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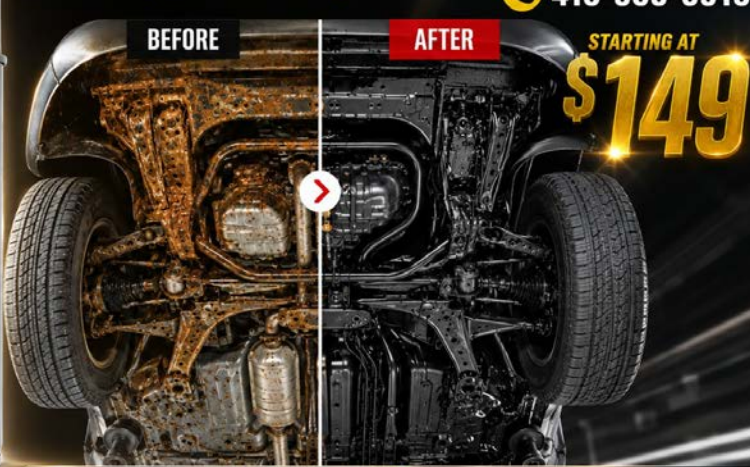


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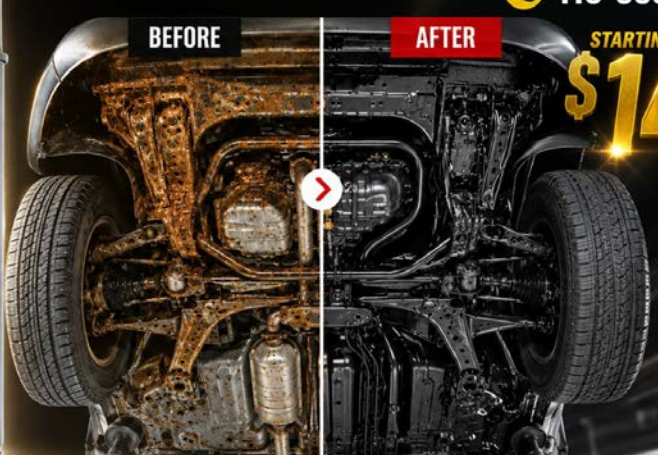
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FUTURE IN LAW: Vanessa Sousa is the 2026 recipient of the Gillian Shute award. Sousa plans to attend Brock University for Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice, and this award is just one step in that direction. The award is granted to students by the Dufferin County Law Association who display a particular interest in legal studies and write compelling essays on topics provided for the award.

Student receives Gillian Shute Award at local courthouse

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A Shelburne student with aspirations of a career in the justice system has been recognized with one of Dufferin County’s most meaningful legal awards.

Vanessa Sousa was presented with the 2026 Gillian Shute Memorial Award during a ceremony at the Dufferin County Courthouse in Orangeville, where members of the Dufferin County Law Association (DCLA) and Justice Miller gathered to celebrate her achievement.

Sousa didn’t expect to win, but accepted the award with pride.

“Honestly, it’s a really big honour for me,” she said.

“I applied for the scholarship just because it was something interesting to write about; I really didn’t think I would win. I’m pretty passionate about law, and have been throughout high school, so I was ecstatic to hear I won.”

The annual award honours the legacy of Gillian Shute, a respected Orangeville-area lawyer who practised for more than two decades and was known throughout the legal community for her dedication to serving others.

Presented each year by the DCLA, the

award recognizes a local secondary school student who demonstrates an interest in law and legal issues. The association, representing lawyers practising in Dufferin County, established the award to inspire future generations while preserving Shute’s legacy of compassion, professionalism and public service.

Colleagues have remembered Shute as someone who consistently fought for the “little guy,” making fairness and access to the legal system central to her work.

The memorial award was established in recognition of her contributions to Dufferin County and her commitment to ensuring people had access to justice, particularly those who could not afford legal representation.

For Sousa, the award marks an encouraging start to what she hopes will be a career devoted to understanding the justice system, following in the spirit of a lawyer whose life’s work was dedicated to making that system more accessible to everyone, a career that began with a fascination with writing.

“I’m very into writing,” Sousa said. “I really enjoy writing essays about things I’m passionate about. My essay topic was about what should be done about the people who are too poor to qualify for legal aid, but don’t

have enough money to pay for someone to be a lawyer. I spoke about the importance of taking care of people that are kind of in that in-between situation, and how there should be better resources out there for people to advocate for themselves and educate themselves better.”

This resonated with the DCLA, aligning with Shute’s convictions as a lawyer, and ultimately won Sousa the award.

Sousa plans to attend Brock University this fall, where she will study Forensic Psychology and Criminal Justice as she pursues a career in the legal system.

She shared some advice for others who are passionate about law and want to follow a similar path by applying for the Gillian Shute Award.

“Be passionate about it and just speak with your heart,” she said. “Really think about what the question is asking you, I found that was very important. Try to look deeper into it, even the other essay topics. They were all great. You could go in depth into detail with any one of them.”

By recognizing students such as Sousa, the DCLA hopes to encourage young people considering careers in law, criminology and related fields while highlighting the importance of using legal knowledge to serve the community.

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Theatre Orangeville plans concert at Hockley Road farm property

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

One way Mono supports worthy causes is by waiving certain fees for charitable events.

Not-for-profit Theatre Orangeville requested Mono council waive a \$500 application fee, a \$1,000 deposit for police services, and a \$2,000 deposit against damages to municipal infrastructure.

Mono resident Jack Baird and Gayle Henkenhof will open their Hockley property for an outdoor community gathering to support Theatre Orangeville on Sept. 12 from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m.

The money raised will support the theatre company's youth programming.

"We're hoping that because the whole thing is a charitable event that you'll waive those fees," Baird said.

Council agreed unanimously during its July 14 meeting to waive the associated fees.

With space limited to 100 guests, it's a wonderful opportunity to support the local arts, said Laura Austin, the theatre company's chairperson.

The event will be supervised by theatre staff, and parking will be on-site.

"So that we don't have any on-road parking," Baird explained.

An accessible portable toilet will be on site, and trash collection will be controlled.

The afternoon features live music by Old School (Gerry Holden and Alain Brisson), with supporting acts Angie Forte, Murray Abraham, and Scott Jordan.

Auston said in a letter to council that the artists are donating their time and talents for the fundraiser.

The \$100 ticket price gets spectators a meal from a local caterer and complimentary non-alcoholic drinks. Patrons will get a receipt for tax deductions for \$65. The rest of the ticket price will go toward food and beverages.

"No alcohol is permitted on the property," Auston said.

She added that to best maintain a relaxed atmosphere, the concert will be an adult-only event.

Baird said theatre staff will assemble a stage suitable for the five musicians participating.

He invited councillors to visit the concert site to ensure it would be suitable for the event.

"We seem to be having enthusiastic support from the volunteers," Baird said.

Deputy Mayor Fred Nix said he believed the venue is a great space for such an event.

Coun. Elaine Capes said fees other than the application cost will go to police and emergency services, which "have nothing to do with the town, and you would have to pay if those were there so those are on you."

She wanted to know where concert-goers would walk from a secondary driveway to the venue.

Baird said concert-goers will use a path that's about eight feet wide and mowed.

"It's on level ground," he said. "As level as a farmer's field could be."

He said the path is on his side of a fence that would keep patrons from even having to cross the road's soft shoulder.

Capes asked if the surrounding neighbours have been apprised of the concert plans.

Baird said he's spoken to one of three immediate neighbours.

"We thought, since it's an afternoon event, that it would be unlikely to be an annoyance to them," he said. "I can hear their radios on a Saturday afternoon, so I would think they would support it."

Coun. Melinda Davie said council considered its fee structure and the prices levied for various fees. It was decided that the amounts were reasonable. But whenever council is approached about an event, an

exemption is requested from the noise by-law fee, especially.

"[The reason offered] is because it's a non-profit, or it's because it's a charity, or it's because it's my brother's whatever," Davie said. "I think we need to look at that."

The reason for such fees is to cover the associated costs of staff reports about the event and council's time to consider it, she said.

"There's time and so that's a cost," Davie said. "Non-profits do not make profit, but they're also businesses."

They generate funding to cover their business costs.

"I guess transactions that involve dollars are trade-offs," Baird said and added that concert organizers are prepared to acknowledge the municipality's support.

"Including financial support of that sort," he said.

Coun. Ralph Manktelow said Davie made a good point.

But.

"We do keep forgiving (fees) for worthy causes, but it's a good thing that we have worthy causes," Manktelow said. "They're not making millions out of this, so it's nice to not diminish the take-home that goes to Orangeville Theatre."

OPP seek the public's help identifying youths after golf course repeatedly damaged

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Dufferin OPP are asking for the public's help identifying a group of youths believed to be responsible for repeatedly trespassing on a golf course property and causing damage in Amaranth Township.

Police said reports were received earlier this summer of trespassers entering a golf course along 6th Line and damaging greens and sand traps. Investigators believe a small number of individuals may be respon-

sible for the repeated incidents.

The OPP is reminding the public to respect private property, noting that trespassing and causing damage can have serious consequences and may result in criminal charges.

Police are also encouraging parents and guardians to speak with their children about the importance of respecting private property and the potential consequences of trespassing or causing damage.

The OPP is also reminding the public that

dirt bikes and all-terrain vehicles are generally intended for off-road use and should only be operated on private property with the owner's permission, on approved trail systems, or on roadways where a municipality has passed a bylaw permitting their operation.

When operated on roadways, the vehicles must meet all applicable requirements, including proper registration and insurance, and operators must hold a valid driver's licence. Police are reminding riders to be aware of and comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

A photograph of one of the suspects has been released. Anyone who recognizes the individual, has information about the people involved, video surveillance, or other information that may assist investigators is asked to contact Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

Information can also be provided anonymously through Crime Stoppers by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Info can also be submitted to Crime Stoppers online

The golf course damage has affected its playing areas and required repairs to restore the property.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SEEKING IDENTIFICATION: Dufferin OPP have released a photo of an individual they believe may have information about repeated incidents of trespassing and property damage at a golf course along 6th Line in Amaranth Township. Police are asking anyone who recognizes the individual to contact the investigators. Information that may assist investigators should be provided to Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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Future events: September 19, October 31 .

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

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

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Nomination deadline nears for candidates seeking a seat on council

Written By **SAM ODROWSKI**

Orangeville residents interested in helping shape the future of their community have until Aug. 21 to decide whether to put their names forward for the 2026 municipal election.

The nomination period closes Friday, Aug. 21, at 2 p.m., giving prospective candidates just a few more weeks to enter the race for mayor, deputy mayor, councillor or school board trustee.

Municipal elections will take place Oct. 26, with elected officials beginning a new four-year term in November.

According to the Town of Orangeville, 18 candidates have filed nomination papers so far. The list includes two candidates for mayor, one for deputy mayor, 11 candidates for councillor and one candidate for each of the four school board trustee positions.

Candidates will not become official until they are certified by the municipality's clerk following the close of nominations.

For those considering a run, current members of Orangeville council say municipal government offers an opportunity to make a direct impact, but it also requires commitment, patience and a willingness to learn.

Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post served as a councillor from 2018 to 2022 before becoming mayor. She is seeking re-election and said municipal government is where decisions most directly affect residents' daily lives.

"From roads and parks to recreation, housing, infrastructure, public safety and economic development, the work of council shapes the community we all call home," she said.

Post said candidates do not need a political background to seek office.

"Some of the strongest voices around the council table come from people with diverse professional and lived experiences who simply care deeply about their community and are willing to put in the work," she said.

She added that having different perspectives around the council table is important.

"We need people with different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives because our community is stronger when its leadership reflects the people it serves," Post said.

A role built on service

Councillor Joe Andrews, who was first elected in 2018 and re-elected in 2022, said his decision to run came from his connection to the community through professional appointments and volunteer commitments.

"I was asked time and time again to consider running for municipal office by so many within our community because of my integrity, professional experience and that I truly care about Orangeville and its future," Andrews said.

During his current term, Andrews has served on several committees and boards, including the Economic Development and Culture Committee, the Orangeville Public Library Board, and the Affordable Housing Task Force.

When asked what the most rewarding part of the job was, Andrews said representing residents.

"To answer this question is easy, serving the people of Orangeville," he said. "I am honoured to be in this elected position representing the best interests of the residents."

Andrews said connecting with residents and ensuring their concerns are heard is one of the most important parts of the role.

"I am also thrilled advocating on behalf of Orangeville to the higher levels of government, which has become more important than ever before," he said.

More than attending meetings

One of the biggest misconceptions about municipal office is the amount of time required, according to current council members.

While councillor positions are considered part-time roles, Andrews said serving effectively requires a significant commitment.

"As much as the elected role of councillor in Orangeville is deemed part-time, to do it right, I commit to it like a full-time job that is seven-days-a-week," he said.

Councillors attend regular meetings, prepare agendas, participate in committees, respond to resident concerns and work with municipal staff.

Andrews said councillors are "always on" and expected to respond to community needs through phone calls, emails, texts or in-person conversations.

"This is outside of meeting with staff, or preparing for all council and/or committee meetings prior to attending each," he said. "It truly is a balancing act between your family and other professional and personal commitments."

Councillor Tess Prendergast, who was first elected in 2022 and is seeking re-election, said the time commitment was one of the realities she learned after joining council.

"It requires much more time than people see at council meetings," she said. "There are lengthy agendas and reports to read, committee meetings, calls and emails from residents, community events, research and follow-up with staff."

Prendergast said a council meeting may only last a few hours, but preparation can take significantly longer.

"Budget season, a major planning application or an urgent community issue can take over a significant part of the week," she said.

Prendergast has chosen to teach part-time this September so she can dedicate more focused time to council and the community.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

ELECTION INSIGHT: From left: Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post, Coun. Joe Andrews and Coun. Tess Prendergast are encouraging residents interested in municipal government to consider putting their names forward before the Aug. 21 nomination deadline. All three current council members are seeking re-election in the 2026 municipal election.

What residents don't see

During Prendergast's first term on council, she said the time demands caught her off guard.

"A request for a crosswalk, a tree policy or a change to a boulevard bylaw may involve engineering standards, legislation, legal advice, budgets, staffing and consultation across several departments," she said.

She noted that residents often see the final decision, but not the research and discussion required before council votes.

Prendergast pointed to the installation of turtle-crossing signs as an example of how a seemingly straightforward idea required collaboration, research and coordination before moving forward.

"I have learned that you need patience, but you also need persistence," she said. "Sometimes the work is continuing to ask questions, following up and making sure an issue does not quietly disappear."

What it takes

Post said successful councillors need to understand the role is about governance, setting direction and creating policy rather than managing daily municipal operations.

"Listen more than you speak," she said to prospective candidates. "Spend time talking with residents, businesses and community organizations to understand the issues from different perspectives."

Post also encouraged candidates to remain curious and continue learning.

"There is a steep learning curve, and the best elected officials never stop educating themselves," she said.

Andrews said integrity and professionalism are key qualities for anyone considering a council seat.

"You must also apply respect and justification to your decision-making responsibilities, especially when voting on motions of council," he said.

He added that councillors must understand their role as one voice among several.

"You are only one vote of seven elected

voices, thus you must be willing to share your opinion, justify it, yet work collectively to achieve an outcome that will benefit the community," Andrews said.

Prendergast said curiosity, independence and empathy are also essential.

"You need to read carefully, ask questions and be willing to admit when you do not understand something," she said.

She added that councillors must be willing to challenge ideas respectfully and work with people who may disagree.

"No councillor accomplishes very much alone," she said.

Advice for first-time candidates

For residents unsure whether they are ready, Prendergast said there is no perfect time to run.

"Do not wait until you feel completely ready, because I am not sure anyone ever does," she said.

She encouraged potential candidates to attend council meetings, read agendas, get involved with community organizations and speak with current and former councillors.

"Council needs people with different backgrounds, experiences and ways of thinking," she said.

"You do not need to know everything before you begin, but you do need to care, be prepared to learn and be willing to do the work."

Post said the next council will face several major issues, including balancing growth with financial responsibility, investing in infrastructure, maintaining affordability, supporting housing and strengthening the local economy.

"Municipal government works best when dedicated people are willing to step forward, serve their community, and work collaboratively to make it even better," she said.

For those interested in running, nomination papers can be filed through the Town of Orangeville before the Aug. 21 deadline.

To find information, including candidate resources and election details, visit: [Orangeville.ca/election](https://orangeville.ca/election)

Town of Orangeville

Upcoming meetings

August 2026

Council (regular)	Monday, August 10 at 7 p.m. Council chambers, 87 Broadway Live stream: orangeville.ca/WatchLive
Property Standards Committee	Wednesday, August 12 at 6 p.m. Council chambers, 87 Broadway

Unable to attend a meeting in person? Connect virtually by following the instructions on the council agenda, or request to join committee meetings virtually (subject to availability) by contacting committees@orangeville.ca or 519-941-0440 ext. 7321 during regular business hours and at least one hour before the meeting. Meeting dates/times are subject to change.

For agendas and participation details, visit orangeville.ca/meetings.

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\$48,511 +HST/LIC **\$0** DOWN PAYMENT

5.29% FOR 96 MONTHS C.O.B. \$11,011.10

2025 GMC SIERRA 1500 DENALI



\$245 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$73,989 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$5.49 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$15,163.92

2022 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LTD RST



\$145 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$43,871 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$5.49 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$9,991.29

2019 AUDI Q7 PROGRESSIV



\$104 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$24,989 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$8.99 FOR 72 MONTHS C.O.B \$7,363.58

2020 NISSAN ROGUE SL



\$100 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$23,989 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$8.99 FOR 72 MONTHS C.O.B \$7,088.91

2024 RAM 3500 LIMITED LONGHORN



\$323 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$89,989 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$27,566.47

2021 GMC SIERRA 1500 AT4 CARBONPRO



\$165 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$49,989 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$5.49 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$10,245.16

2018 BMW 5 SERIES M550I XDRIVE



\$202 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$34,989 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$9.29 FOR 48 MONTHS C.O.B \$6,333.55

2018 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE STERLING EDITION



\$115 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$19,889 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$9.29 FOR 48 MONTHS C.O.B \$3,941.28

2026 JEEP CHEROKEE LIMITED



\$219 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$57,246 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$23,012.24

2025 JEEP WRANGLER 4-DOOR SPORT S



\$270 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$58,106 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$25,012.24

2025 JEEP WRANGLER 4-DOOR SPORT S



\$278 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$60,521 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$23,752.93

2026 RAM 1500 REBEL



\$300 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$83,396 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$25,754.65

2025 GMC SIERRA 1500 AT4



\$259 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$72,221 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$22,123.57

2023 DODGE HORNET GT PLUS AWD



\$104 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$28,879 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$6,918.52

2019 RAM 2500 LARAMIE LONGHORN



\$249 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$60,021 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$8.99 FOR 72 MONTHS C.O.B \$17,886.56

2017 DODGE CHARGER SRT 392



\$323 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$56,121 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$9.29 FOR 48 MONTHS C.O.B \$11,121.14

2026 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 CUSTOM



STK# 23600

FINANCE FROM

\$201 WEEKLY +TAXES

\$57,865 +HST/LIC **\$0** DOWN PAYMENT

2.99% FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B. \$7,173.62



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2027 CHEVROLET BOLT LT



STK# 23667

FINANCE FROM

\$128 WEEKLY +TAXES

\$35,855 +HST/LIC **\$0** DOWN PAYMENT

3.99% FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B. \$5,971.59

2017 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LT



\$161 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$27,999 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$9.29 FOR 48 MONTHS C.O.B \$5,548.38

2023 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER ACTIV



\$89 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$26,921 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$5.49 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$5,517.41

2021 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LT



\$62 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$18,606 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$5.49 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$3,813.27

2019 GMC TERRAIN SLE



\$80 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$19,189 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$8.99 FOR 72 MONTHS C.O.B \$5,654.48

2024 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LTZ



\$201 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$60,609 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$5.49 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$12,421.72

2017 AUDI A3 2.0T TECHNIK CABRIOLET



\$165 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$28,609 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$9.29 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$5,669.26

2026 HONDA CIVIC SEDAN HYBRID SPORT TOURING



\$135 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$37,716 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$11,553.60

2022 HYUNDAI SANTA FE PREFERRED



\$96 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$26,616 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$8,153.41

2026 VOLKSWAGEN TAOS HIGHLINE



STK# TA2615

FINANCE FROM

\$416 WEEKLY +TAXES

\$43,152 +HST/LIC **\$0** DOWN PAYMENT

0% FOR 24 MONTHS C.O.B. \$0



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2026 VOLKSWAGEN ATLAS EXECLINE



STK# AS2643

FINANCE FROM

\$434 WEEKLY +TAXES

\$67,568 +HST/LIC **\$0** DOWN PAYMENT

0% FOR 36 MONTHS C.O.B. \$0

2018 BMW X3 xDrive30i



\$115 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$19,985 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

X.X.X. FOR 48 MONTHS C.O.B \$3,960.30

2021 VOLKSWAGEN ATLAS EXECLINE



\$100 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$27,495 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$8.49 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$6,996.46

2021 RAM 1500 LARAMIE



\$180 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$49,495 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$8.49 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$16,194.93

2023 JEEP WRANGLER WILLYS



\$165 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$45,945 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$14,074.40

2022 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN COMFORTLINE



\$100 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$27,995 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$8,575.75

2023 VOLKSWAGEN ATLAS EXECLINE



\$136 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$37,891 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$11,897.21

2024 VOLKSWAGEN GOLF R MANUAL



\$170 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$47,481 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$7.99 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$14,944.93

2022 AUDI A5 TECHNIK



\$146 WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$39,995 +HST & LIC **\$0** DOWN

\$8.49 FOR 84 MONTHS C.O.B \$13,086.50

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Bruce Trails Conservancy launches Passport to Nature program

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Bruce Trail Conservancy (BTC) has launched a new initiative, Passport to Nature, designed to make Canada's oldest and longest marked footpath more accessible to people of all ages and experience levels.

Manager of Community Engagement Laura Tuohy said the program, based on similar programs created by fellow conservation groups and parks, will offer a curated series of free or low-cost events throughout the year.

"The Passport to Nature is a brand new program for the Bruce Trail Conservancy and its nine Bruce Trail clubs," she said. "The goal is to offer a series of free or low-cost events throughout the year, intended to encourage people to spend time in nature and to learn a little bit more about the Bruce Trail and the Bruce Trail Conservancy and the Niagara Escarpment that they're exploring."

Passport to Nature was developed in response to a common barrier the Bruce Trail Conservancy encountered: the sheer scale of the Bruce Trail.

Organizers recognized that many potential visitors did not know where to start or what the trail had to offer beyond long-distance hiking.

"To someone who's new to the Bruce Trail, the size and scope of it can seem kind of overwhelming, and people don't necessarily know where to start," Tuohy said.

"Sometimes ... It's hard to point people in the right direction because there's so much going on. It's a 900-kilometre trail, going along the entire Niagara Escarpment, and it might seem like you need to be a hiker who really enjoys a challenge or an end-to-end or those sorts of things to really enjoy the Bruce Trail, but you don't."

By assembling a list of guided hikes, educational outings, and conservation activities, the program aims to provide clear entry points and help people discover experiences that suit their interests, schedules, and comfort levels.

Participants can pick up a printed passport booklet and collect stickers as they attend events, adding an element of fun and accomplishment that mirrors the Bruce Trail Conservancy's longstanding culture of badges and milestones.

Events range from local outings in sections such as Caledon Hills, Dufferin Highlands and a full moon hike at Boyne Valley Provincial Park. An opportunity slightly farther afield includes a geology-and-history walk at Rock Hill Corner, one of the Bruce Trail Conservancy's protected nature reserves.

Some activities also focus directly on stewardship, such as habitat restoration days that tackle invasive species like common buckthorn.

"Some of our events here are opportunities for people to get their hands dirty and get really involved in conservation work," Tuohy said. "One of the things we do on



CELIA HO PHOTO

CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE: This photo taken at Murphy's Pinnacle, part of Boyne Valley Provincial Park, showcases one of the natural areas people can explore through the Bruce Trail Conservancy's new Passport to Nature program. The initiative offers free or low-cost events, including guided hikes, educational outings and conservation activities, to help people of all ages and experience levels connect with the Bruce Trail and Niagara Escarpment. The program aims to make the 900-kilometre trail more approachable while encouraging long-term appreciation and protection of the natural environment.

many of our protected areas is pulling buckthorn, and it's a heck of a lot of fun. It's an opportunity to learn and get involved."

At its core, Passport to Nature supports the Bruce Trail Conservancy's mission as both a trail organization and a land trust.

By connecting people with the escarpment's forests, geology, and communities, the program seeks to build the personal ties that underpin long-term conservation.

"The Bruce Trail Conservancy is not only a trail organization, but we're a land trust," Tuohy said. "We fundraised to purchase land along the Niagara Escarpment for conservation, and that means that we are conserving the ecosystems of the Niagara Escarpment and also creating a permanent home for the Bruce Trail."

"We realized throughout our history that connecting people with nature is an import-

ant part of inspiring long-term conservation. When people feel connected to it, or when they have experiences in it, they're more likely to want to do something to protect it. Many of the events take place, at least in part, on Bruce Trail Conservancy protected land, and that was really important."

It is the hope of the Bruce Trail Conservancy and its local clubs that Passport to Nature serves as a crucial hub and gateway for locals and visitors to learn more about the Bruce Trail. The program also helps them find interesting activities in the region and learn how to protect the land for years to come.

A physical passport is already available, and new events will be added to the web portal as they become available.

For more information, visit: brucetrail.org/passport-to-nature

Mono Mayor John Creelman seeks support for justice centre designation

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Caseload growth in Orangeville courts suggests merit in the municipality being designated a provincial justice centre.

Dufferin County Coun. John Creelman, who is also Mono's mayor, gave notice of motion when council met July 9 that he will seek its support to lobby Queen's Park officials for the designation.

The province has created so-called Justice Centres at various court locations, including Toronto, Kenora, and London, moving justice out of the traditional courtroom and into a more community-based setting, better engaging community, health, and social services.

As Dufferin County already embraces a holistic approach to the delivery of social services through its HART Hub initiative, a Justice Centre designation would strongly complement those efforts, Creelman said.

In his notice of motion, he said that the Justice Centre model has been enthusiastically supported by the judiciary, including Chief Justice Sharon Nicklas, as indicated by comments in her last Opening of the Courts address.

A new Justice and two new Justices of the Peace were recently assigned to Orangeville in recognition of the court's growing caseload here, he said.

He will ask the county to request that Attorney General Doug Downey designate Orangeville courts and the community as a Justice Centre to complement the work being done at the HART Hub. The designation will also recognize the "rapidly increasing workload and space pressures faced by local courts, the judiciary, as well as supporting services," Creelman said.

Among the local services affected are



FILE PHOTO

DUFFERIN COUNTY COUNCILLOR
JOHN CREELMAN

Legal Aid Ontario, Dufferin Caledon Victim Services, probation services, area John Howard Society branches, Elizabeth Fry Society, Canadian Mental Health Association Peel Dufferin, and OPP court services, the local family responsibility office of the Ministry of Community and Social Services, Provincial Offence Administration, Crown Law Offices, and Attorney General Support Services.

In addition to Downey, Creelman suggests copies of the motion be sent to Deputy Premier and Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, Chief Justice Nicklas, Judge Anthony Leitch, Judge James Chaffe, Justice of the Peace Samantha Burton and Justice of the Peace Andrea Jones.

Motorcyclist charged after allegedly fleeing Orangeville-area traffic stop at 200km/h

Dufferin OPP have charged a Georgetown man following an investigation into a dangerous driving incident where a motorcyclist allegedly fled from police at high speed during a traffic stop.

Police said officers were conducting proactive traffic enforcement on July 16 at about 8:43 p.m. near County Road 11 and Broadway in Orangeville when they observed three motorcycles travelling together in a manner that drew their attention.

An officer attempted to stop the motorcycles just west of Orangeville in East Gararaxa Township. While two of the motorcycles stopped, police allege the third fled the scene at an estimated speed of about 200 km/h.

Police said that while officers continued their investigation at the roadside, the same motorcycle returned and again passed the scene at a very high rate of speed before

leaving the area.

Investigators later identified the driver, who turned himself in to Dufferin OPP on July 21.

As a result of the investigation, Samuel Mulholland, 23, of Georgetown, has been charged with:

- dangerous operation;
- flight from a peace officer;
- owner operate a motor vehicle without insurance;
- driving a motor vehicle without a permit;
- driving a motor vehicle without plates;
- and
- driving without a licence.

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

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.



GRAND VALLEY

**Corporation of the
Town of Grand Valley**
5 Main Street North,
Grand Valley ON L9W 5S6
Phone: 519-928-5652
www.townofgrandvalley.ca
DATE OF PASSING: July 21, 2026
DATE OF NOTICE: July 30, 2026
LAST DAY TO APPEAL: August 20, 2026
By-law No. 2026-45

Notice of the Passing of a Zoning By-law

TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, the Council of the Town of Grand Valley passed **By-law 2026-45** on July 21, 2026, being a By-law to amend Zoning By-law No. 2009-10, as amended.

THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE AMENDMENT

The purpose and effect of **By-law 2026-45** is to implement the policies of the Town of Grand Valley Official Plan, the Dufferin County Official Plan, and to provide new and updated zoning and development standards that reflect policy and regulatory initiatives at the provincial and local level. The Zoning By-law is the Town's primary tool to regulate the use of land in the Town.

Council held a Statutory Public Meeting, pursuant to Section 34 of the Planning Act, on May 13, 2025.

Written and oral submissions were considered by Town Council as part of the deliberations and final decision on the Zoning By-law. As a result, minor changes to the by-law were made to include a Natural Heritage System overlay on the zoning schedules which triggers consultation with Indigenous communities, which may trigger additional technical review.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding By-law 2026-45 and its proposed changes to the Grand Valley Zoning By-law is available to the public for inspection at the Town Municipal Office located at 5 Main Street North, GRAND VALLEY, ON L9W 5S6, Monday to Friday between 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM and on the Town's website: <https://www.townofgrandvalley.ca/business-development/building-planning-and-development/official-plan-zoning-and-planning-documents/vision-grand-valley-official-plan-and-zoning-by-law-review/>.

For more information regarding the zoning amendment, contact the Manager of Planning, Mark H. Kluge at 519-928-5652 extension 225, email at mkluge@townofgrandvalley.ca or in person at Grand Valley Town Hall. (8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday to Friday).

Only the applicant, specified persons and public bodies as defined in the Planning Act, and registered owners of lands to which the By-law will apply and who made oral submissions at the public meeting or who have made written submissions to the Town before the By-law is passed, will be able to appeal the decision of the Town of Grand Valley to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

TAKE NOTICE that an appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal in respect to all or part of this Zoning By-law may be made by filing a notice of appeal with the Town Clerk either via the Ontario Land Tribunal e-file service (first-time users will need to register for a My Ontario Account) at <https://olt.gov.on.ca/e-file-service> by selecting **Grand Valley (Town)** as the Approval Authority, or by mail to Town of Grand Valley, 5 Main Street North, Grand Valley, **no later than 4: 30 PM on Thursday, August 20, 2026**. The filing of an appeal after 4:30 PM, in person or electronically, will be deemed to have been received the next business day. **The appeal fee of \$1,100 can be paid online through e-file or by credit card/certified cheque/money order** to the Minister of Finance, Province of Ontario. If you wish to appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) or request a fee reduction for an appeal, forms are available from the OLT website at www.olt.gov.on.ca. If the e-file portal is down, you can submit your appeal to mail@townofgrandvalley.ca.

No person or public body shall be added as a party to the hearing of the appeal unless, before the by-law was passed, the person or public body made oral submissions at a public meeting or written submissions to the council or, in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.

Any and all written submissions relating to this application that were made to Town Council before its decision and any and all oral submissions related to this application that were made at a public meeting, held under the Planning Act, have been, on balance, taken into consideration by Town Council as part of its deliberations and final decision on this matter.

DATED at the Town of Grand Valley July 30, 2026.

Meghan Townsend
CAO/Clerk
Town of Grand Valley
5 Main Street North
Grand Valley, ON L9W 5S6
mtownsend@townofgrandvalley.ca
519-928-5652 extension 222

Grand Valley embraces OG 1870 as grand opening draws overwhelming response

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

The owners of Grand Valley’s newest restaurant say the community has exceeded every expectation following the July 25 grand opening of OG 1870, with strong public support keeping the restaurant busy from morning through evening.

Joshua and Justine Tuck, who are married, said the opening was a huge success, with full dining rooms and consistently busy breakfast, lunch and dinner services.

“It’s been insane, to say the least,” Joshua Tuck said. “It’s been nonstop. Every seat in there is taken at high time for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Every single service so far, we keep thinking, okay, it’s Monday. We should maybe go less staff. It’s not going to be that busy, and it’s just as busy.”

The bakery and ice cream parlour have also drawn strong interest from residents and visitors alike, with regular customers already returning daily. Joshua Tuck said the response has been overwhelmingly positive, although the couple continues to welcome feedback as they refine the business.

“People have been really kind,” he said. “We’ve gotten rave reviews, and people said they love the food, and love the experience and love the service. We have gotten constructive criticism as well, but I think most people out there understand it’s a new business. There’s going to be some things that you have to iron out.”

Joshua Tuck credited the ice cream shop, which opened earlier this year, with helping build momentum before the restaurant opened.

“The ice cream was a godsend,” he said. “It supported not only the restaurant but our whole family. The ice cream shop again had a huge outpouring of support from the community. We’ve had people coming by every day for ice cream.”

Justine Tuck said another early success has been the grab-and-go service, created to meet the needs of commuters travelling into the city.

“When I went to work every day, there was nowhere for me to grab a coffee or a sandwich that early in the morning, most businesses are closed, or are only open certain days of the week,” Justine Tuck said.

“So we got the idea for an early morning service for people commuting to the city. We’ve been selling 60 plus breakfast sandwiches out of the grab and go in the morning on weekdays so far. That’s how receptive the community’s been to it.”

Despite the strong start, the owners said the first week has also been a learning ex-

perience. The kitchen was reorganized after opening to improve workflow, while the restaurant’s point-of-sale system was reworked to streamline communication between servers and the kitchen.

“You have a vision for things when you set up a business, and you set it up a certain way to follow that vision,” Joshua Tuck said. “Essentially, our kitchen was set up in a way that we thought would be efficient. We ended up switching everything around days later because we realized that wasn’t what we needed or wanted, so we made more changes as we went.”

“The POS system at first was honestly a nightmare,” Justine Tuck said. “I spent days on it because what a server receives and what’s executed to the kitchen wasn’t always ending up the same. Sometimes things didn’t come up, or orders were missing. We had to spend time figuring out how to ease the flow of our operations, and getting everyone on the same page.”

The Tucks also praised their staff, many of whom are students with little or no restaurant experience. With only a few days of training before opening, Joshua Tuck said the team has improved with every service.

“We have a lot of confidence in them,” he said. “These young people are really stepping up, and they’re learning, and they’re getting better every day.”

The one common denominator between the Tucks, the staff and the restaurants’ success, according to the owners, has been the community it’s built around. They credit Grand Valley and its welcoming, friendly atmosphere for the restaurant’s rapid success.

“We built it with the help of the town, and it’s been successful with the help of the town,” Justine Tuck said. “It was all local people that helped us make it and bring it together, and they supported us wholeheartedly, and they were cheering for us when we weren’t open yet.”

“I think this town... there’s this culture of friendliness in Grand Valley,” Joshua Tuck said. “I think it’s remained here all these years because people here, they talk to you, they want to know about you, they’re interested... It’s a very open town... everybody’s happy to chat. It’s just unbelievable.”

The Tucks said the opening week marked only the beginning for OG 1870.

As they continue refining operations and introducing new ideas, they hope the restaurant, bakery and ice cream parlour will become more than just a place to eat, serving as a gathering place where residents and visitors alike can connect while enjoying what Grand Valley has to offer.



SCOTT MARTIN PHOTO

A STRONG START: OG 1870’s grand opening was viewed as a huge success by owners Joshua and Justine Tuck. They said since opening the restaurant on July 25, every service has been packed, whether that’s breakfast, lunch or dinner. Despite the success, there is still more work to be done on the restaurant, and changes are still being made to streamline service across the board.

Dufferin OPP promote ‘Lock It or Lose It’ campaign in Shelburne to help prevent theft

Dufferin OPP are reminding residents to take simple steps to protect their property as part of the “Lock It or Lose It” crime prevention campaign.

Members of the Dufferin OPP Auxiliary Unit spent the weekend promoting the campaign in Shelburne and Grand Valley, conducting foot patrols in commercial and residential areas and speaking with residents about steps they can take to protect their vehicles, homes and outbuildings from theft.

The reminders follow recent reports of vehicle thefts in local communities.

Police say these incidents are often crimes of opportunity, and taking extra steps to secure property and remove valuables from view can help reduce the risk of crime.

The Dufferin OPP reminds residents that living in a rural community does not eliminate the risk of crime. Police remind residents that criminals travel and unsecured property can quickly become a target.

Residents are encouraged to:

- Lock doors: Secure vehicles, homes, sheds, barns and garages at all times, even when stepping away briefly.
- Secure outbuildings: Ensure workshops, trailers and storage areas are properly locked. Heavy-duty padlocks and reinforced doors can provide added protection.

- Keep valuables out of sight: Remove or conceal wallets, purses, electronics, tools and other valuables. Store equipment and recreational vehicles away from public view whenever possible.
- Do not leave keys inside: Never leave keys, key fobs or garage door openers in vehicles or easily accessible locations.
- Improve lighting: Consider motion-activated lighting around driveways, entrances and outbuildings to deter suspicious activity.
- Consider surveillance: Video cameras and alarm systems can help monitor property and assist police in responding to incidents.

Police are also encouraging residents to report suspicious people, vehicles or activity in their neighbourhoods.

The Dufferin OPP said residents should contact police if they notice unfamiliar individuals or vehicles in areas where they are not typically seen.

The Dufferin OPP will continue proactive patrols throughout the county to help deter criminal activity and enhance public safety.

Anyone with information about suspected unlawful activity is asked to contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122. Anonymous tips can be provided through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or online.

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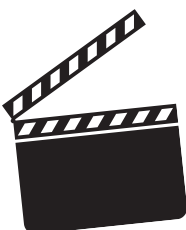
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Arts & Entertainment

LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS



Review: Theatre Orangeville’s ‘Into the Woods’ brings life lessons and laughs

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Theatre Orangeville’s Young Company brought their A-game on July 24 with *Into the Woods*, their latest musical production.

During the summer months, a shift takes place at Theatre Orangeville. The theatre is between main seasons, summer camps are underway, and the spotlight turns to a different group of performers: the Young Company. Led by Theatre Orangeville staff, these youth performers make use of the theatre’s professional resources to stage a full-scale production.

That was on full display during the premiere of *Into the Woods* on July 24.

Into the Woods is a fairy tale in theory. In reality, it blends classic stories like Cinderella, Little Red Riding Hood, Jack and the Beanstalk, Rapunzel and more.

The first act follows these familiar tales for the most part, but they quickly begin to diverge. The stories intertwine, with characters interacting directly, cooperating and clashing as they pursue their dreams and happily ever afters. Fortunately for everyone involved, those happy endings are achieved.

But the second act is where the story truly takes on a life of its own.

Into the Woods explores what happens after happily ever after, deconstructing fairy tale endings and forcing its characters to question whether their wishes and dreams are truly making them happy.

Friendships are tested, romances are strained, and in the end, not everything is quite as it seems. That’s what makes *Into the Woods* a must-see for anyone who holds fairy tales dear.

The acting performances are well above what many would expect from a youth performing company.

There were moments I forgot I was watching kids on stage.

The singing was clearly the production’s strongest aspect. Every performer brought a distinct style to their role, ensuring no two musical numbers felt alike. Some per-



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

A STANDOUT PERFORMANCE: Theatre Orangeville’s *Into the Woods* was a phenomenal production by the nonprofit’s Young Company group. Featuring a large cast, intricate costumes, fun musical numbers, and more, *Into the Woods* explores what comes after “Happily Ever After” in fairy tales, and deconstructs beloved stories. The production asks what happens when those dreams are achieved — and whether they were truly worth pursuing. The Young Company delivered a story to remember, with all the skill and range of seasoned professionals.

formances were soft and graceful, such as Cinderella’s, while others were commanding and antagonistic, particularly the Witch’s.

Each performer approached their character with nuance and care, and it showed throughout the production.

The ensemble numbers were equally impressive. Several songs featured overlapping dialogue and rapid-fire exchanges between multiple cast members, moments that could easily have descended into chaos without exceptional timing.

The opening and closing musical numbers, featuring the full cast, were the best examples of this.

That level of coordination is no easy feat, but the Young Company pulled it off time and again.

The stage movement and choreography were equally impressive.

Even with more than a dozen performers on stage, the cast moved fluidly and in sync, demonstrating the meticulous planning and rehearsal that went into the blocking and choreography. Props were handled efficiently, moving on and off stage seamlessly.

At no point did it feel like any performer was overshadowed or blocked, even during the busiest scenes.

The set design neatly rounded out the production and was a perfect example of accomplishing a great deal with a simple concept.

Tree silhouettes, elevated platforms and a colourful backdrop, combined with effective lighting, music and performances, created all the production needed while leaving room for the audience’s imagination.

A baker’s house, Rapunzel’s tower and, of course, the woods were all clearly established despite the set itself changing very little beyond a handful of props.

The only issue, and it’s a minor one, was

some audio balancing. At times, the music and microphone levels made certain song lyrics difficult to hear.

Taken together, *Into the Woods* was a fantastic production that showcased the raw talent of these young performers.

They demonstrated a level of range and confidence beyond their years and should be immensely proud of such a polished performance.

Into the Woods was a must-see for theatre lovers of all ages. It’s an ambitious production that asks a great deal of its cast, and Theatre Orangeville’s Young Company rises to the challenge with confidence, heart and remarkable talent.

Anyone looking to support local theatre while seeing the next generation of performers showcase their skills would be well served by taking a trip *Into the Woods* to see the next Young Company performance.



David Gauthier
Service Consultant

David brings a calm, customer-first mindset to every service appointment. As a MacMaster Certified Service Consultant, he works hard to ensure every visit is smooth and stress-free. Whether you're dropping in for maintenance or need help navigating a repair, David is ready with clear communication, helpful insight, and a friendly attitude.



Maurice McDonald
Service Consultant

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



Jazz Matharu
Service Consultant

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



3 Dealerships, 1 Community



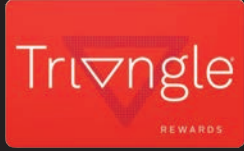
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The Citizen CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 267510 • Solution on page: CLASSIFIEDS SECTION

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	
11				12		13			14			
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Egyptian bull god
5. Romanian monetary unit
8. Santa's helper
11. Fictional Pink Floyd corporal
13. Sea eagle genus
14. Broad volcanic crater
15. Minneapolis suburb
16. Actual commercial worth (abbr.)
17. Exchange rate
18. Ethnic peoples in Guinea
20. Men's fashion accessory
21. Craft material
22. Offerings
25. Early
30. Large room
31. Soviet Socialist Republic
32. One who hauls

33. Shorthand for accepting
38. Promotional materials or pity
41. Loss of memory
43. One who beheads
45. Photographers
48. Small, rich sponge cake
49. White clerical vestment
50. Partner to "oohed"
55. Abba __, Israeli politician
56. Zero
57. Owl monkey genus
59. Lace bug genus
60. Mild expression of surprise
61. Storage devices
62. Keyboard key
63. Make a mistake
64. One-time Korean president

CLUES DOWN

1. Bridge building degree
2. Expression of sorrow or pity
3. Large, stocky, lizard
4. Rumanian river
5. Missive
6. Stout-bodied moths
7. Brings out
8. Bird of prey
9. King of Thebes
10. Cleaving tool
12. African antelope
14. Three are particularly famous
19. Satisfy
23. C. European river
24. Dictator
25. Portion of (abbr.)
26. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
27. Consume food
28. Woman (French)
29. Scrape or wear away

by friction
34. Popular vegetable
35. Pacific Standard Time
36. Brazilian state capital
37. Paddle
39. Cause to become insane
40. Drier and flakier
41. Mimic
42. ESPN host Kimes
44. One who moyses
45. Secret political clique
46. Behind the stern of a ship
47. Supernatural force
48. Sanctuary in Orthodox churches
51. Swiss river
52. Grayish white
53. Engrave
54. UNC's chief rival
58. Midway between south and southeast

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



kids' corner

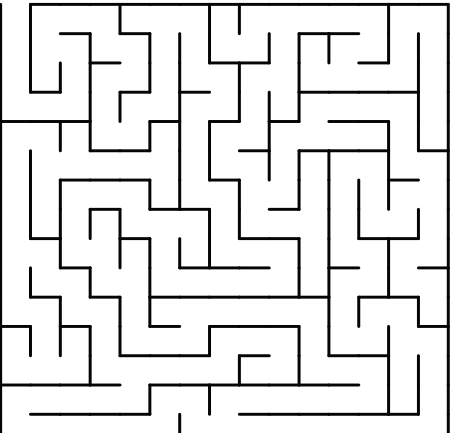
How they say that in...

English: Vacation
Spanish: Vacaciones
Italian: Vacanza
French: Vacances
German: Urlaub

Maze Craze

Find your way through the maze.

Start



Finish

Get the PICTURE?

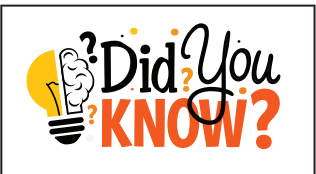


Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

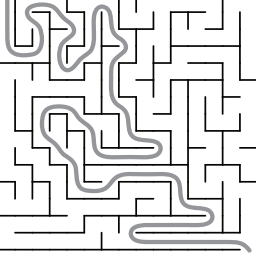
Answer: Cruise ship



RESPITE
a short period of rest or relief from something unpleasant



Vacations are highly effective at reducing stress and preventing burnout. They can lead to positive emotions.



‘Playing music is breathing:’ Bob Hewus shares his passion for live performance

Written By **CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD**

The Citizen’s interview with bass player Bob Hewus walked through his personal musical history, years of playing in bands, and involvement in the music scenes in Windsor, Toronto, and locally, at Hockley.

He and his wife, choreographer Candace Jennings, were looking to buy a home outside Toronto. Hewus and a friend of his toured on their BMW motorcycles from one area to another, looking for a stone or log house. In 1995, they happened upon a large “for sale” sign right in front of the very place he was looking for, on the Hockley Road, but “it took three tries to actually close the deal,” he said.

Back to the beginning, Hewus related that both his parents were musicians. His father was a violinist.

“They met at a concert,” Hewus said. “My dad was dancing at Ukrainian shows. They were both living in Windsor.”

His sister played the piano, and by the time he was five years old, Hewus had started playing it too.

“There was always music in our house,” he recalled.

Early in the ‘60s, his sister got a guitar, and he played it as well. By Grade 9, he went with string music. Thinking he would follow his father and play the violin, until his teacher, Paul Purcell, put a bass in his hands.

“In our band class, we were the misfits, strong players. I began to play with a concert band. I loved the bass now and it ended up being a good fit,” he commented.

Throughout high school, Hewus played, and by 15, his new teacher ended up subbing for himself, and Hewus began playing weddings. He joined the union at 15, and that was the beginning of his professional life.

Hewus told the Citizen that, when he was in his 30s, his mother mentioned at a family holiday event that both his grandfathers had played bass before they came from Ukraine to Canada.

For a few years, when playing with a wedding band, one member also played with a jazz trio, but the bass player wanted to quit. Once Hewus replaced him, they were performing in the top venues in Windsor – the Viscount, Top Hat Supper Club and others, but the day came in the early ‘70s when an older musician told him in no uncertain terms to go to Toronto.

Friends of his were working in radio in Toronto. Hewus started producing a talk show, for which he wrote the news, working all day at the radio, going home for a nap, and then out again to play with his bands. Then, he started meeting people and “so it went.”

For a couple of decades, from the ‘70s into the ‘90s, Toronto was a vibrant and very exciting city for the music business. Hewus called the city “an absolute wonder.”

At the time, during the four-year run of the Latimer Fellows production of Forever Plaid in Toronto, his wife was involved with the show as its choreographer. In the 2000s, she worked for Live Ent in the famous West End of London, England, on many live shows.

Hewus added his time with Leisa Way’s

touring shows, saying, “I started playing with the Wayward Wind Band around 2006 with Bruce Ley, Dave Wilson, and Kim Ratcliffe. The first show we played at Theatre Orangeville was a musical treat for all of us.”

He continued, “The fun continued as Leisa expanded her original show catalogue and we played all around Ontario and toured both the Maritimes and out West.”

In those days, it was a good time to be a musician in Canada. In Toronto, there were plenty of venues and bars that engaged bands to come and play, making it a busy time for Hewus. But when the real estate business began to change, with bars and other venues facing new costs and people kept at home by Covid, the gigs were fewer.

Living in this area, for Hewus, his theatre work has been with Drayton Entertainment and as the principal sub bassist at Stratford.

“I walked on stage at the Avon Theatre – that was fun,” he remarked.

Blaming Covid, he noted that a whole generation of young people didn’t get exposed to live music, the exceptional experience to be close to the stage in the same way as in the places where he has played.

Although music provided a livelihood, Hewus said he always had another “thing going on” to complement his playing.

Now, his own business is computer consulting for small businesses, particularly veterinary clinics.

He and Bruce Ley get together to play at the Black Birch Restaurant on Hockley Road in Mono.

Hewus has met and played with Harry



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

RED JENNY ROLLS: Bob Hewus and his bass – “Red Jenny” – have travelled and played with many well-known bands and musicians. He told the Citizen he enjoys playing with Bruce Ley at the Black Birch Restaurant in Mono. Hewus is based out of Hockley.

Chapin, who’s known for his hit song ‘Taxi’ which peaked at #5 on Canada’s RPM Top Singles chart in 1972,

For Bob Hewus, ambition has always been about the music.

“The only thing I’ve never done is a major tour,” he said. “Playing is like breathing.”

Dunk Disposal to host Pet Supply Donation Drive in support of Caledon’s National Wildlife Centre

Written By **CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD**

Cameron Dunkerley, owner of Dunk Disposal, is determined to make the rounds every month to pick up unwanted goods and deliver them to places where they can be recycled and reused across Dufferin–Caledon.

This month, the long list of wanted items includes used pet goods, such as cat trees, dog bowls, glass Mason jars, terrariums or aquariums, outdoor dog houses, and even your old washer and dryer, if still working. All donations support Caledon’s National Wildlife Centre (NWC).

“This is a new one for us,” said Dunkerley. “They heard about our January pick up of Christmas trees and got in touch with us to say they need lots of the trees to make habitats for their rescue animals. That call inspired this month’s donation drive.”

This free service, now in its sixth year, is Dunkerley’s way of giving back to the com-

munity and extends to the local company’s satellite office in Hamilton as Dunkerley works to expand his business in Ontario.

Since 2014, Caledon’s NWC has rescued more than 8,000 native wild animals and over 200 species, including threatened and endangered ones. A recently established partnership with Hope For Wildlife (HFW) in Seaforth, N.S., has helped expand the wildlife centre’s capacity to treat sick and injured animals.

“I just saw a post from the NWC,” Dunkerley said. “They are taking care of a bear that was shot.”

Once the connection between Dunk and the NWC was established, the idea of a pickup for them was realized.

The donation drives are held for one day each month, and the range of themes is growing.

The plan is to keep doing this every year.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DONATION DRIVE: Cameron Dunkerley, owner of Dunk Disposal, seen here with his dog, Bo, running a Pet Supply Donation Drive on Aug. 4 to pick up unwanted pet items. The long list includes bowls, outdoor dog houses, and old washers as well as dryers. The drive is in support of the National Wildlife Centre in Caledon. Call for collection at: 905-766-9008 or email contact@dunkdisposal.ca

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Fiddle Park Commissary Kitchen hosts open house ahead of full opening

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of Shelburne opened the doors to its Fiddle Park Commissary Kitchen on July 23 at 3 p.m., giving guests a chance to visit, explore, and learn about the space before it fully opens to the public in a few weeks.

Guests were also treated to food and drinks courtesy of Comfort Foods Canada, which catered the event.

Economic Development Officer Carol Maitland said that the Commissary Kitchen is almost ready and only needs a small amount of equipment and inspections before it can be opened up.

“We’re just waiting for the dishwasher right now, and a final inspection,” she said. “But once all that’s done, the kitchen will be ready for use. We’re expecting that to be done over the next two weeks.”

Despite the space not even being open yet and advertising not yet conducted, Maitland said word of mouth has spread quickly. Demand is already growing, demonstrating strong community demand.

“We haven’t advertised yet, but there’s about eight businesses already on a waiting list,” she said. “I think there’s a real need for a space like this.”

The Commissary Kitchen is a spacious facility with a variety of advanced equipment designed to give local entrepreneurs a leg up without having to leave town, a feature that’s quickly gaining traction around town.

Some of the equipment provided goes beyond basic ovens, basins, and other kitchen essentials. The Town has set up commercial dehydrators, vacuum sealers, mixers, and more, all with the intention of providing the best service and the widest possible options.

When it comes to space utilization, Maitland said the kitchen remains extremely flexible for how renters can use it.



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

GET COOKING: With only a few weeks left and a handful of work to do, the Fiddle Park Commissary Kitchen hosted a small open house on July 23 to showcase the new commercial kitchen space. It comes fully furnished and ready to go, with ovens, sinks, mixers, and much more, all designed to offer renters the most options possible for their small businesses. Food and drinks were provided, a sampling of what’s to come.

“You can rent it as a one-off, or you can rent it for a series,” she said. “You could literally book out the entire year if you wanted to, or a series of four-hour slots for the entire year. For those people who rent it frequently and consistently, then we’re offering fridge and freezer storage.”

The storage space also includes pantry space, meaning returning users of the space will be able to leave some or all of their materials and tools on-site, making commuting and transporting to the space even easier, a detail Maitland said would be very useful for

independent entrepreneurs and solo business owners who don’t have large vehicles or teams to rely on.

For those same entrepreneurs, Maitland said that the Town of Shelburne can also provide staff at an additional cost to help with some of the basic setup.

“We’re going to offer a concierge service,” she said. “There will be someone that’ll help them clean, prep, et cetera, and then they’ll just pay them on an hourly basis. But that will be an add-on, and that will be something that they’ll be able to do on their own when they

want the space.”

The flexibility of the Commissary Kitchen has been well received, with the town noting that visitors and future users of the facility have been impressed by the services offered and the equipment available — all at an affordable price.

With just a few weeks remaining before the kitchen opens for use and several community members already expressing interest, the Fiddle Park Commissary Kitchen is expected to become a valuable resource for years to come.

Mono council weighs distinction between racism, antisemitism after minutes questioned

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Do words such as racism and antisemitism have unique distinctions that need to be reflected in an official record of a town council meeting during which both forms of discrimination were discussed?

At the outset, Mono resident Bill Munro asked Coun. Ralph Manktelow during a May 12 Mono council meeting if the town’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Advisory Committee had ever officially condemned what he referred to as the antisemitism in Toronto and much of Canada.

Then, during council’s July 14 meeting, he said the minutes of the May meeting indicate

his question was changed from one about antisemitism to antiracism.

During Public Question Period in May, Munro asked about funding for DEI committee member training. Another question pertained to a past delegation of Mono residents who described experiences of “racism” in the town.

“Like unfavourable comments and stuff and I’m sure you took it seriously,” Munro said in May. “In the same vein, I was wondering if your committee had ever condemned the antisemitism that’s been going on in Toronto especially and in Canada in general.”

Coun. Manktelow said at the time that the subject was a big issue and that he wasn’t certain the committee wanted to get into it.

“It hasn’t come up on our agenda yet,” Manktelow said.

“But it is racism,” Munro said then.

Manktelow said then that Toronto wasn’t within Mono’s committee’s purview.

“It’s a big enough challenge understanding what’s going on here,” he said.

Fast forward to council’s July 14 meeting, when Munro said he would like the official minutes amended to rectify what he considers to be a mistake.

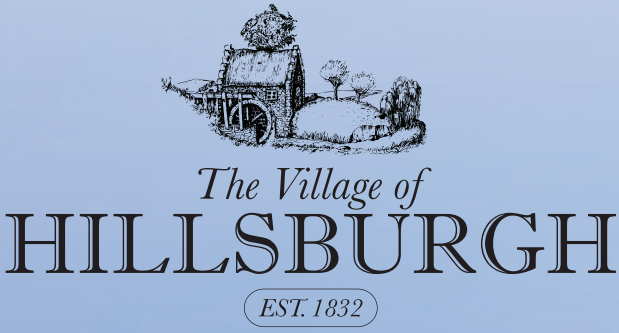
“When viewing the video from that meeting, because I wasn’t in attendance, both subjects were spoken about,” Fred Simpson, the town’s clerk, said during the July meeting. “But his initial question did pertain to antisemitism.”

“That’s my recollection,” Mayor John Creelman said. “Both topics were addressed by him ultimately and by us ultimately.”

“I’m still not quite sure I understand what Bill is complaining about,” Deputy Mayor Fred Nix said.

Michael Dunmore, the town’s CAO, said he spoke to Munro about the issue. He said the thrust of Munro’s question was antisemitism, but the meeting minutes indicated that the thrust of his question was antiracism.

“It’s a matter of clarity,” Dunmore said. Simpson said he will bring the May 12 meeting minutes to the next council meeting. Then council can make a motion to amend the official record if it wishes.



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Dunk Disposal to host Pet Supply Donation Drive for Caledon’s National Wildlife Centre

Continued from A9

It started as a simple idea, but months after every donation drive day, people are calling, making more partnerships and connecting with different organizations.

“This is good for branding,” Dunkerley said. “We’re helping out to create a positive brand for the community.”

The list of items that would be useful includes a park bench, rubber boots, rain barrels, kitchen scales, new pee pads, fans, laundry baskets, kiddie pools, large storage bins, folding tables and a freezer. An eclectic assortment, but imagining the work of rescuing wild animals might make clearing out things that have not been used for a while worth doing.

It is clear that Dunkerley is ambitious, and the question arose about the company’s direction going forward.

He kept his promise to maintain good community connections.

“As we continue to grow,” Dunkerley said, “with more trucks and more events throughout the years, we are learning. We have a truck in Hamilton now, serv-

ing Niagara Falls. We have a manager and different staff, and they have their own struggles but it is all working out well.”

Starting up is something Dunkerley understands very well. In the first months of his business, picking up whatever people wanted to get rid of, he was there with a crew to carry away a shed or an old patio, but his mantra at the time was to leave everything clean, even perfect.

He took a year off from high school to grow his business, understanding very well how important those first few months and years are to a budding company. By networking with people, tending to his intensive social media, and paying close attention to every detail, he’s found success.

So, even at arm’s length, he will be able to oversee matters as needed. With his determined approach to good work and positive management, while keeping the benefit of the community in mind, he has fair reason to expect the same success in Hamilton as he has achieved in the Orangeville, Caledon, Shelburne and Bramp-ton area.

Following Dunk Disposal’s usual format, the drive includes Mono and Erin as well.

The Pet Supply Donation Drive takes place Aug. 4. Dunkerley can accept calls until they finish their rounds.

Call 905-766-9008 or email contact@dunkdisposal.ca to take part in the drive.

Dufferin OPP lay 29 commercial vehicle charges during Operation Safe Driver initiative

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers laid 29 traffic-related charges involving commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) during Operation Safe Driver from July 12 to 18.

The initiative focused on reducing collisions involving commercial motor vehicles by addressing unsafe driving behaviours among commercial vehicle operators and other motorists.

During the campaign, officers conducted targeted enforcement and inspections focused on commercial vehicle safety, licensing, documentation, pre-trip inspections, hours-of-work requirements and other high-risk driving behaviours.

Dufferin OPP officers laid the following commercial motor vehicle-related charges during the initiative:

- Speeding: one charge
- Disobey sign: one charge
- Permits, plates and driver’s licences: four charges
- CMV documentation: one charge
- CMV inspection and maintenance: 12 charges
- Defective equipment/equipment: four charges
- Load and dimensions: six charges

In addition to the CMV-related charges, officers laid 217 other traffic-related charges during the campaign period.



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Local ball hockey goalie captures U16 world title with Team Canada

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

An Orangeville youth hockey player proudly represented the town at the first-ever U16 Girls Ball Hockey World Championship, helping Team Canada defeat its opponents to secure the title.

The U16 Girls Ball Hockey World Championship was hosted in Sheffield, England, with teams from across the globe travelling abroad to participate.

There could only be one winner, however, and that winner was Team Canada.

Defending the net for Team Canada was Orangeville's own Scarlett Ros, a 14-year-old ice and ball hockey player. Ros is still riding high from the excitement of the win, describing the experience as eye-opening and a lot of fun.

"It feels really great to bring back gold," she said. "It was really amazing to be able to meet a whole bunch of new people out there, and it was just a really cool experience. We also got to see different styles of play from different countries, which was awesome."

Ros was initially scouted for Team Canada a year ago while playing in the Youth 15 Girls Nationals in Mississauga. While she didn't hear back within the window she was told, her family was confident she would be chosen because of her performance during the championship, earning the title of MVP.

The excitement was worth it because Ros was indeed scouted, joined Team Canada, and went off to Great Britain to compete against other countries in the newly created tournament.

There was some stiff competition, according to Ros.

"The Slovakian and Czechian teams were tough," she said. "It's all very similar play, but they had a different view of the sport. They were a lot more focused on the offence, and they had a lot more tactics for the offensive zones. Team USA was also really good, so

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

GOLDEN GOALIE: Scarlett Ros played for Team Canada as the goaltender at the U16 Girls Ball Hockey World Championship in Sheffield, England. Ros described the opportunity as life-changing, and enjoyed playing against other national teams while observing their styles of play. Following the championship, Ros plans to refocus on ice hockey and eyes a potential future as a pro player.

between those three, they were our toughest competition."

Team Canada fought through the best and took gold despite the tough competition. Ros described the post-game experience as electrifying and said she really developed as a player because of Team Canada.

"The energy in the room after and at the hotel that night was just unmatched, it was such a great feeling," she said. "I feel like with meeting all these new girls, I really got a new understanding of how even though we may have never met each other, we can still play hockey, learn new skills and become friends in a very short amount of time."

With this strong run with Team Canada behind her, Ros doesn't plan to sit idle. She



WORLD CHAMPIONS: Scarlett Ros, a local ice and ball hockey player from Orangeville, travelled to Sheffield, England, as part of Team Canada at the first-ever U16 Girls Ball Hockey World Championship. Thanks to a strong team and dedicated staff, Team Canada took home gold.

is eyeing a future in professional hockey and remains interested in pursuing the sport both on and off the ice.

"I've been playing ice hockey since I was nine, but I've only started ball hockey four years ago now, so ice hockey is still probably my main," she said. "I would love the opportunity to play pro in the future if possible."

At just 14 years old, Ros has already represented her country on the international stage and returned home with a gold medal. With her sights set on continuing both her ice and ball hockey careers, the Orangeville goaltender hopes this championship is just the first of many milestones to come.

From soccer balls to foam darts: Storm FC launches new indoor attraction

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Storm FC is trading soccer balls for foam darts this summer with the launch of Blaster Wars, a new team-based indoor NERF attraction at its facility in Mono.

Players compete in mission-style games, including Capture the Flag and Rescue the Prisoner, with teams working to defend their base and outmanoeuvre their opponents.

Chris Broom, Storm FC's executive director, said the idea grew out of the club's search for summer programming. With soccer largely an outdoor activity, the club's space sits available most evenings once summer soccer programming winds down.

"In the summer, our space is available every evening and we've had a lot of suggestions to run programming that was different than soccer, which can be played outside," Broom said. "We were trying to come up with an activity that could be exciting to many different age groups and didn't require much investment in equipment for players."

The idea took shape after a trip to Dallas, where Broom was attending an NFL game and learned AT&T Stadium had been rented out for an entire weekend to host a NERF

Wars competition.

"It seemed like a really fun idea to bring that to the area," he said.

The equipment was purchased with roughly \$2,000 from an Ontario Trillium Foundation grant Storm FC had secured for its summer camp programs.

Each session begins with a safety walk-through, which Broom said takes less than five minutes, covering how to use the blasters and the rules of the games. Players are then divided into teams and enter the arena to complete their mission.

Broom said the response has not been limited to younger participants.

"We've watched parents outside the viewing area get the itch to jump in and join after a few minutes, sometimes even playing against their own kids," he said. "In a way, it can be therapeutic for them."

Broom said the appeal also comes down to a gap he sees locally.

"There are not a lot of activities offered locally that entire families could participate in together, regardless of age," he said. "Summer heat — and lately air quality — can become a barrier to physical activity for some community members, and we're fortunate to



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

FOAM FRENZY: Players duck, dodge and fire foam darts during a game of Blaster Wars at Storm FC's Mono facility. The new indoor attraction features mission-based NERF battles for all ages.

have an air-conditioned space that is a perfect solution to those challenges."

Storm FC is also planning to launch league play in August, with six-on-six teams that players can join individually or form themselves.

"We're hoping to get approximately 10 to 12 persons into the space three to four times per week in the evenings during drop-in sessions to get people active and offer a fun way to spend time together as well," Broom said.

Blaster Wars runs drop-in sessions on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings in July at the Storm FC facility behind the Mono Plaza off Highway 10. Fridays are set aside for ages five to 12 from 6 to 8 p.m., while Saturdays also run from 6 to 8 p.m. for ages 13 to 17 and from 8 to 10 p.m. for adults.

The activity is also available to book for birthday parties, youth groups, school outings, family celebrations, workplace socials and team-building events, with sessions adaptable to different group sizes and skill levels.



READY FOR BATTLE: Participants gather before taking part in Blaster Wars, Storm FC's new indoor NERF attraction at its Mono facility, where players compete in team-based mission games throughout the summer.

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OPINION

The loss of a childhood friend

When a child loses a friend, it leaves a quiet hurt that never fully goes away. Nothing ever really takes the place of that first true friend you ever had.

As a child, you look only to the future, anxious to grow up and never imagining that anything bad could ever happen to you. You think you and everyone around you will live forever. But the sudden passing of a true childhood friend leaves a painful hole in a young heart — a wound that takes forever to heal.

My friend and I were always together in the early years of public school, spending all our time at recess playing playground sports, usually as teammates on the same sandlot teams. We journeyed through daily school life together, shoulder-to-shoulder, like two of the Three Musketeers, marching through the early years of public school with the brotherly camaraderie of youth and an unconditional loyalty to each other.

How many times would I be in the school hallway after recess, just before class was rung in, when my friend would walk past

me and gesture for me to follow him, saying, “Come on, Keith, let’s go down to the wart room,” his childish little nickname for the boys’ washroom. And, of course, loyal to each other like Porthos and D’Artagnan, I would have followed my good friend anyplace, walking shoulder-to-shoulder together to the ends of the earth if I had to. But in this case, simply going down the hall to the boys’ washroom to hang out for a little bit before class began was good enough for us. We would use the facilities if we had to, and then, with the innocence of children, spend the rest of our time in the washroom laughing and telling each other all the childish and immature little potty jokes and stories that were fashionable and current to the school playground of the time.

I still remember the day I heard about the loss. Roughly a month into the summer vacation, our phone rang. When Mom and Dad received the news, they hung up the phone, took me aside, and with a profound sadness on their faces, quietly and gently told me of my dear friend’s passing.

KEITH SCHELL
REMEMBERING WHEN



this will always stay with you, after the sadness passes, the memories and loyalties of that cherished childhood friendship will stay with you forever.

Eventually, you find new friends as you make your journey through life, but the very first true friend you ever had as a kid is a very special thing. There is never anything quite like it.

He was such a good guy and such a good friend. In quiet moments of reflection over the years, I sometimes wondered what kind of man he might have grown up to be had he not been robbed of the chance.

He is in the arms of God now, a child forever, but perhaps we will meet again in the hereafter to renew our treasured friendship. Porthos and D’Artagnan, reunited again, we will walk shoulder-to-shoulder again down the path of the great beyond and once again revel in the cherished childhood friendship we once had.

War-weary

I have been writing this column twice a week for a long time, so I have a finely developed sense for when the audience is sick of a subject. We have definitely crossed that boundary with regard to the wars currently being fought up and down the strip of land between the longitudes of 40°E and 50°E (Eastern Ukraine/Persian Gulf/Israel, Gaza and Lebanon).

It’s not just that they are stupid wars, launched by men who were too ignorant or too arrogant to realize that they could not win them (Vladimir Putin, Donald Trump, Binyamin Netanyahu), and it’s certainly not because they are harmless wars.

Not only are they killing thousands of people every week, but in every case the country that started the war also has nuclear weapons. In each case there is a small but real possibility that the leader in question might resort to using at least one ‘tactical’ nuclear weapon as a final warning rather than accept the blame for a humiliating failure to achieve his aims.

Yet nothing much that is new and interesting is happening from one day to the next in any of these wars, and the audience would really like to move on. I have been trying to write about something

else at least once a week, so I thought: maybe I could do a piece about Kim Jong Un’s teenage daughter’s chance of being North Korea’s next dictator.

Just fluff, really, but it’s better than producing nothing to fill that space.

So I go online to update my limited knowledge of North Korean politics. Surprise! The last time most of them paid much attention to North Korea was in 2017-18, when Donald Trump decided that he would save the world from the threat of North Korean nuclear weapons.

As they used to say about the Roman empire: All Roads Lead to Donald Trump. But it was quite instructive, because it shows just how limited Trump’s repertoire of negotiating tactics really is. What can his first-term attempt to stop North Korea from getting nuclear weapons tell us about the likely outcome of his current attempt to bring Iran to heel? Everything.

When he took power in early 2017 Trump seemed obsessed by the ‘threat’ of North Korean nuclear weapons. He made it the No.1 issue on his foreign policy agenda. He said that North Korean nuclear weapons “will be met with fire and fury like the world has never seen.” He promised to “totally destroy the country,” and called

Kim Jong Un “Little Rocket Man.”

All the invective we’re now hearing again, almost word for word, but then the big switch. “I trust him,” Trump bumbled when the two men finally met in Singapore in 2018. “He has a great personality. We fell in love through letters.” They met once more on the line dividing North Korea from South Korea (the ‘DMZ’) in 2019, and that was it.

No treaty, no further discussions, nothing. Within a year Trump had totally lost interest. Meanwhile North Korea’s arsenal of nuclear weapons has grown to 60 warheads, according to a new estimate by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, and Pyongyang has recently tested an ICBM that can reach anywhere in the United States.

Will Trump pull the same vanishing act with Iran? Well, he already has with regard to the nuclear weapons issue, which was kicked a very long way down the road in the ‘Memorandum of Understanding’ he signed last month. That doesn’t matter much, because Iran never had any nukes and wasn’t even trying very hard to get them.

The current round of fighting is just about who controls the Strait of Hormuz, a

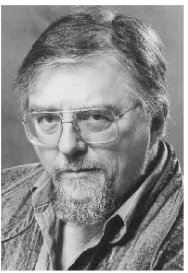
huge and previously unexploited strategic asset that Trump’s attack brought to the attention of the Iranian regime. With the price of oil going back up and the mid-term election looming near, Trump is quite likely to chicken out again.

So now we can get back to the real question: what will become of sweet little Kim Ju Ae, the 13-year-old daughter of North Korean dictator Kim Jong Un? She is definitely a hit with the masses, even though speculation that she might be his secretly chosen successor is severely discouraged.

While other potential heirs in the three generations of Kims have mostly been kept out of the public eye until the moment they are placed on the dynasty’s (invisible) throne, Ju Ae came out four years ago for the launch of an intercontinental ballistic missile. She has been at Kim Jong Un’s side on dozens of public events since then.

However, her father is only in his 40s and looks fine apart from the world’s worst haircut, so she may have to wait for some time.

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



Lessons from 500 interviews

After more than 500 podcast interviews and well over 1,000 conversations for articles and other projects, I’ve learned that the most important communication skills have little to do with microphones or recording equipment. They come down to listening, curiosity and knowing which question to ask next.

I didn’t understand that when I started podcasting 20 years ago. Back in 2006, podcasting was still relatively new. My background in technology and my long-time love of audio made it a natural fit. I was also involved with Toastmasters, so creating a podcast seemed like an interesting way to combine technology, communication and leadership.

In those early days, I was fascinated by the technical side. I wanted to make sure the recording sounded good, the technology worked and the finished episode made its way into the world. Those things still matter, but somewhere along the way, my focus changed. I became less interested in the microphone and more interested in the person sitting on the other side of it.

That taught me lessons about communication that apply whether you’re interviewing someone, talking to a colleague, leading a meeting, dealing with a client or simply having a conversation with a friend.

Preparing for a podcast interview has a lot in common with preparing for a speech or an important meeting. You need to know where you want to go and understand your audience and what you want them to take away from the conver-

sation.

I often compare interviewing to using a GPS. You know your destination, but the route can change depending on what appears along the way. Someone says something unexpected. A deeper story emerges. Suddenly, you have a decision to make: stick to your prepared route or follow the more interesting road.

There’s a difference between listening to understand what someone is saying and simply waiting for your opportunity to speak. Some of the best moments in interviews have happened because I abandoned the next question on my list and asked about something the guest had just said.

Early in my interviewing journey, I thought asking more questions made me a better interviewer. Then an editor I’ve worked with for many years gave me feedback I’ve never forgotten.

“Greg, you’re too interested.”

At first, I thought he was complimenting my curiosity. Then he laughed and pointed out that he hadn’t said I was interesting.

Message received.

His point wasn’t that curiosity was a problem. Quite the opposite. Curiosity is one of the most valuable tools any communicator has, but curiosity without focus can take you everywhere and nowhere.

Whether you’re writing a 750-word article, producing a 20-minute podcast or leading a 30-minute meeting, you can’t explore everything. You have to find what matters. Over time, I stopped

thinking of interviewing as simply asking questions and started thinking of it as building a story.

What are you actually trying to understand? What does the other person need to understand? Which information matters and which is simply interesting?

The most important lesson I’ve learned is that the best question is often the one I didn’t prepare. Questions don’t simply gather information. They shape conversations. They signal curiosity, can build trust and can send a conversation in a completely different direction.

Often, it’s the simple follow-up: Why? What happened next? What do you mean by that? How did that affect you?

Those questions work because they come from listening rather than from a script. Instead of immediately offering your opinion or solution, ask one more question.

Listening also means making sure you’ve actually understood what the other person said. One technique I’ve learned is to summarize what someone has said before moving on. You might say, “So, if I understand you correctly...” and briefly summarize what you heard.

That gives the other person an opportunity to confirm your understanding or correct it and can also encourage them to go deeper. Many communication problems don’t happen because people disagree. They happen because people think they understand one another when they don’t. Taking a few seconds to confirm what you heard can prevent a much bigger misunderstanding later.

Interviewing has also taught me that being curious doesn’t automatically give me permission to ask anything I want. Some subjects are personal or difficult. Before asking a sensitive question, I’ve learned to consider why I’m asking it and whether answering it genuinely helps the conversation or the audience.

Sometimes it makes sense to ask permission. A simple approach is to explain why you’re asking and give the person the opportunity to decide whether they’re comfortable answering. Good communication isn’t just about getting information. It’s about creating enough trust for an honest conversation to happen.

Some of my most memorable interviews have also taught me about the power of stories. When mountaineer Sara Safari described surviving the Nepal earthquake while climbing Mount Everest, I could almost see the experience unfolding as she spoke.

There were no pictures in front of me. That was precisely the point. Audio requires listeners to participate. They create the images themselves.

If you’re explaining an idea at work, making a presentation or trying to persuade someone, facts matter. But a well-told story or example can make those facts easier to understand and much harder to forget.

Continued on Page B6

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COMMUNITY VOICES

Exciting events and family fun continue in Downtown Orangeville

Summer may be in full swing, but Downtown Orangeville (Orangeville BIA) still has plenty of fun up its sleeve. From lively market mornings and music around every corner to family adventures, Canadian films, bargain hunting and festive fall celebrations, the calendar is packed.

Best of all, everything happens within steps of the downtown's independent shops, restaurants, cafés and patios — so one event can easily become a full day out.

The Orangeville Farmers' Market continues every Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Second Street at Broadway until Oct. 17. Fill your market bag with fresh local produce, meats, baked treats and handcrafted goods, grab something delicious for breakfast or lunch, and enjoy live entertainment while catching up with friends and neighbours. Saturdays really do start here.

And yes, there is more music! Every Saturday through Aug. 29, Summer Sounds brings talented musicians to outdoor stages throughout the downtown. The free series adds a lively soundtrack to Saturday shopping, dining and Farmers' Market visits. Performance times and locations vary, so check the Downtown Orangeville website and create your own musical tour.

Families will have an extra reason to visit on Saturday, Aug. 8, when Theatre Orangeville presents KidsFEST from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Held alongside the Farmers' Market

and in Alexandra Park, this free event promises plenty of imagination, laughter and family fun.

Young detectives can tackle a Sherlock Holmes Scavenger Hunt, while budding performers explore the Dramatic Play Centre, and creative kids dive into hands-on crafts. Live entertainment begins at 10 a.m. and continues on the hour, featuring the magic and skills of magician, The Great Steverino and music, movement and fun with Ryan Desaulnier.

Start with a market treat and follow the fun into the park!

From Aug. 14 to 16, Canadian storytelling takes centre stage at the third annual Dufferin Film Festival. Hosted at the historic Orangeville Opera House and other local venues, the festival celebrates independent Canadian short films and the people who bring them to life.

The weekend includes curated screenings, filmmaker Q&As, workshops, special events and the annual Awards Night. Whether you

are a serious film fan or simply curious, it is a great opportunity to discover something new — and meet some of the talented people behind it.

Love a bargain? The Mullet Sale and Downtown Community Garage Sale join forces on Aug. 23 to turn the downtown into one big treasure hunt. The Mullet Sale brings "Sales in the Front. BIG Bargains in the Back," with sidewalk displays along Broadway and Mill Street, and clearance deals tucked around corners, in laneways, and in back parking lots.

The Downtown Community Garage Sale adds even more to explore, with community sellers offering pre-loved household items, clothing, collectibles and all kinds of unexpected finds. Wear comfortable shoes and keep your eyes open — the day's best bargain may be hiding just out of sight.

As summer gives way to fall, Oktoberfest takes over Mill Street on Saturday, Sept. 19. Presented in partnership with The Taphouse and Hometown Market, the celebration runs from noon until late with Bavarian-inspired food and beer, live music and a marketplace that carries the fun from day into evening. Gather your friends, raise a glass and toast the arrival of autumn in the heart of downtown.

The fun does not end when the summer wraps up. Downtown Orangeville is the community's live entertainment hub, with

live music regularly on tap at local restaurants and bars and a full calendar of performances at the historic Orangeville Opera House. Theatre Orangeville's 2026/27 season opens Sept. 25 with How We Got to Jersey – A Tale of Two Frankies, the first of six exciting productions coming to the stage.

Then it is time to get spooky! Boo! on Broadway & Beyond returns Saturday, Oct. 17, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., transforming closed downtown streets into one giant Halloween playground. Throughout October, visitors can also explore Spooky Sidewalks — part of the annual Orangeville Hallowe'en Haunt Patrol — and join an authentic downtown Haunted Walking Tour. Costumes, chills and family-friendly fun make Downtown Orangeville a spooktacular destination all month long.

As colder weather approaches, downtown will begin getting ready for the Joy & Lights Festival. The festive lineup is still under wraps, but all the merry details will be announced this fall.

Whether you come to shop local, catch some live music, discover a new film, entertain the kids or share a meal with friends, there is always another reason to visit.

This week's Community Voice submission was provided by the Orangeville BIA (Downtown Orangeville). Find schedules, locations and the latest event details at downtownorangeville.ca/events.

Make room for reading this summer: Local library offers programs for kids to adults

Make room for reading this summer: Local library offers programs for kids to adults

Summer and reading have always gone hand in hand. A book can travel to the beach, the backyard hammock or the cottage, allowing us to relax, reconnect and escape to worlds far beyond our reach.

At the Orangeville Public Library, readers of all ages can take part in our summer reading programs, discover new authors, and share recommendations. Whether you are six, 16 or 60, there is still something exciting about choosing your next book and making time to read simply because you want to.

While the TD Summer Reading Club kicked off on July 1, there is still plenty of time for kids under 12 to register at either branch. Children can earn and submit ballots for weekly prize draws throughout the summer by keeping track of their reading journey and visiting fun programs. Then, on

Aug. 27, we will celebrate another season of reading at our TD Summer Reading Club End-of-Summer Party.

Tweens and teens can also participate in their own summer reading challenges. Readers ages nine to 12 have until Aug. 24 to

complete our Tween Summer Reading Bingo. Each completed line earns a ballot for a prize, with bingo cards available at either Orangeville Public Library location.

Teens can enter every book they finish through the library's online form. Entries will be included in weekly prize draws until Aug. 30, with prizes including a BookLore gift certificate and a back-to-school supply kit. Best of all, every kind of reading counts, whether it's a novel, a graphic novel or an audiobook borrowed through the Libby app.

Summer reading fun and friendly competition is not reserved for children and teens; the library is also running an Adult Summer Bingo program, which runs until Sept. 21. Come down to either branch to collect your bingo card and submit your progress for a chance to win book-ish prizes.

For those who love to tell others about what they're reading, there is a Bring-Your-

Own-Book Club on Aug. 12. See the local library's website for registration.

Of course, today's public libraries include books and exciting programs. But they are also places where people gather to learn, create, exchange ideas, and experience something new.

On Aug. 9, we will recognize Emancipation Month with a film screening at Mill Street. Later in the month, local author Anita Yasuda and the Dharmic Dancers will bring stories, movement and culture together during our Bollywood Beat Storytime on Aug. 13.

You don't have to enroll in a program or a reading contest to enjoy the library this summer. You can browse, read, make something, watch a film, meet a neighbour or simply enjoy a welcoming public space.

This article was written by the staff at the Orangeville Public Library.



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Troy Media: Lessons from 500 interviews

Continued from Page B2

After 20 years, I still enjoy the technology behind podcasting, but technology isn't what has kept me behind the microphone. It's curiosity.

It's learning something I didn't know before the conversation started. It's helping someone explain an idea or tell a story. And

it's trying to create an experience where the listener walks away knowing something they didn't know before.

After 500 interviews, I've come to realize that better communication has less to do with what you say and more to do with how well you listen.

You don't need to host a podcast or conduct hundreds of interviews to put that into

practice. Listen a little more carefully. Ask one better follow-up question. Make sure you understand before responding. Stay curious, but know where you're trying to go.

And when a conversation takes an unexpected but worthwhile turn, don't be afraid to follow it. You might be surprised by where it leads.

Greg Gazin, also known as Gadget Guy

or Gadget Greg, is a Troy Media columnist with deep expertise in technology. He's also a respected speaker on communication, leadership, and tech-related topics. Beyond writing, Gazin is a versatile professional who works as a facilitator, blogger, podcaster, and author. His broad range of skills and insights has made him a prominent and influential voice in the tech community.

General manager appointed at Hockley Valley Resort, Adamo Estate Winery

After 18 years with the organization, Juliano Baldassarra takes over as general manager following Ken Murray's departure

Written By **SAM ODROWSKI**

Hockley Valley Resort and Adamo Estate Winery have announced the promotion of Juliano Baldassarra to the position of General Manager.

Baldassarra succeeds Ken Murray, who has accepted a new position as director of operations with Sunray Group of Hotels, where he will oversee several properties within the company's portfolio.

Baldassarra brings 18 years of experience with the organization, including eight years since returning in 2018. During his tenure, he has held several senior leadership positions, including director of food and beverage, executive director of operations and, most recently, assistant general manager, a role he held for two years.

"Throughout his career with the organization, Baldassarra has demonstrated a strong commitment to operational excellence, employee development and exceptional guest experiences," reads a press release. "His extensive knowledge of both properties, collaborative leadership approach and passion for hospitality make him exceptionally well-suited to lead Hockley Valley Resort and Adamo Estate Winery into their next chapter."

Baldassarra said he is looking forward to building on the resort's momentum.

"I am most excited about steering both properties into their next era of growth," said Baldassarra. "Hospitality is constantly evolving, and I look forward to introducing fresh concepts, enhancing the guest experience and continuing to position Hockley

Valley Resort and Adamo Estate Winery as top-tier destinations for leisure, weddings and corporate retreats."

One of the significant initiatives Baldassarra will oversee is the resort's upcoming hotel renovations. The project will mark an important step in the continued evolution of Hockley Valley Resort and its commitment to delivering a contemporary and memorable guest experience.

Having grown professionally within the organization, Baldassarra said the appointment carries considerable personal meaning.

"I have great respect for the organization's beginnings, its future and the people who make it special every day," said Baldassarra. "Stepping into the general manager role feels like a natural and deeply re-

warding next step. I am honoured to lead these two iconic properties into their next chapter and grateful to Sunray Group for entrusting me with this responsibility. Ken leaves big shoes to fill, and I have immense respect for the leadership he brought to Hockley Valley Resort and Adamo Estate Winery."

Ken Murray said he's confident in his successor.

"Juliano's extensive operational experience, deep knowledge of both properties and commitment to our employees and guests make him the right person to lead Hockley Valley Resort and Adamo Estate Winery," said Murray. "He has earned the respect of the team, and I have every confidence that both properties will continue to grow and thrive under his leadership."

Civic Holiday 2025: Waste delays, free museum entry, and open hours in Dufferin County

The Civic Holiday takes place on Monday, Aug. 3 this year. Here is what you need to know about Dufferin County services that day.

Dufferin County's administrative offices will be closed on Monday, August 3. They will reopen on Tuesday, Aug. 4 at 8:30 a.m.

Waste Services

There will be no waste collection on Monday, August 3 due to the Civic Holiday. Please place all garbage, blue carts and green bins out for collection one day later.

For missed residential recycling collec-

tions, call 1-877-426-4351.

For all other missed collections, call GFL at 1-888-941-3345 ext. 1

County residents can also download the Dufferin Waste app on any Apple or Android device to help ensure they don't miss a collection. The app provides weekly reminders, alerts and updates on special collections and events.

HART Hub

The Dufferin County HART Hub at the Edlebrock Centre will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, August 3. Clients can ac-

cess services by going to Door B and calling the number listed and staff will let them in. More information on the HART Hub can be found at: shipshey.ca/housing/hart-hub-dufferin/

Museum of Dufferin

The Museum of Dufferin will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 3 and admission is free during the Civic Holiday.

Housing Services

Tenants who reside in Dufferin County Community Housing buildings can call

519.941.8221 for after-hours emergency maintenance issues.

Within Dufferin County, there are emergency shelter options and resources to assist anyone experiencing homelessness. Resources can be found at www.dufferincounty.ca.

EarlyON

EarlyON centres in Dufferin County will not be open or running programs on Monday, Aug. 3. Families are welcome to leave messages on social media or the Ask EarlyON phone line 519.938.0559, which will be answered on Tuesday, Aug. 4.

**OBITUARIES**

FRANK WELSH BEST
Frank Welsh Best, CET, born July 31, 1934, in Shelburne Ontario. Son of Catherine (Welsh) and Roy Best. Survived by daughters Susan, Carolyn (Patrick) and stepdaughter Marilyn (Darcy), five grandchildren, four step-grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.
Frank was active in the community, including church and Kiwanis Golden "K". Hobbies included Private Pilot, boating, amateur radio and travel. Frank graduated from Ryerson Institute of Technology in 1955. His career spanned 41 years in industry with GE, Sylvania and teaching at Georgian College.
Family always came first. He cared deeply about his friends and those he met along life's path. He lived life to the fullest and we will miss him dearly. In lieu of flowers please send a donation to a charity of your choice. "May the wind be always at your back and the sunshine warm upon your face".
Family and friends will be received for visitation at Fawcett Funeral Home - Collingwood Chapel on Sunday August 9, 2026, from 3- 5 p.m. Friends may visit Frank's online Book of Memories at www.fawcettfuneralhomes.com



Cocaine seized from Shelburne residence during OPP search warrant

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers executed a search warrant at a residence on William Street in Shelburne recently. During the operation, one individual was taken into custody without incident, while a second individual fled the scene.

In the spring of this year, Dufferin OPP officers initiated a drug trafficking investigation. On July 8, members of the Dufferin OPP Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU), with assistance from the Collingwood and Huronia West CSCUs, executed the search warrant at the residence.

While officers were attempting to take the second individual into custody, he fled the scene. On July 20, members of the OPP Repeat Offender Parole Enforcement (ROPE) located the accused in Brampton and took him into custody without incident.

Frederick Beckford, 43, from Brampton, has been charged with:

- Trafficking in a Schedule I substance - Opioid (other than heroin)
- Possession of a Schedule I substance for the purpose of trafficking - Opioid (other than heroin)
- Dangerous operation

- Flight from peace officer
- Resist peace officer
- Assault a peace officer with a weapon

Ronald Mcallister, 63, from Shelburne, has been charged with:

- Possession of proceeds of property obtained by crime under \$5,000 - in Canada
- Possession of a Schedule I substance for the purpose of trafficking - Cocaine
- Trafficking in a Schedule I substance - Cocaine
- Possession of unmarked cigarettes

Cocaine, packaging materials, scales, \$1,200 cash, 120 unmarked cigarettes and a 2020 Mazda CX30 were seized as offence-related property, with the Mazda valued at \$20,000.

"Please continue to report any suspicious activity in your local area. Community awareness and timely reporting play a critical role in helping police prevent crime and keep our neighbourhoods safe," reads a press release from the OPP regarding the incident.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information is urged to contact the Dufferin OPP.

The OPP can be contacted at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers can be called at 1-800-822-8477 (TIPS). Information can also be provided online at crimestopperssdm.com



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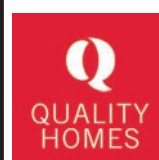
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Cash for antiques and collectibles-stamp-coins. Call James at 416-569-9976.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES & REPAIRS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

ADVERTISING LOCALLY WORKS!

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER!

**HOME OF THE 5% BUYERS PREMIUM**

Kidd Family Auctions is calling all buyers and sellers!

AUGUST 7TH - HIGHLIGHTING ANTIQUE JOHN DEERE TRACTORS: PETROLIANA, TOYS & SPORTS MEMORABILIA

This sale has a special spotlight on an outstanding selection of vintage John Deere tractors alongside iconic petroliana pieces, timeless toys, and sports memorabilia that are sure to spark memories!

Lots begin closing at 5pm Aug 7th. Preview: Aug 7th from 10a-4pm.

Pickup: Aug 8th from 10a-4pm, or call for an appointment on another day.

Pickup & preview at our Home Office Base 438280 4th Line, Melancthon.

Featuring: Honda Shadow 750 Motorcycle; Texaco Fire Chief Gas Pump; 13 x JD Vintage 2 Cyl Tractors; qty oil cans & bottles; qty advertising signs; qty die cast & pressed steel toys; qty sought-after sports collectibles cards, autographed pucks & baseballs; Blister Pack Hot Wheels; Antique Grain Wagon in John Deere colours; John Deere 1914 Dain Sickle Mower; qty 10 cent comic books; Robert Bell Harvesting Models; qty road signs; Antique Horse Drawn Buggies; License Plates; John Deere Walk Behind Plows; and so much more.



Interested in absentee bids? Consigning in an upcoming sale?

Joining our Referral Rewards Program? Give us a call to get started.

Call, text or email anytime. Call: 519-288-2228 • Text ONLY: 519-938-1315
Lyn@KiddFamilyAuctions.com | www.KiddFamilyAuctions.com
438280 4th Line, Melancthon L9V 1S9 (North of Shelburne)

SERVICES

SERVICES

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

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

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

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

REMEMBER TO
SHOP LOCAL!

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

Thanks for shopping local! ♥



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