





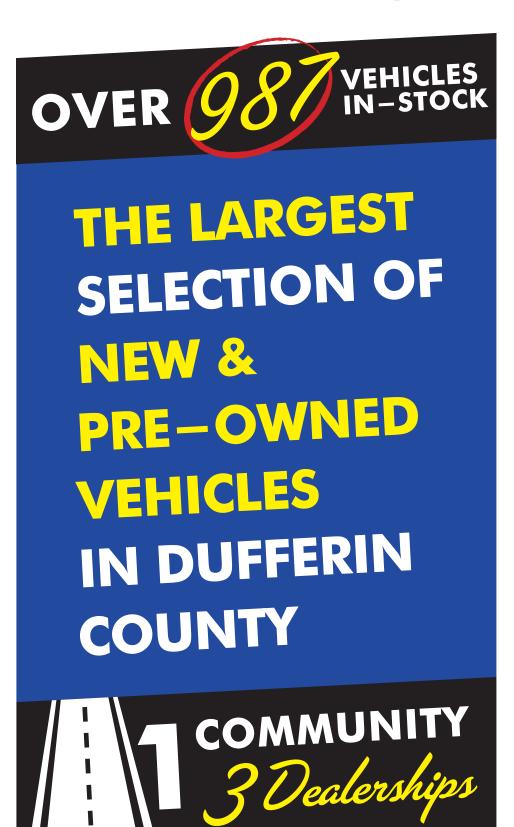


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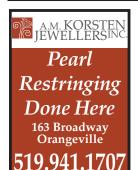
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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

UNDER THE BIG TOP: The Greatest Showman performers put on an eclectic performance at the Headwaters Health Care Foundation's annual gala, raising a record-breaking \$925,000 on Sept. 12. Attendees enjoyed a carnival-theme at the gala, with enthusiastic emcing from Layne the Auctionista. Read a full story on Page A4.

Ontario invests \$1.2 million in Rotary Park redevelopment

Written By SAM ODROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Plans to redevelop Rotary Park in Orangeville are receiving significant financial support from the provincial government.

The Ontario government announced on Sept. 19 that it will be investing over \$1.2 million in the redevelopment project from its \$200 million Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund. The fund looks to revitalize facilities and promote active living across the province.

Ontario's Minister of Sport, Neil Lumsden, announced the funding at a gathering at Rotary Park in Orangeville on Sept. 19, with Orangeville council, local Rotary Club members, Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, and provincial dignitaries.

"The Town of Orangeville is grateful for the provincial government's support in the redevelopment of Rotary Park," said Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post. "This investment will allow us to make a host of upgrades, creating more opportunities for residents of all ages to stay active and connected. Parks and recreation spaces are at the heart of strong communities, and this funding helps us con-rooms, LED lighting, and large shade struc-ments in sport in our community," said Orantinue building a healthy, accessible and vi-tures. brant Orangeville."

access to modernized sport and recreation We are so proud to be a part of the Rotary tary Park redevelopment. facilities in the community. It includes new Park Redevelopment Project. Our active lotennis and pickleball courts, paved parking, cal membership base grows each year and



FUNDING BOOST: The Town of Orangeville's general manager of community services, Heather Savage, shares remarks at Rotary Park during the province's \$1.2 million funding announcement on Sept. 19.

"The Orangeville Tennis Club has been

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accessible pathways, self-cleaning wash- we are so thankful for the continued investgeville Tennis Club President Rosanne Brett.

Minister Lumsden noted the importance of Rotary Park's redevelopment will expand alive and well in Rotary Park since 1969. funding recreation projects, such as the Ro-

Continued on Page A3





















Orangeville eyes water, sewer legislation to avoid backflow contamination

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Orangeville is taking steps to prevent drinking water backflow contamination.

Discussion about such things can be arduous with sentences bogged down by technical jargon.

But, apparently, Ryan Ondusko, the town's public works manager, had an easy way about his message during Orangeville council's Sept. 22 public meeting.

"Some people would find a presentation about water a bit dry," Deputy Mayor Todd Taylor punned. "I thought it really flowed well."

Orangeville doesn't have a Backflow Prevention Bylaw for drinking water services, despite there being such a recommendation from the aftermath of the inquiry into the May 2000 Walkerton drinking water E. coli outbreak.

The inquiry's report states that "as part of their comprehensive distribution system program, water providers should have active programs, working together with building inspectors and public health agencies, to detect and deter cross-contamination."

The report also points out how water distribution systems should have regularly tested backflow prevention valves.

Backflow incidents have contaminated drinking water distribution systems around the world. Backflow conditions can jeopardize system water quality. The responsibility for establishing and administering a cross-connection control program is with the individual municipality or water supplier.

Stratford's 30,000 residents contended with a red, foamy substance from a car wash that was discovered in the drinking water system in 2005. It closed businesses and schools, and some residents were unable to drink the water that came from their taps for a number of days.

An investigation showed that a backflow prevention device was required.

"Car washes are a good example of a process that has water, soap, wax, and chemicals introduced into a single process line," Ondusko said.

He said cross-connections are present in every drinking water supply system. Cross-connections that are not protected against backflow are potentially a dangerous source of contamination.

When backflow occurs through an unprotected cross-connection, pollutants and Plant (WPCP) from expensive repairs, precontaminants can enter the private plumbing system and the municipal water distribution system and be delivered to other consumers

Water typically flows within a drinking bound flow due to more industrial processes, swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas.

water system in one direction. If the water within the system begins to flow in the opposite direction as a result of back pressure or back-siphonage, there is a possibility for contamination.

That happens because of breaks or repairs to watermains, firefighting activities, or reductions in water supply pressure.

"It is important to note that the Town of Orangeville relies on two separate types of storage to supply day-to-day and fire-flow demand," he said. "An in-ground reservoir such as the dungeon reservoir on Blind Line and above-ground reservoirs such as the tower on B Line."

He said above-ground reservoirs aren't as susceptible to significant drops in pressure. In-ground reservoirs have slight problems in that operating pressure is supplied every day, every year, by way of continual pumps.

Power outages and mechanical failures can hamper in-ground systems. Water towers don't require the same equipment.

A Kensington Place resident asked if backflow referred to backwashing a residential

Typically, residential properties wouldn't be concerned in the backflow bylaw," Ondusko said. "If there is repeat offences, let's say determined through non-usual processes or dividual properties. But the average residential homeowner would never have to worry about this bylaw."

Ondusko said the town's primary concern would be industrial water system users.

"It's not typically something that would be seen on a residential property," he said.

The public meeting continued with an introduction to a proposed amendment to the require properties that have existing oil and town's 1994 sanitary discharge bylaw.

"I don't have any puns for this, so you're going to have to carry the show for yourself," Taylor said to Ondusko.

Ondusko said the town needs to ensure that discharge entering the sanitary and stormwater networks meets standards to protect the natural environment and infra-

Ensuring limits on parameters for stormwater discharge will protect the stormwater management systems and ponds from requiring expensive pre-mature rehabilitation, and spills containment and remediation.

Ensuring limits on parameters for wastewater discharge will protect the sanitary pump stations and Water Pollution Control mature upgrades, and expansion.

Orangeville's total daily flow is about 66 per cent of the rated capacity. But there's increased demand on the strength of the in-



KEEPING WATER CLEAN: Orangeville council is considering new bylaws to better protect its drinking water and wastewater systems from backflow contamination.

low flow fixtures, and reduced groundwater/ rainwater infiltration. Rainwater and ground- allow a homeowner to discharge into the water dilute the water going into the plant.

The lessening of the water infusion in- not discharged into the wastewater." creases sewage strength, Ondusko said.

something, we could consider looking at in- municipal stormwater and wastewater infra- cussed backflow prevention issue cite envistructure.

> "The town currently spends over \$200,000 a plementation." year flushing and cleaning sanitary and storm mains due to excessive sediment, grease, and the Ontario Building Code and would they uncleaned sewage stations due to fog, fats, oils, greases, as well flushing of disposable wipes and sanitary products," Ondusko said.

> The updated sewer discharge bylaw will grit separators, grease traps, sediment interceptors, and dental waste amalgam separators to require maintenance schedules and Building Faster and Smarter Act, which was

"This requires some maintenance and nance as per the manufacturers' recommendations," he said.

Basically, Ondusko said in a roundabout way, sound maintenance will save the town coin that would have been spent on flushing sewer system mains and cleaning storm man-lenged later by developers as something agement ponds.

Councillor Joe Andrews asked if legislation governing sanitary discharge would touch on the resident's previous question regarding Kocialek, the town's infrastructure services draining and cleaning residential pools.

"Is that something that falls under this proposed bylaw?" Andrews said.

Ondusko said there are sections that pertain to discharging chlorinated water from

"The use of a dechlorination device would storm sewer," Ondusko. "We prefer that it's

Coun. Tess Prendergast said the sanitary So a Sewer Discharge Bylaw would protect discharge bylaw and the previously disronmental protection as justification for im-

"I'm wondering if these changes go beyond then be considered green development standards and not be applicable under Bill 17?"

Green development standards are local rules written by municipalities to guide new development towards sustainable building practices. Bill 17 is the Protect Ontario by adopted this year.

Tony Dulisse, the town's transportation clean-out of these separators on an annu- and development manager, said the bylaws al basis at minimum and complete mainte- must be passed by the municipality and are not necessarily protected by the building

> "My understanding is they do not conflict with green initiative standards," he said.

> "I'm just wondering if they can be chalthat's extra on top of the building code's minimal standards," Prendergast said.

> "I don't think they would be," said Tim general manager. "They're a standard that's done across municipalities, as Mr. Ondusko mentioned to the backflow preventers."

> And afterwards: "They do help the environment, but I don't think they can be appealed," Kocialek said.









THANKING THE MINISTER: Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post shakes hands with Ontario's Minister of Sport, Neil Lumsden, following a provinical funding announcement at Rotary Park.



MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT: Orangeville council was joined by provincial representatives and Orangeville Rotary Club members at Rotary Park on Sept. 19 to hear about the Ontario government's \$1.2 million investment in the park's redevelopment.

Ontario invests \$1.2 million in Rotary Park Redevelopment, creating year-round hub

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Continued from FRONT

"Our government is proud to support municipalities like Orangeville by delivering bet- frastructure Fund is an application-based proter services and creating more opportunities gram that is part of the Ontario government's for people to stay active," he said. "The revi- efforts to invest in critical infrastructure talization of Rotary Park will provide safe, acthroughout the province. cessible, and modern recreational spaces that

ient and self-reliant economy."

"The government's investment in the Rotary

our communities, and building a more resil- statement from the Ontario government.

The Community Sport and Recreation In-lifespan, support local programs and events nities for children, families, and seniors," said and create a more accessible space for residents."

funding and its impact on recreation locally.

will serve residents for years to come. With in- Park Redevelopment Project will help trans- Orangeville remains one of the best places ince's commitment of \$1.2 million. vestments in local infrastructure like this, we form the park into a vibrant, year-round hub to live, work, and raise a family. By investing are protecting Ontario's future, strengthening for sport, leisure, and community life," reads a in the redevelopment of Rotary Park, we are angeville.

strengthening our community for years to "These improvements will extend the park's come through additional recreation opportu-

The Rotary Club of Orangeville (RCO) has Jones shared her praise for the provincial committed to donating \$250,000 over seven years to the redevelopment project, while the "Our government is taking action to ensure Town of Orangeville is matching the prov-

Rotary Park is located at 80 2nd Avenue, Or-

Town Page

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UPCOMING MEETINGS

519-941-0440

Date	Time	Location	Meeting	To listen in
Wednesday, Oct. 1	6 p.m.	Council chambers and by phone	Committee of Adjustment	1 289-801-5774 ID: 117 041 308#
Thursday, Oct. 2	6 p.m.	Council chambers and by phone	Sustainable Orangeville	1 289-801-5774 ID: 369 846 519#

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

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After-hours emergency

Emergency services

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Administrative assistant, planning and building (contract)

Infrastructure Services department Salary range: \$62,109.50 to \$72,569.34

Support our Planning and Building divisions and help keep projects on track as our administrative assistant. Responsibilities include processing and tracking planning and building permit applications, scheduling inspections and meetings, responding to public inquiries, maintaining records and documents, and updating planning information on the Town website

Application deadline: Tuesday, September 30 at 4 p.m.

Planning technician (full-time)

Infrastructure Services department **Salary range:** \$62,109.50 to \$72,569.34

Join our Planning division as a planning technician and help shape the future of our community. Responsibilities include reviewing and processing planning applications, providing guidance on the Zoning bylaw and assessing building permits, curb cuts, business licenses, sign permits and other planning-related submissions.

Application deadline: Tuesday, September 30 at 4 p.m.

Swim instructor/lifeguard (part-time)

Community Services department **Hourly range:** \$19.64 to \$22.98

The Town is looking for swim instructors/

lifeguards to join our team this fall. Up to 24 hours per week. You'll teach swimming lessons, provide

lifeguard services, keep swimmers safe and help make sure pool rules are followed. Instructors also prepare lesson plans and report cards for participants.

If you're passionate about water safety and enjoy working with people, we'd love to hear from you!

Application deadline: Thursday, October 30 at 4 p.m.

For full duties, qualifications, compensation breakdown, and employment terms or to apply visit orangeville.ca/jobs.

Headwaters raises record-breaking \$925,000 at annual gala

LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Headwaters Hospital.

press release on Sept. 18 that they raised a roy, chair of the Headwaters Health Care total of \$925,000 at their 26th annual Head- Foundation Gala Committee. waters Health Care Foundation Gala, which was held at the Hockley Valley Resort on will directly support Headwater's surgical Sept. 12.

"What an extraordinary evening of generosity and celebration for our hospital," said funded by the Headwaters Foundation in-K.C. Carruthers, CEO of Headwaters Health Care Foundation. "For 26 years, the Head- struments, sterilization equipment, surgical waters Gala has been a cornerstone of fund- scopes, anesthetic machines, and vital signs raising in our community, and this year we monitors. reached new heights, raising an incredible

the Big Top," and brought a vibrant carnival 5,000 procedures per year. Their expertise atmosphere to life, complete with dazzling spans general surgery, orthopedics, oncoloperformances by Circus Jonathan, Amber Energy Services Tarot Card Reading, a close to home. custom dance spectacular inspired by The Greatest Showman, and live music from Old silent and live auctions.

"We wanted to create an unforgettable experience, and our community responded with overwhelming support. The 'Under the Headwaters Health Care Foundation Big Top' theme brought joy and excitement (HHCF) has raised a record-breaking to- to every corner of the room. I'm so proud tal of donations to support surgical care at of what we accomplished together, and even prouder of the impact this will have on pa-The hospital foundation announced in a tient care at Headwaters," added Jenn Con-

> The funds raised through this year's gala department with vital equipment.

> Some of the key equipment that will be cludes operating room tables, surgical in-

Headwaters' Surgery Department is \$925,000 in support of our Surgery Depart- staffed by a multidisciplinary team of surgeons, anesthesiologists, nurses, and sup-The theme of this year's gala was "Under port personnel, who perform approximately gy, and more, providing comprehensive care

"This event is transformational not just in dollars raised, but in the lives it will touch School. Guests of the gala enjoyed gourmet through improved surgical care at Headwafood, raffles, and spirited bidding during the ters. Thank you for helping us make a lasting impact," said Carruthers.







HEADWATERS HEALTH CARE FOUNDATION PHOTOS

UNDER THE BIG TOP: Headwaters Health Care Foundation raised a record-breaking \$925,000 during its annual gala on Friday, Sept. 12. Attendees enjoyed a carnival-theme, with dances from The Greatest Showman performers and enthusiastic emcing from Layne the Auctionista. This year's theme for the gala was "Under the Big Top," with dazzling performances by Circus Jonathan and Amber Energy Services Tarot Card Reading.

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Police lay charges in relation to theft of bleacher benches from local park

As a result of an ongoing police investigation, members of the Dufferin Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged a local business owner with property related

On Sept. 2, Dufferin OPP received a report regarding the theft of bleacher benches from a local park in the Town of Orangeville.

The following day, Sept. 3, the stolen benches were located at a local scrap yard.

On Sept. 23, as a result of the investigation, Broderick Grant, 53, from Bradford has been arrested and charged with:

- Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Under \$5,000
- Trafficking in Property Obtained by Crime

The accused was released on an Undertaking and is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice on Oct. 21, 2025 to answer to the charges.

The charges have not been proven in

Anyone with further information regarding this incident is encouraged to contact 222-TIPS (8477).



BLEACHERS FOUND: Bleacher seats that were recently stolen from a park in Orangeville have been recovered by Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers. The theft was reported on Sept. 2 and an arrest was made in relation to the theft on Sept. 23.

the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-

Family Transition Place to hold joint event against gender-based violence

Written By PAULA BROWN LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

der-based violence.

members of the community to participate in and meaningful action. their annual Take Back the Night and Sisters in Spirit Day event on Oct. 2, from 3:30 p.m. has co-hosted the event with the Oranto 5:30 p.m.

and a two-kilometre empowerment march through the community, starting at the FTP facility, located at 20 Brendin Parkway in Or-tributions and looks forward to future col-

"Join us as we raise our voices, walk together, and commit to creating a safer, more equitable future for all," said Family Transi- Night and Sisters in Spirit Day event is open tion Place in a press release.

Take Back the Night is a global movement not require registration.

held annually in September to raise awareness and take a stand against sexual and gender-based violence. Sisters in Spirit Day, Dufferin County residents have the op- observed across Canada on Oct. 4, honours portunity to stand in solidarity against gen- and remembers Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ Family Transition Place (FTP) is inviting people (MMIWG2S+), and calls for justice

In previous years, Family Transition Place geville-based Georgian College, but this year The event will feature guest speakers the event will proceed without their involvement due to the ongoing faculty strike.

"FTP acknowledges Georgian's past conlaborations once the strike is resolved," reads the press release.

Family Transition Place's Take Back the to the community to participate and does



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Dufferin Autism Walk to return to Orangeville's Fendley Park this weekend

Written By SAM ODROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The 9th Annual Dufferin Autism Walk is coming back to Fendley Park in Orangeville this weekend.

10 a.m., opening ceremonies at 10:45 a.m., ceremonies briefly about his son and their and the walk gets underway at 11 a.m., with family's journey," said Daponte. one-to-three-kilometre walking routes on the park's trails.

Registration for the walk is free this year, but funds will be generated from a raffle table, silent auction, and sponsorships.

"It's a free, fun-filled event for all ages and abilities, [with] free Tim Hortons and a slice of pizza from Toppers Pizza Orangeville," said Karrie Daponte, walk organizer.

"Events like this are imperative to bring to our community. Not only for the ASD community but for the whole community. It's an inclusive event for all.'

The event will feature crafts, activities, es, special guests, an IODE Child Fingerprint Clinic, emergency vehicle tours, a silent auction, a raffle, a vendor area, and goodie bags.

This is the first year that the Dufferin Autism Walk is collaborating with Tori Spiteri, who owns Inclusive Perspectives Sensory Gym in Orangeville.

The gym offers a safe and welcoming sensory space for children and youth with for the walk through two fundraisers held autism. The proceeds raised through this earlier this year and vendor fees. M&M Food year's walk will go towards funding social Market in Orangeville held a fundraiser, groups at the gym and in the community.

"We hope to host a few groups, given [that] the ages of our ASD walk participants [range from one to 60, approximately. These group sessions will be free, and it's a time to meet community.

new friends and be with families of similar diagnoses," explained Daponte.

Orangeville resident Theo, 6, who has autism, is this year's walk ambassador. He will lead the walk when it takes place on Sunday.

"He is our face and voice for the walk. On Sunday, Sept. 28, registration opens at His father, Mark, will speak at the opening

> There will be goodie bags for the first 100 special needs individuals and their siblings who turn out to the walk.

The walk is a rain-or-shine event.

"We hope the walk will be as successful as in the past with 250-300 people in attendance. This year has come with many changes and challenges as we, the Dufferin Autism Committee, collaborated with Inclusive Perspectives Sensory Gym and [are] trying to navigate this year's walk," said Daponte. "Together, our mission, is like all other years ultimately bringing the community together, spreading and increasing eddance demonstrations, music performanc- ucation, awareness, and most importantly, acceptance."

> The first walk for autism in Orangeville was held in 2017, and it has been an annual event since then. However, the name of the walk changed this year to Dufferin Autism Walk from Autism Speaks Canada Walk.

The charity, Autism Speaks Canada, ceased operations on Jan. 31 of this year.

To date, roughly \$1,000 has been raised and a Boston Pizza Celebrity Server Night helped generate funds.

Daponte noted the importance of the autism walk for local families and the autism



READY FOR RETURN: The 9th Annual Dufferin Autism Walk will to Fendley Park in Orangeville on Sept. 29. Last year's walk had over 200 people in attendance and raised \$18,000.

"For the ASD community, it's a time to not be worried about anyone staring, judgto attend] if not hosted by us. Our events, any noises freely." they know, will have people whom they can relate to and know their life and what they Road, Orangeville. endure on a daily basis raising a child with special needs," Daponte said. "It's a time to the event or in advance by visiting tinyurl. feel comfortable in your surroundings and com/ybmabvk3.

come to an event in the community that they ing your parenting, and the ASD individuals might not necessarily [have the opportunity can be themselves, making movements and

Fendley Park is located at 11 Fendley

Registration for the walk can be done at

Local women's club CFUW Headwaters to host 50th anniversary celebration

Written By MARTINA ROWLEY

angeville and District) is having a party to or dining out, potluck soup and salad club, past five decades of the club's existence, wants to make new connections and friendcelebrate the organization's 50th anniversa-

CFUW Headwaters was founded in 1975 non-partisan organization CFUW. It is focused on improving the status of women, advocacy, making friends, and having fun. The national CFUW club was founded in 1919 with membership initially for women rights, public education, and peace). with a university degree, but that is no longer a requirement.

ly, it is a women's social club, bringing to-waters for several years. gether women from all walks of life to share

vegan cooking), a Friday night social, active living (e.g. hiking, snowshoeing), or and more.

Secondly, it is about advocating and promoting social justice and the status of women and girls (including promoting human

Many close friendships have been formed The mandate of CFUW is twofold: First- many members being part of CFUW Head-

On Sunday, Oct. 5, the Headwaters chap- and former members, anyone who is inter- new members!

can sign up for any of the interest groups, the theme "Celebrating our past, Embracing CFUW Headwaters (formerly CFUW Or- ranging from various food clubs (breakfast our future." They will be looking back at the with greetings from municipal and provin- ships can email the club at info@cfuwheadcial representatives, the national club's leadarts and book clubs, travel discussion and ership, sharing stories of fun memories, and wheadwaters.com. as a chapter of the Canada-wide women's day-tripping, or Women in Action activism, will have a short fashion show to take a look at past decades' styles from the 1970s.

p.m. at Monora Park Pavilion (500 Monora monthly activity groups, a monthly news-Park Rd., Mono).

Guest speaker and author, Plum Johnson, will talk about her new book about wom- ulating speaker program, and CFUW memand extend outside club activities, with en's relationships, "The Trouble with Fairy bership discount programs with a few local Tales," at the anniversary event.

While the event is primarily for current

activities and make new friends. Members ter is celebrating its 50th anniversary with ested in joining the group will be warmly welcomed.

> Any woman who's new to the area and waters.com or find more details at www.cfu-

Annual membership is \$100 (\$25 of which goes towards the Club's Scholarship The event is taking place from 1 p.m. to 4 Fund) and includes access to around 20 letter, monthly general meetings every third Wednesday from September to June, a stimcompanies.

The group is always happy to welcome



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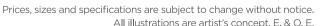
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Headwaters Arts opens 29th Annual Fall Festival Juried Art Show

Written By RILEY MURPHY LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Headwaters Arts has officially begun its fall festival with an Opening Soiree to kick

Headwaters Arts' 29th Annual Fall Festival Juried Art Show and Sale will run through to reflections from the sun. October 5.

The show features over 70 works.

their accompanying artists, Jazz by vocalist depth," she explained. Shelisa Akbar and guitarist Paul Llew-Williams, a silent auction, and artist awards.

Nancy Kluger, Events Committee Chair at Headwaters Arts, said the festival marks the jurors change from year to year, so she can "beginning of the season."

She shared it's also exhibited through the art and extraordinary fall colours.

This event is the only juried show; the other gallery shows are not.

This year, she shared that they had 152 entries, and from that, jurors selected 79 pieces artists because they provide exposure and of work from 52 artists.

The media range from fibre, oil, water, sculpture, and more.

Kluger said that over the years, she has seen the quality of work submitted improve her art that resonates with them, it encoursignificantly, largely due to the high standards required for acceptance.

A new addition this year is the opportunity to "Meet the Artists."

There will be nine different occasions piece. where community members can ask artists questions and gain an inside perspective.

"I think the more people understand art

and what goes into making a piece, maybe the larger the audience will get," says Kluger. "We'd really like people just to come out and experience the art."

Sofiya Stevens is an artist featured in the festival, and her piece, "Colors of the Sun", displays a large body of water, with multiple

"I wasn't painting a specific place, I was painting a feeling and that feeling was that The opening soiree featured the works and when you look at this, there's so much

This is her second consecutive year in the

She shared it's an "amazing feeling," as the never expect what they will like.

"It's such a rewarding feeling; I consider myself an emerging artist. But there's very well-established artists in this room," says

She shared that these events are vital for have "opened doors for her."

"Every time I walk away from this show, I feel like I want to create more," says Stevens, adding that when jurors find something in ages her to create more.

mic, is made with textile.

lestial world that we both see and explore.

"I get my inspiration from looking at the



LOCAL ART: Artist Sofiya Stevens istands next to her piece, "Colors of the Sun," displays a large body of water, with multiple reflections from the sun.

Hildegarde Sausik's piece, Universal Cos-sky looking at nature," says Sausik.

She shared that she's always been fascipeople are great, it's a real community."

She used shibori dyed indigo silk for the nated by the celestial world. Her piece encapsulates the idea of the ce- ilege"; she has been a part of Headwaters a multitude of unique, crafty, colourful, prac-

"It's a real compliment to be able to be in 15 vendors.

the show so I'm thrilled," said Sausik, "The

Headwaters Arts' upcoming "Artists' Mar-Sausik says being at the festival is a "priv-ket" will be held on Sept. 27 and will feature tical and one-of-a-kind creations for sale by

From farm to market: Fall fest celebrates local vendors and artisans

Written By RILEY MURPHY LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

More than 80 vendors gathered for Fall Fest 2025 at Rock Garden Farms on Sept. 14.

The day featured not only numerous vendors but also a live DJ, a slime bar, a live doopainting, a free kids tattoo station, farm-fresh food, and much more.

band, parents and three sons, and they've been and local vendors." in the community now for 38 years.

She said the vendors market began during COVID when vendors were looking for a place to sell their products and "trying to make a living."

What began as Galati allowing vendors to use her front field to sell their products has now grown each year.

"My customers now, and even the Town, look forward to having somewhere to go with their families. There's some things for the kids

Galati shared that people are looking to ada. support more local Canadian artisans and stay ence things.

good things in your local community," she said. Galati says she hopes that people will con-

"We're blessed that we have a nice big open field and lots of parking. So, hopefully, people will be able to come out and enjoy some food and they won't have to travel too far," says

"And if they came from far, then thank you very much," she adds.

One vendor in attendance that day also ungredients and local vendors.

Nathalie Hatter, Founder of Pivot Dog Bis-

and it's just a nice outing and it's free and fun to cuits, shared that her products are 100 percent to local rescues, including another vendor at just walk around and have a great afternoon." locally sourced and 100 percent made in Can-the market, Last Litter. Last Litter Foster and

"At the end of the day, I go see local farm-rescue that operates solely on donations. closer to home rather than going far to experiers. These ones are beets and apples," said Hatter, motioning to the biscuits in front of awareness for dogs who had been left in their "COVID just made us kind of pivot a little bit her. "They're made from seconds that farmers care, looking for fosters and forever homes." dle station, a bouncy house, food trucks, face more to stay more homebound and just find couldn't sell, and then I just make a biscuit out of them."

She shared that raising awareness for these awareness about fostering. Margaret Galati runs the farm with her hustinue to "support the small farmers markets" farms' locally grown ingredients is "what she does.'

> to table, and just raising awareness that there's these pockets, these local Canadian-owned hard-working families and farmers that are quently visited, as many wanted to meet Ruby, threatened with big box stores or grocery stores," explained Hatter.

Hatter offers a "bark-cuterie" board at her stand, where dogs can sample her treats be- all expenses are covered. derscored the importance of locally grown in- fore owners buy them in an attempt to limit food waste.

Ten percent of their sales every year also go and you get unconditional love back."

Rehome is a 100% volunteer- and foster-based

They attended the event that day to raise

Savannah from Last Litter shared that attending markets like these helps to spread

She shared that many "don't know that there's an option that you can foster to adopt "It's really about that farm to market or farm or foster until they find their forever home."

> They are currently attending three events a week to spread the word. Her booth was frea five-month-old Dogo Argentino, who Savannah hopes will find her forever family.

Last Litter shared that when a family fosters,

"The only thing that you're responsible for as a foster is just to love them unconditionally,



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Booklore to feature author with cerebral palsy's debut book, 'Beyond the Chair'

Written By PAULA BROWN LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

ences of growing up with a physical disabili- him, but from within, and how he navigated ty in his debut book.

Mark Rodgers, a 21-year-old Shelburne nation. resident, has self-published a children's book titled "Beyond the Chair," which details his experience with cerebral palsy and going through life with a disability.

Rodgers was born with cerebral palsy (CP), a neurological condition that can present as issues with muscle tone, posture, and movement. CP is the result of damage to the brain during fetal development or another developmental disability that affects the way the brain develops.

Rodgers started writing "Beyond the the audience. Chair" in 2024 and published the book in late June as part of his final project with the Youth Entrepreneur Program created by local educator Suzette Daley.

Speaking with the Citizen, Rodgers said he was inspired to use his own experiences and greet at Booklore in Orangeville on Oct. in the hopes of raising awareness for people 21, where he will be doing a reading from his with disabilities.

"People always think it's so hard being disabled, and I wanted to show people that able for purchase on Amazon.

it's not such a hard thing," Rodgers told the

Through the 25-page book, Rodgers re-A Shelburne-based author is inviting read-flects on the physical and emotional barriers ers to "roll" with him as he shares his experi- he faced, not only from the world around those barriers with resilience and determi-

> He also touches on the pivotal role various relationships have had on him, finding success on his own terms, from dedicated teachers to friendships and the unwavering support of family.

> "I share my story about growing up with cerebral palsy from each stage of my life," said Rodgers.

> While "Beyond the Chair" will mean something different to each reader, Rodgers hopes to share one specific message with "Living with a disability is not so hard. We

> can do things just like normal people, if we put our minds to it; it may just be in a different way," concluded Rodgers.

Rodgers will be hosting an author meet book and selling physical copies.

Rodgers' book "Beyond the Chair" is avail-



SHARING HIS STORY: Mark Rodgers, 21, of Shelburne, has self-published a children's book titled "Beyond the Chair," detailing his life growing up with cerebral palsy. Rodgers will be hosting an author meet and greet at Booklore in Orangeville on Oct. 21, where he will be doing a reading from his book and selling physical copies.

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Culture Days kicks off with municipal flag raising

Written By RILEY MURPHY LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Culture Days in the Town of Caledon is officially underway, and the celebration was marked by a flag raising and a performance by violinist Burcin Yilmaz.

Culture Days is a celebration of arts, culture and heritage running from Sept. 19 to Oct. 12 across Caledon.

The event will feature more than 50 free activities for the community to enjoy, offer- CULTURE DAYS: Culture Days returned to ing the opportunity to discover Caledon's artists, creators, performers, and more.

"Culture Days is more [than] about entertainment. It's about celebrating the people, traditions and creativity that make Caledon such a place to live," shared Regional Counnects individuals and creators, eliminates cillor Early at the event.

Given the number of events, she shared that there is truly something for everyone.

She shared that by offering numerous free community spirit and showcasing some of the many reasons Caledon is such a great place to live and visit, in addition to provid- beginning of weeks of fun, passion, and creing the community with meaningful ways to ativity here in Caledon. connect with the arts and celebrate Caledon's talented artistic community.

"Culture Day exists as a catalyst that con-culture-days.aspx.



RILEY MURPHY PHOTO

Caledon on Sept. 19 and run until Oct. 12. A flag raising was held to kick off the start of Culture Days. Over 50 free activities have been planned across the community to cel-

barriers, and stimulates understanding, appreciation, and exploration of arts, culture, and heritage so that every individual in the country has a deeper connection with cultural experiences, they're encouraging themselves, their community, and Canada," Councillor Early said.

The flag was then raised, signifying the

To view the full schedules of activities and events visit www.caledon.ca/en/living-here/

Have questions about the Ontario Land Tribunal process?

Public information session about appeals to the Ontario Land Tribunal

What is the Ontario Land Tribunal?

The Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) is a provincial board responsible for resolving and making decisions when there is disagreement about how land in the community should be used or developed.

Even with an in-depth planning policy system in place to guide growth, sometimes developers, residents or municipal councils don't agree on how their communities should grow or change. The OLT provides a place to resolve these disagreements.

What to expect

Resolving planning appeals and disputes in the OLT forum can be complicated. The goal of this information session is to help residents understand how the OLT works. Planning experts will cover:

- how you can get informed about an appeal
- how you and other concerned residents can participate
- how hearings work and if they're open to the public
- what mediation or settlement means in an appeal how the OLT makes its decision and what happens next

Meeting details

Date: October 9, 2025 **Time:** 7 to 8 p.m. **Location:** virtual on Zoom Register: by 12 p.m. on Thursday, October 9 at orangeville.ca/OLTinfo Submit questions in advance: questions can be submitted with your registration or

by emailing planning@orangeville.ca

For more information

To learn more about the Ontario Land Tribunal, public participation and the appeals process visit orangeville.ca/OLT

WELCOME ABOARD IKE DITCHBURN

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MacMaster Buick GMC is pleased to announce the appointment of Mike Ditchburn as its new Sales Manager.

Mike, a longtime member of the Brackett Auto Group, began his career with Orangeville Chrysler in 2015, where he served as General Sales Manager for more than eight years. He joined MacMaster Buick GMC in 2024 and now steps into this leadership role with a strong track record of success and a customer-first approach.

A proud Orangeville resident, Ditchburn, along with his wife Lyndsey and their son Rory, is actively involved in the community. His local roots align with the dealership's values: Buy local. Shop local. Live local.





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Local 23-year-old's debut novel now available at Orangeville Library

Written By SAM ODROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A book written by a local young adult is now

available at the Orangeville Public Library. Sabrina Moussa, 23, self-published her first book, "Elephant On My Chest," in late 2023, but it was only recently added to the library's

catalogue of books for the community to enjoy. It's a romantic drama that is fictional but touches on real world issues like mental health always had that drive to one day to write a novand interpersonal issues among high school

Moussa said "Elephant On My Chest" is a like a heavy weight on one's chest, as the book explores themes related to mental health.

The book starts out with a focus on Elena Herrera, a high school student, who struggles with anxiety and depression after her family experiences loss and grief.

"She almost has to grow up really quickly, and in that time, one of her childhood friends, [Kane Crawford], who is also captain of the hockey team of her school, notices, and they start to form a bond and connection," said bunch of different topics... where I feel like a Moussa. "It brings her and the rest of their lot of people might be able to relate their own friend group together.'

At the same time, there's a new boy at the high school, Liam, who develops feelings for Elena, and a love triangle ensues between her, Liam, and Kane.

coming to the surface, and individual struggles.

"It demonstrates that you don't really know what someone is actually going through, because they can put on a fake image of them- the book as it ends on a cliff-hanger. selves," said Moussa.

The book is written from the perspective looking forward to its release. of multiple different characters, providing the reader with insight into their lives and the ability to relate to each of them.

Moussa began writing "Elephant On My Chest" when she was 17, and has always had a passion for literature.

As a child, Moussa had a big imagination and loved telling fictional stories, before she

Once able, she began putting her stories down on paper, enjoying the creative aspect of writing.

"I always wrote little short stories and I just el, a fictional novel, and become an author,"

"As I got older, I had my own personal expemetaphor for how anxiety or stress can feel riences of grief, anxiety, depression and relationships, and I didn't know how to deal with those sorts of emotions. I felt very alone at that time. One day, I just journaled them, and then I took that journal and let it inspire me into making it more fictional and creative."

> Moussa said "Elephant On My Chest" is a great book for anyone going through a difficult time, who might feel isolated and that they aren't being seen or heard.

> "I feel like this book really touches upon a experiences to the book and feel seen that way, and understand that they are not the only one, and that it's okay for them to feel their emotions," Moussa said.

She said the book is a great read for ages The book is filled with plot twists, secrets 15 and up, but noted there is a trigger warning in the book as it deals with sexual assault and physical abuse.

Looking ahead, she is working on a sequel to

She's about halfway through writing it and is

Locally, "Elephant on my Chest" is available at Booklore in Orangeville. It can also be purchased on Amazon.ca.



LOCAL LITERATURE: Orangeville resident Sabrina Moussa self-published her first book "Elephant On My Chest" and recently added it to the catalogue at the Orangeville Public

County of Dufferin completes Municipal Comprehensive Review process

Written By SAM ODROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The County of Dufferin recently concluded its Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR)

The review received approval for Official Plan Amendment Four from the Province of Ontario's Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, which was preceded by approvals to Official Plan Amendments Two and Three on

The Official Plan looks to accommodate projected growth in Dufferin County. The local population is expected to grow to roughly 100,700 people and 40,900 jobs by 2051. This development within the County over the planrepresents an increase of 32,300 people and ning horizon." 14,100 jobs between 2021 and 2051.

"To plan and accommodate this growth, the County undertook a review and update of the Official Plan through a process called a Municipal Comprehensive Review," reads a statement

municipalities."

Dufferin County's Official Plan is intended to provide policy direction on matters of signifi-

"It directs growth management and land use decisions in Dufferin by providing upper-tier land use planning guidance for the County's eight local municipalities," reads the county's

"The Official Plan provides upper-tier land use planning policies to manage growth and

The newly updated Official Plan features a long-term and growth management framework to assist the County of Dufferin in accommodating a growing population.

"Official Plan Amendment Two has imple-

from the County of Dufferin on the MCR's commented updated population and employment and added several new definitions," reads the pletion. "An Official Plan provides policy direction for the County of Dufferin, as well as county's statement. tion on how land in the community should be each of Dufferin County's eight lower-tier muused by upper-tier, lower-tier, and single-tier nicipalities. This amendment also implemented Plan to reflect all the updates made as part of related to employment, residential and com- consolidated document is now available on the mercial needs for each of Dufferin's lower-tier municipalities," reads the county's statement.

> Meanwhile, Official Plan Amendment Three enacted changes to key land use schedules within the County of Dufferin Official Plan. quired to undertake an additional Official Plan Verbiage and general policy changes have been Amendment to ensure it conforms with any made through this amendment to ensure the policies that were added or modified in the new County is reaching the goals identified in its updated Official Plan.

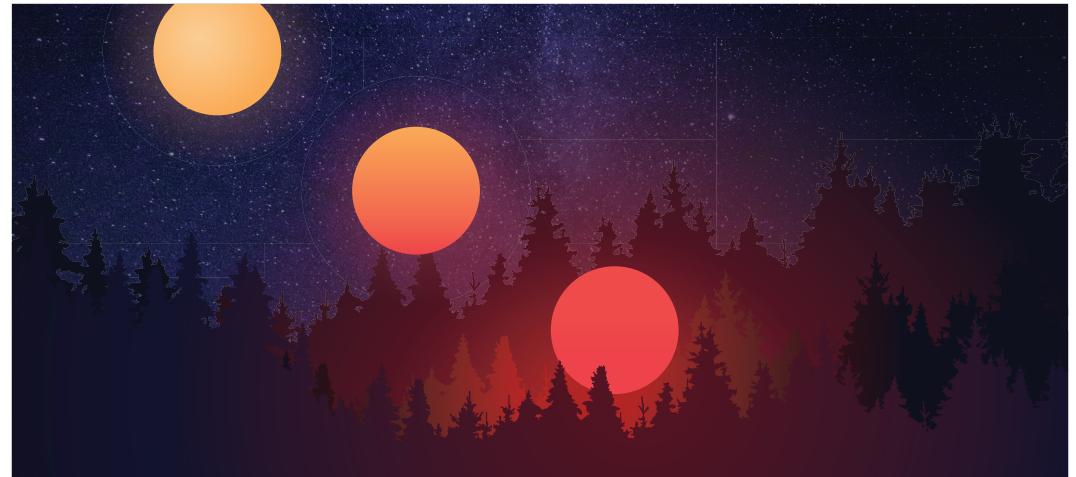
> "Official Plan Amendment Four has implemented significant changes to key land use ing a consultant to complete the amendment policies relating to employment land conver- exercise. sions, settlement area expansions, and the establishment of additional residential units. This member municipalities: Grand Valley, Shelamendment also updated references to provinburne, Amaranth, Orangeville, Melanchton, cial policies no longer in-effect and modified Mulmur, Mono, and East Garafraxa.

With the County having updated the Official new intensification targets and land allocations the Municipal Comprehensive Review, the final County of Dufferin website at dufferincounty. ca/planning-development/official-plan-provincial-land-use-planning-policies.

> Looking ahead, the County of Dufferin is re-Provincial Planning Statement, implemented by the Ontario government in October 2024.

Currently, the County is in the process of hir-

The County of Dufferin consists of eight



For more than 160 years, Indigenous children were forced into Indian Residential Schools.

September 30 is National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, a day to learn about the 150,000 childhoods lost to Canada's Indian Residential School system.

Ontario 😽

Ontario SPCA to host special adoption event this weekend across animal centres

Written By SAM ODROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Humane Society are dropping by 20 per Society. cent, and adoption fees for senior pets are being waived entirely from Sept. 26 to 28. thanks to Home Equity Bank.

The special adoption event is for all of the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society's animal and already house-trained, making them centres across the province, including the an ideal match for older adopters seeking one located at 650 Riddell Road in Orangeville.

HomeEquity Bank, is intended to connect physical well-being to a stronger sense of people and pets so both can thrive. The goal of the three-day adoption event is to place SPCA and Humane Society's statement. as many animals as possible into loving

homes, with a special emphasis on creating tomer insights and brand at HomeEquity to school, fostering can be a happy distracmals in care and adopters 55-plus," reads a than just companionship, especially for se-Society's statement. Adoption fees at the Ontario SPCA and statement from Ontario SPCA and Humane niors.

> in shelters and often have to wait longer to find a suitable home.

"They are typically calm, well-mannered, a steady, reliable friend. Adopting a pet can provide life-enriching benefits for old-"iAdopt: Furever Homes, presented by er Canadians – from improved mental and community and purpose," reads the Ontario

Niary Toodakian, vice-president of cus-

some older adults may experience," said tance of fostering needy animals. Toodakian. "Older Canadians are living vibrant, active, connected lives. They show or purpose in your life, fostering might be us that age brings the wisdom, compassion, the perfect way to give back to animals in and commitment that makes them the perfect pet owners."

can still make a difference by becoming a help prepare them for adoption." foster volunteer.

es this time of year as their kids head off can be found online at ontariospca.ca.

perfect matches between our senior ani- Bank, noted that pets offer so much more tion," reads the Ontario SPCA and Humane

The Ontario SPCA Orangeville & District "Research consistently reveals pets pro- Animal Centre's new manager, Julie Woods, Senior animals are sometimes overlooked vide a sense of purpose, routine, physical who took over the position from Dawn Lyactivity and a reduced sense of loneliness ons on Aug. 28, commented on the impor-

> "If you could use some companionship need," said Woods. "It makes a world of difference for animals who need a bit more Anyone who is unable to adopt an animal TLC than an animal centre can provide to

> Information on animals available for "For empty nesters facing lonely hous- adoption and becoming a foster volunteer



MARKING MAJOR MILESTONE: Family Transition Place staff share some smiles in front of its shelter building at 20 Bredin Parkway in Orangeville as they celebrated the organization's 40th anniversary with an open house on Saturday, Sept. 13. Family Transition Place (FTP) was founded in 1985 by a determined group of community members committed to creating a safe space for families in transition. The Orangeville facility can accommodate upwards of 28 people, both women and children, at any given time. FTP has 12 independent units in their emergency shelter.





FENECH DESIGNS PHOTOS

TRUCK PULL: Competitors from all over Ontario came to Grand Valley from Sept 19 to 21 to pull their modified diesel hooker trucks attached to a sled through different weight classes for time trials. The event was part of the Grand Valley Fair. Hundreds of people were in attendance and had a great time watching heavy machinery being put to the test.



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Theatre Orangeville showcases Norm Foster's wit and heart with 'The Writer'

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES

Last week, Theatre Orangeville hosted acy, and identity. The Norm Effect, a multi-day celebration honouring the works of Norm Foster. The event featured staged readings of some of his most beloved plays, including *On a* First Name Basis, The Writer, and Jonas & Barry in the Home.

playwrights, with over 80 plays to his credit. Known for his sharp wit, warmth, and ability to balance humour with heartfelt and bravado, while allowing just enough storytelling, his works have been per- hesitation and fragility to seep through. formed across Canada and beyond. In 2016, Foster was awarded the Order of audiences expect from his writing with poi-Canada in recognition of his contributions gnant hints of what lies beneath – a lonely to Canadian theatre and his lasting impact on audiences across the country.

For this unique event, Theatre Oranformed alongside a roster of well-known theatre names. For many in the audience, it was a rare opportunity to see Foster not ling. He captured the frustration of a son only as a writer but as a performer, breath-trying to connect with a stubborn father ing life into his own characters.

On Sept. 19, Foster appeared on stage sponsibilities. with Jamie Williams in *The Writer*.

The play follows Donald Wellner, an accomplished playwright, and his son Blake ilies often address dementia - gently corduring their yearly visits after Donald's divorce. Donald masks his loneliness and regret with humour, but over time, it becomes clear that he is slipping into dementia. As Blake struggles to connect with his father, the truth of the family's past - and the weight of their changing relationship – gradually comes into focus.

ism. The entire performance was staged a matter of seconds. The emotional wave with only two chairs and a table holding swept the theatre, leaving a lingering sia typewriter. This stripped-down setting lence in the air. It was the kind of moment before the lights dimmed, capturing the the direction, and ultimately, the perforwas far from bare; it carried symbolic that reminds audiences why live theatre weight for the characters. The chairs re- carries such power. called the atmosphere of a talk-show set, anchored Blake's own career as a writer.

The result was a stage picture that represented the play's themes of memory, leg-

The choice to present the play as a staged reading meant the production relied almost entirely on the performances. With limited physical action, the actors had to command attention through voice, expression, and timing - and both Foster Foster is one of Canada's most produced and Williams rose to the challenge and delivered.

Foster infused Donald with charm, wit,

His performance balanced the humour man struggling to hold on to his identity. Every pause before a joke and each understated compliment to Blake revealed the geville welcomed Foster himself, who per-vulnerability that Donald worked so hard to conceal.

> Williams, as Blake, was equally compelwhile still juggling his own career and re-

> His portrayal of concern was subtle and believable. He mirrored the real ways famrecting, softly encouraging, or allowing small confusions to pass unchallenged. Williams' quiet patience built a sense of authenticity that connected with the audi-

The play's most powerful moment came at the end. When Blake realizes his father is no longer truly present, Williams shifts The Writer is a masterclass in minimal- from composed strength to raw grief in clearer, the tone in the room shifted.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

STAGED READING: From left, Jamie Williams and Norm Foster together on the Theatre Orangeville stage this past weekend in The Writer - a staged reading series to kick off the 2025-26 season of shows.

could be heard whispering, "Oh my god," impact speaks volumes about the writing, stunned reaction that hung over the crowd. mances.

The second act carried heavy emotions, Throughout the evening, the audience as the audience prepared to say goodbye Writer was more than just a play. It stood a nod to Donald's past career highs and his was engaged from start to finish. What to Donald alongside Blake. By the end, as a reminder of Foster's gift for weaving need for an audience, while the typewriter began as a cheeky comedy earned steady it wasn't just Blake losing his father - it contrasting themes together in ways that laughs, but as Donald's decline became was every member of the audience saying reflect the human experience.

farewell to a character they had grown at-By intermission, one audience member tached to in just one evening. That kind of

Taken as part of The Norm Effect, The

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CLUES ACROSS

. Native American people of CA 5. Long periods of time

(Brit.)

10. Classroom tool 12. Rods 14. One who renews 16. They start the alphabet

18. Periodical (slang) 19. Smooth singer Cole 20. Dorsal sclerites in

insects 22. One from Utah 23. The world of the dead

25. Singer Redding 26. Mafia head 27. Wrongly 28. Unhappy

30. Anger 31. Dark olive black 33. Places to sit and eat

35. Made a mistake

41. What thespians do 42. A polite address for a woman

37. Damp

44. Disallow 45. Swiss river

48. A banana has one 50. Afrikaans 52. Relative biological

53. Agave 55. Journalist Tarbell 56. One-time tech leader 57. Incidentally (abbr.)

58. Intestinal bacterium 63. Loose sheats around the spinal cord 65. Accompanies nook 66. Vogue

1. Witch 2. Utilize

Puzzle No. 25A110 • Solution on page: CLASSIFIEDS SECTION

38. Banned fuel type 40. Actor Damon 3. Writing utensil 4. Where rockers work 5. Becomes less intense

6. Consume 7. Type of catfish 8. "Horsetown, U.S.A." 9. Atomic #50

10. The Muse of lyric poetry effectiveness (abbr.) 11. Brings back to life

13. Humorous critiques 15. Cool! 17. Worst 18. Wet dirt 21. Useful 23. Hebrew unit of liquid

capacity

24. High schoolers' test 27. Internet device 67. Highly excited 29. City in India **CLUES DOWN** 32. A place to rest

34. Chat responder 35. A way to move on

36. What consumers are 39. Digital audiotape 40. More (Spanish)

43. Disfigured 44. White (Spanish) 46. Church building

47. Georgia rockers 49. Surgeon's tool 51. "Much __ about

nothing" 54. Make by braiding 59. Local area network

60. Unit of work 61. Indigenous person of Thailand

62. Liquefied natural gas 64. Distance to top

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

How theu that in

English: Body Spanish: Cuerpo **Italian:** Corpo French: Corps German: Körper

Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20. The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right. The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

	6	11	19
7	20		35
10		3	18
19	31	22	•



This treatment dates back thousands of years to ancient civilizations.

Answer: Physical therapy



treatment designed to relieve or heal a disorder

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From Fredericton to Orangeville: Norm Foster's road trip with David Nairn

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

Here is what took place last week: In or- have to put in the work. I like the challenge." der to keep his engagements here in Orangeville, Norm Foster, who lives in Frederic- his plays never reflect current events nor ton, N.B., informed one and all that he does concern themselves with politics. Somenot fly anymore, nor drive long distances on his own, like from his town to ours.

transportation in accordance with what is characters are - how the dialogue sounds not, David Nairn offered to fly to Fredericton, drive Foster to Orangeville in Foster's car, and follow that with the additional offer: doesn't make up the dialogue - he just listo drive Foster back to Fredericton and fly tens to people talking in the coffee shops back to Toronto once Foster's delightful engagements here were done.

presented on three separate dates. The third of these, this past Sunday, was "Jonas and Barry In The Home," a play Foster wrote for himself and David Nairn to perform, along of two senior men who meet in a Seniors' Home - the gossip, the scandals, the tremen- Another few roles and, famously, Foster dedous Foster fun, yet not without Foster's cided he could write them. equally meaty reality checks.

the two friends have performed the show an impressive 206 times.

Nairn and Foster have been friends for many years.

By Monday of this week, the two were wick's capital city and Foster's home, with a stopover in Cornwall. Cornwall was the choice not only to rest for the night but also for Foster to drop in on an amateur theatre that being the only boy was great; he did not group producing one of his plays.

It was during the drive on Monday that great - it was a happy time. the Citizen caught up with them with a Face-Time call to Foster to chat for a while about but still with a message; still writing characbeing Norm Foster. Canada's premier playwright has produced 88 plays so far and is project as soon as he returns home.

his habit is to rise early, say, four o'clock in the morning, when he goes into his office and writes for six hours, with such joy. His characters take the lead, and Foster admits he frequently has no idea where they Foster asked her, "Why would you want to will land. As with the dialogue, he lets them talk and sometimes they make him laugh out loud, for the humour flows on its own while the story might also dip into sadness, thoughtfulness, pulling at our heart strings.

"I love to write," he declares to anyone plans to quit. He was asked recently if thenext piece, and he nodded yes, grinning at Festival is flourishing. the fact.

Still, there was a time before the plays, val named after me." and he talked about that, while Nairn kept sidered a career in the sport. That he did not matter. was a good decision for now; his plays are and he commented, "My plays are produced head. everywhere. I'm lucky about that; lucky to be able to make my living writing them."

He said, "I don't read other plays. I don't compare myself to other playwrights. You

Norm Foster is not a political person, and times, a title suggests a story, and other times, a passing incident in his life presents Determined to avail Foster of acceptable a plot. Foster is famous for how real his the way people really talk.

> David Nairn likes to joke that, "Norm and goes home and writes that."

Before becoming a playwright, Foster Foster was here to do three readings with talked about his long-running radio show in other actors of three of his favourite plays, Fredericton and that he was a disc jockey

In fact, it was mere happenstance that began his life for the rest of his life, when a friend suggested he come to the local thewith one female cast member. It is a tale atre where they were auditioning for a show, and he landed the lead of Elwood P. Dowd.

Before all that, he reminisced, "I had a Over several years and many locations, band." He was the lead guitar and singer. He went on to say, "I played the drums. I still play them."

> From behind the wheel, Nairn contributed, "He is really good."

Foster grew up in Toronto, but all his creback on the road from here to New Bruns- ative life has been in Fredericton, a small town he likes very much: "It's a guiet, small town, very pleasant."

> With two sisters as siblings, he remarked hang out with his sisters, but his family was

He said he wants to write happy stories ters with depth.

Inevitably, the conversation turned to the looking forward to getting back to his latest Foster Festival, founded by Emily Oriold and set in St. Catharines, Ontario. The first He tells interviewers and audiences that time she and Foster met was when she approached him about establishing this, the first (and only) festival named after a living playwright.

When Oriold explained her vision to him,

He agreed in principle to her establishing the festival with his name and that he would work with them if she "could get it going," to premiere a number of plays there every year. Now 10 years on, with the tremendous asking, assuring one and all that he has no energy, enthusiasm, and wisdom of the people involved, and the new plays Norm Foster atres were waiting in anticipation for his has contributed to the playbills, the Foster

His praise, "I'm very happy to have a festi-

Foster will continue writing plays that pace with the traffic and their own schedule. have a lot of laughs, but with the idea that Foster liked playing football and briefly con- the characters and their stories are what

When asked if those characters are intranslated and performed around the world, spired by people he meets, he shook his

"They are all people that I make up," he said. "I am really happy to keep writing."





COMMUNITY APPRECIATION: Chris Richie Group and the VetereTeam hosted a Community Appreciation Event and BBQ on Sept. 14 at Rotary Park in Orangeville. The event featured legendary Chef D, who grilled over 200 hamburgers and 100 hot dogs in just three hours, ensuring all attendees were well fed. Meanwhile, Fairytale Face Painting added a splash of colour to the event. Chris Richie Group and the VetereTeam held the event as a way of thanking the community for supporting them over the vears.











PETER RICHARDSON PHOTOS

ELEMENTAL ART: Talented artisans from across the province came to the Museum of Dufferin on Sept. 20 to showcase their unique works of art crafted from the elements of the earth - clay and glass. The Earth & Fire: Clay and Glass Festival was a one-day celebration of artistry and craftsmanship, featuring an array of works, ranging from vibrant, hand-blown glass sculptures to intricate clay pottery. Attendees witnessed the beauty and diversity of nature's raw materials transformed into handcrafted pieces and learned about the techniques used to create these works of art.



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Westside Thunder girls teams start 2025 basketball season

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

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The Westside Secondary School Thunder girls basketball teams have started the 2025 District 4 season.

Westside has seen some very competitive, well coached teams over the past few years, and the squads are hoping to have a good

A girls' junior team is competing this year after opting out of competition last season.

Junior Girls

The Westside Junior girls had their first game of the season on their home court on Sept. 22.

The Thunder were up against the Erin District High School Raiders.

Both teams played a good game, and the Thunder displayed some real talent on the

The first game didn't go their way, and they had to settle for a 33-26 loss.

There are four teams entered in the District 4 junior competition this year. In addition to Centre Dufferin and Erin, Wellington Heights Secondary School and Emmanuel Christian High School have teams entered.

The Thunder junior girls will be back on home court for their next game when they will host Emmanuel Christian High School on Wednesday, Oct. 1.

Game time is 2:30 p.m.

Senior Girls

The Westside senior girls' basketball team had their season and home opener in the gym at Westside on Monday, Sept. 22.

The team was up against the squad from Erin District High School.

Both teams were very competitive, and the Thunder were looking good during the 4 competition this year. game.

The Thunder came out on top with a 39-24 are teams from Emmanuel Christian High



HOME OPENER: The Westside Secondary School Thunder girls' junior basketball team takes on the Erin District High School Raiders in the gym at Westside for their home opener. A Westside player looks for the shot after breaking through the Erin defence. The Thunder had to settle for a 33-26 loss in this game.

There are six teams entered in the District

In addition to Westside and Erin, there senior division.

School, Norwell District High School, and Wellington Heights Secondary School in the Westside on Wednesday, Oct. 1, to host Em-

The Thunder will be on the road for a

School, Centre Dufferin District High game against Norwell District on Sept. 29.

They will return to their home court at manuel Christian High School.

Game time is 4 p.m.

North Dufferin Baseball League senior championship to be decided in upcoming series final

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The North Dufferin Baseball League senior it a 2-2 series. division championship series will go to a deciding Game 7 after the New Lowell Knights Sept. 20, for Game 5, the Knights jumped out and Owen Sound Baysox traded wins over to a three-run lead in the first inning. the weekend.

tied with both teams claiming two wins in the best-of-seven series.

The Baysox won the first two games of the series on Sept. 6 and 7.

Back on the diamond in Owen Sound on chipped in with singles.

The Baysox moved ahead in the third, scor-Going into the weekend, the series was ing four runs off an Adam Shaver grand slam.

The Baysox added two more in the fourth inning and one run each in the sixth and sev-

enth innings to seal an 8-3 win. Shave also added a single for Owen Sound

It was all tied up the following weekend with Robert Doyle contributing a home run ond home run of the weekend.

In Game 6 on Sunday, Sept. 21, the Knights took control early in the game on some slop-

py plays from the Baysox. New Lowell scored two runs in the first and four more in the second inning.

A triple from Kurt Roy drove in two of

those runs.

Owen Sound's lone run came on a rightfield home run from Adam Shaver - his sec-

when the Knights won both games to make and a double. Ryan Bartley, Greg Slater, Steve Strong pitching from both sides kept the Barrett, Bryan Post, and Kevin Zettler each remainder of the game scoreless over five innings.

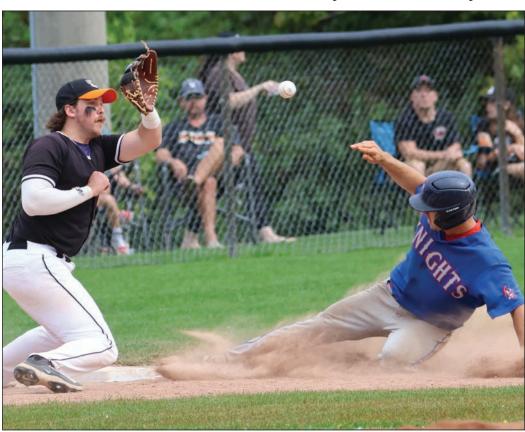
The final was a 6-1 win for New Lowell.

With the series tied at three games each, the entire season will come down to one final game to determine who will raise this year's Strother Cup to claim the 2025 NDBL championship.

The final game will be played in New Lowell on Saturday, Sept. 27.

The first pitch is scheduled for 1 p.m.





DAVID ANDERSON PHOTO

SAFE SLIDE: Kurt Roy of the New Lowell Knights slides into third base for a two-run triple before the ball reaches Adam Shaver of the Owen Sound Baysox during Game 6 of the North Dufferin Baseball League Championship Series on Sept. 21. The championship series is tied with both teams winning two games. The final game of the series to determine this year's Strother Cup champions will be held in New Lowell on Sept. 27.



OPINION

Bananas and other oddities

I like to have a variety of fruit in my diet. Apples are good. So are pears, plums, apricots, kiwi, pineapple - especially good.

I was at the local market the other day. Peaches, which are always good, were advertised as being Ontario-grown. \$4.99

A few feet away in the banana department, bananas were listed as a 'product of Guatemala'. 89 cents per pound.

You can get almost six times the amount of bananas for the same price as the same weight of peaches.

Ontario peaches are grown in the Niagara Fruit Belt – about two hours away by truck. The peaches are loaded on a truck and shipped to the Ontario Food Terminal and distributed.

Bananas are grown in the tropics, almost 3,500 kilometres away, probably put on a ship to cross the Gulf of Mexico (yes, Mexico, not America), loaded on trucks, and driven halfway across the continent to get here. And they are sold dirt cheap.

A fact check indicates that cheap farm labour, as well as the fact that bananas don't have a growing season and grow all year round, results in the low price to consumers.

There are a few other facts that I just don't believe. One being that grocers price bananas low, to draw people over so they will then buy other, more expensive nearby

I don't think many people who want to buy bananas will see a watermelon and have an impulse to buy one.

Guatemala may be a long way away, but consider distances here at home.

St. John's, Newfoundland, is closer to Europe than it is to the other side of the country.

As the crow flies, St. John's is 3,991 kilometres from Paris. In the opposite direction, St. John's is 5,005 kilometres from Vancouver.

That sure puts a new perspective on the phrase 'road trip.'

When it comes to road trips, Europeans are astounded when they tour North America and learn how big it really is. In Europe, you can drive through four countries in a

This past summer, I was planning a long road trip. I take road trips all the time, but they are usually only day trips.

I have always wanted to see the north

it when I was a kid and my family drove to Winnipeg to visit relatives, but I have no memory of it.

I decided on a road trip to Thunder Bay. The farthest north I have driven is Sud-

bury. That's a great road trip if you like trees and granite.

Even though I'm pretty good at geography, I was stunned to find out that a drive to Thunder Bay would take almost 16 hours. For some reason, I had it in my head that it would take about eight hours.

Even after all that driving, you still have almost a quarter of the province to get through to get to Manitoba.

I decided that four days of just driving, on a five-day vacation, just wouldn't be worth it - at this time. I may try it again next sum-

A friend of mine had family visiting from Italy a few years ago. The visitors didn't want to be a bother to their hosts, so they said they would make their own way around to see different things.

One evening, my friend asked the relative what they had planned for the following

The relative casually said they were going shore of Lake Superior. I may have seen to drive to Algonquin park for the afternoon

as they heard it was a good place to visit.

BRIAN LOCKHART FROM THE SECOND ROW

My friend got out a map and showed them the route. The visitors

were astonished to see that driving to Algonquin Park from Toronto was the same as driving around halfway up the boot of

They did finally see Algonquin, but only after they took a couple of days to plan the

Another friend of mine had visitors from Europe. They expressed an interest in seeing the Rocky Mountains, as they had seen photos of the majestic peaks around Banff,

My friend explained the situation and how far away they were, and offered to show them some nice hilly terrain in Ontario.

To put this in perspective, Ontario, with a land mass (excluding water) of 892,411 square kilometres, is larger than France, which covers an area of 632,705 square kilometres.

As for bananas, I wouldn't mind paying double the current price if it meant some farm worker in Guatemala would get a raise in pay.

Too late for a Palestinian State?

Ten more countries are recognizing Palestine as a sovereign state in the course of this week. That merely brings the total up from 147 to 157, but it's a big deal nevertheless because for the first time it includes quite a few big, rich Western countries (France, the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia). But it is not unified and it still controls no territory.

The cascade of recognitions at the United Nations General Assembly's annual session in New York is pure gesture politics. What drives it is belated sympathy for the Palestinians as they face a disaster even worse than the nagba (catastrophe) that drove most Palestinians out of what is now legally the State of Israel in 1948.

The new naqba got underway last week, with the big Israeli offensive to drive all the surviving Palestinians in the Gaza Strip down to a tiny southwest corner, far too small to accommodate the Strip's surviving two million people even in the most miserable conditions. There they will be offered free trips into exile with enough money to start anew nowhere near their homeland.

The governments of the countries that are now offering token recognition to a purely virtual Palestinian state know very well what Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu intends.

They suspect that he will then exploit violent reactions by the three million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank to expel them as well and complete the conquest of

They know all this, but they dare not try to stop it so long as Donald Trump maintains his unstinting, unquestioning support for the present Israeli government. The Palestinian state is probably about to become even more virtual, in the sense that hardly any Palestinians will still live there.

It all feels inevitable now, but once it wasn't. There was a time when the 'twostate solution' was quite possible. All that it required was a real Palestinian state - and it was Arabs, not Israelis, who sabotaged that possibility.

Palestine fell into British hands when the victors carved up the Middle East after the First World War. During the war Britain had promised to create a 'Jewish homeland' in Palestine to attract financial support from wealthy Zionists. Afterwards, it found itself caught between the anxieties of the resident Arab majority and the ambitions of would-be Zionist immigrants.

By 1948 the British empire was crumbling, Palestine's Jewish population had soared, and they were demanding independence. In fact, Jewish terrorists (Irgun

and the Stern Gang) were killing British soldiers. The war-weary British dumped the problem in the lap of the United Nations, which decided Palestine must be partitioned into two states.

The history is complicated, but the salient fact is that sovereign states were offered to both the Jews and the Arabs in 1948.

It was a more or less equal division about 50-50 - and the Israelis (as they would now be called) accepted at once. Why not? Their population had grown more than tenfold in thirty years, they were now one-third of the total population, and they got half of the good land.

The Palestinians, for equally obvious reasons, rejected it. They assumed they would win in a war, although they had no army and hardly any arms themselves. The armies of much bigger Arab countries around them - Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Iraq – would do the fighting and 'drive the Jews into the sea'. Stories about driving out the Crusaders got some play

The Arab armies lost, of course. All nose countries were just emerging from British or French colonial rule, their kings had been chosen in London or Paris, and the main job of their armies was holding the local peasantry down. They were eas**OUR WORLD TODAY**

GWYNNE DYER

ily defeated by the Israelis, who ended up holding five-sixths of the country.

The other one-sixth was what we now call

the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, which gave shelter to most of the Palestinian refugees driven out by the Israelis. No Palestinian government had been formed, so the decisions stayed in the hands of Jordan (the West Bank) and Egypt (Gaza). And this was when the Great Mistake was made.

Neither Egypt nor Jordan showed any interest in using that remaining land as the base for the Palestinian state that had already been authorized by the UN. Yes, it would have been severely truncated, but it would be celebrating its 77th anniversary this year. Instead, Jordan simply annexed the West Bank, and Egypt did nothing useful in Gaza.

Both those areas were conquered by Israel in the 1967 war, so Palestine might now have a government-in-exile if that war had also happened on the alternate timeline. But nothing could be as bad as the fate Palestinians face now. No actual state has been erased from the map by violence since 1945, but virtual doesn't count for

Where does it hurt?

It's not easy writing a column when you're working inside of a word limit. I can't write every half-baked limbic impulse that leaps into my mind. You see, I get paid by the column, not by the word. The more words I use, the less I get paid (the only things I give away are hugs, fist-pumps, and bread). Words are not free. Words have value. If I give my words away for free, I'm diminishing their value. And I can't afford to give out

I've been thinking about the value of words over the past few weeks. One day, while ordering pizza online, my son, laying on the couch beside me, lifted up his head and asked if I had seen the video of the Charlie Kirk killing. I swear, my mind disinte-

I watched the video earlier that day an explanation. And I couldn't explain. Not in that moment. I mean, how do you explain something like that to a kid who still sleeps with a stuffed bear? In that moment, think-

Canada

ing failed me. Language failed me. Pineapple on pizza? This is the crisis of our times.

I get that violence happens. But the rate at which it's happening, the rationale for what is happening, the ensuing celebrations, calls for retribution, are disconcerting. To make matters worse, the language, the words, I'm hearing arrive in bits and pieces. Fragments. Inarticulate. Inaccessible. Meaningless. No one is making any sense. In turn, these soundbites and images shape the way our brain internalizes these images and sound bites, which in turn shapes the way that we talk about these things. We're using less words to communicate very complicated and complex situations. Hashtags, memes, emojis, twitchy videos and prompts are doing the heavy lifting in our debates. It all sounds like gibberish.

I didn't know much about Charlie Kirk. Judging from the content of his videos, we sit on opposite sides of the political divide. In fact, we sit on opposite sides of a lot of divides. That doesn't mean I hate him. I can respect the fact that he wasn't afraid to put himself out there. It was his right. He was out there, face to face with people who disagreed with him, hated him, loved him, challenged him, provoked him, adored him. And herein lies the tragedy: the assassin killed a son, father, friend, mentor, rabble-rouser, a

provocateur. What he didn't kill was Charlie Kirk's ideas. In fact, the killer has now amplified those ideas. In death, Kirk has reached a status he never would have reached in life. I'm afraid of what might happen next.

And where to now? Truthfully, I think we need to take some big steps backward, so that we can eventually move forward. We've forgotten what it means to belong to one another. I read somewhere that in order to make pancakes you need a universe. We need to play the long game. Shortcuts are too easy. The long game brought us here. Only the long game will take us out of it. Nobody healthy or whole kills someone. Nobody healthy or whole hates someone. Nobody healthy or whole demonizes someone. Nobody healthy or whole doesn't care for others. We've been broken for a long time. Father Gregory Boyle writes "Bringing folks back into the family delivers what we all long for. The stillness in control, reminding us we are in the same world." What's the alternative? The alternative is what got us here.

In a recent column, in this paper, Brian Lockhart took exception to a reader's take on a piece he wrote about, as far as I can tell, 'the work ethic of refugees.' Wendy Volpe challenged Brian's argument, which she feels, was substantiated with anecdotal evidence. Wen-

dy's response was terse, clear, and supported by evidence she felt refuted some of what Brian was saying. I read his column, and his repones to Wendy's letter, a number of times and kept coming back to the same conclusion: it didn't add up. His response to Wendy's letter was slippery, meandering and lacking in coherence. He ended the piece by admitting that he's okay if she dis-

agrees with him, but not really. He shows

his hand, and heart, by admitting: "I don't

care, I really don't." And here we are.

I read somewhere that a person's words and/or actions can be interpreted in one of two ways: as an 'act of love' or a 'call for love'. When people are being spiteful, cruel, indignant, and dismissive, I think about civil rights activist Ruby Sales who learned to ask, 'Where does it hurt?' because it speaks to the heart of the crisis' we are facing today. Where does it hurt? A crisis of the heart. The phrase 'I don't care' is not an act of love; it, most certainly, is not an invitation to community, wholeness, and health. A lack of caring is what got us here. Only acts of love will get us out.

ANTHONY CARNOVALE OPERATION: BLACK COFFEE

words for free. None of us can.

grated. It just all seemed so absurd. Pizza. Charlie Kirk. Pepperoni. Hawaiian. What? a student showed it to me. My student is 16; my son 13. Both of them, young, had viewed, I'm sure more than once, a man being assassinated, blood gushing from his neck like water from a cracked pipe. He was asking about the video —I think he may have been asking for something more. Like





GENERAL MANAGER Sam Odrowski

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COMMUNITY VOICES

Monthly Message: FTP's 40th Anniversary Open House reflects on important milestone

The last few months have been especially busy at Family Transition Place (FTP). While continuing to support the hundreds of individuals who rely on our shelter, outreach, and counselling programs for safety, we've also been hard at work preparing to welcome our community to our 40th Anniversary Open House.

On Sept. 18, the hard work of our staff, board, and volunteers came together in a beautiful celebration for our community. At our 20 Bredin location, we welcomed over 200 guests — including community members, partners, dignitaries, donors, funders, former staff, volunteers, board members, thanks to the generous support of our comand clients.

Guests enjoyed staff-led tours of our enjoyed refreshments — all made possible plished but also a powerful reminder of



mitted community partners.

It was a day of reflection, celebration, building, including two open shelter rooms, and deep gratitude. For four decades, FTP and had the opportunity to meet team mem- has provided vital support to individuals bers from each of our program areas. They and families facing unhealthy relationships also explored a special display of memen- and homelessness. This milestone marked tos and memories from the last 40 years and not only a celebration of all we've accom-

depend on the generosity of our community portance of our work. and the vital funds we raise.

ments and a palpable sense of energy. Our mand is becoming increasingly challenging. community showed up with open hearts. That's why we continue to rely on the supand thoughtful questions — including, port of our community to sustain our proa shared sense of purpose that reminded and deliver youth education initiatives that us all why we do this work. It was a pow- help prevent violence before it starts. erful opportunity for guests to learn about the impact of FTP's programs and witness and every partnership plays a vital role in firsthand how much we've grown over the helping us provide life-saving support to

Reflecting on 40 years of service

Looking back over the past four decades, it's clear how far FTP has come. When we also look ahead with determination and first opened our doors in 1985, the land- hope. While our past achievements are scape for supporting individuals experi- worth honouring, we know there is still encing domestic violence was drastically much work to be done. The need for serdifferent — fewer resources, limited public vices like ours isn't going away — and with awareness, and a lack of coordinated, com- your continued support, we can ensure that prehensive services.

small emergency shelter into a full-spec- and beyond. trum service provider, offering 24/7 crisis support, shelter, counselling, housing and sion. Whether it's through donating, volunlegal support, rural outreach, and commuteering, or simply spreading awareness of nity and youth education. Our journey has the work we do, your support truly makes been guided by the incredible resilience of a difference. Together, we can create a comthe individuals and families we serve and munity where everyone has access to the strengthened by the unwavering support of safety, support, and hope they need to live a community that believes in helping those healthy, fulfilling lives. in need.

need for our services remains as urgent as has made everything possible. Let's continever. The reality was brought into sharp fo- ue working together to ensure that FTP reter rooms we had opened for tours were come. filled the very next day. All 12 units in our emergency shelter are currently full, which, can support families in our community unfortunately, is not uncommon.

continue to impact individuals and families 4122 ext. 240.

the work that still lies ahead. Many of the across every corner of our community. The services we offer — services that countless demand for safe spaces and supportive serindividuals rely on for safety and healing — vices remains high — and so does the im-

As the need for our services grows, secur-The event was filled with meaningful mo- ing the financial resources to meet that de-"What more can we do to help?" There was grams, fund essential counselling services,

> Every donation, every volunteer hour, those in crisis.

A call to action

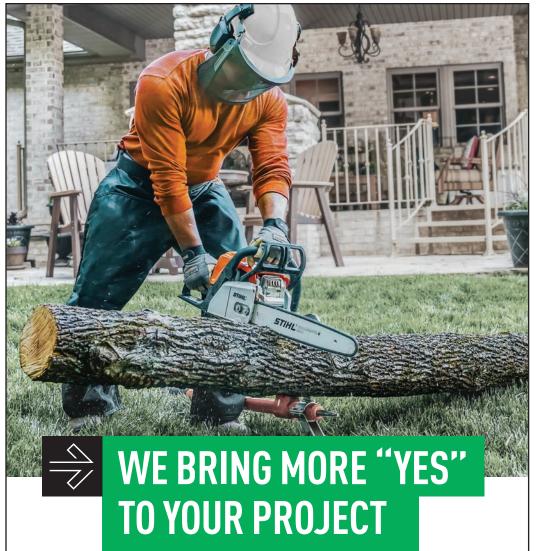
As we celebrate 40 years of service, we FTP remains a safe haven for individuals Over the years, FTP has evolved from a and families in crisis for the next 40 years

We invite everyone to join us in this mis-

Thank you to all who have been part of While we've made incredible strides, the our journey so far. Your belief in our work cus following the event — both of the shel- mains a beacon of hope for generations to

To learn more — or to find out how you please contact Brennan Solecky at bren-Domestic violence and homelessness nan@familytransitionplace.ca or at 519-942-





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On behalf of the organizing group for the is very close to the largest amount we have Orangeville Terry Fox Run #143, we'd like ever raised in Orangeville. to give our heartfelt thanks to the 148 par- It's not too late to donate more to this ticipants who showed up on Sunday, Sep- marvellous cause through our webpage at tember 14, 2025, to take part in our 45th run.terryfox.ca/92780 annual Terry Fox Run in support of Cancer Research.

Mark Whitcombe





Traffic complaint for driver in Melancthon results in impaired driving charge

officers have charged a North York resident area of Highway 10 in Melancthon. with impaired driving following a traffic complaint.

On Sept. 14, shortly after 8:30 p.m., of-driver. ficers responded to a traffic complaint re-

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) garding a possible impaired driver in the an impaired driving investigation was initi-

The vehicle was located a short time

Signs of impairment were observed, and hol concentration (80 plus).

As a result of the investigation, Peter Kawith operation while impaired - blood alco-

The impaired driving charge has not been proven in court.

The accused individual is scheduled to later, and officers spoke with the male giri, 46, from North York, has been charged appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville. His driver's licence was suspended, and his vehicle was impounded.



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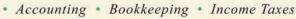
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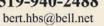
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Ontario SPCA running province-wide adoption event all weekend long

Written By SAM ODROWSKI LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Adoption fees at the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society are dropping by 20 per cent, and adoption fees for senior pets are being waived entirely from Sept. 26 to 28, thanks to Home

The special adoption event is for all of the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society's animal centres across the province, including the one located at 650 Riddell Road in Orangeville.

"iAdopt: Furever Homes, presented by HomeEquity Bank, is intended to connect people and pets so both can thrive. The goal of the three-day adoption event is to place as many animals as possible into loving homes, with a special emphasis on creating perfect matches between our senior animals in care and adopters 55-plus," reads a statement from On-



tario SPCA and Humane Society.

Senior animals are sometimes overlooked in shelters and often have to wait longer to find a suitable home.

"They are typically calm, well-mannered, and already house-trained, making them an ideal match for older adopters seeking a steady, reliable friend. Adopting a pet can

provide life-enriching benefits for older Canawell-being to a stronger sense of community and purpose," reads the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society's statement.

Niary Toodakian, vice-president of customnoted that pets offer so much more than just companionship, especially for seniors.

"Research consistently reveals pets provide fostering needy animals." a sense of purpose, routine, physical activity and a reduced sense of loneliness some old- purpose in your life, fostering might be the er adults may experience," said Toodakian. perfect way to give back to animals in need," "Older Canadians are living vibrant, active, connected lives. They show us that age brings for animals who need a bit more TLC than the wisdom, compassion, and commitment that makes them the perfect pet owners."

Anyone who is unable to adopt an animal can still make a difference by becoming a foster volunteer.

"For empty nesters facing lonely housdians - from improved mental and physical es this time of year as their kids head off to school, fostering can be a happy distraction," reads the Ontario SPCA and Humane Society's statement.

The Ontario SPCA Orangeville & District er insights and brand at HomeEquity Bank, Animal Centre's new manager, Julie Woods, who took over the position from Dawn Lyons on Aug. 28, commented on the importance of

> "If you could use some companionship or said Woods. "It makes a world of difference an animal centre can provide to help prepare them for adoption."

> Information on animals available for adoption and becoming a foster volunteer can be found online at ontariospca.ca.

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At Kidd Family Auctions, we're proud to return to our farming roots with the Bowman Farm Sale. This lineup includes equipment, tools, and vintage tractors that stand as lasting symbols of agricultural history. A sale worth plowing through the catalog for, especially with our low 5% Buyer's Premium and \$400 cap.

Lots begin closing at 5pm on Oct 3rd. Preview: Oct 3rd from 10am-4pm, or call for an appointment.

Equipment located onsite at 828254 Mulmur Nottawasaga Townline, Mulmur, ON L9V 0Y7. Please do not show up at the farm outside of the agreed upon times.

Features: Allis Chalmers Model WD Tractor; Kioti Tractor Model DK50 w/ KL 1590 Loaders; Minneapolis-Moline Tractor Model U; Case Tractor Model D; Fordson Dexta Model Tractor; David Brown Diesel Tractor Model 990 w/ Loader Frame; John Deere Tractor Model 420U; International 3 Furrow Plow Semi-Mount; John Deere Cultivator Model No. 11; 6ft Snow Blower SA; Cutter Industries Calypso Model Motor Boat w/ Mercury 50 HP Outboard Motor w/ Trailer; Adventure Timberlodge Camper Trailer w/Slide-out; Yamaha Grizzly 4×4 w/ Winch; Stihl Chainsaws w/ Case; Manual and Power Tools; Farming Supplies including Farm Gates; Wood Splitters; Steel Roofing Sheets; Caged Water Tanks; and more.



Got any questions on absentee bids? Joining our Referral Rewards Program? Becoming a Consignor? Give us a call and let us treat you like family too!

Call, text or email anytime! Call: 519-288-2228 | Text: 519-938-1315 Lyn@KiddFamilyAuctions.com | www.KiddFamilyAuctions.com

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www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur

APARTMENT FOR RENT

BASEMENT APARTMENT for rent in DUNDALK with walkout. Call 416-414-7022 for more details.

GARAGE SALE

September 27th and Sunday

September 28th. 324 Hersey

Cres. (Bolton), 8 am to 3 pm.

Hundreds of items, toys, elec-

SERVICES & REPAIRS

HANDYMAN SERVICES

Providing an extra pair of help-

services along with residential

snow removal also available.

All jobs welcome. Call 519-

HOME RENOVATIONS

519-938-7727, Alex.

447-7550, \$25/hr.

FOR RENT

BEDROOM APART- Garage Sale - Saturday **MENT:** Private entrance, utilities, parking, quiet, clean, ground level. No pets, no smoking. For more information please tronics. 416-571-8614. call 905-729-4147.

HOCKLEY VILLAGE 2 Bedroom apartment for rent. Upper floor, no pets, no smoking. 9275 County Road 1. Call Sandro at 416-407-4352

ROOM FOR RENT

ROOM FOR RENT: Shared bathroom and kitchen. Located just south of Tottenham on the Tottenham Road. References required. \$150 per week or \$780 per month. Available immediately. Please call John at (647) 206-5930.

CONDO FOR RENT

CONDO for SALE in SHELBURNE. A cozy, safe, comfortable, bright, spacious condo. \$440,000, negotiable. Call Cathy 519-925-6216.

VEHICLES WANTED

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

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

TRUCK FOR SALE

23 F150 XLT SPORT, 75th Anniversary, 5L, 4 x 4 supercab. Loaded. Only 37,000 km. New condition, still under warranty. Certified. Asking \$55,000. Call 905 868

HELP WANTED

PART-TIME HELP days for small retail chocolate shop, Erin. Must be able to work alternate weekends. Call 519-833-2092 to inquire

YARD SALE

COMMUNITY YARD SALE Saturday, September 27th. Settler's Creek will be hosting its' Annual Fall Sale from 8 am - 12 noon.

> ADVERTISING **LOCALLY WORKS!**



Seasoned Firewood \$425/Bush Cord. Fresh cut \$350/Bush Cord. Call **905-729-2303** or 705-440-6450 Truckloads of firewood logs now available



ORANGEVILLE CITIZEN

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ing hands in the Orangeville area. No job too big or too small. One man and a truck

kitchens/bathrooms, IF YOU WANT to keep drinktiles/vinyl floors: plumbing, painting, drywall, fences **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

FIREWOOD

HARDWOOD PURE SLABS – 15" long, no small pieces. \$700/delivered. Call 519-369-6123 / 519-379-

FIREWOOD for SALE -14" split hardwood. \$75/ FC plus delivery. Truckload lots. Phone: 519-369-6123 or 519-379-5528. k2

SEASONED HARD MA-PLE-\$375/bush cord. Delivered, volume discounts. 519-379-6447 / 519-922-1117 or email: kathy.winters77@ gmail.com.

WELL SEASONED HARD-**WOOD** - 12" or 16" lengths, campfire wood as well. Delivery is available. 519-994-

STORAGE

STORAGE AVAILABLE: 20 yard sea can container for storage located in Nobleton. Safe location. For more information, please call 905-859-0817.

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TREE PRUNING and RE-MOVAL as well as minor landscaping. Free estimates. 20 plus years experience. Call Russ 416-802-9180.

> SUPPORT LOCAL! SHOP LOCAL!

FIREWOOD



SERVICES

LORD DUFFERIN CHAP-TER IODE Join women who make a difference in our community in Education and Services. We meet 4th Tuesday of every month at Lord Dufferin Centre corner of First & Elizabeth St. Call 519-941-1865 / 519-938-1564

ing, that's your business. IF YOU WANT to stop drinking, that's our business. Call Alcoholics Anonymous Hot Line, 1-866-715-0005. www.aanorthhaltonerin.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-

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

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

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

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

LA LECHE LEAGUE Orangeville offers breastfeeding support. For more info call Erin at 519-943-0703.

ORANGEVILLE OVER 65 - Single Social Club. A place to meet and make new friends. We meet every Thursday at 5:30pm. Many activities .For information call Ken 519-278-6341 / Betty 519-942-3090

PLEASE THIS NEWSPAPER!

HAZEL MORRISON

OBITUARIES



Hazel Morrison, a cherished mother, grandmother, great grandmother and beloved friend, passed away peacefully on September 17, 2025, at the age of 90. She was a longtime resident of the Caledon farming community, where she created a warm and welcoming home filled with love and laughter.

Hazel was predeceased by her devoted husband, Arthur Morrison, with whom she shared countless beautiful memories. She is also predeceased by her parents Arthur Reid and Myrtle Reid (South) and her siblings, Gordon Reid, Myrle Reid, and Elizabeth (Betty) Reid, who she loved dearly.

She was a loving mother to Brenda (Jim), Bill (Saundra), Scott (Diane), and Mary (Fintan). Her profound love extended beyond her children to her grandchildren, who will remember her fondly: Matthew (Krista), Jordan, Daniel (Anna), Trisha (Cody), Taylor (Frank), Nicole (Nate), Kyle (Kate),

Adam, Mary Emma (Luke), and Erin (Kurt). Hazel also celebrated the joy of being a greatgrandmother to Cain, James, Alice, Claire, Robin, Jack, Caleb, Marley, Demi, and Wade. Hazel filled her days with the company of family and friends, enjoying the simple pleasures of life. She loved reading, sewing, crocheting and her pets. Her warmth, kindness, and unwavering spirit will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her. The family received their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S. (Hwy 50), Bolton (905-857-2213) on Tuesday, September 23rd from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Funeral service was held in St. James Anglican Church, 6025 Old Church Road, Caledon East on Wednesday morning, September 24th at 11:00 a.m. Interment Caledon East Public Cemetery.

If desired, memorial donations may be made to St. James Anglican Church. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

GORDON ARTHUR GROSVENOR

Sunday, on Suddenly September 14th, 2025 at the age of 75. Beloved husband of Anne Grosvenor, Dear father of Lora McMichael-Bilodeau (Colin) and the late Robert Grosvenor (2023). Cherished Grampa of Abbie, Ella and Ari. Remembered by his sisters Janice Masters and Teisha McClean. Gordon will also be greatly missed by other relatives and many friends.

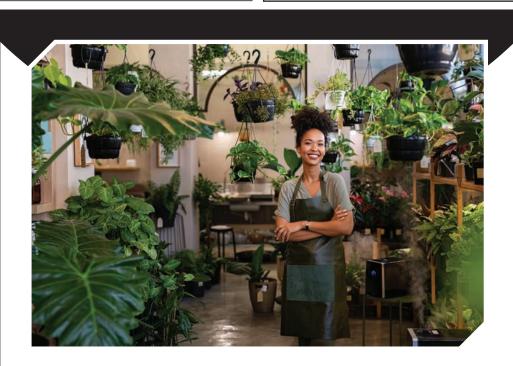


A celebration of Gordon's life will be held at the Dods & McNair Funeral Home, Chapel & Reception Centre, 21

First St., Orangeville on Sunday, September 28th, 2025 from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Memorial donations to Jump Start or a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. Condolences may be offered to the family at www.

dodsandmcnair.com





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Caledon Citizen 905-857-6626

ORANGEVILLE CITIZEN 519-941-2230



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Offers available while supply lasts.

Selling price of 2025 Rogue Platinum // 2025 Kicks SR Premium AWD // 2025 Sentra SR Premium CVT model shown is \$48,000 // \$37,297 // \$33,370. Limited time finance offers provided through Nissan Canada Finance, on approved credit. All prices and payments include \$2,030 freight and PDE; \$100 A/C charge; regulatory fees (up to \$35); dealer administration fees (up to \$621); PPSA fees (up to \$139); as well as all other applicable fees, levies and duties (all of which may vary by region and retailer). License; insurance; registration; and applicable sales taxes are extra. Representative finance examples: selling price of 2025 Roque Platinum // 2025 Kicks SR Premium AWD // 2025 Sentra SR Premium CVT is \$47,973 // \$37,252 // \$33,325. Financed at 0% // 0% for up to 48 // 24 // 24 months equals monthly payments of \$999 // \$1,552 // \$1,389. \$0 down payment required. Cost of borrowing is \$0 // \$0 // \$0 for a total obligation of \$47,973 // \$37,252 // \$33,325. Total of 48 // 24 // 24 monthly payments required during the term. Dealer may sell for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary (but may not be available in all cases). Conditions apply. Offer is subject to change or cancellation without notice. Ask your dealer or visit www.nissan.ca for details. Nissan names, logos and slogans are trademarks owned by or licensed to Nissan Motor Co. Ltd. And/or its North American subsidiaries.

\$500 Clearout Bonus is available when financing a new and previously unregistered 2025 Nissan Rogue, Sentra or Kicks models through Nissan Canada Finance (NCF) from a participating Nissan dealer in Canada from September 3, 2025, on approved credit. Clearout Bonus will be applied to the negotiated vehicle selling price before taxes. Offer has no cash surrender or other value, cannot be applied to past transactions, and cannot be combined with other offers. Conditions apply. See participating dealer for details

Offer not available in Quebec. Available only on the purchase, lease, or finance of a new, previously unregistered in-stock 2025 Rogue, Sentra, or KICKS model from an authorized Nissan dealer in Canada (excluding Quebec) between September 23-27, 2025. Eligible customers will receive a set of four (4) winter tires pre-selected by Nissan for the applicable vehicle. Customers may choose to upgrade to higher-end winter tires by paying the difference in value (if any). Offer: (i) excludes rims, installation, and balancing; (ii) has no cash surrender or other value; (iii) must be accepted as presented; (iv) cannot be applied to previous transactions; and (v) may be combined with other current retail offers. Conditions apply. Visit your Nissan dealer or nissan.ca/offers for full details

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