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**RUNNING AGAINST HUNGER:** Nearly 1,000 participants participated in the 13th Annual Compass Run for Food when it came to Island Lake Conservation Area on Saturday, June 13. The event raised \$70,000 for local food programs with donations still coming in. See more photos on Page A8.

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**Celebrate Your Awesome returns this weekend**

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

Celebrate Your Awesome will return to downtown Orangeville on June 20, transforming Alexander Park and Second Street into a full-day Pride and diversity celebration.

June is Pride month in Canada, a time to show support and acceptance for the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, and to come together to celebrate diversity, inclusion, and mutual support. Here in Dufferin County, Celebrate Your Awesome in Orangeville will be the centrepiece.

Jim Waddington, one of the founders of Celebrate Your Awesome, said that the free, family-friendly festival centres on welcoming residents of all ages, backgrounds, and identities to share in a safe, inclusive space.

"The idea behind our event is to promote diversity, inclusion, and to highlight Pride Month and Pride in Dufferin County," he said. "Specifically, we want to allow people the opportunity to show their colours, be who they are, feel comfortable in their own space, as well as provide a safe space for people to come out and have a good time."

Organizers stage the annual event to pro-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**PRIDE PERFORMER:** A drag performer entertains the crowd during last year's Celebrate Your Awesome festival in downtown Orangeville. The annual Pride celebration returns June 20 with live entertainment, drag shows, vendors, food trucks and family-friendly activities.

mote visibility, understanding, and connection. By bringing together local agencies, businesses, performers and residents, the festival aims to normalize queer presence in the community, encourage allyship, and highlight that everyone deserves acceptance

and a place to belong.

Waddington said that everyone is welcome, no matter what community they come from. He said that, as a community, it is critically important to listen to the diverse groups that call Dufferin County home and hear what they have to say.

"Within Dufferin County, there is a queer community, and there is our Black community and Portuguese community and Filipino and Italian and Jewish, and on and on and on," he said. "Everyone is important, and everyone needs to be heard. Everyone needs to have a seat at the table. Everyone needs to be embraced."

Running from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. this Saturday, Celebrate Your Awesome features live music and entertainment throughout the day, two drag shows in the afternoon and evening, food trucks, and a retro theme that invites participants to dress in disco, neon, or other colourful outfits.

A dedicated children's area will also be on site, offering storytelling, games and face painting, while the Orangeville Fire Department is expected to attend with a fire truck and giveaways.

Continued on Page A12

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# Mono mayor urges county to bill province for traffic safety tools

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Dufferin County will soon have a pair of portable radar speed signs to be moved around and used throughout its road network.

Residents experience road safety concerns caused by motorists driving at excessive speeds, particularly within settlement and hamlet transition areas, Community Safety Zones, pedestrian activity areas, and corridors with vulnerable road users, such as agricultural equipment traffic.

These concerns are commonly associated with higher operating speeds on arterial and collector roadways as vehicles transition through rural communities and developed areas.

"As an upper-tier municipality, the county's roadway network primarily functions as an arterial and collector transportation system intended to support regional mobility, emergency response, goods movement, agricultural operations, and winter maintenance activities," according to a report to council.

"Due to the operational function of county roads, many traditional urban traffic calming measures such as speed humps, raised intersections, and permanent roadway closures are not considered operationally appropriate."

Radar speed display signs and other feedback-type devices are effective traffic calming measures in such areas. They improve driver awareness and encourage speed reduction while maintaining roadway function.

Councillor Todd Taylor, Orangeville's deputy mayor, said he's aware the county has deployed Black CAT radar recorders. They're devices that collect vehicle volume and speed information. But he continues to be frustrated with the need for increased safety in the county, so he's in favour of buying the portable radar speed signs.

The radar signs could be deployed strategically based on operational review, collision history, speed data, Road Safety Audits, and in collaboration with OPP.

Taylor said he doesn't often see safety measures being deployed on county thoroughfares on a general basis. And that's an issue shared by Orangeville, he said.

"I really, really feel that we've just done nothing," Taylor said.

Scott Burns, the county's public works director, said quite a bit is actually done by Dufferin County in the way of traffic safety measures. Much of that is in road design work and refreshing and adjusting painted lines.

"There are different measure that you would use in an urban centre versus an arterial urban road," Burns said, and added that the county will soon begin a feasibility study paired with a road safety master plan.

Those plans approach road safety in a more proactive manner as opposed to addressing issues by way of reactive answers, he said.

"This will give us some policy framework for how we'll approach these things so hopefully we can quell the issues before they become an issue and before folks around this table hear about them," Burns said.

Taylor asked if there is a vision as to how that might be accomplished.

"It's your team," Taylor said. "You get together, I assume, the engineers share their pinky rings with each other and they talk about here's where the issues are."

He asked about how the analysis will be undertaken, and if there's a communications plan for how to best inform residents and drivers.

Burns said the document hasn't been released, but there is a fair bit of such information available. A third party will also put eyes on the plan.

"We are looking at things through a slightly different lens through the road safety

audit approach where it does expose all of the hazards that could be in any location," Burns said.

The Road Safety Master Plan prioritizes lower-cost, evidence-based, and operationally compatible traffic calming measures prior to consideration of permanent roadway modifications or capital reconstruction projects.

Burns said guidance will be offered for such infrastructure as roundabouts, which have been recently discussed as a traffic calming measure suitable for Dufferin County.

Burns said two Black CATS have been deployed, and county officials and the public can see which areas have more traffic and which areas have incidents of high speed.

Coun. John Creelman, Mono's mayor, said the province should pay for the portable radar speed signs and not the county. The crowd at Queen's Park discontinued traffic safety cameras. And they announced money for speed bumps and "extra-large signs," he said. "Which, of course, is irrelevant in some of the more challenging areas of Dufferin County."

Creelman said the county should send the provincial government an invoice for any safety measures that are adopted.

# UGDSB and OPP respond to social media threat, 12-year-old student arrested

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

The Upper Grand District School Board (UGDSB) and Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) say there was no immediate risk to student safety following a reported online threat involving a 12-year-old student at a public school in Orangeville on June 12.

School administration became aware of concerning social media content the morning of June 12 and contacted police. A threat assessment was initiated, where school staff worked with board staff and OPP during the response.

Police were on scene and determined that a hold-and-secure was not required. The OPP has said officers assessed the situation quickly and concluded there was no immediate risk to students or staff. The

12-year-old student was later arrested and charged with two counts of uttering threats to cause death or bodily harm under the Criminal Code. Under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, the identity of the accused cannot be released.

In a statement, the school board said that, based on information available at the time and in consultation with police, additional measures such as a hold and secure were not deemed necessary. Families were informed the same day and provided with information about supports and resources, the board said.

"Based on the information available at the time and in consultation with police, it was determined that there was no immediate threat within the school and that additional measures, such as a hold and secure,

were not required," the school board said in a statement.

The OPP said officers responded quickly to reports of a video posted to social media that suggested a potential threat involving individuals at the school. Police have said the incident is considered isolated and that there are no ongoing safety concerns.

"Officers acted swiftly, and it was determined there was no immediate risk to students or staff," the OPP said in a statement. "Incidents like this are rare and often isolated, but they are always thoroughly investigated."

The school board said a formal threat assessment process was initiated in line with board procedures, and that supports remain available for students and families who may require assistance following the

incident.

"As this matter involves a youth and remains subject to legal and privacy considerations, we are unable to comment on specific details related to the student, the investigation, or evidence that may have been reviewed by police," the board said.

The OPP has encouraged parents to speak with children about responsible online behaviour and to report any threats to schools to the police immediately.

Following any significant safety-related incident, the board said it reviews its response and procedures to ensure safe learning environments for students and staff.

The 12-year-old charged with two counts of uttering threats to cause death or bodily harm will appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on a future date.

# Two young adults from Grand Valley pronounced deceased following two-vehicle collision in Amaranth

The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is investigating a fatal collision on County Road 109 in Amaranth.

On Tuesday, June 16, at approximately 10:45 p.m., members from the Dufferin Detachment were dispatched to a two passen-

ger-vehicle collision on County Road 109, near Grandview Road.

A 23-year-old male and a 24-year-old female from Grand Valley were pronounced deceased at the scene. Another male was transported to a local hospital as a precautionary measure.

County Road 109, between County Road 24 and 9th Line, was closed for several hours while the OPP Traffic Incident Management and Enforcement (TIME) team assisted with the investigation.

The road has since reopened. The investigation is ongoing. Anyone who

may have witnessed the collision or has dashcam footage from the area at the time of the incident is asked to contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122. To remain anonymous, tips can be submitted to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

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# Dufferin OPP investigating sexual assault reports at Island Lake

The Dufferin Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is investigating two separate reports of sexual assault that occurred at Island Lake Conservation Area in the Town of Orangeville.

On Saturday, June 13, at approximately 1 p.m., a 29-year-old woman was approached by an older male who engaged in unwanted physical contact.

On Tuesday, June 16, at approximately 11 a.m., a 28-year-old woman reported being approached by an older male matching the description provided in the earlier incident. Un-

wanted physical contact was also reported.

The male is described as 50 to 60 years old, South Asian and bald.

Both incidents remain under active investigation.

The OPP is asking anyone who may have witnessed suspicious behaviour in the area, or who has information related to the incidents, to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122, referencing file E260835705.

Police say officers are increasing patrols in and around the conservation area to enhance public safety and provide reassurance to the

community.

The OPP is reminding all visitors, particularly women who may be walking alone, to take precautions when using trails and public outdoor spaces.

Safety tips:

- Be aware of your surroundings at all times and trust your instincts
- Avoid isolated or less-travelled areas
- Walk with a friend or in groups whenever possible
- Let someone know your route and expected return time

• Keep your cell phone charged and accessible

• Consider carrying a personal safety alarm

• If you feel unsafe, leave the area immediately and seek help

Anyone who observes suspicious activity or feels threatened is encouraged to contact 911 immediately.

Information can also be provided anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

# Dufferin County's long-term waste strategy stops at needs, not solutions

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Diverting Dufferin County's garbage from landfills continues to be the best option.

The county's Long-Term Waste Management Strategy (LTWMS) update includes 10 shortlisted options and two phases of public engagement for consideration.

The upper-tier council heard during its June 11 meeting that an assessment process evaluated each option based on social, environmental, and economic criteria. The highest-ranked options demonstrated strong diversion potential, environmental benefits, public acceptance, and relatively low implementation complexity.

Public feedback indicates residents support practical and accessible waste services that reduce waste, increase diversion, expand reuse opportunities, and improve access to specialized waste programs, according to a report to council.

Evaluation of that feedback forms the chassis that will inform the draft LTWMS, which will include implementation priorities and financial considerations.

Councillor Fred Nix, who is also Mono's deputy mayor, asked when council will get to learn how much each of the options would cost. Some of the ideas presented are great, he said.



"But how much are they going to cost?" Nix said.

Melissa Kovacs-Reid, the county's waste services manager, said the consultants will complete an implementation and financial plan as part of the strategy's final draft.

"It doesn't mean that we're going to absolutely do some of these things," she said. "I means we have the road map to continue looking at them."

To dispose of organic material, tipping fees at transfer stations will have to increase.

"So we have to look at do we want to include more items because there will be a cost and what's the benefit from a diversion point of view," she said.

Nix asked if it would be possible to have a financial idea of the options in time for the July meeting. If that information comes in the fall, council won't be in a position to do any-

thing due to the October municipal elections. It'll be within the purview of the new county council, which will be comprised of newly elected municipal councillors.

Warden Lisa Post, Orangeville's mayor, said the upper tier was merely considering a strategy.

"The implementation would come after the strategy based on budget requests from staff after the fact," Post said. "This is just identifying the key needs, the identified areas we want to focus on."

The last of the 10 waste disposal options shortlisted refers to disposal services for solid waste. And that's something, Coun. Darren White, Melancthon's long-time mayor and a former county warden, is well familiar with.

Solid waste disposal services are part of the long-term management strategy. He's been hearing about it for 20 years, he said.

"And we have no plan currently," he said. "I don't see one in the short term. I'm wondering how long term are we talking? Are we talking my lifetime? My kids' lifetime? My grandkids' lifetime? It just seems to be getting further and further away."

Kovacs-Reid said Dufferin County has indeed been looking at waste disposal for a long time. There are large parcels of land in Grand Valley that were considered years ago. "But we haven't looked at that in a while,"

she said.

It was decided in 2013 that the solid waste would be exported.

"So that's where we're at right now," Kovacs-Reid said. "But the reality is that the border is still open, but what's going to happen in the future? We don't know. It's a big business there, so I don't know if they'll change that."

What's known is that tipping fees might increase, and that's a budgetary issue for the county that may have to be dealt with.

"As for things in the county, this is part of the road map," she said. "This is part of the strategy and everything costs money."

An interest in having a facility within the county's north means a cost, she said.

Basically, one of the facets of updating the 2018 LTWMS is determining what avenues are still to be considered.

"The reality is the landfill capacity in Ontario is dwindling quite quickly," Kovacs-Reid said. "If the direction is to find something local, it's going to cost more."

And it's going to take time to plan for such things as facilities to convert waste into energy.

Kovacs-Reid said, right now, the best way to deal with waste is by way of diversion.

"This is a long-term strategy. That's a long-term plan," White said. "Seems to go together to me."

# Voting underway for Rotary Club of Orangeville Highlands Community Choice Grants

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Voting has opened for the annual Community Choice Grants offered by the Rotary Club of Orangeville Highlands (RCOH).

Voting opened on Monday, June 15, and will continue until June 22 at 11:59 p.m., with three \$2,000 grants available for three not-for-profit organizations in the community.

Two more \$2,000 grants will be selected

by the RCOH, with the view of supporting smaller nonprofits that do not have a large social media following.

The following 16 organizations were nominated by the community and are eligible for the vote:

- 1849 Lorne Scots Army Cadets
- Orangeville and District Seniors Centre
- Orangeville & District Horticultural Society

- Orangeville Music Theatre
- Orangeville Blues and Jazz Festival
- Orangeville Minor Northern Lacrosse
- Family Transition Place
- Choices Shelter and Support Services
- Girl Guides of Canada (Orangeville)
- Orangeville Food Bank
- Headwaters Health Care Foundation
- Tweedsmuir Memorial Presbyterian Church (for Free Community Meals)
- Ontario SPCA and Humane Society Or-

angeville and District Animal Centre

- Streams Community Hub
- Special Olympics Dufferin Dolphins
- Bethell Hospice Foundation

Visit [www.rcoh.ca](http://www.rcoh.ca) to cast a vote.

The successful grant recipients will be announced on Friday, June 26. Follow Rotary Orangeville Highlands on Facebook at [facebook.com/rcohca](https://facebook.com/rcohca) and Instagram at [instagram.com/rotaryhighlands](https://instagram.com/rotaryhighlands) to view the results.

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# Local high school band again wins regional Battle of the Bands competition

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Mazel, a student rock band from Westside Secondary School in Orangeville, has earned its second consecutive title at the Upper Grand District School Board's Battle of the Bands, reinforcing the school's dominance in the board-wide competition.

Westside has now claimed all three championships since the event was introduced, with Mazel winning the past two.

Sophia Käthe, vocalist and guitarist for the trio, said that they were surprised to win back-to-back after a surprise roster change.

"I certainly was not expecting to win two years in a row, but, honestly, it was pretty awesome for us," she said. "What had happened was our drummer – he had a thing with work, so he couldn't show up, so we had to get another drummer to come in and substitute for him, and we had to figure all of that out the night before the competition."

Despite the last-minute change, the group delivered a performance strong enough to emerge victorious from a large, competitive field of student bands across the school board when the competition was held on May 21.

Mazel is built around three core members. Käthe serves as vocalist, guitarist and principal songwriter, guiding both the musical and lyrical direction of the group. She develops the initial song ideas, including guitar arrangements and lyrics, before bringing them to the rest of the band for collaboration and refinement.

Bassist Kaia Gladue provides the rhythmic foundation alongside the drums, helping shape the band's energetic, guitar-driven sound.

Kieran Stanutz, the group's regular drummer, is a familiar figure within Westside's music community and has performed with several school bands over the years, earning a reputation as a reliable and versatile percussionist.

The band's origins date back to Käthe's first year at Westside. Having already performed as a solo musician, she arrived at high school determined to form a band focused on creating original music.

"I was in grade nine, and I thought, I want to do more with music, I was just doing my own solo thing at the time, playing solo gigs when I was like 13," she said. "Once I got to high school, I thought that I wanted to make a band."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**JAMMING OUT:** Mazel, a high school band coming from Westside Secondary School, took home its second win from the Upper Grand District School Board's Battle of the Bands competition, for the second year in a row. Composed of vocalist and guitarist Sophie Käthe, bassist Kaia Gladue and drummer Kieran Stanutz, the trio also performs at shows outside of school, and continues to develop their skills.

Recognizing her ambition, music teacher Phillip McCloskey connected her with the school's existing rhythm-section talent, pairing her with Gladue and Stanutz, who were already familiar with each other.

"Me and Kieran had both, we're both in other bands," Gladue said. "We're both in other bands at the school, he was like the only drummer, and I was like the only bassist. When Sophie said that she wanted a band, McCloskey kind of just went, well, here's the one drummer, here's the one bassist, you guys are now a band, go have fun."

Although the three students did not all know each other beforehand, the combination quickly clicked and developed into a functioning band within the first few months of the school year.

"I think that we all work together very well rhythmically," Käthe said. "I think we all have a good bond, and we just work well together on and off stage."

"We click well together," Gladue said. "We build off each other a lot, I find, too."

Mazel's sound blends alternative rock with punk influences. Their songs feature energetic arrangements, strong rhythmic drive and lyrics designed to encourage deeper interpretation.

New material typically begins with Käthe's early drafts before being workshoped during rehearsals, where the band refines the structure, dynamics and overall feel of each song.

The back-to-back Battle of the Bands victories reflect not only the group's musicianship but also their growth as performers.

What began as a teacher-facilitated partnership between a group of relatively quiet students has evolved into a disciplined and confident act capable of thriving on a competitive regional stage.

The trio have an upcoming performance for Bandit Festival in Owen Sound in July, and will be taking their music north.

## ATV riders face several charges from OPP

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Central Region Snow Vehicle, All-Terrain Vehicle, and Vessel Enforcement/Education (SAVE) Unit laid several charges after three dirt bike riders were reported driving recklessly in Proton Station on June 6.

Grey Bruce OPP said the riders were seen failing to stop at stop signs and travelling at high speeds near pedestrians before entering Central Region jurisdiction. SAVE officers

stopped the riders in a trail system in Mono and determined they were involved in the earlier incident.

All three were charged with careless driving under the Highway Traffic Act. Additional charges included operating an off-road vehicle without insurance, a permit or licence plates, failing to register an off-road vehicle as a new owner and engaging in prohibited activity without a valid trail pass. One rider was also charged with failing to properly secure a helmet chin strap.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

**GRAND OPENING:** If you are looking for a new place to rest your head, Orangeville Mattress is now open on C Line in Orangeville. The store carries a full line of mattresses, boxsprings, and bedding. Orangeville mayor Lisa Post and councillor Joe Andrews congratulate store owners Fred Newlands and David Newlands during a grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony on Saturday, June 13.

### 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](http://www.Grandriver.ca/fdas)



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# Mono Pollinator Garden to host 10-year anniversary celebration

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER



The Mono Pollinator Garden is marking a big milestone this month as volunteers and supporters celebrate the garden's tenth anniversary with a community event titled "A Decade in Bloom."

The anniversary celebration is scheduled for June 21 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Mono Pollinator Garden, located on Hockley Road beside the Dufferin Board of Trade offices at 246366 Hockley Road, Mono. Organizers have also scheduled June 28 as a rain date in case bad weather prevents the festivities from proceeding.

The event is open to all ages and has been designed as an accessible community gathering.

Visitors will have the opportunity to take guided tours of the garden and learn how the site has evolved over the past decade.

Educational workshops will focus on pollinators and soil health, while new interpretive signage highlighting Anishinaabe plant names and Indigenous plant knowledge will also be unveiled.

Organizers are encouraging residents to find practical ways to make their own properties more pollinator-friendly. Families can also take part in a scavenger hunt, and garden-inspired refreshments will be available throughout the afternoon.

The celebration will also provide a preview of additional activities planned throughout the garden's anniversary year.

The anniversary offers an opportunity to reflect on how far the Mono Pollinator Garden has come since its beginnings.

The town council approved the concept in 2015 and designated land and start-up funding

in 2016. What was once a hayfield has since been transformed through the efforts of local volunteers into a thriving educational and ecological space.

The garden was created with a mission to protect and increase populations of wild pollinators while encouraging residents to establish pollinator-friendly habitats at home.

Volunteers designed, built and continue to maintain the site, which features native plants, shrubs and trees selected to provide nectar and pollen throughout the growing season.

Walking paths, seating areas and educational displays help visitors learn about the vital role pollinators play in supporting ecosystems and food production.

Over the past decade, the garden has become both an important conservation project and a community resource, hosting educational programs, school visits and public tours aimed at inspiring action to help reverse pollinator decline.

The upcoming celebration will recognize that work while looking ahead to the garden's next chapter.

For more information on the pollinator garden, go to <https://townofmono.com/mono-pollinator-garden>.

# Credit Valley Conservation launches detection program for invasive species with scent-trained Labrador Retriever

Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) launched the Conservation Detection Dog program on June 12, marking a first in Ontario innovation in early detection of invasive species.

At the heart of the program is Tilly, a scent-trained Labrador Retriever who will play a critical role in identifying priority invasive species on CVC properties.

"The introduction of the Conservation Detection Dog program strengthens CVC's ability to detect high-risk invasive species before they become established in our conservation areas and on CVC properties," said Terri LeRoux, CVC CAO. "It reflects CVC's commitment to innovation and proactive conservation recognizing that early detection and rapid response greatly reduces long-term management costs and can improve ecological outcomes."

Preventing new species from becoming established is critical. Tilly is specially trained to use her highly developed sense of smell, up to 100,000 times more sensitive than humans, to detect target priority invasive species odours before more visible signs appear. Because invasive species are difficult to identify at low densities and across complex terrains, by the time they are visible, control becomes significantly more costly and less effective, making the use of a detection dog more accurate and cost-effective than conventional field surveys.

"This program demonstrates how innovation can strengthen environmental protection and deliver meaningful conservation outcomes," said Dayana Gomez, the Credit Valley Conservation Foundation's executive director.

"We look forward to engaging donors, partners and community supporters who share our commitment to protecting the Credit River Watershed and helping ensure the long-term success of this important initiative."

Invasive species pose one of the greatest threats to forests, biodiversity and local economies. Once established, they spread rapidly and often have irreversible impacts, resulting in long-term ecological degradation, loss of biodiversity, and substantial economic burden on public and private land managers.

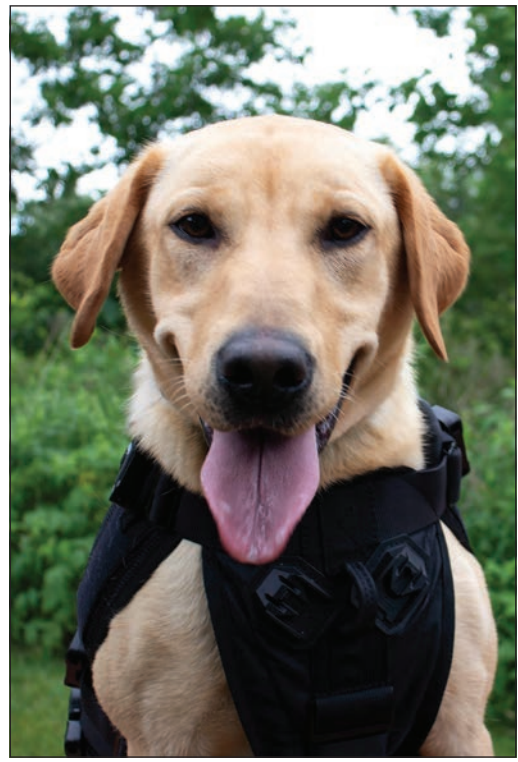
Across Canada, invasive species are estimated to cost approximately \$7.5 billion annually with economic impacts spanning forests, agriculture, fisheries and infrastructure. Research consistently shows that early detection and rapid response can reduce management costs by up to 90 per cent compared to delayed intervention, while significantly improving ecological outcomes.

"Tilly is trained to survey natural habitats to detect invasive species earlier, faster, and with much greater accuracy," said Tony Palotta, master trainer with Working K9.

Tilly is bred from a working line of dogs and is currently trained to detect three invasive species:

- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA): A small invasive insect that feeds on eastern hemlock trees, causing needle loss, branch dieback, and eventual tree mortality.

- Spotted Lanternfly (SLF): An invasive sap-feeding insect that attacks a wide range of trees and plants, weakening them and re-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**DETECTION DOG:** Tilly, Credit Valley Conservation's detection dog is trained to detect target invasive species. Tilly is an important part of the CVC's Conservation Detection Dog program and will be working to notify staff about impacted areas.

ducing growth and productivity.

- Red Swamp Crayfish (RSC): An invasive crayfish that can outcompete native species, alter aquatic habitats, and disrupt aquatic ecosystems.

As new threats emerge, they will be assessed for feasibility of being added to her repertoire.

CVC is proactively preparing for emerging invasive species through monitoring, planning and collaboration with local, provincial and federal partners.

Since 2016, CVC has been monitoring priority hemlock forests in the Credit River Watershed. Through the new Conservation Detection Dog Program, CVC will expand current monitoring efforts for hemlock woolly adelgid and add spotted lanternfly as a target species.

When priority invasive species are detected, CVC shifts from early detection to a coordinated response in partnership with relevant agencies. This includes determining the population extent, risks, and potential management actions for containment and/or control.

This initiative has been developed in collaboration with experts at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and the Canadian Forest Service. These partnerships ensure the program is grounded in strong science and aligned with national best practices in invasive species detection and response.

Tilly will be out with CVC handler staff at CVC priority conservation areas beginning detection work this summer. The public is asked to not pet, call to, feed, or otherwise interact with Tilly while she is working or under handler direction unless the handler explicitly invites interaction.

To learn more about the Conservation Detection Dog Program go to [cvc.ca/Tilly](http://cvc.ca/Tilly). To support conservation initiatives across the Credit River Watershed, please visit [cvc-foundation.ca](http://cvc-foundation.ca).

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PHOTOS PROVIDED BY KLIK'D IMAGES

**RUNNING FOR A REASON:** The 13th annual Compass Run for Food drew nearly 1,000 participants to a route from the Compass Community Church through Island Lake Conservation Area on Saturday, June 13, raising \$70,000 in support of local food programs, with additional donations still coming in. In the 10km run, Bruno Ribeiro of Toronto placed first, followed by Andrew Bougai of Concord in second and Luke Wilson of Alliston in third. The 5km run/walk had Thomas Beukeboom of Orangeville in first place, followed by Owen Bailey-Braun of Orangeville in second, and Liam Willcott of Orangeville in third. Organizers for the Compass Run For Food would like to thank all of this year's participants for helping to make the event a success.



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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](http://orangeville.ca/WatchLive)
- to attend via Zoom visit the meeting agenda at [orangeville.ca/Meetings](http://orangeville.ca/Meetings)





# FRESH AIR

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J.E.H. MacDonald (1873–1932), *Sunflower Study*, *Tangled Garden Sketch* (detail), c. 1915, oil on paperboard, 25.4 x 20.2 cm, Gift of the Founders, Robert and Signe McMichael; Stephen Waddell (b. 1968), *Sunflowers* (detail), 2018, printed 2021, archival pigment print, 149.7 x 233.4 cm. All works McMichael Canadian Art Collection.

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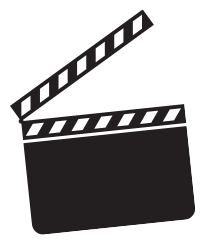


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# Arts & Entertainment



LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Fibre art and Fibonacci patterns featured in new exhibit in Alton

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

Fibonacci, wondrous fibres and fundamental math are on display at the Paul Morin Gallery in an exposition running for two months, until July 26.

Located on Main Street in the village of Alton, the historic Alton Town Hall was purchased in 2015 and, over three years, refitted by Caledon artist Paul Morin. Since then, he has been a leader in innovative exhibits and musical events. He said that it has been an evolution.

Even given the high standards of this beautiful venue, the current show sets a new high in content and its connection to the human soul. Two main aspects of the exhibition dominate this show's interest: the brilliant Fibre Art and the thrill of Fibonacci, followed by the spinning pendulum's omnipresence in nature and art.

There is, as well, a village in Laos.

Morin has a friend, Edmundo, a gifted healer Morin calls him, who over the last couple of years has been visiting a village in Laos, a country in Southeast Asia, and has befriended people there.

"He has been paying for kids to go to school and meeting the women there who make fantastic silk and dye pieces," Morin related in an interview this week with the Citizen.

"One piece takes a year to make because they can only do a couple of passes per day, for the fabric is so delicate."

Edmundo took great care in packing pieces of this work for transport to Morin's gallery. Morin was clear that this would benefit the village, a definitive statement that the fair trade aspect of these treasures is firmly in hand.

"We are floored by the quality of this silk," he said, offering the image of the women who raise the silk worms themselves and take the fibre from the cocoons to make these phenomenal pieces.

The Paul Morin Gallery had an incredible spring season this year, with good numbers of visitors showing up and buying to a de-

gree unusual for the time of year.

Morin is stepping up the gallery to support certain artists as regulars and with his scheduled social media blasts. He noted that a satisfying number of people are connecting online without necessarily having been targeted by the gallery's list of subscribers. They participate in shows at the gallery, Morin prefers that the invitation comes from him, finding a group pre-curating the shows and involving them.

A broader number of people are looking for more connection in painting as well as other art forms, and Morin agreed that more light shone at this point.

With the stunning piece by Pat Hertzberg, a Fibre Art, titled AFTERLIFE- her work is well illuminated to show all the qualities; is all transparent to see the life and movement within.

A Medieval Italian mathematician, Fibonacci who lived in the 12th and 13th centuries, when a boy, studied calculation with an Arab master. Later, he became renowned for introducing the Fibonacci sequence to Europeans in 1202.

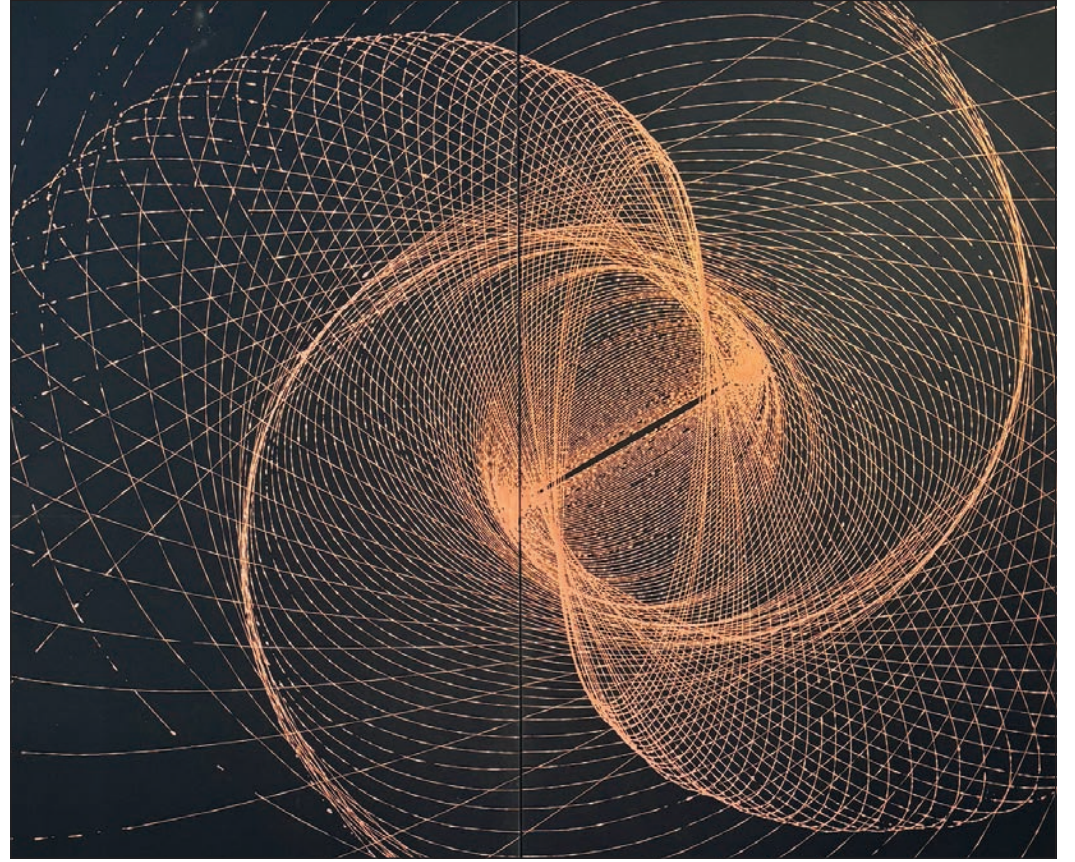
To simplify, the Fibonacci sequence is a series of numbers where each number is the sum of the two preceding ones: 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, and so on. It is a fundamental corner of architecture, dating back thousands of years, when it was naturally the key to design long before Fibonacci identified it.

This number sequence appears everywhere – not only in nature, such as in the spirals of sunflower heads, shells, some vegetables and so on. It is found as well in the spirals of cosmic formations, small and very, very large.

As a species, we irresistibly copy nature and the forms we see over our heads. In the many cases of seeing these spirals and longing to reproduce them, Paul Morin talked about how a quantity of paint and a pendulum, skillfully released, fulfill the wish and lead unerringly to making art.

Somewhere along the line, an irrational number stands as "The Golden Ratio."

"The building blocks of nature," Morin



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**EXPOSITION:** One of Paul Morin's large spins, 70" by 100", is created on a metallic copper-on-black canvas. Morin has realized that all the motion comes from the spinning string and the Earth.

called it. "It takes a long time to prepare the pendulum but then it does what it does and it is fantastic."

There are some elements of control over how the pendulum makes its spirals, the length of the string to which it is attached, the density of the paint, and the duration of any one string. Morin has tried opposite directions and realized that all the motion comes from the spinning string and the Earth.

"The natural degradation of the spinning," Morin observed, "that whole time like those who can dance at the edge of the skill and yet not falling. For this show, a month is not long enough— now it is on for two months. It

takes two months to curate."

Their music will be at the opening this Saturday, June 20, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. A number of artists will attend, refreshments served – wonders to admire.

To what is the most thrilling in this collection, Morin answered, "Because it was going to be just having a silk made by a woman living in a single thatched hut, put in a package – I could smell the village – so evocative – and view the amount of work on the same panel – no repetition- the colour just breath-taking from a primitive space."

"The execution is so intuitively shared." The Paul Morin Gallery is located at 19741 Main Street, Alton.

**David Gauthier**  
Service Consultant

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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.

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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. 266310 • Solution on page: CLASSIFIEDS SECTION

**CLUES ACROSS**

- Similar
- Have an ambitious plan or a lofty goal
- No (Scottish)
- \_\_\_ Aires, city
- Morning
- Senior's son (abbr.)
- A notable achievement
- European nation
- Endings
- Puts into place
- Former
- Grenadier
- Sea patrol
- Algerian port
- Norwegian river
- Precipitation
- Sunscreen rating
- New York is one
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Soft mineral with greasy feel
- Retired Brazilian footballer
- An Indian nursemaid
- Atomic #24
- Immobile
- Insignia of royalty
- Seeds from which chocolate is made
- Begin again
- Round root
- Beginning to end (alt. sp.)
- What newlyweds just said
- Empire State
- Give back
- College hoops tournament
- Unstable situations
- Young women's association

**CLUES DOWN**

- Administer a drug
- Holy places
- Contrary opinions
- Blood type
- Gags
- Micturating
- Silly
- A type of "cuff"
- Spanish be
- Austrian river
- Messenger ribonucleic acid
- Consume food
- California supermarket
- Electronic communication
- Cassia tree
- Written works
- Cool!
- Noteworthy 90s lawyer Kenneth
- One who was compensated
- National symbols
- Raising
- A type of talk
- Cloud
- Middle Eastern peoples
- Pouches
- 007's creator
- A cut of meat
- Sports entertainment award
- Christine \_\_\_, actress
- Relief organization (abbr.)
- Canadian province (abbr.)

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

**How they say that in...**

**English:** Tall  
**Spanish:** Alto  
**Italian:** Alto  
**French:** Grand  
**German:** Groß

**ACROSS**

- Special church
- Something that happened
- Contraction for "is not."
- Impressive
- Opposite of down

**DOWN**

- Structure with roof and walls
- Short for "second"
- Phrase meaning summit: \_\_\_
- Refused to obey

Answer: Skyscrapers

### Science FACT

These buildings are designed to be flexible, which prevents them from snapping as they get taller.

Answer: Skyscrapers

### Did You Know?

Skyscrapers come in supertall, megatall and superslender, depending on their height and width. A skyscraper rises to a minimum of 150 meters.

1. Building 2. See 3. At the top 5. Defied Down  
1. Basilica 4. Incident 6. Isn't 7. Grand 8. Up Answer: Skyscrapers

# Thirteen-year-old comedian to perform at local Yuk's Yuk's show

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A Barrie teen is looking to become Canada's youngest comedian to secure professional bookings.

Thirteen-year-old comedian Landyn Griffin is approaching stand-up with the discipline of a professional. He has been interested in comedy for some time and is now looking to break into the industry himself.

Landyn first took the stage two years ago at one of his father's comedy shows. What began as a simple desire to experience stand-up has since evolved into a focused effort to develop his craft and build a career, before moving into film.

"I've been doing comedy myself for about

two years now, but now I'm definitely taking it more seriously," he said. "My dream is to become a comedic actor."

His father, Neil Griffin, a working comedian and booker with Yuk Yuks, serves as both mentor and primary supporter. He said that comedy is very much a family endeavour for them, and that his son surprises him every day with his natural skills on stage.

"I'm proud of Landyn and how he's progressed over the last two years," he said. "His memory, I still can't believe it when he goes up there on stage and he's able to remember these jokes. I love working for Yuks, that was my dream job, and if Landyn can get in, that could be a big step to help him progress. So now we can work together, so this could be a big thing."

The pair co-write material, drawing heavily on Landyn's day-to-day experiences at school and at home. That partnership has already produced notable results: Landyn has placed in multiple competitions and won a stand-up contest in Hamilton, performing alongside established adult comedians with national profiles.

His act blends sharp one-liners with observational jokes about school life, gaming and pop culture, with a few Pokémon references to keep younger listeners engaged.

To prepare, he runs his set repeatedly in front of his father and older brother until he can deliver it accurately from memory, an approach that helps sharpen timing and confidence on stage.

Landyn's upcoming appearances include a

Father's Day show in Barrie on June 21 at 7 p.m., where he will share the stage with his father, and a Yuk Yuks show on July 10 at the Bar on Broadway in Orangeville that marks his first official paid Yuk Yuks engagement and an important step toward securing a future roster spot.

Beyond stand-up, Landyn has begun exploring screen work.

He recently appeared as a featured extra in director Eli Roth's upcoming horror film, *Ice Cream Man*, giving him an early introduction to professional film sets.

Griffin may be only just starting out in his career, but thanks to the support of his family, he is rapidly building confidence and experience a decade ahead of most other comedians.

# From fabric scraps to fibre art: Alton artist Pat Hertzberg's lifelong creative journey

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

When Alton-based artist Pat Hertzberg was in her teens, she worked for a very high-end fabric store in Ottawa. Her fellow workers were older women who took her under their wings to teach her about fabric.

As a child, Hertzberg used her mother's sewing machine to make her dolls' clothing and learned to love working with fabric.

"My mother made dresses and curtains, and I quickly became interested in fabrics," she told the Citizen. "I took to it."

The shop in Ottawa only sold silks from China and materials imported from Europe. They did not sell the remnants left from cuts. They did, however, give them to the teenage Hertzberg for her own use and study.

They were scraps of silk and fabulous fabrics from Europe, suitable for making evening wear.

"I got to have all these scraps, and it was a turning point for me," Hertzberg explained. "When I feel a piece of fabric, I know what it is and the rules to care for it. One of the reasons I got into this is that I wanted to break those rules. I was very lucky to have those materials to experiment with. I wanted to make unique art."

"At one point, before the internet, I thought my work was novel. Galleries were interested – they were beginning to see that fabric could be used like paint."

She said she was lucky again to attend Sheridan College for fashion design when the program still existed. In her year, people attending also became recognized names in the Canadian fashion industry, including Linda Lundstrom, Wayne Clark, and others.

Essentially, "Fibre Art is limitless," Hertzberg said. "Different types of fibres are inter-

preted by every fibre artist to do something unique to them. In my own work with fibre, I sometimes mix in other mediums."

She expanded, "The whole fibre art world is seeing real growth. Now, I think there is an understanding of the difference between the contemporary and the traditional fibre arts, but there is also a break with those traditional techniques like crochet. Now there are people who take 20 or 30 yards and crochet them in different directions and it looks like a work of abstract art."

Outlining her own approach to her fibre art, she explained that what she does is cut up many different fabrics, sometimes dyeing them, cut them up in various shapes and sizes, then put them back together to look the way she likes.

The mix is a mosaic of little fabric pieces. "And if the pieces are all reassembled close together, it looks like brush strokes," she added.

There are two ways of hanging such works of art – with or without a substrate, which is fabric placed behind the piece. Without the substrate, you can see through the negative spaces, which create shadows on the wall behind; it creates life from all the spaces. Using it or not makes the pieces very different.

Following Sheridan, where she was Valedictorian in her year, Pat Hertzberg went home to Ottawa. She was hired for a job within the federal government, interviewing CEOs about the existing tariffs protecting the Canadian Fashion Industry. This job led to a position with Eaton's Department Store in a dual position of buyer and sales manager in the fashion department. From there, she went to Montreal as a fashion designer in a senior position, where she also met and



JESSICA HANZEL PHOTO

**THREAD WEB:** With *AFTERLIFE*, Pat Hertzberg invites the viewer to contemplate and embrace the mystery of what lies beyond life. She created this piece with over 70 different fabrics – cut or ripped into strips, with an equal number of matching threads, and her 'thread-web' free-motion embroidery process of construction.

married Steve Hertzberg. The decision to marry prompted the newlyweds to move to Toronto.

"But first, we gave up our jobs and travelled to Europe for six months," Hertzberg said.

With their return to Toronto, her friends who were buyers encouraged her to open her own business.

Before long, she was forced to set up a factory and employ her own workers. She created a line of clothing for sizes seven to

14 and called it 'Options', selling it to Eaton's, Simpsons and The Bay across Canada, as well as smaller retail chains.

Yet, in the long run, she had trouble staying on top of it all, doing the designs, and overseeing both selling and production. As well, Steve was the CEO of his company. It meant they were both very busy.

"Then [we] had kids and I wanted to get back to fabric and fibre art," she said.

Continued on Page A12

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# Cauley, catalyzed by pair of miraculous back nine shots, captures Canadian Open

Young Canadians Yellamarju and Anderson were in contention on Sunday at TPC Toronto on Osprey Valley in Caledon

Written By JIM STEWART

Despite valiant efforts by a pair of rising home-grown golfers, the RBC Canadian Open was won by American Bud Cauley on a rainy Sunday afternoon at TPC Toronto at Osprey Valley in Caledon.

After a miraculous shot out of the lush rough while precariously perched above the last 18th hole fairway bunker, the intrepid Cauley dialed in a 119-yard approach from the fairway and dropped it on the green. His shot rolled slowly back towards the pond and came to rest just inches above the same slick downslope that delivered ten errant pro shots on Sunday to aqueous calamity.

With a precarious two-shot lead and his approach teetering on disaster, the resident of Jupiter, Florida, jogged to the green instead of enjoying a prospective champion's "walk up 18" and marked his ball in timely fashion to prevent it from rolling into the water.

Cauley's ensuing putts were anticlimactic as he rolled his fourth shot a foot below the hole and tapped in for par to earn his first career PGA Tour win—joining the legendary and much-loved Arnold Palmer whose first PGA win was also at the Canadian Open.

The 2026 champ finished -17 under and carded a 65 in rainy and cool 14-degree conditions that felt like mid-October rather than mid-June.

Every Open has a "TSN Turning Point" and Cauley got the miracle shot he needed to pull away from the pack when he chipped in on 12—a timely effort he described as "the shot of his career." But Cauley's hooded wedge

shot above the bunker off the 18th fairway was the tournament "saver" as the 36-year-old avoided a meltdown on the final hole to preserve the heart-warming win.

Cauley was joined by his wife and two children on the 18th green and tears of joy and relief were shed by the University of Alabama product.

In the Media Centre post-round conference, Cauley delineated the challenges of playing the soaked golf course, the key to his victory, and the emotional moment he had on the eighteenth green.

"It was playing difficult with the wind and rain—conditions so different from the first three days, but I knew the back nine was kind to me all week. I started tearing up when I saw my family running toward me."

Cauley also described his connection to the Canadian Open: "It feels amazing to win and I'm well aware of the past champions on this trophy. I've watched this championship since the early 90s. This week, I was able to back up birdies with more, and kept my momentum going."

### Strong Canadian contingent

For a brief shimmering moment, a Canadian golfer gave the rain-soaked gallery much to cheer about.

As Mississauga's Matt Anderson strode to the 10th tee box on Sunday afternoon, he held the outright lead at -14 under. However, a few errant shots on the back nine caused the valiant Canuck to drop three shots in his final nine holes and he finished tied for 11th at -11—the second-best showing by a Canadi-

an at the 2026 national championship.

The best finishing score by a Canadian belonged to Sudarshan Yellamaraju who carded a 68 on Sunday, finished tied for 8th, and won the Rivermead Cup by accruing a four-round total of -12.

Nick Taylor won the venerable consolation prize in 2025—two years after winning the Canadian Open in 2023 with his legendary 72-foot putt. Taylor's legendary feat was promoted throughout the week at the north Caledon course.

It was evident at Osprey Valley that Mike Weir's legacy, created by his remarkable Masters win in 2003 and his eight PGA championships, manifested itself through the fine play of so many Canadians on the turf of TPC Toronto.

Strong finishes by Yellamaraju and Anderson as well as the play of amateur Justin Matthews—who shot a closing round of -1 and finished tied for 29th at -8—revealed how Weir's stellar results at the turn of the century ushered in the current Golden Age of Canadian Golf. Similar to Steve Nash's impact on the NBA, Weir's proteges put on a show for four days in Caledon.

Other notable scores by Canadians included Taylor Pendrith and AJ Ewart who both finished at -8 along with Matthews. Adam Hadwin slipped to +1 on Sunday, but finished at -6 and tied for 40th. Ben Silverman and Adam Svensson rounded out the Canadians who finished under par for the four-day tournament. Nick Taylor fired a sizzling -6 on Sunday to finish at even par for 72 holes.

But foremost among this group of established and rising stars is Yellamaraju who has leapt into national prominence so far this season. The athletic lefty is the top-



JIM STEWART PHOTO

ranked Canadian in the 2026 FedEx Cup Standings. Remarkably, Yellamaraju donned a white toque for the first part of his round on Sunday to ward off the daunting conditions and switched to a white golf cap by the time he strode up to the 18th green.

Alas, the rising star was one of ten pros who dunked their approach in the water after rolling off the slick undulating target. The rare miscue cost Yellamaraju a share of fourth-place.

### Deluge of rain creates modified start times and Sunday trios rather than pairings

Instead of postponing the final round for better weather on Monday, tournament organizers pushed the final round start times to 10:30 a.m. and traditional final round pairings were morphed into trios to funnel golfers through the 10th and 1st tee blocks to facilitate maximum movement of competitors through the sloppy conditions.

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## Celebrate Your Awesome returns to downtown Orangeville this weekend

Continued from FRONT

The festival also includes a community zone, where organizations such as public health, family services, housing and victim support agencies share information and resources.

Around 25 vendors are set to participate, selling a range of products alongside festival merchandise. A dedicated merch table and on-site custom printing will give attendees the chance to purchase shirts, pins and other items themed around the celebration.

What began on Mill Street with a few hundred people and modest infrastructure has grown into a major local event that now attracts thousands, supported by multiple levels of government, community organiza-

tions and local banks.

Organizers hope attendees leave with a sense of belonging, positivity and pride in the diversity of Dufferin County, an energy Waddington says everyone can use more of.

"We need positive energy, and that's what we are going to promote," Waddington said. "That's what we're going to stick with, it's a full-on feel-good safe space. Express yourself, be happy, be kind, and remember to smile."

Volunteers, sponsors, donors, and vendors are still welcome.

Those interested in supporting the festival are encouraged to visit the Celebrate Your Awesome website at <https://celebrateyourawesome.ca/get-involved/> for information on volunteering, sponsorships and online donations.

## Pat Hertzberg shares her passion for fabric

Continued from Page A11

One day, a friend hired her to teach her how to choose her clothes. Very quickly, Hertzberg was asked to help many other women choose their clothing and to teach them how to project their personal image and style. She was then hired by corporations to teach primarily women in the corporate world how to dress.

"Fibre art is so versatile," she commented. "A lot of painters are experimenting in fibre for a new challenge and for the creative potential."

Pat Hertzberg is a member of Connections Fibre Artists, a juried collective of professional artists, only joined by invitation. Founded 25 years ago, its mission is to give fibre art its recognition in the art world.

Hertzberg notes that there are a number of excellent fibre artists in Headwaters Arts at the Alton Mill Arts Centre.

Currently, Hertzberg is showing pieces at the Wanderlust Show in the Headwaters Art Gallery until June 28 and, opening this week, 'Spins, Swirls and The Golden Way' to July 26 at the Paul Morin Gallery at 19741 Main Street, Alton.

### 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.

#### Description of Land:

- Roll No. 22 01 000 003 13200 0000; EAST GARAFRAXA; PIN 34083-0062 (LT); File No. 23-06;

**Minimum Tender Amount: \$48,534.46**

**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.** This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. A full copy of the tax sale advertisement and further information about this matter is available online at [www.OntarioTaxSales.ca](http://www.OntarioTaxSales.ca) or [www.eastgarafraxa.ca](http://www.eastgarafraxa.ca) or you may contact

Zulfqar 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, Telephone: 226-259-9400 Ex 207, Email: [zbhatti@eastgarafraxa.ca](mailto:zbhatti@eastgarafraxa.ca)

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## Junior B Northmen finish second in the West Division

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Orangeville Junior B Northmen have finished the regular season of the Ontario Junior B Lacrosse League with a second-place finish.

The Northmen took a 7-6 overtime loss in their final game against the Cambridge Highlanders on June 14.

In the final game, the Orangeville team led 2-1 after the first period, on goals from Zenon Lipinski and Lincoln Gear.

The second period was low-scoring, with each team notching a single goal.

Orangeville's Owen Critchley scored the Northmen's goal at 16:08 into the period.

It was a 3-2 Northmen game going into the final period.

The Highlands took a lead with two goals in the first half of the period.

The Northmen responded, scoring three goals to move back into the lead.

Northmen's goals came from Porter Crossman, Tyler Gronroos, and Cole Hunt.

With a two-goal lead and the clock ticking down, the Northmen seemed poised to take the win; however, the Cambridge team scored with 1:14 left on the clock, then followed up with the tying goal with just 23 seconds remaining in the game to force an overtime period to decide the winner.

Cambridge scored at just over five minutes into the OT period for the win.

The Northmen completed the regular season with a 15-5 record, including one overtime loss.

The Six Nations Rebels finished in first place in the division with a 19-1 record and 38 points.

The Guelph Regals finished in third place, followed by the St. Catharines Athletics.

In the East Division of the OJBLL, the Akwesasne Thunder finished the regular season in first place with an undefeated 20-0 record after playing their final game against the Gloucester Griffins on June 15.

Teams will now get ready for playoff mode.

The playoff schedule has not yet been announced.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTOS

**SAFE RUN:** There is a lot of action on local baseball diamonds as the season is now underway. The Orangeville Bengals 14U Rep A/AA team take on the Mansfield Cubs on the diamond in Mansfield on Monday, June 8. A base runner sprints for first base. He was safe when the throw went wild. The Bengals had to settle for a 13-4 loss.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

**SUCCESS ON THE FIELD:** Two track and field athletes from Orangeville District Secondary School represented both their school and the town at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) track and field competition held in St. Catharines from June 4 to 6. Katie Raue, left, competed in the Senior Women's high jump. Georgia Groves, right, competed in the Novice Women 1500 metre middle distance run. They are joined by coach Natasha Demme.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**CLEARING THE BAR:** ODSS athlete Katie Raue is captured during the Senior Women's high jump competition at the provincial OFSAA track and field meet held in St. Catharines on June 4-6

## ODSS athletes succeed at OFSAA track and field events

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

Two Orangeville District Secondary School students had good results at the provincial Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations track and field meet held in St. Catharines, Ont., from June 4 to 6.

Grade 11 student Katie Raue competed in the Senior Women's high jump.

Grade 9 student Georgia Groves competed in the Novice Women 1500-metre middle-distance run.

Both athletes represented not only their school but also the town, as the only two Orangeville athletes to qualify for OFSAA this year and compete against the best track and field athletes from across the province.

Katie cleared a height of 1.63 metres to finish in fourth place out of a field of 21 finalists in the event.

To put things in historical perspective, Katie and three other jumpers at the event broke the women's world record of 1.6 metres, set in 1955.

Katie had to qualify for OFSAA by competing at District 4/10, CWOSSA, and OFSAA West.

What makes Katie's performance really spectacular is that it is her first year competing in the high jump.

"I play volleyball, so I do a lot of jumping. It didn't seem like many people were going into high jump so I wanted to try it, and it worked out," Katie explained her start in the sport.

Katie did a lot of preseason indoor training and also trained with a couple of coaches who noticed her performance at the District 10 competition, including a Guelph University scout.

She won first place at the District level and third at CWOSSA,

Competing at OFSAA meant Katie was up against other top high jumpers from schools around Ontario.

"There were people who had been to nationals and won OFSAA multiple years," Katie said. "You just try your best every jump and not worry about anyone else."

Katie plans to continue the sport next season and will train during the off-season. Georgia Groves had an outstanding per-

formance in the Women's 1500 metre event. Georgia finished 20th in the preliminary event with a time of 5:15.59.

That is a stellar achievement considering the huge number of schools and athletes involved in qualifying.

"I always ran track in elementary school and 1500 metre was always my favourite distance," Georgia said of how she got into middle-distance running. "I really enjoyed it and thought it was fun."

Georgia was planning to run for an elementary school record, but was sidelined after breaking her ankle during a soccer game. She recovered and started cross-country skiing when she entered high school, and continued doing so.

The training was a huge boost for her running.

"Every race is different," Georgia said. "We have practice Monday after school. We do an interval workout, then an easy run, then another interval workout. You have to run them in a certain time. Then we do another easy run on Thursday."

Georgia won at the District level, then finished fourth at CWOSSA, and third at OFSAA West.

At OFSAA, Georgia said she just focused on what she had to do.

"I was trying not to put a lot of pressure on myself," Georgia explained. "I was just grateful for the opportunity to go. I thought I would just get my feet wet because it was my first time. A lot of them all ran in clubs, so it was very fast. It was just cool to run with that many fast girls."

Georgia plans to continue training and will return to competition next season.

At the annual ODSS athletic banquet, Katie was named the ODSS Senior Female Athlete of the Year.

Georgia was honoured as the ODSS Junior Female Athlete of the Year.



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# OPINION

## Qualified persons need not apply

Space – the final frontier – and it's not easy to get there.

In the current mode of space travel, escaping the bonds of Earth is a pretty difficult process.

First, you have to build a rocket, and a big one, with one tank of enriched kerosene and one tank of liquid oxygen as an oxidizer.

When the two liquids are introduced under high pressure, the result is a massive release of power capable of thrusting thousands of tons of payload into the atmosphere.

It has to be powerful enough and carry enough fuel to accelerate to over 17,000 mph to achieve an orbit around the planet.

All this, just to get a small capsule into space.

Then there is the complicated method of keeping your astronauts alive. Space travel isn't convenient if your life support systems fail and you kill everyone on board.

The Soviet Union had several fatalities during its space program, possibly even more than they officially recognized.

The US lost three Apollo astronauts to fire during a test run in 1967, and 14 more when two space shuttles were destroyed during missions.

All life support systems in a space capsule must operate perfectly at all times.

Sooner or later, you have to come home.

As of now, the only practical way to return to Earth is to use the friction created when entering the atmosphere at high speed and slowing the craft to a speed where parachutes can be deployed.

That means a highly dangerous procedure of screaming through the upper atmosphere at such a high speed that the temperature surrounding the capsule will reach several thousand degrees, creating the risk of the capsule being destroyed on the re-entry attempt.

Put this all together, and that's where you get the phrase – 'it's not rocket science.'

Rocket science is a complicated affair.

Recently, the Canadian Space Agency published its Employment, Equity, and Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan.

The plan states: "We are taking direct actions to further address issues of inequity and systemic bias."

It goes on to say, "Promotions within the agency will focus on designated groups."

Recently, at a conference, an MP from Richmond Hill posed the question to a Space Agency representative, "Can you point to this committee, the section that

says that mission safety and technical competence come before identity representation targets?"

The MP was asking if the Space Agency was about to hire and promote based on skin colour, sexual orientation, or disability, rather than qualifications, and whether those hiring processes supersede qualifications and therefore jeopardize people's lives by hiring an unqualified person based on the mentioned criteria.

The Space Agency bureaucrat, of course, didn't answer the question. She danced around the answer in typical political fashion, throwing out buzzwords and other nonsense, instead of answering the question.

It is next to impossible to get anyone involved in federal politics or any agency to answer a question.

If you ask a federal agency employee or politician if it gets dark at 3 a.m., no one would ever answer, "Yes, it's very dark at 3 a.m."

Instead, you will get some kind of answer like, "Studies have shown that there are differences in the amount of light during a 24-hour period, which do not necessarily reflect using such terms as light and dark when referring to any period during the day."

I think an astronaut would be pretty

**BRIAN LOCKHART**  
FROM THE SECOND ROW



angry to realize that the heat shield on his/her spacecraft was breaking apart during reentry because it was designed by someone who didn't have a proper engineering degree, but rather because that person had a 'handicapped' sticker in the windshield of their minivan.

I'm all for hiring people with disabilities or other minority groups – providing they are qualified for the job – just like everyone else.

The modern concept of getting the job done right dates back to the First World War. It was realized that people were getting killed due to malfunctioning or poorly designed and built equipment.

Standards were put in place so people didn't suffer the results of something that was poorly designed or engineered, or fell apart because the quality of steel used to build something wasn't up to par.

Hiring methods based on 'inclusion' criteria simply don't work.

Remember that the next time you are driving down the highway at 100 km/h, remain safe rather than feel one of your wheels is about to fall off because it was designed by someone whose past experience in automotive design included making donuts and selling designer jeans.

## Of chasing orange peels

Pretty certain it isn't supposed to be like this.

Then again, I've often seen how certainty comes out soft. A sure thing withers.

We're supposed to have flying cars and be living in tree-top cities. Revelling in utopian bliss, free to chase pursuits of interest as opposed to necessity in order to wrestle the ends so they meet. Was a time I thought life by now would be of the coolest bits from any one of the first Star Wars movies, episodes Four, Five, and Six.

I'm many years removed from those thoughts. Ideas stoked by river-talk during the old days, my buddies and I slapped summer mosquitos and wet the lines of Dukes of Hazzard fishing rods in a narrow flow called Bell's Brook, where I grew up.

A ribbon of water that meandered through so much of my life in ways I've only recently seen through lenses of time, trauma, success, and the geographic distances afforded by moves through provinces and territories.

Seen too late, but such is life.

That cold water was a respite from the summer humidity stoked by the bay down the hill. Anything in the way of a cool breeze off the water and from the Gulf of St. Lawrence was stopped by the hills and the evergreens. And those mosquitos.

The Bell's Brook wading was cautious when we'd have to rescue a hook from a streambed rock. Maybe a sunken tree branch or a piece of a car long ago dumped. We were just wee slips of boys, but it was a time and place safe enough that we could tell our parents not to worry when we left our houses, each with barbed hooks and a pocketknife. Maybe a peanut butter sandwich.

We'd use orange peels as bait because somebody told somebody else at some point that fish went foolish for an orange peel. Something about the citrus, the smell registered despite the water. Maybe that's true of some fish, but not the trout in Bell's Brook.

Orange peels.

It could be that a Newfoundland brook trout is smarter in its goals than us lads who chased them with hook and line and orange peel. We watched the brook trout mosey along by the rocks on which we stood. Oblivious, they were. It was as if I could thrust a hand into the brook and grab one. Impossible, of course. Just try to grab a fish in water. The trout were so close, attainable, I should've been able to hand-pluck them from the flow.

Perhaps we were the ones who chased the orange peel. Not the fishies at all. And I'm still chasing in the manner by which lads believe in ideas and possibilities and promises of years ahead.

Now into life's second half with a recurring limp, arthritic feet, and a daily prayer for at least one solid bowel movement to save a day, I'm still reaching for the hooked orange peel. We all are. It's how everything is set up.

My son-in-law recently turned 22.

Twenty-two.

Feels as if I was that age last month. I must've blinked away the years. The

years are much like the brook trout that flitted by the rock on which I stood. Slipped from grasp.

"Take some time to look around, Liam," I said when the flames were blown out and the candles smoked. "Next month you'll be 51 and have prescriptions for pills to mind your blood pressure and cholesterol."

And regular bowel movements will be a deciding factor in a day's quality.

Bell's Brook was a ribbon that connected my important places in days more important to me now. It's come to that now because I didn't look around enough then. Maybe in our second halves, we're convinced we hadn't taken that time to look around.

"Liam, would you fancy a walk, son? Maybe we put a hook into a stream and see what we catch. Or walk, see where the stream goes."

The things he'll look back on afterwards.

**JAMES MATTHEWS**  
BLAH BLAH BLAH



## Stuff my dad said

My late father was a common-sense country person who grew up on a farm. No one ever had to tell him "where the bear sits," if you know what I mean. With a firm belief in hard work, a strong sense of right and wrong, and a rural sense of humour, his down-to-earth approach to life gave rise to some very unforgettable sayings that stuck with his young sons for the rest of their lives. These are some of his more profound sayings that I remember:

**"YOU'VE GOT A HEAD COLD? IT ATTACKS THE WEAKEST PART!"**

Yeah, thanks, Pop. As a sensitive kid growing up, I didn't particularly appreciate my father saying this to me when I was sick. This was one of those times when I wished that dad was more like Ward Cleaver than who he actually was! But with age, wisdom, and understanding, I now get where he was coming from, and I chuckle when I think about the comment these days.

**"UP AND AT 'EM! DAYLIGHT ON THE SWAMP!"** Being a country person, Dad kept farmer's hours all his life. Always up with the sun every morning, he went to bed around 9 p.m. every night if there was

nothing to detain him. His three sons, however, were not inclined that way. Like most young people, my two younger brothers and I tended to be night owls, while Dad was an early bird. When Dad needed us for a chore that had to be done first thing in the morning on a weekend, this was what he would yell at us as he pounded on our bedroom doors to roust us from our slumber.

**"HE WENT TO SCHOOL TO BE A WIT AND GOT HALFWAY THROUGH!"**

Raised on a farm with country common-sense values, my father did not suffer fools gladly. This was his way of expressing disdain for someone he felt wasn't using the good sense God gave them.

**"NOTHING TO SAY!"** Most of the time, Dad was a man of few words. If he had something to say, he'd say it. If not, he wouldn't. Many times over the years when I phoned home, and Mom answered, she would ask Dad if he wanted to talk to me. I could usually hear Dad in the background saying this to Mom. But if he had something to tell me, he'd take the phone, and we'd have a chat. I smile at the memory now.

**"EVERYTHING AROUND A PIG'S (BUTT) IS STILL PORK!"** One night, while the family was eating pork chops for dinner, we began to question what parts of the pig were edible and where the pork chops came from. While this wasn't the most appetizing thing to discuss around the dinner table, this was Dad's contribution to the conversation. Dad grew up on a farm, so you knew he was right.

**"YOU'VE GOT TO BE NICE TO OLD PEOPLE; WE'RE ALL GOING TO BE THERE SOMEDAY."**

Ever loyal to his beloved dog to the very end, Dad often said this to the rest of the family as he helped his lame old dog up onto the couch so she could rest her weary bones.

**"IF I WAS ON A DESERTED ISLAND... AND I WAS STARVING...AND SOMEONE OFFERED ME A PLATE OF THIS...I WOULD EAT IT."**

Mom would occasionally ask Dad how he liked the dinner she had prepared that night. If Mom had made something new that Dad didn't particularly care for, this was his comically tactful way of saying so. That said, Dad really didn't want to hurt Mom's feelings, so he would usually eat it anyway. Waste

not, want not, right?

**"NO MAN SHOULD HAVE TO GO THROUGH THAT MORE THAN ONCE!"** When Mom and Dad originally got married, Dad was a very nervous groom. One time, Mom suggested they renew their wedding vows for a special anniversary, but Dad flatly refused, and this was his reason. That always made Mom chuckle when she told the story later. Still, being sensitive to Mom's feelings, Dad found another nice way to celebrate their anniversary that year.

I realize the title of this column may not be grammatically elegant, but saying it like that makes it feel more like something our father would have said. Dad could be quite profound at times in his down-to-earth wisdom, country sense of humour, and rural common sense.

And the memories of all the things he said to us growing up just make us feel his absence more keenly in the present.

(Miss you, Dad. Happy Heavenly Father's Day!)

**KEITH SCHELL**  
REMEMBERING WHEN



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# COMMUNITY VOICES

## Headwaters Rising: Stories from a thriving, connected community

If you stop to look, at any given moment, anywhere across the Headwaters region, you can see our communities quietly coming alive.

In Caledon, a school garden begins to hum as students and volunteers tend to soil that is teeming with life, about to produce many life lessons through the simple act of growing a plant.

In Orangeville, a lively GrandPals visit brings seniors and elementary students together, filling a room with laughter, sometimes tears, life stories and intergenerational friendship.

In Shelburne, big-hearted people finish wiping up after another successful service of their weekly, free community meal, having nourished all in attendance with so much more than food.

These moments are beautiful, and they also reflect something deeper. They are the visible, moving parts of a thriving community.

When people talk about the “health” of a town, they often lean on cold, clinical data: housing numbers, budgets, crime rates or cost of living indicators. While those metrics matter, they don’t capture the soul of where we live. They don’t capture how people actually feel about those things, or what they’d like done about them.

True community well-being isn’t just a checklist of services delivered to individuals, it is the strength of our connections and our collective voice. It is our dynamic local economy, our vibrant culture, our sustainable environment, the engagement of residents who care, and the simple sense of belonging that tells us we are home.

This column, Headwaters Rising, is an invitation into an ongoing conversation about who we are, what we’re building together, and where we go from here. Over the coming months, we will bring you observations from our work, exploring the unique character of our region, some key priorities that residents have voiced, and some of the wonderful ways locals are making life better, from Bolton to Melancthon. We want to look past political boundaries and hot-button headlines to see ourselves more clearly, human to human.

As the title suggests, this column will focus on local topics that are emerging, as well as actions and initiatives that lift up all residents. Our landscape is defined by hidden



**Headwaters  
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springs. These quiet sources bubble up beneath the surface, trickling into streams, joining together into rivers, and eventually feeding the great lakes beyond, nourishing us all along the way by supplying aquifers, wetlands and other waterways.

Community is the same. It starts from the ground up. Every time a local resident volunteers, shares an idea, or welcomes a new neighbour, it contributes to that flow and feeds the system.

It starts small, connects at the source, builds a collective contribution that joins with and helps carry us all. Do we sometimes encounter a maelstrom where opposing currents converge? Sure. Do we try to catch things upstream and find ways around and through these troubled waters? Always.

This is where Headwaters Communities In Action (HCIA) comes in. HCIA is a resident-led community development organization. Our vision is simple: people coming together to shape a thriving community. Think of us as a community integrator. We work to connect people and organizations, facilitate the flow of information, and help local groups navigate the rapids of change.

When our local governments and agencies, grassroots groups and non-profits, and the business community collaborate on shared goals rather than work in silos, we can go much farther, and the community benefits are more robust and longer-lasting.

Each partner has a role to play that employs unique strengths, but it is the synergy of how we all function together that ensures that our community thrives. HCIA lives at that intersection.

A strong, interconnected community eco-

system unlocks incredible potential. We see it when students in our farm-to-school programs, tasting food they grew themselves, light up and say, “I want to grow all the things! I told my mom.” We hear it from the older adults who find renewed purpose when a young person tells them that their self-described “uninteresting life” is anything but. We see it when our work with people with lived experience of poverty influences policy change. We hear about it when a new candidate for council says they wouldn’t have had the courage to run if not for the mentorship of someone who has held office.

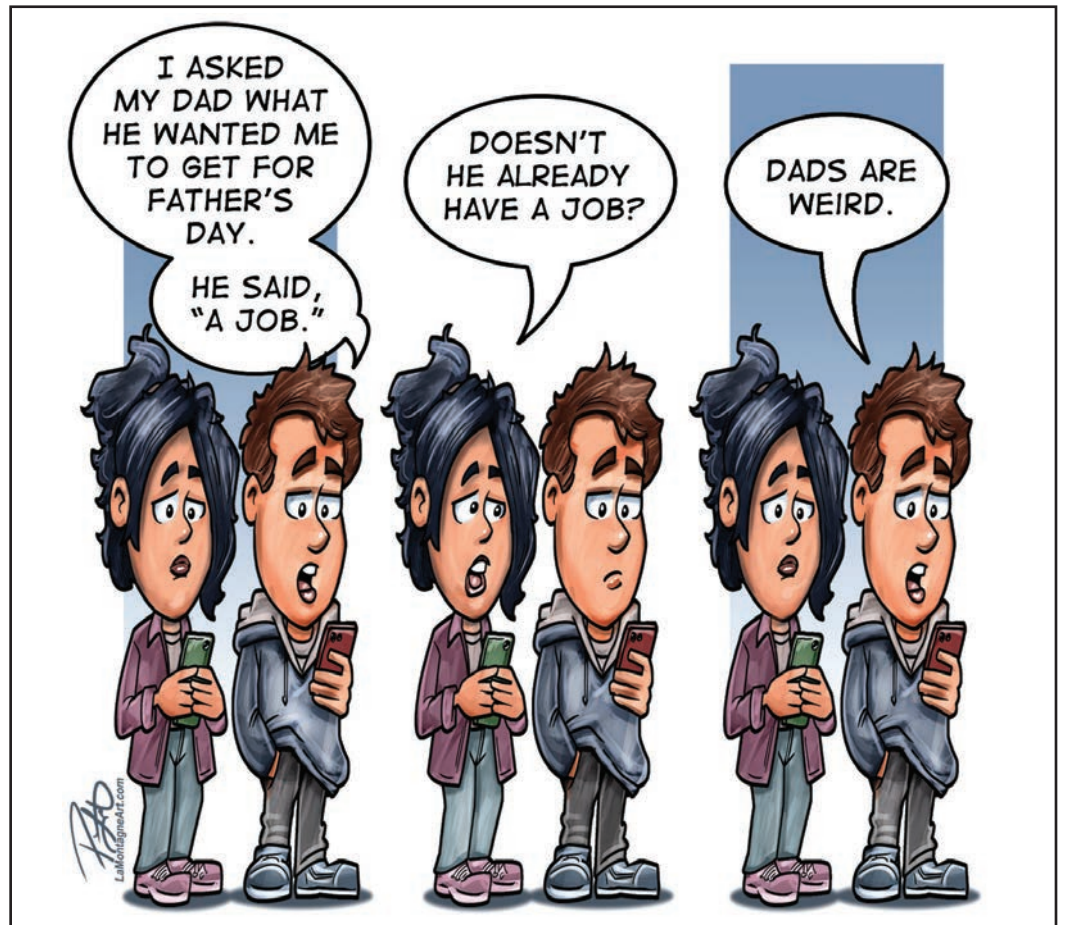
This column will travel a journey that first (re)introduces you to who we are, reflecting what we hear from you through the lens of local well-being data. We will shine a spotlight on local changemakers through the projects we either run ourselves, host for others, or support as a trusted partner. Then we will turn it over to you, offering direct, tangible pathways for you to engage and shape the

future of the place you call home. We invite you to participate in ways that fit your gifts, capacities and purposes.

A drop in the pond or an oar in the water, going with the flow or braving the rapids, we’re all in the same boat, and we are grateful to be navigating it alongside you, our community.

Sit with this question this month: Where in your daily life do you feel the strongest sense of connection to your neighbours, and how can you feed that stream?

*Headwaters Rising is a monthly Community Voice column from Headwaters Communities In Action. This month’s column was contributed (with help) by Jennifer Payne, executive director with HCIA, who can be found supporting local small businesses or exploring community events across Dufferin and Caledon. To learn more about the foundations of community well-being or to read our Playbook and Theory of Change, visit hcia.ca.*



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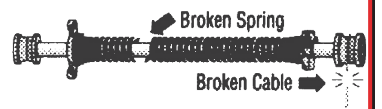
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# More than a business: DBOT highlights the power of social enterprise

Have you heard the term social enterprise? Ever wondered what it means?

A social enterprise is a business that uses commercial activities to achieve a social, environmental, or community purpose. Some social enterprises are operated directly by

nonprofits or charities, while others are independent businesses that reinvest their profits into a social mission. Simply put, they use business activities to create positive community impact.

I had heard the term before and thought it

sounded like an interesting buzzword, but I didn't really understand what it meant until a conversation in 2019 with Michele Fisher, executive director of the Dufferin Community Foundation.

That conversation would ultimately set the Dufferin Board of Trade on a six-year journey of self-reflection, community research, and business development.

Michele explained how social enterprises were helping nonprofits and charities become more sustainable by generating their own revenue while continuing to serve their communities. She also mentioned that funding was available to help organizations explore social enterprise opportunities. As most nonprofit leaders will tell you, hearing the words "grant opportunity" tends to get your attention.

We were fortunate to receive funding through the federal Investment Readiness Program, which allowed us to do the planning, research, and organizational work needed to launch the Dufferin Biz Hub.

The Biz Hub opened as a coworking space in February 2020 — which, as it turned out, was about the worst possible time to open a coworking space. Just weeks later, the pandemic forced us to close our doors.

Like many organizations, we spent the next few years adapting. Between changing regulations, temporary closures, and the distribution of thousands of COVID-19 rapid tests, we learned a great deal about the needs of our business community.

The Biz Hub evolved from a coworking



space into a broader business support hub, offering private offices, short- and long-term rentals, meeting spaces, and virtual offices.

When a second round of Investment Readiness Program funding became available, we were fortunate to receive support again. This time, we hired consultants to better understand the needs of local businesses and identify new ways our social enterprise could support them.

What we learned was clear: many businesses needed affordable business services.

Looking within our own organization, we realized we already had many of the skills needed to help. Today, through our in-house team of just two full-time staff, we provide services such as photography, videography, graphic design, administrative and human resources support. When a client's needs extend beyond our expertise or capacity, we're proud to connect them with trusted businesses from our member network.

Today, our offices, meeting spaces, and business services support dozens of entrepreneurs, businesses, and nonprofits every month.

Continued on Page B7

## 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](http://www.imfunerals.com)

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



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# More than a business: DBOT shares the power of social enterprise

Continued from Page B6

Like many nonprofits, we receive no government operating funding. With fewer grant opportunities than just a few years ago, finding sustainable sources of revenue has become increasingly important. To keep our membership fees, rental rates, and services affordable while continuing to support local businesses, we knew we needed another sustainable revenue source.

That opportunity arrived when a local

business owner and member approached us with a concern. After more than 40 years in business, he was ready to retire and could not find a buyer to keep Broadway Engraving operating.

The opportunity aligned perfectly with our mission.

In late 2025, we purchased Broadway Engraving from Bill Elliott as an expansion of the Dufferin Biz Hub. After extensive training from Bill and a volunteer-driven renovation of our basement workspace, we were ready to begin serving customers.

Today, Broadway Engraving provides custom name tags, signs, plaques, awards, trophies, promotional products, and gifts for businesses, nonprofits, schools, municipalities, and community organizations throughout the County.

For us, social enterprise is about more than generating revenue. Through the Dufferin Biz Hub and Broadway Engraving, we are able to support local businesses, provide affordable services, preserve a long-standing local business, and generate the revenue needed to continue the work

of the Dufferin Board of Trade.

It's all built on a simple belief: that small businesses have the power to drive positive change in our community. That's why social enterprise matters—not just to our organization, but to the future of Dufferin County.

\*\*\*

This week's monthly Community Voice column is from the Dufferin Board of Trade. It was contributed by Diana Morris, executive director of the Dufferin Board of Trade and Dufferin Biz Hub.

## Annual Island Lake Fishing Derby to return with over \$7,500 in prizes

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Anglers are invited to reel in a big catch and compete for prizes at the annual Island Lake Bass Derby, taking place July 11 and 12 from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The two-day catch-and-release event is hosted in partnership by Credit Valley Conservation (CVC), the Credit Valley Conservation Foundation (CVCF), and Friends of Island Lake (FOIL), a volunteer sub-committee of the foundation. Proceeds support conservation, recreation and enhancement projects at Island Lake Conservation Area.

"Island Lake's Annual Bass Derby is a highlight of the summer and a fantastic way to bring our community together outdoors," said Gordo Slater, chair of FOIL. "Whether

you're an experienced angler or trying fishing for the first time, the derby is a chance to get out on the lake for a day of fun and compete for great prizes. Most importantly, participants are making a real difference because everyone is supporting improvements at Island Lake."

Up to 300 participants are expected to take part over the weekend. More than \$7,500 in prizes will be awarded, including top-catch prizes for the 10 largest bass, as well as categories for pike, perch and crappie. Youth divisions for anglers 15 and under will also be featured, with daily trophy presentations.

Registration includes daily park admission and access to the boat launch.

Participating anglers must have a valid Ontario fishing licence and a live well that

is aerated. Paddle craft rentals and worms are available for an additional fee at the park rental shop.

Early-bird registration is open until July 2. Registration is available online until July 10, or in person at Island Lake Conservation Area up to the day of the event, space permitting.

The derby is part of a broader \$1-million fundraising campaign supporting long-term planning, infrastructure upgrades and visitor experience improvements at Island Lake Conservation Area.

Funds raised through the event directly support projects aimed at improving recreation, enhancing conservation assets and strengthening public access to nature. FOIL has contributed more than \$2.6 million in cash, in-kind labour, materials and fund-

raising support toward improvements at the park to date.

"The Island Lake Bass Derby is a wonderful example of how community investment can create lasting impact," said Dayana Gomez, executive director of CVCF. "Every registration, sponsorship and volunteer contribution helps enhance Island Lake Conservation Area for current and future generations."

"We are grateful to the Friends of Island Lake for their leadership and to Sunshine Landscaping, this year's presenting sponsor, for their commitment to conservation, recreation and community stewardship."

For more information on registration, sponsorship and prizes, visit [www.island-lakederby.ca](http://www.island-lakederby.ca).

## Pride Month celebrations underway in Peel Region and Dufferin–Caledon

Written By RILEY MURPHY  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

June is Pride Month in Canada, and the Peel and Dufferin–Caledon communities are celebrating with an action-packed month.

On Friday, June 19, local business Maggolly Art Supplies in Orangeville will host a free "Maggolly Pride Paint Party" from 6 to 9 p.m.

The event is part of Celebrate Your Awesome's Pride and Diversity week in Dufferin.

Celebrate Your Awesome is a volunteer-run organization and annual festival in Orangeville, dedicated to "fostering inclusivity, pride, and community spirit."

Their event, on June 20, is returning to Orangeville this year with various programming, live performances, vendors and a special storytime. The event marks its ninth year running.

Celebrate Your Awesome will run from 11



am to 8 pm at Alexandra Park, with a day of activities for all.

The event includes drag and comedy shows, musical performances, and community vendors, with Guelph-based drag queen Sapphire Poison leading this year's story

time at noon.

One week after Celebrate Your Awesome, IDEA Caledon's 3rd Annual Pride Family Picnic in the Park will be on June 27.

The event is inclusive for all ages, and IDEA Caledon encourages attendees to bring

a picnic blanket, lawn chairs, and creativity for an afternoon filled with family-friendly activities, games, food, and entertainment.

The day includes story time and activities by Caledon Public Library, a creative activity by Roots and Ravens, Town of Caledon garden games, BrightStart Caledon activities, Caledon OPP and Caledon Fire and Emergency Services vehicles on display, and a scavenger hunt to close things out.

It takes place on Saturday, June 27, from 12 noon to 2pm in Caledon East Park.

Finally, just after June, Peel Together Pride Forever 2026 will take place on July 11 at Community Common Park in Mississauga.

The event is organized by the 2SLGBTQ+ Collaborative Organizations in Peel Region and Moyo Health and Community Services.

The day will run from 12 noon to 4 p.m., and feature drag performances and storytime, spoken word, ballroom dance group, and more.



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# Countdown is on to the 2026 Caledon Fair

Written By RILEY MURPHY  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Demolition Derbies, Truck and Tractor Pulls, and Classic Car Shows, Oh My! The 2026 Caledon Fair is back in town.

Starting on June 19, the Caledon Agricultural Society (CAS) is bringing back their annual fair.

The fair, which has been running in Caledon Village since 1860, brings together both agricultural awareness activities and fun festivities to offer something for everyone at the yearly event.

The fair kicks off Friday evening, at 5 p.m., with the Ontario Truck and Tractor Pull Association's Truck and Tractor Pull, with vintage classes taking off first.

Saturday, June 20, will bring the All British Classic Car Show, the Fair Ambassador Competition, the official opening of the Fair at 12 noon, a baked goods auction for Bethell Hospice and MS Society, live music by the Muir Band, and the Demolition Derby kicking off at 5:30 p.m.

The last day of the Fair on Sunday, June 21, will feature the Welsh Pony Show and SportPony Starsearch, the Cheval Canadien Horse Show, the Beef and Dairy Show, the Belgian Horse Display, and much more.

Running all weekend will be returning favourites such as pony rides and the petting zoo, the inflatable play park, the Agricultural Awareness and Exhibits Hall, the Bavarian Garden, and the Knox Church Food Booth.

Ed Taccone, President of the Caledon Agricultural Society, adds that this year, to raise money for their brand-new building, they are holding a raffle for the grand prize of a 2025 Kubota RTV Off-road vehicle.

Each raffle ticket purchased also goes towards subsequent prizes, drawn throughout the summer and into the winter.

Tickets can be purchased through the CAS Secretary at 416-697-7792.

Brand new to the fair this year, CAS is partnering with the Caledon Lions Club to bring the "Caledon Lions FUNDrive Cart Race" to the event.

On Sunday, the Lions will run their cart race for the first time ever, with a start time of 11 a.m.

Teams of four will race to see who has the fastest time, and prizes will also be awarded for the best theme/costume.

Two carts will participate per heat, with a 50 metre slalom out, and sprint back for completion.

The Lions add that bragging rights will be "for the taking."

Jeevan Randhawa, Marketing Communications with the Caledon Lions Club, says this year, in partnering with the CAS, they wanted to bring something to the fair that was interactive, something for the community to take part in.

And so, the idea for the cart race was born, "a friendly competition within the community," says Randhawa.

Randhawa says the entire project was funded and built from scratch by the Lions.

"We wanted an event that was unique and interactive, and where the community can actually be engaged in," he says, adding that they hope to make it an annual event.

They encourage businesses, community groups, and community members to form teams for the event.

Money raised from the race will go directly back into the community.

Interested participants who are looking to register for the cart race can call 519-278-0678

To view the full schedule for this year's fair, visit [www.caledonfair.ca/events/caledon-fair-2026](http://www.caledonfair.ca/events/caledon-fair-2026).

## AUCTIONS

### REMINDER

# LIVE AUCTION SALE

for the estate of **Bob & Lois Priester**  
**Saturday June 20th, 10:00am**

**33 Townline, Orangeville ON** – From the corner of Hwy 10 & Broadway come west to the first set of lights (at the Townline). Turn south & follow for 800m to the sale on the south side of the road. **OR** From Hwy 109 at the west side of Orangeville take Riddell Rd (by-pass) to the lights at the townline. Then turn east & go 1km to next set of lights. Then turn left onto continuation of the townline, for 1.7km to sale. Directly across from Princess Margaret School.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**FAMILY FUSE:** The Streams Hub Family Fuse game night, now in its second year, promises to be bigger and better than ever. A fun, low-stakes game night, families can face off against each other through trivia questions, including local Shelburne-centred questions meant to keep a local angle grounded.

## Streams Community Hub invites families to friendly competition at Family Feud-themed event

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Families looking for an evening of laughter, teamwork and community spirit will have the opportunity to take part in Streams Community Hub's second annual Family Fuse Game Night later this month.

The event will take place on June 20 at Grace Tipling Hall, running from 6 p.m. to approximately 8 p.m.

Program coordinator Megan Mare said the game is inspired by a popular television game show and will see teams of five contestants compete against one another in a series of survey-style questions and trivia challenges.

"It's our version of our Family Feud, we call it Family Fuse," she said. "Andrew James will be the host, and the Streams team will be there as part of the audience to help ensure everything kind of goes as smoothly as possible."

Organizers have already confirmed three teams for this year's event and are still accepting registrations. Additional teams can still sign up, with space available for several more groups to join the competition.

"There is still an opportunity up until Friday, June 19, to register your team," Mare said. "So if you did want to be a contestant, you would just have to go to our website, and there's a link, either in our bio and social media or on our website, where you can register a team of five contestants, and you can actually be on stage."

While there are no prizes on the line, participants will have the chance to com-

pete for community bragging rights in what Streams describes as a light-hearted evening focused on fun and family engagement.

This year's edition promises to be bigger than last year's inaugural event.

"We actually invested in technology with a buzzer and like an actual display that mimics Family Feud," Mare said. "It's going to feel a lot more entertaining and smooth, and it should aid in the fun and laughter of the night; that's to be expected."

Streams Community Hub has invested in new technology, including a game-show-style buzzer system and an electronic display, helping recreate the atmosphere of the popular television program while streamlining the competition.

Questions will cover a mix of general knowledge topics and locally themed content tied to Shelburne and Dufferin County, giving contestants the opportunity to test both their trivia skills and their knowledge of the community.

Even those who do not wish to compete are encouraged to attend. Community members can join the audience to cheer on friends, neighbours and family members as teams battle it out on stage.

The event is designed to bring people together, encouraging families and friends to spend time together while enjoying an evening of entertainment. Streams hopes the competition will provide plenty of excitement, laughter and memorable moments while strengthening community connections.

For more information, go to the Streams website at <https://streamshub.org/>.

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