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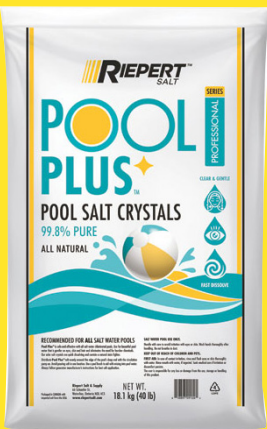
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# Accessibility advocates question consultation process on Rotary Park redevelopment

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Rotary Park’s new beginning in Orangeville isn’t shaping up to be idyllic blue-sky swings and baseball games.

Some people who lobby to ensure high accessibility standards in the town are up in arms because they say municipal staff didn’t include council’s accessibility committee members in the park’s plans.

The park, which is located in the town’s east end, began the first stage of its redevelopment in 2024. Municipal staff presented a concept for the full redevelopment to council in June 2022.

The concept includes enhancements to everything from parking lots to sports fields, tennis courts, and other fixtures.

James Jackson, a resident who shares the effort of trying to make the town more accessible, said he tried to have himself added as a delegation to discuss the park during council’s July 14 meeting.

He said he was told to appear at least seven days prior to the scheduled meeting. The thing is, he said, meeting agendas are posted five days in advance.

“So how could I put in a submission when I don’t even know what’s on the agenda yet?” Jackson said.

Further, Jackson said, he was told it didn’t matter what the accessibility committee members thought about the park plans.

“You guys (council) are going to do whatever you want and it doesn’t matter what we recommend or our opinions or our

thoughts,” he said.

And that cut deep by any estimation.

“It just made me feel as if for the first time in my entire life, for the 11 years that I’ve been an advocate, an ambassador and everything that I’ve been doing, it made me feel as if it has been for naught,” Jackson said.

He said he feels as if his opinions about accessibility and inclusion mean nothing. Rotary Park is about to become a “destination park” with many recreational amenities.

“We must make it all inclusive for everybody,” Jackson said.

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act lays out requirements for such committees to be consulted.

According to the legislation, when constructing new or redeveloping existing outdoor play spaces, obligated organizations other than small organizations shall consult on the needs of children and caregivers with various disabilities.

Municipalities must consult with their municipal accessibility advisory committees, where one has been established, according to provincial legislation.

The park’s new design was recently chosen after about 1,000 residents voted over two weeks. Now the town will work with consultants, the playground contractor, and the Rotary Club of Orangeville to move the project forward.

Equipment is about to be ordered, and the site will be prepped for installation, according to a press release from the Town of Orangeville. The playground could be ready for use later this year.

“The accessibility committee is an advisory committee to council,” Mayor Lisa Post said. “So they are not a decision-making body.”

Council routinely engages the group for feedback and suggestions. Municipal staff then implement those recommendations, she said.

“No committee has the ability to say no against a plan, to decline a plan,” Post said. “You can give feedback towards a plan.”

Deputy Mayor Todd Taylor said he had to weigh in on the issue.

“I see you (Jackson) and I see a whole bunch of other very familiar faces in this audience tonight that all contribute at a very high level to our town,” he said. “We need everybody to do that.”

Taylor said he and Jackson have spent much time together on various committees. As such, Jackson is cognizant of how committee feedback is brought back to the town’s staff and elected officials. That feedback is valued, Taylor said.

Jackson said he’s heard from members of the public who harbour doubts about the re-

development’s accessibility.

“There was only three (options) for them to choose from, so they made a choice and a decision,” Jackson said about how the park’s design was selected. “But they told me that it doesn’t look accessible.”

“It came to the accessibility committee as soon as public consultation completed,” Post said. “That was the next thing that happened.”

Simply, the town ran with the design that was chosen by residents who participated in a survey. That choice was then brought to the committee for thoughts on accessibility before the redevelopment plan was finalized.

“It did come to accessibility, not as an afterthought,” she said.

Councillor Debbie Sherwood asked for clarification about Jackson’s assertion about timelines for delegation requests and when meeting agendas are available.

“It didn’t make sense what you said,” Sherwood remarked.

Raylene Martell, the town’s clerk, said the “last-minute” delegation request process was scrapped last year in favour of an open forum format.

“The last-minute delegation process was proving to be problematic” because such requests weren’t able to go through necessary accessibility checks, she said. That meant final meeting agendas were delayed.

“The open forum process provides anybody the ability to speak before council without registering, without going through any hoops,” Martell said.

Orangeville resident Sarah Clarke said accessibility isn’t about checking a box or meeting a minimum standard.

“True accessibility begins by listening to those who have lived experience,” she said. “Not as a final step, but from the very beginning. In this case, the park plans were voted on before they were brought to the accessibility committee. That means input from those with lived experience came too late to meaningfully help shape a design.”

Comments were also shared by Kimberly Van Ryn, a local accessibility advocate and committee member, who owns Branching Out Support Services at 5 First St. Her business provides day programming and support to adults with disabilities.

“We are not speaking for the neurodiverse and disabled,” said Kimberly van Ryn, local resident and owner of Branching Out Support Services. “We are the neurodiverse and disabled people of this community and therefore expect to fulfill our roles as community consultants and advocates.”

“The playground does not do us justice or represent Orangeville,” said resident Michelle Hartley.

Town consultant affirms Rotary Park is accessible

Written By JAMES MATTHEWS

Despite concerns from the town’s advisory committee, Orangeville’s redeveloped Rotary Park will be fully accessible.

And such assurances were given by a consultant hired by the town to helm the park’s redesign when council met on July 14.

Accessibility Orangeville committee members believe otherwise. Further, they charge that the committee wasn’t approached for feedback on the plans.

According to provincial legislation, when constructing new or redeveloping existing outdoor play spaces, obligated organizations other than small organizations shall consult on the needs of children and caregivers with various disabilities.

Municipalities must consult with their municipal accessibility advisory committees, where one has been established.

Janet Elliott, the consultant hired by the town who has built playgrounds for about 35 years, said “some” of the information provided by the accessibility advisory group was indeed considered.

And, she said, the design submitted to the town is 100 per cent fully accessible.

After two weeks of voting by residents, with nearly 1,000 votes cast, the winning design for the new Rotary Park playground was chosen.

Those residents who voted selected the third option out of the three proposed. The park equipment will soon be ordered and site preparations will begin for installation. It’s hoped the playground will be done later this year.

“We dealt with a lot of accessibility

committee and we’ve talked to a lot of parents and caregivers, and we have gotten products that we know are tried and tested in the industry,” Elliott said.

Elliott said she is the mother of a child with special needs and her own concerns were reflected in the park’s design and equipment chosen.

“I am all about inclusion and all about universal play,” she said.

Elliott said any feedback that needs to be addressed during the remainder of the work will be incorporated when possible.

“We’re willing to see that happen,” she said.

Charles Cosgrove, the town’s parks and facilities manager, echoed that.

“If they (advisory committee) wants some changes, we can make some changes,” he said, and add-ed that a wheelchair swing could be added to the playground’s design.

“We can discuss all the items that would have to be removed plus some additional ones that they may wish to see,” Cosgrove said.

Mayor Lisa Post thanked committee members for attending the council meeting and for vocalizing their concerns.

“I wanted to reiterate the fact that this did come to the accessibility committee at the right time be-cause the concept that you got was simply that,” she said. “It was a concept.”

She said the intent was that the design be chosen before each playground component was to be evaluated to pass accessibility muster.

“It was not a final design that came to you,” she said. “It was a concept.”



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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

**ARTISTIC DELIGHT:** Members of the Orangeville Art Group are taking over the Shelburne Town Hall Art Gallery with a new show to celebrate its 70th anniversary, titled “OAG: 70 Years of Art in the Community.”

# New exhibit celebrates Orangeville Art Group’s 70th anniversary

Continued from FRONT

Freda Wrench began her journey in the arts first with a passion for figurative work, which led her to study Fashion Design at George Brown College. She was later drawn to fine art and received her education through evening classes, workshops and many hours of painting and drawing.

Wrench has experimented with various art mediums, but finds her favourites to be watercolour and acrylic ink. As a visual artist, her subject matter varies with inspiration coming from nature, humanity and music.

She’s participated in group and solo shows as well as studio tours throughout Ontario and Quebec. She also sat on the Headwaters Art Gallery Committee in Alton for 10 years.

“It’s good to be able to show and share your work with a new audience,” said Wrench about the exhibit in Shelburne.

The “OAG: 70 Years of Art in the Community” exhibit will be on display at the Shelburne Town Hall Art Gallery until July 25.

More information about the Orangeville Art Group, including membership and workshops, can be found at orangevilleart-group.com.

# Local resident faces several charges for impaired driving

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers have charged an Orangeville resident with impaired driving-related offences following a public complaint.

On July 4, shortly after 6:30 p.m., officers responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle in the area of Townline in Orangeville.

After arriving to the area, officers spoke with the male driver and observed signs of impairment, prompting them to initiate an impaired driving investigation.

Logan Cotton, 37, from Orangeville, has been charged with:

- Operation while impaired - alcohol and drugs
- Failure or refusal to comply with demand
- Having care or control of a motor vehicle



- with liquor readily available
- Possession of a Schedule I Substance - Opioid (other than heroin)
- Having care or control of a motor vehicle with open container of liquor

The accused individual is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville. Cotton’s driver’s license was suspended, and his vehicle was impounded. The charges listed against Cotton have



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2023 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLE CREW 4X4



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STK# B12573 • 87,529 KM • KODIAK, 5.3L V8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 3.23 AXLE, 5.8FT BOX, AUTOTRAC 4WD, GOOGLE RADIO, HEATED CLOTH BENCH, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START, POWER GROUP, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, INTELLILINK, TOW PACKAGE, REAR CAMERA, 18 INCH ALLOYS!

\$172 WEEKLY + HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

\$51,812 +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

@ 5.49% O.A.C. C.O.B \$10,619

2022 CHEVROLET MALIBU LT REDLINE



CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

STK# B12580 • 112 KM • 1.5L TURBO 4-CYLINDER, CVT, MYLINK, DUAL-ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, HEATED LEATHER BUCKETS, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, 19 INCH BLACK ALLOYS, REAR CAMERA, REMOTE START, DRIVER CONFIDENCE PKG I & II, REAR PARK ASSIST, REAR CROSS TRAFFIC, BLIND SPOT!

\$113 WEEKLY + HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

\$33,912 +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

@ 5.49% O.A.C. C.O.B \$6,951

2025 CHEVROLET EQUINOX ACTIV AWD



CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

STK# B12506 • 22,652 KM • 1.5L TURBO 4-CYLINDER, 9-SPEED AUTOMATIC, AWD, HEATED/COOLED LEATHER/SUEDE BUCKETS, HEATED WHEEL, HEATED 2ND ROW, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, 17 INCH DARK ALLOYS, REMOTE START, POWER LIFTGATE, CHEVROLET INFOTAINMENT 3, SURROUND CAMERA, REAR PARK ASSIST, SAFETY AND TECHNOLOGY PACKAGE, CONVENIENCE PACKAGE 3, ADAPTIVE CRUISE!

\$148 WEEKLY + HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

\$44,512 +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

@ 5.49% O.A.C. C.O.B \$9,123

2023 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLE CREW 4X4



CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

STK# B12428 • 68,397 KM • KODIAK, 5.3L V8, 10-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 3.23 AXLE, 5.8FT BOX, AUTOTRAC 4WD, GOOGLE RADIO, HEATED CLOTH BENCH, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START, POWER GROUP, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, INTELLILINK, TOW PACKAGE, REAR CAMERA, 17 INCH ALLOYS!

\$179 WEEKLY + HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

\$53,912 +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

@ 5.49% O.A.C. C.O.B \$11,050

2021 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLT CREW X31



CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

STK# 25064A • 94,090 KM • 5.3L V8, 8-SPEED AUTOMATIC, 3.23 AXLE, 5.8FT BOX, AUTOTRAC 4WD, HEATED LEATHER BENCH, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, REMOTE START, POWER GROUP, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, INTELLILINK, TOW PACKAGE, REAR CAMERA, 18 INCH ALLOYS!

\$166 WEEKLY + HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

\$49,912 +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

@ 5.49% O.A.C. C.O.B \$10,230

2024 GMC TERRAIN DENALI AWD



CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

STK# B12491 • 6,823 KM • BLACK DIAMOND EDITION, 1.5L TURBO 4-CYLINDER, 9-SPEED AUTOMATIC, AWD, NAV, PANORAMIC SUNROOF, HEATED/COOLED LEATHER BUCKETS, HEATED WHEEL, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE, 19 INCH DARK ALLOYS, REMOTE START, POWER LIFTGATE, INTELLILINK, REAR CAMERA, REAR PARK ASSIST, GMC PRO SAFETY PLUS, ADAPTIVE CRUISE!

\$146 WEEKLY + HST 84 MONTHS WEEKLY LICENSING EXTRA

\$43,912 +HST/LIC \$0 DOWN

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2025 GMC TERRAIN ELEVATION FWD



25503

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/WK

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BASED ON \$38,111 SELLING PRICE - \$2500 DOWN

2025 GMC ACADIA ELEVATION AWD



4 TO CHOOSE FROM

FINANCE FROM **\$189**<sup>+HST/LIC</sup>  
/WK

FOR 84 MONTHS FOR 4.99% - COB \$10764  
BASED ON \$63,096 SELLING PRICE - \$5000 DOWN

2025 GMC SIERRA 1500 PRO CREW 4X4



2 TO CHOOSE FROM

LEASE FROM **\$165**<sup>+HST/LIC</sup>  
/WK

FOR 48 MONTHS FOR 6.9% - 20,000KM/YR  
BASED ON \$67,769 SELLING PRICE - \$0 DOWN

2025 GMC CANYON ELEVATION 4X4



25819

FINANCE FROM **\$166**<sup>+HST/LIC</sup>  
/WK

FOR 84 MONTHS FOR 4.99% - COB \$9406  
BASED ON \$55,766 SELLING PRICE - \$5000 DOWN

2025 GMC SIERRA 1500 ELEVATION 4X4 2025 GMC SIERRA 2500HD SLE CREW 4X4



25618

LEASE FROM **\$192**<sup>+HST/LIC</sup>  
/WK

FOR 48 MONTHS FOR 6.9% - 20,000KM/YR  
BASED ON \$71,548 SELLING PRICE - \$0 DOWN



25670

FINANCE FROM **\$242**<sup>+HST/LIC</sup>  
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FOR 84 MONTHS FOR 4.99% - COB \$13769  
BASED ON \$79,317 SELLING PRICE - \$5000 DOWN



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# Family Transition Place to hold open house marking 40th anniversary

Written By **PAULA BROWN**  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Family Transition Place (FTP) is celebrating 40 years of work in the community, and to show their appreciation for the ongoing support, they're inviting community members to an open house event.

The open house will be held on Sept. 13 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Family Transition Place, located at 20 Bredin Parkway, Orangeville.

"This year, FTP is celebrating 40 years of providing safety, support and hope within the Dufferin and Caledon communities," reads a press release from FTP. "This longevity is both the unfortunate reality of the enduring and growing need for its services and

support as a violence against women agency, yet also a beautiful testament to this community's commitment and belief in FTP's work.

Family Transition Place (FTP) was founded in 1985 by a determined group of community members committed to creating a safe space for families in transition. The organization was originally based out of a small home on Hillside Drive.

Family Transition Place moved to the Bredin Drive location in 1997 and operates two satellite locations based out of Bolton and Shelburne. The Orangeville facility can accommodate upwards of 28 people, both women and children, at any given time. FTP has 12 independent units in their emergency shelter.

Over the past 40 years, the agency has

also grown beyond simply providing a safe space for individuals leaving intimate partner violence, as they also advocate for the prevention of gender-based violence through counselling services and education outreach programs.

As part of recognizing its 40th anniversary, Family Transition Place is launching a series of initiatives for community members to take part in, helping with the future goals of the organization.

The initiatives include: welcoming 40 new monthly donors, raising \$40,000 through third-party events, sharing the stories and experiences of 40 shareholders, and reaching 40 new businesses.

"We hope you'll consider how you can play an integral part in our future and realizing

our vision — a future free of abuse where all individuals are treated with compassion, equity and respect, and live their lives in healthy relationships."

For more information about each of the opportunities, reach out to Kelly Lee, FTP's manager of fund development and communication strategies, at 519-942-4122 ext. 243 or [kelly@familytransitionplace.ca](mailto:kelly@familytransitionplace.ca).

Those interested in attending the open house, celebrating Family Transition Place's 40th anniversary, are required to register for the event. A registration link will be sent out later in the summer.

Registration details will be available on FTP's Facebook, Instagram, and Threads accounts as well as their website – [www.familytransitionplace.ca](http://www.familytransitionplace.ca).

## Dufferin OPP's RIDE program in Orangeville results in impaired driving charges for local man

Dufferin Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers have charged an Orangeville resident with impaired driving-related offences following a Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (R.I.D.E.) program.

On July 4, at approximately 1:15 a.m., Dufferin OPP officers were conducting a R.I.D.E. spot check in the area of Centre Street in Orangeville. A vehicle entered the checkpoint and, after a brief interaction with officers, an impaired driving investigation was initiated.

Steven Gordon, 41, of Orangeville, has been charged with the following offences:

- Operation while impaired - Blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)
- Operation while impaired - Alcohol and drugs
- Driving a motor vehicle with liquor readily available
- Driving a motor vehicle with no currently validated permit

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Orangeville.

In addition, his driver's licence was suspended, and his vehicle was impounded.

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.

If someone appears to be driving while impaired, call 9-1-1 immediately.

To report any other unlawful activity, contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122, or submit an anonymous tip through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at [crimestoppersdm.com](http://crimestoppersdm.com).



**SPEAKING OUT:** Green Party of Ontario leader and Guelph MPP Mike Schreiner delivers a passionate speech at Mill Square Park before marching with protesters to fellow MPP Sylvia Jones' office at 180 Broadway, to speak out against Bills 5 and 17 on July 12.



**FIGHTING FOR CHANGE:** Laura Campbell, who ran as the Dufferin-Caledon Green Party candidate in the 2022 election, leads chants outside of Sylvia Jones' office during a protest against Bills 5 and 17 on July 12.

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This will be a fully decorated event including drapery for each booth, entertainment and even Santa Claus!

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To apply to be a vendor at the show, scan the QR code or email [shows@lpcmedia.ca](mailto:shows@lpcmedia.ca) for a vendor application form.

Deadline for applications is:  
August 29th, 2025





# Arts & Entertainment



LOCAL COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Talented musicians to perform at unique venues for Caledon Music Festival

Written By CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD

The Caledon Music Festival once again is bringing world-class musicians to Caledon for four remarkable concerts over the month of August. Artistic director and general manager of the festival, Terry Lim, shared notes with the Citizen for this year's festival, which has the theme, "Inside Stories." The theme explores the depth of storytelling through the universal language of music.

"This season is about how music tells stories and can transport audiences to fantastical and otherworldly places – experienced through the canon's most beloved works and in hidden gems," Lim noted.

With its breathtaking setting at the Davis Family Farm and its 60 acres of sunflowers, the first concert takes place on Aug. 2 at 7:30 p.m.

"During the concert hour, the lighting is changing; it was so incredible. Last year, I was in love with how grateful I am. Back to the Davis Farm and plan to make it annual. This concert is light, quirky and funny," said Lim.

"The programs are very different – one from the other," he added.

For the second concert on Sunday, Aug. 17, starting at 2 p.m., the festival returns to the Alton Mill Arts Centre to perform under the tent over the Atrium, with its excellent acoustics.

"Side-by-side is the title and is an opportunity for the young artists and festival artists to collaborate," said Lim.

Each year, a number of young artists are usually recommended by the festival artists to be paired with them. The joy of the side-by-side concert is the collective effort that is showcased. It demonstrates how well they can create music as a unified team, Lim explained.

Part of the program includes Mendelssohn's String Octet; he was 16 years old when he wrote it.

"It is one of the most impressive works of art ever produced by anyone so young, perfectly fitting to our young artist program,"



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**BEAUTIFUL BACKDROP:** Terry Lim played the flute at a concert held at the Davis Family Sunflower Farm as an extraordinary event that dazzled the audience at last year's Caledon Music Festival. The schedule this year will begin with the sunflowers at David Farm, and another series of four fabulous concerts will take place at three separate venues.

Lim remarked.

Local talent, Emily Vondrejsova, returns to the festival to sing operatic arias in this program.

On Saturday, Aug. 23, starting at 7:30 p.m., a concert will take place at the Westminster United Church in Orangeville. The venue was chosen for its ambiance and grand piano, which will be utilized by a pianist that Lim is bringing.

This is "A Journey into Cabaret and Broadway," with cabaret and Broadway Showtunes, culminating, as Lim says in his notes, "In one of the great chamber works that blend lyrical folk idioms with formal sophistication offer a deeply satisfying close to a program that celebrates both the intimacy and grandeur of chamber music. This is very show stopping."

On Sunday, Aug. 31, at 2 p.m., is The Grand Finale at the Alton Mill. It centres around JS

Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No. 4, which Lim calls "the most iconic and beloved work of all time." It will be paired with Toy Symphony by Haydn-Mozart and three other works in "concertante" style. A local talent – and one of the community's young artists – Kai Rousseau will play Vaughan Williams' "The Lark Ascending" for solo violin, accompanied by a string quartet, Mozart Flute Quartet for solo violin and strings, etc.

This is quite an opportunity for Rousseau to play in such a concert.

The Caledon Music Festival will have a stunning round of concerts, featuring a broad sweep of classical and popular music at the best venues chosen for each, showing world-class performances. The festival is a true celebration of the transformative power of music.

What brings TSO-level musicians, normally appreciated at Stratford or the Otta-

wa Chamberfest, to Caledon is that it's very different from other festivals. They love the area and the charming venues, so contrasting to where they usually perform.

As Lim remarked, "There isn't any classical music series in Caledon. I always wanted to play outside T.O. and have been looking for a different venue."

Yet, all such festivals need funding, and there were comments about that, too.

"This is a lot of easy listening, emotional programs are something I'm really excited about," said Lim. "I am looking for even something small like snacks for the musicians. I want to work with the local business; some businesses offered goods to sell to raise funds."

Donations come from patrons and even businesses who might like to support what is unique – a classical, and more, concert series performed by top-notch musicians in a rural setting, without the need to drive to the city. It is a wonderful addition to summer's celebration.


"They practice new music, and I've been trying to find more unusual venues – like the Davis Family Farm. About 120 people came to see that," said Lim. "Emily Vondrejsova, a local singer is with us again. This is the 17th concert at the Alton Mill and that is a big program, a chance to show off the Mendelssohn."

On Aug. 17, the Alton Mill shows youthful passion with four young artists and four festival artists who are hand-picked, up-and-comers, heading to top schools, and selected by festival musicians.

He actually posted on social media, "Is this in Caledon???"


"Bringing people to something outside music venues. I think the experience is important. Each year making it a little better. If there were funding in excess of the promotion, we have a number of followers, and we're looking for others to come for the first time," said Lim.

To explore what's in store for this summer and to purchase tickets, go to [caledonmusicfest.ca](http://caledonmusicfest.ca)




**David Gauthier**  
Service Consultant

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




**Maurice McDonald**  
Service Consultant

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



**Jazz Matharu**  
Service Consultant

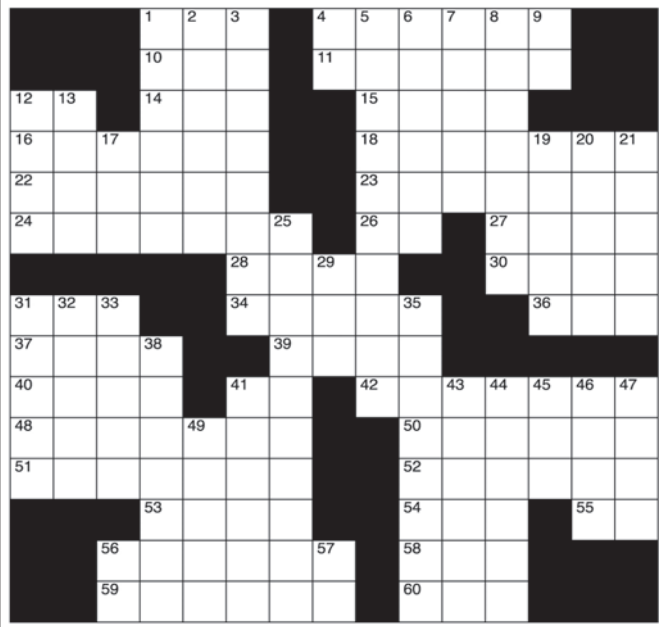
Jazz combines technical knowledge with an easygoing, professional style that customers appreciate. Bilingual in English and Punjabi, he makes sure every guest feels heard and understood. Whether it's a routine visit or a more involved repair, Jazz helps keep the process efficient, transparent, and tailored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



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### The Citizen CROSSWORD

Puzzle No. 257410 • Solution on page: CLASSIFIEDS SECTION



**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Pacific Standard Time  
4. Extracts through heating and melting  
10. Express delight  
11. More curvy  
12. Expression of uncertainty  
14. Indicates before  
15. Daughter of Hera and Zeus  
16. Southwestern CA city  
18. Unified  
22. Less attractive  
23. Base of jellies  
24. A large and noisy party  
26. He was traded for Luka  
27. Wolverine genus  
28. "Happy Days" actress  
Moran

30. Root of taro plant  
31. Student environmental group (abbr.)  
34. Silk garments  
36. Unique power  
37. Ray Liotta cop film  
39. Leak slowly through  
40. Notion  
41. Atomic #55  
42. Fixed in one place  
48. About heat  
50. Type of baseball pitch  
51. Seedless raisin  
52. Large wading birds  
53. Similar  
54. Time zone  
55. Atomic #34  
56. Program  
58. Old world, new  
59. Contrary belief  
60. "To the \_\_\_ degree"

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Plain-woven fabric  
2. Classed  
3. Suppositions  
4. Midway between south and west  
5. Tropical American trees  
6. Leveled  
7. Published false statement  
8. Adolescent  
9. Junior's father  
12. Aurochs  
13. Not low  
17. Boxing's GOAT  
19. Short musical composition  
20. Small immature herrings  
21. Eavesdropper  
25. Parcels of land  
29. Anger  
31. Irritations  
32. Hindu holy man  
33. Wicker basket for fish  
35. Natural object  
38. Transporting in a vehicle  
41. A dog is one  
43. Smaller portion  
44. Sew  
45. Belonging to a thing  
46. Horsley and Greenwood are two  
47. Scottish language  
49. Producer  
56. Exclamation of surprise  
57. Russian river

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



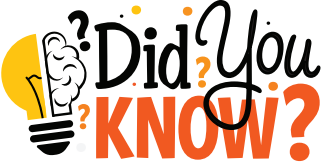
**How they say that in...**

**English:** Retailer  
**Spanish:** Minorista  
**Italian:** Rivenditore  
**French:** Détaillant  
**German:** Einzelhändler




Shopping at this type of store keeps 67 cents of every dollar spent in the community.

Answer: Small, local business




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# Canadian singer-songwriter Emm Gryner to perform at Windrush Estate Winery

Written By **PAULA BROWN**  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dufferin County residents have the chance to experience a kaleidoscope of music as three-time Juno nominee and notable Canadian singer-songwriter Emm Gryner kicks off her summer tour.

Gryner will be taking the stage on July 20 at 3 p.m. at Windrush Estate Winery in Palgrave.

“What I do in my show is incorporate my whole story, and there’s a lot of fun highlights. I went from living in the middle of nowhere, to having a dream of doing music,” Gryner told the Free Press. “The show becomes an interactive experience that I think people really enjoy.”

Gryner’s music career spans nearly three decades, during which she’s released more than 20 studio albums in a gamut of genres, including pop, rock, smooth jazz, and heavy metal.

Not long after establishing herself on the Canadian scene with her hit single “Summer-long”, Gryner was invited to join the touring band for David Bowie. She performed on stage with Bowie at Glastonbury 2000 and has graced the stage with the legendary band Def Leppard.

Gryner also pioneered her own path in the music industry as founder of one of Canada’s first independent record labels, Dead Daisy Records, releasing her own music alongside other artists, such as Sarah Slean and Royal Wood.

In more recent years, Gryner has taken her talents beyond the stage to share her decades of accumulated wisdom in the music industry as a vocal coach, music business mentor, author and life coach.

Beyond the stage, she collaborated with Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield to create the first music video filmed in space, and also released a book titled “The Healing Power of

Singing: Raise Your Voice, Change Your Life.”

During this time, she’s continued to release genre-bending albums, including: “Only of Earth: Day of Games,” a 70s classic rock/80s synth-pop inspired collection in 2017; “Only For You,” a smooth jazz album in 2020; and “Business & Pleasure, a groovy ode to yacht-rock in 2023.

“A lot of people are [genre-bending] these days because audiences have become more interested in who the artist is,” said Gryner.

Tickets for the show are \$45 and include the concert, pop-up art exhibition by Andie Trepanier, and a reception. Guests under 19 or over 90 can attend for free.

A portion of the proceeds raised at the concert will help empower underserved children using the arts at youthLEADarts.com.

Tickets for the concert can be purchased online at windrushestatewinery.com or by calling 905-729-7600.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**TAKING THE STAGE:** Three-time Juno nominee and notable Canadian singer-songwriter Emm Gryner will be performing at Windrush Estate Winery in Palgrave

# Inaugural Earth & Fire: Clay and Glass Festival coming to Museum of Dufferin

Written By **PAULA BROWN**  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Museum of Dufferin (MoD) is bringing together talented artisans from across the province to showcase their unique works of art crafted from the elements of the earth – clay and glass.

The local museum announced in a press release on Monday, July 14, that it will be hosting the inaugural Earth & Fire: Clay and Glass Festival, a one-day celebration of artistry and craftsmanship.

The event will be held at the Museum of Dufferin, located at 936029 Airport Rd in Mulmur, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sept. 20.

“We’re incredibly excited to host the Earth

& Fire: Clay and Glass Festival and showcase the immense talent of artists from our community and across Ontario,” said Jasmine Proteau, manager at the Museum of Dufferin.

“This festival is not just a celebration of clay and glass — it’s an opportunity to immerse ourselves in the creativity and skill that goes into every piece. We can’t wait for attendees to experience the incredible artistry on display and engage with the artists themselves.”

The festival will feature an array of works, ranging from vibrant, hand-blown glass sculptures to intricate clay pottery, for art lovers, collectors, and visitors of all ages to explore and purchase.

While seeing the beauty and diversity of nature’s raw materials transformed into

handcrafted pieces, visitors will also have the chance to learn about the techniques and stories behind the works from the artists themselves.

In addition to the festival, the museum will have a number of interactive experiences for visitors, including:

- **Live Demonstrations:** Watch skilled artisans at work, demonstrating their techniques in clay and glass
- **Hands-On Workshops:** Participate in interactive workshops and get a chance to create your own piece of art to take home
- **Kids Crafts:** Children can explore and create at one of the museum’s many craft tables
- **Artist Market:** Purchase unique hand-

made items directly from the artists

- **Curator-led Glass Gallery Tours:** Discover the history of glass in Dufferin County with a curator-led tour of their Cornflower Glass Gallery
- **Silent Art Auction:** Proceeds from the donated art pieces will go toward renovating the museum’s customer service desk to make it more accessible for those in wheelchairs and mobility devices.

Those interested in taking part in the adult workshops are required to pre-register on the Museum of Dufferin’s website.

For more information about the Earth & Fire: Clay and Glass Festival, including workshop tickets and the lineup of participating artists, visit [www.dufferinmuseum.com](http://www.dufferinmuseum.com).

# ‘The Next 50 Years’ exhibit at the Alton Mill draws attention to diminishing Ontario landscapes

Written By **RILEY MURPHY**

The newest solo show at Headwaters Arts Gallery focuses on the fragile beauty of the Southern Ontario landscape and what we stand to lose.

Headwaters Arts member and Toronto-based landscape artist Piera Pugliese shared that David Attenborough’s words inspired the show: “The next 50 years will determine the fate of all life on this planet.”

The show, titled “The Next 50 Years,” includes 25 oil paintings.

Onlookers can enjoy scenes of forests, rivers, and skies that are not only picturesque but also essential to our identity as Canadians, says Pugliese.

“The land is changing,” says Pugliese. “We’re seeing it burn, flood, and dry up. Through these paintings, I want to celebrate what we still have and remind us how urgent it is to protect it.”

Her style of painting began when Pugliese, in her graduating year at OCAD, took a landscape painting trip in the Algoma Highlands.

“I was hooked,” she said.

Since then, she shared that landscape painting has always been her touchstone.

It was in the Algoma Highlands that she fell in love with plein air painting.

Plein air painting is the practice of creating a painting outdoors directly with the subject rather than in a studio.

Pugliese works en plein air throughout Ontario in the summer, and develops her pieces into large-scale studio paintings in the winter.

Pugliese said she will often go back to paint a landscape again and again, which onlookers can see through her paintings from the marsh along the Millennium Trail in Prince Edward County.

“We have a beautiful home in nature. We have to protect it. It’s part of our Canadian identity,” urged Pugliese. “With the floods and the fires and the droughts, things are changing. I don’t know what we can do to change things, maybe just be aware of it.”

Pugliese shared that she often paints

alongside the Humber River, and during her time spent there, she has noticed a change in the landscape.

Not only can onlookers note the changes in the landscape in the show, but they can also see the changes and progress in Pugliese’s work.

She included pieces that illustrate the lead-up to the large studio paintings, including her plein air pieces and colour studies.

Her solo show will run until Aug. 4 at the Headwaters Arts Gallery in the Alton Mill Arts Centre. The show started on July 2.

Pugliese will be in the Gallery on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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# Amanda Street residents hold party in memory of beloved 91-year-old neighbour

Written By **SAM ODROWSKI**

Neighbours of an Orangeville resident who passed away earlier this year celebrated what would have been her 92nd birthday.

Gertrud Evans was the “heart and soul” of Amanda Street, according to her neighbours. She often socialized, shared vegetables from her garden, sent Christmas cards (with milk-bones for her neighbours’ dogs), and always remembered everyone’s name.

Evans adored the children in the neighbourhood, and they adored her as well.

“She was the gem in our neighbourhood,” said Jamie Rose, one of Evans’ neighbours. “All of the neighbours knew her and loved her.”

For Evans’ 90th birthday on July 10, 2023, Amanda Street residents organized a block party – and made it into an annual tradition, celebrating again in 2024.

She passed away on May 18 of this year, but her neighbours still held a block party to celebrate her birthday and life on Thursday, July 10.

“Since her passing in May, that celebration now carries even deeper meaning. It reminds

us of the community she helped build, simply by being herself,” said Rose.

Block party attendees shared memories and funny stories about Evans before doing a toast with a German wine in her honour.

“Born in Germany right before the Second World War, she lived a life marked by quiet strength, resilience, and an infectious joy that touched everyone around her,” said Rose. “Well into her 90s, Gertrud remained fiercely independent — mowing her lawn, taking out the trash, and tending to a lush garden she took immense pride in. You name it, she did it. She was a remarkable woman who lived with grace and purpose.”

While Evans had no children of her own, she embraced her neighbours as family and enjoyed sharing stories of her childhood and life during WWII.

“Her warm presence on the patio — often with the neighbourhood cat curled up beside her — became a comforting and familiar sight. She knew almost everyone on the street, and we all knew her.”

Evans was a passionate Blue Jays fan and could discuss games as well as players’ names with great detail, even at 91.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF AN INCREDIBLE WOMAN:** Amanda Street residents have held a block party for their neighbour Gerturd Evans’ birthday each year since 2023. On July 10, the neighbourhood celebrated Evans on what would have been her 92nd birthday. Neighbours shared memories of Evans and funny stories with each other. She passed away on May 18 of this year. Evans’ neighbours say she was “heart and soul” of the street and lived an incredibly independent life into her old age.

“Her sharp memory, humour, and bright spirit made her a joy to be around,” said Rose. “There isn’t a day that goes by when we don’t think of Gertrud. Her kindness, positivity, and stories brought us together, and her legacy continues to inspire us. She was truly one of a kind — a rare gem whose light will never fade.”

“She will be deeply missed and forever remembered.”

# Orangeville woman named weight-loss queen of Ontario after dropping 111 pounds over 20 months

Written By **JAMES MATTHEWS**

Weight loss can be daunting for many people.

But what if all it took to achieve a significant weight reduction was little lifestyle changes?

Orangeville resident Christine Duncan lost 111 pounds over 20 months through the TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) program. The achievement netted her recognition as the Canada-wide organization’s weight-loss queen for Ontario.

“Mainly, it was just little changes,” Duncan said of the process.

She said she’d tried to shed the pounds in the past. But many of the other programs or theories, the practices for losing weight, aren’t fun.

“When you try to go so drastic, you don’t enjoy anything at all that you’re eating,” she said. “You go off and you gain all the weight back.”

A major incentive in the program is the accountability derived from the weekly weigh-ins, she said. It also greatly helps to have the encouragement of fellow participants in the Orangeville TOPS chapter, she said.

“I’m absolutely in love with our chapter,” she said. “There’s so many great people there.”

Change can be subtle. Now she’ll go to any one of the local eateries and order a salad.

It’ll have breaded chicken strips aboard it.

“This way I’m getting a bit of a treat, but it’s still a salad,” Duncan said. “You don’t feel completely deprived and then feel like later you have to have something else because you haven’t had anything that you enjoy.”

As for advice for anybody who may be thinking of trying to lose a few pounds, perhaps for the umpteenth time, Duncan said simplicity is best. Small steps are easiest.

And it’ll happen.

“Basically, start small,” she said. “Instead of trying to look at the whole thing like, Oh my gosh I’m never going to be able to have ice cream again. Or whatever. Just find ways to make it smaller.”

Smaller portions, basically.

“You don’t have to completely eliminate stuff if you’re just more realistic,” Duncan said.

She said she’s a particular fan of the salty snacks. As with many people, the potato chip in all its flavourful glory can be a particularly alluring temptation. To the point where Duncan said she would try not to have them in her house.

Denial of accessibility ensures distance. Then again, that distance can be good for the cause, too.

“If I’m going to have it, I walk to the store to get it so I get a bit of exercise,” she said.

That way, she earns the carbs and the salty treat.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

**BEFORE & AFTER:** Local resident Christine Duncan has been crowned the weight-loss queen for Ontario by the Taking Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) weight loss support group, after shedding 111 pounds over 20 months

“When you have a bad morning, when you start off and eat something you shouldn’t have, then you go the day is ruined so I might as well eat what I want for the rest of the day,” she said.

Duncan offers a more helpful perspective: The next meal is your next chance to get back on track.

She isn’t finished yet, she said. Next in the transformation is for her to work on muscle tone.

“I’m already a lot different,” she said. People have commented about the increase in her confidence as well as her appearance.

“When I first started there, I was really shy,” she said. “I would hardly say anything.”

The Orangeville TOPS Chapter is very proud of Duncan and will continue to support her weight loss journey.

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# Orangeville Junior B Northmen will face Elora in the West final

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Orangeville Junior B Northmen will be up against the Elora Hawks for the West Division championship in the Ontario Junior B Lacrosse League.

The Northmen are 6-2 for the playoffs. In the first round of playoffs, the Northmen eliminated the Owen Sound North Stars in a series that went five games and wrapped up with a 10-4 Orangeville win on June 29, on their home floor at the Alder Street Arena.

That set up the Northmen for the next round of the series against the St. Catharines Athletics.

That series got underway on July 6 in Orangeville.

Game One ended with a 12-7 Northmen win after the Orangeville team scored five goals in the first period and followed up with five more in the second.

The Northmen took a commanding lead in the series when they travelled to St. Catharines on July 8 to play Game Two at Canada Games Park.

Orangeville took control of the game when they finished the first period with a 6-1 lead and put all the pressure on the Athletics to try to mount a comeback and get back into the game.

The Northmen finished off the game with four unanswered goals in the final period to leave the floor with a 15-3 win and a two-game advantage in the best-of-seven series.

The series returned to Orangeville for Game Three on Friday, July 11.

This time, the Northmen did all their scoring in the first period.

The Northmen's goals came from Trevor Noble, Marcello Carreiro, Evan Miller, and Nolan Long for two.

The Northmen left the floor with a 5-3 win to wrap up the series in a three-



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

**MOVING ON TO FINAL:** The Orangeville Junior B Northmen take on the St. Catharines Athletics in Game Three of their best-of-seven series at the Alder Street Arena in Orangeville on Friday, July 11. The Northmen won the game 5-3 to wrap up the series in three games.

game sweep and advance to the final.

The Elora Hawks will provide some tough competition in the final series.

Orangeville finished the regular season with a 19-1 record, good for 38 points. They averaged over 12 goals per game.

Elora completed the regular season with 16 wins and four losses.

As of press time, the schedule for the championship series had not yet been announced.

# Orangeville U8 ball hockey team wins silver in provincial competition

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Orangeville Warriors U8 ball hockey team have won silver in the Ontario provincial competition held at the Paramount and Erin Mills arena in Mississauga on July 4-6.

Fifteen team members entered the final game as an undefeated team in the tournament after putting out a stellar overall effort during each game.

They lost the final by a single goal when they were up against the Mississauga Wolves for the title.

The final score was 4-3.

This is the second year in a row the Orangeville U8 team has played in the provincials. Last year, they won gold in the event.

"The boys did amazing and came together as a team," said Hazel Mendoza, whose son plays for the team. "They made us all proud and represented the Town of Orangeville with heart, fortitude, and team spirit."

It has been a winning season for the U8 team. They won all four of their exhibition games and won their first four games at the provincial championships.



The team is fortunate to have a good coaching staff that guided them through the season.

Coach Matt Rudnicki is an experienced worldwide ball hockey coach and Team Canada player.

Coaches Drew Patton and Chad McDonald, who led last year's team to gold in the same division, also provided experience and coaching.

The youngest coach, 14-year-old Sydney Oddie, also helped the team win gold last year.

The Warriors play in the Orangeville Minor Ball Hockey League at Tony Rose Arena and the Alder Street Arena during the spring and summer season.



BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

**BRINGING HOME THE HARDWARE:** The Orangeville Warriors U8 ball hockey team won silver at the Ontario Provincial competition held in Mississauga from July 4 to 6. Team members Jordan Mendoza Oddie, Ethan Mitchell, Liam Abbott, Emmet Mazurke, Emmet Skakun, Jack Martin, Brody Woolner, Rylen Cvetovski, Griffin Bell, Jace Oliviera, Adam Gordon, Julian Mariani, Max Mariani, Declan Paton, Tristan Harvie, and coaches Matt Rudnicki, Chad McDonald, Drew Patton, and Sydney Oddie, celebrate their achievement.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**FANCY FOOTWORK:** The Orangeville Minor Soccer Club's Storm FC Under 13 Girls team moved on in the Southwest District Soccer League Cup play last week, narrowly beating Guelph Gryphons at the University of Guelph on Friday, July 4. The scoreless game went straight to penalty kicks at the end of regulation time, with Lacey Marshall, Lily McCue and Nathalie Wojcik finding the back of the net for Orangeville. Meanwhile, three Gryphons hit the crossbar and Storm FC survived by a 3-2 count to advance to the next semi-final Cup round on Aug. 15.



# OPINION

## Rule of thumb

Several years ago, a person I worked with used the phrase ‘rule of thumb’ when referring to a project we were working on.

One of the women in the office, who was known to be offended by just about everything, became quite incensed at his wording.

‘Rule of thumb,’ she declared, was an old law in the UK that determined the thickness of a rod in which a husband could legally beat his wife. She referred to my co-worker as misogynistic and a few other choice words.

He had no idea what she was talking about.

I explained to the woman that the law she was referring to never existed, and someone just made it up a few years earlier. The phrase ‘rule of thumb’ was used in the same way as ‘feet’ were determined for a measurement, and ‘hands’ were used to measure the height of a horse. It never had anything to do with a man beating his wife.

She gave me a blank stare and stormed away – again offended because she was wrong and couldn’t think of another name to call someone.

There are plenty of old phrases or occurrences in history that never happened or have had their meaning or real history changed so much that they have no rela-

tion to the original event.

Prima Nocta was supposedly the right of a feudal lord during medieval times to have sexual relations with any female in his jurisdiction, particularly on her wedding night.

I was actually taught this by an English teacher in high school when we were studying a Shakespeare play.

However, it never happened, and there was no such law.

It occurred in Mel Gibson’s movie, “Braveheart,” when the Lord showed up and took a young bride away from her soon-to-be husband. However, ask any Scotsman what he thinks about Braveheart.

Braveheart was a fun movie to watch, a real epic, but it is also one of the most wildly historically inaccurate movies ever made. Most of the events in the movie never happened, and the kilt, as worn by every man in the film, had not yet been invented.

Even if Prima Nocta really existed, no feudal lord in his right mind would think of doing something like that to the peasants who lived on his land.

Showing up at a wedding with the intent of taking the bride away for an evening of his pleasure would have likely ended with a sword thrust into his chest or the local

village rising up and burning his house to the ground with him in it.

There is a myth that diamonds are both rare and a good investment.

Diamonds are not rare. There are plenty of them.

The myth was started by the De Beers company, which at the time had a monopoly on the diamond industry and still controls a large share of the diamond production in the world.

They started one of the most successful advertising campaigns in the world and convinced people that diamonds are the proper stone for an engagement ring.

They also used the phrase, “It is said you should spend three months’ salary on an engagement ring.”

The implication in the advertisement was that if you didn’t spend that kind of money, you were cheap.

A lot of people bought into that idea. Many guys struggled to come up with that kind of money to buy a ring so their future wife and her family wouldn’t think he was too cheap to buy the real thing.

What De Beers didn’t tell you was that they, themselves, came up with the three-month rule.

That’s a clever way to get people to spend more money on your product – and it worked.

BRIAN LOCKHART  
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Diamonds are not an investment. I don’t know anyone who bought a diamond and later sold it for a profit.

The wild, wild west did not have a lot of gunfights on the streets. There are only two recorded movie-style gunfights.

One was the gunfight at the OK Coral between the Earps and the Clantons, and the other involved a showdown between Wild Bill Hickok and a local gambler. And that gunfight was more a duel than a gunfight.

Wild Bill was sober, stood sideways, carefully aimed his pistol and shot the man dead at 75 yards.

Many towns actually had an ordinance against firearms within town limits.

Any gun play that took part was usually fuelled by alcohol, and the chance of a bystander being wounded or killed by a stray bullet fired by a drunk cowboy was actually the likely outcome of firing a six-shooter in a crowded saloon.

However, reality doesn’t make for a great Western movie.

There are all sorts of historical myths that have been created over time.

Sometimes it’s just fun to believe they really happened.

## Today Tuvalu; Tomorrow the world

Some big changes arrive with a bang, but usually they sort of sneak in and you barely notice them at first. Last week’s big change saw the creation of the world’s first climate-change visas. It’s a way of giving potential climate refugees some hope and some dignity, and it would certainly be an improvement on the current migration mess.

In late June all ten thousand residents of the South Pacific Island state of Tuvalu were invited to enter a lottery whose 280 lucky winners will get a special climate-change visa that entitles them to work, study and live in Australia indefinitely. Over 3,000 – almost a third of the population – put down their \$25 to register for a chance to leave.

Tuvalu is actually a nice place to live, although jobs are scarce and the entertainment is limited. The main drawback is that its nine coral atolls are very low-lying (two are already mostly flooded). They will all be underwater by 2080, or a good deal sooner if sea level rise speeds up as melting Antarctic and Greenland glaciers slide into the sea.

But that’s all right: there will be another 280 Australian visas every year, and New Zealand is providing another 75, so every-

body should be safely off the islands long before they disappear. Pity about the slow loss of the language and culture as the Tuvaluans are dispersed among populations thousands of times bigger, but at least they will survive.

The Australian government is quite proud of its innovation: “This is the first agreement of its kind anywhere in the world, providing a pathway for mobility with dignity as climate impacts worsen.” It’s entitled to its little boast, but numbers matter. The hard truth is that this would not be happening if there were a million Tuvaluans in the same plight.

The key fact in any discussion about climate refugees is that the tropical countries will be hit sooner and harder than those closer to the poles. Yet the countries in the temperate zone created most of the warming, because they industrialized and began emitting greenhouse gases over a century ago.

The blame and the pain are both unequally distributed, and everybody in the poorer countries nearer to the equator knows that. As Atiq Rahman of the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies put it: “From now on we need to have a system where, for every

10,000 tonnes of carbon you emit, you have to take a Bangladeshi family to live with you.”

But that isn’t going to happen voluntarily, is it? Yet thirty million Bangladeshi families will be losing their land and their homes to flooding in the coming generation (rising sea levels to the south and great rivers filled with water from melting Himalayan glaciers to the north and west). They have to go somewhere, and nobody will be giving them climate-change visas.

I’m only picking on Bangladesh because it has more articulate scientists than most places. Forty per cent of the planet’s human population lives in the tropics, and as many as half of them will be facing situations so dreadful that they will have to move in the next generation.

A few tens of millions will probably have to start moving within the next ten years, and the remaining gates to safe havens elsewhere will slam shut against them. (They’re mostly closed already.) In most cases it will be ugly, and in some places it will be bloody.

No country is remotely prepared for this. The vast majority have not even acknowledged that it is coming. Even most scientists cling to utterly unrealistic expectations

of sudden changes of heart and vastly accelerated decarbonization that will somehow save us at the next-to-last moment.

That’s not going to happen. All human history and all current experience tell us that it won’t happen. Even if we halved our carbon dioxide and methane emissions next year, crashing the global economy in the process, the momentum of the warming is such that almost nothing would change in the climate forecasts of the next ten years.

The only action that could change that future now (and it doesn’t come with a guarantee) is geoengineering to cool the planet. It’s only treating the symptoms, of course, but heat is the ultimate cause of all the other climate disasters and it must be kept down while we work as fast as we can at ending our emissions.

Geoengineering (also known as climate repair) is feasible, not impossibly expensive, and probably safe as it largely mimics or expands upon existing atmospheric processes. Introduce it gradually, monitor it closely, and hope it works well, because we are running out of options.

GWYNNE DYER  
OUR WORLD TODAY



## All hands on deck!

Picture this: A tremendous gathering of wealthy men meeting in an undisclosed place, a place splendid enough to attend to their prestige and position in life as CEO’s of huge businesses, conglomerates even – so many companies into one really big company. So much safety in numbers, one might say, as one has never said before.

Delicious. Fabulous. They had so much in common that could never be shared with anyone who was not one of them. No one without private air transportation received an invitation to this party, that was for sure.

They had much to celebrate: prices were up, and no one could believe the audacity of the grocery guys – they have no conscience at all – it was amazing to read the statistics of their profits – who would believe a jump on something as simple as pain killers would bring such great results? Customers declaring that the likes of “?G” did not need to benefit from the pain of sufferers went right past without a single twinge.

The lesson? So-called compassion equals less profits! That one goes down in stone, and it took the conversation amongst the men to larger issues and more specific concerns. There are contentious elements of society, not new, maybe, but noisier than they have ever been. Even the young people were restless, the very children of their own world in this per-

fect, protected place where they are meeting and relaxing at the moment.

“You should have heard my son moaning about the heat the other day,” said one of them. “He and his pals couldn’t face going canoeing. They were all complaining about how it was so hot, they couldn’t do anything they wanted to – hike or swim or go on their boats; it was so hot outside.”

Another mentioned he had just been in the city where the traffic was so thick as was the air, that it was designated the seventh most polluted city in the world! (Ed- Toronto, according to CBC Radio One).

All that was put to one side as they made themselves comfortable around a large table.

There were fundamental issues: protestors and the basically grass roots movements against development in specific fragile natural spaces – the pushback against some really new laws taking power away from voters and giving it to government cabinet members, allowing them to pretty-well write their own laws. Pretty innovative, they all thought, considering those politicians were kept mostly in the pockets of the very company sitting at the table.

It was just them. There was no one from the press. There were definitely no recording devices in the room. Conversations were halted when staff came in with coffee or any-

thing else.

No, they were just themselves, and they began to talk about more pipelines, shipping more oil and gas, provided by any means, including the deadly and extremely destructive fracking – how that was still allowed was a mystery even in this room.

They talked about the country’s politicians – how to coerce the new members and continue to direct those already malleable in how they would govern.

It was reassuring to see news of a new pipeline in this country – that old lock and key to the future of their wealth in fossil fuels. Not like those guys overseas giving in to the “green teams” by slowing and stopping licenses for deep sea drilling, supplying massive energy with solar panels, and pushing other initiatives to replace fossil gas and oil. Nonsense, all of it – they would see that in the long run.

Economic suicide, all that was to the minds of this company....

“They’ll need us for decades,” they reassured themselves.

This is only a little imagining of mine, but there is honesty in it, for here we are, consenting to another pipeline and listening to voices on the radio talking to a journalist, complaining and complaining about how hot it is so that they cannot go canoeing, cannot bear the heat to do anything outside!

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Scientists have been warning and gnashing their teeth with warnings about the many ways we have acquiesced to it all – bad farming practices, all of it, and now the future is fraught with plans to put aside all the cautions we have in place to destroy fragile land and the nests and safe places for our wildlife.

Forest fires are ravaging the land in all this heat, so seriously that their smoke is choking the throats of city dwellers right across the country and to the south.

It will take every one of us to stop as much damage as is possible within the established wreckage – every one of us to protest and call on our governments to stop!

Join all the organizations that fill the inboxes of the politicians who are willing and active in ruining what is left.

Here is a list: Environmental Defence, ecoCaledon, HeadwatersStopsThe413, the Green Party, the David Suzuki Foundation, The Narwhal, Ontario Greens and Seniors for Climate. Get in touch with them and sign their petitions and letters to MPPs and MPs. Support them as you can by joining in person, on the ground, protests about Bills 5 and 17 here in Ontario. Stop Highway 413 – stop it all.

It will take every one of us.

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# COMMUNITY VOICES

## Monthly Message: Keeping our pets safe, pet friendly businesses in Dufferin

This summer has been one of the warmest I can remember here in Dufferin County. With long stretches of sunshine and soaring temperatures, our community has been buzzing with activity, and I've noticed something heartwarming along the way.

Many local residents are speaking up and taking action to protect our furr-iends in this heat. From sharing safety tips online to spreading awareness about the dangers of



leaving pets in vehicles, it's clear that Dufferin cares deeply about its animals.

As you and your pets get out and enjoy

the season, did you know that our Dufferin Board of Trade Business Directory features a growing list of pet friendly businesses? Whether it's a café with a patio that welcomes dogs, a shop with water bowls and treats ready at the door, or services that go the extra mile for pets, these businesses are helping make our region a more welcoming place for every member of the family — four legged ones included.

Before you head out on your next adventure, take a moment to browse our directory at [dufferinbot.ca](http://dufferinbot.ca) and discover where you and your pets can feel at home. Let's continue to support the businesses that make Dufferin such a special, inclusive community — and let's keep looking out for our pets during these hot summer days.

Stay cool, stay safe, and enjoy all that our beautiful county has to offer this July.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Response to Garth Stiebel's June 19 letter on Zionism

Let me clarify a few things. I am a supporter of the Palestinian people. Resistance by occupied populations is legitimate. War crimes are not, including those of Hamas on October 7, 2023.

My point about Trump was more clearly this: One person's terrorist is another's hero, depending on one's politics, interests, formation, motivations and perspective, conscious or not.

U.N. covenants, treaties, declarations, etc., are not 'nuts and bolts' so easily set aside as irrelevant. It's not about 'overriding'; it's about UN members' willingness to hold others to account and to be held accountable. Some comply, some don't, Israel and the U.S. being two egregious examples of the latter.

In the context of international laws of war, particularly concerning occupied territories, there is no recognized legal defence for the occupying power to use force against the occupied population in the name of self-defence. Period. The fact that both the U.S. and Israel claim divine exceptionalism does not change that.

International Humanitarian Law (IHL) is about distinguishing between civilians and combatants, directing attacks only at military targets and with the assumption of an attack by a similarly-armed enemy, not a densely-populated cage. So, if you can't swing a cat in Gaza without hitting a civilian, that's the Palestinians' fault, giving permission to Israel to bombard and starve with impunity? Israel also has bases within urban centres.

colonized land. Palestine was left off that list. Why this lone exception?

I do not distort, I do not misrepresent what I have studied, witnessed and understood for decades; I am no anti-semitic; I am anti-Zionism.

The Israeli army was AWOL. There were no rapes by Hamas (ask the New York Times) nor babies cooked in microwaves, nor women's breasts cut off... The army's delay meant that 13 of the women soldier spotters were killed by Hamas. Both survivors and families of those killed have gone public with their anger against the army. 'Friendly fire' did not kill just a few civilians. According to an article by Yoav Zitun, the military correspondent of the Israeli outlet Ynet, the quantity of 'friendly fire' was both 'immense and complex', particularly with respect to those fleeing the rave (information provided by Israel following interviews with captured Hamas). The Hannibal Directive was not rescinded in 2016. Ask Colonel Nof Erez.

ies and their ambulances bulldozed into the ground, in vain hope of hiding their crimes. More recently, in an interesting turn of events, Haaretz newspaper printed a headline: 'It's a killing field: IDF soldiers ordered to shoot deliberately at unarmed Gazans waiting for humanitarian aid'. Hundreds killed, thousands wounded. Look it up. The big news was Netanyahu, who, rejecting the Haaretz report, called the soldiers' testimony 'blood libel', 'designed to defame the most moral military in the world.'

This is not about LeeAnn McKenna's fanciful mind. I've already written about UNRWA's creation — the new state's genocidal intentions clear from the start. It was a convenient tale that Israel used to ban UNRWA, reducing 'aid stations' to four run by the private, transparently ridiculous Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, escalating starvation. Of UNRWA's 30,000 staff, nine were fired. Most countries, Canada included, that initially, without evidence, followed Israel's lead, have reinstated funding. As for the Hamas founding charter, there is justified anger, chest-thumping intent, and there is capacity.



IHL was created in an attempt to avoid the ravages of two world wars, including and especially the Holocaust, for which Nuremberg provided some measure of justice. Any attempt to justify the expulsions, massacres and land theft by 'terrorist' organizations such as Irgun and Haganah before the formal date of Israel's inception set the template for these decades of appalling, genocidal treatment of the Palestinian people. And this was at a time when the embryonic U.N. was inviting colonial occupiers to take their leave of wrongfully and violently

To repeat earlier writings, there is no evidence to support your 'truth' that Hamas prevailed upon their own neighbours and family members to be human shields; if true, support for Hamas would quickly evaporate. On the other hand, the evidence of the use of the Israelis of Palestinians as human shields is manifold. Soldiers film themselves 'recruiting' and using human shields, sniping civilians for fun, including children, destroying the inside of Palestinian houses and dressing up in women's underwear and then — hard to believe — posting it all online, every one of them identifiable by facial recognition. On March 23, 15 paramedics and rescue workers were killed by Israeli soldiers, their bod-

It is very disturbing to me that you say that 'If Israel wanted to exterminate all Palestinians, it could have done it long ago.' Are we to commend Israel on its restraint? Sadly, a recent poll indicates that a majority of Israelis agree with you to some degree, wanting the job done, from transfer, ethnic cleansing, to extermination. Also, sadly, Muslims around the world, including right here in our community, are feeling the fallout.

Rev'd LeeAnn McKenna PhD(c)  
Mono



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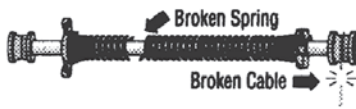
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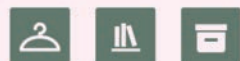
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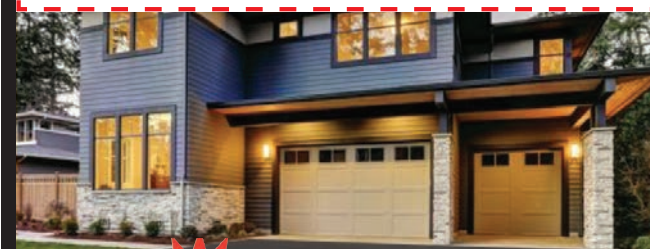
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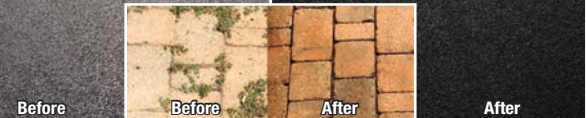
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**IF YOU or a FAMILY MEMBER** are struggling with gambling, Gamblers Anonymous is there to HELP. Call: 1(855) 222-5542 or visit [www.gatoronto.ca](http://www.gatoronto.ca).

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COMING EVENTS

**Centre Dufferin New Horizons Seniors Club** - A day in Niagara, Wednesday August 27 2025. Price includes Luxury motorcoach transportation, lunch, visit to floral show - house, visit to Butterfly Conservatory, wine tour & tasting at Chateau des Charmes. Departs CDRC, Fiddle Park Lane, Shelburne at 8:45am. Grand Valley Community Centre, 90 Main St north at 9:15am. Call Diane Vanderkolk at 905-460-7548.



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AUCTIONS

**REMINDER**  
**LIVE AUCTION SALE**

for **Keith Johnston**  
**Saturday July 19th, 10:00am**

**4958 Wellington Rd 125, Acton, ON** From the town of Acton come North on Wellington 125, for 3km to sale on west side of road OR from the town of Hillsburgh, come south on Trafalgar Rd for 7.5km to Regional Rd 124. Then west on 124 for 6.5km to Wellington 125. then south on 125 for 7km to sale on west side of road. **\*\* PARKING ON SITE\*\***

**Tractors/Skid Steer:** Kubota M6-131 4x4 tractor, 104hrs; NH TM75 4x4 tractor, 4135hrs, new clutch, Quicke loader; MF 275, 4351hrs, new clutch; Case 1825B skid steer, 1930hrs, diesel; Kubota TB1860 riding mower. **Truck, Trailers:** 2011 Ford F250 Super Duty, FX4 Off Road; Royal 6'x12' enclosed trailer; & sm trailers. **Mach/Equip/Accs:** Great Plains 1005NF no till drill; ; 30' header wagon; (3) gravity wagons; AGI WRX 10-51 auger; Hardi 500 sprayer; Kuhn Optimizer D1008 disc; Hydra Spread 200 manure spreader; Kubota RA1035 rotary rake; Hydra Farm King 12' harrows; 6"x36" PTO drive auger; 16' Watveare cultivator; 18' pony harrows; 10' chain harrows & drawbar; John Deere 18' disc, man wings; and many more pieces. **Shop/Farm Rel:** Wallenstein BX62R woodchipper; North Forest firewood processor, Kohler motor, takes up to 24" diam logs; 4t hopper bottom plastic bin; (2) grain bins-19'x4 rings; WinPower PTO drive generator; and much much more.

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**Terms & Conditions:** Cash or Cheque with proper I.D. on day of sale. Owner and/or Auctioneer will not be held responsible for accident or loss on day of sale. All items are sold "As Is". All verbal announcements on day of sale take precedence over written ads.

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**JUL 11TH.....TOOLS & EQUIPMENT AUCTION.**

**JUL 19TH.....LOCKED & LOADED AUCTION.**

**JUL 25TH.....INUIT / ART / JEWELRY AUCTION.**

**AUG 19TH-23RD.....STRAIGHT SHOOTER SALE.**

**SEPT 12TH.....GAS & OIL / TOY MEMORABILIA SALE.**

**SEPT 26TH.....ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & QUALITY HOUSEHOLD ITEMS.**

**NOV 7TH.....CURRENCY COLLECTOR'S AUCTION.**

**NOTE: DATES COMING FOR CURRENCY SALE. AUGUST PETROLIANA / GENERAL STORE AUCTION. AND OF COURSE, MORE ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES WILL BE UP FOR GRABS SOON.**



*Selling in the July 11th / July 25th / Aug 20th Auctions*

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OBITUARIES

**IDA DOREEN GAGE**

Peacefully, at Brampton Civic Hospital, on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, Doreen Gage, at the age of 91 years, beloved wife of the late Aubrey Richard (Dick) Gage.



Loving mother of Brenda and Lorne Brook, Susan and Dave Batchelor, Gord and Karen Gage, Kathy and John Teune. Cherished grandmother of Jennifer, Melissa and Sam, Danielle and Jordan, Jamie-Lea, Ryan, Brandon and Amy, Michael and Karen, Jamie and Elizabeth. Proud great-grandmother of 13 great-grandchildren. Predeceased by her brothers and sisters Jim, Robert, George, Bill, Honor, Marjorie, and Mary. Family and friends are invited to a graveside service at Providence Cemetery, 14580 Innis Lake Road, Caledon East, on Wednesday, July 23 at 11 o'clock. Reception to follow at Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street South, Bolton. If desired, memorial donations can be made to the Diabetes Association. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

**WILLIAM ROY SHARP (SHARPIE)**

Peacefully with his family by his side, at Brampton Civic Hospital, on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, Bill Sharp, at the age of 85, beloved husband of the late Marilyn Sharp. Loving



father of Suzanne and Gregg, Harvey and Weisia, Michele and Ken, Tammy, Theresa and Royal. Cherished grandfather and great-grandfather of many. Dear brother of Marilyn and Ron (deceased) Graham, John and Lil Sharp (both deceased), Bart and June Sharp (both deceased). The family received their friends at the Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen St. S., Bolton, on Tuesday afternoon 2 – 4 and evening 6 – 8 o'clock. Funeral service was held in the chapel on Wednesday, July 16 at 11 o'clock. Interment Laurel Hill Cemetery, Bolton. If desired, memorial donations may be made to Canadian Cancer Society or Bethell Hospice Foundation. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

**- IN LOVING MEMORY OF -  
HAROLD (HAL) GREGORY**

With heavy hearts, we share that our beloved "Poppa", Hal Gregory, passed away peacefully at his home in Caledon, Ontario, surrounded by love, on Tuesday, July 8th, 2025, at the age of 78.

Poppa was the heart of our family. He lived with quiet strength, unwavering generosity, and a love that never faltered. He meant so much to us as a husband, father, grandfather, and friend, and we feel his absence every single day.



Beloved husband of Pat, loving father to Gavin (Andrea) and Darren (Aubrey), and proud and cherished "Poppa" to Aidan, Noah, Joshua, and Spencer. Dear brother of the late Ken Gregory, Karen Gillespie, and Lynda Coupland. Hal also leaves behind many cherished nieces and nephews, as well as dear friends who loved and respected him deeply.

Hal was a well-known and respected figure in the Bolton and Caledon community. He remained actively involved in the Rotary Club of Bolton long after retiring as Owner/Operator of McDonald's Bolton, where he served the community for over two decades. Many will fondly remember his warm smile and welcoming presence during their morning coffee and muffin.

Before his time as a restaurateur, Hal built an impressive and impactful career with McDonald's Canada. What began as a crew position in 1969 at one of the first McDonald's franchises in London, Ontario, grew into a distinguished leadership journey. He became one of the original officers of McDonald's Canada, eventually serving as Vice President and National Director of Purchasing, as well as Vice President of Environmental Affairs. His work left a lasting mark on the organization and those he worked alongside.

A service to celebrate Hal's life will be held on Thursday, July 17th, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Egan Funeral Home, 203 Queen Street South, Bolton.

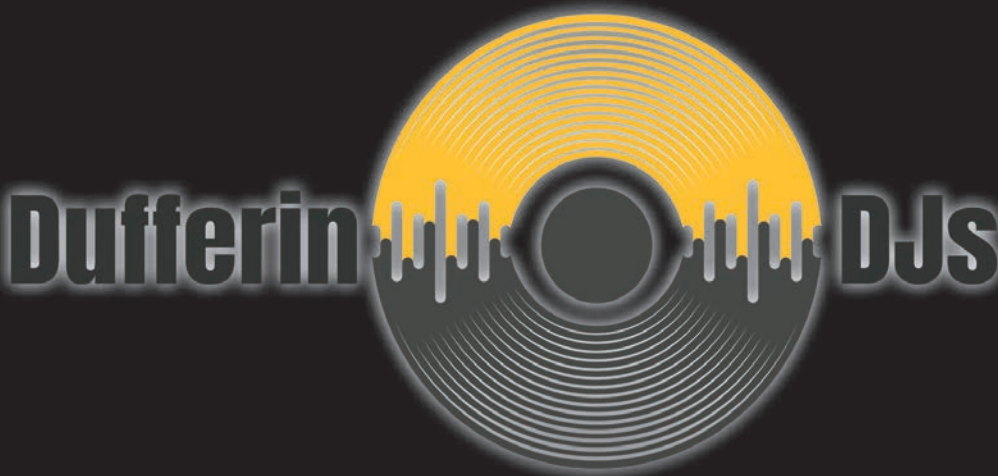
In place of flowers, the family kindly invites donations in Hal's memory to Ronald McDonald House Charities Canada (rmhccanada.ca) or the Rotary Club of Bolton (boltonrotary.ca). Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

**DONALD LAIRD RYRIE**

Peacefully at Hospice Vaughan, on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, Donald Ryrie, at the age of 81 years, beloved husband of the late Lynda Ryrie. Proud father of Christina (Greg) and Todd. Loving grandfather of Lily and Cara. Dear brother of the late Anne Steele. Cremation has taken place. Respecting Don's wishes, there will be no service. Condolences for the family may be offered at www.EganFuneralHome.com

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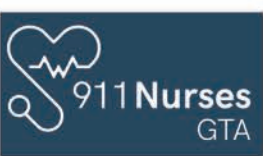
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of the Rotary Park playground and other meaningful community projects.



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