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DECEMBER  
2<sup>ND</sup>**

**GIVING  
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# GIVING TUESDAY

**TUESDAY,  
DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>**

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*Bethell Hospice Foundation*  
*Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin & District*  
*Caledon Meals on Wheels*  
*Choices Shelter & Support Services*  
*Dufferin Arts Council*  
*Dufferin Child & Family Services*  
*Dufferin Community Foundation*  
*Dufferin Film Festival*  
*Family Transition Place*  
*Headwaters Communities In Action (HCIA)*  
*Headwaters Health Care Foundation*  
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*Orangeville & District Animal Centre (SPCA)*  
*Orangeville Food Bank*  
*Parent Support Network*  
*Pine River Institute*  
*Rotary Club of Shelburne*  
*Scientists in School*  
*Share the Bounty*  
*Shelburne Food Bank (Shepherd's Cupboard)*  
*SHIP (Services & Housing in the Province)*  
*Streams Community Hub*  
*Theatre Orangeville*  
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SAM ODROWSKI PHOTO

**WORKING TOGETHER:** The Orangeville Citizen has partnered with the Orangeville Food Bank and Dufferin Food Share to create the Festive Giving Cards Campaign. The cards are available in denominations of \$25, \$50, or \$100 and can be purchased as a gift for someone who is difficult to shop for over the holidays. The Citizen covered the printing costs for the Festive Giving Cards, so 100 per cent of proceeds raised through the campaign can be directed to the food bank. Citizen General Manager Doug Rowe (left) and Carrie-Anne DeCaprio of the Orangeville Food Bank hold up some of the donations the Citizen dropped off at the food bank last Tuesday. Meanwhile, Janine Taylor (centre) from the Citizen, who also serves as Orangeville Hollyfest event manager, holds up a handful of Festive Giving Cards. These cards are available at the Orangeville Food Bank (3 Commerce Rd.), Orangeville Citizen (10 First St.), and the inaugural HollyFest, hosted indoors at the Orangeville Fairgrounds (247090 Sideroad 5, Mono) on Nov. 22 and 23.

# Festive Giving Program at HollyFest supports local food bank's fight against food insecurity

Written By **SAM ODROWSKI**  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

As the holidays draw closer, many people struggle to find the perfect gift for everyone on their Christmas shopping list. They may ask themselves, "What should I buy for someone who has everything?"

Well, the Orangeville Food Bank and Dufferin Food Share have the perfect answer to that question – the gift of charity.

This holiday season, they've launched the Festive Giving Campaign in partnership with the Orangeville Citizen, running now until Dec. 31. The initiative offers Festive Giving Cards in denominations of \$25, \$50, or \$100, which are purchased as a donation to the food bank and can be gifted to friends, family or coworkers, in their honour.

These cards can be found at the Orangeville Food Bank (3 Commerce Rd.), Orangeville Citizen (10 First St.), and the inaugural HollyFest, hosted indoors at the Orangeville Fairgrounds (247090 Sideroad 5, Mono). Organized by the Orangeville Citizen, HollyFest is a curated market featuring over 100 amazing

vendors, and runs this Saturday, Nov. 22, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 23, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. While the event is free to attend, cash, non-perishable food donations and purchases of the Festive Giving Cards are encouraged.

"If you live in this community and want to give back, this is a really great way of doing it," said Carrie-Anne DeCaprio, donor engagement and outreach manager at the Orangeville Food Bank. "Even if you're not going to stop by and purchase one of the cards, stop by our booth, check them out, and have a conversation with us. We just love talking to people about what's happening at the food bank. It's a beautiful place to be."

With a holiday-themed design, these cards fit easily into envelopes and are an excellent way to find the perfect gift while helping combat food insecurity locally.

As the Orangeville Food Bank continues to see a rise in demand, this campaign helps ensure locals who are struggling to afford food remain fed.

"Right now, we're at about a 26,000-pound-per-month food deficit, so 54,000 pounds are

going out the front door while 26,000 pounds of food are coming in the back door," DeCaprio explained.

"What we're finding is we're actually having to purchase more non-perishable and perishable food. We have always had great success with financial donations, so that's where these cards come into play. We're able to use those financial donations to purchase the product we need. However, year to date, we are down about \$200,000 in financial donations."

With the Orangeville Food Bank not receiving regular government funding and experiencing a consistent increase in demand, the organization requires further community support to meet its needs.

Last month, the Orangeville Food Bank served 1,566 individuals, compared to 1,424 over the same month in 2024 and 1,146 during the same month in 2023.



"We're seeing an additional 400 people per month over the last two years," said DeCaprio. "Donations are needed now more than ever."

Continued on Page A3

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# Orangeville Food Bank to offer Festive Giving Cards at Hollyfest

Continued from FRONT

She said it's also important to note that the food bank is an emergency food service, so it can only provide clients with an average of five to six days' worth of perishable and non-perishable items.

To help fill the gap many local families and individuals are facing, the Orangeville Food Bank directs its users to other food services. These include Westminster United Church's Milk and Formula Program, the Lighthouse's daily free lunch program, and St. Mark's Anglican Church's Food Cupboard.

DeCaprio said it's important for the community to know that the Orangeville Food Bank solely supports people living locally.

And stopping by HollyFest to purchase a Festive Giving Card or to drop off a non-perishable donation is a great way to help while exploring unique products from a variety of vendors.

"I think the cards are a really nice way to give a gift. It gives both the person giving the gift and the person receiving it, a warm and fuzzy feeling on the inside," said DeCaprio.

"Not only is it a gift for the person that you're giving it to, but it is a gift to those in need in our community."

HollyFest vendors include jewellery, crocheting, woodworking, stationery items, candles, skincare products, baked goods, floral arrangements, potted plants, and home décor. There will be businesses and not-for-profits from Dufferin County set up as well.

The two-day event also features food and beverage vendors, along with a food and coffee truck.

And what would a Christmas Market be without Santa Claus? Kris Kringle will be visiting on Saturday, and the Grinch will stop in on Sunday for meet-and-greets, and attendees can take free cellphone photos.

"Stop by and get into the spirit of giving," said Orangeville Citizen General Manager Doug Rowe. "We're happy to work with the local food bank while putting on a Christmas-themed market at the fairgrounds for the community to enjoy. We encourage everyone to check it out and enjoy two days of Christmas cheer."



SAM ODROWSKI PHOTO

**SPREADING CHRISTMAS CHEER:** The Festive Giving Cards come in denominations of \$25, \$50, or \$100. These cards are purchased as a donation to the food bank and gifted to friends, family or coworkers, in their honour.

## Annual Santa Claus Parade to roll through downtown Orangeville this weekend

Written By SAM ODROWSKI  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Santa Claus is coming to town!

The annual Orangeville Santa Claus Parade will be held on Saturday, Nov. 22 at 5 p.m., with Theatre Orangeville Artistic Director Emeritus David Nairn leading the floats as parade marshal.

"I was thrilled when Mayor Post asked me to be this year's parade marshal," said Nairn. "I am so proud to live in this great community and, of course, give back in any way I can.

I will be proudly waving as I lead off the parade."

"Classic Christmas" is the parade's theme this year, with over 60 floats from community organizations. The lineup of floats will feature sparkling lights, elves, reindeer, and a sleigh pulling Santa Claus.

"Pre-parade entertainment will be in full swing along Broadway, starting at 4 p.m. Say hello to characters out for a stroll and enjoy performances by the Orangeville Show Chorus," stated the Town of Orangeville in a press release issued Nov. 19.

This year's route for the parade starts at the intersection of Hansen Blvd. and First St., travels up First St. to its intersection with Broadway, and travels along Broadway until it reaches its intersection with Fourth St.

Road closures for the parade will begin at 3 p.m. and end at 7 p.m. Orangeville Transit will also end its bus service at 2:45 p.m. on Nov. 22 to accommodate the parade.

Judging the floats this year are local residents Rob Jeffrey and Sarah Clarke. They will review the floats from the judge's booth at the southwest corner of Broadway and First St.

"Entries will be evaluated on holiday spirit and portrayal of the Classic Christmas theme," the Town of Orangeville stated.

The town is hosting the annual parade in partnership with Downtown Orangeville (OBIA).

Brackett Auto Group is providing this year's marshal and Orangeville council vehicles.

"If you're heading down to watch the parade, please remember to watch from the sidewalks along the parade route. Watching from the medians on Broadway, standing on the road or crossing the road during the parade is not allowed," stated the Town of Orangeville."

Town Page

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GET CONNECTED!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Date	Time	Location	Meeting	To listen in
Monday, Nov. 24	7 p.m.	Council chambers and virtual	Public meeting	Youtube @orangevillecouncil
Thursday, Nov. 27	4 p.m.	Council chambers and virtual	Orangeville OPP Detachment Board	Youtube @orangevillecouncil
Monday, Dec. 1	7:30 p.m.	Council chambers and virtual	Special council meeting	Youtube @orangevillecouncil

\*Start time of council and committee meetings is subject to change

\*For more information on how to participate and to view council and committee agendas, please visit orangeville.ca/meetings.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

After School Club

Last Monday of the month  
4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at Mill Street Library

No registration required

Fossil frenzy  
November 24

AGES 7-12

Orangeville Public Library

orangevillelibrary.ca

SMALL BUSINESS WORKSHOP

ASK THE EXPERT: HOW TO HIRE

This workshop is a must for small business owners with employees, or those who are planning to hire. Learn about the legal difference between employees, dependent and independent contractors.

Presented by Martin Wissmath, Associate at Carters

DATE  
Tuesday, November 25

TIME  
9 - 10:30 a.m.

LOCATION  
200 Lakeview Court, Upper Level

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Orangeville.ca/BusinessEvents

Ontario Bar Association

Make a Will Month

Thursday, Nov. 27 at 2 p.m.

Mill Street Library

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Register at orangevillelibrary.ca.

Orangeville Public Library

orangevillelibrary.ca

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Co-ordinator, Parks (full-time)

Community Services department

Hourly range: \$38.41 to \$44.94

This role helps coordinate the daily maintenance and care of Orangeville's parks, trails, sports fields and outdoor facilities. It supports planning, training, and operations to keep public spaces safe, clean and running smoothly year-round.

Application deadline:  
Wednesday, Nov. 26 at 4 p.m.

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

Power outages	Orangeville Hydro	519-942-8000
After-hours emergency	Related to municipal service	416-736-7096
Emergency services	Police, fire and ambulance	9-1-1

Santa Claus is coming to town!

November 22 at 5 p.m.

Orangeville Santa Claus parade

Here are some things to know:

road closures begin at 3 p.m. with some roads re-opening at 7 or 8 p.m. (location dependent)

Orangeville Transit service will end at 2:45 p.m.

Looking to round out that festive fun all weekend? Downtown Orangeville's Joy & Lights Festival kicks off November 21 with the traditional tree lighting ceremony at Town Hall and a holiday gift market over the weekend.

Learn more about this year's parade at orangeville.ca/SantaParade.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public notice

Consolidated User Fees and Charges bylaw

As part of the requirements under Section 391 of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, the Town of Orangeville will review the 2026 User Fees and Charges bylaw. This bylaw outlines the fees and charges related to local government services such as recreation programs, Clerks services (marriage licenses, etc), planning applications, bylaw penalties, and more.

Public meeting to review the bylaw:

Monday, November 24 at 7 p.m.

Town Hall (87 Broadway)

If you are interested in making verbal or written comments regarding the proposed amendment, please provide them by:

Monday, November 17 at 10 a.m.

councilagenda@orangeville.ca

A proposed Tree Preservation Bylaw will also be reviewed at the meeting.



# Mono council trims tax increase proposal to under 14 per cent

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Deliberations for next year's budget present some tough decisions for Mono council.

At the beginning of the annual budget process, municipal staff are asked to prepare a tally of their departmental priorities, the infrastructure to be replaced or maintained, and anticipated expenditures.

"Needless to say, the list of wants is usually greater," Mayor John Creelman said. "In fact, I can guarantee you it's always greater than the capacity of our taxpayers to address."

So council begins the process of weighing those wishlist items against the municipal purse's capacity. After the Nov. 12 meeting, town staff were presented with proposed cuts to expenditures.

Les Halucha, the town's treasurer, said in a report that those proposed deletions totalled about \$1.9 million from the draft 2026 capital and operating budget.

"Based on council's historical decisions on budget cuts, the expenditure cuts focused on reserve contributions for future projects and capital projects that could be deferred one more year," Halucha wrote.

The budget's first draft offered a 15 per

cent tax increase to ratepayers.

After discussion, suggested budget cuts reduced the initial increase and yielded a proposed 13.7 per cent tax increase for ratepayers. That increase would represent an extra \$378.03 to the average Mono residence or \$31.50 per month.

"It's always a challenge to try and assure everyone that we're not going to have a 50 per cent tax increase," Creelman said.

Councillor Melinda Davie said it was her understanding that the budget's first draft, the one proposing a 15 per cent tax jump, wasn't a wishlist. Rather, she said, it was to be a budget that listed absolute needs.

Creelman said it was no different than in previous years.

"The first run at it shows everything that staff believes needs to be attended to," the mayor said. "Clearly that was high, as it was last year."

But items were identified that could be deferred until next year's budget, he said.

Halucha said the province has been cutting grants on which many municipalities depend to meet infrastructure needs. Two such grants are the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund and the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund.

"Not much of a partnership as they're cutting the grant," Halucha said.

In fact, if the province had kept those grants at 2022 funding levels, Mono would have had an extra \$664,000 more to work with this year, he said. Those grants were again cut for 2026.

"So there is that pressure on us for not receiving provincial grants," Halucha said.

To further the hurt, he said the town received a letter from the Ontario Provincial Police stating the maximum increase in policing services would be 11 per cent over last year.

"At this point I have budgeted the 11 per cent in case we do get the worst case scenario," Halucha said.

There are cost increases across the board, basically.

And those external factors are difficult to control, Halucha said.

Resident Wayne Evans said he can appreciate the financial pressures under which the municipality struggles.

"I think we have to look at each line item and we have to start cutting stuff," he said. "The recreational budget. I don't know why I'm paying for others to play tennis or pickleball. That should be user fee (based)."

Residents who use such facilities should pay for them, according to Evans.

"I don't come to the town and say pay

for my recreation," he said.

An outdoor chess table at \$5,000 drew Evans' laughter.

"Everybody's cutting," he said. "We're cutting personally at home, and the town has to as well."

Creelman said "a great many" user fees have been increased.

David noted the reality that Mono faces in offsetting service costs through user fees.

"User fees are never going to cover the price of the services that we provide," Davie said. "So there are just some things that we need to collectively all pay for."

Creelman said there could be two more budget meetings to come before the final spending plan is finalised.

"I know individual members of council have things that they want to probably cut from the budget," he said. "I know I do. I know of other areas that are going to receive great scrutiny. I suspect the proposed increase will go down. By the same token, it's not inconceivable that there would be arguments that we spend more money on various things."

"I think that we're in a position where we're forced into examining opportunities to introduce change," Coun. Elaine Capes said.

# Butterfly Bereavement Project art installation opens at local hospital, Orangeville Library

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

As National Grief and Bereavement Day passes, the Bethell Hospice wants to open up hearts and minds to processing grief and loss through a series of art displays in Dufferin County.

The displays in town are located at the Headwaters Health Care Center ambulatory wing, with a general viewing event today (Nov. 20) from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Another display is set up at the Orangeville Public Library on Mill Street, with a viewing event on Nov. 21, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Titled the Butterfly Bereavement Project, the idea is simple: helping those struggling with loss express their feelings through art.

Bethell Hospice executive director Margaret Pann said it grew out of a desire to find a way to offer a more visible support mechanism to those in need.

"It really comes out of National Grief and Bereavement Day," she said.

"The real crux of it is that we all experience grief and loss; it's a shared thing. We

were thinking, really, about how we could make that more visible to people in a way that also can offer support to each other."

Paan continued by saying that the butterfly is already a symbol used in the grieving process and also represents the cycle of life. They are the sum of someone's grieving feelings towards another.

"It's the way I think people see it, the light, the shape of the butterfly, it means a lot to people," she said.

"When you see one of our displays, you know that each and every one of those butterflies was made by somebody that who was likely thinking about someone important to them."

"Those butterflies are like many hearts and memories and a lot of love put together," Paan added.

The project now numbers 3,500 butterflies and counting, potentially 4,000. While initially starting out with only a handful of participants four years ago, the initiative has expanded rapidly across the county, with thousands participating. Bethell Hospice has also had to expand its chosen venues in order to accommodate the size of its displays.

Even still, Paan said that everyone is encouraged to take up a butterfly and express themselves.

"I would encourage people to reach out, because you aren't alone, and there are supports here to help you," she said.

"We have kits that anyone can use. You do this as an exercise at home and in comfort, even with your family, because that's what this is all about. None of us are alone in grief. I want people to be able to reflect, whether that's through the butterflies or another means."

Paan also wanted to extend her thanks to the Ontario government for continuing to invest in counseling and support services across the province. Because of recent investments, more opportunities and programs have become available, including a new grief and bereavement services provider for youth and children.

"The Ministry of Health has invested heavily into grief and bereavement services in the last two years," she said. "Sylvia Jones has been very supportive, and we've gotten more money now to run our programs and even expand them. We are extremely grateful to them."



FILE PHOTO

**COMMUNITY EFFORT:** Bethell Hospice's Butterfly Bereavement Project from 2024 featured butterfly's decorated by community members affected by the loss of a loved one. This year's project launches at Headwaters Health Care Centre on Nov. 20 and the Orangeville Public Library on Nov. 21. A display is also up at the Caledon Town Hall Atrium.

# joy lights festival

downtown Orangeville

Visit: [downtownorangeville.ca](http://downtownorangeville.ca)

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# Rapunzel A BRAID NEW WORLD

By Debbie Collins & David Nairn

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IAN COBURN PHOTO

**BIG CHANGES BEING CONSIDERED:** The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests is proposing to permit hunting in Boyne Valley Provincial Park, which is home to the Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club's trails.

# MNRF proposes allowing hunting in Boyne Valley Provincial Park

Public comments on the proposal can be submitted until Nov. 24

Written By JOSHUA DRAKES  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Forests (MNRF) has put forward a proposal to change the Boyne Valley Provincial Park's size and hunting rules.

In a document titled "Supplemental Document Supporting Environmental Registry of Ontario Proposal Notice Number 019-9306," the provincial government is planning a large overhaul of parks across the province, including here in Dufferin County.

The Boyne Valley Provincial Park is set to have 496 hectares added to its regulated area, almost doubling its size. This land was previously acquired by the Ontario government in other deals.

However, the Ontario government, through the MNRF, is also considering permitting hunting within the regulated areas, which include trails managed by the Dufferin Hi-Land Bruce Trail Club.

In the proposal, the MNRF plans to continue permitting hunting in the new additions to the park, while beginning to permit hunting in the park's original, regulated area. The proposal will permit hunting of non-fur-bearing game mammals, migratory game birds, and game birds during normal hunting seasons.

This raises concerns among local residents and trail users, as sections of the Bruce Trail managed by the Dufferin Hi-Land Club see heavy foot traffic that passes directly through the area that could be

opened to hunting. Tom Thayer, a local resident and trail user, said that the proposal puts thousands of lives at risk if hunting is allowed.

"You've got a lot of people that use that park, and not just on the Bruce Trail," he said. "You've got people on horses, hikers on other trails, and explorers who just go in regularly. There are thousands of people who go out there every year to enjoy the park."

"The province needs to realize that they're putting people's lives in danger. Beyond the trail, the park, which will become a hunting zone, comes right up to Primrose Public School and all the residences in the area," Thayer added.

He said he hopes the MNRF is open to discussing different approaches for the area that can accommodate everyone safely.

"I've so far heard that the province is open to alternative ways of doing this, which I'm happy for. I have hope that we can actually stop this," said Thayer.

While Thayer is president of the Bruce Trail Conservancy's Dufferin Hi-Land Club, his comments are not affiliated with the official position of the Bruce Trail Conservancy or his club, and are entirely personal.

Currently, the MNRF is accepting public comments on the proposal, so those with input are welcome to share their thoughts. That link can be found at <https://ero.ontario.ca/notice/019-9306>.

Commenting is open until 11:59 p.m. on Nov. 24, 2025.

# Get ready to ride: Clubs begin to work on Dufferin County's snowmobile trails

Written By SAM ODROWSKI  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

With the Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs' (OFSC) season quickly approaching, preparations are being made across Dufferin County.

Several snowmobiling clubs in the region, such as the Dufferin Drift Busters, Orangeville Snowmobile Club, and Hillsburgh Snow Roamers, are working to prepare trails for the winter season.

"As we approach the start of the season, we ask riders to have patience while volunteers continue signing, brushing, and inspecting trail sections. And of course, keep doing your snow dance, good snowfall is essential before trails can safely open," reads a statement from Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP).

Local clubs are seeking volunteers to assist with pre-season trail work and winter maintenance. The Dufferin OPP encourages anyone who is interested in getting involved to contact their local snowmobile club to lend a hand.

"Riders are reminded to stay off all OFSC

trails until they are officially marked as open on the OFSC Interactive Trail Guide (ITG). Trail status will continue to change with weather conditions, so please check the ITG regularly," Dufferin OPP stated.

"As the season approaches, snowmobilers are encouraged to purchase their OFSC permit. Your permit directly supports your local club, helping fund trail maintenance, grooming, signage, equipment, and insurance to keep the system safe and operational."

It's important to note that ATV use remains closed at the rail line trail until next May, weather permitting.

"Dufferin County OPP officers will again be conducting RIDE spot checks and radar enforcement throughout the snowmobiling season to promote safe and responsible riding. Officers look forward to positive interactions with riders and appreciate the continued co-operation from the snowmobile community," Dufferin OPP stated.

"We look forward to a fantastic season ahead and thank everyone for their patience, support, and commitment to safe snowmobiling."

## Correction

A story with the headline "Seniors to receive Christmas-themed care packages through Adopt a Grandparent" that ran on Pages A13 and A15 of the Nov. 13 edition

of the Orangeville Citizen featured an incorrect phone number. To get in contact with the program's organizer, the correct number to call is 416-809-0914.

## ELENA M. ANDRADE OLIVA

Elena M. Andrade Oliva, beloved mother, grandmother, mother-in-law, and "Nanay", passed away peacefully in her sleep on November 15, 2025, at the age of 84.

Elena's greatest pride and joy were her children. Elena is lovingly remembered by her son Ted (Catherine) and daughter Estelle (Justin). She is greatly missed by her four grandchildren, Chris, Everett, Keira, and Emerson who will carry her memory in their hearts forever. She is reunited with her husband Camilo and her parents Leonila and Melchor.

Born in Manila, Philippines on August 18, 1941, Elena lived a life full of love, caregiving, motherhood and grandmotherhood, hard work, teaching, and volunteerism.

She touched countless lives through her almost 40-year teaching career, which was truly her life's work and calling. Elena was a tireless and compassionate advocate. She received her special education certification and always held a special place in her heart for children with exceptionalities.

Her earlier years at Wesburn Manor were spent sitting reading with fellow residents that didn't have frequent visitors, leading the Resident's Council, championing the Ladies in Action fundraising group, and serving as the Residents' Representative at the City of Toronto's Advisory Committee of Seniors Services and Long-Term Care.

Elena lived and loved passionately. Her laugh, sense of humour, generosity, and kindness will be sorely missed. Her knacks for gift giving, event planning, decorating, gardening, crafts, music, crossword puzzles; her superstitions, flair for fashion, her love of shopping; her zest for casinos and lottery tickets, her uncanny luck, need for things to be "just right"; love of game shows, appreciation of good food, especially the Mandarin, and care for animals and nature will never be forgotten.

Memorial donations can be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada or Diabetes Canada.

Condolences may be offered to the family at [www.dodsandmcnair.com](http://www.dodsandmcnair.com)



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# Mono considers options to reduce arsenic in raw water sources

Concentrations of arsenic in Mono’s water system does not exceed the maximum acceptable concentration

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Mono is re-evaluating its water supply to reduce its reliance on raw water sources with arsenic concentrations exceeding half of what’s permitted.

Matthew Paznar, a senior engineer and vice-president at R.J. Burnside and Associates, updated Mono council when it met Nov. 18 about the town’s water environmental assessment.

Mono is supplied with drinking water from the Cardinal Woods and Island Lake systems, which operate independently.

An issue of concern is the removal of arsenic. The maximum acceptable concentration (MAC) is 0.01 milligrams per litre, and all wells in both systems were comfortably within that level.

Four of five Island Lake drinking water system wells are in compliance, but all five wells have raw water arsenic concentrations reported above half the MAC at 0.005 mg/L.

“Additional care and monitoring are required when arsenic levels exceed the half MAC,” Paznar said.

Arsenic levels tend to fluctuate and may increase over time, posing a threat to the

Island Lake system and a major concern for the municipality.

One of the wells has, in the past, had arsenic concentrations exceeding 0.01 mg/L. That well, the Coles Well PW1, was taken offline in late 2017, resulting in a loss of raw water supply to the system and reducing the firm capacity of the Island Lake system.

“The Ministry of the Environment, Conservation, and Parks just requires the town to do a little bit more monitoring,” Paznar said. “So that’s what we have been doing.”

There are three approaches to do that.

They can remove arsenic from the raw water using a water treatment plant.

Hydrogeological solutions can be employed, such as drawing water from different aquifers that contain less arsenic levels or addressing the potential for fluctuations and/or arsenic concentration increases in existing wells.

Water from another municipality’s supply can also be obtained.

“The preferred alternative might have a combination of these solutions and likely have to be implemented in a staged approach,” Paznar said.

Alternatives include providing arsenic treatment, drilling new wells, connecting

both existing water systems, or connecting the Island Lake system to a nearby non-Mono system.

“Why is the do nothing not an option here?” Councillor Melinda Davie asked.

“The do nothing is not an option because we’ve taken raw water supply offline,” Paznar said. “The town is in need of it to be able to handle its long-term commitments.”

As part of the commitments in the Island Lake area, the municipality has to provide firm capacity, he said. That’s the maximum day demand. And the Island Lake system is the larger of the two.

An additional water supply would be needed for alternatives that include filtration or another arsenic-removal process. This would mean that an additional raw water supply would need to be available to maintain the production of the current potable water supply for the existing users served by the Island Lake system.

An additional raw water supply with lower arsenic concentrations is being evaluated. Paznar said field investigations have determined that there is a viable water supply with low arsenic concentrations in the Cardinal Woods area.

Deputy Mayor Fred Nix spoke about past musings regarding a water quantity



STOCK PHOTO

threat. And now there’s a test well being drilled, and there’s talk about joining the Cardinal Woods system with the Island Lake supply.

“It just surprises me,” he said. “But that’s great if we can do it.”

Mono Mayor John Creelman said he supposes a new well would be cheaper than constructing a water treatment plant.

“That’s what we are thinking in the long run here,” Paznar said.

# Holiday weekends await at Downtown Orangeville’s Joy and Lights Festival

Written By SAM ODROWSKI  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Christmas cheer is spreading far and near as Downtown Orangeville expands its Joy and Lights Festival over two weekends.

Nov. 21 to 23 will feature the Merry and Bright Weekend, while the Firelight and Frost Weekend is planned for Nov. 28 to 30. The festival will feature a variety of Christmas activities, shopping experiences, live entertainment and community events for residents to enjoy.

Downtown Orangeville Executive Director Alison Scheel told the Citizen the two festive weekends are “one of the most magical times of the year” for the community.

“From the sparkling Tree Lighting to the bustling Very Merry Holiday Market, the Town of Orangeville’s Santa Claus Parade, live entertainment, and visits with Santa, there’s a real sense of joy and community spirit everywhere you turn. It’s a weekend where neighbours come together, families make memories, and the whole town truly shines.”

Tree Lighting at Orangeville Town Hall will run in conjunction with Starlight Shopping along Broadway and Mill St.

The annual Christmas Tree Lighting will begin around 7 p.m., with a reading of ‘Twas the Night Before Christmas by David Nairn, performances from local groups, carollers, and winter characters.

Locally owned and operated Dufferin DJs will be spinning Christmas tunes and all-time favourites before and after the tree lighting.

After the Christmas Tree begins glowing bright, Santa Claus will be set up on Mill St., and the Very Merry Holiday Market on Second St. will run from noon to 8:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 21.

The market also runs from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 22, and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 23.

Local businesses in Orangeville’s downtown will also feature extended shopping hours.

In addition to Santa Claus, Mill St. will feature live entertainment and a Fireside Family Lounge on Friday. At the same time, Broadway will have roving entertainment for the community to enjoy.

The action doesn’t stop there. The Santa

Claus Parade will kick off at 5 p.m. on Saturday, beginning at the intersection of Hansen Blvd. and First St., travelling up First St. to Broadway, turning onto Broadway, and ending at its intersection with Fourth St.

There will be pre-parade performances on Broadway, and Santa Claus will return to Mill St. for visits with families before boarding his sleigh and travelling along the parade route.

**Firelight and Frost Weekend (Nov. 28 to 30)**

The festive joy continues the following weekend, with an outdoor skating rink on Mill Street in partnership with Prevail Activations, visits with Santa, and Starlight Shopping on Firelight Friday. Later in the evening, as the night falls, there will be a fire show beneath glowing lights on Mill St.

Broadway will also have Starlight Shopping and Holiday Window Gazing, and Second St. will feature a Fireside Sips Lounge.

The Very Merry Holiday Market on Second St. will be back, running from noon to 8 p.m. on Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday.

The Spectacle and Celebration on Saturday features a full day of festivities.

“Watch as artists carve shimmering ice

sculptures, enjoy a free skate on Mill Street, make your own lantern at a creative workshop, then join the enchanting Lantern Parade through downtown,” reads a press release from Downtown Orangeville.

Fireside Sips will also return to Second St. on Saturday, along with free skating, ice sculptures, the Fireside Family Lounge, and visits with Santa on Mill St..

Broadway will be the location of the Lantern Parade, a Window Decorating Contest, and Festive Shopping.

Family Fun Day on Sunday is the final day of holiday magic for the Joy and Light Festival.

Second St. will have meet and greets with festive characters, a Santa’s Workshop, and the return of Fireside Sips.

Mill St. will again offer free skating, visits with Santa, a Fireside Family Lounge, and Library Storytime.

“Downtown Orangeville turns up the cheer with Firelight & Frost Weekend so gather your loved ones, bundle up, and experience two weekends of holiday cheer, local charm, and unforgettable memories,” said Scheel.

For more information and full schedules of all the events, visit [DowntownOrangeville.ca](http://DowntownOrangeville.ca).

**Merry and Bright Weekend (Nov. 21 to 23)**  
On Friday, Nov. 21, the annual Christmas

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# Last chance for holiday cheer: Tim Hortons' Smile Cookie fundraiser ends Friday

Written By **SAM ODROWSKI**  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The clock is ticking, and Tim Hortons lovers looking to support a local charity have until Friday, Nov. 23, to place their orders for the annual Holiday Smile Cookie Campaign.

All five Orangeville Tim Hortons locations are participating and have selected Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Dufferin to be the recipient of funds raised through this year's campaign.

With each cookie sold, 100 per cent of their revenue is being split 50/50 between the local BBBS and Tim Hortons Foundation Camps, which sends underprivileged children to summer camps throughout the year.

To mark the Holiday Smile Cookie Campaign's launch on Monday, Nov. 17, children who participate in BBBS Dufferin helped decorate cookies at the Orangeville Shopping Centre's Tim Hortons (150 First St.). The children were joined by Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post, Councillor Debbie Sherwood and BBBS Dufferin Executive Director Nancy Stallmach, who rolled up their sleeves to ice multiple batches of cookies.

"We don't receive a lot of government funding, so every year we have to raise the money we need to create the mentoring matches that we create," explained Stallmach. "This is really going to help us. It's a huge boost."

The split between BBBS Dufferin and the

Tim Hortons Foundation is particularly complementary this year, as the local organization has helped Tim's select disadvantaged youth from Dufferin County to enjoy a camp experience since its inception.

The local BBBS matches kids facing adversity with a caring adult mentor who spends time with them once a week or biweekly.

"They build a relationship of trust and support, and it has a huge impact on the child's life, both in the short term and the long term," explained Stallmach.

She said she's very thankful to be selected as this year's recipient of the Smile Cookie Fund and encourages Orangeville residents to stop by a local Tim Hortons to purchase one.

"It's going to a great cause, and the cookies are also very tasty, so it's a win-win," Stallmach shared.

After decorating some cookies, Post shared her thoughts on Tim's annual Smile Cookie Campaign with the Citizen.

"Tim Hortons and specifically the Smile Cookie Program really helps a lot of our local organizations. The Spring Smile Cookie Campaign supports the (local) hospital, and the winter one supports multiple different charities," said Post, who worked at Orangeville's First Street Tim Hortons through high school.

"At this time, the economy is tough, so not for profits are struggling. This is a great way to support a fundraiser and receive delicious cookies

at the same time."

Also present at the smile cookie launch was Post's former boss, Krista Goudreault, owner of the Orangeville Shopping Centre Tim's, along with two others in town. She reflected on the program and its importance in the community.

"[Tim Horton's] started the Smile Cookie campaign in 1996, and it was so successful that we're now doing it twice a year," said Goudreault, whose sister owns the other two Tim's locations in Orangeville, and as a family, has run them for over 40 years.

Nationwide, Tim's store owners choose their recipient for the holiday campaign, selecting a different one each year.

"This year's campaign is particularly cool because the (local) Big Brothers and Big Sisters has helped us since its inception to find the local kids to go to camp, so it's a really great pairing," Goudreault enthused.

There are seven camps across Canada and the United States that provide an amazing experience for the youth sent to them, according to Goudreault.

In the past, Goudreault and her sister have supported the Orangeville Food Bank and local SPCA through their Tim Hortons locations' Smile Cookie Campaigns.

The holiday campaign was off to a strong start on Monday, Nov. 17, with 2,000 cookies already sold through pre-orders at local businesses.



SAM ODROWSKI PHOTOS

**FINISHED BATCH:** Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dufferin Executive Director Nancy Stallmach (left) and Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post show off a finished batch of Smile Cookies at the Orangeville Shopping Centre's Tim Hortons (150 First St.) on Monday Nov. 17. Stallmach and Post were joined by participants of Big Brothers Big Sisters Dufferin who helped to decorate smile cookies to mark the launch of the campaign.

Post said she'd encourage residents to stop by a local Tim's and support the campaign.

"It's only a week, and the cookies are delicious, so come and get them while they're still here," Post smiled.

# BLACK FRIDAY 25



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Orangeville Citizen

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# The Lighthouse raises \$23,000 at Ignite the Night fundraising concert

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

Soup kitchens and food banks play an increasingly critical role in supporting Canadians, especially here in Orangeville. One local kitchen in particular was on the receiving end of a massive showing of community support.

The Lighthouse, located on Broadway, has been serving hot meals to those in need for years, offering a compassionate hand for those who need that extra support. Currently sponsored and supported by the Up-town Church, they recently held a fundraising concert, titled Ignite the Night, on Saturday, Nov. 15, at the church's old theatre.

Lighthouse Food Administrator Krista Taylor told the Citizen the concert was an unmistakable success.

"The concert went absolutely amazing," she said. "We sold out, minus 10 tickets. That's 240 sold. The feedback and reception from the audience was very positive. They loved the concert, they loved the band."

On the fundraising side, she said they were extremely successful at securing donations and building community support.

"We got some more donors and sponsors, and we had matching donations going up to \$5,000," Taylor said. "It was very cool to see. All in all, deducting from the expenses of the night, we raised \$23,000 for The Lighthouse."

Taylor said this number was far beyond the sum they had hoped for. Leading up to the concert, The Lighthouse expected to raise a maximum of \$10,000 in donations, but thanks to overwhelming local support, they more than doubled that amount.

Taylor gave a massive shoutout to the Orangeville Lions Club, who were their headline sponsor for the night. The club donated the largest single sum, totalling \$7,500.

Dan Roach of the Orangeville Lions Club said that the money they raise comes from their weekly Lions TV Bingo Games.

"We have our Lions Rogers Bingo every Wednesday night, and all the money we raise from that goes right back into this community," he said. "The Lighthouse had reached out to us looking for some support, and this case really hit home for the club. They were asking for food. They told us \$7,500 makes 750 meals."

"We agreed, overwhelmingly, that this is a good cause to support," Roach added.

Holding true to the Lions' motto of 'We Serve,' Roach said that this is a perfect example of the work they do to help the community. He said that, thanks to their weekly TV Bingo nights, they raise roughly \$200,000 a year to donate to charitable causes across town.

And this isn't the first time the local club has supported The Lighthouse.

"This is actually the second time the Orangeville Lions Rogers Bingo money has been sent to them," Roach said. "We've bought them a stove in the past, so we've already had some background with The Lighthouse, so it was very easy to come back to them."

Currently, The Lighthouse is seeing the highest demand they have witnessed in years and is struggling to keep up, both in terms of meals and space.

"Right now, we're on track to actually hit about 10,000 meals this year," Taylor said. "Last year, it reached the 8,000 mark, so it's been a noticeable increase. We're seeing a lot of new faces, especially those coming from shelters in the area. We are seeing about 30 to 40 people per day."

"We're bursting at the seams right now," she remarked.

Taylor said they are preparing for their upcoming Christmas banquet and are asking for donations of not just food but also



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

**FINANCIAL BOOST:** Members of the Orangeville Lions Club and The Lighthouse met on Wednesday, Nov. 19, to celebrate the presentation of a \$7,500 cheque to the local lunch program, located at 207 Broadway. The Lions Club was the headline sponsor of the Ignite the Night Concert and remains committed to supporting local not-for-profit initiatives across Orangeville.

ing for donations of not just food but also warm clothing and toiletries.

"We are looking for hats, scarves, gloves, handwarmers, personal toothpaste and a brush," she said. "Just something for them to take into the winter holidays. If anyone is feeling generous, that would be absolutely great. Even just coming in and helping with the food would be a great help."

Likewise, Roach said the Lions Club is

also looking for more volunteers.

"The Orangeville Lions are always looking for new members," Roach said. "We are a growing club in town. If anyone is interested, please go to our website and check it out, or even reach out to me directly."

Their next big fundraiser is also coming up next March, which is the Home and Garden Show, where Dan hopes to see many faces from the town.

# Orangeville's Déjà Vu Diner thrives after reopening at former Wimpy's location

Written By **JAMES GERUS**

A well-known Orangeville restaurant, Deja Vu, continues to thrive as it enters its second month operating at a brand-new location.

Deja Vu left its previous Broadway location on Sept. 24 and held its official reopening at the Townline Square complex on October 1st. Many Orangeville residents may be familiar with its new location, which was formerly Wimpy's Diner before shutting its doors last spring.

Despite a variety of rumours about why the relocation happened, the landlords at the old Broadway location were simply looking to set up their own shawarma restaurant. Thankfully, manager Jenn Betz's regulars at

the old Deja Vu location have happily supported and followed her to the new one.

While their restaurant sign outside is now blue instead of its previous familiar yellow, business is still as busy as before. On the layout of the new location, Betz reflects, "It's a smaller building, but we've just learned to build up."

Betz knows the Town of Orangeville well; she was born on First Street and has grown up alongside the town. She has three daughters, two of whom, Hannah and Ayden, work at the restaurant.

"The other just had a baby," Betz said.

The restaurant's new location faced challenging circumstances a couple of days into its opening when, on Oct. 2nd, a break-and-enter occurred.

A glass door was smashed, and a quantity of cash was stolen.

However, the incident did not dampen the Deja Vu team's spirits, and they have continued moving forward with business as usual.

The restaurant is always looking for new promotions and ways to get its regulars excited: as of late, they have been doing a steak contest, where customers take a picture near a sign inside the restaurant that says, "I WANT TO WIN A CASE OF STEAKS" between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. To enter the contest, they post their picture in the comment section of their Facebook page for the chance to win.

While previously operating solely as a breakfast-and-lunch locale, they branched out into dinner service a little over a year

ago at the old location and are continuing it at the new one.

"We find dinner is busier here. I think we just look more like a dinner place, as opposed to like a breakfast place at the old one," said Betz.

Among some newly added dinner features is a spicy maple bacon burger, but breakfast is still served all day for those who like to sleep in.

And of course, its famous coffee is still hot and ready to serve. When told by guests that it's the best coffee in town, Betz replies, "We get that a lot, actually. Everybody loves the coffee."

Deja Vu is open seven days a week - 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekdays and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekends.

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# Paul Morin Studio at former Alton Town Hall to feature discussion on New Tango

Written By **CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD**

Lydia Panart brought her dream of her life's story in art, poetry, Tango dance and theatre to Paul Morin's Gallery in Alton last weekend. It was the first time she had hung her paintings in a venue outside the Alton Mill Arts Centre since she had opened her own studio there in 2021.

It was also the first time Paul Morin had welcomed an exhibit of this scale since he purchased and converted the historic Alton Town Hall into his studio and gallery in 2015. Together, the two firsts put on a very beautiful and exciting revue, and Paul Morin realized his gallery could be ideal for this multi-arts living dream.

This weekend, on Saturday, Nov. 22, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Panart will return to Morin's Gallery for a cafe-style, intimate, casual talk about the New Tango.

The event will feature music and focus on "the importance of Astor Piazzola in the Argentinean music and internationally, some anecdotes about his life, and how Lydia's journey is reflected in 16 of her own artworks inspired by his emotional compositions."

Panart will be joined by actor Jorge Lipovetzky of The Mississauga Players Theatre.

Coming from Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1998 with her family, her (then) husband and three children, all aged three years old. Lydia Panart was to find a life deeply involved with the arts here in her new home in Canada.

Her background in Argentina was in architecture.

More than that, Panart studied fine arts with the famous Argentinian artist, Kenneth Kemble. He was one of the most controversial artists in the 1950s, but by 1983, he was voted the best teacher, and in 1985, the best artist, both awards from the Argentine Association of Art Critics.

Living in Mississauga, Panart began teaching art to students at several locations.

She said. "I was working in an architectural firm and then I moved to fine arts and started giving classes in many visual arts galleries: the AGO, McMichael Art Gallery (Canadian Art Collection). I love to teach; also at the Burlington Art Centre. I gained a lot of experience."

In 2012, Panart took a studio in the Distillery District and was there for nine years - then COVID hit.

"I was looking for another studio in Sept. 2021, thinking if I try something new, but I couldn't have anticipated this. I am a student of, and I love the history. I am so happy there. I found the Alton Mill and there was

one studio available and I took it. I fell in love with the art scene, the area, the Mill."

Panart is still doing painting classes in many places and workshops at the McMichael Gallery. As a vendor with the Peel School Board and also Wellington, she holds workshops, saying, "I don't paint there but encourage students to work on larger panels. Since 2005, doing the visual arts in Mississauga, they got grants to bring artists in."

Panart said she worried about the suppression of the arts in many schools, "If you don't bring the kids into self-expression, they lose out. With experience in the arts, that can create amazing managers in business later on. I know how much the arts help."

"Canada gave me the chance to work and share," she said. "In all my solo shows, I am grateful."

The New Tango tells a new life about immigrants living in a place and needing to talk about a new life, about love, friendship and sadness.

"The story was my journey - but universal; people could relate and join the venture with The Mississauga Players Theatre," Panart said.

"If I have to walk in troubled waters, that's another side of myself, and I bring it to the art."

Susan Silva, theatre director, was writing and preparing to direct Vicki Chiapari, an actor with the Mississauga Players. Part of the story is based on one of Panart's paintings.

"A Tango," she said, "but you can sing it." "They believed in my dream and made it their dream; this is how we give this to the people," said Silva.

The dancer, Olga Lucia Barrios, knew Astor Piazzola, which the event will focus on, broke with tradition; Piazzola talks about life through music. Barrios danced to the paintings.

On this Saturday, there will be music and an informal chat. Panart's paintings will still be there, and music will be played.

A little bit of everything - all about community, with the comment, maybe to be thought about: "You paint outside yourself."

Once it is hung on a wall for all to see, people see it as they do, not necessarily as the artist meant it.

One question left: an admission, a call for something she has not told anyone else, maybe not even herself.

She considered a moment and said, "One of the things I didn't know when this dream, the clique that we have, is they did it with so much Minga - a Columbian idea meaning a collaborative effort for the sake of another. That spirit, it moves me."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**THEATRE GROUP:** Members of The Mississauga Players Theatre, who have a show based inside one of Lydia Panart's paintings, share some smiles from an art gallery. On the left is Olga Barrios and next to her is Panart. Adriana Sabogal is furthest to the right.

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# Fieldstone neighbourhood petitions Mono over sewage odour

Written By **JAMES MATTHEWS**  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Mono residents in the Fieldstone subdivision have had enough of foul smells from a wastewater treatment facility.

And they want the municipality to do something about it.

Residents of Mono's Fieldstone subdivision brought concerns about worsening sewage odour from the French Drive wastewater plant to council during a Nov. 12 meeting. It's a concern that's been brought to Mono council before.

The subdivision is about 337 homes and garnered as many as 243 signatures on a petition that was circulated for just a week, said resident Diana Farrugia in the petition's preamble.

A contingent of Fieldstone subdivision residents attended Mono council's Nov. 12 meeting. "It's very serious," Farrugia said. "It's at the point where we need some action. We've waited patiently."

The odour engulfs the neighbourhood, regardless of the wind's direction or the time of the year. She said residents can't open their windows or enjoy their outdoor spaces, especially in the evenings and early in the morning.

"The smell has become a defining characteristic of the neighbourhood, making it difficult to enjoy our properties, host guests, or even take pride in our homes," the petition reads. "Beyond quality of life, this ongoing issue is now directly devaluing our homes."

The petition continues, "Prospective buyers

immediately notice the odour when visiting the community, making it extremely difficult for homeowners to sell their properties at fair market value."

Farrugia said in the petition that Fieldstone residents pay a separate monthly fee for the operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment plant. That's in addition to regular property taxes.

"We were told that once the subdivision was assumed by the Town of Mono, these additional fees would be eliminated," she wrote. "However, more than 10 years have passed, the subdivision still has not been assumed, and these monthly fees continue to increase significantly despite the worsening condition of the plant."

At the council meeting, she said a number of residents have voiced their concerns to the municipality.

Deputy Mayor Fred Nix said he's quite sympathetic to the Fieldstone residents' plight.

"I don't blame you for asking us to do something," he said. "But what keeps going around in my mind is we don't own the facility. What legally can we do?"

Further, Nix said the town won't take ownership of the treatment plant until problems have been remedied and it's working correctly.

"I don't understand why it's not working, but I don't know what powers we have to tell them either make it work or do something to stop the odour," Nix said.

Brookfield Residential was the subdivision's builder and is the treatment plant's owner.

Councillor Melinda Davie asked if the peti-

tion signatories are subdivision residents, and whether there are any homes in that area that are unaffected by the stench, where the wind doesn't blow.

Farrugia said it has taken little effort to drum up support for the petition.

"It's more word of mouth," she said.

Davie asked Farrugia about the information she'd received when she bought her property.

"Did you know that it was water that was separate from the Town of Mono's larger population and also that the water treatment is separate?" Davie asked.

"It's not the whole town's water. When we take over it, it's not that everybody in the town is going to pay for it. There is a responsibility of those people who own those houses," she added.

Farrugia said she'd asked neighbours about smells from the treatment facility before she moved into the Fieldstone area.

"They said no," she said.

"I think it's shameful that you're having to live through this," Coun. Elaine Capes said, adding that it's the builder's responsibility to address the problem.

Capes suggested holding a community town hall so the developer could speak directly to concerned residents.

Mike Dunmore, the town's CAO, said the plant that was provided as part of a subdivision agreement failed to meet the specifications developers said it would. A pair of rotating bacterial chambers at the facility failed, he said.

"The developer was and is still obligated to

fix those," Dunmore said.

The water that exits those chambers goes into an eight-acre septic bed. Dunmore said the effluent leaving the site was not within the Ministry of Environment's parameters.

Further equipment failures followed, and problems with sourcing parts contributed.

"But the plant was never meeting the effluent quality which is our environmental protection site underground," Dunmore said. "There's an opportunity at that point to start to look at how to increase the efficiency of the effluent quality to satisfy the ministry standards."

He said repairing equipment, such as at the water treatment plant, isn't a simple task. The municipality received engineers' reports from Brookfield Residential that detail how to rectify the plant. The town is reviewing the report and has hired a waste specialist and engineers to investigate what's necessary to bring the facility up to standards.

"The town is frustrated as well," he said. "Prematurely assuming this plant is not in the best interest of the town."

"Clearly, the plant is not working," Mayor John Creelman said.

Creelman suggested that something beyond bacterial chambers and septic bed failures has occurred at the site for this problem to persist for three years. He said the town is committed to having the plant repaired without taxpayers footing the bill.

"We want the developer to pay for that," he said. "We want the developer to do it and pay for it. And we have various ways of forcing that."

# New gaming lounge opens downtown, offers over 1,400 games on variety of consoles

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

A new community hangout spot has popped up right in the heart of Orangeville, filling a previous gap in local entertainment.

Orangeville is known for its local charm and downtown Broadway strip. From cafes, bars, thrifty shops, and the ever-prevalent Theatre Orangeville, there has always been something for everyone close by.

Everyone except gamers. Until now.

Enter The Lobby, co-founded by Daniel Glassford. He thought that there should be more to do in town. Being an avid gamer and local resident, Glassford founded The Lobby as a place for gamers in town to call their own.

"I've lived in Orangeville for pretty much my whole life, and I felt that there wasn't much to do lately in town," he said. "I wanted to have a place where people did more than just game. I wanted to make a place where people can get to know other people and really build a community."

"That's really how all this was born. I wanted to bring people together," Glassford told the

Citizen.

The Lobby has even caught the eye of Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post, as she and several town officials stopped by for a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Nov. 18.

"What's really cool about this space is that there's really nothing else like it in town," Post said. "It gives youth and people of all ages something new to do, and helps diversify our small businesses. What really keeps our public sector strong is that there's such a great variety of offerings."

The Lobby is a gaming hangout spot that has everything it needs to make Glassford's dream a reality. Shrouded in darkness, the only real light comes from the screens, with video games available for all ages and tastes. Those in the mood for a party can go head-to-head in Mario Kart, jockeying for first place with friends or even strangers they meet at the lounge.

Fancy something a little more story-driven? A compelling narrative experience? Guests are covered there, too. Hop onto Hollow Knight, and test your acrobatic and combat skills against bosses and the encroaching darkness.

With over 1,400 games in their libraries, guests can explore titles across Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo, and PC machines in a near limitless way. Glassford said that guests are encouraged to try out any game that catches their eye. In a world where renting games has all but vanished and prices are higher than ever before, it's a new, but old, way to try out games without breaking the bank.

"You really can't rent games like you used to," he said. "We want people to come in here and try games before they commit to buying them. Try out that hard game you're not sure you want to waste money on, or just discover a new game you've never heard of before."

Glassford said that The Lobby is open to all ages and has seen guests as young as five and six, but he's also seen seniors come by, curious to see what all the fuss is about, and even try their hands at the classic games they grew up with. Everyone is welcome.

"Video games aren't like some niche hobby," he said. "You can come here, no matter who you are, and you don't have to feel ashamed that you enjoy games. Everybody can do their own thing.



JOSHUA DRAKES PHOTO

**NEW BUSINESS:** Orangeville Mayor Lisa Post and members of council joined The Lobby owner Daniel Glassford in a ceremonial ribbon cutting to mark the opening of the new gaming lounge at 229 Broadway, Unit #1.

We've hosted birthdays, a bachelor party and a corporate meeting. You can enjoy what you want to enjoy."

The Lobby has more than plenty to offer gamers and, of course, curious newcomers, from casual gaming to competitive tournaments. Glassford's new lounge is filling out a niche market that was completely untapped in town.

The Lobby is located at 229 Broadway, Unit #1, Orangeville, and is open Tuesday to Sunday.

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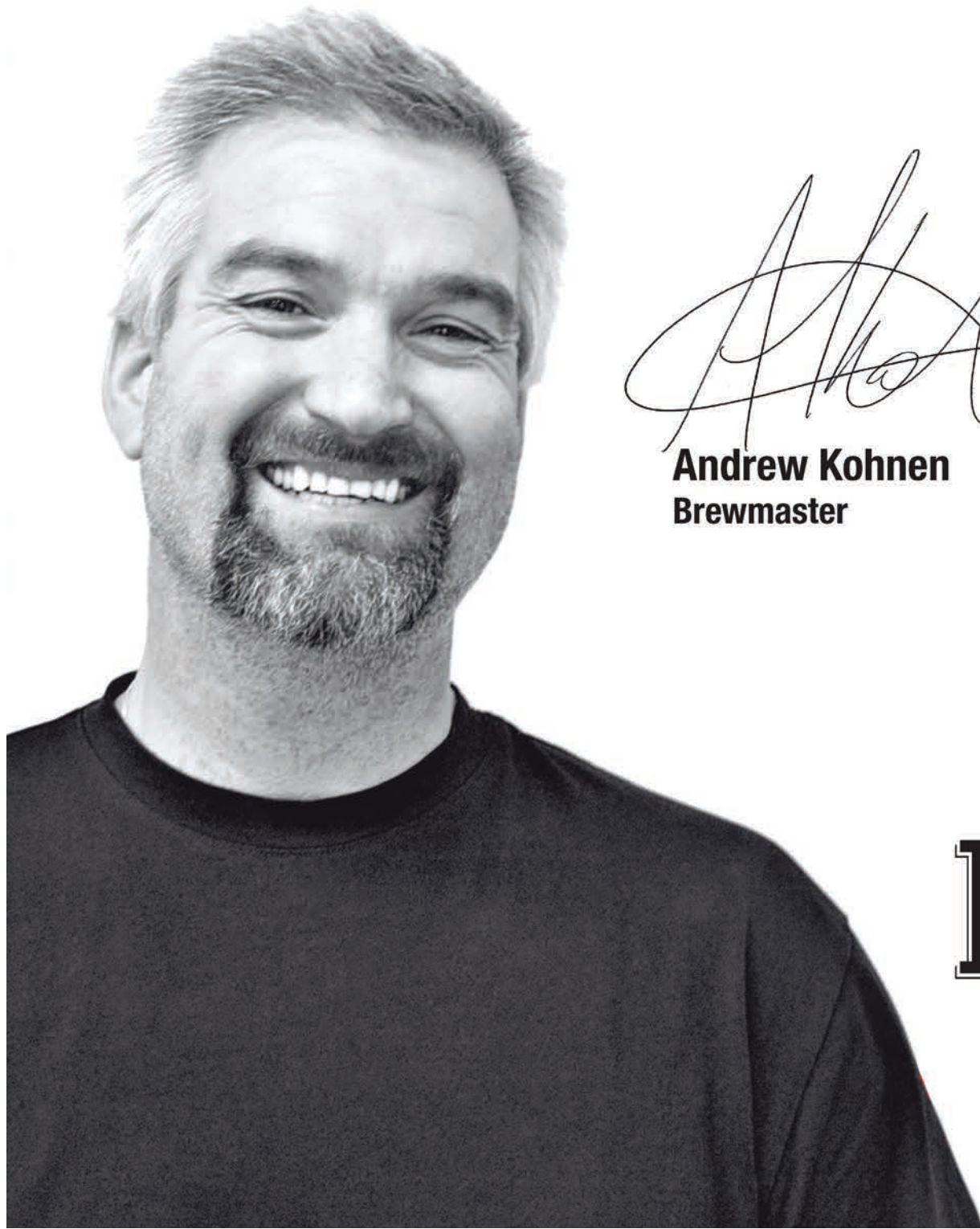


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# Martial Arts Championships brings different disciplines to the fairgrounds

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

There was a lot of skill on the mats at the third annual Orangeville Open Martial Arts Championships held at the Orangeville Agricultural Centre on Saturday, Nov. 15.

Around 400 competitors arrived to compete in several martial arts disciplines in a day-long tournament that featured non-stop action.

Hundreds of spectators turned out to watch the competition and appreciated the non-stop action on the mats.

The competition featured all age groups, from an age 6 and under novice group to women and men age 42 and over. Divisions were divided by skill level and the level of belts held by competitors.

“The event is open to all striking martial arts, and also self-defence for the kids and adults,” explained event organizer, Sensei Joe Gallay. “This is the third year we’ve done this event. The first year, we had 250 competitors and 400 spectators. This year, we had 250 competitors pre-registered with close to another 200 that registered at the door and around 400 spectators.”

All events were monitored and observed by trained referees who controlled the action on the mats. The referees are all former competitors.

During competition, sparring equipment was mandatory for all those on the mat. This includes a mouthguard, headgear, hands, feet, shin pads, and elbow pads.

It is a lot of work to put together a tournament like this. Gallay said the martial arts community works together to ensure these events are successful.

“There’s a club here in town, The Dojo, and they brought students to help us set ev-



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

**CATCHING THE KICK:** Around 400 competitors arrived at the Orangeville Open Martial Arts Championships on Saturday, Nov. 17. The event was held at the Orangeville Agricultural Centre. It was a full day of non-stop action with several disciplines of martial arts represented.

everything up. The karate community is pretty tight. We try to help each other out.

Gallay has hosted tournaments at various locations worldwide.

This was a well-run event, featuring non-stop action with a well-timed schedule to keep things moving as competitors met on several mats around the room, and plenty of space for spectators to enjoy the action.

# Scarlett Bears girls’ varsity hockey team posts one win, one loss after first two games

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Orangeville District Secondary School Scarlett Bears girls’ varsity hockey team has a 1-1 record to start the season after winning their first game of the season and losing their second one.

The Bears’ first game of the year took place on Nov. 3, against St. James Catholic High School from Guelph on Guelph home ice. It was a good inaugural game for the Bears, and they left the arena with an 8-0 win.

Their second game of the season had them up against the John F. Ross Collegiate Royals at Tony Rose Arena on Thursday, Nov. 13.

The Bears were down 2-0 midway through the second period. The Royals scored again to make it a 3-0 game.

ODSS was on the scoreboard late in the second period when they scored on a power play.

The Royals had a strong third period, and the Bears settled for an 8-2 loss after their second time on the ice.

“Our first game was really good,” said Bears player Emma Stamper of the team’s first game of the season. “We were making some good passes. We have good chemistry on the ice and our passes are connecting. I think we need to get more shots on

net, maybe work hard down low to get some scoring opportunities. We just want to have some fun and improve our skills.”

The game against Ross was a real challenge, but the Bears played a solid game.

“I think we have a lot of confidence this year,” said Bears player Selah Gowing. “Our defence is doing well and playing offensively. I think we need to step up more and pressure the other team and be right on them. I think we should be getting more shots on net.”

After just two games, the Bears are in third place in the District 10 standings.

Bishop Macdonell is in first place, followed by Centre Wellington.

The Scarlett Bears will be back on home ice at Tony Rose arena on Thursday, Nov. 27, when they will host Bishop Macdonell. Game time is 2 p.m.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

**SOLID EFFORT:** The Orangeville District Secondary School Scarlett Bears girls’ hockey team hosts the John F. Ross Collegiate Royals on the ice at Tony Rose arena on Thursday, Nov. 13. The Bears had to settle for an 8-2 loss in this game and are now in third place in the District 10 standings.

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# OPINION

## Let them eat cake

“Let them eat cake.”

That is the notorious phrase attributed to French Queen Marie Antoinette as her response to being told the population is starving.

It’s a little misleading as the phrase gets lost in translation. She wasn’t suggesting they bake a chocolate cake and have dessert – the reference was to brioche, another type of bread.

However, a history search reveals there’s no real evidence that the queen ever said those words, or even understood the plight of the peasants at the time.

It wasn’t even attributed to her until decades after her death.

More than likely, the phrase was blamed on her as a late excuse for explaining why an innocent person lost her head in the guillotine during the height of the French Revolution.

However, the phrase emphasizes the obvious need for people to have food.

“An army marches on its stomach,” is a phrase supposedly coined by Napoleon Bonaparte, the emperor who conquered much of the world, and apparently couldn’t get along with anyone.

Once again, it is not certain that he ever uttered that phrase. In fact, it has also been

attributed to a few other historical figures.

But the phrase does have a meaning. A well-fed army stays healthy and maintains morale.

Try feeding your army fish heads and beans for a year straight and see how willing they are to take up a fight.

There is an old story from the Second World War. A group of German soldiers had captured some American supplies.

When the Germans took a look at what they had captured, they were stunned to see the amount and quality of food that was heading for the American troops.

The Germans realized they were going to lose the war, based just on what they had found. They figured that the Allies were better equipped in all ways, and morale would be boosted by decent food that would make the Allies a superior fighting force.

Apparently, the German Army was more of a ‘bread and water’ type of army when it came to feeding its troops, and as a soldier, you were expected to like it and never complain.

Years ago, I had a job working on the Welland Canal, delivering food supplies to both Great Lakes freighters and some foreign ocean-going ships.

Quite often, we would arrive close to lunch or dinner time. Almost always, if it was close

to mealtime, after signing for the delivery, the cook would invite us to stay for something to eat.

The food served on the ships was always good, and that includes both the domestic carriers and the foreign ships.

It was much better and had more variety than you would get if you were at home and decided to throw a sandwich together for lunch.

The shipping companies knew very well that if you have a crew of 29 on a ship, and they may be away for weeks or months at a time, you want to keep them happy so the ship operates properly and morale remains high.

Good food makes people happy and healthy.

Health units in Ontario are reporting a dramatic increase in the number of households that are experiencing food insecurity. They simply can’t afford the food it takes to feed a household properly.

While we quite often think of low-income people struggling the most at the grocery store, the problem is now affecting the middle class.

Forget about inviting a group of friends over for a summer barbecue with steaks, baked

potatoes, and corn on the cob. Who can afford to buy a bunch of T-bones to throw on the grill?

More likely at a summer barbecue, you will hear the question, “How do you want your chicken hot dog cooked?”

No one in this country should have to struggle to put food on the table.

Food prices have been rising while grocery store chains are reporting record profits.

The rise in food prices was supposedly based on inflation. However, an educated consumer didn’t have to do much research to discover that many products that suddenly saw price increases were based solely on producers and suppliers seeing other producers raise their prices and following suit, strictly out of greed, not out of necessity.

Political leaders seem to be doing nothing to get this under control, so every citizen of this country can afford to feed their families.

While the fat cats dine at the fancy parliamentary café, I expect to hear one of them say, “Rising food prices? Let them eat hamburger.”

Except hamburger, which was once considered a cheap meat, has also gone through the roof price-wise.

BRIAN LOCKHART  
FROM THE SECOND ROW



## No war in East Asia

Russia has its endless war in Ukraine, Africa has the Sudanese civil war, the United States is on the brink of invading Venezuela, India and Pakistan had a brief (non-nuclear) war in South Asia, and Israel bombed Iran, Qatar, Syria, Lebanon, and the Gaza Strip. Well done, everybody! No, wait a minute – where’s East Asia?

Not a single one of the East Asian countries – China, Japan, the two Koreas and Taiwan – has fired a shot in anger all year. Indeed, there has even been a shortfall in the production of bloodcurdling threats in the region.

The worst anybody could come up with was a statement last week in parliament by Japan’s new prime minister, Sanae Takai-chi, that a Chinese attack on the island of Taiwan could amount to a “survival-threatening situation.” It might even trigger a military response by the Japanese armed forces. The Chinese reply is just as blunt, and equally ritualistic.

“Should the Japanese side fail to draw lessons from history and use force to intervene in the Taiwan question,” said Chinese defence ministry spokesman Jiang Bin, “it will suffer a crushing defeat against the steel-willed People’s Liberation Army.”

If you’re looking for trouble, a further

provocation came with the announcement on 15 November that South Korea will begin building nuclear-powered attack submarines in collaboration with the United States. (Which country they will actually be built in is still disputed between Seoul and Washington.)

North Korea is already building similar nuclear-powered subs, and it may well equip them with nuclear weapons. (Pyongyang already has land-based nukes, while South Korea has none.) Nevertheless, there is still little public enthusiasm for nuclear weapons in either Japan or South Korea, and few people lie awake worrying about imminent war in either country.

People do worry about China and Taiwan, although it has been many decades since those two countries fought each other. Indeed, in a sense, they have never really fought: the losing side in the 1945-49 civil war just retreated to the island of Taiwan while continuing to insist that it was the legitimate government of the Republic of China (ROC).

The Communist victors of the civil war renamed the country the People’s Republic of China (PRC). They control the entire mainland and claim Taiwan as well, but they have never ruled there. Most citizens of Taiwan are quite happy about that,

since Taiwan is a democratic country, but the PRC’s rulers insist that it must one day submit to rule from Beijing.

Seventy-six years on, this frozen conflict remains the one wild card in what is otherwise a very stable political status quo in the region.

The only plausible scenario for a second Korean civil war would be a sudden collapse of the North Korean regime, which is most unlikely. Japan is still war-averse and would leave any military action to stop a Chinese invasion of Taiwan to its American ally. And the Taiwanese themselves, outnumbered seventy-to-one by the mainlanders, would never start a war.

That leaves only China as the credible initiator of a war – and Xi Jinping, China’s president-for-life, always insists that the PRC has the right to ‘reunite’ Taiwan and China by force if other means fail. What has deterred Beijing from doing that for the past 75 years is the high probability that the United States would come to Taiwan’s defence. Since the US established diplomatic relations with the PRC in the 1970s, there has not been a guarantee for Taiwan, just a nod-and-a-wink sort of promise, but Xi Jinping, like all his predecessors, has taken it very seriously. What puts it in some doubt now is the very rapid

growth of the Chinese economy (the second biggest in the world) and especially the Chinese armed forces.

This has enabled China to build military forces that might be able to get an invasion force across the 180 kilometres of open ocean separating the mainland and Taiwan if the US doesn’t intervene. So many armchair strategists (and some professionals) have started calculating how many aircraft carriers the US Navy would lose if it sent them into the Strait of Taiwan.

They are barking up the wrong tree. Taiwan’s land defences need some work, but it is a very big island with few usable beaches, and its submarines and missiles would decimate Chinese sea transports. Meanwhile, the bulk of the US Navy would be a thousand kilometres offshore in the western Pacific and the South China Sea, blocking all ocean-borne trade to and from China.

No nukes, no conquest of Taiwan, and a dodgy future for the regime in Beijing that rolled the dice. The current regime in Beijing are not fools, so East Asia will probably remain at peace.

GWYNNE DYER  
OUR WORLD TODAY



## The revenge of the vending machines

Even though we have all used them at one time or another, vending machines are the “Rodney Dangerfield” of the machine world. They get no respect. We take them for granted when they work and take our frustrations out on them when they don’t. And when a vending machine withholds a snack that was paid for, I’ve seen it take more hits from a customer than a boxer in a championship bout.

It was only a matter of time before these machines, tired of the abuse they take, found a way to get back at us. To paraphrase a famous movie line, the vending machines are getting “mad as heck, and they’re not going to take it anymore!”

I have a feeling that all the vending machines in the world communicate with each other. They share information about the people who treated them poorly. And once the word is out, those people face endless problems getting their snacks from any vending machine afterward.

But the more the vending machines withhold products out of spite, the more abuse they begin to take, especially in the workplace. It’s kind of a vicious circle.

One Monday morning at work, I went to the cafeteria for breakfast. Our plant was

large enough to have a full-service cafeteria that served breakfast and lunch to employees during weekday shifts. It also had a row of snack machines and an old plunger-style cigarette machine to serve both the day and night shift employees at their convenience. I was one of the first to enter the cafeteria that morning and was greeted by a shocking sight: the tempered glass face of one of the snack vending machines had been vandalized!

Apparently, someone on the weekend night shift didn’t get their snack and, in a fit of sleep-deprived rage, struck the tempered glass face. While it held in place, the safety glass fractured into a million tiny pieces. Realizing what he had done, I have no doubt that the perpetrator vacated the cafeteria in a big hurry! Discovering the damage on the day shift, the food services company was not amused when they billed the plant to replace the glass.

Another time, during a break on the graveyard shift in the middle of the night, a co-worker wanted a pack of cigarettes from the old-style cigarette machine. He put his money in, pulled the plunger, and received... nothing.

Enraged, he began attacking the machine,

punching and kicking it before turning it on its side and beating on it some more. But like a stubborn prisoner resisting a physical interrogation, the cigarette machine refused to give up anything.

Even more enraged, the worker enlisted another person to help him pick up the machine and turn it completely upside-down! They began to shake it vigorously, much to the amusement of the handful of other people in the cafeteria.

Finally, the upside-down cigarette machine relented and spat out a pack. They weren’t the brand the guy wanted, but at that point, he didn’t care. He just wanted his nicotine fix. Once the guy saw the pack hit the floor, his attack finally ceased. After picking up his cigarettes, he and his buddy turned the cigarette machine right side up again and ever so gently set it back into place.

With all the abuse that vending machines endure, the only way they can get back at their abusers is by withholding products. We had a temperamental coffee machine in our cafeteria that, if it didn’t like you, would sometimes dispense the coffee first and then drop the cup down afterward! And some nights, it didn’t like a lot of people.

And how often does your bag of chips or candy bar get stuck in a vending machine, refusing to drop down to the retrieval slot? The machine’s attitude might be, “You were mean to me last time, so this time you can’t have your snack. But if the next person is really nice to me, they can have two snacks for the price of one!” And if your snack finally does fall down into the retrieval slot, the machine might wait until you put your hand in the slot to get your snack and then slam the door down on your hand! Vengeance is mine, sayeth the vending machine. They take their revenge wherever they can.

So, the next time you don’t get your snack from a vending machine, maybe there’s a reason. Perhaps the last machine you mistreated spread the word, and now they are all conspiring to withhold your snacks from you as payback. Not that I’m a conspiracy theorist, but sometimes you have to wonder.

To all the people out there who have trouble getting their snacks from vending machines: maybe try being nice to your vending machines, and maybe they’ll be nice back to you as well!

KEITH SCHELL  
REMEMBERING WHEN



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# Op-ed: Why does Ottawa want to put cash out of business?

St-Viateur Bagels is Montreal’s oldest bagel shop. Local foodies, celebrities and international tourists all flock to its famous shop in the city’s Mile End neighbourhood for its holey creations. “This is an artisanal product – hand-made and baked in a wood-fired oven,” said co-owner Vince Morena proudly. But once inside, there’s only one way for those hungry customers to get their hands on a firm, chewy wood-fired bagel. As Morena explained, “it is cash only.”

Whatever he may think about his bagels, Prime Minister Mark Carney wants to permanently change how Morena runs his business – and how millions of Canadians buy things everyday.

Earlier this year the Liberal government introduced Bill C-2, its controversial Strong Borders Bill. Among its many contentious provisions is one that would make it illegal for any person, business, bank or charity to accept a “cash payment, donation or deposit of \$10,000 or more”. Night drops, where businesses deposit their daily cash haul in a secure mail slot after banking hours, would also be prohibited. By banning cash transactions of this sort, Ottawa seems intent on making life as difficult as possible for businesses that deal in old-fashioned paper money.

“If we do \$20,000 of business in cash over a weekend, I don’t think we should be treated like criminals,” Morena snapped. Adding to the aggravation is the fact these changes are entirely redundant. All cash deposits of \$10,000 or more in Canada already face strict reporting requirements specifically meant to stop money laundering.

The full scope of Ottawa’s anti-cash plan goes far beyond inconveniencing small shops such as St-Viateur Bagel. If enough businesses give up on cash because of new government-imposed hassles, it will eventually become impossible for consumers to use paper money for any purchase throughout Canada. So why are the Liberals trying to put cash out of business?

There’s no denying the marketplace’s preference for credit cards and digital payment apps these days. Yet Ottawa’s anti-cash campaign overlooks the many ways in which paper money is crucial to a functional, fair and democratic society. These myriad benefits are detailed in the 2025 book *The Power of Cash* by Jay Zagorsky, a business professor at the Questrom School of Business at Boston University.

All forms of digital or plastic money, Zagorsky explained in an interview, require three things to work reliably: an uninterrupted electricity supply, a functional communications network and a secure payment system. Crises such as natural disasters or war can cause each to fail. “If you use your cellphone to pay for everything, what will you do when the power goes out?” he asked. Cash never breaks.

Paper money is also useful at the personal level, by limiting spending to whatever’s in your wallet. And it keeps prices down for both consumers and businesses. Asked why he only accepts cash at his bagel shop, Morena said “it all comes down to fees.” He pays an average 3 percent in fees on every non-cash sale he makes. “That money is going straight to the banks and credit card companies,” he grouched.

Paper money is equally popular within progressive policy circles. An estimated 12 percent

of Canadians do not have a credit card. Shut out of the modern payment world, these folks must rely on cash as a matter of survival. Victims of domestic abuse are often advised to build a secret stockpile of banknotes as an untraceable “getaway fund”, and many elderly people lack the desire or ability to figure out new-fangled apps.

Set against this broad range of benefits, Ottawa claims its attack on cash is necessary “to target organized crime and prevent money laundering”. Zagorsky devotes several chapters in his book to dismantling the notion that cash is the exclusive plaything of crooks, terrorists and tax cheats. “You don’t need cash to be a criminal,” he said. “If all the cash in the world magically disappeared one day, criminals would simply switch to other means.”

Paper money isn’t even a necessity for money launderers. The 2019 expert panel into money laundering in the B.C. real estate industry concluded that “bags of cash are not required to launder money.” Earlier this month, Canada’s anti-money laundering organization FinTRAC announced a record \$176 million fine against a cryptocurrency dealer for failing to report thousands of transactions worth \$10,000 or more in virtual currencies – the sort of activity that would in no way be impeded by a federal ban on large cash deposits.

All of which brings up the final and most important benefit to cash: as a bulwark against government overreach. “A cashless society gives government the power to shut down dissent quickly,” Zagorsky observed. “Once you eliminate cash, whatever government wants, government gets.” The main example of such

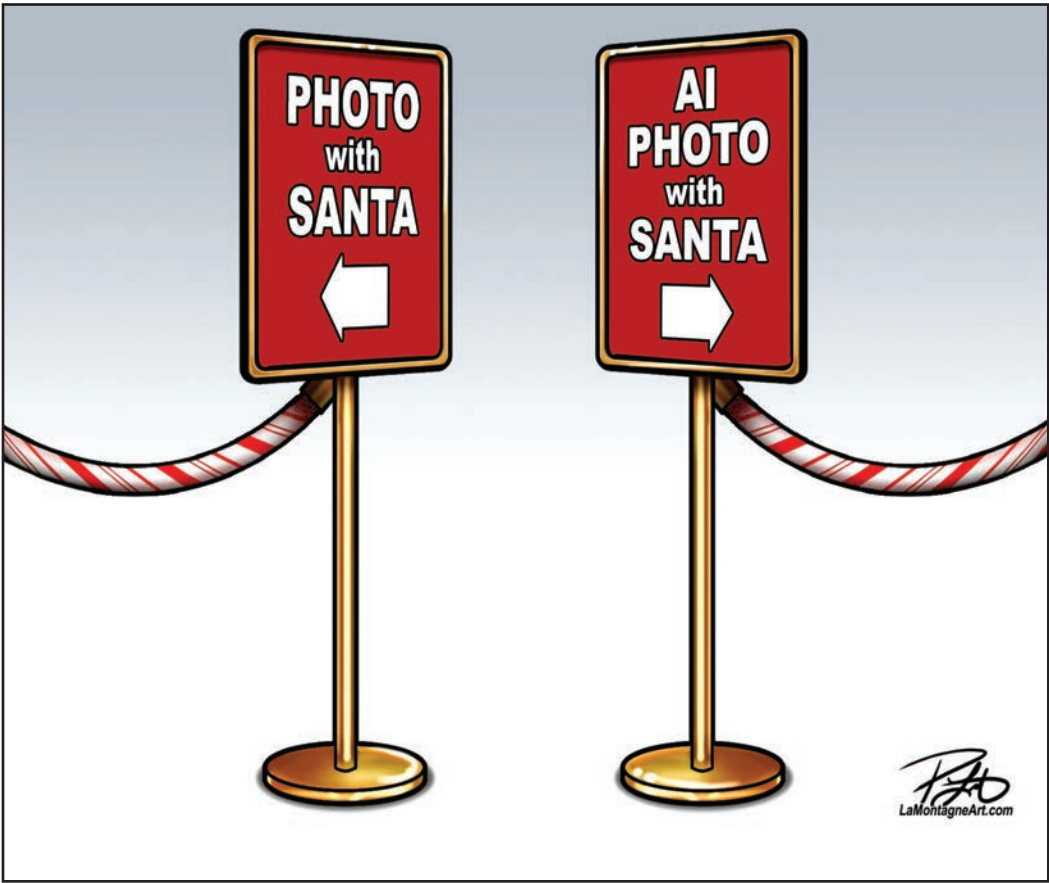
dictatorial behaviour in his book is Ottawa’s dramatic response to the 2022 Freedom Convoy protests. Once the Liberal government enacted the Emergencies Act and began freezing protesters’ bank accounts and credit cards, the protest ended almost overnight.

The lesson to be learned from the Freedom Convoy is that cash is a means to defend political freedom. And it seems Ottawa is thinking the same thing. We know it already has the power to shut down electronic and digital payments of all kinds. Banning substantial cash transactions closes the loop, putting the federal government in a position to shut down any future protest before it even starts.

Citizens in other countries have already grasped the political significance of cash. In Austria a recent petition signed by over half a million voters demanded that the right to use cash be enshrined in the country’s constitution. Switzerland is in the process of doing just that. Slovakia did the same thing in 2023.

“If you want to protect the interests of the common person, then we need to keep cash around,” Zagorsky stated. But simply hiding a stack of bills in your mattress isn’t sufficient. If cash is only kept for crises, then the financial and social infrastructure it requires to function will eventually wither away. It is therefore crucial not just to hold onto cash, but to spend it regularly. “Convince yourself and everyone you know to use cash at least once a week,” Zagorsky advised. “Buy something. Anything.” Your freedom may depend on it.

*This column was provided by c2c Journal and written by Peter Shawn Taylor, a senior features editor at c2cjournal.ca.*



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Restoring an affordable Canada

Canadians were hoping for a budget that would deliver a positive and affordable future for all Canadians. The Liberals had promised that it would be a generational budget. I had also hoped they would put forward a budget that would fix the cost of living crisis, fix the housing crisis, and get spending under control. Unfortunately, Mark Carney’s budget does none of these things.

Before the Budget was introduced in the House of Commons, Conservatives asked for affordability measures to help struggling Canadians, such as:

- Scrapping hidden taxes on food, including the industrial carbon tax on farmers, the food packaging tax that adds billions in costs, and the fuel standard tax that adds 17 cents per litre to diesel and gasoline for farmers;
- Ending the inflation tax by bringing down the cost of government to lower the

burden on Canadians; and

- Bringing down the deficit to the level Liberals promised in their last fiscal update.

It’s really disappointing the Liberals had a chance to do something in this budget to help Canadians with affordability and the cost of living, but didn’t. Our asks were reasonable.

We know how tough life is becoming for Canadians.

The highest number of Canadians in history visited food banks, with 2,165,766 million visits in March of this year. Nearly one in five of these visitors are employed, but still unable to afford food. This shows just how unaffordable life has become for average, hardworking Canadians and the need for relief.

Continued on Page B5

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# LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Restoring an affordable Canada

Continued from Page B3

Young Canadians are frustrated that they'll never own a home and are now spending more money on taxes than on food, clothing, and shelter combined. The Liberals' budget doesn't help ad-

dress the housing crisis and increases government spending. When the government spends more, it takes more money out of the pockets of Canadians, making it that much harder to get ahead and being able to afford a home. We need to turn this hurt into hope for

this generation. Conservatives continue to call on the Liberals to help make life affordable again for all Canadians. We want to help restore the promise that working hard will bring a pay cheque that puts a roof over every Canadian's head,

food on the table, and a comfortable retirement. We'll continue pushing Mark Carney for this positive vision of a brighter future and opportunity for all Canadians.

Dufferin-Caledon MP  
Kyle Seebach

## Orangeville resident removed from road after registering over twice the legal limit: Dufferin OPP

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers recently charged an Orangeville resident with impaired driving-related offences following a traffic stop.

On Nov. 13, shortly before 11 p.m., officers on general patrol in the area of Fifth Avenue in Orangeville observed a vehicle strike a curb while attempting to enter a

parking lot. Officers then initiated a traffic stop. During the interaction, officers observed signs of impairment, and an impaired driv-

ing investigation was initiated. David Power, 44, from Orangeville, has been charged with the following offence:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)
- Drive vehicle or boat with cannabis readily available
- Careless driving

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville. Power's driver's licence has been suspended, and his vehicle has been impounded.

The listed charges have not been proven in court.

"The Dufferin OPP reminds motorists to plan ahead when consuming alcohol or drugs. Use a designated driver, taxi, ride-share, public transit, or stay overnight," reads a press release from Dufferin OPP.

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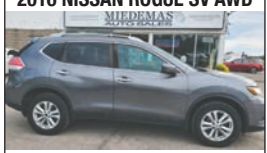


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Heated front seats, push button start, bluetooth & sunroof. New windshield & trans. service just completed! 2.5L 4 cylinder engine, AWD drivetrain.  
Ext: Silver, Int: Black. 240,000 KM  
**\$8,995** + HST & licensing



2010 CHEVROLET CAMARO LTZ  
Local trade-in. Brand new tires. Paint imperfections, priced accordingly. Automatic transmission, rear-wheel drive and 6 cylinder engine.  
Ext: Silver, Int: Black. 115,300 KM  
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2013 FORD ESCAPE SE AWD  
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Ext: White, Int: Black. 175,000 KM  
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519-940-3766

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**NOW HIRING**

Ice River is currently looking for four (4) Continuous Improvement Maintenance Specialist to join our team. You will be working for our Head Office, operating from our Feversham facility located at 494306 Grey Road 2, Feversham, Ontario, N0C 1C0.

**Position Summary**  
The Continuous Improvement Maintenance Specialist will provide technical support to the maintenance and production teams, driving continuous improvement (CI) initiatives across the company's packaging assets. This role will be instrumental in enhancing equipment performance, optimizing maintenance practices, and ensuring reliable production through strategic improvements and predictive maintenance programs.

These are full-time positions, based on 88 hours of work per 2-week cycle, with occasional overtime. At this time, we are only looking for individuals who can work a 12-hour rotating continental shift, including nights and weekends.

- Salary \$52.45 per hour, with possibility of bonus; 10 days vacation plus extended medical, dental, and long-term disability insurance & participation in our retirement savings plan.
- Inbound transportation costs for out of province applicants.
- Minimum of 7 years of experience in maintenance, production, or continuous improvement within a manufacturing environment.
- Minimum of 5 years of experience working as a service engineer with Krones machinery; this includes performing installations, audits, maintenance, troubleshooting, overhauls and conducting training sessions.
- Must have hands-on experience with automation and control systems, including plc programming, troubleshooting, and integrating these systems into production lines.
- Diploma or degree in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, industrial engineering, or a related field.
- Electrical or mechanical red seal certification preferred.
- Strong understanding of mechanical and electrical systems related to packaging equipment.
- Experience with preventive and predictive maintenance programs.
- Knowledge of KPI development and performance monitoring.
- Technical writing skills – report, summaries, instructions, procedures, structure.
- Willingness to travel to plant locations for onsite support.
- Ability to multitask in a fast-paced environment with a lot of change.
- Ability to work 12-hour continental rotating shift.
- Excellent knowledge of health and safety and lockout procedures.
- Strong team player with excellent problem-solving skills.
- Have a positive willingness to assist all departments as required.

To view a comprehensive overview of the position, please go to <https://jobs.dayforcehcm.com/en-US/irss/CANDIDATEPORTAL/jobs/3052>  
Interested candidates please send a copy of your resume and cover letter to [cstewart@iceriversprings.com](mailto:cstewart@iceriversprings.com) or write to:  
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Ice River Springs Water Co. Inc.  
485387 30th Sideroad  
Shelburne, ON  
L9V 3N5

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THIS NEWSPAPER!



AUCTIONS



# Herd Dispersal Live Auction Sale

for **118 Bred Cows/Heifers**  
**Saturday November 22, 11:00am to be held at**  
**554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON**

Directions: Go west through Orangeville on Hwy 9 to County Rd 16 (Veterans Way at Greenwood Cemetery), turn north 5 miles to farm on East side. OR From Shelburne go east on Hwy 89 for 2 miles to Mono-Amaranth Townline, turn south & go 5 miles to farm on East side.

**Cattle:**

**(40)Heifers: (10)Char, (20)Black, (10)Simm & Blk** - 1st time calvers, bred Angus, vaccinated, double moved

**(26) Heifers: (7) CharX, (8) Black, (11) Red** - bred Simm/Red Angus X, vaccinated, all double moved

**(15) Heifers** - Black, bred to Black Angus bull, vaccinated

**(10) Charolais cows** - all bred Charolais - vaccinated

**(11) Cows: (4) Black cows & calves, (4) bred cows, (3)black heifers** - bred Angus/Simm X, vaccinated

**(10) Charolais Cows & Calves** - (4)first calf heifers with calf at side, vaccinated

**(2) Charolais Cows**

**All Cows will be preg checked prior to sale.**



**Lunch Booth Washroom Available**

**Terms & Conditions:** Cash or cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner & Auctioneer will not be responsible for any accidents or loss on day of sale. All announcements on day of sale will take precedence over printed ads.

**Auctioneers: Kevin McArthur (519) 942-0264 / Scott Bessey (519) 843-5083**  
**www.theauctionadvertiser.com/KMcArthur** - Email: mcarthurbessey@gmail.com

HELP WANTED



# NOW HIRING

**Ice River is currently looking for ten (10) Process Control & Machine Operator(s), Beverage Processing (NOC 94140) to join our team. You will be working at our Shelburne facility, located at 108 Prentice Drive, Shelburne, ON, L9V 3N5.**

**Position Summary**

The Process Control & Machine Operator plays a critical role in our manufacturing process, responsible for ensuring the efficient and safe operation of bottling processing equipment. This role involves operating and maintaining specialized multi-function process control bottling machinery, monitoring production processes, and adhering to quality standards to ensure the consistent bottling of beverages. This position requires a strong focus on safety, attention to detail, ability to interpret technical instructions to operate sophisticated equipment and the ability to work effectively in a fast-paced environment.

- This is a full-time position, based on 88 hours of work per 2-week cycle, with occasional overtime. At this time, we are only looking for individuals who can work a 12-hour rotating continental shift, including nights and weekends.
- Salary \$20.60 - \$21.50 per hour, with possibility of bonus; 10 days vacation plus extended medical, dental, and long-term disability insurance & participation in our retirement savings plan.
- Inbound transportation costs for out of province applicants
- Completion of high school required.
- Some post-secondary education required as the position requires the ability to read and understand technical instructions and sophisticated Husky equipment user manuals.
- Two years plastics injection or bottling line experience required.
- Previous heavy equipment experience preferred.

To view a comprehensive overview of the position, please go to <https://jobs.dayforcehcm.com/en-US/irss/CANDIDATEPORTAL/jobs/3083>

Interested candidates please send a copy of your resume and cover letter referencing Req#317 to [ctewart@iceriversprings.com](mailto:ctewart@iceriversprings.com) or write to:

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Shelburne, ON  
L9V 3N5

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OBITUARIES

### MARY ANNE SIELER (NEE MIDDELTON)

Peacefully at Headwaters Health Care Centre on Friday, November 7th, 2025 at the age of 71. Beloved wife of Walter. Mother of Heather (Jamie) and Sherry. Grandmother of Raymond, Jade and Haley. Mary will also be greatly missed by other relatives and many friends.



Celebration of life will be held at the Royal Canadian Legion Alton Branch 449, 1267 Queen St W, Alton on Saturday, November 29th, 2025 from 2pm to 6pm.

Memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family

Condolences may be offered to the family at [www.dodsandmcnair.com](http://www.dodsandmcnair.com)

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OBITUARIES

### SARAH MARGARET “MARG” INA TODOROFF

Peacefully, with family by her side, at the Grey Bruce Hospice on Saturday November 8th, 2025, at the age of 76. Predeceased by Jerry, her beloved and devoted husband of 44 years. The proud and loving mother of Jason (Miranda) and Paul. Loving grandmother of Allison, Clarissa and Everett. Treasured sister of George (Juliane) Neil of Bridge North, Elizabeth (the late Edwin) Fry of Toronto and Mary (John) Mann of Blind River. She will be greatly missed by her many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.



Sarah was raised in Iron Bridge and Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario where she finished out her high school years before attending the University of Toronto for her undergrad and teacher's college, followed by obtaining her Masters of Education at Brock University. She had a lengthy career as a teacher and principal in Dufferin. Her love for children ran deep in the way she loved her sons and in later years her grandchildren, always putting family first. When she wasn't teaching in a formal setting, you could find her teaching at the keys of a piano and lending a listening ear and a gentle word to anyone who needed her gift of counselling. Marg was selfless and humble, dedicated and faithful, she was strong in her faith and had a pull for adventure and a keen love for gardening. Her wise words and kind heart will be greatly missed.

Visitation will be held at Markdale Baptist Church (144 Lorne Street) on Saturday, November 22nd at 10:00am followed by the funeral service at 11:00am. All are welcome to stay for a time of fellowship following the service. In lieu of flowers, donations to Markdale Baptist Church or the Grey Bruce Hospice- Chapman House. Online donations and condolences at [www.fawcettfuneralhome.ca](http://www.fawcettfuneralhome.ca)

VEHICLES WANTED

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

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

HELP WANTED

**DRIVERS URGENTLY WANTED:** If you are retired and looking for a part-time job, please contact Frank at 647-376-3365. Clean drivers abstract and the ability to send and receive texts a must.

**Job Title: INSIDE SALES REPRESENTATIVE.**

Partco Sales & Distributors, Ltd., Bolton, Ontario. Full time.

**Key Responsibilities:** Phone & email inquiries: Prepare quotes & sales orders: Provide product recommendations & technical support (training provided): Maintain knowledge of inventory, lead times, pricing and product specifications: Assist outside sales reps: Update CRM & ERP systems: **Qualifications:** 2+ years of inside sales, customer service or related industrial products / manufacturing experience (valves, fittings, piping, etc.) Team player with strong communication and interpersonal skills. Comfortable multitasking in a fast-paced deadline-driven environment. Microsoft Office proficient and experience with ERP/CRM systems. Attention to detail and proactive problem-solving.

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**SEASONED HARD MAPLE** - \$375/bush cord. Delivered, volume discounts. 519-379-6447 / 519-922-1117 or email: [kathy.winthers77@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.winthers77@gmail.com).

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**STEWART, Dorothy A.**

In loving memory of a dear mother who passed away November 18th, 2000.

*Two bright eyes, a tender smile,*

*A tender heart that knew no guile,*

*Doe's trust in God that all was right,*

*Her joy to make some other bright,*

*If sick or suffering one she knew,*

*Some gentle act of love she'd do.*

*No thought of self,*

*But of the other I know,*

*He said, "Well done, dear Mother"*

See Ya!

Peter

**STEWART, Jack D.**

In loving memory of a dear father who passed away November 22nd, 1999.

*In tears we saw you sinking,*

*We watched you fade away,*

*Our hearts were almost broken,*

*You fought so hard to stay.*

*But when we saw you sleeping,*

*So peacefully free from pain.*

*We could not wish you back*

*To suffer that again.*

See Ya!

Peter

**STEWART, Robert A.D.**

In loving memory of a dear brother who passed away November 23rd, 2009.

*God called him home,*

*It was His will,*

*But in our hearts*

*We love him still,*

*His memory is as dear today,*

*As in the hour he passed away.*

*We often sit and think of him,*

*When we are all alone,*

*For memory is the only thing,*

*That grief can call its own.*

See Ya!

Peter

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

**CHILDCARE  
SERVICES**

**ELIZABETH'S HOME CHILDCARE** – unlicensed & private in Shelburne will have 2 spots available January 1, 2026, ages 1 to 4 years. Contact via email: [elizabeth.tozer@hotmail.com](mailto:elizabeth.tozer@hotmail.com).

SERVICES

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

**IF YOU WANT** to keep drinking, that's your business. **IF YOU WANT** to stop drinking, that's our business. Call Alcoholics Anonymous Hot Line, 1-866-715-0005. [www.aan-orthhaltonerin.org](http://www.aan-orthhaltonerin.org).

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

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SERVICES

**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](http://www.gatoronto.ca).

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

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

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

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**\$29,879** +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

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STK# 7734P • 60,554 KM • 1.5L TSI TURBO, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, HEATED FRONT SEATS, REMOTE START, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, DIGITAL COCKPIT, APPLE CARPLAY & ANDROID AUTO, DUAL-ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, REARVIEW CAMERA, BLIND SPOT MONITORING!

**\$107** WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

**\$30,671** +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

**@ 6.99%** O.A.C. C.O.B \$8,133

2025 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN TRENDLINE

STK# TG2536 • 6,200 KM • AIR CONDITIONING, ALLOY WHEELS, BACKUP CAMERA, BLUETOOTH CONNECTION, BRAKE ASSIST, CRUISE CONTROL, HEATED SEATS, KEYLESS ENTRY, LANE ASSIST, PARKING SENSORS, POWER WINDOWS, REMOTE START, SATELLITE RADIO, SMART DEVICE INTEGRATION, WI-FI HOTSPOT!

**\$152** WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

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2025 LINCOLN NAUTILUS PREMIERE

STK# 7837T • 26,360 KM • WD, 48" WRAPAROUND DISPLAY, HEATED SEATS, ADAPTIVE CRUISE, REMOTE START, BLIND SPOT MONITOR, 360° CAMERA, POWER LIFTGATE, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, LED LIGHTING, AND MORE!

**\$206** WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

**\$54,771** +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

**@ 9.49%** O.A.C. C.O.B \$20,239

2024 HYUNDAI ELANTRA LUXURY

STK# 7784T • 20,132 KM • LEATHER INTERIOR, HEATED SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, SUNROOF, APPLE CARPLAY, ANDROID AUTO, WIRELESS CHARGING, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, BLIND SPOT MONITOR, LANE KEEP ASSIST, REARVIEW CAMERA, DUAL-ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, 17" ALLOY WHEELS, AND MORE!

**\$103** WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

**\$27,456** +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

**@ 9.49%** O.A.C. C.O.B \$10,145

2023 NISSAN KICKS SV

STK# 7671T • 72,577 KM • 1.6L I4, CVT, FWD, FRESH POWDER WHITE, CHARCOAL BLACK CLOTH, HEATED FRONT SEATS, REMOTE START, 8" TOUCHSCREEN, CARPLAY & ANDROID AUTO, SAFETY SHIELD 360, 17" ALLOY WHEELS, AND MORE!

**\$86** WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

**\$22,875** +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

**@ 9.49%** O.A.C. C.O.B \$8,453

2020 GMC SIERRA 1500 DENALI

STK# 7480T • 100,237 KM • 6.2L V8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 4WD, MULTIPRO TAILGATE, 22" POLISHED WHEELS, BOSE PREMIUM AUDIO, HEADS-UP DISPLAY, HEATED & VENTILATED SEATS, HD SURROUND VISION, WIRELESS CHARGING, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL!

**\$219** WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 72 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

**\$51,986** +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

**@ 9.49%** O.A.C. C.O.B \$16,243

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**\$176** WEEKLY INCLUDE HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

**\$46,785** +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

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