one issue, however: they needed a new grill. So he spoke to Canadian Tire Warehouse Manager Brenda Fedrigoni.

"We really needed a new barbecue," he said. "We have a puny little thing that just can't keep up with high volumes of people, and we have an auto show coming up and a

barbecue, it wasn't going to work. So I went down and spoke to Brenda Fedrigoni, and I asked for a donation for a barbecue."

After approaching Orangeville Canadian Tire with the request, the store agreed to donate a six-burner barbecue with an additional side burner, significantly increasing the Legion's capacity to serve visitors and raise funds. The donation took place on Friday, June 5.

Skalozub praised Fedrigoni and Canadian Tire for their eagerness to help.

"She was fantastic," he said. "She said it wouldn't be a problem, and that she could do this for us right away, and she did it. Boom, done. And then she gave us a deal on the cover, which is a big help for us, because we're trying to save some money."

The donation is part of an ongoing relationship between Canadian Tire and Royal Canadian Legion, which has previously seen the store support the Legion with another barbecue and space for community initiatives.

Canadian Tire has been a consistent partner for the Legion's activities, including allowing members to canvas in-store for the annual Remembrance Day program and providing indoor space during poor weather.

"This store has been fantastic for the Legion for a long time," Skalozub said. "They'll let us come down here in Canvas for Remembrance Day, collect donations, and we get to stay out of the rain. We're very grateful."

This support helps ensure that important commemorative and fundraising efforts can continue regardless of conditions.

The new barbecue will play a role at future events, strengthening the Legion's ability to bring residents together, support veterans, and contribute to local causes. And of course, serve some good food.

Residents charged with impaired driving in north Dufferin County

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers have charged residents of Grand Valley and Shelburne with impaired driving-related offences following two separate calls for service.

On May 19, at approximately 7:20 p.m., officers were dispatched to a restaurant on Main Street in Shelburne for a report of a fight in progress. During the altercation, one of the involved individuals left the area in a vehicle. Moments later, as officers arrived on scene, the suspect had returned to the restaurant. While speaking with the driver, officers initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Dylan Pardy, 23, from Grand Valley, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Unauthorized Possession of Weapon
- Possess unmarked cigarettes
- Drive vehicle or boat with cannabis readily available

On May 20, at approximately 2:10 p.m., officers were dispatched to a motel on Highway 89 in Mulmur for a report of a possible impaired driver. Moments later, officers arrived on scene and spoke with the male driver. As a result of the interaction, officers initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Hartaj Singh, 45, from Shelburne, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)
- Being intoxicated in public place

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.

Form 6

SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

Municipal Act, 2001

Ontario Regulation 181/03, Municipal Tax Sale Rules

SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

The Corporation of the Township of East Garafraxa



Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the land described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on July 15, 2026, at the East Garafraxa Municipal Office, 065371 Dufferin County Road 3, Unit 2, East Garafraxa, Ontario.

The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the East Garafraxa Municipal Office, 065371 Dufferin County Road 3, Unit 2, East Garafraxa.

Description of Land:

1. Roll No. 22 01 000 003 13200 0000; EAST GARAFRAXA; PIN 34083-0062 (LT); PT LTS 3 & 4, CON A AS IN MF222173; EAST GARAFRAXA; File No. 23-06

According to the last returned assessment roll, the assessed value of the land is \$299,000 (RT ES)

Minimum tender amount: \$48,534.46

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit of at least 20 per cent of the tender amount, which deposit shall be made by way of a certified cheque/bank draft/ money order payable to the municipality.

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to or any other matters relating to the land to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers. The assessed value, according to the last returned assessment roll, may or may not be representative of the current market value of the property.

Pursuant to the Prohibition on the Purchase of Residential Property by Non-Canadians Act, S.C. 2022, c. 10, s. 235 (the "Act"), effective January 1, 2023, it is prohibited for a non-Canadian to purchase, directly or indirectly, any residential property, as those terms are defined in the legislation. Contraventions of the Act are punishable by a fine, and offending purchasers may be ordered to sell the residential property.

The municipality assumes no responsibility whatsoever for ensuring bidders/tenderers comply with the Act, and makes no representations regarding same. Prospective bidders/tenderers are solely responsible for ensuring compliance with the Act and are advised to seek legal advice before participating in this sale.

Transfers of properties that contain at least one and not more than six single family residences and are transferred to non-residents of Canada or foreign entities, are subject to the Province's Non-Resident Speculation Tax (NRST).

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes and any taxes that may be applicable, such as a land transfer tax and HST.

TAKE NOTICE: Where a refund is claimed by a qualifying first-time Homebuyer under the Land Transfer Tax Act, the Municipality requires the purchaser to retain legal counsel to complete the transfer.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

A copy of the prescribed form of tender is available on the website of the Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository under the listing for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender, visit:

www.OntarioTaxSales.ca

or if no internet access available, contact:

Zulfiqar Bhatti

Deputy Treasurer, Supervisor of Financial Services

The Corporation of the Township of East Garafraxa

065371 Dufferin County Road 3, Unit 2,

East Garafraxa ON L9W 7J8

226-259-9400 Ex 207

zbhatti@eastgarafraxa.ca

https://www.eastgarafraxa.ca/

Boston Pizza supports Shelburne athlete's journey to France to compete in the Special Olympics Unified World Cup

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Boston Pizza staff and supporters gathered earlier this week to hand over proceeds from a June 2 celebrity server event to Shelburne-athlete Yazmine Wilson-Daponte, who's fundraising for her travels to compete in the Special Olympics Unified World Cup in Paris, France this summer.

The cheque for \$762.25 marked the culmination of a community effort that brought families, friends, and strangers together in support of the women's unified soccer team representing Canada.

Karrie Daponte, Yazmine Wilson-Daponte's mother, said she was happy to see the fundraiser's success.

"Obviously, I'm a very proud mom," Daponte said. "Yazmine thrives in the community, so it's like so great for her and all of us. She spends most of her time playing sports, so it's just amazing to see an opportunity like this."

The restaurant held a celebrity server event, which ran from 5 to 8 p.m., with 10 per cent of sales — including dine-in, take-out, and online orders — earmarked for Yazmine's travel costs. Additional funds were raised through a raffle for a donated soccer jersey and a \$5 "Balloon Pop" activity, boosting the final total.

Daponte said the money will primarily help cover Yazmine's flight, a required cost

for families joining Team Ontario, while the rest of the trip, including accommodation in the Olympic Village, is funded by Special Olympics.

The fundraising night followed weeks of quiet support from local businesses and residents, including gift cards, flags, and other items to make the trip possible.

With practices located hours away and a demanding training schedule, the cheque handover served as both a financial boost and a show of community pride in Yazmine's achievement.



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

SUPPORTING SPECIAL OLYMPICS: Boston Pizza management handed over the ceremonial cheque worth \$762.25 to Yazmine Wilson-Daponte on June 9, after a successful celebrity server event (left photo). Wilson-Daponte stands at Boston Pizza in Orangeville during a June 2 Celebrity Server Night fundraiser supporting her trip to the 2026 Special Olympics Unified World Cup in Paris, France (left photo). The community fundraiser raised more than \$760 to help cover travel costs for Wilson-Daponte.



ORANGEVILLE PRIDE: Town of Orangeville representatives, members of the Dufferin detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police and residents gathered at Town Hall on June 3 for a Pride Month flag-raising ceremony. Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post read a proclamation declaring June as Pride Month in the Town of Orangeville.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

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Edgar

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to care for the kitties at the sanctuary and also to help maintain our thrift store which raises funds to care for them.

Check our facebook page to see the other kitties looking for their forever home. Donations always needed to help care for the cats as we are not funded at all, and rely on donations and fundraisers. If you would like to volunteer as well we are always appreciative.

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PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

FLOOD PREPAREDNESS

Grand Valley and Waldemar

The Grand River Conservation Authority and its municipal partners invite you to a public information meeting on flooding and water safety in Grand Valley and Waldemar. Hear the results of the Flood Damage Assessment Study, learn how the GRCA flood forecasting and warning works, and find out how to prepare your household. All are welcome.

What we'll cover

- Flood Damage Assessment Study results
- GRCA flood forecasting and warning
- Emergency preparedness, including three-day kits

Date
June 22, 2026

Time
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Location
Grand Valley and District Community Centre

www.Grandriver.ca/fdas

Golf for Kids Sake in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters planned for end of June

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

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin and District is inviting local golfers to hit the links in support of youth mentoring as its long-running Golf for Kids' Sake tournament returns to the Shelburne Golf and Country Club on June 25.

The fundraiser, now in its 32nd year, is scheduled as a daytime event designed to fit around family and work commitments. Big Brothers Big Sisters Executive Director Nancy Stallmach, who's organizing the event, described the day as suitable for a range of skill levels.

"It's a great time for everyone," she said. "Anyone can golf, whether you're a serious golfer or any other skill level; it can be a lot of fun for you. It includes 18 holes of golf, and we have lunch. There's prizes, there's a trophy for the top team, there's all kinds of fun games, and there's networking that goes on, so it's a great way to support a very important cause here in our community."

Registration and the silent auction open at 8:30 a.m., followed by a shotgun start at 9:30 a.m. Lunch will be served between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., with golf beginning to wind down around 2 p.m. Silent auction bidding

continues through the day, closing at approximately 3 p.m.

Registration includes 18 holes of golf, a cart rental, a customized lunch, a SWAG bag, prizes, and access to the silent auction before and during the tournament.

Stallmach said that proceeds from the tournament support Big Brother Big Sister's mentoring programs, which pair children and youth facing adversity with caring adult volunteers. She described the event as an important pillar supporting their operations and thanked participants and supporters for their continued efforts.

"It's going back to support our mentor programs for children facing adversity," Stallmach said. "Golf for kids' sake is an important fundraiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters. It helps us raise crucial money for our mentoring programs. We feel incredibly grateful that our community has been so supportive and allowed us to stay in operation all these years."

The agency, operating locally since 1972, serves children across Dufferin County and into surrounding communities, including Erin and Tottenham.

Funds from Golf for Kids' Sake help sustain one-to-one matches in the traditional Big Brother and Big Sister programs, but they also support in-school mentoring where volun-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FORE THE KIDS: The Golf for Kids Sake event, organized by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin and District, will bring together amateur and experienced golfers for a day of outdoor fun in support of a good cause on June 25. Proceeds from the golf event will help

teers meet students on school grounds during the day.

Volunteers typically meet their mentees weekly or biweekly to share activities and build a stable, trusting relationship that can positively influence a young person's life.

Some former mentees have returned as volunteers themselves.

Alongside golfers, the organization is ac-

tively seeking volunteers and sponsors. Event, hole, prize and swag bag sponsorships are available, as well as opportunities to donate to the silent auction or enter corporate teams.

Those interested in registering, sponsoring the event, or learning more about volunteer opportunities can contact Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin at 519-941-6431 or email nancy.stallmach@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca.



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FM 102 BOLTON FM 92 SOUTH SIMCOE FM 101 MILTON

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Three people charged with impaired driving across Dufferin

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged three local residents with impaired driving-related offences following numerous traffic complaints.

On May 28, Dufferin OPP officers were dispatched to the area of Fifth Avenue in Orangeville for a traffic complaint. Officers arrived on scene and located the vehicle of interest. While speaking with the driver, officers initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Evan Marshall, 31, from Mono, has been charged with:

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

On May 30, officers were dispatched to the area of 6th Line and Highway 89 in Amaranth after receiving reports of a male driver slumped over in the driver's seat of a vehicle that was blocking a live lane of traffic.

Fearing a medical emergency, officers and emergency personnel responded immediately to the scene. Upon arrival, officers located the vehicle and spoke with the driver. A female passenger was also found inside the vehicle and appeared to be slumped over.

While speaking with the driver, officers observed signs of impairment and subsequently initiated an impaired driving investigation. During the investigation, officers located open alcohol and drug paraphernalia inside the ve-

hicle.

As a result of the investigation, Ryan Adams, 40, from Amaranth, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Failure or refusal to comply with demand
- Driving while under suspension

On June 1, members of the Dufferin OPP officers were dispatched to the area of Highway 89 and Highway 10 after receiving numerous traffic complaints regarding a possible impaired driver.

The vehicle had reportedly been observed travelling into oncoming traffic. Officers were able to locate the suspect vehicle on Highway 10, just south of Highway 89, in Mono.

Officers initiated a traffic stop and spoke with the driver. During their interaction, officers observed signs of impairment and subsequently initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Cameron Palmer, 26, from Dundalk, has been charged with operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus).

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

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.

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4 SKEWERS 300 g
Choose from 2 varieties.
Lemon & Herb

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Fully Cooked Tasty Burgers™
16 BURGERS x 80 g / 2.82 oz

24⁹⁹ each

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4 STEAKS x 142 g / 5 oz

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Gourmet Double Pepperoni Flatbreads 460 g - 515 g
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Bistro Chicken® 114 g
Choose from:
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4⁴⁹ each

Stuffed, Breaded Chicken 142 g
Choose from:
• Parmesan • Kiev • Swiss • Broccoli and Cheese

4⁴⁹ each

Vegetable Egg Rolls
10 PIECES 570 g

APPS

9⁹⁹ each

Chicken Spring Rolls
6 PIECES 432 g

SALE

Pot Pies 225 g - 250 g
2 Varieties
Beef and Mushroom

4⁹⁹ each

Quiche 170 g
3 Varieties
Florentine

4⁹⁹ each

Mini Vegetable Spring Rolls
16 PIECES 384 g

Crispy Everything Cream Cheese Bites
14 PIECES 280 g

SAVE \$3 each

Cauliflower Bites 450 g
Sauces included: Parmesan, Buffalo

SALE

Omelette Bites 4 PIECES 227 g
2 Varieties
Spinach and Red Pepper, Egg White

6⁹⁹ each

2⁹⁹ each

Deluxe Deep Dish Pizzas
Pepperoni

SAVE \$2

Sausage Rolls
26-28 PIECES 500 g

Mini Franks in Pastry
15 PIECES 279 g

SAVE \$3

Lobster Mac & Cheese Bites
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SOUPS 255 g - 400 mL

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Sirloin Beef Meatballs 60-70 PIECES 907 g

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FAMILY SIZE MEALS 907 g

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Pink Salmon in Sauce 142 g

Herb and Garlic, Dill, Applewood and Maple

SAVE \$2

17⁹⁹ each

SmashHouse Angus Beef Burgers 8 BURGERS x 113 g / 4 oz

SAVE \$2

17⁹⁹ each

Philly Beef Steak 4 PORTIONS 335 g

SAVE \$2

12⁹⁹ each

Boneless Rib Style Pork Cutlettes 6 PIECES 680 g

Mild Italian Sausages 8-9 PIECES 900 g, 2 Varieties. Also available, Frankfurters 18 PIECES 1.1 kg \$17.99 SAVE \$2

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12⁹⁹

Strawberry Cheesecake 600 g

8⁹⁹ each

SALE

8⁹⁹ each

Cake Pops 6 PIECES 216 g

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BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

CHARGING THROUGH: The Orangeville Junior C Northmen host the Whitby Warriors at Tony Rose Arena in Orangeville on Sunday, June 7. The Northmen were leading the game going into the third period, but were outgunned in the final frame to take a 14-11 loss.

Orangeville Otters capture Team Challenge title at Huronia Region Long Course meet

Written By **BRIAN LOCKHART**

The Orangeville Otters Swim Club captured the Huronia Region Long Course Team Challenge title during competition held at Brock University in St. Catharines from May 28 to 31.

A total of 48 Otters swimmers travelled to compete in the annual event, which brings together clubs from across Huronia Region for a unique team competition focused on building partnerships, friendships, and team spirit. A total of 10 clubs participated in the event, with teams paired together in a head-to-head challenge format.

Partnered with the Lindsay Lightning Bolts Swim Club, the Otters face the Barrie Trojan

Swim Club in the team challenge competition.

The Otters and Lightning Bolts combined for 4,257 points to win the Team Challenge title.

They posted the highest point total of all teams at the meet.

Several Otters swimmers posted outstanding results.

In the 12 & Under division, Rowan Young, 10, was the club's top male with 109 points.

Ava Yardley led the female standings with 145 points.

In the 13 & Over division, Wesley Halls, 16, earned 136 points to lead the Otters in that division.

Kaitlin Malec, 17, contributed 130 points as

the club's top email point scorer.

The weekend also featured an impressive number of record-breaking performances.

Gracie Chapman set a new Huronia Region record in the 10 & Under girls 50m breaststroke.

Oyona Egbert, 12, added her name to the record books by breaking the Huronia Region records in both the 11-12 girls 1,500m freestyle and 50m breaststroke events.

The Otters also enjoyed tremendous success in the relay events.

The 11-12 Girls team of Ava Yardley, Qyona Egbert, Julia Noronha, and Gemma Harrison established new Huronia Region records in both the 4x100m Medley Relay and 4x100m Freestyle Relay.

The 10 & Under boys team of Owen Reyes, Callen Norris, Lawson Noronha, and Rowan Young also broke Huronia Region records in

both the 4x100m Medley Relay and 4x100m Freestyle Relay.

Head Coach Sam Kuntz was especially proud of the way the team competed and supported one another throughout the weekend.

"I couldn't be prouder of the way our swimmers competed this weekend," said Kuntz. "We saw athletes step up in every session, support one another, and race with confidence. From personal bests and record-breaking swims to outstanding team spirit, this group demonstrated what the Orangeville Otters are all about. The effort, commitment, and positive attitude shown by our swimmers throughout the season were on full display in St. Catharines."

The Otters would like to thank coaches, volunteers, and families for their continued support and dedication throughout the season.

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BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

OTTERLY STRONG EFFORT: The Orangeville Otters competed at the Huronia Region Long Course Team Challenge held at Brock University in St. Catharines from May 18 to 31. The Otters had good results with several swimmers turning out record-breaking performances.

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OPINION

One thousand foot soldiers

You come home after a long day at work. To relax, you sit in your favourite chair and open the newspaper or a book, or maybe turn on the television to see if Jerry and Kramer are still neighbours after all these years. You're having a good laugh at George's latest life crisis, when BAM BAM BAM, and you hear breaking glass. There are gunshots on the street. How is this happening in your serene and quiet suburban neighbourhood? Then you see your wife/son/daughter/father/mother/husband lying dead on the living room floor because one of those bullets fired at your neighbour's house came right through your living room window. This is not a far-fetched scenario. It happened not that far from where I live. It is now reported by such reliable sources as CBC News and Global News that the so-called Lawrence Bishnoi gang wrote a letter to police in Abbotsford, B.C., claiming to have more than 1,000 foot soldiers across Canada ready to carry out extortion. The usual method is threats and shooting up businesses and private homes. What they really meant is they have over 1,000 thugs, criminals, terrorists, and fake students living here, not 'soldiers.'

Why are these thugs even on our shores? They have one Indian national identified as Jashandeep Singh in an investigation about an extortion network operating in Ontario, Alberta, and B.C. The CBC report states, "Canada's Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship (Lena Metlege Diab) wants to deport Singh for organized criminality. She 'wants' to deport him? What's the hold-up? He's not a citizen, kick him out, now. A police officer involved in the investigation stated, "Every individual that we've identified during this investigation is a temporary foreign worker or on a student visa and relatively new to Canada." And the Minister 'wants' to deport them? The federal government is directly responsible for this after years of irresponsible immigration policies. Why were these criminals not vetted? How did they even get into the country if they are involved in organized criminal activity? Does the federal government just rubber-stamp any criminal that shows up on our shores? The provincial government now has a series of radio ads you might have heard.

It says the provincial government is going to build more jails and hire more prosecutors and police to keep us safe. Common sense says you should be proactive and stop it before it starts – not wait until someone is dead, and then react. You can throw someone in jail after the fact, but that doesn't help a grieving family who just lost someone who was shot dead in their own home in a drive-by shooting. The Trudeau government was largely responsible for the bad immigration policies that resulted in this mess. Trudeau's policy of opening the floodgates and letting anyone, including those with bad intentions and criminal backgrounds, into the country has caused a serious backlash nationwide. I'm sure the Abbotsford police aren't too happy about receiving a letter that taunts and mocks them, openly admitting they are criminals in our midst with the intention of committing more crimes. These thugs don't try to intimidate people by throwing stones at houses. They try to intimidate people by firing guns at their houses. The federal government's response is to try to criminalize some farmer who has a legally owned rifle for predator protection

and hunting, by banning more and more firearms, rather than cracking down on those criminals driving around with illegal handguns in their car. A quick fact check shows that the majority of firearms used in crimes are illegally smuggled in from the United States. They aren't firearms legally bought and used by Farmer Brown and his neighbours. The stats also show that 95 per cent of guns used in homicides in Canada were illegally obtained. I'm pretty sure local police and agencies like the RCMP and CSIS have already figured out who these foreign criminals are – so why aren't they doing anything about it? It all goes back to the federal government, which would rather have your house shot up than make headlines by deporting people and being called some kind of 'phobic' word by fringe groups. The old saying, 'an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,' makes absolute sense. The prevention, in this case, is stopping these terrorists and criminals from ever arriving here in the first place.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



What does Bibi want?

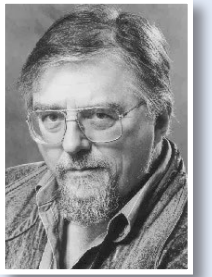
"The war is over," US Secretary of State Marco Rubio told Congress last Tuesday, but it isn't. In the Persian Gulf there is a sort-of ceasefire between the United States and Iran that is reluctantly observed by Israel too, but there are air strikes between American and Iranian forces around the Gulf on most days. There is also a nominal ceasefire between Israel and Hezbollah in southern Lebanon, but the reality is that the Israeli Defence Force (IDF) is relentlessly grinding forward there every day. On an average day around a dozen Lebanese civilians are killed, and Israeli evacuation orders now cover about a fifth of the country (2,000 sq. km.) While Donald Trump's objectives in launching the attack on Iran were unclear, his desperate desire to walk away from this failed "little excursion" with something – anything – that he could portray as a success is obvious. Once or twice a week he announces that a deal with Iran is imminent, but it never happens because the Iranians will get more if they wait. The Israelis, by contrast, are quite happy to go on fighting. When Trump ordered Prime Minister Binyamin 'Bibi' Netanyahu to stop bombing Iran, he obeyed ("He'll do

whatever I want him to do," boasted Trump) because it had become clear that further attacks on Iran would accomplish nothing. But the Israeli invasion of Lebanon is a different matter. Bibi did what he always does: he made a minor concession to placate Trump (he hasn't bombed the city of Beirut), but he hasn't stopped the IDF's steady advance into southern Lebanon. This led to some spectacular pyrotechnics by the American president on Monday, according to the US news website Axios (usually well informed on these matters). "What the f*** are you doing?" Trump allegedly shouted in his call to Netanyahu. "You're f***ing crazy. You'd be in prison if it weren't for me. I'm saving your ass. Everybody hates you now. Everybody hates Israel because of this." It certainly sounds like Trump – especially the bit where he screams and shouts, but ultimately caves in to any dictator, any powerful leader whose strength he admires (Kim Jong-un, Vladimir Putin, etc.). He is letting Netanyahu get away with it, even if it queers the deal with Iran, because he really can't help himself. Not all bullies are fakes, but Trump is. But what does Netanyahu really want?

The IDF is doing the same thing in southern Lebanon that it has already done in the Gaza Strip: empty the towns and villages with evacuation orders, then send in the engineers with explosives and bulldozers to demolish all the houses and other buildings. Leave nothing standing. That task is more than half completed in the Strip. Netanyahu recently told the residents of Kfar Adumim, an Israeli settlement in the West Bank: "We now control 60 per cent of the [Gaza] territory." Some in the crowd shouted "100 percent!" Netanyahu replied "Go in order. First 70. Let's start with that." We know that the Israeli government's final goal is a Palestinian-free Gaza Strip because its members repeatedly tell us so. Just the day before Netanyahu's speech Defence Minister Israel Katz said that the goal was for large numbers of Palestinians to leave the Strip by what he called "voluntary migration". 'Voluntary' in the sense that many of the two million Palestinians squeezed into one-third of an already overcrowded territory, living in tents or makeshift shelters in sun and rain, summer and winter, drinking polluted water and feeding their families on very short rations, might ultimately despair

and accept an offer of 'voluntary' migration. That makes perfectly good sense if you are convinced that God gave all this land to your ancestors in perpetuity 3,800 years ago, but it makes no sense to apply the same policy to southern Lebanon. It's clear that God did not give Lebanon to the Jews, and international law (what's left of it) doesn't approve of it either. So what is Netanyahu up to? Israel occupied all this territory in 1982-2000, but finally chose to leave because of the constant drain of military casualties due to guerilla resistance (by the forerunners of the current Hezbollah organization). Does he think that it might work better this time if they systematically destroy all the houses and farms? Probably not. It's more likely that he just wants to keep the war going until October, when he faces an election he might lose. Most Israelis want the wars against both Iran and Lebanon to continue, so that should win him some votes. But he does have a touch of the megalomaniacal about him, so you can't dismiss the notion that he really dreams of annexing southern Lebanon too.

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



Every corner tells the story

It was a lot of fun this week of interviews with one person for the first time and two others I know quite well – pals over lots of years. Different conversations with the same theme: the first event of the Dufferin Arts Council's (DAC) new lineup for this season, an easy, breezy and very interesting Salon in Hockley Village, Tuesday next week. The piece featuring the interviews and the story is published in this edition, and there is no need to repeat them here. What was fun was the humour, kindness, and wisdom they each displayed, along with the things I learned during each conversation. To interview an individual or a group is a real privilege, a matter of trust, a skill that accumulates knowledge as the interview counts add up. Trust is the main factor, for the interviewee is prepared to have that conversation in print, not misrepresented nor suggested in any way that goes against fairness and truth. The relationship, more often than not, between strangers is fascinating. Sometimes, the subject matter is an issue about which the interviewer knows a lot less than the person who is the focus, a craft perhaps, a specific job or an area of knowledge. The journalist will have done some preliminary research

that can never match the expertise before them. There is an element of negotiation there, a balance of knowing, of perceptive questions, some of which a mindful reader might have proposed. In the asking and telling come the sought-for stories, the how and why of a person's life. It is no small responsibility to convey them with respect and accuracy. Whatever has been told and understood, there is a story, for there is no life without a story, each with an ingredient of the unique. Can it be true that there is no limit to "unique?" Yes. In this day and age of seemingly knowing everything, there are still secrets; there is still the unknown. There are new ideas, born independent of technology, and we do not really have to base all our entertainment on extensions of what already exists. There are new ideas. By and large, my field is to artists or creators as they are referred to now, as an understanding that art is extremely broad, covering every aspect of the planet and its inhabitants. So, there are creators, artists indeed, but not only visual, a word to encompass all the categories of dance and the so many creators of theatre and film. Writers, the source of every kind of

story, reflect this and other worlds. The whole huge range of fashion, garment-making, cooking, and maybe even raising a child... Okay, you have the idea; you probably have a list of your own. The point is, it matters that the creators are in our midst, that we need them, that creativity must not be shrugged off, dismissed in the frantic rush to teach our kids coding – in kindergarten – really? How much is early education about being hands-on, promoting a child's very early impulse to create? Artistically? And how much is given over to early technology – far too early? Who do we want to be when we grow up? Fearful as we are about who will find us from outside our own world, before we find them. Our panic to land and "colonize" Mars is a fool's wish. To travel and learn and meet on some sort of civil footing, other civilizations are brave as long as it isn't as the insanely cruel creatures we were in the 1400s. How do we rescue our own children from a crazed imbalance of tech over reality? We keep all the arts front and centre; we take them horseback riding; we travel with them to places with history, early enough in their lives to understand what

is important about all those stories. Here in Canada, here close to home, there are old stories, and we should ask the guardians of those stories to share them with us, to be sure our children have access to a balance that keeps them safe from a total preoccupation with the faces on their screens. Ah, says you, that is already the case. Mom and Dad are nearly as bad as teenagers about how much time they spend with the critters on their screens. Take your kids to art galleries; enrol them in art camps or workshops. Go to the theatre. Attend art shows and live music events. We have it on good account that this Orangeville, this Dufferin County, is the most arts-centric community in the country. Not just painters, plying their brushes to show a story on pause for the watching, but all kinds of arts are loved here. There is a fresh breeze coming from a revitalized Dufferin Arts Council to, according to David Nairn, "deep dive with the creators – the zany, crazy minds of wonderful creators!" Our kids stand a chance here to learn the balance.

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Monthly Message: Making Camp Work for Every Child with readiness, safety and support

Summer camp is one of the most memorable experiences of childhood. Whether attending a local day camp or heading away for an overnight adventure, camp gives children the opportunity to build independence, strengthen social skills, and explore new activities in a supportive environment. While families often focus on packing lists and registration forms, preparing children emotionally, socially, and safely for camp is equally important.

One of the best ways to support a successful camp experience is by helping children develop camp readiness skills before summer begins. Simple life skills such as dressing independently, organizing belongings, following routines, and asking for help when needed can help children feel more confident in a camp setting. Practicing transitions between activities, participating in group settings, and spending short periods away from home beforehand can also ease first-day nerves.

Social readiness plays a major role in helping children feel comfortable at camp. Camp environments are busy, active, and filled with opportunities for teamwork and friendship. Children benefit from practicing skills such as sharing space, listening to peers, taking turns, and communicating their needs appropriately. Parents can also prepare children by talking openly about what camp may look like, including loud dining halls, outdoor activities, shared spaces, and meeting new people.

One tool that can make an enormous difference for camp staff is an "All About Me" sheet. These personalized forms provide counsellors with valuable insight into how a child communicates, learns, and experiences the world. Rather than focusing only on medical or behavioural concerns, an effective "All About Me" sheet highlights a child's strengths, interests, sensory needs, and support strategies.

For example, your "All About Me" sheet includes sections such as:

- My strengths and things I do well
- What I want you to know about me
- How I communicate best
- Things that bring me joy
- My sensory needs
- Things you can do to support me
- How I learn best
- Terms people use to describe how my brain works

This type of information can be incredibly helpful for camp counsellors. Knowing that a

child may become overwhelmed in loud environments, benefits from visual learning, or needs extra transition time between activities allows staff to provide proactive support. Likewise, learning about a child's interests, such as puzzles, drawing, animals, or nature, helps counsellors build trust and connection more quickly.

An "All About Me" sheet also encourages a strengths-based approach. Instead of focusing solely on challenges, it allows children to share who they are, what makes them feel safe, and how adults can help them succeed. This can be especially valuable for neurodivergent children, including autistic campers or children with sensory processing differences, who may experience camp environments differently than their peers.

If you'd like a template, visit our blog here for a free download- <https://www.wonder-treepractice.ca/post/all-about-me-supporting-neurodivergent-kids-at-camp>

Safety at camp is another important conversation families should have before summer begins. Camps work hard to maintain safe environments through trained staff, supervision policies, emergency procedures, and health protocols. However, children also benefit from understanding basic camp safety rules themselves. Parents should review the importance of staying with their group, listening to counsellors, body privacy and safety and consent, wearing proper safety gear during activities, and speaking up if they feel uncomfortable or need help.

Because camp environments can be busy and overstimulating, it is important to discuss emotional safety as well. Children should know that it is okay to ask for quiet breaks, request clarification if they do not understand instructions, or tell an adult if they are feeling overwhelmed. Camp staff can often provide sensory-friendly supports such as quieter spaces, headphones, or visual schedules when they understand a child's needs ahead

of time.

For an overnight camp, additional preparation and precautions are helpful. Being away from home overnight can feel exciting but also emotional for many children. Practicing overnight stays with trusted family members beforehand can help build confidence and familiarity with sleeping away from home.

Parents should also pack thoughtfully and communicate clearly with camp staff. Label-

ling clothing, preparing comfort items, reviewing medication needs, and sharing information about routines or sensory preferences can make the transition smoother. Children who benefit from structure may feel more comfortable knowing what a typical camp day will look like before they arrive.

Most importantly, families should approach camp preparation with positivity and reassurance.

Children often reflect the emotions of the adults around them.

When parents speak confidently about camp and focus on the exciting opportunities ahead, children are more likely to feel capable and prepared.

With the right preparation, open communication, and supportive tools like an "All About Me" sheet, camp can become a safe, empowering, and unforgettable experience for every child.



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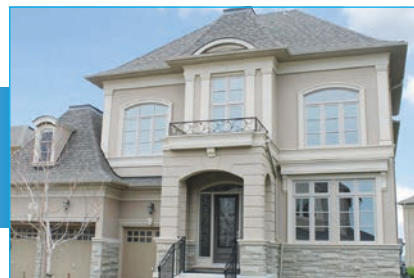
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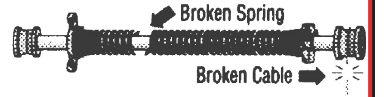
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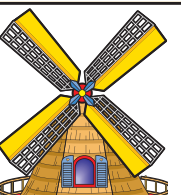


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Orangeville athletes perform well at OFSAA West track and field meet

Written By **BRIAN LOCKHART**

Track and field athletes from Orangeville District Secondary School and Westside Secondary School competed at OFSAA West competition held at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School in Cambridge on Thursday, May 28, and Friday, May 29.

The athletes qualified for OFSAA West after competing in the District 4/10 championships held in Guelph on May 11.

Because of the large number of track and field events and athletes involved, OFSAA competition uses pre-qualifying events by region. This competition narrows the field

for the final provincial OFSAA competition. The ODSS athletes posted strong results, with two qualifying for OFSSA.

ODSS results

Katie Raue placed third in senior girls high jump with a clearance of 1.61 metres and qualified for OFSAA.

Georgia Groves also qualified for OFSAA after placing third in novice girls 1,500-metre running in 5:01.73. Groves also finished seventh in the novice girls 800 metres in 2:27.84.

Other ODSS results included:

- Reuben Macleod — fifth in open boys 2,000-metre steeplechase (6:23.27) and 12th

- in senior boys 800 metres (1:59.72)
- Liam Willcott — sixth in senior boys 3,000 metres (9:09.37) and 15th in senior boys 1,500 metres (4:11.50)
- Maya Kenny — sixth in preliminary heats of junior girls 80-metre hurdles (13.48) and 15th in junior girls 300-metre hurdles (50.98)
- Peyton Price — 11th in junior girls 400 metres (1:04.03)
- Emily McDowell — fifth in intellectually impaired girls 100 metres (17.77) and fifth in shot put (4.42 metres)
- Ailsa Bogan — 14th in open girls 2,000-metre steeplechase (8:07.39)
- Adalynn McLean — 14th in junior girls 800 metres (2:35.03)
- Isaac Symons — 11th in junior boys long

- jump (5.31 metres)
- Cole Copeland — 16th in junior boys javelin (34.85 metres)
- Olivia Croft — DNF in novice girls 3,000 metres

The senior girls' 4x100 relay team of Leah Wenediktow, Jordan Gorman, Katie Raue and Bianca Trichilo finished in 54.20 seconds.

The open girls 4x400 relay team of Peyton Price, Ailsa Bogan, Keira Phillips and Adalynn McLean placed 11th in 4:24.20.

Westside Secondary School results included Aiden Howes placing 10th in novice boys 100 metres in 12.06 seconds, while the junior boys 4x100 relay team of Jayden Cutting, Santino Moscarelli, Aiden Howes and Logan Mitchell finished 15th in 47.93 seconds.

OBITUARIES

NANCY MARLENE WELTZ SEPTEMBER 7, 1951 - JANUARY 1, 2026

After a brief struggle with cancer, Nancy passed away on January 1, 2026, at home, in the loving arms of her son Todd and his wife Kate. Nancy was the loving mother of Todd and loving mother-in-law to Kate, who were both with her constantly from the moment of her diagnosis. She was the loving grandma of Kathleen Tilcox (Dan Smith) and Jamyz Tilcox, great-grandma to Noah Smith and loving mother of her other son (who wishes his name to be excluded).

Loving sister to Ron Campbell (deceased) and his wife Sheila, Joan and Arnold Wilson (both deceased), Colleen Cavanaugh, Jim Campbell (deceased) and Julie Thiers, Darlene and Cliff Bricker. Loving aunt to many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. Special family friend to Glenn and Debbie Sheardown and their wonderful crew. Best friend and travel buddy to Mary Lou Weavers.

As an expression of sympathy, donations to Orangeville Foodbank would be appreciated, as that was where Nancy felt there was the most need.

Family and friends are invited to join us in celebrating Nancy Weltz on June 20 from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM in the multi-purpose room at Monora Park Pavilion, (500 Monora Park Dr, Mono, ON.)

Please feel free to drop in anytime. We hope to spend the afternoon sharing memories, smiles, stories, and remembering the many happy moments Nancy brought into our lives.

Online condolences may be made at www.imfunerals.com

In Memoriam Funeral Services Inc. has been given the honour to serve the Weltz Family.



Single motor vehicle collision claims the life of 81-year-old Mono resident

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), along with local EMS and fire services, responded to a serious single motor vehicle collision in Mono.

On May 20, shortly after 12:30 p.m., emergency crews were dispatched to the area of 3rd Line EHS, just south of 5 Sideroad, for a single motor vehicle collision.

The vehicle involved was a passenger van towing a small utility trailer at the time of the incident. The driver, an adult male, was transported to a local hospital and subsequently airlifted to a Toronto-area trauma centre due to the severity of his injuries.

As a result of the collision, on May 22, the 81-year-old driver from Mono was pronounced deceased.

Members of the OPP Technical Colli-



sion Investigation (TCI) unit attended the scene to assist with the investigation.

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

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

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

RECOGNIZING RAJ: Dr. Raj Khanuja receives a special mention in the Community Leader category of Canada's Volunteer Award from Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Jobs and Families, during an awards ceremony held in Ottawa on Thursday, May 28.

Dr. Raj Khanuja receives volunteer award for community leadership and access to care

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

A local dentist has been honoured for his community leadership and commitment to providing oral health care for those facing financial and social barriers.

Dr. Raj Khanuja, who operates Headwaters Dental in Orangeville and several other clinics, has been recognized with a special mention in the Community Leader category of Canada's Volunteer Awards – one of the Government of Canada's highest honours for volunteerism and community leadership.

Dr. Khanuja is the founder of National Dental Care Day and a longtime advocate for accessible oral healthcare. He was honoured with the volunteer award during a national awards ceremony held in Ottawa on May 28, 2026, which recognized outstanding volunteer leaders from across the country.

The award recognizes more than two decades of volunteer service dedicated to improving access to dental care for underserved Canadians and building a culture of volunteerism within the dental profession.

What began at Headwaters Dental in Orangeville, Ontario, as a grassroots initiative called 'Doing Positive in My Backyard,' has grown into a movement that has inspired dentists, hygienists, dental assistants, students, suppliers, and community partners to provide care to those facing financial and social barriers.

Through volunteer-led free dental care days, thousands of dollars in dental services have been provided to low-income seniors, newcomers, working families, individuals with disabilities, and others who might otherwise go without care.

In 2025, Dr. Khanuja launched a National Dental Care Day, inviting dental professionals across Canada to dedicate a day of service to their communities. The initiative continues to gain momentum, with more than 40 municipalities across Canada proclaiming Oct. 10, 2026, as National Dental Care Day.

"I am deeply honoured to receive this recognition," said Dr. Khanuja. "This award belongs to the many dentists, hygienists, dental assistants, administrative teams, suppliers, students, and community partners who have

shared in this vision. Volunteerism is about restoring dignity, self-confidence, mental health, and human connection. Together, we have demonstrated the extraordinary impact that compassionate care can have on individuals and communities."

The recognition includes a certificate signed by the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honourable Mark Carney, acknowledging Dr. Khanuja's exceptional volunteer contributions and community leadership.

As part of the award, the Government of Canada provided a \$2,500 grant, which Dr. Khanuja directed to the Faculty of Dentistry at the University of Toronto to support the next generation of dental professionals committed to community service, volunteerism, and access to care.

"The award recognizes not only years of volunteer service, but also a vision that has transformed a local act of compassion into a growing national movement," said Dr. Khanuja.

Over the years, Dr. Khanuja's leadership has inspired healthcare professionals, students, and volunteers to work together in the service of others. His vision extends beyond providing dental treatment; it focuses on creating a culture in which healthcare professionals use their skills and expertise to strengthen communities and improve the lives of those facing financial barriers.

"National Dental Care Day was built on a simple belief that everyone deserves access to care and the opportunity to smile with confidence," said Dr. Khanuja. "My hope is that one day National Dental Care Day will be observed in every community across Canada, from coast to coast."

Dr. Khanuja has previously been recognized with numerous honours, including the Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship, the Canada 150 Medallion, and the RBC Top 25 Canadian Immigrant Award. His dental organization has also received the Canadian Business Excellence Award multiple times.

As Canadians look for ways to strengthen communities and support one another, Dr. Khanuja hopes this recognition will inspire others to volunteer, mentor, and use their talents to make a difference.

COMING EVENTS

Shelburne BIA presents
SATURDAY, COME AND PARK!

CLASSIC CAR SHOW

Saturday, June 13, 2026
Downtown Shelburne

William Street & First Avenue, Shelburne

- Come for Lunch
- Vendors in the Park
- Storefront Contest
- Theme: Canada Proud
- \$100 Gift Card
- Prize Draw
- Ice Cream Eating Contest
- Bouncy Castle
- Children's Activities
- Dance Presentation
- Community Pilates Class
- Taekwondo Demonstration

- Trophy for Best of Show
- Prize for BIA's Choice
- Door Prizes
- RC Legion 50/50 Draw

FREE ADMISSION
Registration 10 a.m.
Prizes awarded 2 p.m.

www.shelburnebia.ca • info@shelburnebia.ca

VEHICLES WANTED

SCRAP CAR DISPOSAL – CASH PAID for Cars, Trucks, Vans – Big or Small. Call Joe at 647-294-2796.

WE PAY CASH for Scrap Vehicles - any size. We also buy construction and equipment. Open 7 days a week. Call 905-859-0817 (Peter).

HELP WANTED

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED wanted one day per week for two people in Palgrave. Please call 416-435-0740.

ARTICLES WANTED

BUYING VINYL RECORDS - STEREO - 45's. Cash for antiques and collectibles-stamp-coins. Call James at 416-569-9976.

ARTICLES FOR SALE

6500 GENERATOR for SALE - excellent condition. Call for more info 519-278-6499.

BOOKKEEPING

PERSONAL BUDGET TRACKER designed by local bookkeeper. Currently off. www.scbookkeeping.net.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES & REPAIRS

HANDYMAN SERVICES - Providing an extra pair of helping hands in the Orangeville area. No job too big or too small. One man and a truck services along with residential seasonal lawn maintenance also available. All jobs welcome. \$25/hr. Call 519-447-7550.

HOME RENOVATIONS - kitchen/bathrooms: tiles/wood/vinyl floors: plumbing/painting/stain/drywall: outdoor repairs - fences, decks. Call Alex at 519-938-7727.

ROM MASONRY - Based in Nobleton. We do big or small jobs. Chimneys, window sills, walls etc. All work guaranteed. Free estimates, seniors discount. Call Spencer at 647-542-0559.

SERVICES

TREE PRUNING and REMOVAL as well as minor landscaping. Free estimates. 20+ years experience. Call Russ at 416-802-9180.

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

IF YOU WANT to keep drinking, that's your business. **IF YOU WANT** to stop drinking, that's our business. Call Alcoholics Anonymous Hot Line, 1-866-715-0005. www.aanorthaltoner.in.org.

DRUG PROBLEM? We've been there, we can help! Please refer to georgianheartlandna.org for a complete list of Narcotics Anonymous meetings. Call anytime 519-215-0761.

ARE YOU A WOMAN living with abuse? For safety, emergency shelter, and counselling call Family Transition Place, (519)941-HELP or 1-800-265-9178.

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

IF YOU or a FAMILY MEMBER are struggling with gambling, Gamblers Anonymous is there to HELP. Call: 1(855) 222-5542 or visit www.gatoronto.ca.

ALZHEIMER SUPPORT GROUPS meet monthly for spousal & family support. Call (519) 941-1221.

ORANGEVILLE SENIOR SOCIAL CLUB - A place to meet and make new friends. We meet Thursdays at 5:30 pm. and twice a month at 1:30 pm. Many activities. For more information call Betty at: 519-942-3090.

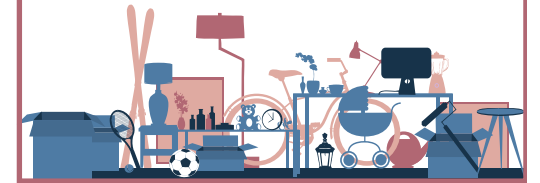
GARAGE SALES

MULTI FAMILY GARAGE SALE

Date: June 13 • Time: 8:00 am
Locations: 123 Valleyview Court & 113 Valleyview Court, Bolton

Come browse a variety of items including household goods garage and hand tools camping gear and antiques miscellaneous items and much more!

Rain date: Sunday, June 14 at 8:00 am
Don't miss this great opportunity to find bargains and hidden treasures!



YARD SALE

SATURDAY JUNE 13TH
9am to 2pm

FEATURING: Oil lamps, fancy leaded glass, DVDs & VHS videos. TVs and DVD players. Kitchen utensils & TOYS!

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Benchmark 4650 BG Series generator. \$300
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Offers available from June 2, 2026 to June 30, 2026. 2026 Rogue S offer includes \$1,100 Nissan Bonus and 0.4% Loyalty Rate Reduction for Qualifying Nissan Owners. Selling price of new 2026 Nissan Rogue S is \$37,391. Limited time lease offer provided through Nissan Canada Finance, on approved credit. All prices and payments include \$2,050 freight and PDE; \$100 A/C charge; regulatory fees (up to \$35); dealer administration fees (up to \$621); PPSA fees (up to \$139); as well as all other applicable fees, levies and duties (all of which may vary by region and retailer). License; insurance; registration; and applicable sales taxes are extra. Representative lease examples: selling price of 2026 Rogue S is \$36,384. Leased at 0% with 0.4% Loyalty Rate Reduction for up to 36 months equals monthly payments of \$430. \$0 down payment required. Cost of borrowing is \$0 for a total obligation \$15,495. Total of 36 monthly payments required during the term. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary (but may not be available in all cases). Conditions apply. Offer is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Ask your dealer or visit www.nissan.ca for details. Nissan names, logos and slogans are trademarks owned by or licensed to Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. And/or its North American subsidiaries. \$1,100 Nissan Bonus ("Bonus") applies only to new and previously unregistered 2026 Rogue S models that are financed through Nissan Canada Finance (NCF) at subvented rates (on approved credit) from an authorized Nissan dealer in Canada from June 2, 2026 to June 30, 2026. Nissan Bonus: (i) will be deducted from the negotiated vehicle price before taxes; (ii) cannot be combined with other offers (other than subvented finance rates offered by NCF); and (iii) cannot be applied to standard rate contracts or to past transactions. Not combinable with fleet discounts. No cash surrender or other value. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice. For more information, see iihs.org. ©2026 NISSAN CANADA INC.

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