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JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

MEMORIAL FINDS NEW HOME: Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones was joined by Solicitor General Michael Kerzner, alongside Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post, council members and members of the Little family for the unveiling and official announcement of the relocation of the Ontario Fire Fighters' Memorial from Gravenhurst to Fendley Park in Orangeville. Originally championed by Orangeville Volunteer Firefighter Dan Little, the memorial was the first of its kind to honour and remember firefighters from across the province who dedicated their lives to serving their communities.

Ontario Fire Fighters' Memorial finds new home

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dignitaries from the Town of Orangeville, Government of Ontario and local fire departments gathered in Fendley Park in Orangeville for the official unveiling of the new home of the Ontario Fire Fighters' Memorial.

Deputy Premier and local MPP Sylvia Jones hosted the event, welcoming locals, firefighters, and dignitaries in attendance, and took time to acknowledge and thank the Little family, who have a deeply personal connection to the memorial.

With the Gravenhurst Ontario Fire College closed, the memorial needed a new home, and Jones said she wanted to speak to the Little family for their input.

"It is a sign unveiling, but I think I want to do a bit of a history on how we got here," she said. "When we made a decision to transfer to mobile training units, of course there was a beautiful memorial in Gravenhurst. Then, as Solicitor General, it came to me – what would we like to do? And knowing the history of how the memorial came about, I said it is only fitting and appropriate that we ask the Little family what they want."

What the Little family wanted was to bring the memorial home to honour the late Orangeville firefighter volunteer Dan Little, whose efforts started the movement to build the memorial that stood for decades at the Ontario Fire College.

Ontario Solicitor General Michael Kerzner reflected on Little's legacy and the impact one volunteer firefighter can have on a community and the province. Kerzner recalled meeting the Little family when the memorial in Gravenhurst was decommissioned, describing the experience as a powerful reminder of Little's vision and dedication.

"When I saw the memorial edifice for the first time, it was overwhelming," he said.

"I met the Little family that day, and it was hard for me to appreciate what one individual did to make a difference — a legacy that firefighters today and their future firefighters will have an understanding that you can make a difference in the communities that you serve."

"For 40 years, Dan Little was a volunteer firefighter right here in beautiful Orangeville, but even more than that, he would go to association meetings. He learned how

important it is that we needed to fill a gap that existed, to remember those firefighters that gave themselves for their profession. One person can make a difference," Kerzner added.

He also highlighted the province's ongoing support for firefighters, including its fire protection grant and efforts surrounding firefighter health, cancer prevention and support for first responders.

He said the memorial serves not only as a place to remember those who gave their lives in the profession, but as a reminder to future generations of the importance of service.

Orangeville Fire Chief John Snider also spoke about Little's unusual path into firefighting. According to Snider, Little became a volunteer firefighter after finding himself at the scene of an emergency and being asked by the fire chief to help.

From there, Little spent more than four decades as a volunteer firefighter and eventually recognized a gap in how firefighters across Ontario were being remembered.

"He literally became a volunteer firefighter by accident," Snider said.

Continued on Page A8



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County looks to uniform means to assess data centre applications

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Dufferin County staff will begin reviewing the pros and cons of large data centres in the region.

Josh MacEwan is a long-time county resident and has been speaking to lower-tier municipalities about high-load facilities. He spoke to county council when it met Aug. 27 about the need for a common framework between municipalities to adequately assess applications for data centres.

No such applications have been received by any of the county's municipalities, but there have been a number of conversations about the possibility.

"There is no known data centre application in Dufferin today," MacEwan said. "This is about readiness, not panic."

Dufferin County municipalities need to have frameworks in place to govern data centres to ensure applications don't arrive before local bylaws have caught up. The question isn't whether those facilities are good or bad. Rather, it's whether the county has a shared framework by which applications can be weighed when one is proposed.

Data centres house computer servers and require cooling, a lot of electricity, backup power, and water resources. Data centres also have a large footprint.

Proponents support data centres because they can bring investment to municipalities and employment to local workforces. Opponents argue data centres strain electrical infrastructure, strain grids, take up a lot of land, and typically require a significant amount of water for cooling. Although centre's water use is limited to what's used in a closed loop.

So water use depends on the facility's design. But all designs require a lot of land and electricity.

Dufferin already coordinates cross-boundary water through the joint municipal water management plan with Orangeville, Mono, Amaranth, and East Garafraxa.

Canada and Ontario are creating conditions for more large-scale AI capacity. A strategy at the federal level supports building or expanding commercial AI-specific data centres in Canada.

Ontario released a draft Data Centre Playbook in August alongside grid-connection rules. A provincial consultation is underway until Sept. 12.

These are also electricity-capacity proposals of roughly 7,000 megawatts of data-centre connection requests, which is more than a quarter of Ontario's peak demand.

Throughout Ontario, lower-tier municipalities

are converging on the same issue from different angles. And, without a uniform framework, each is left to invent its own answers under pressure.

Orangeville's council has passed a motion in August requesting a comprehensive and balanced county review of data centre advantages and disadvantages, including groundwater and cross-boundary impacts.

In Amaranth, council directed its planning consultant to research a data-centre definition for its Official Plan update and asked that the county reflect it in its plan.

East Garafraxa and Melancthon sent delegations before county council requesting a county-coordinated readiness review. Each municipality presented their different local concerns from agriculture, headwaters, roads, servicing, but the same underlying gap.

"A proposal may be local in location but regional in impact," MacEwan said.

Orangeville Councillor Tess Prendergast suggested during that town's Aug. 10 council meeting that Orangeville should request the county undertake a comprehensive and balanced review of the potential advantages and disadvantages of new data centre development proposals.

The review should include possible impacts on economic development, employ-

ment, assessment growth, electricity demand and capacity, digital infrastructure, data sovereignty, cybersecurity, groundwater resources, municipal servicing, land-use planning, regional infrastructure and cross-boundary impacts, to inform future planning decisions.

Large developments have implications for groundwater resources, electricity demand, municipal servicing, land-use planning, and regional infrastructure.

Orangeville relies entirely on groundwater for its municipal drinking-water supply, and planning decisions by neighbouring municipalities may have cross-boundary impacts on drinking-water resources, infrastructure, and municipal services.

Dufferin County also plays an important role in coordinating regional planning matters that extend beyond municipal boundaries and affect more than one municipality.

MacEwan supported Prendergast's notice of motion in August about regional water resources infrastructure. Economic benefits should be weighed against local and regional impacts before something like a data centre application arrives, he said.

County council agreed to support Orangeville's request for the county to undertake a comprehensive review of the advantages and disadvantages of data centres.

Dufferin County event explores Indigenous history, ongoing impact of colonization

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

The County of Dufferin is commemorating the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation later this month with a Community Conversations event.

The event will focus on Indigenous history most Canadians were never taught and what it asks of us now. The conversation is titled, "13 Square Miles: My Cree Ancestors and How Colonization Still Shapes My Life — and Yours."

The event takes place at Grace Tipling Hall on Thursday, Sept. 24, just six days before the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation & Orange Shirt Day.

The event will get underway at 6:30 p.m. and conclude at 8:30 p.m.

"Dufferin County is proud to present its next Community Conversations event in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation," said Dufferin County Warden Lisa Post.

"As we continue to work towards Reconciliation, we must all focus on learning, unlearning, reflection and action. The County encourages community members to join us as we learn more about the Canadian his-

tory most of us were never taught, discuss how colonization continues to shape our lives and consider what we can do to create a more equitable community for all in Dufferin."

In reference to the upcoming conversation, the county said, "Under the terms of Treaty 9, Chapleau Cree First Nation should have received close to thirteen square miles of reserve land. In 1907 it received 267 acres (less than half a square mile) — and some of that was under water."

Jennifer David, a member of Chapleau Cree First Nation and author of a newly completed history of her community, will trace five generations of her family through the fur trade at Moose Factory, the "half-breed" inland traders, the arrival of the railway, the signing of the treaty and the Indian Act.

She will follow that history to the two kitchen tables where ordinary people decided they would not let Canada dictate their identity or their lives.

"Dufferin County may seem far from northern Ontario but you'll see that my own family's experiences with the fur trade, the Indian Act and a treaty carry threads about



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

INDIGENOUS SPEAKER: Jennifer David, a member of Chapleau Cree First Nation and author of a history of her community, will speak at Dufferin County's Community Conversations event on Sept. 24.

colonization that have impacted, and continue to impact, Indigenous Peoples across Canada, including in Dufferin County," David said. "How do we reconcile with our own history to create a better, shared future?"

Registration is required to attend. Residents can register for the event by visiting: eventbrite.ca/e/national-day-for-truth-and-reconciliation-tickets-1998809591294

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SAM ODROWSKI PHOTO

THE GIFT OF READING: Orangeville Food Bank executive director Heather Hayes (left) and Orangeville Public Library CEO Laura Warner (right) show some of the books available through the two organizations' partnership in front of the book shelves inside the food bank's foyer.

Food bank’s library book program distributes thousands of titles four years after launch

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Nearly four years after the Orangeville Public Library began stocking the Orangeville Food Bank with gently used books, the program has grown from a small addition for clients to something they have come to count on.

The partnership launched in December 2022, when the library began dropping off books every two weeks for food bank clients to take home for free, no return required. Nearly four years later, that steady pace has added up to approximately 3,000 books distributed, with an average of 30 going out every two weeks.

“It’s been pretty steady throughout,” said Laura Warner, CEO of the Orangeville Public Library. “I think clients really enjoy the program... I think it’s just been a great way to share the love of books with clients that’s really accessible.”

Picture books remain the most popular pick, according to library staff, followed by young adult fiction and popular non-fiction.

Warner said the books set aside for the food bank aren’t leftovers no one wanted — they’re titles pulled from circulation to make room for new stock, but still in good condition.

“We’re giving well-loved books. Maybe we don’t need as many copies, so we’ll take one and we’ll give it to the food bank so that people can get a high-quality item as well,” she explained.

Heather Hayes, executive director of the Orangeville Food Bank, said the program works precisely because it stays out of the way.

“It has nothing to do with us,” Hayes said. “It is a quiet program, slightly out of the way of the busyness of the food bank... a quiet space for them to have a bit of peace.”

Located at the front lobby of the food bank, Hayes said she often sees parents pick books out for their children during evening shifts, when families arrive tired after work and daycare pickup.

“Living in poverty means that your mind space is taken up with the very basics of survival,” Hayes said. “If you only have a set amount of time in a day to make sure that you get your food, thinking about getting to the library sometimes can be one more thing that you cannot fit into your day.”

She said the books offer families something small but meaningful to take home, particularly children who arrive at the food bank tired after a long day.

“You can see the little ones curled up in the chairs waiting for their parents to finish shopping,” Hayes said.

Unlike a typical library loan, the books clients take from the food bank are theirs to keep.

For Hayes, the program reflects a broader philosophy shared across the food bank’s community partnerships: removing any sense of division between who needs help and who doesn’t.

Warner, who took on the CEO role at the library more recently, said the book program reflects what drew her to the position.

“One of the things that was so encouraging about the Orangeville Public Library role... was how community focused it was,” she said. “We share a lot of the same clients, and we just want the best for them.”

Divinity & Co. celebrates 15 years milestone by giving back to the women of Dufferin County

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

As Divinity & Co. Hair Studio reaches its 15-year milestone this month, owner Rina Ferguson Harvey is celebrating by spotlighting the community that helped the business reach this milestone.

The Orangeville salon is marking its anniversary with 15 Women • 15 Stories • 15 Years, a two-day community celebration recognizing 15 local women whose strength, generosity and contributions have made a difference in the lives of others.

For Harvey, the initiative was a natural way to thank the people who have supported the salon over the years.

“It is our 15-year business anniversary, so we thought, how do we give back?” she said. “How do we thank everyone? Because it’s the community of Orangeville and Dufferin that actually kept us open, because the clients would come in and keep our business afloat. So we thought, how do we give back this year? We’re turning 15 on the 15th. Why don’t we give something away? So we decided that it would be totally cool to give away 15 free makeovers.”

Among those selected are mothers, caregivers and other women who continue to give to their communities. The group includes the first female firefighter in Dufferin County, as well as single mothers and others whose stories stood out during the nomination process.

Each recipient will receive a day of pampering at Divinity & Co. on Sept. 14 or 15, including professional hair services, makeup, treatments, lunch and photography.

Harvey said many women were humble in their requests, making the experience more about pampering than dramatic transformations.

“It was kind of hard to determine whether it was a makeover or more like a spa pampering day,” she said. “Some people really like

their hair currently, so we’re just adding to it. But they still get four hours in here. They get a massive charcuterie spread for lunch. They get unlimited coffees, teas, waters, sparkling whatever. They get all the treatments at the back sink, all the hydration, all the bonding, their colour of choice. They get their hands done with an exfoliator while they’re sitting. Just so many people have come forward, and all these little extras have been able to be thrown in.”

The community has embraced the initiative, with more than 20 local businesses contributing funding, products, services and other donations. Each woman will also receive a celebration box filled with donated gifts and services.

The event will wrap up Sept. 15 with a birthday celebration featuring pizza, an ice cream truck, a DJ, champagne and 15 prizes given away every 15 minutes.

Harvey said that all of this wouldn’t be possible without the strong community spirit that defines the community.

“We wouldn’t be open if it wasn’t for the community coming and choosing Divinity & Co. to get their hair done,” Harvey said. “So at least we could give back. The whole team is behind this. We are all wanting to and treat our guests.”

Harvey purchased the salon in 2011 and renamed it Divinity & Co. in 2021. Today, the studio specializes in colour and extensions, along with cutting and styling, and has a team of five.

The sponsors supporting this event are Redken Canada, Central Beauty Supply, Salon Centric Canada, Orangeville Flowers, Pottery Parties Studio, Foote Law, Claxton Dental, IODE, CEL for Healthcare, Mary Kay - Jill Ashmore, Plant.ed, Lynne Greenwood - Lismar Financial, Tambasco Real Estate, Hand Power Massage Therapy, Kaytea’s Pasteries, Goodlife Fitness, Pizza Nova, Lightcaster Brewhouse, Rachel’s Room and Arbonne - Jaime Raymond.



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JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

FUNDING BOOST: Hospital staff join Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones and senior management at Headwaters, including hospital president and CEO Kim Delahunt and Board Chair Melodie Mason, to receive the ceremonial cheque of \$4 million from the Province of Ontario. The money will be invested to both upgrade and maintain the facility, and to also improve wait times and patient care.

Government of Ontario invests \$4 million into Headwaters hospital

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

The Ontario government is investing more than \$4 million in Headwaters Health Care Centre to support hospital operations, reduce wait times and complete critical infrastructure upgrades.

The funding was announced Aug. 28 by Dufferin-Caledon MPP and Ontario Deputy Premier Sylvia Jones during a visit to the Headwaters Hospital in Orangeville.

Of the \$4 million in funding, \$2.4 million will support Headwaters' core operations, helping the hospital respond to patient needs, reduce existing wait times and address inflationary pressures across the organization, according to the province.

A further \$1.7 million will be provided through Ontario's Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund, which supports upgrades and repairs needed to maintain safe and modern hospital facilities.

At Headwaters, the infrastructure funding will support significant roofing upgrades across multiple sections of the hospital, modernization of building automation and control systems, and replacement of high-voltage electrical equipment.

The funding also builds on previous projects aimed at improving energy efficiency and sustainability at the facility, including heat recovery systems, high-efficiency condenser boilers, advanced controls and upgrades to the building automation system.

Headwaters President and CEO Kim Delahunt said the investment is important to maintaining patient care and critical infrastructure at the growing community hospital.

"I would like to extend a very big thanks to our MPP and to the Ministry of Health," she said. "As a community hospital serving a growing region, maintaining a safe, modern, and reliable infrastructure is essential to our ability to provide high-quality patient care close to home."

"On behalf of our board, our staff, physi-

cians, volunteers, and communities that we serve, I'd like to thank the Ministry of Health for its important investment in the future of healthcare at Headwaters Healthcare Centre," Delahunt added.

Jones said the investment at Headwaters is part of a broader provincial effort to increase funding for Ontario's health-care infrastructure.

"Under the leadership of Premier Ford, our government continues to make rapid investments to protect Ontario's health care system, taking bold and decisive action to make it easier for patients and their families to connect to the convenient area close to them, including by building, expanding, and modernizing our province's hospitals and healthcare facilities," she said.

"Today, I'm thrilled to share how our government is continuing to build all these programs by investing over \$4 million to support improved operations and reduce wait times here at Headwaters."

The funding is part of a \$1.1 billion provincial investment in Ontario's hospital sector announced through the 2026 provincial budget.

The province said the Health Infrastructure Renewal Fund represents part of a broader commitment of more than \$266 million for critical infrastructure upgrades and repairs at 126 hospitals across Ontario. Funding through the program has increased by 10 per cent annually since 2024.

The provincial government is also planning approximately \$64 billion in major health infrastructure investments over the next decade, including more than 50 major hospital projects expected to add approximately 3,000 new hospital beds across Ontario.

For Headwaters, the latest funding is intended to strengthen the hospital's existing infrastructure and operational capacity as it continues providing care to a growing Dufferin-Caledon population.

Community Living Dufferin plans talent show for second annual fundraiser

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Community Living Dufferin (CLD) is preparing for its second annual Community for Community Living Fundraiser, set for Saturday, Sept. 19, with organizers hoping to build on the momentum of last year's inaugural event.

The fundraiser will run from noon to 4 p.m. at CLD (065371 County Road 3), and will feature food, exotic animals, the CLD Shoppe, and a silent auction. The centrepiece of the afternoon will be CLD's Got Talent, a variety show running from 1 to 3 p.m. in the organization's sensory garden, featuring about 17 acts performed by the people CLD supports.

CLD executive director Diane Kite said the fundraiser was launched last year to raise both awareness and revenue for the organization, which supports roughly 150 people with developmental disabilities across Dufferin County.

"It's to raise awareness for the Community Living people we support, and to raise additional funds... to ensure that we can support the evolving needs of the men and women in our care and in the community."

Kite said last year's debut event, which featured live music from the Campfire Poets, drew a strong turnout, along with visits from Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones and Michael Parsa, the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services. Both are expected to return this year.

This year's addition of CLD's Got Talent marks the biggest change from 2025, Kite said, while the exotic animal exhibit is returning by popular demand.

"The exotic animals last year were a huge hit with people who attended, as well as the men and women we support," said Kite.

As with last year, admission is free, but a donation to CLD and non-perishable food items for the Orangeville Food Bank is encouraged and appreciated.

"The food bank supports some of the men



FILE PHOTO

and women we support, so we're asking that people recognize the Orangeville Food Bank along with CLD as part of admission, but there's no specific amount required to enter," Kite noted.

CLD isn't working toward a specific dollar figure this year, but she said the organization has a clear use in mind for whatever comes in.

"We are looking to purchase new vehicles for CLD, wheelchair accessible vans, and they are very expensive," she said. "Any monetary amount that we receive will go directly towards the transportation piece."

Kite said the community's response has been strong heading into this year's event, with more silent auction donations coming in than at the same point last year. The auction will go live following the fundraiser, with items showcased at the event before being posted online daily until everything sells.

Businesses interested in sponsoring the event can find sponsorship packages on CLD's website, and those wishing to donate a prize for the silent auction can contact ebellassai@cldufferin.ca.

Kite said the event is family-friendly and open to everyone, regardless of their connection to CLD.

"It's going to be a really fantastic day," she said. "We're really excited about CLD's Got Talent, and it's a family-friendly event. Everyone is welcome, and we look forward to seeing familiar faces, new faces, and we welcome everyone in the community to come out and enjoy a really wonderful afternoon."

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CLICK ENG. HARDWOOD MANY COLOURS ODDS & ENDS \$1⁹⁹ FROM /SQFT 	ENG. WHITE OAK HARDWOOD 3/4" THICK 6.5" WIDE WIRE BRUSHED \$3⁹⁹ FROM /SQFT 	AREA RUGS 100'S IN STOCK! \$99 FROM EA
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FINANCE FROM

\$146

WEEKLY +TAXES

\$52,694^{+HST/LIC}

\$0 DOWN PAYMENT

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FOR 84 MONTHS

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\$232

WEEKLY +TAXES

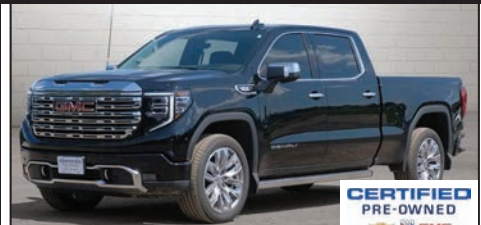
\$83,799^{+HST/LIC}

\$0 DOWN PAYMENT

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FOR 84 MONTHS

2025 GMC SIERRA 1500 DENALI



STK 25078A • 18,352 KM • 4X4, 3.0L DURAMAX DIESEL I-6, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, POWER SUNROOF, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, NAV, BOSE PREMIUM AUDIO, FRONT AND REAR PARK ASSIST, BACKUP CAMERA, REMOTE START, 20-INCH POLISHED ALLOY WHEELS, TOW PACKAGE, MULTIPRO TAILGATE, AND MORE!

\$245

WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$73,989^{+HST/LIC}

\$0 DOWN

\$5.49^{+HST/LIC}

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

2021 GMC SIERRA 1500 DENALI



STK 25078A • 172,705 KM • CREW CAB, 4X4, 3.0L ECOTEC V6, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, POWER SUNROOF, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, NAV, BOSE PREMIUM AUDIO, FRONT AND REAR PARK ASSIST, BACKUP CAMERA, REMOTE START, 20-INCH POLISHED ALLOY WHEELS, TOW PACKAGE, MULTIPRO TAILGATE, AND MORE!

\$162

WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$48,989^{+HST/LIC}

\$0 DOWN

\$5.49^{+HST/LIC}

FOR 84 MONTHS
C.O.B \$10,040.22

2019 AUDI Q7 PROGRESSIV



STK 25082AA • 151,522 KM • 3.0T PROGRESSIV QUATTRO, 3.0L SUPERCHARGED V8, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, HEATED AND VENTILATED LEATHER, HEATED SECOND ROW, SEVEN-PASSENGER SEATING, REAR CAMERA, REAR PARK ASSIST, BLIND-SPOT ASSIST, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, ACCIDENT-FREE, AND MORE!

\$119

WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$24,989^{+HST/LIC}

\$0 DOWN

\$8.99^{+HST/LIC}

FOR 84 MONTHS
C.O.B \$6,056.86

2024 RAM 3500 LIMITED LONGHORN



STK 25045A • 56,750 KM • 6.7L CUMMINS HD DIESEL, 5-SPEED ASIN AUTOMATIC, 3.7Z AILE, 8FT BOX, 4X4, MAX. SUNROOF, CONNECTIC, HEATED/COOLED LEATHER BUCKETS, HEATED SECOND ROW, RAMBOX, RAMBOX, LONGHORN LEVEL 1, 8-SPEAKER SURROUND VIEW CAMERA, TOW PACKAGE, REAR AIR SUSPENSION, STEERING WHEEL, TOWING TECHNOLOGY GROUP AND MORE!

\$323

WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$89,989^{+HST/LIC}

\$0 DOWN

\$7.99^{+HST/LIC}

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

2021 GMC SIERRA 1500 AT4 CARBONPRO



STK 26106A • 87,063 KM • 4X4, 6.2L V8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 2.3Z AILE, 6.9-FOOT BOX, MAX. POWER SUNROOF, HEATED AND VENTILATED LEATHER BUCKETS, HEATED FRONT SEATS, STEP BARS, FRONT AND REAR PARK ASSIST, SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, BOSE AUDIO, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, MULTIPRO TAILGATE, TOW PACKAGE, TRAILERING MIRRORS, AND MORE!

\$165

WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$49,989^{+HST/LIC}

\$0 DOWN

\$5.49^{+HST/LIC}

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

2019 GMC SIERRA 1500 DENALI ULTIMATE



STK 25050AA • 78,247 KM • ONLY BLACK, RET. BLACK LEATHER, CREW CAB, 4X4, 6.2L V8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, POWER SUNROOF, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, NAVIGATION, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, BOSE AUDIO, SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, 22-INCH CHROME ALLOY WHEELS, TOW PACKAGE, POWER MULTIPRO TAILGATE, AND MORE!

\$191

WEEKLY +HST & LIC

\$39,989^{+HST/LIC}

\$0 DOWN

\$8.99^{+HST/LIC}

FOR 84 MONTHS
C.O.B \$9,692.57

2018 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE STERLING EDITION



STK 87102BA • 170,509 KM • 3.6L PENTASTAR V6, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC, QUADRA-TRAC II 4X4, SELECT-TERRAIN SYSTEM, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, NAV, HINE-SPREADER, ALPINE AUDIO WITH SUBWOOFER, HEATED FRONT AND REAR SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START, TRAILER TOW PACKAGE, CLASS V 8-SPIN, REAR LEAD-LEVELING SUSPENSION, AND MORE!

\$146

WEEKLY +HST

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2027 CHEVROLET BOLT LT

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2026 CHEVROLET CORVETTE Z06 COUPE 2LZ

STK# A9290

LEASE FROM

\$69
WEEKLY +TAXES

\$1,770
DOWN PAYMENT
PLUS SECURITY DEPOSIT

2.90%
FOR 24 MONTHS
16,000 KMS PER YEAR

CASH PRICE

\$156,866
+TAXES

CASH SAVINGS OF \$22,525

2017 LINCOLN MKZ RESERVE

STK# 1002A • 137,365 KM • CERTIFIED AS-TRADED, ACCIDENT-FREE, BLACK EXTERIOR, BLACK LEATHER INTERIOR, HEATED FRONT SEATS, COOLED TRUNK SEAT, HINKEY DRIVER SEAT, REMOTE START, BACKUP CAMERA, WI-FI HOTSPOT, AND MORE!

\$176 WEEKLY + HT & LIC	\$16,616 +HT&LIC \$0 DOWN	9.49% B.A.C. FOR 24 MONTHS C.O.B \$1,641.82
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2024 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 3500HD

STK# 870H • 8,387 KM • HEATED-COOLED SEATS | HEATED STEERING WHEEL HEADS UP DISPLAY | ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL | WIRELESS CHARGING | BOSE SOUND SYSTEM | 360 CAMERA | WI-FI HOTSPOT | XM RADIO | INSTANT SPRAY-IN RED LINE | 16-SPR GEAR WIPERS.

\$339 WEEKLY + HT & LIC	\$94,359 +HT&LIC \$0 DOWN	7.99% B.A.C. FOR 54 MONTHS C.O.B \$28,905.14
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2026 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 2500HD ZR2

STK# 2356A • 10,722 KM • 1 OWNER | ACCIDENT FREE | PERFORMANCE LIFTED SUSPENSION | HEATED-COOLED SEATS | HEATED STEERING WHEEL | WIRELESS APPLE CARPLAY ANDROID AUTO | BOSE SOUND SYSTEM | WIRELESS CHARGING | FUEL-ZONE AUTO CLIMATE CONTROL | HEADS UP DISPLAY | ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL | AUTO HIGH BEAMS | XM RADIO | REMOTE START AND MORE!

\$361 WEEKLY + HT & LIC	\$100,710 +HT&LIC \$0 DOWN	7.99% B.A.C. FOR 54 MONTHS C.O.B \$30,850.65
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2019 CHEVROLET TRAVERSE

STK# 2382A • 171,272 KM • ONE OWNER, HEATED SEATS, REMOTE START, 360 SURROUND VISION, SUNDOWN, WI-FI HOTSPOT, XM RADIO, INSTANT, LEATHER SEATS, AUTO CLIMATE CONTROL, 20" WHEELS, POWER LOCKETS, BOSE SOUND SYSTEM, TRAILER PACKAGE AND MORE!

\$110 WEEKLY + HT & LIC	\$22,995 +HT&LIC \$0 DOWN	8.99% B.A.C. FOR 60 MONTHS C.O.B \$5,573.55
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2024 CHEVROLET SILVERADO 1500 LTZ

STK# 870H • 72,281 KM • ONE OWNER, ACCIDENT-FREE, HEATED AND VENTILATED SEATS, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, SPORT-ON-DEMAND, TRAILER PACKAGE, WIRELESS APPLE CARPLAY, WIRELESS ANDROID AUTO, REMOTE START, AUTOMATIC HIGH BEAMS, XM RADIO, INSTANT DUAL-ZONE AUTOMATIC CLIMATE CONTROL, AND MORE!

\$204 WEEKLY + HT & LIC	\$56,716 +HT&LIC \$0 DOWN	7.99% B.A.C. FOR 54 MONTHS C.O.B \$17,373.90
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2026 HONDA CIVIC SEDAN HYBRID SPORT TOURING

STK# 2348B • 13,883 KM • IN A STRONG WHITE FINISH, THIS EFFICIENT PRO TEAM OFFERS EXCEPTIONAL HANDLING AND A BALANCED BLEND OF STYLE, PERFORMANCE AND FUNCTIONALITY.

\$131 WEEKLY + HT & LIC	\$33,616 +HT&LIC \$0 DOWN	7.99% B.A.C. FOR 54 MONTHS C.O.B \$11,216.63
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2024 CADILLAC XT4 SPORT

STK# R7012 • 45,600 KM • CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED, ACCIDENT-FREE, MIDNIGHT SKY BLACK METALLIC, BLACK LEATHER INTERIOR, 25-SP-DRM TURBOCHARGED ENGINE, ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, SPORT SUSPENSION, ULTRAVIEW SUNDOWN, HEATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, WIRELESS APPLE CARPLAY & MUCH MORE!

\$164 WEEKLY + HT & LIC	\$48,617 +HT&LIC \$0 DOWN	5.99% B.A.C. FOR 54 MONTHS C.O.B \$10,930.38
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2024 CADILLAC ESCALADE ESV 4WD SPORT

STK# 1807A • 62,728 KM • BLACK LEATHER INTERIOR, 6.2 VL 404, SPORT TUNE, 22-INCH ALLOY WHEELS, SURROUND VIEW CAMERA, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, NAVIGATION, PREMIUM AUDIO, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, POWER LIFTGATE, FRONT AND REAR PARK ASSIST, AND MORE!

\$356 WEEKLY + HT & LIC	\$99,216 +HT&LIC \$0 DOWN	7.99% B.A.C. FOR 54 MONTHS C.O.B \$30,392.99
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2026 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN TRENDLINE



STK# TG2642



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2026 VOLKSWAGEN TAOS HIGHLINE



STK# TA2615

LEASE FROM

\$97

WEEKLY + TAXES

STK# TG2642

**** INCLUDES LOYALTY OFFER ****

\$40,655 +HST/LIC

\$0
DOWN PAYMENT
PLUS SECURITY DEPOSIT

2.99%

FOR 60 MONTHS
12,000 KMS PER YEAR

LEASE FROM

\$121

WEEKLY + TAXES

STK# TA2615

**** INCLUDES \$1000 BONUS CASH ****

\$35,896 +HST/LIC

\$0
DOWN PAYMENT
PLUS SECURITY DEPOSIT

2.99%

FOR 48 MONTHS
12,000 KMS PER YEAR

2018 BMW X3 xDRIVE30i



STW 71127 • 180,884 KM • 2.0L TURBO • 4-CYLINDER ENGINE, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, AND PREMIUM PACKAGE. HEATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, POWER SUNROOF, NAVI, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, BACKUP CAMERA, BLIND-ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, KEYLESS ENTRY, AMBIENT LIGHTING, SPORT SEATS, 18-INCH ALLOY WHEELS, AND MORE!

\$110

WEEKLY + HST & LIC

STK# TG2642

\$17,555 +HST/LIC

\$0 DOWN

\$9.29 +HST/LIC

FOR 48 MONTHS
C.O.B \$3,787.69

2021 VOLKSWAGEN ATLAS EXECLINE



STW 72127 • 180,465 KM • 2.0L V6 ENGINE, 4MOTION ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED SECOND-ROW CAPTAIN'S CHAIRS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, DIGITAL COCKPIT, NAVI, 360-DEGREE CAMERA, TENSED PREMIUM AUDIO, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, BLIND-SPOT MONITORING, LANE ASSIST, POWER LIFTGATE, AND MORE!

\$97

WEEKLY + HST & LIC

STK# TG2642

\$25,995 +HST/LIC

\$0 DOWN

\$8.49 +HST/LIC

FOR 60 MONTHS
C.O.B \$8,731.12

2021 RAM 1500 LARAMIE



STW 78037 • 81,415 KM • 5.7L HEMI V8 WITH ETORQUE, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, 4X4, BLACK LEATHER INTERIOR, FRONT BENCH SEAT, LARAMIE LEVEL 2 EQUIPMENT GROUP. HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED SECOND-ROW SEATS, NAVI, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, BLIND-SPOT MONITORING, SURROUND-VIEW CAMERA, HARMAN KARDON AUDIO, HEAD-UP DISPLAY, AND MORE!

\$178

WEEKLY + HST & LIC

STK# TG2642

\$47,495 +HST/LIC

\$0 DOWN

\$8.49 +HST/LIC

FOR 60 MONTHS
C.O.B \$16,026.22

2023 JEEP WRANGLER WILLYS



STW 7806P • 27,412 KM • 2.0L TURBOCHARGED 4-CYLINDER ENGINE, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, 4X4 WITH ANTI-SPIN DIFFERENTIAL, SAFARI TRIM EXTERIOR, HEATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, 40 WATT PREMIUM AUDIO, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, DUAL-ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, COLD WEATHER GROUP, TECHNOLOGY GROUP, CONVENIENCE GROUP, AND MORE!

\$162

WEEKLY + HST & LIC

STK# TG2642

\$44,995 +HST/LIC

\$0 DOWN

\$7.99 +HST/LIC

FOR 60 MONTHS
C.O.B \$13,785.39

2022 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN COMFORTLINE



STW 72727 • 71,525 KM • 1.6L TURBOCHARGED ENGINE, 4MOTION ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, HEATED FRONT SEATS, POWER-DOORVEY SEAT, 8-INCH TOUCHSCREEN, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, BLUETOOTH, BACKUP CAMERA, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, 10-ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, KEYLESS ENTRY, PUSH-BUTTON START, 18-INCH ALLOY WHEELS, POWER-HEATED MIRRORS, AND MORE!

\$100

WEEKLY + HST & LIC

STK# TG2642

\$26,995 +HST/LIC

\$0 DOWN

\$7.99 +HST/LIC

FOR 60 MONTHS
C.O.B \$8,575.75

2023 VOLKSWAGEN ATLAS EXECLINE



STW 8023P • 180,832 KM • V6 ENGINE, 4MOTION ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, DIGITAL COCKPIT, HEATED AND VENTILATED FRONT SEATS, HEATED REAR SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, NAVI, CLIMATE, NAVI, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, BLIND-SPOT MONITORING, LANE ASSIST, FRONT ASSIST, 36-DEGREE CAMERA, POWER LIFTGATE, 20-INCH ALLOY WHEELS, AND MORE!

\$133

WEEKLY + HST & LIC

STK# TG2642

\$36,495 +HST/LIC

\$0 DOWN

\$7.99 +HST/LIC

FOR 60 MONTHS
C.O.B \$11,312.73

2025 VOLKSWAGEN ATLAS CROSS SPORT COMFORTLINE



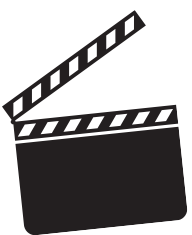
STW 7935P 7935P • 16,400 KM • 4MOTION ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, TURBOCHARGED 2.0 TSI ENGINE, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, HEATED FRONT SEAT, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, APP-CONNECT SMARTPHONE INTEGRATION, APPLE CARPLAY AND ANDROID AUTO, DUAL-ZONE AUTOMATIC CLIMATE CONTROL, HEADVIEW CAMERA, FRONT ASSIST WITH AUTONOMOUS EMERGENCY BRAKING, AND MORE!

\$165

WEEKLY + HST & LIC

STK# TG2642

\$46,195 <



Arts & Entertainment



LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

Baskerville brings mystery, mayhem and laughter to Theatre Orangeville: Review

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Theatre Orangeville’s production of Ken Ludwig’s Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery delivers a fun, fast-paced, clever and wonderfully chaotic theatrical experience that combines mystery, comedy and beautiful set design.

Based loosely on Arthur Conan Doyle’s The Hound of the Baskervilles, the production follows Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson as they attempt to unravel the mysterious deaths surrounding the Baskerville family.

But this is far from a traditional Sherlock Holmes adaptation. The story moves at a breakneck pace, with humour, physical comedy, disguises, accents and unexpected characters constantly keeping the audience engaged.

One of the production’s greatest strengths is its cast.

The actors display remarkable comic timing and an impressive ability to shift between characters at remarkable speed. With the ensemble taking on more than 40 roles, the sheer number of characters could easily become confusing, but instead it becomes one of the show’s biggest sources of entertainment.

Despite being a Sherlock Holmes story, the real star of this production for me was Dr. Watson.

Watson quickly became my favourite character. More than once, Watson seemed very much aware of the absurdity of the situation and humorously said so, though it didn’t do much good in the moment.

Seeing Watson take on the lead role of the story as the production continued was an unexpected joy, as the actress behind the character was clearly having a lot of fun, which made the production all the more enjoyable.

That’s not to say the rest of the cast didn’t do the same. Seeing Young Company put on such a well-planned, well-executed production was a pleasure.

For Young Company, the level of control and confidence was particularly impressive, and they handled a complicated and fast-paced production with commendable grace. They were fast to switch characters, and each character felt unique, different and one of a kind. I didn’t ever feel I was watching one actor playing the same two or three characters. I believed they were different people and I could follow the transition on stage without any issue.

Watching an actor transform from one personality into another – often with a completely different voice, physicality or attitude - is a theatrical feat in itself. The performances are quick-witted, energetic and committed, with even the smallest moments often finding a laugh. Seeing it all done by a youth-centred theatre company only demonstrates the tire-

less practice that went into this production, because it showed on stage.

The stage design deserves particular praise as well.

The production makes excellent use of theatrical effects, sound, lighting, smoke and movement to create a sense that the entire world of the story is constantly shifting around the actors. There is something especially satisfying about watching the mechanics of theatre become part of the entertainment.

The Baskerville Manor was, in fact, a tiny model house on a hill for most of the play. When inside the building, actors physically held up windows for the cast to look through, which the audience accepted openly with laughter.

Despite how simple many designs were, they were used so effectively it didn’t really matter to the audience. With three props on stage, you’re in London. Another three, you’re across the country, travelling to meet the Baskervilles.

Windows, candles and doors were all that was required to sell the illusion, and it worked. I could believe I was travelling from location to location, with only handheld props moving across the stage. It was an excellent use of perspective and minimalism.

Then there is the humour. Baskerville never takes itself too seriously, and that is precisely its charm.

The jokes come quickly, the physical comedy is wonderfully exaggerated, and the production has a playful awareness of its own theatrical absurdity. Rather than simply telling a Sherlock Holmes story, it invites the audience to enjoy the process of watching one being created.

The big fear of the story is a mythical hound that supposedly picks off victims left and right. How did the cast respond? Sir Henry Baskerville wanted to grab his gun and set off to shoot it, cowboy hat in hand.

Those sudden breaks in tension helped carry the story forward with a lighter, more humorous tone that still conveyed the story’s seriousness.

The areas for improvement are relatively minor. On some occasions, with music or sound effects, the voices of the cast are difficult to hear or understand. Lowering the volume of the music and sound effects would occasionally help the actors’ dialogue come through more clearly.

Ultimately, Theatre Orangeville’s Baskerville is a celebration of live theatre: inventive, energetic, funny and full of theatrical surprises.

With its stakes, tension, laughs and inventive theatricality, Baskerville is a perfect example of how dynamic Theatre Orangeville’s Young Companies can be - and just how far a talented young ensemble can take a production.

Ontario Fire Fighters’ Memorial finds new home at Fendley Park in Orangeville

Continued from FRONT

“He was at the scene of an emergency call on Broadway, and the fire chief stole him to do a task. From that day forward, he was a volunteer firefighter. But after that, he had that vision. He did that work. He went up to the fire college. He recognized a gap in the recognition of firefighters across the province, and the memorial that was put in Gravenhurst was the first firefighter memorial in Canada. We’re so happy in Orangeville to have it moving here. Dan’s connection

makes it very important.”

Snider also thanked the provincial government for its support of firefighters and said the funding has helped departments manage rising costs while addressing health, safety and cancer prevention.

Speaking on behalf of the Town of Orangeville, Lisa Post said the community was honoured to welcome the memorial, while recognizing that its significance extends far beyond the town itself.

“On behalf of the town of Orangeville, I just can’t tell you how honoured we are to

welcome the Ontario Firefighters Memorial here to Orangeville,” she said. “This memorial carries an additional significance because of our connection to Dan Little. Nearly four decades ago, Dan was instrumental in bringing this memorial to life, and his vision was rooted in something really simple, but incredibly important: that the service and sacrifice of Ontario’s firefighters deserve to be permanently recognized and remembered.”

“This memorial does not belong to Orangeville. It belongs to firefighters, to families, and to communities across Ontario. We are

simply being entrusted with its care, and we’re honoured to be able to do that. It’s a responsibility that we take with tremendous pride, and there’s something incredibly special just knowing the legacy of Dan Little being back in our community.”

For Orangeville, the Ontario Firefighters’ Memorial is about more than finding it a new home. Nearly four decades after Dan Little started his legacy, the memorial has come full circle — returning to the community where his own journey as a volunteer firefighter began.



David Gauthier
Service Consultant

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



Maurice McDonald
Service Consultant

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



Jazz Matharu
Service Consultant

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



3 Dealerships, 1 Community

The Citizen CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 269110 • Solution on page: CLASSIFIEDS SECTION

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Manila hemp plant
6. Turkish river
10. Something to read
14. In a way, initiated
15. Popular Apple TV series
17. King Charles is part of it
19. Earlier
20. Foot (Latin)
21. Zodiac sign
22. A browning of the skin
23. Remain as is
24. Turf
26. It's used to slaughter animals
29. Volcanic crater
31. The mother of Jesus
32. One's life story
34. One-time Liverpool coach Slot
35. Counterparts
37. Jacob ____ American journalist
38. Digital audiotape

39. River in South Africa
40. Kimono sashes
41. Rooting somewhere
43. American spy Aldrich
45. A way to call for
46. Taxi
47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour
49. Swiss river
50. Popular type of video game (abbr.)
53. Have surgery
57. Formal withdrawal from a union
58. Performs spoken improv
59. Greek war god
60. 2,000 lbs.
61. Helps to evade capture

CLUES DOWN

1. Swedish rock group
2. "Friday Night Lights" director Peter
3. Currency exchange fee
4. Feline
5. Folk singer DiFranco
6. Ghostly pale from distress
7. Rapid eye movements
8. Monetary unit of Macao
9. Lawmakers
10. Colorless mineral
11. At some prior time
12. American protest singer
13. Opener
16. Seldom
18. Relaxing places
22. Touchdown
23. From end to end
24. Kids love him
25. Metal-bearing solid
27. Skin care product manufacturer
28. Thirteen
29. Angry
30. Member of a Semitic people
31. One-thousandth of an inch
33. Former CIA
35. Most lemony
36. Engage in
37. Mass of fish eggs
39. Food supplies
42. Backbones
43. American real estate investment firm
44. Megabyte
46. "Three Coins in the Fountain" songwriter
47. Dutch colonist
48. Full-grown pike fish
49. Emergency prep expert
50. Flute
51. Dismissive sound
52. Slang term for marijuana
53. Young women's association
54. Cosmopolitan city
55. Narrow isthmus in Thailand
56. Pointed end of a pen

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



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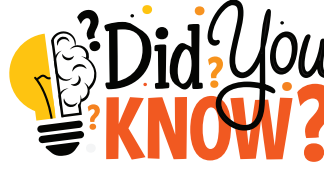
English: Teacher
Spanish: Maestro
Italian: Insegnante
French: Professeur
German: Lehrer

People FACT:

August and September are the months when many children return here.

Answer: School

NEW WORD



Each household spends around \$858 on school supplies and apparel each year.

BACK TO SCHOOL

EDUCATE

give instruction to someone at a school



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: School bus

Authors in the Hills of Mulmur event sells out, draws strong community reception

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

More than 170 people turned out for Authors in the Hills of Mulmur on Sunday, Aug. 23, braving heavy rain to attend the annual literary event.

Held at the Foley Barn in Mulmur, the event brought together authors Terry Fallis, Heather Marshall and Linwood Barclay for an afternoon of conversation about their books, writing processes and lives as authors. The discussion was moderated by Bernadette Hardaker.

Organizer Nancy Frater said that the event was a huge success, describing a full venue and eager attendees.

“Authors in the Hills was fantastic,” she said. “Despite the rain, 170 people trudged out to attend on Sunday. The atmosphere was great; it’s like a group of friends coming together. Everyone looks forward to it. They get to meet everybody and have a chat with everyone, and they love talking to the authors.”

Despite the weather, organizers said the event was sold out more than a month in advance, highlighting the continued interest in the event and its literary programming.

The authors were also able to interact with attendees following the discussion, with questions covering topics ranging from the writing process and finding ideas to artificial intelligence and the authors’ individual backgrounds.

A particularly notable part of this year’s event was the opportunity for attendees to purchase Linwood Barclay’s latest book ahead of its official Canadian release, with

organizers receiving permission to offer copies early to those attending the Mulmur event. Frater said this was a special arrangement, which usually is not allowed to happen in Canada.

“In Canada, you’re not supposed to sell the book until the actual release date,” she said. “But we were lucky; we had permission since Linwood was coming, to sell the book two days earlier. So that was kind. It was very neat that people here could get to be the first to read this.”

Frater said the event has grown into a collaborative community effort involving a committee and volunteers responsible for everything from preparing the venue and organizing food to parking and seating.

She praised the team for its hard work, which helped make Sunday a nearly seamless experience.

“We have a committee of six or seven people, and so it’s not just a one person event,” Frater said. “It’s a committee working together...it’s very collaborative.”

She added, “Someone looks after cleaning the barn, the food, and the volunteers. We have volunteers for Mulmur that set up the chairs and be the parking attendants, so that everything is organized like a fine wheel because you only have three or four hours to pull this event off. It has to be well organized for the people who come, and the authors, and everyone else.”

The annual event continues to draw visitors from across the Headwaters region and beyond, while showcasing Mulmur as a destination for arts and literary events.

Frater credits the event’s beginnings to Mulmur Mayor Janet Horner.



PETE PATERSON PHOTOGRAPHY

MEET THE AUTHORS: Authors in the Hills of Mulmur guest authors, from left, Terry Fallis, Heather Marshall, and Linwood Barclay, pose with their novels during the Sunday event at The Foley Barn. Guests at the sold-out event had opportunities to engage directly with the authors about their books and literature before being treated to food and refreshments during the after-party.

“This event really is the brainchild of Janet Horner,” she said.

“It’s based in Mulmur, so we call it that, but it’s gone far beyond that. We have people coming from all over Headwaters country, and even from the city for this event.”

Although rain dominated much of the

afternoon, the weather eventually cleared around 3 p.m., allowing attendees to head outside and enjoy an ice cream truck.

With such a successful event, from engaged participants to a sold-out venue, organizers are already planning to return with another Authors in the Hills event next year.

Fore Honeywood Golf Classic returns on Sept. 17 in support of Honeywood Arena

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

Local golfers are getting ready to tee off for a good local cause, with the second annual Fore Honeywood Golf Classic – set to raise funds for improvements to the Honeywood Arena.

The tournament will be taking place Thursday, Sept. 17, at Shelburne Golf & Country Club. The event will feature a shotgun start format, with all proceeds going toward upkeep work on the Honeywood Arena, also known as the North Dufferin Community Centre (NDCC).

According to the Township of Mulmur, the arena needs renovations to remain a safe and accessible community space. The facility serves as an essential community space and is the only building of its kind in the area.

“As the sole indoor recreation facility in the township, it serves as a vital hub for community activities,” the town said on its website. “The NDCC features a ball diamond, playground, open space, arena, and the versatile Norduff Room on its second floor. It hosts a variety of sporting practices, games, tournaments, and community events. With plans for a newly renovated facility, the NDCC aims to expand its programs and enhance recreational opportunities for Mulmur and surrounding residents.”

Planned improvements include essential repairs and new change rooms to better serve players and visitors.

Participants in the golf tournament will receive lunch at the turn, a golf cart and a swag bag, along with opportunities to take part in on-course contests and raffles. The event will go ahead rain or shine.

Community support for the fundraiser appears strong. The Township of Mulmur reported in its August newsletter that the tournament was nearly sold out, with just seven foursomes remaining at the time of publication.

Several sponsorship opportunities are also available. The online registration page lists presenting sponsorships, gold sponsorships, swag-bag sponsorships and single-hole sponsorships, as well as individual player registration. A foursome registration and beverage-cart sponsorship were listed as sold out at the time of print.

The golf tournament is one part of a larger community effort to support the future of the Honeywood Arena.

The arena has also been selected as one of the beneficiaries of this year’s Jim Cuddy Jamboree, which takes place Sept. 3 in Mulmur.



For more information or to register for the golf classic, residents and businesses can contact the Township of Mulmur at info@mulmur.ca or 705-466-3341.

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Take Back the Night walk and candlelight vigil returns later this month

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Shelburne residents will have an opportunity to come together against sexual and gender-based violence next month as Family Transition Place (FTP) hold its annual Take Back the Night event in the community for the first time.

The event will take place Thursday, Sept. 17, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Mel Lloyd Centre. The evening will feature guest speakers, community resource tables, a two-kilometre empowerment walk through Shelburne and a candlelight vigil to honour survivors and remember those whose lives have been lost due to gender-based violence. The event is open to community members of all ages, and no registration is required.

Kelly Lee, manager of fund development and communication at FTP, said that while Take Back the Night has been an international movement for decades, FTP and partner organizers wanted to expand their awareness work into another community within their service area.

“Take Back the Night events have been taking place internationally for years, starting back in the 70s,” she said. “So we thought, what a great place to land, and it’s an opportunity for us to expand the awareness piece into a different community that we support.”

The Shelburne event is being organized by FTP in partnership with Dufferin Child and Family Services (DCAFS) and Headwaters Health Care Centre (HHCC). The three organizations work together to support victims and survivors of sexual violence in Dufferin County, and the event will provide an opportunity for all three partners to connect directly with residents.

This marks the first time FTP has hosted its own Take Back the Night event in Shelburne. The organization has historically partnered with Georgian College on initiatives recognizing the event.

Lee said the Mel Lloyd Centre was selected as the venue because of its central location and the number of community services already operating there.

“We have an office in the Mel Lloyd Centre, and there’s other services available through our partnerships in the Mel Lloyd Centre,” she said. “Because it’s such a central location with other services nearby, it’s a good opportunity for us to sort of touch base in that space and in the Shelburne community.”

The event is intended to connect residents with organizations and supports they may not otherwise encounter through a single community gathering.

Attendees will have time at the beginning of the evening to visit information tables, meet community partners and ask questions about available services. Representatives from FTP, DCAFS and HHCC will be present, along with other community organizations connected to the work.

The information component is a significant part of the evening. Organizers want residents to leave with a better understanding of where support is available for people who have experienced sexual violence, as well as information that can help people feel more informed about personal and community safety.

The formal portion of the evening is expected to begin shortly before 6 p.m.

Lee said that guest speakers and partner representatives are likely to speak.

“We’re working on the complement of speakers right now,” she said. “We do know that we’ll have representation from each of

the partners to speak, but we are also looking at survivors to speak about their experiences as well. We have a couple of other things that we’re looking at that are a little bit outside the box beyond guest speakers as well.”

The event will then move outside for a two-kilometre empowerment walk.

The planned route will begin at the Mel Lloyd Centre, travel behind the building and continue through Shelburne. Participants will travel along Jelly Street, cross at Main Street and continue onto Victoria Street before returning to the Mel Lloyd Centre.

“So it works out to be just about two kilometres in a loop,” Lee said. “So we’ll have that opportunity to walk right through the main part of Shelburne, and which brings a little bit of exposure to the event above and beyond just being at Mel Lloyd Centre.”

The walk is rooted in the broader purpose of Take Back the Night, which focuses on challenging concerns about safety in public spaces after dark. While the movement has historically focused heavily on women’s safety, organizers emphasize that safety concerns can affect people across communities.

The evening will conclude with a candlelight vigil, creating space to recognize survivors and remember people who have lost their lives as a result of gender-based violence. The event will also give attendees an opportunity to connect with services and resources available locally.

Organizers are hoping the event will encourage more than awareness for one evening.

“We’re hoping that people walk away a little bit more confident in their community,” Lee said. “And that people are talking about this issue, with the hopes that we can end the cycle of violence and raise awareness about how people are still feeling unsafe, you know, 30, 40, 50 years later after this event started, and

what can we do as a community to talk about what can be done to end this sort of violence.”

The event also aims to encourage broader community conversations about safety and the continued prevalence of sexual and gender-based violence. Organizers acknowledge that the issue has persisted for decades and that communities continue to face the challenge of finding ways to prevent violence and support survivors.

The event could also become an annual fixture in Shelburne.

FTP is committed to continuing Take Back the Night as an annual awareness initiative, with organizers hoping this year’s event can establish a foundation for future gatherings in Shelburne. The success of the venue, route and overall format will help determine how the event develops in future years.

The event is open to everyone, including children, although organizers note that there will not be children’s activities and that the evening will include discussions about sexual violence and safety. Parents and guardians are encouraged to consider the nature of the content when deciding whether to bring younger children.

Take Back the Night will run from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 17, at the Mel Lloyd Centre, 167 Centre St. in Shelburne. No registration is required.

The event is being presented as an opportunity for residents to learn about local support, stand in solidarity with survivors and take part in a visible community effort focused on creating safer spaces in Shelburne and across Dufferin County.

For more information about Take Back the Night and to learn about more community resources, contact Family Transition Place at 519-942-4122 or visit: familytransitionplace.ca

Two Shelburne car washes broken into, police seek public’s help identifying suspects

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers are investigating two break and enters at separate car washes in Shelburne. Investigators believe the same two suspects are responsible for both incidents.

On Aug. 22, between approximately 2:30 a.m. and 3:10 a.m., two males wearing face coverings and gloves attended a car wash on Industrial Road and gained entry by using a power tool to cut through the service door.

Once inside, the suspects gained access to the office and stole cash before using an angle grinder to gain access to a coin machine, where additional cash was stolen.

The suspects also stole tools from a workbench in the service area before leaving the business through a rear service exit.

The investigation determined that the same two suspects then attended a second car wash on Centennial Road between ap-

proximately 3:10 a.m. and 3:30 a.m.

The suspects again used an angle grinder to cut through the service door and gain access to the business. Once inside, they used the same method to gain access to a change machine and stole cash before leaving through the same door they had used to enter.

The suspects are described as two males who were wearing face coverings, dark-coloured work gloves and backpacks. One male was wearing a blue plaid jacket, while the other was dressed entirely in black. One suspect was seen with a bicycle, while the other was carrying a longboard.

The investigation remains ongoing. Anyone with information, including video surveillance or dash camera footage from the area around the time of the incidents, is asked to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122.



SUSPECT IMAGES: Dufferin OPP are seeking help identifying suspects believed to be responsible for break-and-enters at two Shelburne car washes on Aug. 22. Anyone with information, including video surveillance or dash camera footage from the area around the time of the incidents, is asked to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122.







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Ontario provides funding to support Theatre Orangeville’s Summer Young Artist Festival

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

Theatre Orangeville received nearly \$20,000 in provincial funding to support its 2026 Summer Young Artist Festival, creating opportunities for emerging performers while drawing audiences and visitors to downtown Orangeville.

The funding comes through the Province of Ontario’s Experience Ontario 2026 program, and was provided by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Gaming.

The program supports festivals and events that encourage people to explore Ontario communities, build connections and contribute to local economies.

Jennifer Stewart, artistic director of Theatre Orangeville, said programs such as the summer Young Company productions provide young people with more than performance experience.

“Programs like our summer Young Company musical and drama are about so much more than putting on a show,” Stewart said. “They give young people a place to discover what they’re capable of, build confidence, take creative risks and experience the incredible feeling of creating something together. Support from Experience Ontario helps us create these opportunities, while at the same time, inviting audiences to experience the remarkable talent of the next

generation.”

Theatre Orangeville’s summer festival gives young artists the opportunity to work alongside professional theatre practitioners while developing their performance skills and gaining hands-on experience taking a production from rehearsal to the stage.

The festival first launched back in July with the Young Company’s production of Into the Woods, which was very warmly received by audiences over the course of its weekend-long run. Families also gathered at Alexandra Park for KidsFEST, a free community event presented in partnership with the Downtown Orangeville BIA. The morning featured live entertainment, creative activities and opportunities for children and families to engage with the arts.

The festival continued through August with the Young Artists Company production of Ken Ludwig’s Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery, a fast-paced comedic theatrical adaptation of Sherlock Holmes and his famous cases that drew very positive responses from audiences throughout its run.

Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones highlighted the role of arts and cultural programming in strengthening communities and supporting local businesses.

“Our government is proud to support local events and festivals in Dufferin County that foster community connections and support our local economy,” she said. “The



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

FUNDING BOOST: Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones and Theatre Orangeville Artistic Director Jennifer Stewart pose with the ceremonial cheque outside the theatre hall on Broadway. The nearly \$20,000 in funding helped support Theatre Orangeville’s Summer Arts Festival.

funding for Theatre Orangeville’s Summer Young Artist Festival and Young Company programs exemplifies the significant contributions arts and culture programs make to the community, and the unforgettable experiences they create.”

Theatre Orangeville says the provincial investment helps provide valuable opportunities for the next generation of artists while bringing audiences into the community and contributing to Orangeville’s cultural and economic activity.

The Caledon Town Hall Players present three one-act plays spanning romance, intrigue and drama

Written By **CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD**

The Caledon Town Hall Players (CTHP) welcome you to come to their beautiful digression for a couple of hours of theatre goodness.

This time around, not just one but three plays per show, each a one-act play and each quite different from the others.

It seems patrons have asked about, have expressed enthusiasm for such a show, enough

to catch the interest of the committee that chooses what will be on the stage for each season.

So, Kim Blacklock, CTHP artistic director, took the Citizen on the path in a recent inter-

view.

“It’s been 30 years since we’ve done this idea of three one-act plays in one show,” she said. “We’ve had some people asking. It can give a chance for a person wanting to try getting on that stage to try acting. Someone else might like to direct for the first time.”

A one-act play tends to have issues that other plays do not, making the story fit the timing. It can convey powerful emotions and stir deep emotions in a short story.

The old saying praises the one-act play, “one act plays are big stories in small packages.”

Blacklock is not directing this time; she is producing and will enjoy sitting in to watch one of the shows.

To the shows: *A Little Something For The Ducks* by J.L Toddie is a romance between two people in their later years. A minuet, we are told, that is a joy to watch. Starring Mark Ledouceur and Rosanna Armata, who also directs.

The Whole Shebang by Rich Orloff comes to the audience with a question that could easily spoil a tea party.

Continued on Page A12



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The Caledon Town Hall Players present three one-act plays, each with a different story

Continued from Page A11

A student who is desperately chasing a bigger-than-life degree tries to turn a conversation with his professors upside down. Will his precociousness rewrite society's Big Ideas, or will the ancient history in the dusty old books on Professor B's shelves save the day?

Could be a brain twister – fun!

Starring Marg Argall, Rose Brown, Theodore McClelland, Nancy Kopriva and Kevin Wrycraft, the play is directed by Cheryl McClelland.

Third on the program, *Assassin Over Teakettle* by T. Gregory Argall is directed by Joe Rose. Argall's plays are not new to the CTHP stage, and his play will surely include mis-

leading clues and wrong turns for “Corporate Assassin” Natalia. Dire secrets, a small town couple on a holiday they may come to regret, and the inner workings of another small town might stretch this one-act play to its limit.

“We have something for everyone,” said Blacklock, with a chuckle, adding that the sets for each play are completely different from one another. This offers audiences two 15-minute intermissions while the crew makes the changes.

“The submissions were interesting – completely different,” Blacklock commented.

She reminded theatregoers that a company like the CTHP is entirely run by volunteers, and that every cent that comes in goes into running and maintaining the hall. Yet, they still produce theatre that is very well worth

the ticket price.

Volunteering at a theatre is a great background for young people as well – to come and see the show; to be part of it, in a place where there is always something useful to do.

Her opinion: “It's important to come, and it's wonderful when we get new people coming and hearing them say, “I'm coming back.”

“That's what makes it all worth the work,” she said.

For Blacklock, who has been on the stage a number of times, to admit to a steady case of stage fright speaks to her courage as a true thespian. She admits to the nervousness but also to the addiction of being on stage and having the opportunity to bring a story to make people laugh and enjoy.

“It's scary but addictive,” Blacklock said.

Come to see The One Act Showcase; Blacklock invites us. It is a great evening/matinee out, and there are three plays for the price of one. It is also a good cause; to keep affordable yet excellent theatre in the community matters.

“We're coming up to 63 years,” Blacklock issued the amazing news. “People can come out and see a show, and we can keep the light on.”

The one act showcase opens for a matinee Saturday, Sept. 12 and runs over the two weeks to Sept. 19, with dinner theatre both Sept. 12 and 19.

For all the details and tickets, visit: caledontownhallplayers.com/online-ticket-orders/ or call 519-927-5460.

Leisa Way brings music from the past to her new show ‘Get Down Tonight (The Ultimate 70’s Sound Track)’

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

Leisa Way dug deep into 70s music to research her latest show, and she was amazed herself when she began to realize the depth of the decade of music the 1970s actually produced, music that is still so familiar, it is hard to believe the 70s are fifty years ago.

A long time Orangeville resident, delighting audiences here with many of her other shows, “This is the most entertaining show I've done,” Way pronounced in an interview with the Citizen last week.

“When I got into the research, 1971 could have filled a show.”

Way began reaching out to her singers to ask each, “What are your favourites from the 70s?”

Then she found a source, a gem of information and writing the show began organically from suggestion to finish, as she described it. The 70s decade brought such a wide variety of music, from Pink Floyd to Led Zeppelin, Joni Mitchell, and Elton John.

Way commented, “Everybody was defining music differently. It was a time when Country artists moved with pop songs.”

Audiences have already had the pleasure of seeing this show at Port Stanley and other venues.

“They really, really had fun,” she said. “Audiences were singing along with every song – they all had such a good time.”

Happily, *Get Down Tonight* is showing at the Gibson Centre in Alliston next week on Sept. 10. The Centre's press release calls it “An electrifying live concert experience!”

Making the show wonderful with Way are Bruce Ley (piano, electric guitar, lead vocals and many arrangements), John Collin (drums), Mark Dunn (bass & lead vo-

cals), Jeremy Fox (lead guitar and vocals) and Jerome Ransome (lead vocals).

As with so many of Way's iconic shows, she and the band are taking *Get Down Tonight* to other towns. To discover their schedule of shows on their tour now until Oct. 26, you can go to Way-to-go Productions for a full list and how to buy tickets.

Over the years, Way has written, produced, and performed in more than 14 shows delving into the music and life histories of much-loved performers, for sold-out shows in theatres across the country.

Yet, this new show about the 70s has become her own personal favourite for the musical revelations she shares that surfaced during that decade.

In addition, for the first time, Way has introduced a shift in the way she delivers the music and the stories.

Remembering the show is kept at two hours to rejoice in such a choice of songs, Way was determined to give the show to the music.

To illustrate, she talked about the show's opening medley. With all the fresh creativity that was the strength of the time, Way praised the pure craft of how her band sings the demands of the harmony, bringing the history in by their singing it, “What my band has done with these songs, without dropping a beat is just amazing.”

There is a personal aspect to *Get Down Tonight*, for Way. When she was young, early in the 70s, her sister was 12 years older, and Way liked to sit on the floor listening to all the music of Elton John. Way's sister died a few years ago.

She said, “When I started writing the show, I realized how much this music meant to me.”

Bruce Ley has been a major part of all



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BACK TO THE 70s: Leisa Way and the Wayward Wind Band perform Way's newest show, *Get Down Tonight (The Ultimate 70s Soundtrack)*, featuring, from left, Mark Dunn, Jerome Ransome, Leisa Way, Bruce Ley, John Collin and Jeremy Fox. The show comes to the Gibson Centre in Alliston on Sept. 10.

the shows as arranger, vocal, piano and guitar, but last year during a performance of the Gordon Lightfoot show, *Early Morning Rain*, a moment came when he reminded us all of who he really is – a rock star.

Way recalled that during that Lightfoot show Ley sang *Sundown* and, she related, “The audience went crazy!”

To include Lightfoot in the 70s show, Bruce Ley's performance of *Sundown* is a must.

Way remarked, “The audiences just love him. We've worked together for over 20 years now, and this is my favourite moment

on stage with Bruce in all that time.”

Watching this show during rehearsals for three months before their first live show, Way felt so grateful to be in the room.

As to the audience's reaction to this 70s show, she was excited to confirm, “I've never seen audience reaction as I have for this show.”

“My purpose is to bring joy and help people to feel better,” Way said.

“And for young people to know about this music, this particular band understands how much the audience is having so much fun!”

hazardous & electronic waste event COMING SOON!

Date: Saturday, September 19, 2026

Time: 8am-3pm

Location: Mulmur Public Works Yard
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Electronic waste	includes audio equipment, cameras, computers, home entertainment equipment, phones, and household electronic items, including lamps, alarm clocks, microwaves, toasters, and small appliances.
Limitations	No waste from industrial, commercial, or institutional sources. No white goods/large appliances (including any appliances with freon). No garbage, or recycling. No unidentified/unknown materials. No drums of materials.

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

Final event for 2026: October 31

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

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

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Tickets: Adults (15+): \$15 Seniors (65+): \$10
Youths 6 - 14: \$10 Children 5 & Under: FREE

Friday, September 4th 4pm - 11pm

1pm.....4H Dairy Club Show
4pm.....Fair, Midway & Exhibition Hall - OPEN
5-6pm.....Live Entertainment - Sophia Kathe
5:30pm.....Dufferin Wellington Holstein Show
6pm.....Truck & Tractor Pull



Saturday, September 5th 9am - 11pm

9:30am-6pm..Home Craft Exhibition Hall OPEN
10am.....Antique Classic Car Show
Vintage Snowmobile Show & Swap
Sky Ridge Clydesdale Horses/Petting Zoo
Midway Opens • Lego Club • Meet Kathryn Burrell - Author of "Our Orangeville Colouring Book"
10am-6pm....Kids Zone
Wagon Rides & Barrel Train Rides
11am.....Kiddie Tractor Pull - Sign up
11am.....Demo table-Saving Thyme with Margo
12pm.....Lawn Tractor Pull
12-5:30pm...Free Face Painting • Petunia the Clown
1pm.....Kiddie Tractor Pull - Sign up
2pm.....Demo table-Ballantyne Blooms and Bees
2-5:30pm.....Live Entertainment - Guitar's Cadillacs
5:30pm.....Moms Motor Sports Demolition Derby



Sunday, September 6th 9am - 10pm

9:30am-6pm..Home Craft Exhibition Hall OPEN
9:30am.....Miniature Horse Show
10am.....Petting Zoo/Clydesdale Horses • Midway Opens
Meet Kathryn Burrell - Author of "Our Orangeville Colouring Book"
10am-6pm....Kids Zone
11am-6pm....Wagon Rides & Barrel Train Rides
11am.....Kiddie Tractor Pull - sign up
12-5:30pm....Free Face Painting in Ex Hall
12-5:30pm....Petunia the Clown
1pm.....Kiddies Tractor Pull - sign up
2-5:30pm.....Live Entertainment - The Edge 1984
3:30-4pm.....Pie eating Contest - Main Stage
Corn Husking Contest at Stage
5:30pm.....Moms Motor Sports Demolition Derby



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Orangeville Bengals wrap up baseball season with year-end tournament

Written By CHRIS PERROTTE

On the diamond at Springbrook Park, Theo Tuckey of the U9 Gold Pirates is standing at the plate. He already has two outs. Two of his fellow teammates stood on their respective bases waiting in anticipation to be driven home.

His team was down 13-11 against the JJ's Top Technicians. His next swing would win the game. Theo Tuckey hit a walk-off home run to beat the Technicians 14-13. The rest of the Gold Pirates celebrated with Theo after he crossed home plate.

This is just one of the highlights that happened at the Orangeville & Headwaters Minor Baseball Association Year End Tournament on Aug. 29 and 30 to end the season.

In another area of the Springbrook Park, the U11 Gold Pirates scored eight runs in the bottom of the final inning to erase a 6 to nothing deficit to defeat the Purple Bengals 8 to 6.

Springbrook Park was one of the locations where the Year End Tournament was held. Four divisions, U9, U11, U13 and High School all competed for their respective championships.

First-year head coach Mike of the U11 Gold Pirates shares his thoughts on what tournaments like this offer young athletes.

"It's not about wins and loses, it's more about developing these kids and showing them love for the game, the passion and creating friendships and memories that will ultimately be everlasting."

Stephanie Coombes, Coach and Coordinator with the Bengals, expressed what it was like to watch her son Logan play throughout the season for the 11U Carter's Professionals.

"As a parent, watching my son's team this season show up ready to play each and every game, regardless of how the previous game went, was one of the most rewarding parts of the season," said Coombes.

"What started as a group of kids who didn't know each other grew into a team of friends by the end of the season. We watched them work hard, learn to communicate, understand the game, encourage one another, celebrate with high fives and have those memorable conversations on the pitcher's mound about what the best play of action should be. Those moments are what make youth baseball so special."

As the final pitch was thrown, the last bat hit the ball across the field, and the last catch was made, four teams came away victorious in their divisions. The U9 Sky Blue Bengals outscored the Royal Blue Bengals 14-13 to win



JENNY HEDDERSON (SNAPS BY JENNY) PHOTOS

HOMERUN SWING: Theo Tuckey of the U9 Gold Pirartes hits a walk-off home run to defeat JJ's Top Technicians 14-13 at Springbrook Park during the Orangeville & Headwaters Minor Baseball Association Year End Tournament on Aug. 29 and 30.

their division. Team Burtro edged the Maroon Bengals 8-7 to win the U11 Division.

"We simply couldn't miss the opportunity to watch the final game. The teams taking the field were teams we had competed against throughout the season and teams with friends on it. It was a special way to finish the season. Watching two amazing teams battle it out for the championship," said Coombes.

"In the end, we had the privilege of watching the U11 Burtro Team take home the trophy as the 2026 season champions. Congratulations to them on an incredible accomplishment!"

In the 13U Division, Team CAA defeated the Packet Labs 13-11, and the Red Bengals were victorious over the Lime Green Bengals.

As the season ends with friendships made and memories created, the Orangeville Bengals are already looking ahead to rep tryouts beginning Sept. 8 for all ages.

Visit playbaseball.ca for details.



CELEBRATING THE WIN: The U11 team is all smiles after winning their come from behind game against the Purple Bengals.

Dufferin Peel Skating Club prepares for new season with program changes

Written By CHRIS PERROTTE

With a new fall and winter season on the horizon, the Dufferin Peel Skating Club (DPSC) is making fresh changes to its programs to help youth learn to skate.

Starting at the top, former national competitors Amy Broom and Jarret Melanson will take over head coaching and director duties from Patty Lambertus. Lambertus coached Amy for many years leading up to this transition.

A newly created pre-event program and yearly planning are just some of the additional programming tools that will provide

consistent training plans for the athletes attending events.

According to Broom and Melanson, programs provided by the DPSC are very important for young people in the local community.

"The programs offered by DPSC are important to local youth as sport allows youth to build confidence, friendships, and learn valuable transferable life skills that they take with them in life. In terms of athletics alone, our program focuses on building athleticism, which will assist with skating as well as other sports."

DPSC will work in collaboration with the Teen Ranch Ice Corral to offer a Learn to

Skate Program that will run every Monday from Sept. 21 to Nov. 16. This program will help young hockey players work on their balance and agility. It will also provide skills for those interested in figure skating. For skaters looking for fun and fitness, or those new to ice sports, this program will help improve basic skills.

"Skaters who register for our program can expect a fully committed, quality coaching staff dedicated to achieving improvement with all skaters," said Amy and Jarret.

The Teen Ranch Ice Corral is where all programs will be held, including the fall figure skating program, which will run from Sept. 14 to Nov. 13.

To register for Figure Skating and the Learn to Skate programs, visit teenranch.com



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SKATERS ENJOYING THE MOMENT: Dufferin Peel Skate Club's STAR Skaters gather at the Bring On The Fun Event last March in Shelburne. From left: Parker, Olivia, Adelynn, Searsha and Soraya.

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OPINION

Gripping about the void to a soundtrack by The Who

“I’m singing this not because it fits in well / with the chords I’m playing / I can’t pretend there’s any meaning here / Or in the things I’m saying.”

Those are lyrics from The Who’s song Getting in Tune.

Roger Daltrey recently spoke about the ills of social media. He’s the bloke who sang in The Who back in a time when music seemed to matter more, and it had been an important voice in the world, regardless of who was singing.

The Who, for any Generation Zers who aren’t familiar, famously wrote about teenage rebellion, the alienation of youth, and conflict between generations (that’s me, that old man shaking a fist in the air and griping about those kids and their music today). The Who was part of the storied British Invasion of music to North American ears and culture.

Daltrey told an English newspaper that social media has gotten everybody screaming at each other online but nobody’s listening. The new world of social media seems to be, in his eyes, destroying civilization. He likened social media to a platform for people to scream

at each other, but there’s nobody listening even as they’re screaming and being screamed at.

“You can hear it in the street / See it in the dragging feet.”

Those are words from the song Relay. Counting Likes and smiling emojis on social media posts and tallying so-called friends, even though many are people that haven’t been spoken to in years, is being content in the online world even though it means dragging feet in the real world.

Daltrey said social media is destroying civilization. I don’t know about that, but disillusionment has filled the chasm between the promise or hope of technology and how we’re using it.

It’s become difficult to even detect tone. Once you could hear through the nuance of language some of the meaning of what’s said. But all that’s lost now in the shortly worded blurbs that pass for communicating. The emoji hieroglyphics lack what’s conveyed by a human voice and what’s highlighted by a furrowed brow or a look in the eyes.

“Freedom tastes of reality/I’m free, I’m free/And I’m waiting for you to follow me”

Those are lines from the song I’m Free off the album Tommy. And it’s best heard on the Live at the Fillmore East 1968 album.

The rise of vastly improved technology was lauded as a means to free information and expanded horizons. I don’t mean this to be a Ted Kaczynski screed against technology, but people have become more alienated even as we were supposed to have been brought closer through an immediacy of contact afforded by social media.

“Don’t cry, don’t raise your eyes/It’s only teenage wasteland.”

I recently read something. And-gasp-it was found on the internet.

“The iPhone launched in 2007, when the oldest Gen Zers were 10,” according to the PEW Research Centre. “By the time they were in their teens, the primary means by which young Americans connected with the web was through mobile devices, Wi-Fi and high-bandwidth cellular service. Social media, constant connectivity and on-demand entertainment and communication are innovations Millennials adapted to as they came of age.

“For those born after 1996, these are largely assumed.”

The report went further: Recent research has shown dramatic shifts in youth behaviours, attitudes and lifestyles – both positive and concerning – for those who came of age in this era.

“What we don’t know is whether these are lasting generational imprints or characteristics of adolescence that will become more muted over the course of their adulthood. Beginning to track this new generation over time will be of significant importance.

“I’m happy when life’s good, and when it’s bad I cry/I got values but I don’t know how or why”

That’s from the song The Seeker. What’s sought is your soul in a darkening world. One’s identity, I suppose, or a place in the world. That’s something that spans the generations. Here’s another lyric that suits the argument that society missed its mark with social media: “Meet the new boss/Same as the old boss.”

That’s Won’t Get Fooled Again. Yeah, only if.



JAMES MATTHEWS
THE BUSTLE IN THE HEDGEROW

Nancy Roman Telescope

Last Sunday (Aug. 30) a Falcon Heavy rocket delivered the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope onto a direct transit trajectory to its permanent home at the Lagrange Two Point (L2) 1.5 million km. from Earth. In 100 days, it will reach its station, power up, and start observing the universe.

Astronomers will use it to try to understand the nature of dark matter, which makes up most of the mass in the universe (but some say may not even exist).

It is expected to find up to 100,000 new exoplanets circling other stars, and may be able to spot ones even smaller than Mars. Current methods can only see much bigger ones.

It will test a new technology called a coronagraph that may one day be able to detect life on some of those planets by analyzing the light reflected from them. It would be nice to have a better answer to scientist Enrico Fermi’s famous question “Where is everybody?”

The Nancy Roman telescope reflects well on the human race and particularly on the United States, which has devoted a great deal of money over several generations to seeking scientific answers to such questions. However, it cannot be denied that there is another side to the

coin.

We are marking a couple of anniversaries this month. It has now been four and a half years since Russian president Vladimir Putin launched an unprovoked surprise invasion of Ukraine, and half a year since U.S. president Donald Trump launched an equally unprovoked surprise attack on Iran.

The ‘anniversary’ device is a bit shabby, admittedly, but it is justified because the other parallels between the men are so strong. Both launched their attacks in the confident but utterly ignorant expectation that victory would come in days or a few weeks at most. Both are now trapped in wars that they cannot win, but also cannot find an exit from.

Quibbles are always possible about such sweeping statements, of course. Putin would certainly lose power and probably lose his life if he gave up his war now, but Trump could still ‘declare a victory’ and walk away intact. Only his overweening pride keeps him looking desperately for a ‘win’ that is not available.

There’s nothing new about this kind of behaviour. History offers us hundreds of examples, and if you could expand your sample to include the numberless little groups of hunter-gatherers who fill our

long-forgotten pre-history then you would probably find hundreds of thousands of scaled-down examples of the same sort of behaviour.

In fact, primatologists are now finding similar behaviours, even the same apparent psychology, in our closest biological relatives, the chimpanzees (who also fight wars). But let’s stick with humans, and admit that a great deal of our culture still derives from our long hunter-gatherer past.

Well, of course it does! How could it ever have been different? It’s perfectly legitimate to visualize Trump and Putin as scantily clad warriors with bones in their noses, as long as you remember that there’s an invisible bone in your nose too. Moving from tiny bands to big civilizations was probably a good idea, but there was bound to be a lot to sort out.

There has even been a suggestion that we are now encountering the Great Filter, the notion that intelligent civilizations may emerge on many planets in a universe with so many bazillions of stars, but that most of them are too weighed down by the baggage of their past to adapt to their new circumstances.

It doesn’t have to be a specifically ‘hunter-gatherer’ past, but every intelli-

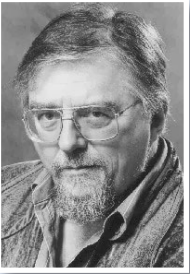
gent species (if any) must have a pre-civilized past before it develops a civilization. If it retains some behaviours that were useful in that past but are potentially lethal in a high-tech civilization, then the Filter takes them out.

Our own now-almost-global civilization is in a multi-generational transition from what you might call Late Hunter-Gatherer (human sacrifice, slavery, nuclear weapons) to something more appropriate to our current state of knowledge and social skills. It’s only natural that almost everything comes as a mixed bag.

Like the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope, for instance. Its origin was a project for the US National Reconnaissance Office for a new spy satellite that would practically be able to read a newspaper from orbit – typical H-G stuff. A number of prototypes were built before the project was cancelled in 2005.

Soon afterwards, the NRO told NASA that it had some high-resolution optical telescope hardware available for free. NASA said yes, please, and \$4 billion and twenty years later there it is.

Everything is mixed. Don’t despair.



GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY

The night of the silver corvette

One early autumn evening when I was still in high school, I had just gotten out of the Friday night late movie at the theatre on the main drag. With nothing else happening in town that night that I knew about, I was thinking about heading home. Dad had let me have the car to go out in that night, so I couldn’t be out very late anyway.

As I was walking down Main Street toward the family car, a very fancy vehicle pulled up alongside me. It was a sleek, silver-grey Corvette Stingray with classic ’70s lines — the kind of cool car you didn’t normally see on the streets of my little town. It stopped beside me, and the passenger window rolled down. I was surprised to hear someone call me by name! When I bent down to look inside, I was even more surprised to discover that it was being driven by one of my high school friends.

He had just recently bought the car and was itching to show it off. With an ear to ear grin on his face, he said, “What do you think of my new car, Keith?” It’s hard to remain nonchalant when you’re face to face with a car that cool! I was very impressed and told him so.

Beaming with pride and excitement, and bursting to show it off, he asked, “Want to

go for a ride?” Wow — was he kidding? He didn’t have to ask me twice.

After I climbed in, we went for a ride around town. Still beaming, he took great pride in showing me all the toys the car had: tilt and telescoping steering, power windows, adjustable power seats, air conditioning, and a top notch stereo system for the day. Hey, if I had a car that cool in high school, I’d want to show it off to my pals too!

Interestingly enough, most of the fancy bells and whistles on that high end car were things we now take for granted in the average car today. But back then, this was all unaffordable automotive luxury far out of reach of the average buyer.

I had never seen any of this stuff before in any of the cars I had been in at the time and was duly impressed.

My buddy was so proud of his car he was practically strutting in the seat, and I can’t say I blame him. He put in long hours in a summer job and worked part time on week-ends throughout the school year.

He probably had to scrimp and save every nickel he made to acquire a vehicle of that stature. He’d bought the car used, but it still had the sleek lines and classic nose of the 1970s Corvette Stingray.

The Corvette was still the king of the cool cars back then, and this was one of those cars many guys dreamed of, but few could afford. Plus, a car like this was great for picking up chicks. My buddy even said that some girls accepted dates from him just so they could go for a ride in his Corvette! Hey, whatever works, right?

He was a true car guy, changing cars in school like some guys changed socks — moving up to a cooler car every time he bought something else — until he finally reached the pinnacle of cool car ownership with the Corvette we were riding in that night.

He was on top of the cool car world, and I could appreciate how he felt. I wasn’t really a car guy myself, but I could appreciate what he had achieved in high school. For me back then, it was enough if I could talk Dad into letting me borrow our old land yacht to go into town on Friday nights.

For many guys, there is always that one special car that will forever be number one in their hearts — not because it was the best car they ever had, but simply because it was one of the first.

The first car they ever drove, the first car they ever owned, the first car they ever

worked on, the first car they ever took a date to the drive in movies in, and so on.

You never forget your first car. But in my buddy’s case, he started at the top of the cool car world. One of the first cars he ever had in high school just happened to be one of the coolest cars in the world at the time.

Looking back on it now, that night in high school was the only Corvette ride I ever had in my life. And because I had never gone cruising in a car that cool before, I remember it like it was yesterday.

As for my buddy — once a car guy, always a car guy. I lost touch with him after high school, but I recently heard through the grapevine that he built a lifetime career out of selling regular cars to regular people at a non Corvette dealership. But if you do what you love, as he did, you will never have to work a day in your life. I hope he did well.

And every now and then, that lone Corvette ride with my buddy still drifts back to me as a happy high school memory from an autumn long gone.



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COMMUNITY VOICES

Hunger Action Month highlights growing need across Dufferin

Orangeville Food Bank joins Feed Ontario in urging residents to make hunger a priority this municipal election

As more people than ever before turn to food banks for help, Orangeville Food Bank and Dufferin Food Share are marking Hunger Action Month by encouraging residents to learn more about what's driving hunger in their community and how to support lasting solutions.

Hunger exists in every community in Ontario, including Dufferin County, where high rental rates and the cost of living are making it harder for people to afford their basic necessities. As a result, more children, adults, seniors, and working people need to turn to food banks for support.

Across the province, over 1,001,105 unique individuals accessed a food bank last year — a 25 per cent increase over the prior year and an 86 per cent increase since pre-pandemic levels — with 7,689,580 total visits, representing a 31 per cent jump. Nearly one in three food bank clients today is a child, and 70 per cent live in market-rent housing they can no longer afford. We're seeing that same growth reflected lo-



cally, in both Orangeville and Grand Valley. At the same time, our capacity is being tested. Food donations were down 10 per cent this past year as our community's own capacity to give was squeezed by the cost of living, so we purchased more non-perishables to keep up, with our food purchasing up by 50,000 lbs. In total, we received, sorted, packed, and distributed 769,000 lbs. of food last year.

"Hunger exists in every community in Ontario, but it doesn't have to be this way," said Carolyn Stewart, CEO of Feed Ontario. "Record-high food bank use isn't

about food; it's a sign that more people can no longer afford their basic necessities. Hunger Action Month is an opportunity to better understand why so many people are struggling to make ends meet and to have important conversations about how we can work together to build stronger, healthier communities."

"Every day, we meet people who never imagined they would need a food bank. As more families, seniors, and working people struggle with the rising cost of living, we must pair compassion with action. We cannot donate our way out of this

crisis; ending hunger requires bold policy solutions, including affordable housing, stronger income supports, and leaders prepared to address food insecurity," said Heather Hayes, executive director of the Orangeville Food Bank and Dufferin Food Share.

With municipal elections just around the corner, Hunger Action Month is also an opportunity for local residents to learn more about hunger in their community and to ask local candidates how they will make life more affordable and work to reduce hunger in Dufferin County.

Throughout September, Orangeville Food Bank & Dufferin Food Share will be participating in Hunger Action Month by hosting two community events and bringing local data on food insecurity directly to Council. On Sept. 10, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., we are hosting an all-Candidates Information Night for community members.

Continued on Page B9

Orangeville Public Library offers tools for learning as students return to school

Back-to-school season brings plenty of excitement to September. The days begin to feel different, routines return, and a new energy fills our community. Whether you are heading into a classroom or simply noticing the change of season, you may feel ready to learn something new.

At Orangeville Public Library, we are coming into the school year after a wonderful summer. A record-breaking number of children and families registered for our TD Summer Reading Club. That matters because summer reading is not just a pleasant way to pass an afternoon. It helps children maintain their skills, build confidence, and return to school seeing reading as something they choose themselves. We loved welcoming this energy at the library all summer.

Of course, the library's support for learning does not end when the backpacks come out.

Reading and literacy remain at the heart of what we do, and our staff is always happy to help a young reader find the right one.



Sometimes that means a favourite series; sometimes a graphic novel, a book about dinosaurs, or a story that is slightly easier or more challenging than the last one. The right book is the one a child wants to open.

We also have a few less traditional tools. Wonderbooks look like regular print books but include a built-in audiobook, so children can listen while following along with the text. Launchpads are borrowable tablets preloaded with reading activities, stories, and games. They do not require internet access, and everything on them has been

selected with learning in mind. Both can be especially useful for children who benefit from hearing, seeing, and doing at the same time.

Our digital library can help, too. Libby offers ebooks and audiobooks for all ages, while TumbleBookLibrary brings picture books and read-alongs to life with narration, animation, and sound. If the difficult part is deciding what to read next, NovelList can suggest books based on titles or authors you already enjoy. There is also a version designed for children, which lets families search by age, interest, and reading level.

Learning online also means knowing how to judge what we find there. Kermode Education, available through the library's online Learning and Research collection, helps families, students and lifelong learners build media literacy skills and think more carefully about the accuracy, bias and trustworthiness of online information. That feels especially useful at a time when young minds are overwhelmed with online information and misinformation. Kermode helps build a skill

set that helps us determine whether what we are reading or seeing is correct.

And back-to-school learning is not only for school-aged members of the community. University students, job seekers, people returning to work and those simply curious about a new skill can use LinkedIn Learning for free with a library card. It includes thousands of video courses on business, technology, Microsoft software, photography, design, and many other topics. You can work through a full course or watch one short lesson to solve the problem directly in front of you.

Fall programs are also on the way. Keep an eye on our website, social media, and events calendar as the schedule is released. There will be opportunities to read, make, explore and connect at both Mill Street and Alder.

The start of school can be exciting, daunting, hectic, and sometimes all three. Your library card can help by providing access to books, technology, and learning tools for a successful school year.

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Peel-Dufferin’s annual Plowing Match marks 99 years today

Written By **KATHRYN FRASER**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Today (Sept. 3), the Peel-Dufferin Plowmen’s Association with host the 99th Annual Plowing Match hosted at Drummearl Farm.

The event was last hosted at Drummearl Farm in 1977, and the Peel-Dufferin Plowmen’s Association is excited to welcome back members of the community and competitors for this event.

Registration to compete at the event will take place at 8:30 a.m. and finish at 9:30 a.m. before the first competition begins at 9:45 a.m. after classes have been drawn. Entry fees for all classes are \$5 and participants are only allowed to enter one class.

The competition for classes one to nine will take place starting at 9:45 a.m. with a quick break for a barbecue lunch starting at 11 a.m. and then the competitions will resume at 1 p.m. to be completed for 2 p.m.

Those looking to compete in horse plowing will be placed in class one in either the Jointers Plow, Sulky Plow or Youth for

those that are under 21.

Tractors will be placed in classes two to ten and will be separated between the following sections:

- Class 2 Tractors – Mounted Plows. Utility Open Opening split required.
- Class 3 Tractors – Mounted Plows. Utility. Two or three furrows. Open to all who have not reached their 21st birthday. Opening split required.
- Class 4 Tractors – Utility. Open. Three or more furrows. Furrows not less than 14in. Time: 3 hours per acre. No handling permitted. Opening split required.
- Class 5 Antique Trail Plow. Open. Antique Tractor. Opening split required. Sponsored by Salford Farm Machinery
- Class 6 Antique Mounted Plow Antique Tractor. Opening split required. 2 or 3 furrow. Sponsored by Salford Farm Machinery
- Class 7 Garden Tractor. Open 1 furrow. Operator must be minimum 10 years of age.
- Class 8 Antique Single Furrow Mounted
- Class 9 Lady’s Open Sponsored by: Heather Little Royal LePage Realty
- Class 10 Open

In addition to these classes there will also be two other classes that participants have the chance to compete in.

The Mayor’s Invitational is class 11 and each competitor placed in the class will have the chance to plow two rounds with provided equipment.

The Queen of the Furrow is class 12 and is open to all Peel and Dufferin residents between the age of 17 to 30 years old. Selection for Queen of the Furrow is based on plowing skills and ability, a short quiz, an interview with the judges and a 3-minute speech.

There are a number of prizes that the Queen of the Furrow Contestants will be able to compete to win including The Barbara Cunningham Trophy, a sash, tiara and case as well as monetary prizes including the Branch Associate Special of \$100 and the Peel Mutual Insurance Company prize of \$300.

The Queen of the Furrow plowing for Class ten and eleven will take place from 9:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Many cash prizes will be up for grabs in

each class with their own monetary amount. The 1st prize winner for Horse Classes will take home \$250, 2nd will get \$225 and all remaining contestants will receive \$200.

For classes two to ten 1st place will take home \$175, 2nd place will take home \$165 and 3rd place will take home \$155 while the remaining contestants will receive \$145.

There will also be a number of other awards for those competing such as best plowed land, youngest competitor, best plowed land by an amateur and many more.

Glen Early, President of the Peel-Dufferin Plowmen’s Association, says he is excited for this upcoming event and is grateful for those that have supported the program.

“This plowing match is a celebration of agriculture, friendship and the many traditions that continue to support rural life in our community,” says Early.

“We know how much time and effort goes into making a day like this possible and we are sincerely thankful to everyone who has played a part in organizing and preparing for this event. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.”

Panel discussion at GoodLot Farm highlights impact of women in agriculture

Written By **KATHRYN FRASER**
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Members of the Caledon community attended the Women in Food and Agriculture event on Aug. 25, hosted at GoodLot Farm.

The event featured a panel discussion with five women farmers who took to the stage to share their experiences, celebrate, and talk about the importance of women in agriculture.

The United Nations has declared 2026 the International Year of the Woman Farmer, a global initiative that recognizes women’s essential contributions to the agrifood systems and drawing attention to the challenges that they have and continue to face in this role.

Panellists included Jeannette French from Lennox Farm in Melancthon, Amy Ouchterlony from Fiddle Foot Farm in Mulmur, Karen Hutchinson from Albion Hills Community Farm in Caledon, Val Steinman from Heartwood Farm in Erin and Gail Winters from GoodLot Farm and GoodLot Farmstead Brewing Co. in Caledon.

While each farm is unique and has their own different crops, products, programs, and ways of running, the panellists provided a variety of insights not on what each farm has to offer but also what it means for them to be female farmers and what

they hope to see in the next generation of women in agriculture.

From 500-acre vegetable farms to community gardens, regenerative farming, agricultural events and on-farm craft brewery, the panellist conversation explored many topics including the roles women farmers have as food producers, mothers, teachers, community builders, and stewards of the land.

The panel was moderated by In the Hills Magazine Publisher Tralee Pearce who asked the panelist several questions and moderated the Q&A session after the panel discussion.

Money raised for this event will go towards Headwaters Food and Farming Alliance’s Farm to School Program, which has been providing food and farming education to elementary students throughout the Dufferin County and Caledon area for the last decade.

Before the panel, attendees are participants were provided light refreshments and a complimentary drink. All food and drinks were provided by Crowded Table and Carney Country Catering.

One important conversation during the panel was about the challenges that are faced as a woman farmer and panellists said they were often asked where the farmer is, or look for their husbands when they are farmers as well.

“Whenever someone has a question, they

always look for the farmer and I’m standing right there and they ask, like, ‘where’s your husband?’ and it’s taken me a long time to feel confident enough to know that I am the farmer and although my husband and I work as a team and we need to work together, we all have different skill sets. Until we acknowledge all of those different skill sets and how important they are, then we won’t be acknowledged as the farmer,” said Jeanette French.

The panel also discussed the term “farmer’s wife” and how we have come a long way from using it as a label.

“I like that we’re a long way from the term ‘farmer’s wife’. It’s never been a term I adopted and there’s a woman here who told me, ‘Farmer’s wife – that’s BS. We knew my mom was running the show’ and I love that line”, said Amy Ouchterlony.

Looking to the future, all the panelists expressed their hope for the next generation, continuing the work that has been done, and bringing more women into farming.

“I’m connecting a lot with younger people and younger women, so I do feel the gravity of being in that role now of speaking to people who might be wanting to get into farming,” said Steinman. “I think if I were to sum it up, I’d say, ‘Good on you. Follow your heart,’ and, ‘It’s not going to be easy, it’s going to be a wild ride,’ and reach out and connect with others who are

carrying that same passion and concern, because it’s countercultural, and it’s really important.

“I would just, again, reinforce that we need to be rebuilding or rural communities to support farmers of all types, because farmer mental health is a massive national crisis, and it’s all the same stuff that’s needed to nurture new farmers to support farmers of all kinds in our communities. We can do this by building stronger communities and being curious together.”

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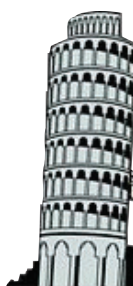
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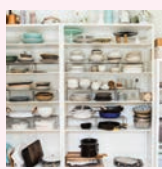
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Community Voice: Hunger Action Month highlights growing need

Continued from Page B3

Later this fall, on a date to be confirmed, we will host a Local Candidates Forum, where individuals with lived experience of food insecurity will have the opportunity to ask local candidates direct questions ahead of the municipal election. Executive Director Heather Hayes will also present as a delegation to local councils, sharing local data on how food insecurity is affecting the region and requesting council’s support to help address the growing need.

Community members can also get in-

- volved by:
- Attending the All-Candidates Information Night on Sept. 10 (6 to 7:30 p.m.) to learn more about the municipal election.
 - Learning about hunger in their area by using Feed Ontario’s new “Hunger in My Community” tool: feedontario.ca/hunger-in-my-community
 - Supporting their local food bank through donations or volunteering.
 - Asking municipal election candidates how they plan to reduce hunger and poverty.

About Hunger Action Month

Hunger Action Month is an annual province-wide campaign led by Feed Ontario and food banks across the province to raise awareness about food insecurity. Throughout September, communities across the province come together to learn more about hunger, support local food banks, and advocate for longterm solutions that reduce food insecurity and poverty.

About Orangeville Food Bank & Dufferin Food Share

Orangeville Food Bank & Dufferin Food

Share provides emergency food assistance and food security programming to residents of Orangeville and Dufferin County, including Grand Valley.

Formed through the amalgamation of the Orangeville Food Bank and the Grand Valley Food Bank, the organization works with community partners, donors and volunteers to ensure that no one in our region goes without food.

This week's Community Voice Column was provided by Carol Maitland, fund development specialist for the Orangeville Food Bank.

Dufferin OPP charge three motorists with impaired driving-related offences

Dufferin Detachment Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged three motorists with impaired driving-related offences following separate incidents.

On Aug. 27,, at approximately 8:35 p.m., officers responded to a traffic complaint in the area of Elizabeth Street in Orangeville. The caller reported concerns that the driver may have been impaired and was operating the vehicle in an unsafe manner.

Officers attended the area and located the vehicle. During their interaction with the driver, officers initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Bhupinder Singh, 56, from Orangeville, has been charged with:

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



- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Dangerous operation
- Possess more than one licence

On Aug. 29, at approximately 1:51 p.m., officers responded to a traffic complaint in the area of 20 Sideroad and Highway 10 in Mono.

Officers located the vehicle at a retail mar-

ket on Highway 10 and attempted to speak with the driver. During their interaction with the driver, officers observed signs of impairment and initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Elizabeth Merante, 62-year-old, from Mono, has been charged with:

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

On Aug. 30, at approximately 2:30 p.m., officers were conducting a Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) program in the area of Broadway and Third Street in Orangeville when a vehicle entered the RIDE program.

During their interaction with the driver,

officers observed signs of impairment and initiated an impaired driving investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Hunter Minns, 22, from Amaranth, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)
- Driving motor vehicle with open container of liquor
- Driver - fail to properly wear seat belt

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

In addition, the individuals’ driver’s licences were suspended and the vehicles were impounded.

The listed charges have not been proven in court.

Traffic complaint results in impaired driving charges over a month after incident occurred

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers charged two individuals following a traffic complaint in Orangeville.

On Saturday, July 11, shortly after 10 p.m., officers responded to a complaint of a vehicle being driven in an unsafe manner in the area of Highway 10 and Hockley Valley Road before pulling into a residential driveway. Officers attended the residence and initiated an investigation.

On Friday, August 14, 2026, two people were charged in relation to this investigation.

Patrick McFadyen, 20, of Hillsburgh, was charged with:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol
- Failure or refusal to comply with demand
- Dangerous operation

The accused was issued an automatic

90-day driver’s licence suspension, and the vehicle was impounded for seven days.

Daniel McFadyen, 54, of Orangeville, was charged with obstructing a peace officer.

Both accused are scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville on Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2026.

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.



County of Dufferin shares holiday closures and service impacts ahead of Labour Day weekend

Written By **SAM ODROWSKI**

Dufferin County residents are being reminded of changes to local services ahead of the Labour Day holiday on Monday, Sept. 7.

Dufferin County administrative offices will be closed Monday and will reopen Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 8:30 a.m.

Waste collection will also be affected by the holiday. There will be no residential waste collection on Monday, with garbage, blue carts and green bins collected one day later than the regular schedule.

Residents will be able to double up on garbage collection the following week by placing up to two untagged garbage bags at the curb.

Residents who experience a missed residential recycling collection can call 1-877-426-4351. For all other missed collections, residents can contact GFL at 1-888-941-3345, ext. 1.

Residents can also download the Dufferin Waste app on Apple and Android devices for weekly collection reminders, alerts and updates about special collections and events.

The Dufferin County HART Hub at the Edelbrock Centre will remain open on Labour Day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Clients can access services through Door B by calling the number posted at the entrance, after which staff will provide access to the building.

Tenants living in Dufferin County Community Housing buildings can call 519-941-8221 for after-hours emergency maintenance issues.

Emergency shelter options and other resources are also available within Dufferin County for anyone experiencing home-

lessness. Information about emergency housing services and resources is available through the county website.

EarlyON centres in Dufferin County will be closed Monday and will not offer programs that day. Families can leave messages through social media or the Ask EarlyON phone line at 519-938-0559.

Messages will be answered Tuesday, Sept. 8.

Residents are encouraged to plan ahead for the holiday and check their waste collection schedule to ensure materials are placed at the curb on the appropriate day.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Response to Gwynne

Always a good read.

Gwynne's most recent column brought to mind the geography of slavery throughout the world.

Slaves existed in almost every region, with the exception of the Western Hemisphere in

the area of the Arctic Circle.

Tribes defeated other tribes and took women and children as domestics or for animal husbandry.

Sure, it became more commercial as areas became more united, but the process is as old

Dyer’s “Africa: Getting history wrong” column (Aug. 27)

as man’s attempt to overcome.

Interesting that the peoples of the now-Canadian Northern Territories lived together and did not apparently attempt to take over other tribes, but rather assisted when required.

I don’t have the bibliography for this, only

readings of books printed prior to the Second World War.

Respectfully,
Bernie Lynch
Orangeville

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

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

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OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

HAROLD ELDON RITCHIE

Peacefully at Toronto Western Hospital on Sunday, August 23, 2026 at the age of 84. Beloved husband of 60 years to Margaret. Devoted father of Dave (Laura), Steve (Kim) and Susan (Dave). Proud grandfather of Tanner (Rachel), Lucas (Alexis), Jake (Keyra), Alyson, Rylan, Ella, Blair and Lyla and great-grandfather of Ashlyn. He will be lovingly remembered by his extended family and friends.

Harold was always active in the community, overseeing the care of the Honeywood Cemetery, supporting the Honeywood Arena and serving as a volunteer firefighter for over 30 years.

A Celebration of Life will be held in the Norduff Room at the Honeywood Arena on Sunday, September 27, 2026 from 1-5 p.m. If desired, donations to the Honeywood Arena (cheques made payable to the Township of Mulmur) or the Honeywood Firefighters Association would be appreciated as expressions of sympathy. Online condolences may be placed at www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com

DONNA MARIE PATTERSON

Donna Patterson of Meaford passed away peacefully surrounded by family at Brightshores-Meaford Hospital on Friday, August 21, 2026 at the age of 85.

Born in Listowel on July 3,1941, a daughter of the late James and Muriel (nee Buchanan) Petrie.

She will be sadly missed by her beloved husband Jim Patterson. She was the kindhearted mother of Ken Patterson and Dave Patterson (Jodie) and proud Grandma of Connor.

Donna will be lovingly remembered by her sister Maureen Houston, brother Bob Petrie, and was predeceased by brothers Ken and Bill Petrie. She will be fondly remembered by sister-in-law Elizabeth Austin (Bill), the extended Patterson family and many nieces and nephews and their families.

Donna met Jim at the Listowel Highschool when she was just 14 years old. They were married at the Donegal United Church, October 7, 1961.

The couple initially moved to Toronto for a brief time, then to Maple, Ontario. Their sons Ken and Dave were born in 1963 and 1965 respectively. They lived in Rexdale before moving to Mono Township in 1977, and finally to Meaford in 2000.

Donna spent much of her career in medical administration in both Rexdale and Meaford, she also worked with the family business, Cedarport Window and Door Centre Inc., for many years and in new home sales in Orangeville. She was well liked and respected, Donna established special relationships with people no matter where she was working; people knew she liked them by her demeanor and genuine interest in them.

She also enjoyed many years at the cottage with friends and family, leaving lifelong memories of the best of times.

A special thank you to Phyllis Huffman, Scott and Nora Clock, Kelly Dinsmore and Diane Scott for the support and care provided to both Donna and Jim during this challenging time.

Donna will be greatly missed but will never be forgotten.

A Celebration of Donna's Life will be held on Friday, September 18 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Meaford Hall in The Galleries. Tributes will be shared at 2 o'clock. Family and friends are welcome to gather to share memories and refreshments.

As your expression of sympathy, donations to the Brightshores Meaford Hospital Foundation would be appreciated and may be made through the Ferguson Funeral Home, 48 Boucher St. E., Meaford, ON N4L 1B9 to whom arrangements have been entrusted.

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