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Winter Fun On The Slopes

While many communities have had more than a fair share of snow this winter, our region has had just enough to make for some fun winter activities. The hill at the Tottenham Conservation Area was packed on Sunday, Feb. 9, as residents spent a fun day riding down the hill on their sleds.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

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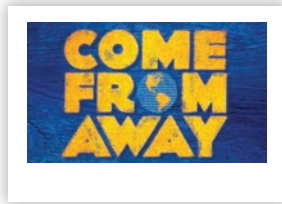


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Day Trips: (Price includes meal, admission ticket & HST)

Tues., March 4 & Thurs., May 8 - Niagara Fallsview Casino
Includes: a 4 hour stay at the Casino & \$35.00 in slot play (no meals)
Cost: \$77.00

Fri., March 21 - Come from Away at the Royal Alex Theatre,
Includes: an early lunch at the "HotHouse Restaurant", followed by the 1:30p.m. performance, excellent centre, orchestra level seating. **Cost:** \$246.00



Thurs., March 27 – Spring One of a Kind Show at the Enercare Centre, Toronto & Shopping at Vaughan Mills Centre
Includes: Admission ticket to the show & Vaughan Mills Shopping Centre **Cost:** \$94.00

Wed., May 14 - La Vida Loca with the TSO Pops at Roy Thomson Hall, Toronto
Includes: table service lunch followed by orchestra level seating for the 2:00p.m. performance. **Cost:** \$238.00

Thurs., May 29 - St. Jacobs Day Tour
Includes: a visit to the Market & Outlet Mall, lunch on your own at the Market, free time in the Village with stops at The Poultry Place & Picard Peanuts. An early evening dinner at "Anna Mae's Restaurant & Bakery" completes our day. **Cost:** \$118.00

Thurs., June 5 - Annie at Stratford Festival
Includes: lunch at "Anna Mae's Restaurant & Bakery" followed by the 2:00p.m. performance, orchestra level seating at the Festival Theatre **Cost:** \$233.00

Thurs., June 19 – Shake Baby Shake, direct from Chicago at the Walters Music Venue
Includes: buffet lunch at "Quehl's Restaurant" in Tavistock, followed by the entertainment program at the Walters Music Venue near Bright, Ontario. **Cost:** \$184.00

Tues., July 22 – Blue Jays vs New York Yankees -7:07p.m. game
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County to host public meeting about Council and Head of Council

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Matthews House Hospice (MHH) in The County of Simcoe will be hosting a public meeting on Tuesday, Mar. 11, 2025, in the Council Chamber at the County of Simcoe Administration Centre to provide the public with an opportunity to provide feedback on a proposed by-law to change the composition of County Council and the appointment of the Head of Council (Warden).

The by-law proposes that County Council be reduced from the existing size of 32 members to a 17-member council that would include only the mayors of the 16 lower-tier municipalities and a Head of Council.

The Head of Council is currently appointed from members of council and therefore serves both on County Council and a lower-tier council.

The by-law proposes to establish a Head of Council that serves exclusively on County Council for a four-year term.

The position of Warden would be appointed by County Council from among eligible electors who put their

names forward.

The by-law includes required updates to the existing weighted vote system.

Residents can participate in this process and provide feedback on the by-law by either registering to speak in-person or by providing written comments.

The public meeting will occur on March 11 at 10 a.m. in the County of Simcoe Administration Centre at 1110 Highway 26, Midhurst.

To register to speak in person, or to provide written comments, please email clerks@simcoe.ca, before noon, on March 10.

Following the public meeting, a final version of the by-law will be brought forward for consideration by Council at a subsequent meeting.

Should the final by-law be passed by County Council, it will be circulated to the 16 lower-tier councils for further consideration as part of the "Triple Majority" process.

If the by-law achieves the required consent, changes to County Council would take effect for the next term of Council, beginning in November 2026 following the municipal election.

Matthews House Hospice's Annual Holiday Giving Campaign generates over \$335,500

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Matthews House Hospice (MHH) in Alliston raised more than \$335,000 through December and January during its Annual Holiday Giving Campaign.

Despite the postal strike that caused a lot of grief for some organizations that rely on donors, the Matthews House Hospice campaign was a success.

This year, the holiday campaign highlighted the impact that hospice residences make in the lives of residents and their families.

With 10 residential hospice beds, MHH provides residents with compassionate care and support in a comforting home-like environment as they navigate through their journey of a life-limiting terminal illness.

It is because of the commitment of the community that MHH can continue its valuable work.

"Being at Matthews House Hospice gave me the gift of having my mom cared for, allowing me to just spend time with her,"

said Michelle, a resident named Loretta's daughter. "She was spoiled by everyone there; they all knew how to make her specific breakfast which was really the only thing she enjoyed eating and also that Loretta wanted her tea in a china teacup."

The postal strike delayed the delivery of over 6,500 appeal letters. Traditionally, the letters are the main source of support for the campaign.

In an effort to expand the campaign, the team at Matthews House explored new ways to reach the community. Many of the letters were hand-delivered.

"Thank you to everyone who kindly included Matthews House in their giving plans this holiday season even with the challenges of the postal strike," said Margaret Bachle, MHH CEO. "We value the dedicated support our community showed in supporting compassionate hospice care."

Matthews House helps families in South Simcoe including New Tecumseth, Adjala-Tosorontio, Bradford West Gwillimbury, Essa, Innisfil, and surrounding communities.

Happy Valentine's Day

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Local long-term care homes to host 'Bring a Friend to Volunteer Days'

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

student supervisor at alix.coutts@simcoe.ca or by phone at 705-790-3915.

The County of Simcoe invites those interested in making a difference in the lives of older adults to check out one of the "Bring a Friend to Volunteer Days," taking place at local long-term care homes.

This will allow residents to learn more about a fun and meaningful volunteer experience.

The event highlights various activities, such as the Cycling Without Age Program, Aqua Painting, Word Games, Musical Programs and Friendly Visits.

It's a chance for friends to volunteer together, try different activities, and discover the rewarding feeling of giving back.

The goal is to inspire more people to get involved and support County and other regional programs.

Interested residents are asked to RSVP to Alix Coutts, volunteer and secondary

Event dates for February:

- Simcoe Manor, 5988 Line 8 Beeton - Thursday, Feb. 20
- Trillium Manor, 12 Grace Avenue, Orillia - Tuesday, Feb. 18
- Sunset Manor, 49 Raglan Street, Collingwood - Wednesday, Feb. 19
- Georgian Manor, 101 Thompsons Road, Penetanguishene - Friday, Feb. 21

Event dates for March

- Simcoe Manor, 5988 Line 8, Beeton - Thursday, March 13
- Trillium Manor, 12 Grace Avenue, Orillia - Tuesday, March 11
- Sunset Manor, 49 Raglan Street, Collingwood - Wednesday, March 13
- Georgian Manor, 101 Thompsons Road, Penetanguishene - Friday, March 14



CARING FOR THOSE IN NEED – Residents are invited to take part in the County of Simcoe's "Bring a Friend to Volunteer Days," taking place at local long-term care homes over several dates in February and March. **STOCK PHOTO**

CONTACT Community Services announces appointment of new executive director

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER



CONTACT Community Services has announced the appointment of Tina de los Santos as its new executive director.

A nonprofit leader with 20 years of experience, Tina brings a wealth of expertise in strategy, program development and organizational leadership. Her career has spanned local and international initiatives with a strong focus on community impact, youth engagement, and nonprofit capacity building.

"Tina's passion for community-driven solutions, combined with her track record of expanding services and fostering partnerships, makes her the ideal person to lead CONTACT into the future," said Jennifer Lloyd, board chair.

"Her vision and leadership will be instrumental in ensuring we continue to meet the evolving needs of South Simcoe residents with inclusive, accessible and impactful programs."

Most recently, Tina served as lead consultant with LURE Communications where she worked with nonprofits across Ontario to strengthen organizational capacity, diversity

NEWLY APPOINTED – CONTACT Community Services has announced the appointment of Tina de los Santos as its new executive director. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

funding streams and enhance service accessibility. She has successfully led teams of more than 50 staff, built cross-sector partnerships and implemented innovative programs that

address both local and systemic challenges.

"I am honoured to join CONTACT Community Services and excited to build on its incredible legacy of supporting individuals and families in South Simcoe," said de los Santos.

"I look forward to working alongside our dedicated staff, volunteers and community partners to continue expanding services and ensuring that everyone in need receives the housing and employment support they deserve."

A Beeton resident, Tina combines local knowledge with a global perspective,

informed by her experience working in Mexico and India and her collaborations with feminist practitioners worldwide, including the Bradford Women's+ Group.

Tina is pursuing a Master's of Education from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto, and a Bachelor's Degree in International Development from York University.

She is a dedicated advocate for women, youth empowerment, and community partnerships, which align perfectly with CONTACT's mission to create stronger, healthier communities.

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“The window to the world can be covered by a newspaper.”

~ Stanislaw Jerzy Lec

Get out and vote

Several years ago I worked with a full crew of guys who were fun to be around.

The usual ‘guy talk’ was part of the day. They would talk about whatever sport was in season, and all the other things they were up to.

Occasionally politics would enter the conversation, but not too often, and if it did, it was all very civil.

Thankfully, we didn’t have that one ‘political guy’ that a lot of groups have. That’s the guy who has to come in every day and complain about the government or some other related issue and expect everyone to agree with him.

The building had one of those guys – fortunately, he worked in another department.

Usually, if a person declares they are ‘politically aware,’ that’s just some kind of code for saying they are opinionated, rude, and close-minded.

During the usual discussion one day, one of the guys made a comment which caused me to ask him how long it had been since he voted in an election.

It turns out, he had never voted in any election – ever.

He had never cast a ballot at the municipal, provincial or federal level.

How could a grown man with two children, who pays taxes, and owns a home, never take on the responsibility of being

part of the process that elects a government?

I asked him a few more questions.

From his answers, it seemed he had no idea how the political process worked, no idea what platforms the political parties had, and very little knowledge of which party might work in his best interest.

He also seemed to be somewhat intimidated by the thought of showing up at a polling station and casting a vote. He didn’t seem to understand how the process works.

He was content to let others determine the next government for him.

We have another provincial election coming up in Ontario – and very soon.

Unlike the U.S., where the process takes a couple of years, in Canada, an election happens at a quick pace.

There’s not much time for campaigning, and a wise voter should already be on top of the issues to make an informed decision.

We have the ability to determine who governs us, unlike many places in the world, and yet most people do not exercise their right to cast a ballot.

The figures in the last provincial election were dismal.

Voter turnout in the region:

- Dufferin-Caledon - 41.6 per cent

- Barrie-Innisfil - 39.75 per cent
- Simcoe-Grey - 43.5 per cent
- Simcoe-North - 46.2 per cent
- All of Ontario - 44 per cent

People use all sorts of excuses to explain why they didn’t vote.

Some say they ‘don’t have time.’ That’s a bunch of nonsense. The polls are open to accommodate people all day and into the evening.

In the last election, I went in, registered, and cast my ballot, all in less than five minutes.

Quite often, I’ve heard people say ‘There’s no one worth voting for.’ That’s another pile of nonsense.

Candidates are vetted by their parties and have earned their place on the ballot.

There are plenty of good, hard-working candidates who do a good job representing their constituents.

How would you know if there is someone worth voting for if you haven’t done your homework and learned about the people that are running, and what their party plans to do if elected?

The system of democracy isn’t perfect, but it’s the best we have.

If you do vote, and your candidate isn’t elected, that doesn’t mean you aren’t represented.

Elected officials are supposed to work

for everyone in their constituency, not just those who voted for them. Even if you do go to your local MPP’s office for a meeting, you are under no obligation to tell them who you voted for in the election.

How is it that in the province of Ontario, more than half of its citizens don’t bother to vote?

But it’s a whiny province and many of you who couldn’t be bothered to take the time to cast a ballot, complain the loudest when the government does something you don’t like.

The next time I see some kind of protest about something the provincial government is doing, I would like to find out how many of those protesters actually voted.

Of course, no one at the protest would admit they didn’t vote, but you can be sure half of them didn’t bother to make the effort but still complained the loudest.

Your ability to vote is a right, not a suggestion.

During this upcoming provincial election, get out and cast a vote.

If you can’t be bothered to be a part of the process, then do the half of us that do vote a favour, and don’t complain over the next four years.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Standing at our posts

In our fast-paced world, we sometimes forget to carve out the time for the little things – or, at the very least, those things that are sometimes seen as time sponges when there is precious little to go around.

It can be as easy as turning off whatever screen you’ve been looking at all day, even if only for an hour, to recalibrate your eyes, brain, and your connection to the world around you. But sometimes it can be more challenging, like breaking habits that might be time-wasters, working against you in the end.

Sometimes, if you don’t have a set lunch hour, one can forget to allocate time in the busy workday to eat properly – and, of course, forget to follow through once you’ve made that all-important allocation – or the simple impact of having a good night’s sleep.

During her exceptionally long life, for instance, Betty White boasted about only needing a few hours’ sleep a night.

It was a remarkable claim given the fact she seemed to have endless reserves of energy until the eve of her 100th birthday, but evidently she was doing something right. Yet, it’s certainly not a formula that works for everyone. We’re not all cut from the same bolt of fabric as the iconic Golden Girl!

As an inveterate night owl, I’ve tried my fair share of ways to trick myself into a good night’s sleep. I’ve even tried to talk myself into being one of those perky – and, sometimes, peskily perky – morning people, but to no avail, despite the fact that when I go to bed each evening I’m just a little bit jazzed at the possibility that tomorrow might be THE morning of getting with the program.

When you can polish off a solid night’s sleep, you certainly notice the difference. And you certainly notice when you don’t.

Near the very end of my university career, for instance, when, just 30-odd

hours before it was due, I realized I had misunderstood the entire point of the final assigned essay and the copious amount of research I had done to that point. The work I’d done to that point resulted in a fine finished product, but it was completely irrelevant to the actual question we were tasked to answer.

The realization led to waves of anxiety, but once they made way for resolve it was time to hit the mercifully all-night library on campus to rebuild the thing from scratch, with an entirely new thesis. There was no sleep to be had that night, so it was a matter of pushing all the way through. Balancing school with a day job, I put those tasks on the backburner and plowed through on the essay until it was complete, but that other work wasn’t going to complete itself. It was time to go into the office after hours to tackle what was on the aforementioned back burner.

It was, by my estimation, about 49 hours between that wave of panic and

when I had caught up on everything that needed to be done. It’s not something I would ever recommend. Nor would I recommend the feeling of being a veritable husk of myself when it was all done. But there was little choice.

A weekend of doing nothing was a tonic in feeling fully functional once again, but even though I haven’t yet cracked the code when it comes to the perfect work-life-sleep balance, it’s definitely made me more mindful of both that and how it relates to having what’s now described as “a personal bandwidth.”

Being mindful of our personal bandwidth isn’t just one of the many buzzwords and phrases flying our way these days. It is, in my opinion, becoming evermore essential in just about every facet of our life.

Continued on Page 15

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CREDIT DEPT.: Al Lord
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Advertising & Administration
Head Office
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War: Two steps forward, two steps back?

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



In classical civilizations, there was a continuing, unresolved debate about whether history moved forward or just went around in circles: was it linear or was it cyclical? But that debate was largely settled once human beings learned about their deeper past. It's linear.

Once every human being was a hunter-gatherer; now almost none of us are. Once nobody lived in groups more than a couple of hundred strong because bigger groups just fissioned; now most of us live in societies many millions strong. You don't have to call it 'progress,' but history certainly has a direction. Which is not to say that it's purely linear.

Just as rivers always flow downstream but may contain many eddies and whirlpools, history can double back on itself. The history of war has already done that several times. There is reason to suspect that it may now be doing it again.

Before the rise of big civilizations, battles between the little human groups of pre-history were frequent, relatively low-intensity, but cumulatively very deadly. Everybody lived on the front line all the time, and early anthropologists estimated that 30 per cent of males (and 5 per

cent of females) were killed in war in every generation.

The advent of mass societies brought much bigger battles, but they were less frequent and involved a much smaller proportion of the society. (The Roman army at its peak was just under half a million men; the Roman population at that time was around 50 million.)

A lot of people got killed whenever pastoral peoples like the Mongols broke into the civilizations, but medieval warfare in Europe and its parallels in China and India stayed relatively small until the 1600s. Then Europe went crazy.

The Thirty Years War (1618-1648) began mainly as a religious civil war in the German-speaking lands, but it ended up as the 'war of all against all' and an estimated 8 million people died. That was about 12 per cent of Europe's population at that time, and it frightened the survivors into making new rules.

Starting in the mid-1600s, existing countries became 'sovereign', and in the next century and a half no major European state was carved up except Poland. Armies became small and professional, and war in Europe shrank back down to a marginal activity that scarcely impinged on the civilian sphere.

But then came the French revolution in 1789 and the Napoleonic wars that followed, with mass armies of volunteers, ideological conflict, and whole states being dismantled. Fast forward to the First World War, 11 million dead, and all the regimes on the losing side (plus several on the winning side) driven from power.

Then the Second World War, 45 million dead, and nuclear weapons by the end. Once again, all the regimes on the losing side destroyed. Time

for another go at taming the beast – and amazingly, this time it really seemed to work.

It has been 79 years since the last nuclear weapon was used in anger, and the death toll in wars has fallen from a million a month in 1945 to under 100,000 a year in the early 2020s. But now it's going back up again – just a bit, maybe half a million in 2024 – but the trend line is worrisome.

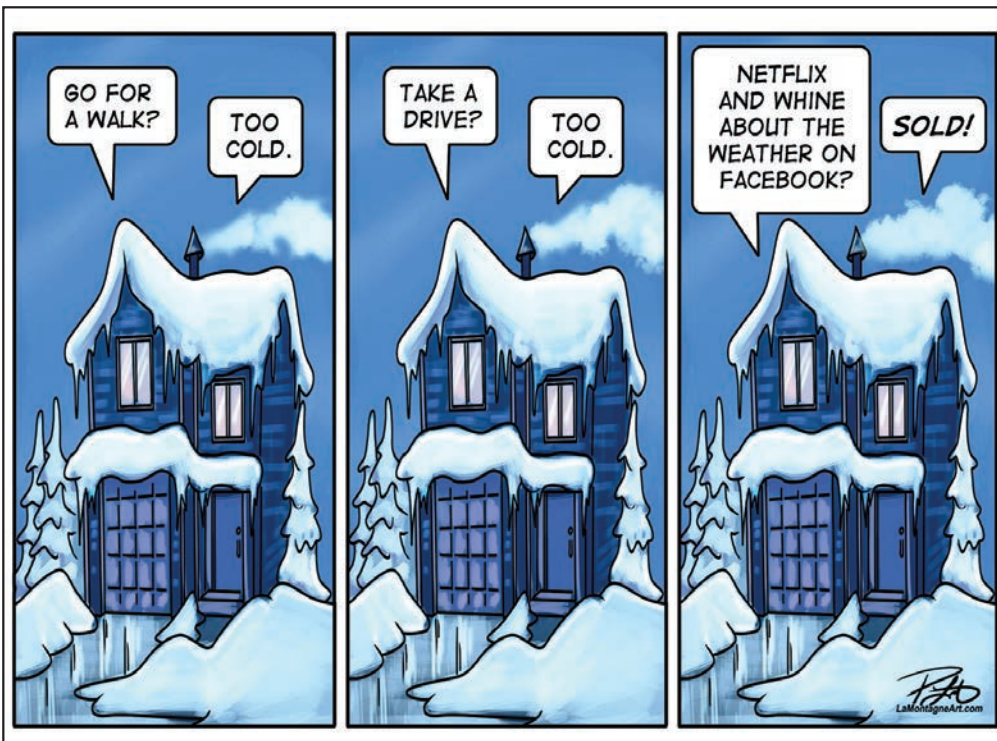
Much more worrisome is the fact that just in the past few years all the institutional and legal barriers we put in place to prevent or limit the spread of war have been sabotaged or abandoned. The keystone of the system, the United Nations, was crippled long ago by rival vetoes, but now the foundations are being dug up and cast aside.

The bedrock on which the entire post-1945 system was built is the inviolability of borders. No changes to borders after that date will be accepted by the rest of the world if they were changed by force. Indeed, even attempts to change a border by force, whatever the justification, are illegal. Only voluntary, negotiated, uncoerced changes are acceptable.

That rule has enjoyed almost universal support in principle because all the players understood that this is the only way to end the endless cycle of wars. Nobody is actually obliged to go and fight some other country to stop it from breaking that rule, but their conquests will never be accepted by the rest of the world. So they might as well not do it.

That is the rule which is now being ignored by the greatest power in the system. Russia can claim that the 'old border' of the Soviet Union included Ukraine, and China can at least claim an ethnic link with Taiwan, but Donald Trump demanding to take over Greenland, the Panama Canal, Canada and the Gaza Strip is empire-building of the crudest sort.

If he gets away with that, it's back to the old ways again.



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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>CLUES ACROSS</p> <p>1. Racquet sport group (abbr.)</p> <p>4. Norse god of thunder</p> <p>8. Russian industrial city</p> <p>10. What's good for the ___</p> <p>11. Round-ish shape</p> <p>12. Baltimore MLBer</p> <p>13. French modernist painter</p> <p>15. Burned with water</p> <p>16. Intestinal issue</p> <p>17. Take the lead</p> <p>18. Prove oneself worthy</p> <p>21. None</p> <p>22. Tax collector</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>CLUES DOWN</p> <p>1. Type of bomb</p> <p>2. Polynesian island country</p> <p>3. Heavenly body</p> <p>4. Hard workers</p> <p>5. Covered</p> <p>6. Johns Hopkins Hospital founder</p> <p>7. Plant of the grass family</p> <p>9. Island person of the Bering Sea</p> <p>10. Storehouse</p> <p>12. Scarlet-flowered desert shrub</p> <p>14. A pituitary hormone</p> <p>15. Female sibling</p> <p>17. Monetary unit of Afghanistan</p> </div> </div>	<p>23. Swiss river</p> <p>24. Gymnast Raisman</p> <p>25. Baby's dining accessory</p> <p>26. Canadian beer distributor</p> <p>27. Iconic American tourist destination</p> <p>34. More expansive</p> <p>35. Alert</p> <p>36. Popular boots</p> <p>Doc ___</p> <p>37. Showings</p> <p>38. Conclusion</p> <p>39. Share a common boundary</p> <p>40. Shooting sport</p> <p>41. Popular side dish</p> <p>42. Global energy firm</p> <p>43. Chronicles (abbr.)</p> <p>19. Empowering</p> <p>20. Space station</p> <p>23. Disorder</p> <p>24. State of fuss</p> <p>25. Footwear for babies</p> <p>26. Nuclear reactor (abbr.)</p> <p>27. Drove</p> <p>28. Affirmative</p> <p>29. Male parent</p> <p>30. Utter obscenities</p> <p>31. Type of verse</p> <p>32. Unpleasant person</p> <p>33. One who settles down</p> <p>34. Founder of source-based history</p> <p>36. A way to snarl</p>
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No one has more self-confidence than the person who does a crossword puzzle with a pen.

New Tecumseth's old administration centre to be repurposed for professional spaces

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Now that Town of New Tecumseth staff have moved to the new administration building in Alliston, there has been some discussion as to what to do with the old administration centre at 10 Wellington St. E.

Several ideas were put forth including selling the building or demolishing the site.

It has now been announced that a New Tecumseth resident and business owner has purchased the property with plans to invest in and repurpose the building to be used as professional spaces.

“We are thrilled with the investment in our downtown which aligns with the intended use and zoning for the property,” said New Tecumseth Chief Administrative Officer Neil Garb. “The potential for increased foot traffic will provide a boost for our local businesses.”

The property has been sold for \$2.6 million with ownership changing over in April.

SOLD! – The Town of New Tecumseth's former Administration Centre was recently sold to a local resident and business owner. The building will be repurposed as professional spaces. The property was sold for \$2.6 million. **STOCK PHOTO**



Community Transportation Program offers rides for seniors, people with mobility challenges

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of New Tecumseth's Community Transportation Program provides rides for seniors and residents with special mobility assistance needs at a reduced rate so they can travel to things like medical appointments or grocery trips.

To be eligible, you must be a resident of the Town of New Tecumseth, be 65 years old or older, or be a resident of the Town with special mobility assistance requirements.

To register for this program, you can download and complete a Community Transportation Program registration form at newtecumseth.ca/en/resources/Public-Works/Community-Transportation-Program/REGISTRATION-FORM--Current-July-2024.pdf or pick up a form at the Town Administration Centre (24 Tupper

St. W., Alliston). You must submit your completed form to the Administration Centre to be eligible to use the service.

If approved, the Town will send you a letter summarizing the details of the program.

An identification card will be included for you to present to the taxi driver when using the program.

Once you are approved for the program, you can call the eligible taxi providers to arrange your trip.

Members must ensure that they obtain a receipt for the taxi ride and provide receipts along with the completed reimbursement form.

Members should submit for reimbursement on a weekly basis.

There are several types of trips eligible for reimbursement under the program.

You can arrange trips for medical appointments or procedures within the

Town of New Tecumseth (Mon. to Fri. 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.), including scheduled appointments or procedures at Stevenson Memorial Hospital on weekends.

You can use the program once per week for grocery trips, and once a week to the 54 Plus Seniors Centre Club.

Allowed trips include visiting patients or attending programs at Matthews House Hospice, services at the Community Living Associations (CLASS) within the Town of New Tecumseth, and services at the Children's Treatment Network within the Town of New Tecumseth.

Fares for trips are \$3.00 each way. Trips between communities are \$5.00 each way.

RIDING ALONG – To register for the Community Transportation Program residents will need to fill out this form which can be found online at newtecumseth.ca.

TOWN OF NEW TECUMSETH FILE

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2. When in a crowd or in a busy restaurant, is it hard for you to follow the discussion? Yes No
3. Do you feel tired or irritable after a long conversation? Yes No
4. Do you feel the need to turn up the volume on your TV or radio such that it is too loud for others? Yes No
5. Do you often need to ask others to repeat themselves? Yes No
6. Has someone close to you pointed out you may have a hearing problem? Yes No
7. Do you find it difficult to pinpoint where a noise comes from? Yes No

How did you do?
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New communication tower to be constructed in Beeton

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of New Tecumseth has plans to build a new 200-foot free-standing communications tower in Beeton to replace the current 96-foot tall tower on the Depot 2 site located on the 7th Line.

The current tower needs to be removed as it is now at the end of its planned life expectancy due to its age and outdated

design.

It has also been determined that the current height does not allow communication equipment to broadcast to some areas in the town due to the region's hilly topography.

The current tower holds communication equipment that serves a vital role for the citizens of New Tecumseth.

The Fire Department uses this tower as its main point of communication for contact with the regional emergency dispatch

centre in Barrie. Additionally, this communication tower assists the Fire Department in achieving radio contact between fire personnel located throughout the town.

The Public Works Department also relies on the communications device located on the tower to transmit signals between the Water Treatment Plants and the various town offices.

The town will be installing a new, 200-foot free-standing tower on this same site.

The new tower will be further back from the road and will contain the same communication equipment in order to continue providing essential communication services.

The taller height of this new tower will increase communication coverage within the town and eliminate current gaps in coverage.

Construction of the new tower is expected to begin in May or June of this year.

Nutritious food out of reach for many residents of Simcoe and Muskoka

With the rise in the cost of living and steadily increasing food prices, the 2024 Nutritious Food Basket (NFB) survey reveals that many residents in Simcoe Muskoka are unable to afford the basic, nutritious food necessary to meet current Canadian nutrition recommendations.

The NFB survey, conducted annually by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU), tracks the cost of a basic, nutritious diet in the region. The 2024 survey revealed that it costs \$1,302.77 per month for a family of four (two adults and two children) and \$452.83 for a single-person household to purchase the 61 basic food items in the Nutritious Food Basket. When food costs are put in the context of total income and rent is factored in, many cannot meet their basic needs, let alone afford all the other expenses needed for daily living.

“Food affordability is a critical issue that is impacting everyone, but it is most challenging for those living on lower incomes, those who have unstable or insecure work, people who rent, single parents with kids,

and those living alone” said Vanessa Hurley, public health nutritionist and registered dietitian at SMDHU. “When household income is too low, people cannot cover their basic expenses.”

A family of four receiving Ontario Works benefits would need to spend 100 per cent of their income just on food and rent alone. For a single adult on Ontario Works, covering these two essentials is impossible, consuming 177 percent of their income, leaving no money for other basic needs such as utilities, transportation, clothing, medications or childcare.

Recent data from Public Health Ontario (PHO) shows a sharp increase in food insecurity in Simcoe Muskoka, with the number of households unable to afford food reaching an all-time high. Now, one in three households in the area experience food insecurity, almost twice as many as in 2022, and more than the provincial rate of one in four. Food insecurity can mean buying less food or lower quality food, feeling stressed about running out of food, skipping meals or, in the most severe cases,

going without food for days.


Household food insecurity is a serious public health issue with many individuals experiencing significant physical and mental health consequences. Individuals living in food-insecure households are at a higher risk of suffering from chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension and depression.

“When people cannot afford nutritious

food, their overall health gets worse, which adds more strain to our healthcare system,” says Hurley. “Food and living costs are not only a financial burden on individuals but also contribute to higher healthcare costs, which ultimately affect the entire community.”



To address the growing household food insecurity crisis, Hurley emphasizes the need for “bold government action on income-based solutions that put more money in people’s pockets for food and other basic needs—not just short-term fixes, but long-term, sustainable solutions.”



ELECT Ted Crysler

as your Ontario Liberal MPP for Simcoe-Grey

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Election Day
February 27, 2025

Advance poll dates are
February 20, 21 and 22

MORE FOR YOU

It's time to take action on affordability and housing, improve public health care and education, ensure sustainability, and advocate for aging Ontarians.



My name is Ted Crysler and I am running to be the MPP for Simcoe-Grey. As a family man having grown up in this area, my roots run deep. I am running because I believe Simcoe-Grey deserves an enthusiastic advocate whose voice in the legislature will not be ignored and who will be dedicated to work with local constituents. Liberal Leader Bonnie Crombie has a strong plan that I fully endorse. As your Simcoe-Grey MPP, my focus will be on those things that matter most to my constituents.

<p>Health Care - Get doctors and primary care providers for all Ontarians, build the new Stevenson Memorial Hospital ASAP.</p> <p>Ruthless Tariffs - Provide aid as needed to address any tariffs affecting the stability of Ontario's economy.</p>	<p>Tax Cuts - Cut income taxes, home heating and hydro taxes, and small business taxes.</p> <p>Build Housing - Execute a real housing plan that creates affordable housing.</p>	<p>Schools - Fund and build a new Banting Memorial high school ASAP.</p> <p>Agriculture - Enact proper land use planning to protect farmland, full fund the risk management program, stop stormwater fees.</p>	<p>Listen - Listen to you. Contact me about the issues that matter to you at info@votecryslers.ca</p>
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Authorised by the CFO for the Ted Crysler Campaign



Arts & Local Events



LEGION LYRICS – It was open mic day at the Royal Canadian Legion in Tottenham. Every second Sunday afternoon, musicians are invited to come to the Legion and get up on stage. The fun begins around 2:30 p.m. Nick Dougherty and Sean Bourke lead off the entertainment on Sunday, Feb. 9.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

Theatre's production of 'Having Hope At Home' – a heart-warming story

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The South Simcoe Theatre is opening the new season with a production of "Having Hope at Home."

This play was written by David S. Craig, commissioned by the Blyth Festival in Blyth, Ont., and subsequently developed by the Lighthouse Theatre in Port Dover. It premiered on Aug. 7, 2003, at the Blyth Festival.

Produced by Nancy Chapple Smokler, this play is directed by Candy Pryce. Jack Davidson steps in as stage manager for this production.

The setting is a drafty old Ontario farmhouse during a cold winter night with the wind howling outside and the fields covered in snow drifts.

A new baby is about to arrive at the farmhouse, but there are more problems than just how to welcome a new baby.

While those in the house await the new arrival, there are different opinions on how this new baby should enter the world.

This is when modern medicine meets midwifery, and causes some turmoil in the way of a family feud as family members come to terms on which is better for the new mother and baby.

All three generations of family in the house are stubborn in their own way and don't like much in the way of change.

How will they work things out so everyone is happy when the cries of the newborn are first heard?

As the evening goes on, there is a heart-warming story of forgiveness and hope that reminds the audience that sometimes the

human heart takes the longest way home.

"Having Hope at Home" is a play suitable for ages 13 and up. There are some adult themes and mild language.

For the run of "Having Hope at Home," the South Simcoe Theatre will be partnering with My Sister's Place for a charitable donation drive. There will be a table in the theatre lobby for your donations and there will also be a tap machine for anyone wishing to make a credit card donation.

"Having Hope at Home" runs from Feb. 28 to March 16 on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. with a matinee performance.

For ticket information, visit online at: www.thesouthsimcoetheatre.com.

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NEW PRODUCTION – The South Simcoe Theatre will be performing its production of "Having Hope at Home" from Feb. 28 to March 16. The play will be performed on Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. with a matinee performance.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CMHA-YRSS CEO named 'Communicator of the Year'

BY BROCK WEIR
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Rebecca Shields, President & CEO of the Aurora-based Canadian Mental Health Association of York Region and South Simcoe (CMHA-YRSS), has been named Communicator of the Year by the International Association of Business Communicators, Toronto.

The Communicator of the Year award was established in 1997 to recognize executives and business leaders in the Greater Toronto Area "whose demonstrated leadership and communication skills drive business results or have had a substantially positive influence on the community."

Those recognized with the Award do not have to be in the field of communications, but "someone who uses the power of communication to deepen understanding, inspire action, and transform their community."

Leaders previously recognized with the honour include Dr. Eileen de Villa, Toronto's Medical Officer of Health at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, writer Jesse Wenthe, television producer Fennella Bruce, late Mississauga mayor Hazel McCallion,

and former TTC CEO Andy Byford. "Rebecca is recognized for her leadership and contributions to community development, inclusion, mental health and addictions, cultural competency, and innovation," said the organization. "Under Rebecca's leadership, CMHA York Region & South Simcoe has grown into one of Canada's largest and fastest-growing CMHA branches, supporting over 22,000 individuals annually through 32+ mental health and addiction programs and services. Her achievements include growing agency revenues from \$8 million to \$42 million and earning accolades like Canadian Non-Profit Employer of Choice for seven consecutive years and Canada's 10 Most Admired Corporate Cultures.

"Rebecca is recognised for her exceptional leadership in communication, her commitment to mental health advocacy, and her visionary work in fostering inclusive and supportive communities."

Congratulations were also offered by Eric Jolliffe, the newly-minted Chair of the Regional Municipality of York, at his first formal Council meeting at the helm on January 30.

"On behalf of Regional Council, I would

like to extend a warm congratulations to Rebecca Shields," said Jolliffe. "This is a well-deserved recognition for Rebecca's exceptional leadership, which continues to be instrumental in advancing the mission of the Canadian Mental Health Association and supporting the mental health and well-being of our communities."

Shields says she was "honestly blown away" to receive this honour, noting she was "shocked, surprised, delighted, humbled," but stressed that communication is part and parcel of her community work.

"Communication is the most important aspect and skillset of my role because a communicator also has to be someone who listens and ensures that the people and that I work with... and connect with feel heard and that I can then reflect the messages to our community, to our government, to my staff, to my donors in a way that builds on, I think, our collective vision to improve the mental health in our community," she says. "I think it is the foundation of my job."

Communication is also critical in supporting mental health care, she adds.

"As we battle stigma and as we improve both our clinical and our therapeutic relationships with our clients, and just our gen-



EXCELLENT COMMUNICATOR – CMHA-YRSS President and CEO Rebecca Shields has been named the Communicator of the Year by the International Association of Business Communicators Toronto. **FILE PHOTO**

eral work with our clients... the most important thing is people feel seen, feel heard and feel valued," she says. "That is a core value of CMHA and every single one of my staff members, whether they are one of our psychiatrists, nurses or peer support specialists or our great receptionists... even our corporate services... that is how we treat everyone who walks through the door.... You can fumble and mumble, but if people feel seen, valued and heard, then you have the foundations for good communications."

Impaired driving charges laid in Alliston after vehicle drives through red light

The Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged a driver for driving while impaired in the Town of New Tecumseth.

On Feb. 7, shortly after 11:30 p.m., a Nottawasaga OPP officer was conducting general patrol in the area of Victoria St. and Boyne St. in Alliston. The officer observed a passenger vehicle proceeded through the intersection on the red light.

The officer conducted a traffic stop for the offence under the Highway Traffic Act. Upon further investigation, the officer could smell an odour of an alcoholic beverage coming from the driver at which time the officer issued an Approved Screening Device demand (ASD).

The driver subsequently provided a sample which resulted in a "Fail."

At 11:46 p.m., the driver: Edwin Addai Sarfo, a 28 years-old from Bradford, was charged with:



- Red light - fail to stop
- Operation while impaired - blood alcohol concentration (80 plus)

In addition to the charges, the driver was issued a 90-day license suspension, and their vehicle was impounded for seven days.

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice located in Bradford on March 13, 2025, to answer to the charges.

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Beeton Tottenham Business Improvement Association will hold our annual general meeting to review 2024 and present our 2025 budget.

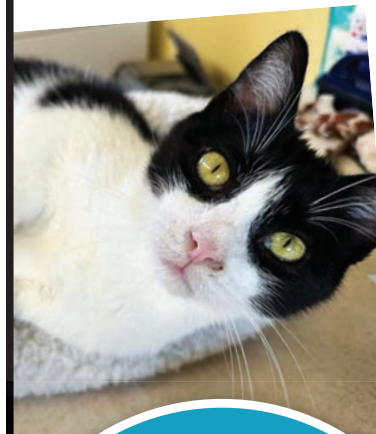
The meeting will be held on

Wednesday, March 5th, 2025 at 6:30 pm.
at the Tottenham Community Fitness Centre
139 Queen St. N., Tottenham. RSVP to attend.

For information please contact Susan Iacoucci
905.936.3424 or email info@btbia.ca



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Have questions about God, the Bible or church. Alpha is a series of excellent teachings by Nicky Gumbel which have been enjoyed by over 60,000 churches worldwide.

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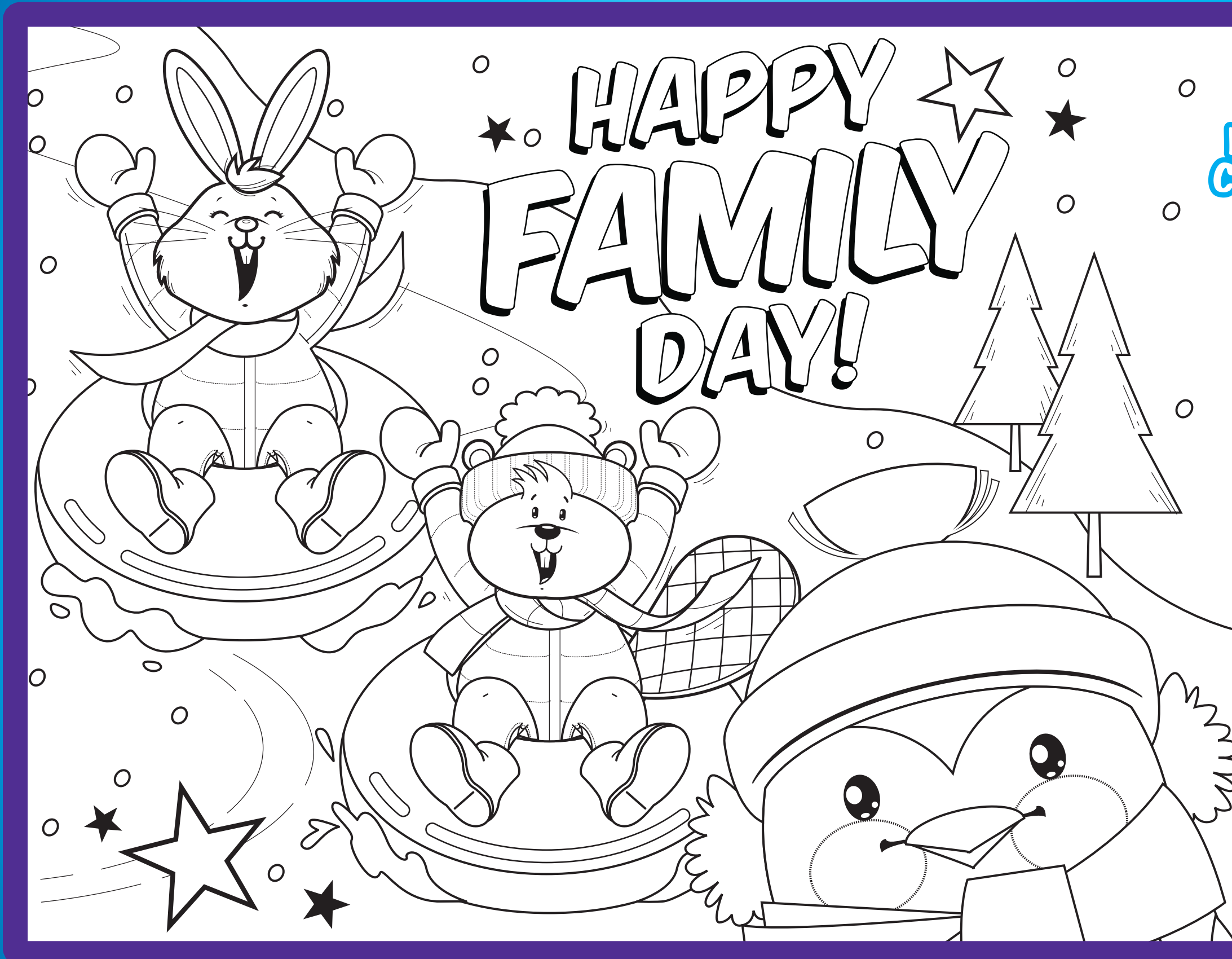
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ALL Ways TRAVEL



Safe drive to work after a snowstorm? Thank town crews

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A house fire can be one of the most devastating winter storms have dumped snow on the region this year, creating hazardous driving conditions, including a winter event on Feb. 3 that turned some roads into a dangerous ice path.

The Town of New Tecumseth has done an excellent job of clearing the streets, roads, and sidewalks, to make travel safe.

Town crews complete the job in a timely manner during difficult circumstances to make sure residents will have a safe journey to work in the morning.

The Town uses both sand and salt for snow and ice control.

Sand is a mixture of nine parts screened sand and one part pure salt.

In conditions below -15°C, winter sand will be used on all routes as an abrasive.

Roads are plowed by priority, meaning major roads are plowed first so emergency

vehicles can pass safely.

Smaller streets are plowed later.

Primary roads have the highest speeds and greatest volume of traffic.

The Town is responsible for clearing snow and ice from 775 kilometres of Town roads – 269 urban kilometres and 486 rural kilometres. There are 87 kilometres of sidewalks within Alliston, Beeton, and Tottenham that are cleared.

The Town is also responsible for clearing 15 parking lots.

Some roads, for example, Tottenham Road, and King Street North in Alliston, are the responsibility of the County of Simcoe.

There is a Town Standard in place that ensures crews operate at a minimum standard and complete due diligence when carrying out their duties.

If you had a safe drive to work the morning after a snowstorm, thank the crews from the Town of New Tecumseth for a job well done.

Carjacking in progress stopped by Nottawasaga OPP officers, four arrested

The Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Community Street Crime Unit have laid charges on four individuals in relation to an attempted carjacking in Angus on Jan. 30.

At 3:30 p.m., officers from the Nottawasaga Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) were in Angus when they observed a drug deal between the accused and victim.

The accused parties attempted to forcefully remove the victim from their vehicle but were unsuccessful. The victim escaped with their vehicle travelling south bound on Mill Street in Angus. The accused parties pursued the victim at high rates of speed

weaving in and out of heavy traffic. CSCU officers with the assistance of frontline members intervened and placed three parties under arrest.

On Feb. 3, 2025, a 4th accused was arrested and held for bail.

As a result of the investigation:

Kelsey Lang, 29, from Cookstown, was charged with – Robbery with intent.

She was released on a form 10 Undertaking to appear before the courts on March 6, 2025

James Hamilton, 28, from Innisfil, was charged with:

- Robbery with intent

- Dangerous operation
- Driving while under suspension - two counts

He was held for a bail hearing and was released on a release order to appear before the courts on Feb. 27, 2025.

Christopher Lang, 28, from Vaughan, was charged with:

- Robbery with intent
- Possession of a Schedule I substance for the purpose of Trafficking - Cocaine

He was held for a bail hearing and is to appear before the courts on Feb. 4, 2025.

Robert Palfrey, 62, from Barrie, was charged with:

- Dangerous operation

- Possession of a Schedule I substance for the purpose of Trafficking-Cocaine

He was released on a form 10 Undertaking to appear before the courts on March 13, 2025.

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.

If you have any information regarding a criminal offence please contact the OPP or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or you can submit your information online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

Crime Stoppers does not subscribe to call display, and you will remain anonymous. Being anonymous, you will not testify in court.

Nottawasaga OPP arrest two individuals in ongoing vehicle fraud investigation

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Nottawasaga Detachment of the

Ontario Provincial Police Crime Reduction Unit and Emergency Response Team have arrested two people after an ongoing police investigation.

On June 9, 2024, officers responded to a report of fraud at a residence on Highway 9 in the Town of New Tecumseth.

The complainant reported that the ownership of two high-end vintage vehicles had been fraudulently registered in someone else's name. During the initial investigation, it was determined that the keys to the vehicles were also missing from the complainant's home.

The value of the two vehicles is over \$500,000.

Police executed several search warrants on Jan. 30, resulting in the arrests of two people.

The key fobs and ownerships were recovered during the search.

Police also seized other items including 11 long guns, 658 grams of cocaine, a 2012 Chevrolet Silverado, a 2010 Mercedes Benz, drug paraphernalia, ammunition, three knives, four cell phones, 21 iPads, five sets of vehicle keys, and a large sum of Canadian currency.

As a result, Anthony Fasullo, 30, of Vaughan was arrested at an address on Inn-

isfil Beach Road, and charged with Possession of a Schedule 1 Substance for the purpose of Trafficking (cocaine), Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Under \$5,000, Fraud over \$5,000 – two counts, Possession of Proceeds of Crime Over \$5,000 and Resist Peace Officer.

The accused was held for a bail hearing and ordered to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice on Feb. 7, 2025.

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.

Morgan Crouse, 25, of Tottenham, was charged with, Possession of a Schedule 1 Substance for the Purpose of Trafficking (cocaine), Possession of Proceeds of Property Obtained by Crime over \$5,000, Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Under \$5,000, and Trafficking in Schedule 1 Substance (cocaine).

The accused has been released and has been ordered to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice on Feb. 20, 2025.

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.

This investigation is ongoing.



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SPORTS

NEW TECUMSETH TIMES

Hornets gear up for playoffs, only took one loss during regular season

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

With three games left on the regular season schedule, the Alliston Hornets will be charging full speed ahead into playoff mode.

The Hornets played two games this past week, with three more scheduled over four days to end the regular season.

On Wednesday, Feb. 5, the Allison squad hosted the Penetang Kings at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre for a mid-week game.

Nick Lamont scored the only first-period goal.

Cole Turcotte and Noah Cochrane both scored in the second period to make it a 3-0 game.

The Kings notched one early in the third period.

Turcotte got his second of the game late in the final frame to make it a 4-1 win for the Hornets.

The regular Friday home night game against the Muskoka Bears was cancelled due to weather, and the game was moved to Saturday at the last minute. The switch was so sudden referees had to be called to come and take care of the game, delaying the start by 45 minutes.

This was a payback game for the Alliston team. The last time they met the Bears, the Muskoka team gave the Hornets their only loss of the season.

The Hornets were leading 4-0 at the end of the first period on goals from Nick Lamont, Mitch Harding, Ben Smith and Cole Turcotte.

Lamont got his second of the night early in the second period.

Jax Bellwood and Mark Coish got second-period markers.

Muskoka managed to hit the back of the Alliston net twice in the second period.

Duncan Grube finished off the night with the only goal in the third period to give Alliston the 8-2 win.

The Hornets will be meeting the Bears in the first round of the division playoffs.

“With 35 wins and a shoot-out loss to them, (Bears) we definitely didn’t forget about it going into this game,” said Hornets head coach Jacob Bauchman after Saturday’s win.

“We’re spending more time off ice with video. We’re not getting much practice time because we have to play six games over eight days. We’re in full-speed play-off mode.”

Bauchman said the team won’t let up on the gas when they meet Muskoka in the first round.

“Playoff mode is a totally different animal,” he said.

“They’re going to bring in a little more in the playoffs so we’ve got to make sure that we’re sharp and be ready to play the top team, bottom team, middle of the pack team, it doesn’t matter. We have to make sure we prepare.”



CLOSING IN – The Alliston Hornets host the Muskoka Bears on the ice at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre on Saturday, Feb. 8. The game was rescheduled after bad weather forced the cancellation of the regular Friday night home game. The Hornets left the ice with an 8-2 win. The Alliston squad now has three games left in the regular season before heading into the playoffs. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**

The Hornets will play Huntsville on Feb. 11, then travel to Orillia to meet the Terriers on Feb. 12. They will be back on home ice on Friday, Feb. 14, to host the Innisfil Spartans. Game time is 7:30 p.m.



SKILLS GAME – Members of the TNT Tornados U9 Select Hockey Team play a mini-game between periods to show their skills at the Alliston Hornets game against the Penetang Kings at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre on Wednesday, Feb. 5. It was also Minor Hockey Night and any young player who wore a jersey was admitted for free with a parent. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**

Continued from Page 4

Brock's Banter: Standing at our posts

Take, for instance, the last 20-odd days living next to the United States.

Since Donald Trump took office for his second non-consecutive term, we have been bombarded from all directions on all manner of things.

We're treading water in seas of negativity, division and misinformation.

We're living under the constant threat of crippling economic tariffs – the latest being a new significant tariff on aluminum and steel we produce here at home, a move which was confirmed just days after we ostensibly “won” a 30-day reprieve from the previous round of tariff threats.

We're living in a world where executive orders are upending our very idea of the United States and putting many of our fellow humans south of the border in the

crosshairs of hate.

We're living in a world where existential threats to our very nation and sovereignty are things we're now living with every day. The real world stuff.

And then there's the nonsense that is just as baffling as it is pointless, such as the apparent re-naming of the Gulf of Mexico; overtures to (at best) “purchase” Greenland or (at worst) overtake it; and bringing forward a renaissance in plastic straws.

None of which, as far as I could see, were identified as priorities by any serious voter ahead of November's Presidential Election where so many claimed to be concerned about the price of eggs – which, by the way, have trebled since the “peaceful” transfer of power.

The pace at which these changes, threats and taunts are coming can leave the best of

us exhausted, and that's by design, but it's vitally important that we –as individuals and as groups – don't let the bombardment overtake us or keep us from taking a collective breath.

At the moment, we appear to be largely united in our resolve to resist the threats and keep our economies afloat with renewed efforts to Buy Canadian and Buy Local, which is fantastic, but we've been here before.

We shared these sentiments, by and large, at the height of the Global Pandemic but, sadly, this fell by the wayside in many cases as people began to chafe under many of the hardships that came with it, at being “told” what to do, and the rise of mistrust in what we were being asked to do thanks to, as mentioned above, the flood of misinformation.

Indigenous leaders have spoken with dismay of what they describe as a “news fatigue” when it comes to the issues being faced by First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities, particularly the continued confirmation of horrors that took place in association with Residential Schools; one only has to look at how many times new discoveries grab national headlines these days to see that the “news fatigue” claims are rooted in reality.

But, however weary we might get from threats coming our way at such a rapid pace, we must not let our guard down and become complacent out of sheer exhaustion.

Our future quite literally depends on it. So, stay well-rested, stay alert and, together, we can stand on guard for what really matters.

Smoking and drinking: A dangerous combination

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A house fire can be one of the most devastating things that can happen to you.

You can lose everything you own, and you may end up scrambling to find a place to live.

Many home fires are preventable, but you need to be aware of the risk factors.

Smoking is the number one cause of fatal home fires in Ontario. Alcohol is a factor in many smoking-related fires.

If you or someone in the house smokes, you should be careful if you are sleeping or have consumed alcohol, drugs, or medicine that makes you drowsy.

Never smoke in bed.

Encourage smokers to smoke outside, including outside of the garage. Empty ashes into a metal container – not a garbage can.

Unattended cooking is a leading cause of home fires in Ontario.

You should not cook if you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol. Always stay in the kitchen while cooking and turn off the stove if you must leave.

Keep anything that burns a safe distance from the stove.

Another leading cause of home fires in Ontario is electrical equipment.

Avoid overloading a circuit, and use extension cords only as a temporary connection.

Plug air conditioners and other heavy appliances directly into an outlet. Check electrical cords for damage such as fraying or nicks, as a damaged cord can expose wires and result in a shock or fire hazard.

Home heating systems are potential fire hazards.

Ensure wood stoves, fireplaces, and fireplace inserts are installed by a qualified technician and according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Have your heating system, vents, and chimneys inspected and cleaned annually by a qualified service technician.

Ensure outside heating vents are not blocked.

Maintain at least one metre between space heaters and anything that can burn, including curtains, upholstery, and clothing.

By following common safety procedures, you can reduce the risk of a fire in your home.

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Nottawasaga OPP searching for suspects related to LCBO theft

Officers from the Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are currently investigating a shoplifting incident and are requesting the public's assistance to identify the individuals involved.

On Jan. 28, shortly after 11:30 a.m., Nottawasaga OPP were called to an LCBO located at 55 Queen Street South, Tottenham.

Three males entered the store at 11:14 a.m. They were observed entering the back storage room where they proceeded to place several white boxes onto a blue cart then exiting through the rear exit door placing the boxes into a vehicle then departing the store.

- Suspect 1 - brown male, approximately 6'0, medium build, black jacket, black pants, black and white running shoes, and a brown toque.

- Suspect 2 - white male, approximately 6'0, medium build, black jacket, black pants,

black ballcap, and a scruffy beard.

- Suspect 3 - white male, approximately 6'0, medium build, camo jacket, black Puma pants, white and grey sneakers, and a black toque.

The three individuals fled the scene in a grey Hyundai sedan with black rims. The involved vehicle was last observed travelling onto Rogers Road in Tottenham.

Items stolen include:

- 22 bottles of JP Wiser's Deluxe
- 6 bottles of 15 Year Old Glenlivet French Oak Reserve
- 12 bottles of St. Remy Brandy
- 6 bottles of Canadian Club Premium
- 6 bottles of Gibson's Finest Sterling Edition
- 12 bottles of Traveller Blend No. 40

Total value of: \$3,618.60.

If you know this individual, please



SEARCH FOR SUSPECTS – Nottawasaga OPP officers are looking to identify the individuals from this video surveillance photo. Anyone with information is asked to call 1-888-310-1122 (reference number E250113112) to report what they know.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

call 1-888-310-1122 (reference number E250113112). remain anonymous at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or www.crimestoppersdm.com.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers to When you contact Crime Stoppers you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.

Another arrest made in year-long investigation of robbery in New Tecumseth

Members of the Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Major Crime Unit have made another arrest in connection to a robbery investigation that occurred one year ago in New Tecumseth.

Officers from the Nottawasaga Detachment entered into an investigation of a robbery that occurred in the Kid Crescent area of Alliston on Feb. 27, 2024, shortly before 3 a.m.

As a result, of the investigation, three individuals were taken into custody and a stolen vehicle was recovered.

On Jan. 31, 2025, at 7:19 a.m., another suspect was arrested on a warrant and as a result:

Israel Brathwaite, 24, from Markham, was charged with:

- Robbery using Firearm (Restricted or Prohibited)
- Conspiracy to Commit Indictable Offence

The investigation is ongoing by the Nottawasaga Detachment Major Crime Unit. Anyone with information regarding this investigation is asked to contact the Nottawasaga OPP regarding report number (E240239274) at 1-888-310-1122 or Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

You can also submit your information online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca.



Local police investigating theft of 2020 Dodge Ram in Alliston from residence

The Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is investigating the theft of a 2020 Dodge Ram that occurred in Alliston.

Nottawasaga OPP officers responded to a report of a stolen vehicle from a residence on Janes Crescent in Alliston on Feb. 4, at approximately 3:46 a.m.

The victim reported that live video foot-

age from the home showed the vehicle was taken at approximately 3:42 a.m.

The stolen vehicle is a black 2020 Dodge Ram Duramax, with Ontario Plate "AP67869."

The suspect is described as one male, wearing light-coloured pants and a light-coloured winter jacket.

If you have any information or video

surveillance footage in relation to this theft, please call the Nottawasaga OPP Detachment at 1-888-310-1122 (Report #E250141696).

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers by phone at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at the website: ontariocrimestoppers.ca.



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708 OBITUARIES

Edgar Sidney James Millar

With profound sadness we announce the passing of Edgar (Ed) Millar on Thursday, February 6, 2025. Predeceased by his devoted wife Sheila (Kinnell) Millar. Loving father to Susan (Mike), Julia (Stéphane) and James (Ellie). Cherished Grampie of Rebekah, Zachary, Darren and Dean. Dear brother to Lillian Paul (Jack), Nelson Millar (Masayo) and Kenneth Cavanagh. Son of Gretha (d.2005) and Sidney Millar (d.1940), and stepfather Kenneth Cavanagh (d.1999). Will be missed by his Kinnell in-laws, and all of his nieces, nephews, cousins and family across the country.

Ed was born in Prince Edward Island (March 22, 1939), where he lived with his family until moving to Ottawa at age ten. After graduating from high school, he trained in meteorological studies before moving to then Coppermine, NWT (Kugluktuk, Nunavut). He would be there for six years, ultimately managing the weather station, before moving to Toronto to continue his career with Environment Canada and marrying Sheila. Together they raised their three children in King City and became proud grandparents. An active member of his church and community, Ed was a member of the Oak Ridges Trail Association since 1994 and was past Chair of the King Chapter. As a hiker, he conquered both the Bruce and Ganaraska Trails (amongst others) end to end, was leading hikes until the fall of 2024, and often seen out doing trail maintenance. His hard work and dedication were commemorated with the naming of the Ed Millar Side Trail. Amongst other volunteer activities, he was on the board of the King Township Historical Society, the York Branch of the National Association of Federal Retirees (NAFR) and no one will forget 'Ed's Bread' and famous desserts at All Saints Annual Women's Dinner. To recognize his service to the community he was presented the Lifetime Achievement Award by King Township in 2016.

Friends may visit at the Marshall Funeral Home, 10366 Yonge St., Richmond Hill on Friday, February 14 from 2-4pm, 6-8pm. Funeral Service will be held at All Saints Anglican Church, King City (12935 Keele Street) Saturday, February 15 at 11am.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the King Chapter of the Oak Ridges Trail Association or All Saints Anglican Church, King City.

708 OBITUARIES

Barrie J. Moir
January 18, 1935 - January 10, 2025

Barrie J. Moir, affectionately known as "Captain Bandid," passed away peacefully on January 10, 2025, at Cortellucci Hospital in Vaughan, Ontario. Born on January 18, 1935, in Toronto, he was the cherished son of John and Violet Moir and a beloved brother to Ron and Doug (predeceased).

A 54 year resident of King City, Barrie leaves behind his wife of 64 years, Thora, daughter Lorna (Steve), son Neil (Connie) along with grandchildren Emily (Jesse), Russell, Clayton, Maddox, Maverick, and Sienna.

Barrie began his career as a cabinet maker but transitioned to be a Firefighter and went on to serve for 32 years in the Borough of York, rising to Captain. He also served as a Volunteer Firefighter in King City for 31 years, eventually becoming the Fire Chief.

His dedication to service, hospital and trail volunteer work earned him numerous accolades and awards, the most prominent being Firefighter of the Year and the Ontario Good Citizenship award.

Barrie was a talented woodworker who also enjoyed playing the harmonica. He was known for his sociable nature and warm humor and was an inspiration and hero to his family.

Friends and family may call at MARSHALL FUNERAL HOME, 10366 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, on Saturday, February 22nd, 2025. Visitation 12 pm-1:30 pm. Service in the chapel at 1:30 pm. Any active or retired firefighters attending the Service are invited to wear their full dress uniform as Barrie was a dedicated firefighter who wore his uniform with pride.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation or the Canadian Guide Dog Foundation.

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6-9 PIECES 690 g

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14⁹⁹ **Deep Dish Chicken Pie**
907 g

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4 PIECES 560 g

12⁹⁹ NEW! **Pork Schnitzel**
5-7 PIECES 650 g

WOW! 17⁹⁹ save \$7 **Extra Thick Cut Frenched Pork Chops**
2 PIECES x 340 g/12 oz

19⁹⁹ **Gingered Beef**
975 g

15⁹⁹ **Sweet & Sour Chicken**
975 g

10⁹⁹ SAVE \$2 each **Gratins**
500 g

10⁹⁹ SAVE \$2 each **Chicken Strips**
27-33 PIECES 1.36 kg/3 lb



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27⁹⁹ SAVE \$6 each **Chicken Strips**
27-33 PIECES 1.36 kg/3 lb

27⁹⁹ SAVE \$6 each **Breaded Chicken Fillets**
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