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Thursday

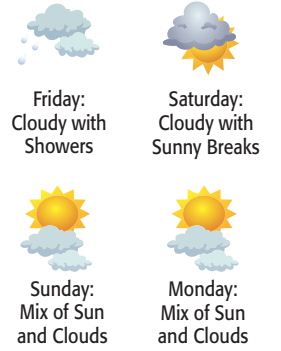
MAY 29

5:30 pm
in the Mercer Pub
Gibson Centre
30 Tupper St. W., Alliston



The Times • New Tecumseth

- Alliston
- Beeton
- Tottenham



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Walking for a Good Cause

There was a good turn-out for the annual Keanan's Family Walk in Tottenham on Sunday, April 6. The walk raises funds in support of the EarlyON Centre in Alliston with this year's focus on the Emergency Baby Supplies program. Walkers gathered at the Tottenham Legion before beginning the walk through the town. The walk raised around \$4,000 for the EarlyOn Centre. Last year's walk raised funds for the Transplant Centre at SickKids

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

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OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, April 12th | 1:30 - 3:30pm

Ready to enjoy a virtually maintenance free lifestyle in an award winning, adult lifestyle community? Come visit on Saturday, April 12th and check out this beautifully appointed Briar Hill bungalow tucked away on a quiet circle. This home is all ready for you - just move in and unpack. The home has been professionally painted throughout and tastefully renovated and updated - the bright, spacious kitchen & entrance area have new flooring, granite countertops, freshly painted cupboards, new hardware & new appliances. All bathrooms have been updated throughout. Updated lighting, ceiling fans and window coverings throughout the home. The open concept living and dining areas with beautiful cathedral ceilings, are generous rooms for relaxing or entertaining in. There is a walk out from the living room to the updated deck offering an excellent spot for morning coffee or an evening BBQ. The main floor, spacious primary bedroom offers a 4 pc ensuite and large walk in closet. There is also space on this floor, off to the side, for a home office or den! The professionally done lower level features a ton of space, a large family room with a second fireplace, a guest bedroom with a large closet, a full 3 pc bathroom, a hobby room or office space and the utility room. New furnace, A/C, roof & skylights, front stonework at step entrance.

See you Saturday!



2 Tuscany Grande
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OPEN HOUSE
Sunday, April 13th | 1:30 - 3:30pm

Wonderfully located on Tuscany Grande, this home backs onto green space, ponds and the golf course and has incredible, serene views regardless of the season. The open concept main level features beautiful hardwood flooring, cathedral ceilings and an abundance of windows in the living room to let the sunshine in! The spacious, updated eat-in kitchen offers new quartz counters and backsplash, stainless appliances (all 2 or 3 yrs new) and a useful coffee bar. There is a walk out to the large deck from the breakfast area. Check out the deck – perfect for early morning tea or afternoon beverages and a BBQ. Back inside, laundry is conveniently on the main level – right off the kitchen. The inviting main floor sitting area at the front of the home is a perfect spot for reading a novel or listening to music. Upstairs is the spacious, private primary suite with a large window, lovely hardwood flooring, walk-in closet and 5 pc ensuite. The professionally done lower level offers up lots more space to enjoy. Laminate flooring throughout, this level offers a large family room with another fireplace to enjoy, a bright guest bedroom, a 3 pc bath, another room with built in closets that would work as an additional bedroom if needed. The last room on this level is very versatile – home office, a workout area, a hobby room – lots of options to suit your needs. This home features new lighting and window coverings throughout, a new fireplace mantle, some new doors and so much more!!

See you Sunday!



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Town encourages input from residents about representation boundaries

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Town of New Tecumseth will be holding public meetings to garner input from residents about ward boundaries.

Boundaries may change over time with a changing population, and the Town wants to make sure residents receive proper representation.

The Town of New Tecumseth is reviewing its ward boundaries to ensure it continues to be an effective and equitable system of representation. The Town will also be reviewing the role of deputy mayor to determine whether the position should be elected at large or appointed by Council after each regular election.

If appointed, the person would also be an elected ward councillor.

The ward boundary review will assess the current boundaries and number of wards to determine if they are appropriate, and if not, will propose alternatives.

A ward boundary change means the lines dividing different neighbourhoods might be redrawn. This will affect which ward you vote in and who represents your ward in New Tecumseth Council.

There will be a series of public meetings on the topic as well as an online survey where you can add your input.

Currently, the Town has eight wards represented by eight councillors as well as a mayor and deputy mayor.

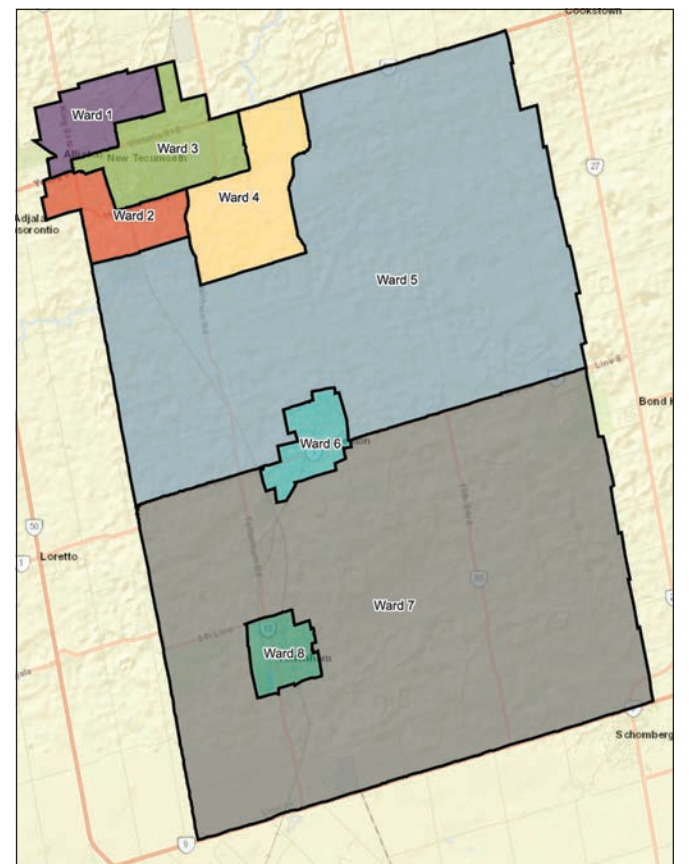
Input from the public will be presented to Council for consideration

in 2025. At that time, members of Council will review and determine whether to adjust, divide, or maintain the town's existing ward boundaries. If changes are required, they will be made before the 2026 municipal election.

There will be three public meetings about the ward boundary review:

- Beeton Memorial Arena, upstairs hall on Thursday, April 10, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Tottenham Community Centre, Multi-purpose Room #1 on Thursday, April 10, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- Town Hall Council Chambers on Monday, April 14, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information and to take the online survey on boundary changes, visit newtecumseth.ca/wardboundaryreview.



Police seek public's help finding suspects of residential break and enter in Tottenham

Officers from the Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating a recent break and enter at a residence in Tottenham.

On April 4, at 8:32 p.m., officers were dispatched to a report of a residential break-in at 12 Sydie Lane, Tottenham. Upon arrival, officers determined the basement window had been pried open and there was a break and enter. Suspects fled the scene prior to police arrival.

Nottawasaga OPP officer's preliminary investigation revealed that the homeowner arrived home from work at approximately 8:15 p.m., and entered through the garage and into a mudroom at which time they noticed that clothes had been thrown all over the floor from the drying machine and a safe had been taken from the home.

Home surveillance shows what appears to be two males exiting through the front door at 4:48 p.m. One male is seen carrying the safe wrapped in a blanket. What is believed to be a black Ford Escape is also observed backing into the driveway, at which time a third male is observed exiting the driver side of the vehicle to assist.

Video in the area also shows a female walking around the residence on a cell phone near the address at approximately 4:24 p.m.

that officers are looking to speak with.

• Suspect 1 is described as male, wearing a black jacket/hoodie, black pants, black shoes, black crossbody bag, black gloves, black hat and surgical mask.

• Suspect 2 is described as male with tan skin, wearing a beige/black jacket, grey track pants, brown shoes, grey toque and surgical mask,

• Suspect 3, the driver, is described as male, wearing a grey jacket, black hat, surgical mask, and black pants.

• Suspect 4 is described as female, wearing white pants, a surgical mask, black jacket, black shoes and a pink hijab.

Police are encouraging residents to review their camera footage or dash cam for any suspicious activity that may be helpful in this investigation between 3:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on April 4, 2025.

The investigation into this incident is still ongoing,

Anyone with information in relation to this incident is asked to contact the Nottawasaga OPP at 1-888-310-1122 (Reference #E250408102).

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.crimestoppersdm.com.

Alliston high school's robotics team gains attention of German Chancellor Olaf Scholz

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A robotics team from Banting Memorial High School in Alliston made a big impression at the one of the world's largest trade fairs.

Students attended the Hanover Messe (German for fair) in Germany, which ran March 31 to April 4, to run a demonstration of a robot goalie they built that stops pucks using a high-tech design and camera that can read the trajectory of a puck.

The robot goalie exhibit attracted the attention of some high-ranking visitors.

While at the fair, the Banting team had a visit from German Chancellor, Olaf Scholz, and Canadian politician and diplomat Stéphane Dion.

Chancellor Scholz took a shot but missed the goal. The robot goalie, however, still dropped its pad to the ice to block the shots.

A German TV station taped the visit and reported: "At the booth of a Canadian exhibitor, Scholz was shown a robot goalie for ice hockey. To test him, he grabbed his stick himself – the puck missed the goal by a few centimetres. The Chancellor was accompanied on his tour by Lower Saxony's

"The kids' response of 'we are just in high school' leaves people speechless. They are impressing people from around the world. It's so amazing to watch. They are so professional, yet still kids."

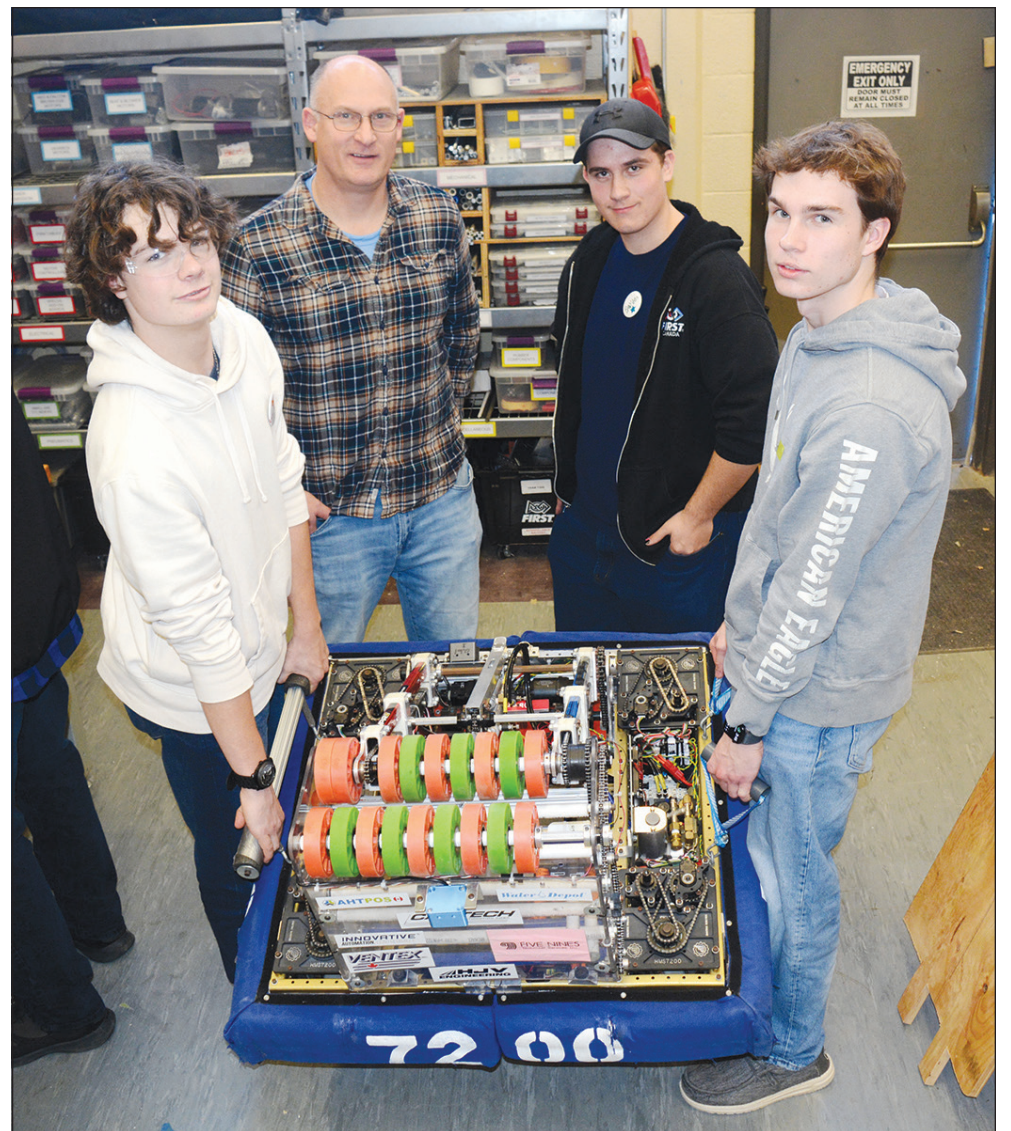
Bryan Haas, Banting Faculty member and robotics team leader

Prime Minister, Stephan Wei."

The Hanover Messe combines mechanical and electrical engineering with computer science to create new ideas for robot technology.

The robotics club is a popular club at Banting for students who have an interest in science and robotics. Each member of the team contributes in different ways to club projects.

Several parents who have different skills help by lending professional advice and experience to the students. Some former students who were part of the team when they were in high school also help out.



DREAM TEAM – Banting Memorial High School's Grade 12 robotics team created a robotic goalie that can react to pucks being shot at it. The team is receiving attention internationally for their demonstration. **FILE PHOTO**



INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION – Banting Memorial High School Grade 12 robotics team members, Lochlynn Sangster and Ian Rennie, meet with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz at the Banting booth of the Hanover Messe in Germany. The Hanover Messe ran from March 31 to April 4, and during that time, the Banting robotics team demonstrated their robotic goalie. **PHOTO COURTESY OF GERMAN TELEVISION**

The Banting team was asked to create a robot for a film that was being produced.

It was such a success that the sports network TSN called them and asked if they could build a robot goalie. The team took the robot to the TV studio for a demonstration.

That led to an invitation to the Hanover Messe.

The team in Hanover has 10 students and four mentors. They have an interactive booth at the Hanover Messe with their robot goalie.

The international event acts as a huge industrial trade fair with companies from the mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, digital industries, and energy sec-

tor, presenting solutions for a high-performance world. More than 4,000 companies from around the world are involved with the fair.

"The most common question we get is 'What university are you with?'" said Banting Faculty member and robotics team leader Bryan Haas. "The kids' response of 'we are just in high school' leaves people speechless. They are impressing people from around the world. It's so amazing to watch. They are so professional, yet still kids."

The Banting team are having a lot of fun at the fair while having the chance to show their ingenuity and robotics engineering skills.

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2. When in a crowd or in a busy restaurant, is it hard for you to follow the discussion?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. Do you feel tired or irritable after a long conversation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> 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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
5. Do you often need to ask others to repeat themselves?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6. Has someone close to you pointed out you may have a hearing problem?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
7. Do you find it difficult to pinpoint where a noise comes from?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

~ Stanislaw Jerzy Lec

The campground is full

If you have ever decided to go camping without a reservation during a long weekend in the summertime, you might see a big sign that says, ‘Campground full – No campsites available’ when you arrive at the gate.

You may ask whoever is running the place to let you in because you won’t take up a lot of room.

But they won’t let you in and let you just pitch your tent on some corner of the grounds.

The same thing happens when you arrive at a hotel looking for a room when a big convention is in town.

“Sorry, we don’t have any rooms available. They are all booked,” says the hotel staff.

You can plead with the concierge or the front desk clerk, but they can’t rent you a room they don’t have and they won’t look the other way if you slip them a \$100 bill and let you sleep in the lobby or a broom closet.

In fact, adjusting prices based on supply and demand in the hotel industry is very common. If you are planning to rent a room in the city where the Super Bowl is taking place, that \$150-a-night room will now cost you a lot more because the hotel knows

demand for that room is going to be very high.

So people either pay the higher price for the room or forget about visiting the city altogether.

I have now heard all the major political parties say they plan on building more houses, especially in Ontario.

This claim has now gone from the provincial level to the federal level.

But wait a minute – when did the government start building homes?

I don’t recall the province or the federal government ever creating a new subdivision. It’s not their responsibility to build homes.

There are plenty of new subdivisions out there, but they all have signs that say something like ‘Acme Home Builders – Come see our model homes.’

I’ve never seen a sign that said, “This subdivision was designed and built by the Ontario government – Come see our model homes.”

The province, or feds now, only facilitates new developments by allowing them to happen.

If you think your municipal government has anything to do with it, you’re mistaken. The municipality may have something to do with planning, but the

province trumps a municipal government.

Your municipal government only exists at the pleasure of the province. The province can eliminate an entire town or city council at will.

I recall having a conversation with the mayor of a town about a very unpopular development that was going to happen. No one wanted this new subdivision that would drop hundreds of houses, jammed close together, in a semi-rural area with widely spaced houses and big lots.

The residents already living there did not want the tranquillity of their street to be clogged with new traffic on a property that was previously farmland.

When I questioned why he was allowing this to happen, the mayor shrugged and said, “The province said it’s going to happen, so it’s going to happen whether people like it or not.”

The mayor had no control over development in the town he was elected to lead. None at all.

The call to build new houses is not the answer. The damage has already been done.

With so many people arriving on our shores and needing a place to live, the

cost of housing has risen dramatically. For some people, the dream of owning a home in their hometown has disappeared.

Real estate prices never go down. Building another 1 million homes doesn’t mean real estate will become affordable again.

No builder is going to develop a property and sell homes for \$300,000 when the guy down the street is selling homes for \$800,000. If you can’t afford to buy a home now, you won’t be able to afford to buy a home if they actually do build 1 million more houses.

Everyone knows the reason for the increase in housing costs, but no government seems willing to talk about it or provide a solution. They are too afraid they will be labelled as ‘anti-immigrant.’

We have more people arriving than we have room.

Both the provincial and, especially the federal governments have to get a grip on the situation.

They are trying to solve a problem after the fact, rather than using careful planning ahead of time.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Encouraging young writers

Today, April 10, is apparently National Encourage a Young Writer Day.

Why? I’m not sure.

Who says? Well, I’m not sure of that, either.

All I know is that this particular observance is listed on the National Day Calendar along with such other “notable” national days as National Alcohol Screening Day, National Erase Self-Negativity Day (this one, as it happens, has an origin story to go along with it and is one we should be following as much as possible), National Farm Animals Day, National Cinnamon Crescent Day, and National Siblings Day, so it must be...something.

Wherever it came from, I’m glad it’s here and that it’s today, because encouraging young writers – and older writers, for that matter – is something that is terribly important in this day and age.

We’re living at a time when letter-writing has become something of a lost art. If you handed a kid a post card,

chances are they would most likely look at you as if you had an extra two heads popping out of each ear if you asked them to fill them in and stamp them.

Sadly, independent booksellers are, with each passing year, becoming more and more of an endangered species. Cursive writing is now seen in some circles as outdated at best and obsolete or irrelevant in others.

We might still be a long way off from Artificial Intelligence, such as it is, threatening those who make their living by the written word, or find a vital creative outlet through setting pen to paper, into obsolescence, but it’s working double time to convince some of those who employ them that they’re inconvenient or too expensive compared to the alternatives.

At times I despair for the young scribes coming up and pursuing careers in journalism, creative writing, advertising copywriting, and related fields, as it feels while there are pas-

sionate people who impart knowledge and foster the next generation of talent in the classroom, lecture hall, or workplace, once those days are over and you’re setting out to ply your trade, find a job, or hang up your own shingle, you’re required to really do the heavy lifting. It’s a matter of making the case for not only why you’re the right person for the job but, in some instances, why the job should exist in the first place.

While this is often discouraging, at the same time, however, there are more outlets than ever before for the aspiring writer to hone their craft and find an audience.

Libraries that serve our communities are more bustling now than ever before. Writers groups in these libraries and elsewhere never have a shortage of participants eager to let their creative juices flow onto paper or their screen of choice and, in turn, participants eager to channel their passions into constructive criticism of their peers.

Events like Toronto’s Word on the Street, which shines a light on authors and publishers large and small, is always an event that brings out a healthy and diverse crowd. The arrival of a new independent bookseller – new or used – on the horizon never fails, at least from what I’m seeing, to make a splash and arouse excitement.

Elsewhere, in less traditional forms, social media outlets are changing the rules of the writing game – and not necessarily for the worse. A well-crafted Tweet – have we settled on a name yet on what to call posts on X? – can be an artform in and of itself. The same for a pointed Instagram caption or particularly compelling Substack. New forms are nothing to sneeze at and have their own well-earned place at the table.

Continued on Page 14

BROCK WEIR
BROCK’S BANTER



<p>Alliston • Beeton • Tottenham New Tecumseth The Times 30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton ON L7E 5V1 Toll Free: 1-888-557-6626 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363 www.newtimestimes.com www.facebook.com/newtimestimes</p>	<p>PUBLISHER: Simcoe-York Printing & Publishing Ltd. GENERAL MANAGER: Zach Shoub EDITOR: Sam Odrowski sam@citizen.on.ca REPORTER: Brian Lockhart PRODUCTION: Lisa Clendening ADVERTISING: Vicki Meisner vicki@pcmedia.ca OFFICE: Mary Speck CREDIT DEPT.: Al Lord CLASSIFIEDS: admin@caledoncitizen.com DISTRIBUTION: Sheila Ogram sheila@pcmedia.ca</p>	<p>Advertising & Administration Head Office 30 Martha St., Suite 205, Bolton L7E 5V1 Tel: 905-857-6626 Fax: 905-857-6363</p> <p>The advertiser agrees that the publisher shall not be liable for damages arising out of errors in advertisements beyond the amount paid for the space actually occupied by that portion of the advertisement in which the error occurred, whether such error is due to the negligence of its servants or otherwise, and there shall be no liability for non insertion of any advertisement beyond the amount paid for such advertisement. Copyright The Times 2025</p>	<p>Subscription rates: Within 65 km except towns with letter carriers – \$52.00 incl. G.S.T. Beyond 65 km and towns with letter carriers – \$89.00 incl. G.S.T. Single copies \$1.50 incl. G.S.T.</p> <p>THE TIMES is a member of the Ontario Press Council, an independent body set up by the newspapers of the province to uphold freedom of expression and deal with complaints from readers. The Press Council encourages complainants to first give the newspaper an opportunity to redress their grievances. If not satisfied, they may then write to the Council, enclosing a copy of material that is the subject of the complaint, at 80 Gould St., Suite 206, Toronto, Ont. M5A 4L8.</p> <p>ocna News Media Canada Médias d'Info Canada nnc National NewsMedia Council</p> <p>Funded by the Government of Canada Canada We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada.</p>
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County temporarily extends drop-off facilities, adds locations following ice storm

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

To help residents during spring clean-up, the County of Simcoe is opening several waste drop-off facilities on extra days for brush only.

All facilities will maintain their regular hours of operation – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – and will be open on their usual days.

New brush drop-off locations will also be temporarily opened to support areas that experienced significant damage during a recent ice storm.

On the additional opening days, only brush will be accepted free of charge. It can be any size but the County will not accept root balls.

The County will continue to monitor the

need for additional clean-up days and may adjust or add additional days of operation.

The severe and ongoing effects of the ice storm have been felt by thousands of people across Simcoe County, including many of the staff of County facilities.

Additional operating days

- Oro Facility (610 Old Barrie Road West) – open on Sunday, April 13.
- Mara Facility (5200 County Road 169) – open from Sunday, April 6 to Wednesday, April 10.

New temporary brush drop-off facilities

- Coldwater (1675 Anderson Line) – open Monday, April 7 to Saturday, April 12
- Midhurst (1904 Gill Road) – open Monday, April 7 to Saturday, April 12.

Easter Long weekend

These brush-only drop-off sites will be open from Friday, April 18 to Monday, April 21.

- North Simcoe Transfer Station (1700 Golf Link Road)

- Oro Facility (610 Old Barrie Road West)
 - Mara Facility (5200 County Road 169)
 - Medonte Facility (1675 Anderson Line)
- The County will continue to monitor the need for additional days and may adjust or add additional days of operation.



CLEAN UP TIME – As a result of the ice storm that recently ravaged the region, the County of Simcoe is opening several waste drop off facilities on extra days to assist in clean up efforts. **FILE PHOTO**

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NEWS, EVENTS & INFORMATION

Notice of Study Commencement

Municipal Class Environmental Study for New Alliston Elevated Water Storage Tank

Background

The Town of New Tecumseth (the Town) is responsible for the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of the water systems within its municipal boundaries. The Town owns and operates three interconnected drinking water systems, one for each of the three urban centres, Alliston, Beeton, and Tottenham. In 2016, the Town completed a Water Supply, Distribution, and Storage Master Plan (WMP) to identify the necessary upgrades to provide security of supply and to accommodate project growth and increasing water demands. The WMP identified a deficit in system storage capacity.

Study Process

A Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) study is being initiated to plan for a new elevated water storage tank identified in the 2016 WMP. The construction of the new elevated tank will provide drinking water storage required to meet the long-term water needs of the serviced population, address projected storage deficits and improve fire flows in the future industrial development areas. Additional elevated storage is required to provide equalization, fire, and emergency storage for the drinking water systems, and to improve operation flexibility and efficiency while reducing energy consumption. This MCEA will identify the preferred site for the New Alliston Elevated Tank considering technical, financial, social and environmental constraints.

This study is proceeding in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 'B' projects under the MCEA process (Municipal Engineers Association, 2024) which is an approved process under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. The project team will consult the public, review agencies, Indigenous Communities and interested stakeholders for the duration of the MCEA study. A Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held in association with this study. Notices for the PIC will be published in local newspapers, on the Town's website at <https://www.newtecumseth.ca/WaterTower> and distributed to all individuals who express an interest in this project.

How to Stay Involved

We are interested in hearing from you about this project. Please contact either of the project team members below if you have questions or comments, wish to obtain more information on the project, or would like to be included on the Project Contact List.

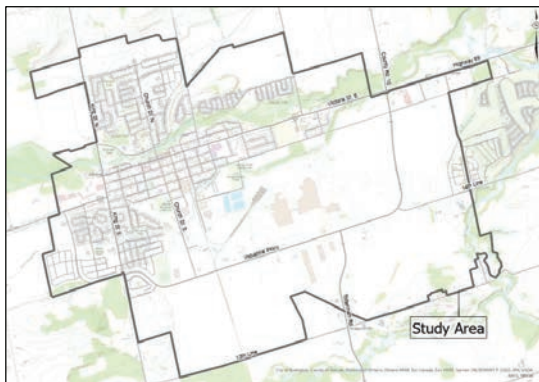
Joel John-Ogbe, Town of New Tecumseth
24 Tupper Street West
Alliston, ON L9R 1H2
Direct: 705-415-3045
Email: jjohn-ogbe@newtecumseth.ca

Sammy Hiseler, P.Eng., CIMA+
900-101 Frederick Street
Kitchener, ON N2H 6R2
Direct: 519-574-6601
Email: sammy.hiseler@cima.ca



This notice was first issued on **April 10, 2025.**

Information will be collected in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Except for personal information, all comments submitted will become part of the public record.



NVCA appoints new Chief Administrative Officer

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority has appointed Jennifer Vincent as its new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

With nearly 25 years of experience in senior roles with the federal public service, Vincent brings a wealth of expertise in environmental science, policy and management.

Vincent currently works as executive director of Ontario Freshwater Management at the Canada Water Agency. She has been instrumental in shaping national and binational water-protection strategies during her tenure there. Previously, Vincent held senior leadership positions with Environment and Climate Change Canada, such as associate regional director general of Ontario and director of the Science Policy Division.

Her well-regarded career has focused on protecting the Great Lakes, building consensus on environmental issues with governments and Indigenous communities, and managing remediation of contaminated sites.

She will be starting with the NVCA on May 5.

“We are thrilled to welcome Jennifer Vincent as our new CAO,” said Jonathan Scott, NVCA chair. “Her deep expertise in environmental stewardship, science-based policy and government service will be a tremendous asset as we work to strengthen NVCA’s role as a trusted, reliable partner in conservation and sustainable development. Under her leadership, our goal is to be recognized for our expertise, environmental protection and high-quality, efficient customer service. Jennifer knows how to bring people together to find common ground and to get things done while protecting the environment.”

Vincent shared her gratitude and excitement ahead of her taking over as NVCA’s CAO.

“I am honoured to take on this role and to contribute to the vital work of protecting and enhancing the Nottawasaga Watershed,” Vincent said.

“I look forward to working with the board, municipalities, stakeholders, businesses and community members to build on NVCA’s strong foundation, ensuring that we continue to deliver trusted expertise, environmental stewardship and reliable, responsive service for the communities we serve.”

New Tecumseth

WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW

Process

 Review Current System
 Think about the Guiding Principles
 Examine the Preliminary Options
 Provide Feedback at the Survey

Review the Materials

The 2024/2025 Ward Boundary Review Preliminary Options Report prepared by Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.

More information on the Ward Boundary Review can be found at www.newtecumseth.ca/wardboundaryreview.

Alternate formats available upon request

Have Your Say

Open Houses

April 10 - 1-3PM
Beeton Memorial Arena (Upstairs Hall)

April 10 - 6-8PM
Tottenham Community & Fitness Centre (Multi-purpose room #1)

April 14 - 6-8PM
New Tecumseth Town Hall

Check the website for more dates and times!

For more information contact the Clerks Office at 705-435-3900

St. Andrew Anglican Church

125 Wellington St. W, Alliston

Easter Services

“The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”
– John 1:5

Live again the incredible journey of Christ’s self-sacrifice and amazing resurrection in a beautiful, traditional space.

All Welcome

Passion and Palm Sunday
April 13th, 8:30 & 10 am

Maudy Thursday April 17th, 7 pm

Good Friday April 18th, 10 am

Easter Sunday
April 20th, 8:30 & 10 am

www.standrewanglican.ca
705-435-9711

One of New Tecumseth's newest businesses promises no-streak windows

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Cleaning second-story windows can be a challenge, especially when you don't have the right tools for the job, but a new business in town is here to help.

Scenic Window & Exterior Cleaning provides high-quality window and exterior cleaning with a fully filtered water system that never leaves streaks or watermarks.

Owner and operator of Scenic Window & Exterior Cleaning, Bill McDermott, said his philosophy of doing the job is very simple.

"I want to provide a positive experience for customers and enjoy working outdoors," he told the Times.

Bill got most of his experience in the industry while he was a student. While obtaining diplomas in marketing and sporting goods business at Fleming College

in Peterborough, he went on to complete a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) Degree at Trent University.

While in school and during the summer break, he worked for a local window-washing company and realized how much he enjoyed it.

"We are an interior and exterior window cleaning company, and we also do gutter cleaning, inside and out," McDermott explained. "We do siding cleaning and fascia cleaning. We can go up to 40 feet high on the outside of a building without using ladders."

Scenic Window & Exterior Cleaning uses a telescopic pole system that allows high-level windows to be washed from the ground.

A filter system in the company van purifies the water they use, so only pure water is used on buildings and windows. This

eliminates any contaminants that may cause streaking.

The high-pressure system means they can clean things like an entire house that has wood, plastic or vinyl siding.

"We use biodegradable soaps," Bill explained. "We spray down a wall just to get it wet, they brush it with the soap brush and spray it with the pressure washer."

The technique is especially helpful for houses in rural areas that have had years of particles blowing from open fields, collecting on the side of them and giving the house a dirty appearance over time.

Bill and Scenic Window & Exterior Cleaning cover a large area from Alliston to Barrie and the Orillia area and over to Collingwood and Orangeville.

You can find out more or request service by visiting the website at: www.scenic-cleaning.ca.



SCENIC CLEAN – Second-story windows are no problem for Scenic Window & Exterior Cleaning. This new company in New Tecumseth provides window washing and exterior building cleaning, with the ability to clean exterior windows up to 40 feet high without using ladders. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

Stevenson Memorial Hospital encourages excellence award nominations for deserving nurses

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Stevenson Memorial Hospital (SMH) is inviting residents of New Tecumseth and surrounding communities to recognize the exceptional contributions of its nursing team by nominating a nurse for the SMH Award of Excellence in Nursing.

If you or a loved one have received outstanding care from a registered nurse, registered nurse practitioner or nurse practitioner at SMH, they want to hear about it.

This award honours nurses who exemplify dedication, compassion, and commitment to excellence in patient care.

Nominations should include a personal account explaining why the nurse deserves this recognition.

Consider highlighting exceptional patient care and dedication, the impact they have made on you or your loved ones, and how they embody SMH's mission, vision, and values, fostering an environment of compassionate, high-quality care.

To be eligible for nomination, a nurse must have provided care at SMH between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025.

When completing a nomination, you must enter the nurse's full name, the department where they provided care, dates of care, your name and email, and your relationship

with the nurse.

You can submit your nomination online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/26NMST8.

Nominations should be submitted by Wednesday, May 1.

A panel of judges will select the recipient who will be honoured during Nursing Week, which runs May 12 to 18 this year.

NOMINATE NURSES LOCALLY – Stevenson Memorial Hospital is encouraging the public to nominate nurses at the hospital for the SMH Award of Excellence in Nursing. Nominations will be accepted until May 1. On Nursing Week, which runs from May 12 to 18 this year, award recipients will be announced. **FILE PHOTO**



Hi, my name is Corina Matts and I am a local girl.

Born and raised in New Tecumseth with generations of family ahead of and behind me that call it home.

When my parents were afflicted with illness at the same time, we were managing their home, appointments, meals, and needs, ahead of just spending time together. We searched, but could not find services that were all inclusive. So, I created it for YOU!

I come highly recommended, with clients in Alliston & Green Briar/Briar Hill area, and I look forward to meeting with you.

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Corina Matts
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mycontinuedcare@gmail.com
mycontinuedcare.ca

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BUILD THE HOMES
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ON APRIL 28TH
VOTE **Conservative**

ADVANCE POLLS ARE OPEN APRIL 18-21

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AUTHORIZED BY THE OFFICIAL AGENT FOR SCOT DAVIDSON

South Simcoe Police respond to two drug overdoses in Bradford West Gwillimbury

BY SAM ODROWSKI

Drug overdoses continue to impact residents of South Simcoe.

A call was made to local emergency services on March 21, at roughly 5:25 a.m., about a male who may have suffered a drug dose.

“South Simcoe Police worked with Bradford Fire and Simcoe County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to locate the person who called requesting assistance. Once the caller was located, officers entered a wooded area near Line 8 and Yonge Street in Bradford West Gwillimbury and found a 29-year-old unhoused male who was not responsive,” reads a press release issued by the South Simcoe Police on April 7.

“A small quantity of drugs was found at the

scene which officers seized for analysis. In addition to the drugs found, drug paraphernalia was scattered throughout a tent that the male was found in. As a result of the investigation, the male located was deceased due to a suspected drug overdose. A substance suspected to be fentanyl was seized at the scene.”

In a separate incident, on March 22, 2025, at approximately 1:30 a.m., while on patrol, a South Simcoe Police officer located a 34-year-old male on the ground next to a vehicle that was behind a retail plaza in Bradford West Gwillimbury.

“Other officers attended the scene and immediately administered naloxone and CPR. Simcoe County EMS attended the scene and transported the male to a local area hospital. Despite the lifesaving efforts of the officers

on scene, the male was pronounced deceased in hospital. Drug paraphernalia was seized by officers at the scene and will be analyzed to determine what drugs the deceased had taken prior to their death,” reads the South Simcoe Police’s press release.

Toxicology results in both overdose cases are still pending.

South Simcoe Police would like to remind the public that any street drug is considered dangerous and potentially lethal, as they can be contaminated.

“There are many additives that can be included in street drugs that can lead to an individual quickly becoming incapacitated and unable to help themselves,” reads the South Simcoe Police’s press release.

“Fentanyl that has been seized by the South



Simcoe Police Service in the past has been found to contain additives including Benzodiazepines, Nitazenes (synthetic opioids), and Xylazine (veterinary sedative). These additives can cause severe respiratory depression, and naloxone will not reverse its effects.”

Furthermore, South Simcoe Police are reminding the public about the provisions of the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act. The provisions of this Act will protect someone who is experiencing a drug-related emergency from being charged and prosecuted with drug offenses if they seek assistance from emergency services.

Travelling in Canada? Take your health card with you

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Now that the number of Canadians crossing the border for travel has declined, many people are choosing to travel across Canada for a vacation.

If you are travelling to another province, you will want to maintain your healthcare coverage when you are on the road.

Before you leave home, you should make sure your health card is valid. This means it is not expired, has your correct personal information, and your correct current address that is on file with ServiceOntario.

When you show your valid Ontario health card in another Canadian province or territory, you will be covered for some of the same services you’re covered for in Ontario.

This includes physician services such as a visit to a walk-in clinic and services provided in a public hospital, such as emergency, diagnostic, or laboratory services.

Any service or treatment you receive in another Canadian province or territory must be medically necessary for it to be covered by OHIP.

Services that are not covered by OHIP in another Canadian province or territory include services not covered in Ontario, ambulance services, prescription drugs and other drugs given outside of a hospital, and home care services.

Also not covered are fees charged by private hospitals or facilities, diagnostic or laboratory services outside of a public hospital, and long-term care or residential services.

If you are going to visit, work, or study in another Canadian province or territory for more than seven out of 12 months, you need to confirm your coverage before you leave.

If your job requires frequent travel to other parts of Canada, your OHIP coverage will continue if you qualify as a mobile worker.

To qualify as a mobile worker, bring proof to the nearest ServiceOntario centre that shows you travel frequently for more than 212 days in any 12-month period for work. Proof includes a letter from your employer.

For students, to keep their OHIP coverage while studying full-time in another province or territory in Canada, they must bring proof to the nearest ServiceOntario centre. Students must have lived in Ontario for at least five months of the 12-month period immediately before leaving.

You must provide proof that you are enrolled in full-time academic studies in Canada.



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Testimonials

“This is the perfect flavour for lamb, not too gamey, just a nice soft lamb flavour.”

Texture: *This is where the money is! You really don’t know what you have until the first bite. So juicy and tender, unlike any lamb we have ever tried. Even the pieces that were a little more cooked were still super tender.”*

Chris Zielinski – Senior Director Culinary Executive Chef, Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment, Toronto, Ontario

“An unprecedented delicate lamb meat! Our customers love this product. The mildness, taste, tenderness and juiciness is something we have never seen before!”

David Kee – Dave’s Butcher Shop, Orangeville, Ontario

“This lamb is a game changer for people not accustomed to the flavour of lamb! It melts at low temperature. You can hold it in your hand and the fat starts to melt! That’s closer to what you find in Wagyu meat – it makes it very succulent!”

Laura Dalrymple & Grant Hilliard – Feather and Bone Butchery, Sydney, Australia

“This is hands down the best piece of lamb I’ve ever eaten. The fat composition, flavour and quality is Wagyu-like!”

Chef Mark Best – Three Michelin Star Chef

“It is near on par with Kobe Beef in terms of eating quality. It’s the best lamb I have ever cooked.”

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Acknowledged by local and International Restauranters for its exceptionally mild taste, flavour, tenderness and juiciness, our Wagyu lamb is raised on our farm just north of Toronto. Craigmere lamb is also high in Omega 3 – the good fat, suitable for Type 2 diabetic diets!

We offer wholesale pricing on Whole (37-40 lbs) or Half (18-20 lbs) lambs conveniently cut and packaged into premium cuts and available to consumers and their families in time for Easter. Cuts include rack of lamb, porterhouse chops, side ribs, shoulder chops, boneless leg of lamb, osobucco shanks, and ground meat. We also have a limited number of whole spit lambs available on a first come first served basis, all processed Federally.

For specific cuts, weights, pricing or to reserve your order, please email info@craigmerefarm.com. For additional product information, scan the attached QR code.

FARM PICKUP ONLY



Liberal candidate for Tecumseth–Gwillimbury launches election campaign

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Liberal Party of Canada candidate Mike Hanrahan has started his campaign to become the next MP for the riding of New Tecumseth–Gwillimbury.

A Tottenham resident, Hanrahan and the Liberal Party held a launch event at the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library on Saturday, April 5.

Hanrahan was appointed as the Liberal candidate only eight days before the launch of his campaign.

The snap election, set for April 28, has not given candidates or political parties a lot of time to prepare, so things are moving ahead quickly.

Hanrahan has lived in New Tecumseth for close to 15 years. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College with his education focused on the intersection of government, economics, and environmental studies with a special interest in public policy and economics, climate change mitigation, and sustainable agriculture.

This is his first time running for public office.

The room was packed with supporters as Hanrahan addressed them during his campaign launch at the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library on April 5.

“The amount of support from across our riding and beyond has been humbling and overwhelming,” Hanrahan told his supporters.

“I’m appreciative of the trust that our community has put in me as your Liberal candidate for this election. I like to think I wear three different hats. I’m an environmental scientist who studies sustainable food systems and climate change mitigation. I’m an entrepreneur who founded a sustainable start-up company with the goal of creating alternate sources of protein as a global health solution. Most importantly, I’m a proud Canadian, who despite spending about four years in the United States to complete my studies, never lost sight of the country that raised me.”

Hanrahan stated that he was in the U.S. during two presidential elections that were plagued by ‘right-wing ideology and corrupt misinformation.’

“We need to return integrity, respect, and compassion to our federal government, and I



IN THE RUNNING – New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury Liberal Party of Canada candidate Mike Hanrahan receives support from neighbouring Newmarket-Aurora MP Tony Van Bynen and Aurora-Oak Ridges-Richmond Hill MP Leah Taylor Roy during the launch of his campaign. The launch event was held at the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library on Saturday, April 5. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**

hope to be that person for New Tecumseth-Gwillimbury,” Hanrahan said.

He made special note of the Honda plant

in Alliston and local farmers in the Holland March, as well as a goal to reduce the cost of living nationwide.

Simcoe County paramedics persevere through extreme weather conditions to provide life-saving care

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The recent bout of severe weather has placed a strain on Simcoe County Paramedics as they face additional challenges when serving the needs of communities.

Paramedic crews and ambulances from York and Halton Regions, and the City of Toronto, have offered to assist in urban areas of the region, primarily Barrie, Orillia, and

South Simcoe, to help get through this crisis period.

Patients and residents in these areas should be aware that these visiting crews are sanctioned to support the County of Simcoe during this time.

The paramedics and CSPS teams serving Simcoe County have been working overtime since the ice storm started to ensure the safety of residents and maintain high levels of response throughout the County.

Many of these paramedics have been working significant hours despite also suffering from the effects of the storm, and returning to their own homes without power and experiencing personal property damage.

Through the ice storm response, paramedics have been providing stable call response in addition to home and wellness checks for vulnerable patients.

Earlier this week, Simcoe County Warden Basil Clarke declared a State of Emergency

as a result of the impacts of the recent ice storm affecting the region.

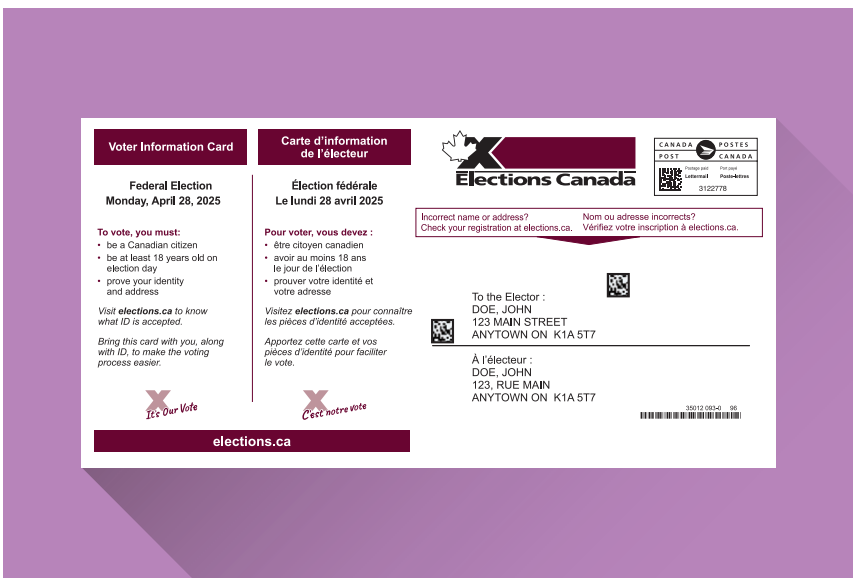
Declaring an emergency assists the County and municipalities in accessing additional resources to support local residents and communities. A State of Emergency declaration also assists Hydro One in clearing critical transportation routes of debris.

The County also activated its Emergency Operations Centre to support the enhanced flow of information with partners.

FEDERAL ELECTION / MONDAY, APRIL 28

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It tells you where and when you can vote.

If you're registered to vote, you should get a voter information card in the mail.



Contact Elections Canada if your voter information card

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Elections Canada



Arts & Local Events

Grate Grown-Up Spelling Bee challenges adult contestants' spelling skills

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

'I before e, except after c.'
That spelling rule you learned in elementary school may have come in handy during the Grate Groan-Up Spelling Bee, but many words took a lot more thought as competitors put letters together to spell some obscure words.

The Grate Groan-Up Spelling Bee was held at The Club at Bond Head on Saturday, April 5, with around 150 guests taking part in a night of fun and competition.

This was the 13th annual event that raised funds for Next Step Literacy in Alliston.

Next Step Literacy provides free one-on-one adult tutoring in math, computers, and writing.

Spelling bee contestants wore themed costumes, competed in teams of three and were challenged to spell words correctly. Competitors were allowed to bring a note-

pad and pen with them so they could spell out the word before providing their answer.

"This is a fundraising event for Next Step Literacy," explained Next Step Literacy executive director Shira Harrison McIntyre. "This is the 13th annual Grate Groan-Up Spelling Bee. Teams of three enter to compete in the spelling bee and there are prizes for best spellers, best costumes, and most team spirit. Everyone chooses their own costumes. The funds raised go to support free adult tutoring in New Tecumseth. We get the majority of our funding from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills development, and then we fundraise to cover any other expenses."

There are many people who struggle with writing, math, and computer skills who may need to upgrade their skills or learn new ways of doing things for help in everyday activities or job-related functions. Next Step Literacy helps people do just that.

"If someone is going into an apprentice-

ship or the armed forces and they have to take entrance exams, we can help them with that," Harrison McIntyre explained. "For example, we had one person come in who has been an A-Z driver for 30 years and now has to re-do his test. He speaks English very well, but his writing skills aren't very good. He came in for some help. Sometimes people have specific goals for anything that requires reading, writing, or math."

In our digital world, booking a doctor's appointment or just going to the bank can be a challenge for someone who has difficulty reading, writing, or using a computer.

Next Step Literacy can help people learn skills to make life easier.

You can learn more about Next Step Literacy by visiting the website at www.nextstepliteracy.ca.



SUCCESSFUL SPELLERS – The costumes were wacky and the spelling challenges difficult at the Grate Groan-Up Spelling Bee held at The Club at Bond Head on Saturday, April 5. The event is an annual fundraiser for Next Step Literacy in Alliston that provides one-to-one writing, math, and computer skills tutoring for adults.
BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTOS



Grandmothers Embrace seeking donations for sale

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Grandmothers Embrace South Simcoe is looking for donations for their annual fall sale.

The sale features jewellery, purses, and scarves that will be available for purchase in support of the local organization.

Grandmothers Embrace donates the proceeds of the sale to the Stephen Lewis Foundation, supporting African grandmothers who are raising their orphaned grandchildren.

Many children in Africa have been

orphaned due to the AIDS epidemic, leaving older women to look after them.

If you have items you would like to donate to the sale, you can call the following numbers.

For jewellery, call Jan at 705-250-1100. For purses and scarves, call Marg at 705-434-1827 or Sharron at 705-435-0809.

They will let donors know the location to drop off items.

The sale date is Saturday, Nov. 8, and it will be held at St. John's United Church in Alliston.

More information will be available as the date gets closer.

Come to Tottenham and hop aboard
The Easter Bunny Express

April 19 & 20, 2025

Departure Times:
12:00 noon, 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00
(Advance Reservations Highly Recommended)

Children \$10.00 Adults \$18.00
Call: 905-936-5815
or visit
www.southsimcoerailway.ca

Tickets go on sale March 31st

Adolescent and Young Adult Cancer program at Southlake aims at expansion

BY BROCK WEIR

Sarah Gallie was just 35 when she was diagnosed with hormone-positive breast cancer.

A nurse by vocation, her treatment started at Toronto's Humber River Hospital, where her family doctor is affiliated.

Navigating multiple healthcare providers and multiple treatment options to address the disease sometimes brought out the feeling of overwhelm, but when Sarah decided to bring her care closer to home, the Newmarket resident found a holistic approach at Southlake Health that went well beyond "the big C."

Sarah was one of the first patients at Southlake's Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Cancer Program, a partnership with Toronto's Princess Margaret Cancer Centre.

The unique local program, which is tailored to the specific needs of young adults between the ages of 18 and 43, helping them navigate challenges beyond medical treatment, is now marking its first year as a community success story.

To mark both the program's anniversary and this week's Adolescent and Youth Cancer Awareness Week, Sarah and members of the Southlake team came together for her very personal journey.

"The young adult life is one of enormous transition and personal growth," says Southlake. "It often includes major milestones such as finishing school, pursuing a career, building relationships, and starting a family. Cancer is highly disruptive; it interrupts education, delays career starts and milestones, upends social networks and undercuts independence.

"Adolescents and young adults make up five to ten per cent of the adult cancer population and [that] continues to increase. However, due to this being a lower population, patients tend to be treated in many cancer centres as adults. Few healthcare organizations have the expertise, comfort or infrastructure to provide skilful and customized care to young adult cancer patients."

Says Sarah: "This is happening to young people and we need to support them in a different way; not just the medical things, because whether you're having breast cancer at 35 or 60 – it's probably the same chemo, the same radiation, the same options for surgery, but it is all those other pieces that really make a difference in how you come out at the other end of it."

"The thing about going through this diagnosis

when you're at a point in your life where you're managing a mortgage, figuring out kids-or-no-kids, what that pathway is going to look like, trying to figure out the next steps of my career...

It's not to say it's any better to get cancer at a point in your life, but when you get cancer, you're 60, 70, 80 years old and you've probably done all those things," she continues.

In addition to facilitating the conventional treatments, the AYA program offers a holistic approach tailored to the needs of the patient.

Clinical Nurse Specialist Sam Scime offers individual consultations and follow-ups for patients and such supports offered through the program include fertility preservation, school and work transitions, sexual health, body image counselling, and much more.

"Sarah and I [connected] at the beginning of my being in this role so it has evolved over the last year-and-a-bit," says Scime. "What happens now is we have an automatic referral process so everyone who is between the ages of 18 and 43 at Southlake automatically, as soon as they enter the cancer system, they are referred to me. My role within the Cancer Centre is to support a person and how they are impacted by a cancer experience in the ways of their life that are specific to being young.

"We know there are so many milestones that are being reached in that period of 18 to 43. In Sarah's case, it was, where is my career going? Sarah is kind of a hot-shot nurse at SickKids and was thinking about what is going to happen next. The first time to talk to you is going to be a long conversation because I want to get to know you as a whole human, how your cancer is impacting you, figure out where the gaps are, and how I can provide support."

This approach was particularly welcomed by Sarah, who says she learned early on in her journey that a cancer plan is never a "one-size-fits-all" approach.

Having that one-on-one approach was "all the more meaningful" because it helped them both hone in on exactly what she needed and when.

Some elements of the tailor-made plan included virtual meet-ups with others, taking part in a book club – "reading is a good distraction, especially when you're in the chemo chair," says Sarah – and, down at Princess Margaret, a hair salon for people going through chemo called Hair Gone Rogue, and even a pottery class to which Sarah was able to bring her

husband.

"I was able to stay working for the most part, only took time off for surgery, and sick days here and there for chemo; I'm a bit of a workhorse and I had the flexibility to work from home as my job allowed, which others don't have. Sam was able to connect me with Sharon [a counsellor] who was able to figure out if I needed any accommodations for work."

Being able to walk on nice days from her Newmarket home to Southlake was an added bonus for Sarah. Now, she is herself part of the Southlake team, taking an "informal" nursing role in their paediatric department.

As the AYA continues in partnership between Southlake and Princess Margaret Hospital, the local program is looking to expand.

They have had a successful year, says Dr. Alisha Kassam, Medical Director of the AYA Cancer Program and a leading force behind its creation locally, and they are looking forward to fostering further outreach.

"Now that we have been around for a year, we're able to engage with patients who have been through the program to be able to provide feedback and really looking to them to help

us figure out next directions," says Dr. Kassam, noting that some emerging themes so far include physical rehabilitation and wellbeing, and fostering Southlake and its Cancer Centre as a hub for smaller "satellite" cancer programs in the area.

"Princess Margaret was the only place in Ontario who saw the need and developed a specialized program. Because they paved the way for the initial idea, which is having a clinical nurse-specialist-led program, that allowed us to adapt it to a Regional Cancer Centre in a community approach and make a few tweaks...to have more local, community-based resources. I feel that partnership was very critical."

Adds Sam: "Replicating Princess Margaret's program is not realistic...in the smaller regional cancer centres, but replicating what we have done at Southlake is. It's kind of this mutual, amazing synergy that is happening. There is a lot of uptake and awareness in the needs of AYAs and we're seeing programs popping up all over the Province... I think Southlake is a model and being connected to Princess Margaret, we're all working together as a group to try and replicate what we're doing here."

Hillside Community Church

3rd Annual Princess Tea Party

Saturday, May 3, 2025
2314 Tottenham Rd.

Three Sessions: 11AM | 1PM | 3PM

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Register Online




www.hillsidecommunity.ca



"The way History was meant to be told!"

RIDGE

- Featuring JUNO Nominated Group -

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Health unit resumes school immunization program for Grade 7 students

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU), in partnership with local school boards, resumed school-based vaccine clinics at the beginning of the week.

The health unit provided routine immunizations for Grade 7 students and catch-up opportunities to students in Grade 8 who missed completing their grade 7 vaccine series.

School immunization nurses will continue to visit elementary schools throughout Simcoe and Muskoka until June to provide immunization for Grade 7 students.

Information will be sent home with students through the school in advance of school-based clinics.

"Vaccination remains one of the best tools we have available to protect youth against harmful diseases before they may encounter them. The vaccines offered during the school-based clinics significantly reduce the risk of hepatitis B, meningococcal meningitis, and human papillomavirus (HPV) infections. The HPV vaccine is important because it considerably reduces the risk of various types of cancers such as throat and cervical cancer and prevents genital warts," reads a press release from

the SMDHU on Monday, April 7.

The health unit recommends following Ontario's publicly funded immunization schedule to stay up to date with vaccinations.

Parents and caregivers should be aware that the meningococcal vaccine is required under the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA). According to ISPA, all children and youth in elementary and secondary schools must be immunized against specific diseases unless they have a valid exemption.

"While the Hepatitis B and HPV vaccines are not required under ISPA, they are highly recommended for added protection," reads the SMDHU's press release.

"Having up-to-date immunizations helps to ensure that students have the best protection against serious vaccine preventable diseases, reduces the risk of outbreaks in schools and allows the health unit to act quickly to prevent and control outbreaks."

To see the date that the health unit will be visiting your child's school or for more information about the vaccines given in Grade 7 and the diseases they prevent, visit smdhu.org/Grade7 or call the health unit at 705-721-7520 ext. 8827.

Site selection narrows for new Southlake campus

BY BROCK WEIR

Three municipalities have been named as possible sites for Southlake Health's new hospital campus.

On Monday, the local hospital announced the search for an ideal site had landed on applications in East Gwillimbury, Georgina and Bradford West Gwillimbury.

"Southlake Health is pleased to report that numerous submissions were received in response to our proposal call for land suitable for building a large community hospital," said Southlake in an April 7 statement. "Eight proponents met the Stage 1 mandatory criteria and were invited to provide detailed submissions as part of the Stage 2 evaluation. All eight proponents met the March 14 deadline for detailed submissions, which are currently being evaluated against rated criteria to identify a preferred proponent. These submissions include lands located in the municipalities of Bradford West Gwillimbury, East Gwillimbury, and Georgina.

"Southlake wishes to thank its communities for their unwavering support. Landowners, philanthropists, elected representatives and officials have all rallied around their hospital to support an ambitious vision to transform Southlake into a two-site hospital system operating within a Distributed Health Network. We look forward to unveiling the site for the new hospital later this Spring."

A new campus is at the heart of Southlake Health's new Master Plan and viable locations will need a minimum of 40 acres to develop "to support the proposed hospital and supporting healthcare facilities/developments."

Part of the process includes a third-party "Fairness Advisor" being retained to ensure the site selection and other related processes are fair.

"Greg Dadd, a former Principal consultant at Optimus SBR, has assumed the Fairness Advisor responsibilities for Southlake's site selection process," says Southlake. "Greg has held senior positions within the public sector, as Director, Supply and Financial Services with the Ontario Ministry of Health and Chief Operating Officer of Ontario Realty Corporation (ORC), the agency which managed all activities involving the provincial government's real estate portfolio including responsibility for land acquisitions and surplus sales and development.

"Greg has completed more than fifty assignments in a Fairness Advisor role, providing the practical application of his earlier career experience and accountability for ensuring fair public procurement processes. He has been engaged as a Fairness Advisor for a number of high-profile, complex infrastructure projects including several hospitals in Ontario and the Atlantic provinces. Greg recently completed site selection engagements with Lakeridge Health and Grand River Hospital and St. Mary's General Hospital for proposed new hospitals in Durham Region and Kitchener-Waterloo.

"Preliminary plans [for the new hospital] include expanding acute and post-acute care, critical care and emergency care, diagnostic imaging and surgery. Once land is secured, more detailed planning with our provincial partners will take place that will provide greater clarity to help outline Southlake's clinical operations to best meet our patients' needs."





SPORTS

NEW TECUMSETH TIMES

Eight teams remain in playoff battle for Junior C Schmalz Cup

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The battle for the 2025 Junior C Schmalz Cup is underway with eight teams in the first round of playoffs in the Provincial Junior Hockey League.

The Alliston Hornets failed to make the cut this year after losing to the Orillia Terriers in the North Carruthers Division championship series.

Alliston was the first-place team in the division for almost the entire season, taking only two losses this year.

In the final series, the Terriers came alive and won the series in five games. The final game took place on March 28 and ended not long after the game went into overtime.

Orillia scored just 26 seconds into the overtime period for a 6-5 win in this year's Division championship title.

The Terriers are now up against the Hanover Barons in the North Conference Final in the first round of the Schmalz Cup playoffs.

After three games, the Barons are leading the series 3-1.

The East Conference Final has the Napanee Raiders up against the Clarington Eagles.

Clarington finished the regular season as the first-place team in the East Orr Division with a 36-7 record.

Napanee finished in second place in the East Tod Division after another upset where they eliminated the first-place Frankford Huskies in six games.

Napanee is leading that series 2-0.

In the South Conference Final, the New Hamburg Firebirds are leading the Grimsby Peach Kings after three games.

Both teams finished in second place in their division this season.

The Firebirds are a surprise entry this year. They finished second in the regular season, but the South Doherty Division had an upset when the fourth-place Wellesley Applejacks managed to knock out the first-place Norwich Merchants in the second round of the Division playoffs.



STOCK PHOTO

New Hamburg won over Wellesley in the Division Final.

The West Conference Final has the Essex 73s up against the Petrolia Flyers.

Essex finished in first place in the West Stobbs Division with a 37-5 record.

Petrolia won the West Yeck division finishing the regular season with a 29-14 record.

The 73s are leading that series 2-0.

The latest date the Conference finals can wrap up is April 17.

South Simcoe Dufferin Track & Field Club starts training for upcoming season

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

With the warmer weather, the South Simcoe Dufferin Track & Field Club will be getting outdoors and training for the 2025 season.

The Club strives to develop young athletes in various disciplines from elementary school ages right up to high school and into the senior

and master levels.

The Club has been around since 1970 and is a member of Athletics Ontario and the Minor Track Association of Ontario. Through those associations, they are a member of Athletics Canada. Over the years, the Club has maintained a steady membership of around 65, however recently there has been an increase in younger members of elementary school age.

The Club has seven full-time volunteer coaches and an additional three part-time volunteer coaches that specialize in various events.

They train year-round and compete in an indoor season from January to March.

In the spring they move outdoors from April to August, and participate in a cross-country season from September to November.

Several of the Club's athletes have achieved

National Team status and represented Canada at the highest level of international competition, including the World Championships, Pan American Games, and NACAC.

Over 90 South Simcoe Dufferin athletes have attended colleges and universities on full athletic scholarships in the United States and over 200 have gone on to compete at universities and colleges in Canada.

Hockey season wraps up: Try these tips when hosting an end-of-season celebration

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The hockey season has wrapped up for another year.

Some teams have made the record books with championship wins, and other teams just had fun playing the game they love.

There are already plans to start evaluations and try-outs for next season, and before that happens it's the perfect time to spend some time together as a team for one last party.

Here are some tips on how to plan your end-of-season team party.

First, you should determine a budget.

Ensure everyone on the team is okay with the budget and aren't surprised at the cost when it's time to chip in their share.

Keep in mind, items that will add to the total like rentals, food, prizes, and possible insurance. You can keep costs down by hosting a potluck as this also reduces the burden on the party planners.

You can decide if you want your party to be an indoor or outdoor event.

Many arenas offer rooms or lounges big enough to hold a team party. Let the facility know your plans and work with them to reserve the room.

If you decide to host a private party at

someone's home, ensure proper safety and supervision at all times. This is especially important if you are having a pool party.

You can decide to have a party at a public park and enjoy the weather.

A slideshow of the season is always popular. You can work with the team to gather all of the photos and videos of the season. From pre-game hype to post-game pizza parties or bus rides, this is a great way to have some memories of the season.

Some teams use year-end parties to hand out awards to players and coaches.

There are all sorts of ways you can recognize people, from serious awards to more fun ones.

Some awards include the hardest working player, most improved player, or biggest jokester.

A team should recognize its coaches and volunteers who put in a lot of hard work to ensure a team has a successful season.

You should decide on a team gift for the coaching staff and any other volunteers who helped make the season possible.

These people dedicate countless hours to sharing the love of the game and helping kids to have a positive experience.

A team party at the end of the season is a perfect way to celebrate a successful year on the ice.

Are you part of a sports team?
Are you an individual athlete?
Do you have an upcoming event or a recent accomplishment?
Share the details with us!
Email us at newtetimeseditorial@gmail.com

Continued from Page 4

Brock's Banter: Encouraging young writers

But, in this odd timeline we're currently living in where writing, in some of its forms, is under regular attack while, concurrently, there are more avenues for writers than ever before to get their names out there, how can we encourage young writers to pick up the pen or crack their knuckles before hitting the keyboard? Well, the National Day Calendar has some suggestions.

"Do you know a young person who has a vivid imagination, maybe someone who likes to tell stories and reads a lot of books? These may be signs of a great young writer," they say. "National Encourage a Young Writer Day would be a good time to talk to them about their ideas and dreams. Encourage them to pursue their goals and develop their writing skills.

"Give a journal. A journal provides a place for daily writing. From short poems to inspired essays, this is a place young writers

can feel free to stretch their wings unjudged. Offer writing prompts. These random bits of inspiration can come from the most unlikely sources but often generate unexpected results. Encourage them to read. The more they read, their experiences with writing and writers will expand. Have young writers try multiple writing styles and different voices. Changing perspective will keep their writing style fresh, allowing them an opportunity to find their personal style. Create a young writers' group. It's a good way to see their story from the reader's point of view and to receive feedback from peers."

I was fortunate enough to grow up in a home where writing was always encouraged. My father, once upon a time, was a journalist and continues to find pleasure through this form of creative expression. My mother was and remains a voracious reader, always eager to crack in and provide

feedback.

Under their watch, there was always a ready supply of journals, note pads, random assortments of scrap paper, and plenty of pens, pencils and crayons about for whenever my young self had a moment of creativity.

Short stories were my preferred medium at that point, and with plenty of time to spend after school and over the summer holidays, I would regularly churn out stories – we don't need to discuss the quality of the product at that time – inspired by just about everything around me. A regular inspiration for me in the 1990s were riffs on the two Addams Family movies (still two of the finest comedies ever committed to film, in my opinion), the nature around me, and a random character named Mabel. Where she came from in my imagination, I have no idea, but she had many an adventure in

her "trademark" pillbox hat, complete with flower, which wilted down to her jawline.

My iterations of Gomez and Morticia, Mabel, and the foxes that lived in our backyard didn't exactly set the world of youth lit on fire, but given the time to explore these avenues, I believe, helped me build a solid foundation.

Now is a time when young people are considering their next moves, whether they're still weighing their options for their post-secondary education, trying to break into a career with a fresh degree under their belts, or simply looking for a place to get published.

Work in these fields might seem discouraging at times, but they remain powerful outlets not only for expression but for creativity and even keeping people informed of the world around them – and they deserve every encouragement as we all benefit.

Ontario ministers warn new U.S. softwood lumber duties will increase housing costs for Americans

BY SAM ODROWSKI

The provincial government is firing back at the United States over its government's decision to raise duties on Canadian softwood lumber later this year.

The U.S. Department of Commerce said it will nearly triple anti-dumping duties on Canadian softwood lumber, upping the total levy to almost 27 per cent.

A statement in response to the tariff increase was issued on April 5 by Ontario's associate minister of forestry and forest products Kevin Holland as well as the minister of economic development, job creation

and trade Vic Fedeli.

They said the increase in softwood lumber tariffs raises housing costs for Americans and impacts the nearly 140,000 Ontarians who work in the province's forest sector.

"Ontario is deeply disappointed that the United States intends to drastically raise duty rates on Canadian softwood lumber exports later this year. These unjustified and punitive measures will raise construction costs and further strain housing affordability for American families," the statement reads.

"Ontario's softwood lumber producers deliver high-quality and sustainably har-

"Ontario's softwood lumber producers deliver high-quality and sustainably harvested building materials that support jobs, communities, and economic growth on both sides of the border."

Kevin Holland, Ontario's associate minister of forestry and forest products

vested building materials that support jobs, communities, and economic growth on both sides of the border. The continued application – and now, escalation – of these duties is harmful to Ontario's forest sector and to American consumers alike."

"Ontario's forest sector is a vital part of the economy and supports regional prosperity, generating close to \$23 billion in revenue in 2022 and supporting more than 137,000 jobs. Continued trade barriers risk undermining this success," the statement continues.

"We remain firm that these duties should be lifted entirely."

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Orangeville man charged with impaired driving at RIDE stop in Alliston

Officers from the Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged an individual with impaired driving after they failed to stop at a Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) stop-check in New Tecumseth.

On April 6, shortly after 1 a.m., Nottawasaga OPP Officers were conducting a R.I.D.E. program on King Street North and Essa Road in Alliston when they observed a dark coloured passenger vehicle enter the R.I.D.E. stop-check at a high-rate of speed.

Nottawasaga OPP said officers saw no

indication of the dark coloured passenger vehicle slowing down or stopping. As the motor vehicle passed through the check-stop police verbally yelled at the driver who then pulled over approximately 50 meters south of the R.I.D.E.

“After a brief conversation with the driver, the smell of an alcoholic beverage was noted on the driver’s breath,” reads a press release from Nottawasaga OPP. “Additionally, officers observed the male driver to have bloodshot, watery eyes and slurred speech.”

When officers asked for the driver to produce his driver’s licence, the male began struggling to get the licence out of his wallet, eventually dropping it on the ground, not being able to produce it, said Nottawasaga OPP.

“Officers demanded the driver to exit the motor vehicle and was observed to be unsteady on his feet. Based on the numerous observed signs of intoxication and impairment, The driver was arrested and charged with operation while impaired,” reads the Nottawasaga OPP’s press release.

At 1:17 a.m. Michael Service 28, from Orangeville, was arrested and charged with:

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

The accused individual had his driver’s license suspended for 90-days, and his vehicle impounded for seven days.

Service is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice on May 1, 2025.

None of the listed charges have been proven in court.

Senior woman in single vehicle collision faces impaired driving charges in Essa

Officers from the Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged a driver involved in a single vehicle collision with impaired operation in Essa.

On March 28, shortly after midnight, Nottawasaga OPP responded to a single motor

vehicle in a ditch on King Street, between Elizabeth Street and Raglan Street in Essa.

No injuries were reported as a result of the collision.

Nottawasaga OPP says when officers arrived to the scene, the driver “displayed obvious signs of impairment.”

As a result, Roberta White, 72, was arrested at 12:21 a.m. and charged with:

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

In addition to the charges, White was

issued a 90-day license suspension, and her vehicle was impounded for seven days.

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice located in Bradford on April 17, 2025, to answer to the charges.

The listed charges have not been proven in court.

Single motor vehicle collision results in impaired driving charge for 61-year-old Essa woman

The Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) have charged a driver involved in a single vehicle collision with impaired operation in Essa.

On March 19, shortly after 4 p.m., Nottawasaga OPP responded to a single motor

vehicle in the ditch in the area of Underhill Court and 5th line in Essa.

No injuries were reported as a result of the vehicle going into the ditch.

Upon Nottawasaga OPP officers’ arrival, the driver, Laura Di Valentin, 61, of Essa Township, displayed obvious signs of

impairment and was arrested at 4:36 p.m. for the following:

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

In addition to the charges, the driver was

issued a 90-day license suspension, and the vehicle was impounded for seven days.

The accused is scheduled to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice located in Bradford on May 1, to answer to the charges.

The charges have not been proven in court.

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Unfortunately deadlines do not allow us to take ads after 5:00 p.m. on Monday. When there is a holiday Monday, the deadlines will be Friday at 5:00 p.m. All ads must be paid in advance by deadline or the ad will not run. WE ACCEPT VISA, MASTERCARD, AND AMERICAN EXPRESS PAYMENTS OVER THE PHONE

708 OBITUARIES

712 PUBLIC NOTICES

804 SERVICES

Belford: Charles Edward



With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Charles Edward Belford, peacefully with his family by his side, at Stevenson Memorial Hospital, on March 27th, 2025, at the age of 83 years.

Charles was the beloved husband of Elizabeth Belford (née: Wachmenko). He was the loving father of Elisa (Jim), Doug and Glenn (Tracey). Cherished grandfather of Jacquie (Adam), Jodie (Mike), Carmen (Yumi) and Monica (Bennett). Proud great-grandfather of Londyn, Jackson, Abigail and Lincoln.

Charles is reunited in heaven with his loving parents Grafton and Anne Belford. Charles will forever remain in the hearts of his many nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends.

Cremation has taken place. A celebration of life will be held on July 19th, 2025. Details to come.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Ontario SPCA Humane Society or Stevenson Memorial Hospital would be appreciated by the family. Condolences and memories may be left for the family at www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com

Young: Reginald Thomas "Tom",
(Veteran WWII)

Peacefully at Southlake Health Newmarket, on March 31, 2025. Tom Young in his 100th year, beloved husband of the late Patricia Young (née: Gagnon). Loving father of Julia (Paul) Mellor, and the late Tommy. Dear brother of the late Joan (the late Ken Brambell), and brother in law of the late Lorraine Bonney, and the late Robert Paul (Eve) Gagnon. Sadly missed by his nephew Kenny Brambell, and nieces Kathy Majors, Jessika Gagnon, and Real Gagnon. Forever in the hearts of his extended family and friends.

The family wish to thank Jacquie and all the staff and friends at Kingsway Place Aurora for their wonderful care and friendship over the years. During Tom's working career he served in World War II as an Airplane Mechanic, he worked at Robert Mitchell's as a Tool and Die Maker in Montreal, and at John's Manville at the Jeffrey Mine in Asbestos, Quebec.

Cremation has taken place. Arrangements entrusted to Rod Abrams Funeral Home Tottenham. Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family at www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com.

Notice

Alliston Union Cemetery Company

Alliston Union Cemetery Company has submitted by-laws to the Registrar of the *Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002*.

Any interested parties may contact **Steve Goymour** at Tel: **(705) 435-5782** for information, or to make copies.

By-laws or amendments may be reviewed or copied at **445 Victoria Street East**.

These by-laws are subject to the approval of the Registrar, *Funeral, Burial, and Cremation Services Act, 2002*.

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