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Rocking Out at Riverdale Park

The popular Sunday Night Concerts in the Park series hosted by the Alliston Potato Festival takes place at the bandshell in Riverdale Park every Sunday evening through the summer. The Ty Wilson Duo performed on Sunday, July 20. BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

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New Tecumseth Council receives report detailing housing

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

New Tecumseth Town Council has received a report from Town staff providing an overview of the Housing Needs Assessment, which identifies current and projected housing needs, affordability gaps, and priority populations in the Town.

A range of local and regional data sources was used, including Statistics Canada, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Simcoe County, and town-specific reports and policies.

With this information, a range of priority populations and equity-deserving groups are identified as experiencing barriers to housing access due to gaps in housing supply.

The federal government requires municipalities with populations exceeding 30,000 to complete a Housing Needs Assessment as a condition of eligibility for federal infrastructure funding initiatives, including the Housing Accelerator Fund and the Canada Community-Building Fund.

Provincially, the Government of Ontario strongly encourages that municipalities conduct Housing Needs Assessments to provide

standardized housing data.

The Town's population has increased by 28 per cent between 2016 and 2021, and is projected to grow by approximately 77 per cent to 80,590 residents by 2051. Over the same time period, the number of immigrants to the Town increased by 74 per cent.

One and two-person households now represent over half of all households. Housing pressures are being shaped by shifts in age structure, with younger adults facing limited opportunities to form independent households due to high housing costs.

Older residents are increasingly remaining in large dwellings, contributing to reduced housing turnover.

While household sizes are decreasing, the existing housing stock remains dominated by three and four-bedroom units, resulting in a lack of appropriately sized and affordable options.

Home prices have increased by 130 per cent since 2015, while average rents have risen by over 20 per cent in the past five years.

Renters represent 16 per cent of households in the Town and have median incomes significantly below those of owners. These conditions have contributed to increased rates of



core housing need, particularly among one-parent families, seniors, youth, and people with disabilities, many of whom have to rely on inadequate or temporary accommodation due to a lack of supportive and affordable housing.

The report will guide future planning policy updates and implementation strategies. It

will also support the Town's efforts to meet its Housing Pledge, which commits to facilitating 6,400 new housing units by 2031, and will assist in identifying housing forms, locations, and delivery mechanisms of housing to support those in core need, affordable housing and housing options to meet the needs of the Town's diverse population.

Road resurfacing on Queen Street in downtown Tottenham has commenced

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It's been a bumpy ride down Queen Street in Tottenham for the past couple of years, but things will get a lot smoother as the street is being resurfaced.

The work commenced on July 21 and is being done by Lisbon Paving.

The stretch of Queen Street from Nolan Road to 177 Queen Street South will be resurfaced, with other work being performed as well.

In addition to road resurfacing, there will be curb repairs, asphalt removal, and new lines painted on the street.

The work will cause temporary disruption along the street, but only in a minor way.

During construction, the contractor is required to maintain one lane for traffic and safe pedestrian access during working hours and two lanes during non-working hours.

For residents living on Queen Street, staff will coordinate any driveway disruptions or closures with them to minimize the length

of the closure and ensure alternate parking arrangements are made.

Local residents are asked to remain patient and follow road signage as well as traffic control personnel on the street to ensure the safety of motorists, construction workers, and pedestrians.



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New Mobile Pump Track will rotate regularly between communities

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A new mobile pump track, recently installed at Riverdale Park in Alliston, will be rotated to different communities on a regular basis.

The Pump Track received an enthusiastic response from local residents who can use bicycles, skateboards, scooters, and roller-blades to navigate the track.

The track is designed to be mobile and can be transported to different areas. The Town acquired the Pump Track from a reputable vendor with extensive experience in constructing both modular and permanent skate parks and pump tracks across Ontario.

The design selected offers an experience for both beginner and experienced riders. Its modular construction allows for future expansion or reconfiguration.

A study was completed to identify the most suitable sites for when the track is moved around.

Considerations include visibility from the street to deter theft and vandalism and to ensure clear sightlines that promote user safety.

Also considered was proximity to parking and accessibility.

Any site considered for the track will require a large, flat surface suitable for installation.

Six locations were identified as suitable sites for the track, but just three locations will be used for the initial placement of the track.



CELEBRATION CEREMONY – Local dignitaries are joined by OPP officers and local residents during the official opening of the new Pump Track at Riverdale Park in Alliston on Thursday, July 10. The mobile track will be relocated to Beeton and Tottenham at various times through the year. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**

They include Riverdale Park (south side of Fletcher Crescent, west of the splash pad), the Beeton Memorial Arena (south of the skateboard half-pipe) and Fairview Park in Tottenham (Northeast of the multi-use asphalt pad).

Staff selected Riverdale Park for the initial placement due to its connection with the orig-

inal All Wheels Park proposal that was going to start in Alliston.

Other locations that were considered for placement were rejected for various safety and mobility concerns.

Town staff have recommended relocating the track with each community having access

for one year, beginning Fall 2026.

The Pump Track is constructed from materials designed to withstand Canadian winters and does not require indoor storage during winter months.

Under normal seasonal use, the track is expected to last for 10 to 15 years.

Murder-related charges laid against third person in connection with 2023 disappearance of Derek Perry

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A third person has now been charged in connection with a missing person investigation in Alliston.

On Monday, July 17, 2023, the Nottawasaga OPP began an investigation after 34-year-old Derek Perry, a resident of the Town of New Tecumseth, was reported missing. The police said there were concerns for his well-being.

Over the course of two years, the OPP requested information from the public regarding Perry's whereabouts.

Earlier this month, two people were arrested and charged in the case.

Eddy Gagnon, 30, of New Tecumseth was

charged with Second Degree Murder and Indignity to a Dead Body.

Crystal Carleton, 36, of New Tecumseth was charged with Indignity to a Dead Body and Accessory After the Fact to Murder.

On Friday, July 18, OPP announced it has arrested a third person in relation to the missing person case.

As a result of the ongoing investigation, Brendon Blanchard, 24, of Tottenham, was arrested on July 17 and charged with Second Degree Murder and Indignity to a Dead Body.

The accused remains in custody pending a bail hearing scheduled before the Ontario Court of Justice in Barrie at a later date.

The listed charges have not been proven in court.

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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

~ Stanislaw Jerzy Lec

Menace to society

“You are a menace to society.”

That’s a phrase a judge in a courtroom would, once upon a time, say to defendants who were repeat offenders and posed a risk to the public.

That was usually followed by a lengthy prison term to keep that person off the street and keep regular citizens safe.

A menace to society could include everything from a person with a history of violence to someone who routinely commits fraud and relieves people of their life savings through deceit and trickery.

I believe everyone deserves a second chance.

Sometimes people do end up on the wrong side of the law, and it doesn’t necessarily mean they are a bad person. People make mistakes.

I know of a few people who were charged with DWI after having a couple of glasses of wine at a wedding or other social gathering. They may have felt sober and good enough to drive, but a roadside breathalyzer showed they were over the legal limit.

In that case, I don’t think a serious punishment is suitable. Most normal people who go through the process of being arrested are probably shaken up enough that it will never happen again.

They were all embarrassed and were all nice people who just made a bad

decision, but they don’t have a criminal mind.

However, there is another type of person who, for some reason, just doesn’t learn from their mistakes. And those mistakes always affect someone else.

I had an acquaintance who was one of these types of people. I refer to him as an ‘acquaintance’ because, as a neighbour, he was one of those guys you had to at least pretend to be friendly with, or you just knew there would be trouble.

He had been arrested for DWI, driving under the influence of drugs, several assault charges and other offences, for which he spent time in jail. After he moved to a different area, he was once again arrested for aggravated assault for stabbing someone in the neck during an altercation.

He had been in numerous fist fights over the years for various reasons – and every time he was drunk. He usually ended up being pummelled into a bloody mess. You think a guy would learn a lesson.

I went to a local event where some of his family were in attendance. I asked if he was going to be arriving.

A family member casually told me that no, he wouldn’t be arriving because he was again in jail on a charge of attempted murder, after stabbing yet another per-

son in some ridiculous fight.

Yet, three months later, I saw him walking his dog down the street. He had been released – again.

There was a recent traffic collision on Highway 50 in Bolton in the first week of July.

As a result, a young man is in the hospital with serious, life-altering injuries, including internal injuries, broken bones, and a head injury. He is currently in a coma, and his family and friends are praying for his recovery.

Traffic accidents happen every day. It’s an inherent danger of driving an automobile.

However, in this case, the person who caused the accident and put this young man in critical condition in a hospital has already been convicted of drunk driving five times since 2010, and was on three separate lifetime driving bans.

Yet, there he was, driving a car, which he wasn’t supposed to be doing, and driving it while again under the influence, which caused a serious collision that put someone else in serious danger and a life-threatening situation.

After the accident, the man was arrested, again, and charged with Impaired Driving Causing Bodily Harm, one count of Driving With Excess Blood Alcohol, and three counts of Prohibited

Driving.

After being charged, he was released back on the street.

The young man’s father did an interview with CBC News, discussing his son’s current situation and calling for bail reform.

He remained remarkably composed and calm for a man who is probably experiencing a lot of inner turmoil along with the rest of his family.

He questioned why a man with a lengthy criminal record, who is clearly a danger to society and obviously has no concern for anyone else or the law, would again be released back onto the streets while his son languishes in a hospital bed fighting for his life.

Anyone who has been convicted of drunk driving five times, and does it again, and is behind the wheel of a car after being issued three driving bans, clearly is a menace to the roads and society at large.

A lot of people, as well as police, are calling for bail reform to keep the streets safe from people who routinely flout the law and are a menace to society.

Our government needs to step up and ensure public safety.

Next time, it could be you or one of your family members.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



A vote is worth more than a hill of buttons

How much pull does a lapel pin have?

I don’t mean the pop culture-style enamel pins that are making something of a comeback these days as people look for more artistic ways to pay tribute to their hobbies, passions, and fandoms. Rather, I’m referring to those often-round plastic numbers with metal backing that can be churned out by the hundreds, or pressed one at a time by a fully-manual punching machine that hasn’t changed much since their advent in the late Victorian era.

“Not much,” you might answer. But, go to any flea market, or an antique store that gravitates more towards the tchotchkes of our lives than grand, beautiful pieces of furniture, you’ll likely find baskets and bins of disused pins commemorating everything from a campaign waged by a municipal politician time has nearly forgot, to promotion of new spin on a venerable caffeineated pop, to pun-tastic numbers with slogans and jokes that you can only read if you get right up in the wearer’s face.

Yet, I remember a time when buttons alone were able to sway an entire election.

Back when I was in Grade 6, an exciting Federal election was taking place and our teachers – our school’s two Grade 6 classes were a strange, brief exercise in “team teaching” – were thoroughly bitten by the political bug.

Almost as soon as the writ was dropped, we students were divided into groups to represent each of the political parties that were represented on our local ballot. Within the group, we appointed “party leaders” from amongst ourselves, and these lucky winners were tasked with emulating the party leaders of the time rather than flying their own flag. (I wonder if Jean Chretien, Preston Manning, Gilles Duceppe, Alexa McDonough, and Jean Charest ever had an inkling how walking a few steps in their respective shoes was a make-or-break moment in a student’s social standing in this very specific microcosm)

Then, the local candidates representing each party visited our class to make the case on why our in-class vote should go their way.

Each of them made their pitches with passion and conviction and gave us a lot to think about before “polls opened” later that afternoon.

Who won our in-class vote? It wasn’t the Liberals, Reform, BQ, NDP, or Progressive Conservatives. It was the Christian Heritage Party that won the day – and it wasn’t a statement on whether our class leaned left or right, or where our religious convictions lay. Instead, it all came down to the clever local CHP candidate who, in addition to speaking with us, brought bags and bags of party swag for us with him.

And there it was – an election that came down to a hill of beans, er, buttons.

It was not, of course, the most sophisticated way to gauge the pulse of students with even the slightest of political inclinations, but we were young, unsophisti-

cated, and living in an era where Beanie Babies and POGs were traded like currency, so kudos to the CHP candidate for “getting” his electorate and introduced a new trading token into our schoolyard economy!

While everyone likes swag to some degree, I think it’s pretty clear that the youth of today are far more sophisticated and politically savvy today than we were back when the 1997 Federal Election unfurled across the country.

Today’s youth are more tuned in to the issues that matter than ever before. While some might be more susceptible to A.I. and so-called fake news than others, by and large, have, in my observation, not only a firm grasp on the issues that matter but no shortage of great ideas to foster the change they want to see in the world.

Continued on Page 19

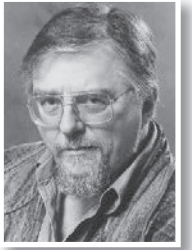
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Ukraine: Buying time

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



There was rejoicing when US President Donald Trump announced that he was going to let Ukraine have weapons after all, but it was conspicuously contained joy. Half-smiles and sighs of relief were plentiful; cheers were absent or faked.

The Ukrainians were relieved because this is the first time they will be getting weapons actually ordered by Trump. The stop-go dribble of arms that the US has sent Ukraine at intervals in the past five months was really the tail-end of Joe Biden's last package, although Trump had to approve each shipment.

What Trump is willing to send now remains unclear, but at least it's on his own initiative and \$10 billion has been mentioned. And Ukrainians don't care that the money will really be provided by other NATO members, who will buy the weapons from the US but pass them on Ukraine's armed forces.

What does concern Ukrainians is that Trump's threatened 'secondary tariffs' (more accurately sec-

ondary sanctions) on countries like India and China that are still buying cut-rate Russian oil and gas and supporting Moscow's war economy won't kick in for 50 more days.

That gives Russian President Vladimir Putin 49 more days to bomb Kiev and other Ukrainian cities with impunity, and Trump is notorious for shifting his deadlines to later dates. (TACO, as they say – 'Trump always chickens out'). Moreover, Trump warned Ukraine not to attack Moscow in return.

So the Russian reaction to Trump's apparent change of heart was relief that it wasn't worse. It is mostly "hot air", wrote Konstantin Kosachev, a senior Russian politician, on Telegram. "A lot can change in 50 days – on the battlefield and in the mindset of those in power, both in the US and in NATO."

That's mostly correct, but not so much about NATO, most of whose other members have privately concluded that the United States under Donald Trump is no longer a trustworthy ally.

That leaves them dreadfully exposed if Russia conquers Ukraine and they become the next item on Putin's agenda. The historical 'division of labour' within the NATO alliance has left the Europeans lacking in key military categories like aerial surveillance, satellite data and nuclear deterrence.

Trump imagines that the recent commitment of most NATO countries to spend 5 per cent of GDP on defence – twice or more than they were spending two years ago – was a response to his demands. It was really a decision to achieve strategic independence from the United States. They have realised they are on their own.

Their problem is that it will take at least five years of strenuous effort to reach that goal, and until then they will still need US support – which explains the fake adulation and fulsome flattery they offer Trump at every opportunity.

Boot-licking is hard work and they probably can't keep it up for five years, but every month makes a difference. Most European decision-makers understand that a Russian victory in Ukraine must be avoided at all costs, and that they must therefore do whatever they can to keep Trump on side.

Is that really possible? Not if the slide of the United States into a 'soft fascism' accelerates. Not if China invades Taiwan and panics the US into a global war. Not if Putin dies or is overthrown, only for an even more ruthless and reckless ruler to take his place.

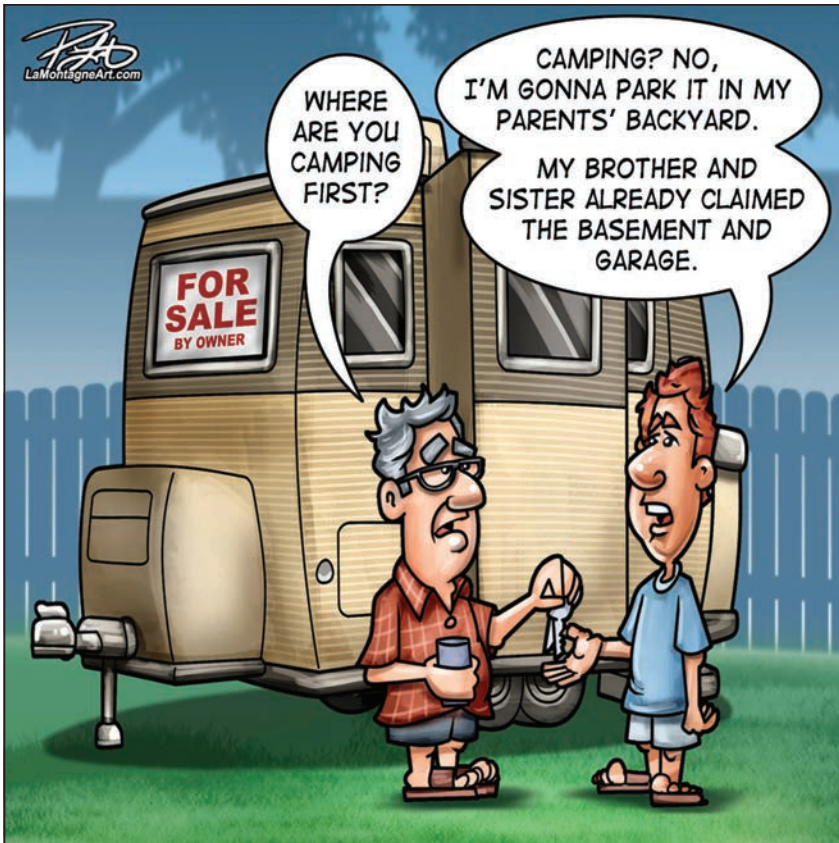
The negative possibilities are big and plausible – but so are less disastrous outcomes. It is still possible to draw a credible scenario in which the current stalemate in Ukraine endures for another year or so and then reaches an 'in-place' ceasefire like the one that has lasted in Korea for 72 years.

It is possible that the US can be kept in NATO long enough for the European members plus Canada to get their act together and become an independent strategic body. It is possible that China will retain its half-hearted loyalty to the international rule of law and not become another rogue state.

It is likewise possible that the United States, having spent some time under a capricious and authoritarian government, will return to its democratic roots, which run very deep. Regime change in Russia might re-awaken the desire for democracy that was so prominent in the late 1980s and early '90s.

It's not over until the fat lady sings. It's not even over after the fat lady sings. We are heading into a period where all bets are off because climate change will change all other calculations, and the only rational response will be cooperation on a global scale.

No promises, but despair is rarely the right move.



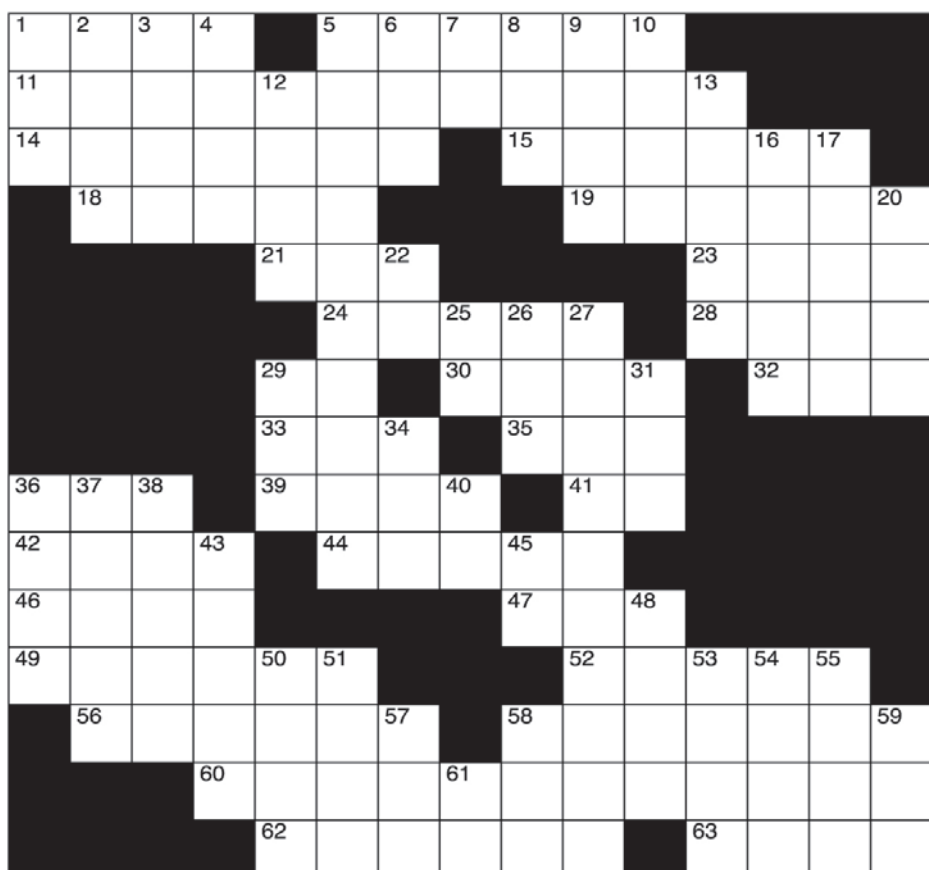
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Popular potato snack
5. Guards the Pyramids
11. Furnish anew
14. Herb
15. Preoccupy the mind continually
18. The lowest adult male singing voice
19. NATO commander (abbr.)
21. A major division of geological time
23. New Zealand parrot
24. Notions
28. Lump in yarn
29. Indicates position
30. Lose hold of
32. Hindu honorific
33. Former OSS
35. Electronic data processing
36. Cost per mile

39. Snake-like fish
41. They start the alphabet
42. Taylor Swift's tour
44. Intermediate ecological stage
46. Scarlett's home
47. Of he
49. Ohio city
52. Breakfast item
56. An evening party
58. ___ Falls
60. Linked together
62. Mythological spirits
63. Small Eurasian deer

CLUES DOWN

1. Earliest human form: ___-Magnon man
2. Flavoring
3. Notion
4. Bundy and Fenwick are two
5. Qualities of sound

6. One who gets paid
7. Expresses surprise
8. O.J. trial judge
9. Pointed ends of pens
10. Shield bugs genus
12. Container for shipping
13. Upper body parts
16. Closes tightly
17. Nigerian World Heritage Site
20. Volcanic island in Fiji
22. Commercial
25. -___: denotes past
26. They ___
27. Confraternities
29. A way to gain a point
31. Parts per billion (abbr.)
34. Brew
36. Badgers group
37. Sailing boat
38. ___ Polo, explorer
40. Elder citizen (abbr.)
43. Frankish law code
45. Exclamation of surprise
48. Groan
50. It presses clothing
51. Do not allow
53. Gelatinous substance
54. Common Japanese surname
55. Present in nature
57. Electronic countermeasures
58. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
59. Commercials
61. News agency

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

COMMUNITY VOICE

Monthly Message: My Sister's Place fundraises year-round to support women and children

At My Sister's Place, we work hard every year to fundraise money to help bridge the government funding gap – about 20 per cent of our basic budget for shelter (approximately \$300,000 a year). These expenditures include shelter expenses, such as utilities, food and supplies for those staying at the shelter, our outreach programs and any other unexpected costs that may arise. Our other two tiers of affordable and supportive housing (seven units total) are not funded at all, so 100 per cent of the fundraised dollars are needed yearly to operate them.

During the year we have several annual fundraising events and campaigns that we plan, organize and run ourselves with the help of our staff members and our volunteers.

In March, we host our annual Hats, Heels and High Tea event. Tickets for this fundraiser go on sale in January, and the event usually sells out. The afternoon consists of a luncheon of sandwiches and sweet treats, a variety of teas, live music, a raffle, door prizes, and prizes for best hat and fascinator. It's a fun social afternoon with fancy dress and the best collection of hats around.

Each Spring, our Trees for Shelter Campaign begins and runs through the summer into the fall. This program originated with



a past board member, Doug, who cultivates and sells potted trees. Each year in May, our staff members and volunteers spend a day potting tree saplings to be sold in this program. With the expertise of current board member and farmer Dave, the saplings have grown into beautiful trees ready to be planted. We have four varieties of native trees available for \$25 each: Red Maple, Cranberry Bushes, White Spruce and White Cedar. Plant with purpose – if you would like more information on the program or would like to purchase trees, call Dave at 705-458-9076. As well, for the first time this year, trees are also available at Murphy's Farm Market located at 5141 County Road 10, Alliston.

November marks Women Abuse Preven-

tion Month, and the official launch of the Annual Wrapped in Courage campaign organized by the Ontario Association of Interval & Transition Houses. As a part of this campaign and year-round, we sell Wrapped in Courage items (we have two women's scarf styles, a men's tie and beaded bracelets). The purple Wrapped in Courage items we sell are a symbol of the courage it takes for a woman to leave her abuser. Purple has long been the colour of the women's movement, beginning with the suffragettes. It's a symbol of pain and suffering but also of power, spirituality and transformation. During this time, we ask community members to wear purple, take a photo and send it to us. We run a social media campaign where we post photos of the community supporting this yearly project. When you wear purple, you show your support in ending violence against women. Wrapped in Courage items can be found on our website at www.mysistersplace.ca under the "Get Involved" section.

Also, in November, we run our annual Fall Fling Online Auction. We always have an amazing variety of great prizes for bidding at all price points. There is something for everyone, and it's a great way to get a jump on your Christmas shopping while

supporting the women and children of South Simcoe County.

Our last annual program of the year is our Sponsor a Family Christmas Campaign. Community members can choose a family from the list we create of families that need a little support during the holiday season and then help give that family a Happy Holiday. Each year, we support over 100 families with the kindness and generosity of those who have sponsored.

We would like to thank all those who have attended our events in the past, bought trees and Wrapped in Courage items, bought or donated auction items or sponsored a family. Without your support, these events and campaigns cannot succeed, and our services offered would greatly suffer. If you would like more information on any of these events or campaigns, log onto our website or contact our fundraising coordinator at fundraiser@mysistersplace.ca.

My Sister's Place is a not-for-profit organization in Alliston that provides residential and outreach services for women and their children fleeing domestic violence and abuse. The organization has been serving communities within South Simcoe since 1987. To learn more, go to: mysistersplace.ca

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Passionate about an issue you've read about within the pages of the New Tecumseth Times? Want to share your opinion? Email us a letter to the editor to: newtectimeseditorial@gmail.com. Be sure to include your name and town.

PUBLIC NOTICE / AVIS PUBLIC

PROPOSED TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER / PROPOSITION DE TOUR DE TÉLÉCOMMUNICATION

4853 15 LINE, BOND HEAD, ON

July 24th, 2025

SUBJECT/SUJET:

- Type: 65m self-support tower / tour autoportante
- Location address: 4853 15 Line, Bond Head, ON
- (Coordinates/ Coordonnés: 44.179258, -79.731656)
- Legal Description / Description légale: PT LT 20 CON 14 (TECUMSETH) AS IN RO712177 EXCEPT 51R7223 ; NEW TECUMSETH
- Facility / Installation: The facility will comprise a proposed 13m x 13m compound. / L'installation comprendra un complexe proposé de 13 mx 13 m.
- Site: The structure will accommodate initial and future loading for all cellular providers, and additional fixed wireless equipment as required. / La structure peut accueillir le chargement initial et futur de tous les fournisseurs de services cellulaires, ainsi que de l'équipement supplémentaire sans fil fixe, au besoin.

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) is the governing body for this type of installation and can be contacted at: / Innovation, Sciences et Développement économique Canada (ISDE) est l'organisme directeur de ce type d'installation et peut être contacté à l'adresse suivante:

ISED – Toronto District Office / Bureau de district de Toronto
 175A Admiral Blvd
 Mississauga ON L5T 2T3
 Telephone: 1-855-465-6307
 Fax: 416-954-3553
 Email: spectrumtoronto-spectreoronto@ised-isde.gc.ca

ANY PERSON may make a written submission to the individuals listed below no later than 5pm (ET) on **Monday, 25th August, 2025** Please reference the site code **TOW0025** in your correspondence. / **TOUTE PERSONNE** peut faire une soumission écrite aux personnes mentionnées ci-dessous au plus tard à

17:00 le **lundi 25 août 2025** Veuillez indiquer le code de référence du site, **TOW0025** dans votre correspondance.

Further information may also be obtained through the following contact: / De plus amples informations peuvent également être obtenues auprès du contact suivant:

APPLICANT CONTACT / CONTACT DU DEMANDEUR

SLI Towers Inc.
 146 Thirtieth Street, Suite 100
 Etobicoke, ON, M8W 3C4
 T: (437) 425-3982
 E: municipal@slitowers.ca

MUNICIPAL CONTACT / CONTACT MUNICIPAL

Jeremy Bonham, RPP, MCIP | Planner - Policy
 Town of New Tecumseth
 24 Tupper Street West
 Alliston ON L9R 1H2
 E: planning@newtecumseth.ca
 P: 705-435-3900

SITE LOCATION MAP / PLAN DE LOCALISATION DU SITE



Tower location shown with the star / Emplacement de la tour indiqué par l'étoile

Theft continues to plague LCBO locations in New Tecumseth

Following shoplifting incidents in New Tecumseth on June 26 and June 30, totalling more than \$3,400, the Nottawasaga Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is seeking the public's help identifying suspects from two other incidents.

On July 12, Nottawasaga OPP responded to a shoplift incident at a LCBO located on Queen Street in Tottenham, where video evidence shows one male and one female leave with \$2,500 worth of alcohol with no attempt to pay.

On July 16, shortly after 12:30 p.m., Nottawasaga OPP responded to another shoplift incident involving the same suspects at the same LCBO.

Video evidence obtained shows the male entering the store, placing bottles of alcohol in a shopping cart, then departing the store with

no attempt to pay.

The first suspect is described as a female with dark brown hair in a bun and sunglasses, wearing shorts and a dark long-sleeve shirt, with a white shirt underneath.

The second suspect is described as male, medium build, approximately 30 years old, with a beard, wearing a white shirt and black hat.

Officers are looking to identify these individuals.

If you know these individuals, please call 1-888-310-1122 (reference number E250941524). You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers to remain anonymous at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or www.crimestoppersdm.com.

When you contact Crime Stoppers, you stay anonymous, and you never have to testify.



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NEWS, EVENTS & INFORMATION

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705-435-3900
or 905-729-0057

24 Tupper Street West,
Alliston, ON L9R 1H2
www.newtecumseth.ca

Notice of the Passing of By-law 2025-052 being a by-law to redivide the wards in the Town of New Tecumseth.

Take Notice that on the 14th day of July, 2025 the Council of The Corporation of the Town of New Tecumseth passed By-law 2025-052 being "A by-law to establish new ward boundaries in the Town of New Tecumseth" and to repeal By-law 2017-162 in accordance with Section 222 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. c 25 as amended.

And Take Notice that pursuant to Section 222(4) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. c 25, as amended, any person or agency may make an appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) within 45 days of the passing of the by-law by filing a notice of appeal with the Town Clerk of The Corporation of the Town of New Tecumseth at Town Hall (24 Tupper Street W, New Tecumseth, L9R 1H2) **No Later Than 4:30 p.m.** on Thursday, August 28, 2025.

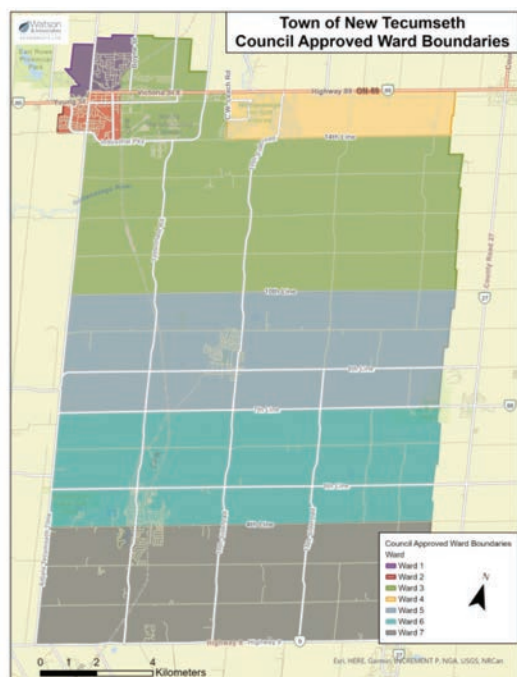
The notice of appeal must set out the objections to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objections and must be accompanied by the \$1,100.00 fee prescribed under the Ontario Land Tribunal Act, 2021, in the form of a certified cheque or money order payable to the Minister of Finance. If you wish to appeal to the OLT, a copy of an appeal form can be found at the following website www.olt.gov.on.ca.

The personal information accompanying a submission is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. c 25, and a portion part of the public record which may be released to the public.

A copy of the by-law can be obtained at the link below or by contacting the Clerk's Office at 705-435-3900 or clerks@newtecumseth.ca

<https://www.newtecumseth.ca/en/town-hall/resources/Documents/bylaws/2025-052---Ward-Boundary-By-law.pdf>

The Town of New Tecumseth has been redivided into 7 wards with boundaries in effect for the planning of the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor positions will continue to be elected at large.



Dated this 15th day of July, 2025



New Tecumseth
Alliston · Beeton · Tottenham

NEWS, EVENTS & INFORMATION

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or 905-729-0057

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www.newtecumseth.ca

Notice of Passing Beeton Heritage Conservation District By-law By-law 2024-007

Pursuant to Section 41(1) of the
Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of New Tecumseth passed By-law No. 2024-007 on the 15th day of January 2024, pursuant to Sections 41(1) and 41.1(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, Part V (the "Ontario Heritage Act"). Council has considered the written and oral submissions from the public on this matter.

PURPOSE AND EFFECT

The purpose and effect of By-law No. 2024-007 is to designate the Beeton Heritage Conservation District and adopt the Beeton Heritage Conservation District Plan of September 2022 in accordance with Sections 41(1) and 41.1(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. A key map showing the location of the lands to which By-law 2024-007 applied is attached.

IF YOU WISH TO APPEAL the last date for filing a notice of appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal in respect of the By-law is the 23rd day of August 2025, 30 days after the date of publication of this Notice in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*. A Notice of Appeal setting out the reasons for the appeal must be filed with the Planning Department of the Town of New Tecumseth and accompanied by the appropriate fee, as required by the Ontario Land Tribunal. For additional information regarding the Ontario Land Tribunal, please visit their website at www.elt.gov.on.ca.

The Notice of Appeal must:

1. Be filed with the Planning Department of the Town of New Tecumseth;
2. Set out the reasons for the appeal; and,
3. Be accompanied by the fee prescribed by the Tribunal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The complete By-law passed as By-law 2024-007 is available for review in the Planning Department Office during regular business hours or on the Town's website at <https://www.newtecumseth.ca/en/parksrecreation-and-culture/the-beeton-heritage-conservation-district-plan.aspx>. For more information about this matter, including information about appeal rights, contact the Town Planning Department at the address shown below.

Dated at the Town of New Tecumseth this 24th day of July, 2025.

Planning Department
Town of New Tecumseth Administration Centre
24 Tupper Street West
Alliston, Ontario L9R 1H2
Telephone: (705) 435-3900
E-mail: planning@newtecumseth.ca
Website: www.newtecumseth.ca

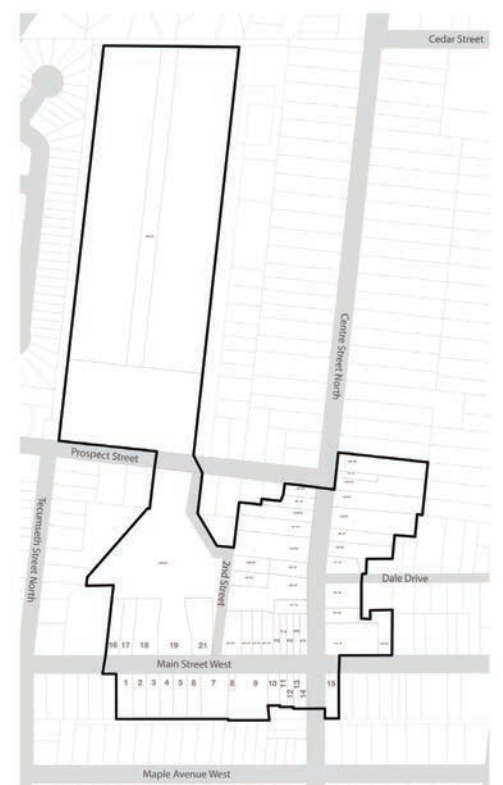
2.2 District Boundary

The proposed boundary of the HCD is a result of the information collected and analyzed as part of the Beeton HCD Study Phase in 2018, including the community consultation process.

Lands within the recommended boundary are centered on the historical and present-day commercial core of Beeton and are comprised of transitional but cohesive mixed-use areas featuring a range of residential, institutional, and commercial properties on Main Street West and Centre Street North.

The HCD boundary was determined using criteria and definitions outlined by the Province of Ontario. The boundary for the District includes:

- / A range of residential, commercial, and institutional properties on Main Street West;
- / Residential Properties and Trinity United church on Centre Street North between Main Street West and Prospect Street;
- / Some of Beeton's public properties including the old City Hall, D.A Jones library, Beeton Community Memorial Arena, and the Fairgrounds.





Arts & Local Events

Pedalling into the unknown: Tottenham cadet rises to new challenge

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

When people ask what Luka Hessing accomplished this summer, she will tell them a story of how she accepted and conquered a new challenge.

The fourth-year cadet from 329 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps in Tottenham was recently part of the Mountain Bike Instructor course, held for the first time at Blackdown Cadet Training Centre (CTC) at Canadian Forces Base Borden. The course normally takes place at CTCs in B.C. The course graduation was Friday, July 18.

“My captain actually signed me up for this course,” Hessing said. “I had never heard of it before; I thought it was a very interesting course.”

“It’s new here and I’ve never tried it (mountain biking) before, I thought it would be a really exciting challenge,” she added.

The course covers many aspects of mountain biking, from maintenance and repair to learning how to safely operate a mountain bike and planning excursions. The cadets explored the mountain bike trail systems around the CTC this summer on basic trails for beginners and more advanced trails for those with more experience.

“It’s been really fun, I didn’t think we would be biking this much,” Hessing said.

She noted that the cadet program has been

great for her as she gets to experience new things.

“As you get more time in you get more opportunities like this, you get to go to different camps, you get to try a lot of different things,” she said. “I tell people about all the interesting things that I have done through cadets, and they are like ‘What...you got to do that?’”

Through the Cadet Program, youth are exposed to several different experiential learning situations. From learning about survival in the field, sailing or how to parachute from an airplane, the program helps youth experience personal growth.

Hessing discussed how she has tried many things in the past, but really enjoys the Cadet Program and has stuck with it.

“I haven’t stuck with other things this long like I have with cadets, I just love being in cadets experiencing a lot of interesting challenges,” she said.

The Cadet Program is open to all youth between the ages of 12 and 18. The program helps youth become confident, self-sufficient leaders who form lasting friendships and are engaged in their communities. At the same time, the program promotes physical fitness, healthy living, and fosters an interest in the activities of the Canadian Armed Forces.

If you are ready for the challenge, visit canada.ca/join-cadets.



TRAIL RIDER – Course Cadet Luka Hessing of the 329 Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps in Tottenham, recently took the Mountain Bike Instructor Course at Blackdown CTC. Before hitting the trails, she honed her basic skills on an obstacle course.

SECOND LT. J.T. LEWIS, UPAR PHOTO

Tickets now available for 2025 International Plowing Match & Rural Expo coming this September

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The 106th annual International Plowing Match (IPM) and Rural Expo will be taking place in Grassie, West Lincoln, in the Niagara Region from Tuesday, Sept. 16 to Saturday, Sept. 20.

This five-day celebration draws tens of thou-

sands of visitors from across the province and the country. It offers a dynamic mix of agriculture, innovation, entertainment and family-friendly fun.

This will be a fun experience whether you are a lifelong farmer, a curious city-dweller, or someone looking for a fun and unique day out. The IPM has something for everyone of all ages.

The event showcases the very best of Ontar-

io’s agricultural heritage while creating the future of farming through world-class plowing competitions.

There is a tented city, educational exhibits, livestock displays, live entertainment, food vendors, and family fun zones.

Tickets are now on sale. They can be purchased online at plowingmatch.org/ipm2025/visitor-infor/tickets/.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$5 for youth. A family pack, two adults and two children, is \$40.

Children five and under are free. There is also free parking.

These ticket prices are for early-pay discounts.

When advance tickets close, online ticket sales will continue with regular gate pricing.

You can also purchase tickets at the Match gate.



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BRIAN SAUNDERSON
MPP, Simcoe-Grey



KimberBee's wildflower honey bees find their pollen close to home

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The honey bees that populate the hives used by KimberBee Wildflower Honey in Adjala-Tosorontio don't have to go very far to do their job.

Beekeeper Kim Headon keeps enough flowering plants and trees on her property so the bees can find pollen close to home. The result is delicious wildflower honey.

The taste and colour of honey will vary depending on what type of plant the bees visit. Because Kim takes great care in keeping her gardens filled with flowers, her honey has a distinct flavour.

"I've been doing this since 2016," Kim explained. "One day on a whim, I decided to go to a lavender farm and went on a tour and they had bee hives. I heard the story of the queen and the worker bees, and I thought it was something that was so cool, I thought I could do this. I went to take a course, and went home with two hives."

Kim takes pride in her large garden on her 10-acre property, and the garden serves the bees.

"I'm a huge gardener and I have a 10-acre property and large gardens, so they forage in all my flowers and trees," Kim said. "I have six hives and their all together and each one can give you a different colour honey. The colour depends on what they forage

on. The bees will fly up to three kilometres away from their hive to forage. We have lots of trees. They love maple trees and willow trees, especially in the spring. One of the trees is a Harlequin Maple – they seem to love that one. In the early spring it looks like it's alive because there are so many bees around it - it looks like it's going to take flight."

In addition to producing honey, Kim also makes products from the beeswax. She makes beeswax candles, hand and body balm, and lip balm.

"I love the smell of beeswax candles and it's so good for the air," Kim said. "When the honey in the hive has reached the proper viscosity, the bees cap it over with wax. Bee products are all pure and natural. If you do process it, then you're killing all the good stuff in it. I also bake with honey. You use half with honey for how much sugar the recipe calls for."

Kim has six hives, each with double broods containing around 50,000 bees.

Honey production slows down in the fall when the bees naturally prepare for the coming winter. They cluster together in the winter for warmth.

Kim sells her honey and products at farmers' and vendors' markets as well as from a stand at the end of her driveway.

Kim's stand is located 1454 Concession Road 7, in Adjala-Tosorontio.



NATURAL BUZZ – The Farmers' and Vendors' Market at Keogh Park in Tottenham provided some fun and unique items for visitors on Sunday, July 20. Bee keeper Kim Headon of KimberBee Wildflower Honey brought fresh honey from her hives as well as other beeswax products like lip balm and candles. Kim took up bee keeping in 2016, and grows flowers on her property for the bees to visit.
BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO



Watch for the

Alliston Potato Festival

in next week's New Tecumseth Times – Filled with everything you need to know!

SPECIAL
PREVIEW
SECTION

Alliston Potato Festival – August 8 To 10, 2025 – Allistonpotatofest.com

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Keep being you **Love your ears**



SUPPORTING LOCAL HEALTHCARE – Canadian Tire Alliston donated \$6,000 to the Stevenson Memorial Hospital's 'Be a use of You' campaign for hospital redevelopment. The funds were raised through Canadian Tire's 'Blooms for a Cause' initiative, which saw the store sell a total of 2,995 flower baskets to support the Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation (SMHF). A cheque was presented to the foundation on Tuesday, July 8. From left, Melody Craggs (director of development at SMHF), Adriano Dalle Rive (general manager at Canadian Tire), Brad O'Neil (associate dealer at Canadian Tire), and Frank Cerisano (CEO of SMHF).

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

Local hospital benefits from Canadian Tire's 'Blooms for a Cause' initiative

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

The Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation (SMHF) has announced it has received a donation of \$6,000 from the Alliston Canadian Tire store.

The funds were raised during the store's second annual 'Blooms for a Cause' fundraising initiative.

Building on last year's success, Canadian Tire set an ambitious goal to sell 2,500 hanging baskets. That's an increase from last year's total of 1,500.

Thanks to a lot of support from customers and community members, the initiative surpassed expectations, selling a total of 2,995 baskets.

From each sale, \$2 was donated to SMHF. "Blooms for a Cause" is a wonderful way for our community to come together, beautify our surroundings, and support Stevenson," said Frank Cerisano, CEO of SMHF. "This year's outstanding participation will have an impact on the campaign and get us

one step closer to meeting our financial target. We have enjoyed a wonderful relationship with Canadian Tire Alliston and their incredible customers whose spirit of giving is exactly what we need to ensure our hospital remains at the forefront of care."

The 'Because of You' campaign is a bold and ambitious effort to raise \$80 million through community support to help build the future of Stevenson Memorial Hospital. The project will triple the size of the hospital.

"At Canadian Tire, we believe in supporting our community and making a positive impact where it matters most — our local hospital, Stevenson Memorial," Canadian Tire said in a statement. "Blooms for a Cause" allows us to do just that, helping to beautify our community while giving back. We're proud of the incredible support from our customers and delighted to contribute to the 'Because of You' campaign, knowing this will help deliver essential services and enhance wellness for our customers, family, neighbours, and friends."

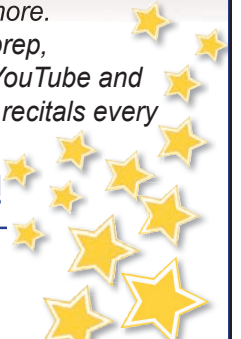


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Southlake marks first anniversary of new approach to senior care

BY BROCK WEIR

As our population ages, more and more seniors are opting to age in place, and stay in the home they love as long as they can. Here, Southlake Health's Acute Care of the Elderly Unit (ACE) is marking its first anniversary of helping seniors do just that.

Southlake's ACE is celebrating a full year of community success, serving more than 750 senior patients and clients, and improving their level of function by the time they're set to head home.

Groundwork for the ACE was first laid in 2022 when the Newmarket-based hospital launched its Senior Care Strategy. Until then, Southlake didn't have a specific blueprint to care for the senior population, but the Strategy proved to be a game-changer both for the hospital and the communities it serves.

"We know that the population is aging, but more specifically we know that if we look at those individuals living with frailty, we're expecting those numbers to increase by 52 per cent and 105 per cent respectively," says Jennie Popplow, Southlake's Director of Senior Care. "We know there is going to be more of these patients coming through the doors and we know that they require, especially when they have frailty added on top, an additional level of care. We wanted to look at what was a model we could use to really target this type of population."

ACE units are not new as a concept, with the ACE at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital providing something of a template. It was new, however, for northern York Region and South Simcoe.

Before the launch, the study looked at the local 65+ demographic, modelled the types of patients that might need such an ACE, potential length of stay, and "discharge destinations," a particularly important statistic given the grow-

ing desire for people to stay in the homes they love as long as they can.

"Ultimately, that's what led us to our admission criteria, which is actually patients being admitted need to be over the age of 75," says Popplow of the 23-bed unit. "They need to have two or more of what we call 'geriatric giants' and must have the potential to return to the community. That's where our specialists come in to really help return people to where they want to age."

While they predicted the average age of those admitted to the ACE to be those in the neighbourhood of 75, the reality proved quite different.

In their first year, they found ACE patients have an average age of 85 – with the vast majority of them coming out of the ACE "maintaining or improving their level of function."

"Their day-to-day ability to get up and moving and doing those day-to-day tasks," says Popplow. "Typically in the hospital you wouldn't see that level of function. We often see, especially in these older adults, patients coming in, they spend time in bed, they start to deteriorate, and as a result they either can't go home right away, they have to go to another place to continue their rehab, or ultimately, they can't go home at all. So, 95 per cent of our patients over the past year have either maintained or improved their function, which was what we were hoping, what we were expecting, and we also see that 87 per cent of our patients return directly to their admitting location in the community – that could be home, a retirement home – the only exclusion we have is long-term care."

"It means our patients are getting the care they need, getting well, staying well on the unit, and getting home as soon as possible with the supports they need. I think we were surprised about the age, but we haven't been terribly surprised that our patients are doing well and going back to the places we were expecting them to go."

As the ACE enters its second year of serving the community, they're doing so content that their "criteria is working, we're getting the right patients, and the skill mix of staff that we have on the unit is working."

"What sets us apart from a regular unit is the number of allied health that we have; we have occupational therapists, physiotherapists, rehab assistants, rec therapists, social workers, speech language therapists, dieticians, and they are all what really wrap around our patients to get them home, as well as the nursing staff has additional geriatric training," says Popplow.

"What we want to take into Year Two is

that everyone we bring on board gets that same level of dedicated training. Like paediatrics is not just little adults, geriatric care is not just older adults, although we often refer to them that way. They come with their own complexities and they need to be seen as a specialty. From the perspective of what the ACE will look like going forward, it will look very much the same. The model is set, but really it will be around reinforcing and ensuring that we continue to go back to those geriatric learnings that we're able to continue to apply, and that that doesn't go by the wayside as we move forward."



COMMUNITY BBQ: Vine 's Market held its annual Community Barbeque on Friday, June 27, at its Sharon loa tion. The event supported the Al# eimer's Soc erty of York Region, Durham Region, and Simo e County – whib has been b osen as the groe ry store's 2025 Community Product Initiative. Eab year, seleb items are b osen for the Community Product Initiative where a portion of the proceeds benefit the year's select organia tion(s). Pit ured here are Giana rlo, Neil, Amedeo, Maria, Jaime and Grae .

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Ontario Trillium Grant grant helps Track3 Adaptive Sports

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

An Ontario Trillium Grant provided the Ontario Track3 Adaptive Sports Association with the opportunity to focus on volunteer recruitment and a training initiative aimed at rebuilding its volunteer base in Grey and Bruce Counties.

This included developing outreach materials, attending local events and markets, hosting volunteer information sessions, and enhancing training resources to ensure safe, inclusive, and effective program delivery.

The \$49,900 grant came from the provincial Resilient Communities Fund.

“I want to extend my sincere congratulations and thanks to the team at the Ontario Track3 Adaptive Sports Association for their commitment to creating inclusive sporting opportunities for children and youth with disabilities,” said Brian Saunderson, MPP for Simcoe-Grey. “Track3 certainly put this funding to good use, by successfully increasing

their volunteer base, which will in turn allow for more opportunities for young people to develop skills and increase their resilience. I am especially grateful to the staff and volunteers, both past and present, whose passion and commitment have continued to change lives and helped to build a stronger, more diverse community.”

The project was instrumental in increasing volunteer engagement and expanding capacity to serve more children and youth with disabilities through adaptive snow sport programming.

“The support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation has been truly transformative for Track3,” said Tracy Collier, executive director of the Ontario Track3 Adaptive Sports Association. “This grant allowed us to rebuild and strengthen our volunteer network in Grey-Bruce, directly impacting the number of children and youth with disabilities we’re able to serve. We’re incredibly proud of this growth and deeply grateful for OTF’s role in helping us build a more inclusive and acces-

sible future on and off the slopes.”

As an agency of the Government of Ontario, and one of Canada’s leading granting founda-

tions, OTF invested over \$110 million into 1,022 community projects and partnerships over the last year.



OUTREACH – Simcoe-Grey MPP Brian Saunderson meets with the team at Ontario Track3 Adaptive Sports Association on Friday, July 18, to learn more about the impact of a \$49,900 Resilient Communities Fund grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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SPORTS

NEW TECUMSETH TIMES

Conservation Area's disc golf course provides fun and a challenge

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

If you are looking for a new activity that offers outdoor fun and a challenge, the Tottenham Conservation Area has a full 18-hole disc golf course that will lead you through the park and provide a day of exercise and competition.

It is an inexpensive recreational activity that provides upper and lower body conditioning, aerobic exercise, and mental stimulation.

Anyone can play the sport. You don't have to be an expert disc thrower.

You can learn the technique of throwing the disc for accuracy and distance. It just takes some practice.

Disc golf is played much like golf, but instead of a ball and clubs, players use a flying disc.

The sport got its start in the 1970s when people who enjoyed throwing a Frisbee came up with the idea of doing it in a competitive format.

Just like golf, players try to complete the course with the fewest number of strokes – or, in the case of disc golf, the fewest number of throws.

As a player progresses down the fairway,

they must make each consecutive throw from the spot where the previous throw landed. In group play, the player farthest from the target makes the first throw.

The target is a basket with chains that is placed several feet off the ground. To complete the hole, a player must deliver the disc so it lands in the basket.

Trees, shrubs, and terrain located around the course provide challenging obstacles.

There are several types and designs of discs used by players. More advanced players will bring several types of discs with them on a course and select a disc depending on the length of the fairway and obstacles that may be in the way.

The only thing you need to play the sport is a disc.

Discs are available for rental at the Tottenham Conservation Area.

NATURAL BUZZ – Disc golf is a growing sport that provides outdoor fun and exercise. The 18-hole course at the Tottenham Conservation Area is very popular, and people come from all over to play this challenging course. Evan Nieme throws his disc to start a new hole, along with Niilo Göös and Sawyer Nieme.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO



CLOSE CALL – A U13 Selet TNT Thunder player makes the attempt at first base, but the runner was called safe during the first inning of a game between the Thunder and the Innisfil Cardinals on the diamond at the Beeton Fairgrounds on Tuesday, July 15. Minor baseball is in full swing across the province. The Beeton South diamond has received an infield facelift with an improved playing surface.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

Padres clinch top spot in North Dufferin Baseball League's Junior division

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The regular season for the North Dufferin Baseball League's (NBDL) Junior Division wrapped up on Sunday, July 13, with the Creemore Padres securing a first-place finish in the division.

Creemore capped off a dominant season with a record of 15-2-1, which is good for 31 points. They finished a full 10 points ahead of the second and third-place teams.

The division had seven teams this season competing in an 18-game schedule.

There was a change in teams that made it to the playoffs.

The top six teams secured a berth in the playoff line-up. However, the Bradford Tigers, who were in sixth place and qualified for the playoffs, forfeited two games in the final week. This resulted in the team's suspension and subsequent removal from league play.

As a result, all remaining teams will head into the playoffs including the Richmond Hill Phoenix, who were in seventh place.

Beyond Creemore's outstanding performance in the season, the standings were tightly contested.

Both Innisfil Cardinal teams finished with 21 points. The Orillia Royals and Barrie Red Sox ended the season tied at 18 points.

The Creemore and Cardinal teams have earned first-round byes in the playoffs.

The Junior playoffs got underway on July 16 with a best-of-three or first-to-six-points format.

In Series A, the Innisfil Cardinals 2 team are up against the Richmond Hill Phoenix.

After two games, the series was tied. Richmond Hill won the first game 2-0.

In Game Two, the Cardinals responded with a big effort and won the game 16-5.

In the B Series, the Orillia Royals are up against the Barrie Baycats.

Barrie won the first game 10-5 on Thursday, July 17.

In the Senior Division of the NBDL, teams

are playing the final week of the regular season schedule with games wrapping up on July 25.

The Owen Sound Baysox are in first place in the Senior Division with a 15-2 record and 30 points.

They are followed by the New Lowell Knights, Ivy Rangers, Lisle Astros, and the Midland Mariners.

The Caledon Cardinals and the Mansfield Cubs won't make the playoffs this year.

The Orillia Majors, in ninth place, and the Clarksburg Blues in 10th place, are still in contention to make the lowest seed in the playoffs if they can win a few games.

Fire danger rating reaches 'high' rating, New Tecumseth Fire Department urges caution

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Recent hot weather and accompanying dry conditions have moved the local fire danger

rating level to 'high.'

This means fires can start easily from small sources like grass or debris, and can spread rapidly.

This is especially dangerous when condi-

tions are windy.

The New Tecumseth Fire Department is urging residents to be extremely cautious with any open flames.

You should always follow the guidelines on

a burn permit.

A Town bylaw states that "no person shall set a fire or permit a fire in the Town of New Tecumseth without first obtaining the necessary fire permit." The exception is if burning consists of a small, confined fire supervised at all times and used to cook food on a grill or barbecue.

If you have been issued a burn permit for a recreational/outdoor fire, rules that must be followed.

These include setting a fire only between sunrise and 11 p.m., keeping the fire at least 15 metres from any structure or property line, and having sufficient equipment and resources available at the burn site to extinguish the fire in case the fire gets out of control and causes an adverse effect.

The holder of the permit must attend the fire at all times until completely extinguished. The contained fire must be no larger than one metre in diameter, and shall not be located under any tree, wires, or other overhead obstruction.

There are more regulations for fires in rural and agricultural areas to keep things safe and avoid causing harm or discomfort to neighbouring properties.

Keep on top of current announcements by the Fire Department.

The fire chief may declare an Open Air Burning Ban at any time when, in the opinion of the fire chief or their designate, it is in the best interest of public safety.

The current fire rating will remain in effect until it is deemed that conditions have changed enough that the rating may be lowered to 'moderate' or 'low.'



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Suspicious shooting at private residence in Adjala-Tosorontio under investigation

Nottawasaga Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers are actively investigating a shooting incident that occurred at a private residence in Adjala-Tosorontio Township.

On Sunday, July 20, shortly before 4 a.m., officers responded to a residence on Bluebird

Boulevard after unknown individuals fired multiple shots at the home. No injuries were reported.

The circumstances surrounding the incident remain under investigation, and the cause has not yet been determined.

The OPP is urging local residents to remain vigilant and to report any recent or ongoing suspicious activity to police.

Residents of Adjala-Tosorontio can expect to see an increased police presence in the area as the investigation continues.

Anyone with information or video footage related to the incident is asked to contact the Nottawasaga OPP at 1-888-310-1122, or report anonymously through Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca.

Traffic complaint in Essa leads to impaired driving charges for Brampton resident

Members of the Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police have charged one individual with impaired driving following a traffic complaint.

Shortly after noon, on July 15, police responded to a traffic complaint near Young Street in Essa Township.

Witnesses reported that a driver appeared to be stumbling and unable to stand after exiting a vehicle in a business parking lot.

Officers located the vehicle and spoke with the driver. Based on police observations, officers determined the driver was impaired and placed him under arrest.

As a result of the investigation, Fasiha Khan, 38, of Brampton, was charged with: Operation While Impaired – Alcohol and Drugs, Operation While Impaired – Blood Alcohol Concentration 80-plus and Possession of a Schedule I Substance – Cocaine.

The accused is scheduled to attend the

Ontario Court of Justice in Bradford on Aug. 8, to answer to the charges.

If you suspect that someone is driving while impaired by alcohol or drugs, it is important to call 9-1-1 to report it.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers.

Police investigating vehicle theft in Angus

The Nottawasaga Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is investigating the theft of a 2024 Toyota Highlander that occurred in Angus.

On July 16, at approximately 5:45 a.m., Nottawasaga OPP officers responded to a report of a stolen vehicle from a residence on Centre Street in Essa Township. Video footage obtained from the area showed the vehicle being taken at approximately 4:44 a.m.

The stolen vehicle is a black 2024 Toyota Highlander, with an Ontario plate "DDEN375." The suspects are described as three males, dressed in black, wearing balaclavas.

The Suspect vehicles appear to be a Black BMW sedan, an unknown coloured Lexus and a black SUV or sedan, possibly a Mercedes. No further details have been obtained at this time.

The investigation into this theft is ongoing, and the OPP appreciates any assistance the public can provide to help resolve this case.

Auto Theft Prevention Tips

To help reduce the risk of vehicle theft, the OPP encourages vehicle owners to take the

following precautions:

Lock your vehicle: Always lock your vehicle when leaving it unattended, even for short periods.

Use anti-theft devices: Consider installing an alarm, steering wheel lock (such as The Club), or a GPS tracking system to deter thieves.

Use a Faraday case: To protect against electronic theft, store your key fob in a Faraday case to block signals from being intercepted by thieves using relay devices.

Park in well-lit areas: When possible, park your vehicle in well-lit, busy areas or in a garage.

Do not leave valuables in your vehicle: Remove any valuables or electronics from plain sight to reduce the temptation for theft.

Secure your keys: Never leave keys in the vehicle or near the vehicle.

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 #E250939863). You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or submit your information online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca

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708 OBITUARIES



Edward Gardhouse

February 29, 1944 - July 12, 2025

The power of a simple smile was never lost on Edward Gardhouse, who passed away peacefully at Southlake Health on July 12, 2025, at the age of 81. If you ever had a conversation, he probably signed off with a simple, "Keep smiling!" Now, as the community remembers him, they're doing so in the most fitting of ways: smiling with each and every memory.

Born on February 29, 1944, in Malton, ON, Ed had the rare distinction of celebrating only 20 official birthdays — a lighthearted reflection of his unique spirit and big sense of humour. Throughout his life, Ed was known for his kindness, integrity, and unwavering dedication to those he loved — and the communities he called home.

Ed built a life marked by hard work, quiet wisdom, and a deep appreciation for life's simple pleasures. Whether spending time with family, enjoying the outdoors at cattle shows or tractor pulls, or offering a helping hand to a neighbour, he lived each day with grace and humility.

Growing up in a family that raised prize-winning purebred Hereford cattle, which were exhibited all across Ontario, including the CNE and the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, he began his off-farm working career as a cattle buyer for Gamble & Rogers at the Toronto Stockyards and then Brussels Livestock. Ed later transitioned to being an auctioneer, balancing this work with farming in the once-rural Unionville, and being involved in the local 4-H Clubs as well. When the family relocated to the Schomberg area, Ed started his own auction business, E&M Auction Services, which was a staple in the community for decades.

Ed also loved tinkering, which stood him in good stead when his career shifted from the auction business later in life, first to Reinhart Trailers in Snelgrove (Brampton) then to Hepburn Trailer Sales in Schomberg, where he served as parts manager. If people came in and needed something they didn't have on hand, he didn't hesitate to find a solution or manufacture what was needed — and his family remembers he could build just about anything.

With a voice that became synonymous with countless community events over the years, he was simply driven by a desire to give back, and this extended to his work as a volunteer firefighter in Unionville and surrounding communities in his younger days.

Ed will be remembered for his steady presence, thoughtful words, and the way he made those around him feel seen and valued. He was always a person who could be counted on, was always the first to lend a hand and donate his time. He simply loved people and people loved him.

He is remembered as a big supporter of the Schomberg Agricultural Society and the Georgian Bay Steam Show, bringing laughter, lifting everyone up and making them feel seen and respected, and simply for being a stand-up guy.

Ed is survived by his wife of 40 years, Martha (née Mulholland), his daughter Becky, whom he was so proud of, and his "buddy" and son-in-law, Tom Freiday. He also leaves behind his dear friend Kevin Holmes (Stephanie), whom he loved like a son. He was predeceased by his sister Linda and his parents, Bert and Bertha Gardhouse. He is sadly missed and forever remembered by his niece and nephew, his cousins, extended family and countless friends.

In keeping with Ed's wishes — and true to the way he lived — there will be no formal service. Ed never liked a fuss and didn't want to see anyone sad. Instead, his wish was for a celebration of his life to be held, where stories could be shared, laughter encouraged, and his memory honored with joy — and smiles.

A celebration of Ed's life will take place on Sunday, July 27, 2025 at the Trisan Centre, 25 Dillane Drive, Schomberg, ON, from 1 - 5 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Ed's memory may be made to the Ontario 4-H Association or the Georgian Bay Steam Show — two organizations close to his heart. Online condolences and memories may be left for the family at www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com.

708 OBITUARIES



Cheryl Joan Heene

November 29, 1946 – July 13, 2025

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the peaceful passing of Cheryl Heene, on July 13th, 2025.

After a battle with her health, Cheryl's body just couldn't keep up, she passed peacefully in her sleep. She is survived by her three children, Mark Fleming, Kim Lalonde (Michael), and Ian Fleming. Her grandchildren, Sarah Gagne (Jason), Robert Graham (Jess), Matthew Fleming (Cody), Joshua Fleming (Mabel), Dustin Archer and Devin Fleming as well as her five great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews and her beloved pup River.

In lieu of flowers, Cheryl's wishes are that a donation be made to The Ontario Humane Society.

A day of Celebration will follow.

Online memories and condolences can be shared with the family at www.peacefultransition.ca

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Continued from Page 4

Brock's Banter: A vote is worth more than a hill of buttons

With this in mind, I was very interested in an announcement made last week by British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, outlining his intention to lower the U.K.'s voting age to 16.

"Prime Minister Keir Starmer said young people who 'pay into' the system should have the opportunity to say what they want their money to be spent on," the BBC reported. "Conservative MP Paul Holmes hit back at the government's announcement, arguing there would be no opportunity for parliamentary scrutiny until September due to the recess – describing the proposal as 'hopelessly confused.' Leader of Reform UK, Nigel Farage, said he didn't support lowering the voting age to 16 'even though we get lots of votes.' And Lib Dem MP Sarah Olney said changing the minimum voting age to 16 was a 'no brainer.'"

The BBC went on to speak to 16- and 17-year-olds on how this proposal was going over in their demographic, as well as pollsters, who speculated on just how different the results of their last Federal election might have been if this age change was in place at the time (spoiler alert: not much), and whether this age group, which would account for just two per cent of the electorate, would even care.

"It's not a huge amount and we know that younger people are slightly less likely to vote than older generations," pollster Luke Tryl told the BBC. "But, then again, we are in an era where small shares of the vote can deliver you lots of seats and multi-party politics."

We don't have to search too hard in this country for prime examples where a small number of votes turned out to make

a big difference – the most recent examples being the recounts that had to take place in a number of ridings after our last trip to the polls on April 28.

That being said, however, I'm not sure I buy the idea of younger people being slightly less likely to vote than older generations being a permanent situation.

Should Canada ever consider following the United Kingdom's lead in lowering the voting age, there will be a lot of questions that will need to be answered before such a change is implemented, but at first blush – well, most current blush, as this is far from a new idea – I think the pros significantly outweigh the cons.

Starmer, in my view, is correct that young people who pay into the system should have an opportunity to have a say on where their money is spent. If a 16-year-old is expected to pay taxes on

the money they earn from their part-time jobs – and, let's be real, lucrative "side-hustles" are fast becoming the norm – it's hard to find a valid argument on why they shouldn't be able to help shape the system, particularly when their peers who are just two years older, have the same privilege.

There might be a prevailing idea that younger people are "slightly less likely to vote than older generations," but perhaps at least a part of that can be attributed to the current voting requirements and the missed opportunity to instill civic duty – and, most importantly, engagement – from an earlier age.

Should Britain's plans come to fruition, the results of this significant shift will be worth watching. In the meantime, however, don't feel compelled to bust out the button-maker.

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