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Costumes, candy and community

It was a lot of fun with a lot of great costumes during the Frightfully Fun Family Event in Tottenham and Beeton on Saturday, Oct. 31. Thousands of people dressed up in costumes and went door to door at downtown businesses to receive treats. Sponsored by the Beeton Tottenham BIA, the event is getting bigger every year. The fire station also had a popular Halloween display and a haunted house. See more photos on Page 8.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

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MP Scot Davidson praises Honda for four decades of production

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

It was 1986 when Honda Manufacturing first started producing automobiles in Alliston.

The announcement that Honda was going to build an automobile manufacturing plant in town was huge news at the time. It meant jobs as well as secondary businesses that were needed to support a big operation.

Since then, Honda has expanded and employs nearly 5,000 people. Many other businesses have thrived as suppliers and as providers of a transportation network.

The arrival of Honda transformed Alliston from a small town to a thriving and growing centre that continues to benefit from the industry.

York-South Simcoe MP Scot Davidson recognized Honda of Canada Mfg. during a session of Parliament on Tuesday, Oct. 27.

"They say you meet the nicest people in a Honda," Davidson said. "As the MP for York—South Simcoe, the proud home of Honda Canada, I can tell you the people who build them are every bit as nice too."

He continued, "Next week, Honda celebrates 40 years of continuous car-making excellence in Canada since its plant first opened in Alliston. Ontario on Nov. 3, 1986. Today, they produce the Honda Civic, the Canadian Car of the Year.

"More than 4,000 Canadians work there, supporting 30,000 more jobs across the sector. From the associates on the line to the suppliers and dealers who put Canadians behind the wheel, every one of them has helped build this legacy. Canadian manufacturing succeeds when we stand behind it. To everyone at Honda, happy 40th. All the best as you keep the power of dreams driving your forward," Davidson added.



MAJOR MILESTONE – YorkS- outh Simcoe MP Scot Davidson made note of Honda Canada's 40th anniversary of making automobiles in Alliston during a session in Parliament on Tuesday, Oct. 17. Honda began operations in Alliston in 1986. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**

Brothers-in-law take manslaughter plea deal in killing of Alliston man

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

Two Alliston men have pleaded guilty to manslaughter for the April 2023 killing of Derek Perry of Alliston.

Perry was 34 years old when he was reported missing in June of 2023.

Nottawasaga OPP sought help from the public in determining his whereabouts at the time and had information leading them to believe there was concern for his well-being.

In July, 2025, police arrested and charged Brendon Blanchard, 26, and John 'Eddy' Gagnon, 32, with murder related charges. The two men are brothers-in-law.

They also arrested and charged Krystal Carleton, 37, with being an accessory after the fact to murder as well as committing indignity to a dead body.

Carleton was released on $50,000 bail and strict conditions in Feb. 2026, after spending six months in jail.

Perry's remains are believed to have been taken to an area near Kirkland Lake but have not been recovered.

According to an Agreed Statement of Facts, the court heard that Carleton was driving Perry, Blanchard and Gagnon to a party on April 16, 2023, when a fight broke out in the backseat of her SUV.

Blanchard and Gagnon admitted to being heavily intoxicated by alcohol and drugs at the time they both beat Perry.

The attack on Perry lasted for around 15 minutes.

Gagnon and Blanchard admitted to stopping at a friend's home to clean themselves up after the beating.

Lawyers for Gagnon and Blanchard said they both expressed remorse for their actions, and both men had tragic upbringings leading to years of drug abuse.

Perry had been struggling with homelessness at the time of his death.

In court, a judge was presented with a joint submission by the crown and defence, seeking a sentence of eight years less time served, after the court accepted a plea of guilty to manslaughter.

A sentencing hearing is scheduled for December.

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The New Tecumseth Ghost Walks 2026

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Mayor-elect Stephanie MacLellan vows to dive right into local issues

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

New Tecumseth's newly elected mayor, Stephanie MacLellan, said she plans to "hit the ground running" when it comes to town issues, direction, and projects after she assumes office on Nov. 16.

MacLellan won the mayor's seat in a landslide victory over incumbent Mayor Richard Norcross and newcomer Jaison Waldman in the Oct. 26 municipal election.

She won with 7,100 votes. That was 61.79 per cent of the votes cast.

This was a historic decision for voters as MacLellan has become the first female mayor in the history of the town.

"I think my gut reaction is, it's about time," MacLellan said of having a woman in the role of mayor. "We have seen female councillors and female mayors (in other towns), just not here yet. I think it's another ceiling that had to be broken, and I had the honour of breaking it. I hope it inspires young girls and women in our municipality to know that they have a place in local politics."

She added, "Not only is this the first time we've had a female mayor in New Tecumseth, this is the first time we've had more women than men on council. We have five women and four men."

This election has also demonstrated a new and different way that residents discuss town issues.

During her political campaign, MacLellan said she noticed that residents were far more likely to learn about issues through social media rather than in-person chats.

"When I was door-knocking, I found that not a lot of people wanted to engage at the door," she said. "I found there was more conversation and engagement on social media, or people reaching out through social media."

> "I don't ease into anything, I'm hitting the ground running ... There's only one new councillor, everyone else has at least four years on council, if not more, so it's right to work. I enjoy the actual work so I'm diving right in."
>
> Stephanie MacLellan, mayor New Tecumseth

She managed to get her message across through in-person campaigning but also using social media as a platform.

The final results of the election proved to be a surprise for many local residents, as many people thought it would be a tight race for mayor with a close vote.

"I was confident going into the election," explained Ms. MacLellan, reflecting on her thoughts prior to the vote. "I worked really hard, not just in my campaign, but in my full term. I was getting a lot of good feedback from the community. I was surprised at the votes when they came in. I was hoping to just break a double-digit percentage; I was hoping it would be 10, 11, or 12 per cent, but it turned out to be much more than that."

When discussing the town issues with local residents, MacLellan found that the number one concern among people was road safety.

"I would say the number one thing that people are concerned about in the municipality is road safety," she explained. "That includes speeding and speeding through neighbourhoods and things like that. People want us to pay more attention to traffic calming measures. That was definitely a huge theme in this election."



FIRST FEMALE IN OFFICE – Stephanie MacLellan celebrates being elected mayor of New Tecumseth on municipal election night, Oct. 26, at the Tipsy Fox in Alliston. She was joined by Tony Phekoo, Nicole Cox, and Chris Rapin, who were all elected to town council as well.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The new Town Council will be sworn in during a ceremony on Nov. 16.

Ms. MacLellan said she knows the issues and won't waste any time getting to work.

"I don't ease into anything, I'm hitting the ground running," Ms. MacLellan said of getting down to business when the new council officially begins their term of office.

"On my first agenda you will see something about the OPA5, and you will see something about the MZO lands in Beeton. There's only one new councillor, everyone else has at least four years on council, if not more, so it's right to work. I enjoy the actual work so I'm diving right in."

The first meeting for the new town council is scheduled for Nov. 16. However, since that day is also for inaugural and ceremonial purposes, the real first working meeting will take place on Nov. 23, in the council chambers.

Town of New Tecumseth seeking input from residents on housing strategy

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

The Town of New Tecumseth is seeking input from residents about local housing needs and what direction the town should be taking when it comes to development.

A survey will help identify housing needs, priorities, and future opportunities for the community.

The Housing Strategy will help guide future housing-related decisions, policies, programs, and investments in New Tecumseth.

Building on the Town's Housing Needs Assessment, the Strategy will identify actions that support a wider range of housing choices, improve affordability, reduce barriers to housing development, and help ensure residents of all ages and incomes can find suitable housing.

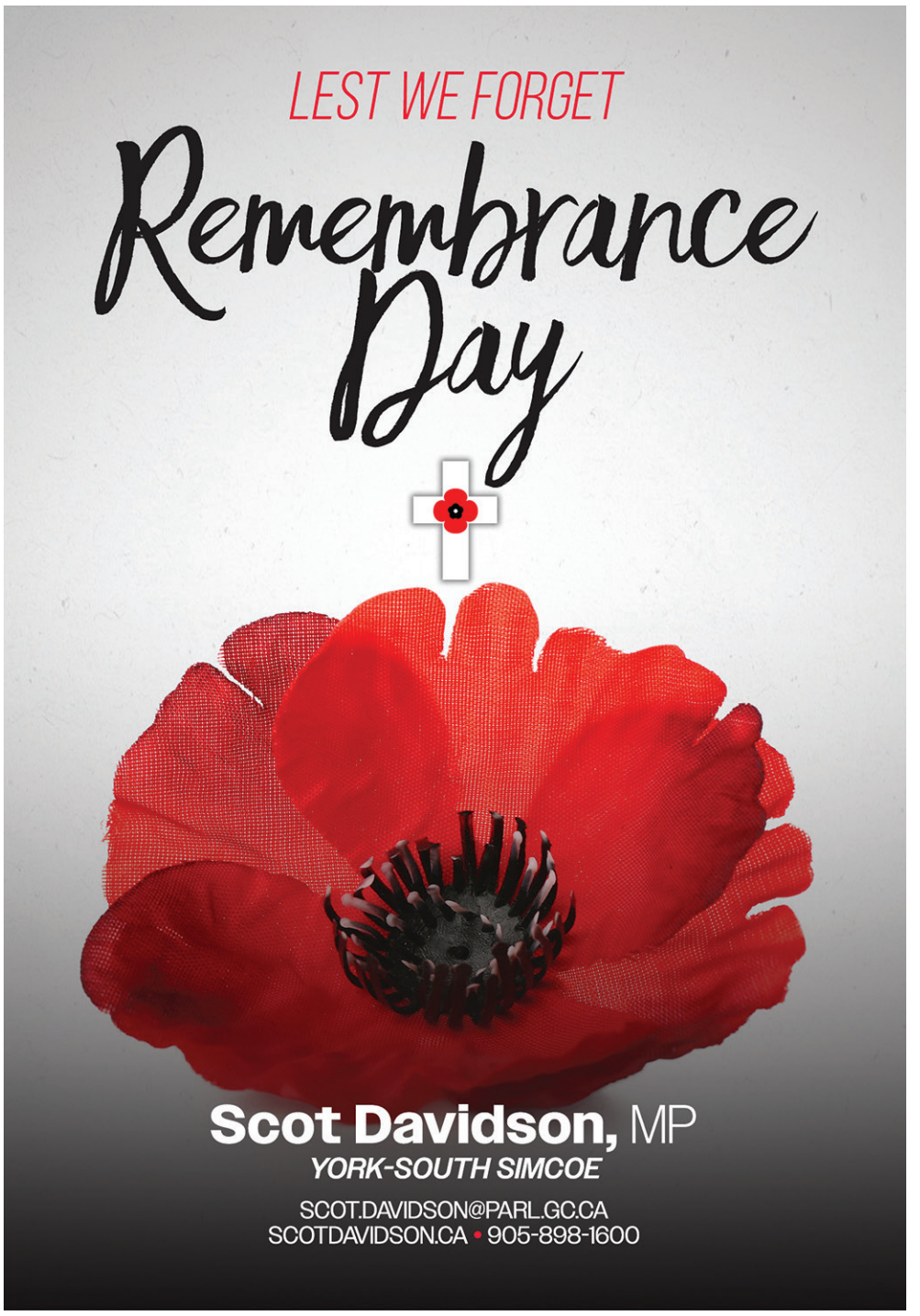
The Town wants to hear from residents about:

- Current housing challenges
- Future housing priorities
- Housing types and options
- Affordability concerns
- Potential housing solutions

An online survey is available on the town's website at: newtecumseth.ca/TownforEveryone

The survey takes approximately five minutes to complete and will be open until Dec. 18, 2026.







Editorial, Letters & Opinion

"The window to the world can be covered by a newspaper."
~ Stanislaw Jerzy Lec

Just let them steal



BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW

You may have seen the words or something similar, "It's the kind of town where people don't feel the need to lock their doors," in some news story over the years.

That phrase usually turns up when something happens in a small town that is a shock to the local residents.

There are still places where people are civil and respect other people's property, and don't steal from their neighbours.

However, some crime has gotten worse in this country over the past decade.

It's not just serious crimes; it is crimes of a petty nature which are equally disturbing.

When I was a kid, it was perfectly normal to park your car in a shopping plaza and leave the windows rolled down on a hot day so the car wouldn't turn into a furnace while you shopped.

The idea that someone would come along and reach into your car to steal something was unheard of. It just didn't happen.

Now, the police routinely issue 'lock it or lose it' warnings. You can't even trust your neighbour not to steal something from your car on a whim just because you left a window rolled down.

The recent high-profile home invasion in the Bridal Path area of Toronto has made big news — mostly because it is one of the wealthiest areas in the city.

Four members of a family have been seriously injured in their own home. Two of the people's injuries have been described as 'life-altering,' which means some kind of maiming wound or a very serious and debilitating lifelong trauma.

As of this writing, one of the criminals has been identified, and police are actively searching for him. They are trying to identify two accomplices.

You can bet there will be huge public pressure on the courts to make this man pay for his crimes in a big way if he is convicted.

The man they are looking for is known to police, but they would not share any details on prior arrests or charges to avoid jeopardizing any court processes.

However, they released a mugshot-type photo of him, indicating he has been in trouble before. It certainly wasn't the photo from his Boy Scout good deeds identification badge.

The victims in the case must have been severely traumatized. Imagine the horror of being asleep in your own home, only to be awakened in the night by four strangers with guns, and in this case, one of the criminals swinging a hammer.

This goes beyond your typical street crime. This is an invasion of your own home — your safe place in life.

Once again, the question of how to protect yourself in such a situation has been brought up.

A police spokesperson said of this case, "police do not recommend using force yourself if possible. You are responsible for that use of force," adding, "people should call police instead where possible."

There is an obvious problem with this advice.

When someone has a gun pointed at your head, asking them to let you call for help probably won't work. Secondly, if you do manage to call for help, by the time police arrive, the crime has already been committed, and possibly someone is dead.

Years ago, I had a relative who heard noises and realized someone was breaking into his home at 3 a.m.

He picked up his baseball bat, made his way downstairs, and found an intruder in the home in the dark.

He swung that bat, cracking the intruder across the arm, and beat him into a corner, then called police.

I asked him why he hit the guy with the bat.

He replied, "It was three o'clock in the morning, it was dark, and someone had entered my house. I wasn't going to wait to find out if he had a gun."

A recent debate in the Manitoba provincial legislature on Oct. 29 centred on homeowners' rights to defend themselves and their property.

An NDP politician's response to this concern was, "Why would we want to give people this power? It's absurd. If they want to steal, let them steal."

Cripes! If you can't rely on your representatives in government to help deter crime and keep you safe in your own home, you certainly can't rely on them for anything else.

I'm pretty sure Toronto police are actively searching for this wanted criminal and probably putting a lot of pressure on his family and friends as to his whereabouts.

When he is caught, it will be up to the courts to decide his fate.

However, if this is another case where the accused is released on bail, this time you can expect a serious public outcry of disgust.

We deserve to be safe in our own homes.

Remembering in discomfort



BROCK WEIR
BROCK'S BANTER

Remembrance Day services are always, in my view, a spectacular sight.

I've been a life-long sucker for pomp and circumstance, so the bands and pipers (bag and otherwise) that participate each year, not to mention the associated parades, and uniforms that have been cleaned-up and buttons polished to levels only seen at this time of year, is a perfect storm.

But it's not just pomp and circumstance solely for the sake of pomp and circumstance; it's potent, poignant, and never fails to lose its power.

This sight, unchanged in so many ways since the end of the First World War, had extra power this year due to circumstances well beyond our control.

The sheer number of people who gave their all to attend ceremonies on Tuesday, and those held over the weekend, despite a deep freeze and snow blowing in all directions, was a testament to how proud we are of the men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice for King, Queen and Country. It was also reflective of the pride we have in the men and women who served, experienced the horrors taken in by the fallen but, mercifully, came home to share their stories.

As impressive as the numbers were given the unseasonable weather of the past few days, however, I often wonder just how many more people might turn out if not for any number of circumstances.

Sure, there are those who are unable to get out and mark the occasion privately, or, if they're living on a congregate setting, in services ably spearheaded by residential staff to allow their residents to remember – and a special shout out goes to teachers and education support staff who go above and beyond to help students remember in-class as well.

But there are other circumstances, too.

Some might say such services glorify war and conflict; well, talk to anyone who has served and you'll likely say otherwise.

Some might argue that there aren't enough hours to take out of the workday to make the effort; first of all, the men and women who served might have learned a word we can't print in this newspaper to refute that, but, regardless, there are almost always ways to remember on the weekends.

Yet, for others, it's a matter of discomfort.

I know there are members of our communities who don't turn out for very personal reasons. Perhaps they had a beloved parent or grandparent, aunt or uncle, who served and the aforementioned power and potency of such ceremonies are simply too much for them.

Others still might find the music that so often accompanies such services too evocative of events in their past, at funerals, for instance, and would prefer to ride out these emotions in privacy.

Fair enough.

While I respect each person's individual reasons for not coming out for such occasions, to me it invariably seems like such a missed opportunity.

I'm also reminded of an experience I had many years ago when, as a loved one's life ebbed towards its close, some members of their family were reluctant to come and say their final farewells.

Saying goodbye is always difficult, and that goes without saying, but their reason for staying away often surprised me: they preferred to remember the loved one as they were in their prime, not as they were as their time came to an end. That certainly didn't help anybody and, when you can provide comfort at no cost to someone you love when they need it the most is, in my opinion, peak selfishness.

And, again, a missed opportunity.

There is some value in discomfort.

At last week's recent induction ceremony for the Aurora Sports Hall of Fame's Class of 2025, some of the honourees touched upon the lessons they learned in taking a loss on the field, on the rink, or whatever their arena, if you'll pardon the pun, happened to be.

Losing is never a comfortable experience, but it's one that you learn from and, hopefully, propels you forward.

Continued on Page 10

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Aluf Benn's despair

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY



Aluf Benn, the editor of the Israeli newspaper Ha'aretz, has been a steady voice of moderation and common sense for a long time amid the dogmatism and extremism of so many other observers, but he is about to give up. This is what he wrote after last Tuesday's election.

"Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's bloc does not command a majority of the Israeli public, but no stable government can be formed without Likud [Netanyahu's party]. Voting is driven by identity and by tribal loyalties, not by voters' reactions to external events or by their desire to reward or punish the outgoing government for its policies."

Israel has reached a dead end, in other words. The country has got so tangled up in its own fears and fantasies that it literally cannot respond intelligently to real-world events, however striking they may be. Benn continued:

"Israel has experienced upheavals, each of which would have been difficult to imagine separately, let alone in such rapid succession: a judicial coup initiated by the prime minister to establish unchecked rule; mass protests against the government; Hamas's invasion and the October 7 massacre; hundreds of Israeli hostages held in tunnels;"

Wait, there's more:

"the devastation of the Gaza Strip and the killing of tens of thousands of Palestinians; the assassination of arch-enemy Hassan Nasrallah and seizure of territory in Lebanon and Syria; an Israeli-American war against Iran; accelerated settlement expansion and Jewish terrorism in the West Bank; Qatar's penetration of Netanyahu's inner circle;"

and still more:

"the normalization of Kahanism, racism and ideas of population transfer; and mass emigration by secular and educated Israelis who have grown disillusioned with life here." (Kahanism is an ultra-nationalist Zionist ideology officially designated as terrorist by the US and Israel.)



All that in less than four years, and yet at the end of it:

"These upheavals have had almost no effect on public opinion. All these events, however momentous and unexpected, have failed to move the needle."

One sympathizes with Benn, who has spent his life struggling to preserve the vision of a democratic and inclusive Israel, but it is still too early to despair. Most Israelis are stuck in their tribal trenches, unwilling and maybe unable to move even as the region changes rapidly and radically around them, but there are some new players at the table.

More than one-fifth (22 per cent) of Israeli citizens are not Jews but Muslim or Christian Arabs, theoretically with exactly the same rights and duties as other citizens (except that they are exempt from military service). In practice, of course, they are less well served by the state in many ways, but they do have the vote.

In the past, with one brief exception, Arab political parties were excluded from the coalitions that are always necessary to put a government together in Israel. There was no law against cooperation, but an undeclared agreement between all the Jewish parties worked just as well. So eventually few Arabs even bothered to vote.

This time was different. It was clear to anybody who could count that Netanyahu's coalition would be unable to form a government if it lost only a few seats in the election. However, if the Jewish opposition parties wanted to form a government without Netanyahu instead, they would need to make a deal with the Arab parties.

All the Jewish opposition parties promised publicly before the election not to do any such thing (the old unspoken deal spoken out loud), but the Arab parties suspected some of them would give in to the temptation of power once the voting was past. So the two main Arab parties, Ra'am and the Joint List, worked really hard to get out their vote this time.

The Arab parties won nineteen seats in the 120-member Knesset. That's close to a 'fair share' in terms of population, and certainly enough to make the Arabs king-makers in the coalition negotiations that start this week. If, but only if, some of the Jewish opposition parties are willing to make a deal.

There is no good reason not to. The Arab parties, as Palestinians, obviously are not keen admirers of the Israeli state, but they are loyal to the democratic values that Israel still embodies (just).

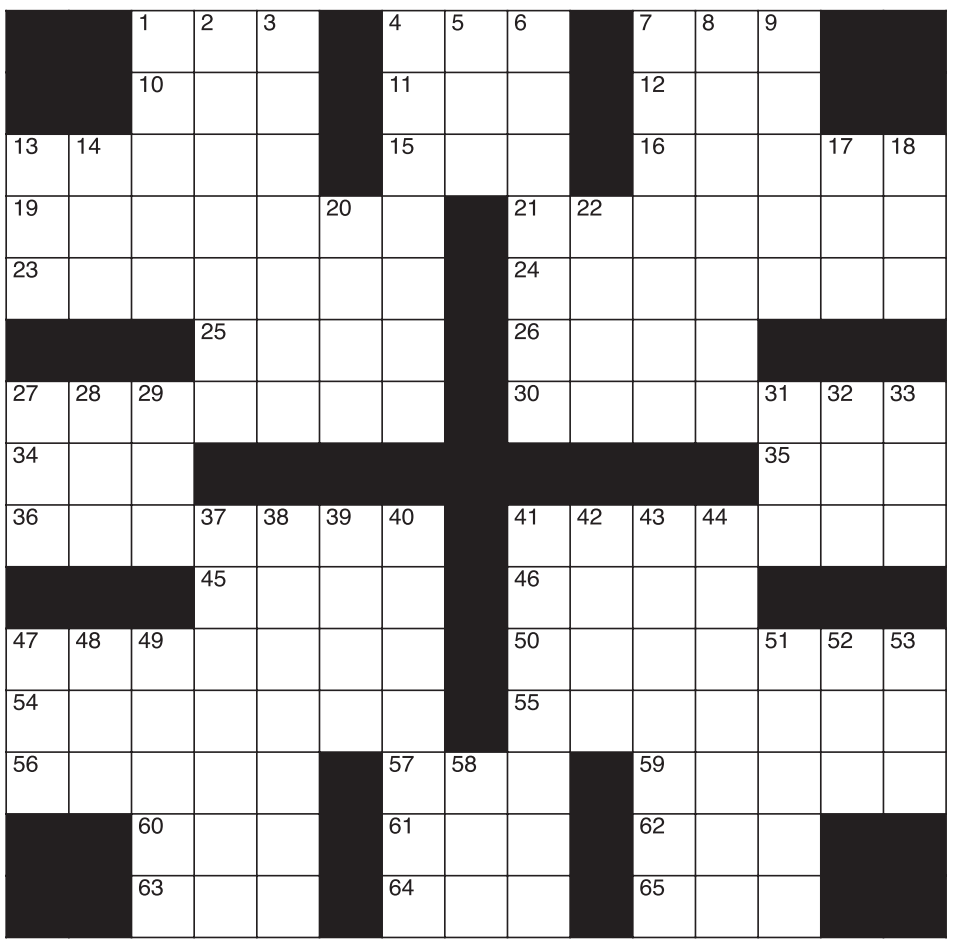
The people they represent were born in Israel and still live there. Cooperation is not only possible but necessary.

The Arab parties and the Israeli opposition parties also share an overriding desire to dethrone Netanyahu and send him back to the courts for his trial on corruption charges. There is a genuine opportunity here, if they have the will and the wit to seize it.

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Tire pressure metric
4. Request
7. Clairvoyance
10. 007's creator Fleming
11. Male adult
12. Norse mythological figure
13. Coffin cloths
15. Breeze through
16. Ladyfish genus
19. We all take them
21. Nobleman's jurisdiction
23. Members of U.S. Navy
24. Rummy-like card game
25. Unable to move
26. Type of horse
27. Parted
30. Woman's cloak
34. South American plant
35. Prohibit
36. Something one takes
41. Dish detergent manufacturer
45. Romanian river
46. Personification of pity
47. Makes upset
50. Discuss again
54. Medical instrument
55. Support
56. Informal term for money
57. Catch doing something wrong
59. Prehistoric people
60. Large African antelope
61. Automobile
62. "Losing My Religion" rockers
63. High-resolution scientific instrument
64. A major division of geological time
65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

1. Indoor plant
2. Fit to be sold
3. Rather
4. Collected
5. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
6. Irish rap group
7. Ageless
8. Lists indicating curriculum
9. Pokes at
13. Public television station
14. They __
17. Cooking tool
18. Separately managed account
20. Iron-containing compound
22. Swiss river
27. Former French coin
28. Electronic countermeasures
29. Taxi
31. Helps little firms
32. Unhappy
33. Midway between northeast and east
37. Glowing
38. Lists of items to be discussed
39. An informal body of friends
40. Indispensable quality
41. Neural structures
42. Brews
43. A place to dock
44. Festive singer
47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
48. Northernmost point of mainland Wales
49. Most worthless parts
51. Type of "bear"
52. Take or consume
53. Defunct European organization
58. Swiss river

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

COMMUNITY VOICE

District energy provides an opportunity to address growth challenges

It is projected that some Simcoe County municipalities will see their populations double by 2050. But no one is talking about the impact of that growth on the environment. New development must be environmentally sustainable to enhance both our health and the health of the planet.

Standard new development construction usually includes separate natural gas furnaces and air conditioners (AC) in every home, both using fossil fuels. We need to stop using fossil fuels. At the very least, new homes should be built with more efficient heat pumps that replace both furnaces and ACs, have electrical capacity for electric vehicles, and have Induction cooktops, if appliances are provided.

There is, potentially, an even more efficient solution than building every home with furnaces and ACs. When building large subdivisions, there could be a central source for heating and cooling and electricity for the entire community. It's known as District Energy.

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District Energy is a central facility that generates and stores its own electricity and distributes heating and cooling to every home and the community. The electricity generation uses ground heat that ultimately generates electricity. Homes have a heat exchanger to heat water, distribute the heat or cool the air.

Another option is installing solar roofs on every home in the community, with the excess electricity stored centrally in batteries and redistributed, as needed.

The advantage of these systems is the elimination of devices that burn natural (fossil) gas in individual homes. As an example, a 1,000-home community would save $25 million gross by eliminating the cost of installing natural gas supply lines, furnaces and ACs in every home, based on an average cost of $25,000/home.

And for homeowners, this could reduce utility costs by $500 to $3,000 per year, according to Clean Energy Canada. In Southern Ontario, the savings for just natural gas could be $259/month or $3,100 annually, according to the Ontario Energy Board.

Markham District Energy's system serves 240 residential, commercial (including an IBM Data Centre), and institutional buildings. The cost to establish this system was $11 million. Its reliability has been 99 per cent for both heating and cooling from sources such as geothermal wastewater. This system has resulted in reducing 30,000 tonnes of CO2 per year, the equivalent of eliminating 6,500 gas cars annually.

According to the Climate Institute of Canada, Canada has over 200 District Energy facilities supplying about 3 per cent of the total heating demand in Canada. Europe has over 19,000 cities and towns serving 77 million people, with an individual household operating cost of roughly $160 per month.

As municipalities ready themselves for significant growth, there is an opportunity to build better and cheaper. Let's do it right — for a healthier and more sustainable environment, and for future generations to enjoy.

This week's Community Voice column was written by Jorma Ikavalko. Jorma is a member of Greys for Green in New Tecumseth. He is passionate about promoting clean energy use in all facets of life and is happy to share his experience with installing a heat pump at home and driving an EV. Contact Greys for Green at contactus@greysforgreen.org or visit the group's social media pages to get in touch.

SPOOKTACULAR HOME – A lot of people enjoy having fun during Halloween. Then there are those who really get into the holiday spirit. Nikki and Kurtis Cote-McIlroy in Beeton put on a huge Halloween display that is getting bigger every year. Not only is their Lilly St. home in Beeton decorated, but there is also an entire backyard with a trail that leads around the house with crazy characters, gruesome displays, and even a real coffin that may or may not have someone inside. Nikki shows some of her ghoulish friends. On Halloween night, hundreds of local residents and even some from out of town visit the home and take a spooky tour.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTOS





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Simcoe County Museum presents virtual Remembrance Day series

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

The Simcoe County Museum is inviting residents to participate in a free virtual lecture series in November in honour of Remembrance Day.

This series will feature expert guest speakers and local historians. The series will examine significant topics about Canadian military history and its lasting impact on modern society.

All lectures will be presented online through Microsoft Teams. No registration or payment is required.

Lectures will be approximately 45 minutes each and include an audience question-and-answer period.

Teaching with Historical Empathy: Commemorating War and Promoting Peace

On Thursday, Nov. 26, from 4 to 5 p.m., this lecture will be presented by Dr. Sara Karn.

She will explore how educators use historical empathy to teach about war, remembrance, and peace.

Drawing on research with Ontario history teachers, the presentation will highlight approaches to commemorating conflict while fostering meaningful connections to local, community, and contemporary experiences.

For more details and to access the Microsoft Teams links on the day of the lecture, check the Upcoming Events section at the museum online at: museum.simcoe.ca



Community agencies receive provincial funds to help families access high-quality programs

The Ontario government is providing $261,600 to support essential upgrades and repairs at three community agencies in Simcoe-Grey. This funding is part of the government's $25 million investment in critical infrastructure repairs this year, helping ensure community agencies across the province can continue delivering essential services to those who rely on them most.

"Community organizations across Simcoe-Grey provide important programs and services that make a real difference in people's lives," said Brian Saunderson, MPP for Simcoe-Grey. "This $261,600 investment will help ensure their facilities remain safe and welcoming for the individuals and families who rely on them. Thank you to the dedicated staff and volunteers who work every day to support people in our communities."

Funding from the Partner Facility Renewal program supports a range of organizations, including shelters for women and children who have experienced or may be at risk of violence, residences that offer day-to-day support for individuals with developmental disabilities, facilities serving survivors of human trafficking, organizations dedicated to supporting Indigenous communities, and centres that provide services for children and youth with special needs.

The $25 million investment will support community agencies across the province in carrying out critical repairs and upgrades, including improvements to roofing and air conditioning systems, enhanced security features, and accessibility retrofits to kitchens and bathrooms.

In Simcoe-Grey, funding is being provided to the following agencies:

- **Camphill Communities Ontario:** $37,800 to help with accessibility ramp repairs and fire system replacement
- **Community Living Association for South Simcoe (CLASS):** $52,000 to help with roof replacement/repair and accessible washroom renovation
- **E3 Community Services Inc:** $171,800 to help with washroom accessibility upgrades, electrical panel and electrical system replacements/upgrades

Larry Palmer, executive director of Camphill Communities Ontario, shared why he's grateful for the funding.

"Everyone deserves to feel safe at home and to move freely through their community. These repairs will make a real difference in the everyday lives of the people we support. We're grateful for this investment in the places where people live, gather and build a sense of belonging," said Palmer.

Lisa Patterson, chief operating officer of Community Living Association South Simcoe (CLASS), shared a similar sentiment regarding provided funding.

"CLASS appreciates the ongoing support from MCCSS [Minister of Children, Community and Social Services] to ensure that people are living with dignity in safe and accessible homes," said Patterson.

Meanwhile, E3 Community Services Inc. CEO, Christine Vallis-Page, shared how the funding will impact her organization.

"E3 is very grateful for this allocation of funds to renovate a washroom for greater accessibility in one of our homes and safety of our valued team member, to ensure that they have the best tools for their work. Homes cater to people with disabilities who are also aging in place and we are proud to provide them homes to meet their needs today and in the future. The electrical work will update obsolete equipment to keep our properties safe and up to date, ensuring continued upgrading to today's standards. We thank our government for this continued support in people's quality of life," said Vallis-Page.

Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, Michael Parsa, noted the importance of investing in agencies that serve families.

"Community-based organizations are essential in helping people across Ontario access reliable programs and services," said Parsa. "Through these investments, our government is supporting hundreds of agencies so they can continue providing children, youth and families with the tools and support they need to succeed in their communities."

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Arts & Local Events





SCARES AND TERRORS – Thousands of costumed children and adults filled downtown Tottenham and Beeton on Saturday, Oct. 31, for the annual Frightfully Fun Family Event. Families visited local businesses to collect Halloween treats, while the Tottenham fire station welcomed visitors with a festive Halloween display and haunted house. Sponsored by the Beeton Tottenham BIA, the annual celebration continues to grow in popularity.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTOS









Several events upcoming at the Museum on the Boyne in Alliston

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

The Museum on the Boyne in Alliston is hosting a line-up of festive winter events for families, makers and history enthusiasts.

Whether you are looking to create handmade holiday decor, visit Santa, or celebrate New Year's Eve with your little ones, the museum has something for everyone this winter.

Santa's Cozy Cabin

Step into the warmth of Santa's Cozy Cabin.

You can enjoy a visit with Santa that includes a printed photo, a festive scavenger hunt, holiday crafts, and a magical story time. Bring the whole family and create timeless holiday memories in a setting filled with old-fashioned charm and seasonal sparkle.

Some of the program will be held outdoors, so dress for the weather.

The event occurs on Nov. 28 and time slots are available between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The cost is $15.

Antique Winter Workshop

Join the fun with a cozy and creative historical crafting experience. Learn traditional crafting techniques and create holiday decor inspired by holidays of the past.

Participants will make items such as dried orange garlands, tin-punch ornaments, and candles on Dec. 12 and 19, from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The event is for anyone age 16 and up.

The cost is $20 for each Antique Winter Workshop.

Noon Year's Eve Party

Ring in the new year early with your young ones.

Families are invited to enjoy holiday crafts, hands-on activities, and festive fun designed especially for children.

If midnight is a little too late, celebrate at noon instead and start the New Year with an afternoon of family-friendly fun.

The event occurs on Dec. 31, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m., with a $5 cost of admission.

You can register for events by visiting the Town of New Tecumseth's website at: newtecumseth.ca

Province provides funding to improve surgical procedures and wait times

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

The province will be providing up to $329,000 in Simcoe-Grey to improve access to life-saving surgical procedures at Stevenson Memorial Hospital in Alliston and Collingwood General and Marine Hospital in Collingwood.

This is part of a province-wide investment of $381 million annually as part of a four per cent increase in hospital funding.

The announcement was made by Brian Saunderson, MPP for Simcoe-Grey, on Thursday, Oct. 29.

"Timely access to surgery can make a significant difference in a patient's health and quality of life," MPP Saunderson said. "This additional funding will help both of our incredible local hospitals increase surgical capacity, reduce wait times, and ensure more patients receive the care they need, closer to home. I want to thank the dedicated health-care professionals who work tirelessly to provide exceptional care to people and families across Simcoe-Grey."

This investment is part of the more than $1.1 billion in additional hospital funding for 2026-27.

It includes $331 million in base funding to update funding rates for select volume-funded programs such as cancer surgery, systemic treatment, radiation treatment, adult and pediatric surgery, chronic kidney disease, cardiac, and stroke.

It also includes up to $50 million in one-time funding to reduce wait times for select globally-funded programs, such as ear, nose and throat, plastic and reconstructive, gynecologic, thoracic, urologic, oral and maxillofacial.

Stevenson Memorial Hospital will receive $20,300 in annual base funding for volume-funded programs and $100,700 in one-time funding for globally funded programs.

Collingwood General and Marine Hospital will receive $123,900 in annual base funding for volume-funded programs and $85,000 in one-time funding for globally funded programs.

"Our government is making record investments to protect Ontario's health-care system and connect people to the care they need, when they need it," said Sylvia Jones, deputy premier and minister of health. "Through these additional investments, we are providing Ontario's hospitals with the support they need so they can deliver life-saving surgeries and high-quality care for the people of Ontario."

Over the next 10 years, Ontario is investing approximately $64 billion in major health infrastructure. This is part of the government's plan to get shovels in the ground on more than 50 major hospital projects across the province, which will deliver approximately 3,000 new hospital beds to enhance access to quality care and build a connected, people-first health-care system.

"This investment will help Stevenson Memorial Hospital provide more patients with timely access to surgical care close to home," said Deepak Sharma, president and CEO of Stevenson Memorial Hospital. "Reducing wait times and strengthening access to high-quality care are important priorities for our hospital and our community. We are very appreciative of the province's continued investment in local healthcare."

Playground equipment at Hillcrest Park in Alliston to be replaced in December

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

Hillcrest Park in Alliston will be getting a facelift.

Parks staff will be removing the existing playground equipment at the park in preparation for an upcoming playground replacement.

Playground equipment is typically rated for a set period. When that time period expires, the equipment is replaced to keep the facility safe.

Hillcrest Park playground replacement is scheduled for December 2026.

Nearby residents may notice activity in the park as existing equipment is removed and the site is prepared for the new equipment.

The Town of New Tecumseth asks nearby residents to be patient and understanding as this work is completed.



UPGRADING – Hillcrest Park on the north side of Alliston will be undergoing improvements. The current playground equipment will be removed and replaced. The work is scheduled for December 2026.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO





Continued from Page 4

Brock's Banter: Remembering in discomfort

Political circumstances here at home, south of the border, and well-beyond have come together to inspire people who have never been engaged in politics before to step out of their comfort zones, put their opinions forward and, if not in writing, speaking before the public – a hurdle that's difficult to clear in the best of circumstances.

Just last week, comedian Nikki Glaser hosted Saturday Night Live and certainly sparked a conversation. Her monologue, which touched upon several controversial topics, made many people uncomfortable – and brought about the inevitable online backlash, as most things do these days – but, if not laughing, it certainly got people talking.

Maybe, however, there a shift in the offing.

An October 13 article in the UK newspaper, The Independent, delved into the topic of whether or not trigger warnings, such as those at the start of a movie or news article that contain scenes which could adversely impact its consumers, are effective.

In her article, Rebecca Whittaker, cited a study which found "flagging potentially distressing content may encourage people" to read or watch further.

"Almost 90 per vent of young people who saw a trigger warning still chose to view the content out of curiosity, whatever the source of the warnings, and irrespective of whether they suffered trauma. One person even told researchers: 'Sometimes my brain wants to be triggered, so it grabs my attention more.'"

More than 250 people between the ages of 17 and 25 participated in the study. It also found that whether or not the participant had trauma history or PTSD had little bearing in whether or not they were going to heed the warming.

"Although trigger warnings are there to signal care and consideration, the evidence suggests they do little to prevent exposure to distressing material. Instead, they may simply pique curiosity, leading users to engage with content they might otherwise have ignored."

This is not to suggest in any way that people go and run roughshod over trigger warnings that might very well be relevant to their own experiences and their mental health, but simply to illustrate that comfort zones are highly individual and we are in control of whether or not we stay in them.

And how we remember.

If you stay away from your local Cenotaph at this time of year solely because it might be an uncomfortable experience, perhaps 2026 is the year you step out of that comfort zone and take part in a remarkable example of community coming together for a common cause – something that is becoming increasingly rare in this day and age.

The men and women we gather to remember certainly stepped out of theirs to serve, and so-called creature comforts were barely a thought – aside, perhaps, from writing home about provisions and rations. Who knows, coming out next November might provide a valuable moment of catharsis.

For those who gathered on Tuesday and in the days that preceded it, it certainly wasn't a comfortable experience, either. But it completed the Act of Remembrance, and, I think we were all the richer for it.



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Police ask the public to obey the laws surrounding crossing guards

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is reminding motorists of the laws surrounding school crossing guards and the important role they play in keeping children and other pedestrians safe.

As students travel to and from school each day, drivers are expected to remain alert and exercise caution when approaching school crossings.

Under the Highway Traffic Act, school crossing guards are authorized to stop traffic while assisting pedestrians across roadways where the speed limit does not exceed 60 km/h.

When a school crossing guard displays a school crossing stop sign before entering the roadway, drivers approaching from either direction are required by law to stop before reaching the crossing.

This requirement applies to all vehicles, including those intending to make a right or left turn at an intersection. Drivers must remain stopped until all persons, including the school crossing guard, have cleared the roadway and it is safe to proceed.

School crossing guards help create a safe environment for children travelling to and from school.

Failing to stop for a crossing guard not only places lives at risk but can also result in enforcement action.

Motorists should always:

• Stop whenever a school crossing guard displays a stop sign, regardless of whether you are travelling straight through the intersection or making a turn

• Slow down and remain alert in school zones and near school crossings.

• Watch for crossing guards, pedestrians and children who may enter the roadway unexpectedly.

• Eliminate distractions and focus on driving.

The OPP said road safety is a shared responsibility.

"By slowing down, staying alert and following the law, motorists can help protect children and crossing guards and keep our school crossings safe," the OPP said.



SAFETY FIRST – The OPP is reminding motorists to stop when a school crossing guard displays a stop sign and remain stopped until pedestrians and the guard have safely cleared the roadway. Drivers are also urged to slow down and remain alert in school zones.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

OPP shares tips with hunters as deer hunting season gets underway

Controlled deer hunting has commenced in nearby Dufferin County and the OPP recently shared advice to hunters.

The hunting period runs between Nov. 2 and 6. During this period, residents and visitors may notice increased hunter activity and hear the sound of gunshots in designated hunting areas.

The OPP encourages everyone to remain aware of their surroundings and to exercise caution while enjoying outdoor recreational activities.

Hunters are reminded to respect private property and ensure they have the landowner's permission before entering or hunting on private land.

• **Stay informed:** Know the dates and areas where the controlled hunt is taking place.

• **Be respectful:** Always respect private land and ensure you have permission before hunting on someone else's property.

• **Safety first**: Follow all safety regulations, wear appropriate gear, and be aware of your surroundings. Communicate your hunting plans with someone.

• **Expect increased activity:** Be prepared for more hunters and the sound of gunshots. Stay alert while outdoors.

• **follow regulations:** Adhere to local hunting regulations and guidelines to ensure a safe and successful hunt.



• **Report issues:** If you observe unsafe behavior or violations, report it to local authorities.

• **Enjoy the experience**: Embrace the opportunity to connect with nature and contribute to wildlife management efforts.





A brief history of Remembrance Day

By Brian Lockhart

Remembrance Day is observed across Canada on Nov. 11.

The day honours fallen military members, living veterans and current armed forces personnel.

• The date is symbolic of the end of the First World War. The signing of the armistice agreement called for an end to hostilities at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11, 1918 – which happens to be the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month.

• Remembrance Day has a long history in Canada. Originally called Armistice Day, it was first observed in Canada in 1919 when King George V urged all countries in the British Commonwealth to observe the day and remember fallen soldiers.

• The name was changed from Armistice Day to Remembrance Day in 1931.

• The red poppy is used as a symbol of Remembrance Day. Red poppies were abundant in the battlefields of France.

• The poem, In Flanders Fields, is usually read during Remembrance Day ceremonies. The poem was written by Canadian Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae after he presided over the funeral of a friend who was killed in combat. McCrae noticed the red poppies growing in the area and was inspired to write the poem.



• Remembrance Day ceremonies are held in cities and towns across the country. A largely attended ceremony is held in Ottawa at the National War Memorial. The Governor General presides over that ceremony.

• The United Kingdom, France, Belgium, and Poland also observe Remembrance Day on Nov. 11.







Lest we FORGET

Sir Frederick Banting:

A national hero among the fallen

By Brian Lockhart

Born in Alliston, Sir Frederick Banting was a national hero and world figure by the time the Second World War began.

His co-discovery of insulin in 1923 earned him the Nobel Prize in Physiology / Medicine. The discovery provided millions of people with a life-saving treatment and changed the world.

During the First World War, Banting attempted to enlist with the Canadian Expeditionary Force; however, he was refused due to poor eyesight.

He successfully joined the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps in 1915 when he was in his third year of medical school. He was commissioned as a lieutenant and sailed to Britain in March of 1917.

His first experience with combat occurred during the Battle of Amiens, where he spent several days tending to the wounded on the front lines. He then went on to be a part of the Battle of Cambrai in 1918.

During incoming fire, Banting was wounded by shrapnel from an exploding shell. This ended his front-line duty.

He was awarded the Military Cross for 'exceptional bravery while attending the wounded under fire.'

After the war, Banting completed his surgical training.

It was during his post-war days that he and his colleagues made the world-changing discovery of insulin.

When the Second World War began, Banting was again involved in the war effort.

He was on his way to England to conduct operational tests on a new flying suit that was being designed to protect military pilots from G-forces during combat operations.

In February of 1941, he boarded a Lockheed aircraft that was flying from Newfoundland to Britain.

The aircraft lost both engines and attempted to turn around; however, it did not make it back to the airfield and crashed. The co-pilot and navigator were killed in the crash.

Banting and the pilot initially survived the crash. Because of the location of the downed airplane, help was not immediately available.



Banting died from his injuries the next day.

Banting's legacy survives through his contribution to medicine as well as his service to his country during wartime.



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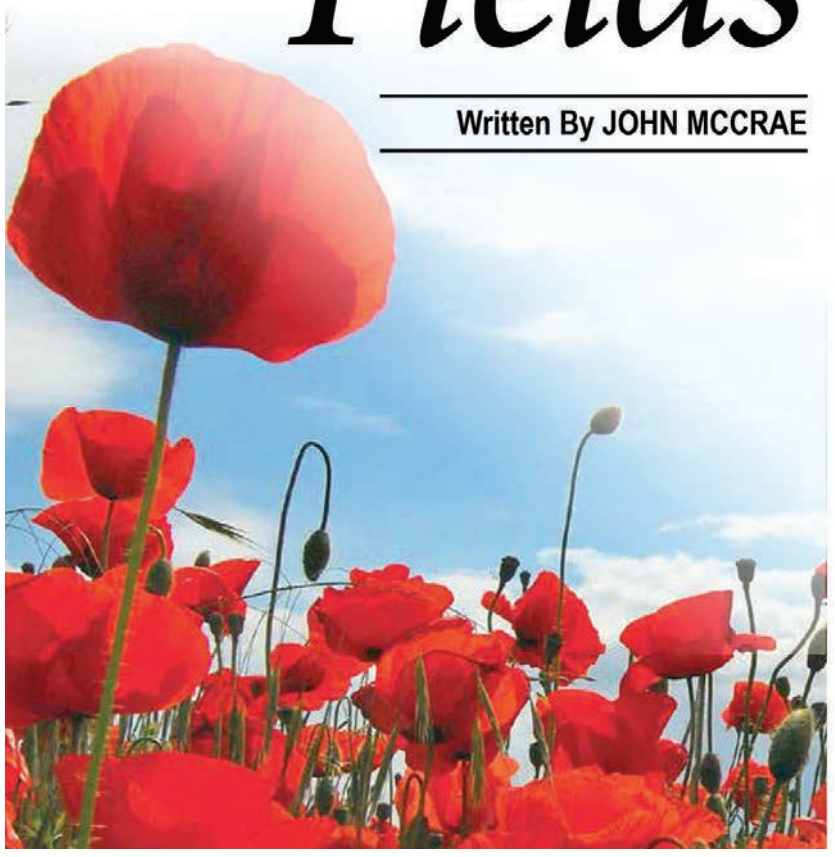
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Lest we FORGET

In Flanders Fields



Written By JOHN MCCRAE

History of "In Flanders Fields"

In Flanders Fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead, short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you, from failing hands, we
throw The torch; be yours to
hold it high.

If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though
poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

–John McCrae

Every year, the poem *In Flanders Fields* is recited at Remembrance Day services across the country and in other Commonwealth nations.

The poem speaks of the war dead and encourages others to take up the fight.

In Flanders Fields was written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, who had joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force in World War I when he was 41 years old.

When a friend was killed in the Second Battle of Ypres in the Flanders region of Belgium, McCrae officiated at the burial service. He noticed how quickly poppies grew around the new graves.

The next day, he composed the poem while sitting in the back of an ambulance.

When it was published, it became one of the most popular poems of its era.



Lest we FORGET

Remembrance Day ~ Wednesday, November 11, 2026





Local Remembrance Day Services

Alliston

The Alliston Legion will host two Remembrance Day services. A special national Indigenous Veterans Day ceremony will be held at the Alliston Cenotaph on Sunday, Nov. 8, at 11 a.m.
Remembrance Day services in Alliston will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 11, at the Alliston cenotaph located at Albert Street and Paris Street behind the Alliston Memorial Arena.
A parade will form at 10:30 a.m. at the Veterans walkway.
The ceremony will commence at 11 a.m. at the cenotaph.
The laying of wreaths will follow.

Angus

The Remembrance Day service in Angus will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 11, beginning at 10:30 a.m.
Legion Branch 499 will conduct a parade and ceremony.
The parade will march from Branch 499 to the Angus War Memorial on Queen Street.
The parade will march back to the Angus Legion.

Beeton

Remembrance Day services will be held in Beeton on Sunday, Nov. 8.
The service will take place at the cenotaph at the corner of Prospect Street and Second Street.
Formation will begin at 10:45 a.m.
Speeches will be followed by the laying of wreaths.

Everett

A Remembrance Day service will be taking place in Everett on Wednesday, Nov. 11.
The parade formation will take place at 10:40 a.m. in front of the Legion and will march to the cenotaph at 8175 Main Street in Everett.
A dinner will take place later at the Legion.

Tottenham

Remembrance Day services will be held in Tottenham on Sunday, Nov. 8.
Form up will take place in front of the Tottenham Legion on Richmond Street at 10:30 a.m., followed by a parade to the cenotaph at Keogh Park for the service at 11 a.m.
Ceremonies will take place at the cenotaph with speakers, followed by the laying of wreaths.

From any location

If you are unable to attend a service at a cenotaph, you can participate by observing a minute of silence at your home, business, or school.
Not being able to attend a service doesn't mean you can't participate and remember the sacrifices made during wartime.

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Lest we FORGET

The Remembrance Day poppy: How it became a symbol



By Brian Lockhart

As a symbol of remembering the fallen, it has become a custom in Canada to wear a red poppy on your lapel in the weeks leading up to Remembrance Day.

The story of how the red poppy became a symbol of Remembrance Day dates back to the first year of the First World War.

Poppy seeds may remain dormant in the earth for years. They will blossom in abundance when the earth is disturbed.

As artillery barrages began to churn the soil in late 1914 during the early stages of the war, the fields of Flanders and northern France saw countless poppies begin to bloom.

This covered the battlefields with red flowers.

When Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae saw the red poppies at a cemetery, he was inspired to write his famous poem, 'In Flanders Fields.'

The first person to use the poppy as a symbol of remembrance was Moina Michael, a member of the American Overseas YMCA. She was inspired by McCrea's poem and decided to wear a poppy as a symbol of remembrance on Nov. 9, 1918.

Several of her colleagues liked the idea and also wore poppies.

Moina purchased 25 silk poppies, pinned one to her collar and gave the rest to friends and colleagues.

The National American Legion adopted the symbol at its conference in April, 1920.

The notion of using a poppy for remembrance spread to Canada, and the first 'poppy day' occurred on November 11, 1921.

The Royal Canadian Legion has run the poppy fundraising campaign every year since then, and the red poppy has become the national symbol of remembrance.





Lest we FORGET



Royal Canadian Legion marks 100th anniversary with free membership

By Brian Lockhart

The Royal Canadian Legion provides a sense of purpose, an opportunity to make a difference in your community, and a fun social atmosphere of friendship and camaraderie.

This year is the Legion's 100th anniversary. To mark a century of helping veterans, the Royal Canadian Legion is offering free membership to all new members.

Your membership will help strengthen the Legion and its support for veterans and their communities across the country.

When you sign up for a free membership, you will automatically be eligible to win a Ford F-150 in the centenary year sweepstakes.

By joining the Legion, you will make a difference in your community and, in a larger sense, across the country.

The Legion supports Canada's veterans with free services and financial support, advocates to the government, and has an outreach program for veterans in need.

In addition, the Legion hosts Remembrance activities, promotes wearing the poppy, and educates youth on why we remember fallen veterans.

The Legion operates at three levels.

Dominion Command is the Legion's national leadership body, combining the elected Dominion Executive Council with Legion headquarters. They set national priorities, oversee programs and veterans services, advocate for veterans and manage administrative operations across the country.

Provincial Command supports and guides branches within each province or territory.

Local community branches are the Legion's local presence, delivering front-line support to veterans and fostering connection in their communities.

Currently, there are 1,350 Legion branches across the country.

Joining your local Legion is easy.

You can join by visiting online or calling by phone. You can also visit your local branch to speak to someone about joining the Legion.

Membership is open to any Canadian or a citizen of an Allied nation 18 years of age or older, whether or not they have served in the military.

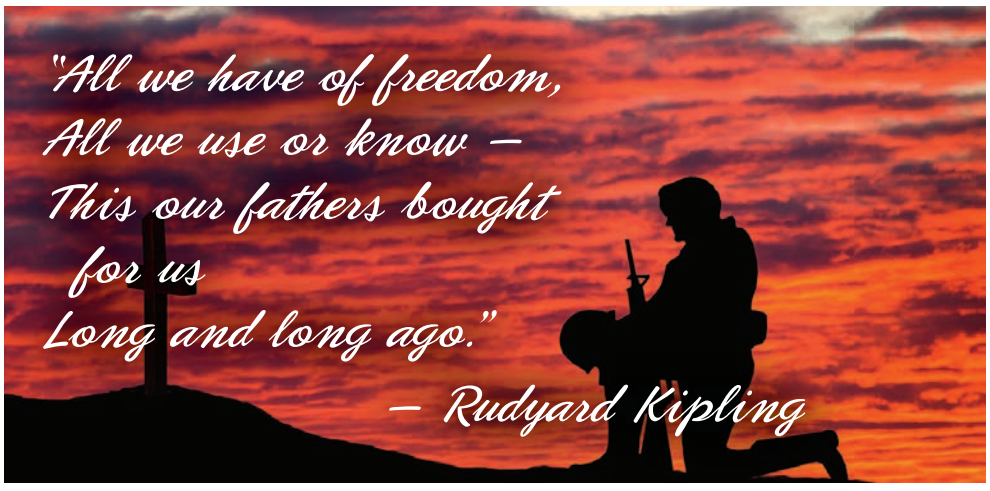




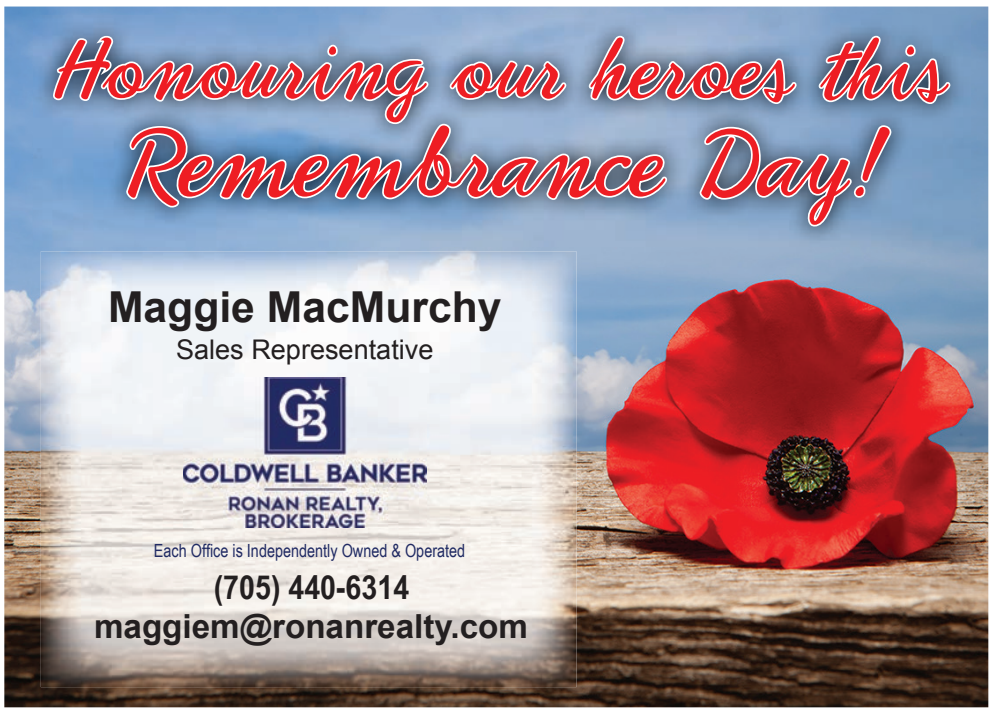




Lest we FORGET







The roles of the three branches of the Canadian Armed Forces

Each November, individuals across Canada honor and recognize the service and sacrifices of members of the Canadian Armed Forces. Remembrance Day is celebrated in Canada every year on November 11, making the month of November an ideal time to learn about each of the three branches of the country's armed forces.

The Royal Canadian Navy

The Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) is tasked with protecting Canadian sovereignty at sea, at home and abroad. Sailors in the RCN also provide peacekeeping services and humanitarian aid and prevent illegal activities from happening at sea. According to the Government of Canada, the RCN is made up of approximately 8,400 Regular Force personnel. An additional 4,100 Reservists and 3,800 civilians serve in the RCN.

The Canadian Army

The Canadian Army is the land component of the Canadian Armed Forces. The Army consists of full-time Regular soldiers, part-time Reservists who serve in communities across Canada, and Canadian Rangers from remote locations in Canada.

The Government of Canada notes that the Army Reserve is a part-time component of the Canadian Army that deploys members both at home and abroad. With roughly 21,500 members, Reservists make up nearly as large a force as the Regular Force (22,500 members), and an additional 3,500 civilian employees serve in support of the Army.

Royal Canadian Air Force

Working in partnership with the United States, the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) defends and protects Canadian and North American airspace. The RCAF flies a large inventory of aircraft, which the Government of Canada notes includes a significant amount of new or completely modernized aircraft. The RCAF serves in both peacetime and during times of conflict.

The Canadian Armed Forces serve a variety of functions, protecting Canadians, Canadian interests and even foreign citizens both at home and abroad. Remembrance Day marks the perfect time to celebrate and honor the Canadian Armed Forces.







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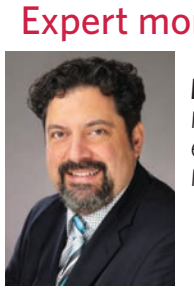
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SPORTS
NEW TECUMSETH TIMES

Alliston Hornets squeeze out overtime win over Muskoka

BY BRIAN LOCKHART



OVERTIME WIN – The Alliston Hornets take on the Muskoka Bears at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre on Friday, Oct. 30. It was a low-scoring game that resulted in a tie at the end of the third period to force overtime. The Hornets scored in overtime for the 3-2 win.
BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

It was a low-scoring game, but the Alliston Hornets still came out ahead after an overtime win over the Muskoka Bears at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre on Friday, Oct. 30.

The Hornets just couldn't find the back of the net in this game.

The Bears scored the only first-period goal midway through the first frame.

Alliston forward Ducan Grube tied it up at 1:46 into the second period.

Muskoka went ahead with a goal at 9:22 on the clock.

It was again a tied game when Noah Cochrane scored with 4:06 remaining in the second period.

Neither team could score in the third period, and the game went into overtime to determine a winner.

It was all over when Liam Carroll scored with 3:33 remaining in overtime to give the Hornets a win and avoid a tie game.

"It was one of those night where the puck wasn't going our way sometimes," is how Alliston forward Duncan Grube described the low score and the Hornets' failure to bury the puck.

"It was one of those nights where the puck wasn't bouncing our way, but we were playing good and keeping positive on the bench. I think we really pushed the pace really well tonight; we kept puck going north-south and put the pressure on their 'D.' Our transition game was going really good," Grube added.

The Hornets were short-benched during this game after losing four key players to injuries.

Grube said the short bench means the other guys just have to step up and fill those slots.

"Obviously it affects us, but everyone is ready to take the next step up," Grube said. "I think everyone tonight did a really good job of stepping up and playing well."

The Hornets are maintaining first place in the North Carruthers Division with 22 points and an 11-2 record.

The Hornets will be back on home ice at the New Tecumseth Recreation Centre on Friday, Nov. 6, when they will host the Orillia Terriers.

Game time is 7:30 p.m.

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TOUGH LOSS – The Banting Memorial High School Marauders senior girls' basketball team are up against the Tornados from Nouvelle Alliance High School in Barrie in the gym at Banting on Wednesday, Oct. 18. The Marauders had to settle for a 63-11 loss in this game.
BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO



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Drug trafficking investigation leads to charges in Essa Township

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

One individual has been charged following a drug trafficking investigation in Essa Township.

Nottawasaga OPP's Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU), with assistance from Collingwood OPP's CSCU and Huronia West OPP's CSCU, executed a search warrant in Essa Township on Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2026.

Officers seized approximately 64 grams of suspected methamphetamine, 96mg of suspected hydromorphone, 1,200mg of suspected morphine, a quantity of Canadian currency, brass knuckles, an imitation handgun, and drug trafficking paraphernalia

As a result of the investigation, Kevin Mason, 45, of Essa Township, was arrested and charged under the Criminal Code and Controlled Drugs and Substances Act with:

• Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking – three counts
• Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Under $5,000
• Unauthorized Possession of a Weapon
• Possession of a Weapon Contrary to Prohibition Order – two counts

The investigation was supported by members of the Huronia West OPP Community Street Crime Unit, Central Region OPP Repeat Offender Parole Enforcement Squad, and the Nottawasaga OPP Crime Reduction Unit.

The accused is scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Bradford on Thursday, Dec. 10, 2026.

The charges have not been proven in court.



DRUG BUST – Nottawasaga OPP seized suspected illegal drugs, Canadian currency, brass knuckles, an imitation handgun and drug trafficking paraphernalia during a drug trafficking investigation in Essa on Oct. 28. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**

Four suspects charged, two wanted for $300,000 jewellery robbery

The South Simcoe Police Service recently shared an update on its investigation into a flea market theft in early May.

On May 3, at approximately 9:15 a.m., South Simcoe Police responded to a report that a vendor at the 400 Flea Market had been robbed in the parking lot. Six suspects arrived in a light-coloured van and stole approximately $300,000 worth of jewellery from the victim.

During the investigation, officers located the suspect vehicle, a 2008 blue Toyota Sienna, and recovered a portion of the stolen property.

Following a lengthy investigation by the South Simcoe Police Service Crimes Against Persons Unit, with assistance from the Toronto Police Service Hold Up Squad, investigators identified the six suspects responsible for the robbery.

Collectively, the accused face 32 Criminal Code charges.

As a result of the investigation, four males, aged 34, 36, 40 and 50, all of no fixed address, have been charged with the following:

• Robbery
• Disguise with Intent
• Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over $5,000
• Possession of Property Obtained by Crime for the Purpose of Trafficking Over $5,000
• Trafficking in Property Obtained by Crime

In addition, two of the accused have been charged with two counts each of Failure to Comply with a Judicial Release Order.

Arrest warrants have been issued for the two remaining suspects, who remain outstanding.

Elderly Mono woman struck by vehicle, pronounced dead at the scene

Dufferin OPP responded to a report of a collision involving a vehicle and pedestrian in Mono on the morning of Oct. 30.

The incident occurred at the intersection of Headwaters Lane and Blue Heron Drive, and a 72-year-old Mono woman was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the vehicle was not injured.

The OPP's Technical Collision Investigation team attended the scene to assist with the investigation.

As a result of the investigation, Suzanne Henderson, 62, from Mono, has been charged with two offences under the Criminal Code of Canada: Dangerous operation causing death and operation causing death.

Henderson was scheduled for a bail hearing before the Ontario Court of Justice on Saturday, Oct. 31, 2026.

Blue Heron Drive was closed for several hours while officers conducted the on-scene investigation and facilitated cleanup efforts. The roadway has since reopened.

The investigation remains ongoing. Anyone with information, including dashcam footage related to the collision, is asked to contact the Dufferin OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

Anyone who witnessed the collision and requires support is encouraged to contact Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services at 905-951-3838.

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RADON AWARENESS – Residents are being encouraged to test their homes for radon during November's Radon Action Month. The invisible, odourless gas can seep into homes and increase the risk of lung cancer with prolonged exposure. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

Radon may present a silent health risk in your home: Health unit

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

November is Radon Action Month in Canada.

Radon is an invisible, colourless and odourless radioactive gas that occurs naturally when uranium in soil and rock breaks down and can enter your home unnoticed.

This can pose a risk to your health.

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is encouraging residents to test their homes for radon, regardless of the home's age, size, or location.

Radon is the leading cause of lung cancer after smoking, resulting in nearly 16 per cent of lung cancer deaths annually, including 850 deaths in Ontario.

The gas is naturally found in the environment and can enter your home through cracks in foundation walls, gaps around pipes, drains and sump pumps. It is often undetected.

Long-term exposure to radon can increase the risk of lung cancer depending on the amount of radon present, the length of time you are exposed to it and whether you smoke. Smoking, combined with radon exposure, significantly increases your risk of developing lung cancer.

Testing your home for radon is simple and can be done with a do-it-yourself kit. Several local libraries have free digital radon detectors that can be borrowed from participating locations.

These digital radon detectors can be used for short-term screening and can help identify whether radon may be present in your home. If the screening results show elevated radon levels, doing a long-term test is recommended.

The Health Canada guideline for radon is 200 Bq/m3. If testing shows levels above this guideline, steps should be taken to reduce radon exposure.

Long-term testing provides the most accurate estimate of the average radon level in a home.

If you detect higher levels of radon in your home, contact a certified radon professional to help you reduce those levels.

The presence of radon is a warrantable defect under the Ontario New Home Warranty and Protection Plan for homes that are seven years old or less.

Homes older than seven years may be eligible for home radon mitigation support through the Canadian Lung Association.

For more information about radon, visit: smdhu.org/radon

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Anne Van Dyk (Kenny)

After residing at the Bradford Valley Care Community for the past seven months, Anne passed away on October 26, 2026, at the age of 87.

She was the devoted wife of the late Peter Van Dyk and caring mother to Peter Jr. (Pamela), and Joseph (Maria). Anne was a wonderful grandma to Victoria (Joost Van Dorp), Rebecca (Chris Joksas), and Samantha (Ian Censner). Her steady presence in their lives will be missed greatly. Although not able to be active in Timothy Van Dorp's life, he did meet his great-grandma a few times over the past year.

Anne will be forever in the hearts of her three siblings: Peter Kenny (Bev), Christena (the late Bill Jonkman), and Marie (the late Terry Charlton). She will be fondly remembered by her brothers-in-law Len Van Dyk (Candace), Andrew Magee (the late Annie Van Dyk), Marinus Van Bakel (the late Johanna Van Dyk), and her sisters-in-law, Elizabeth (the late Reagh Mann), Maria (the late Dieter Wiedeman), Narda, Lena (Henry Sterling), and Mary (the late John Van Dyk). Of course she will be missed by her cat "Goldie."

Anne was the eldest child of the late Vincent Kenny and the late Christena Kenny. She grew up in Beeton, Ontario, and moved to Toronto where she began her teaching career. After moving to Schomberg, Anne was one of the first teachers at St. Patrick's School. As the school wasn't ready in September 1967, her class of Grade 2's were in the basement of St. Patrick's Church.

Anne continued teaching for many years in Schomberg and then St. Margaret Mary Elementary School in Woodbridge.

Anne was a very talented piano player. Her piano/organ playing has played a role in many funerals, weddings, and school celebrations. Over the years, many of her former students would ask her to play at their wedding. Performing children's music and reading children's books to her granddaughters and students brought her so much joy.

Anne's other talent was organizing. Whether organizing trips, celebrations, tours, family get togethers, and many other events, she was in her element!

Anne enjoyed travelling. She and Peter travelled extensively over the course of their lives. Always meeting new friends whose names would then be added to their address book. Another Christmas card, with a photo of the two of them and an old car on the front, to send out! Even though Anne was always on the go, volunteering was important to her. After retiring from teaching, she continued to volunteer with various schools and, for many years, played for the weekly mass at Simcoe Manor.

Thank you to all the staff on the 6th floor at Southlake Hospital. A heartfelt thank you to all personnel at Bradford Valley Care Community. Your extensive care of Anne over these past seven months was exceptional. To all the nurses and personal support workers, you make a difference.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. James Church, Colgan, 2118 Adjala Tecumseth Townline, on Friday, November 6, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. Interment will take place in St. James Cemetery, Colgan. Reception will follow in the Cliffside Hall at Rod Abrams Funeral Home, 1666 Tottenham Road in Tottenham, 905-936-3477. Please consider donations to Sick Kids, St. Vincent de Paul (St. James Church, Colgan), or the Alzheimer's Society. Memories and condolences may be left for the family at www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com.

Anne will be missed. But she will now be reunited with her beloved Peter where he has been waiting for her to go on another car tour!

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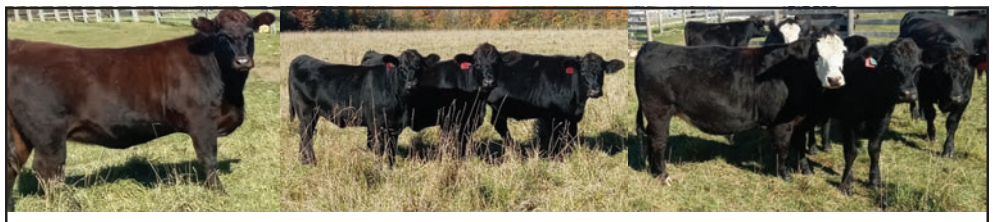
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⚠ WARNING *Our upcoming auctions may cause excessive browsing, irresistible finds and the occasional "Honey, look what I bought!"*



Herd Dispersal Live Auction Sale

of 150 Bred Cows/Heifers

Saturday November 21, 11:00am

to be held at 554447 Mono-Amaranth TLine, Mono, ON

Preview on day of sale, or by appointment

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

Cattle: (79)Heifers: (18) Char, (17) Blk Simm, (33) Angus, (11) Red -1st time calvers, bred Angus & Limo, vacc. **(18) X-bred Heifers** - bred Black Angus, vacc. **(17) Angus Heifers** - bred Black Angus. **(10) Blk Angus cows** - all bred Black Angus, vacc. **(8) Charolais Cows** - bred Charolais, vacc. **(18) Mixed Cows** - with calf at side, vacc. All Cows will be preg checked prior to sale.

Lunch Booth **Washroom Available**

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

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

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612 AUCTIONS/FLEA MARKETS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION INNKEEPERS ACT SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the *Innkeepers Act R.S.O. 1990, C.1.7 Section 3*, a Statutory Stable Keepers lien is being exercised by WOLVERINE WAY STABLES, 7041 11th LINE, ALLISTON, ON, L9R 1V4 regarding unpaid boarding fees, care and accommodation.

PAIGE YATEMAN
$1000.00 as of Oct. 22, 2026 plus any shipping costs up to November 7th, plus 7 days of prorated board of $250 x 2 horses.

MAJOR - quarter horse, in his teens, exact age unknown. Palomino, sway back.

SIX - quarter horse, in his teens, exact age unknown. Flea bitten grey, calcification of old injury on left knee.

SALE DETAILS: The above described horse(s) will be sold by PUBLIC AUCTION to the highest bidder to satisfy the outstanding debt, plus the costs of advertising and the auction.

TERMS OF SALES: Cash or certified funds on the day of sale. Horse(s) being sold "AS IS".

Saturday, November 7th, 2026
Time: 12:00 pm
Hoards Station Sales Barn
2508 County Rd. 8
Campbellford, ON
Auctioneer **AB CARROLL**

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602 ARTICLES FOR SALE



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Buying Canadian: How to know which products are produced in Canada

BY BRIAN LOCKHART

Many Canadians have responded to U.S. tariffs by choosing to purchase only Canadian-made products and food.

Buying only Canadian-made products would be very difficult depending on what you are looking for; however, consumers do have a lot of choices when it comes to food.

Proper labelling on products can help you determine which ones are made in Ontario or Canada and which ones may have some ingredients sourced from the U.S.

At the local level, it is fairly easy to tell which products are all Canadian. Many grocery stores will have a sign telling you that the corn they are selling comes from a farm right down the road from where you live.

There are many different labelling requirements that businesses must follow that can help consumers identify where a product is made as well as its origins.

• Product of Ontario means the primary ingredients are grown or raised in Ontario by farmers and producers.

• Made in Ontario means the product was crafted in the province. Some ingredients may come from outside of Ontario.

• Product of Canada means all or most ingredients are sourced within Canada and manufactured in the country.

• Made in Canada means the last substantial transformation of the product occurred in Canada.

The statement Made in Canada means the last substantial transformation of the product occurred in Canada. For example, the processing of cheese, dough, sauce, and other ingredients to create a pizza would be considered a substantial transformation.

When the 'Made in Canada' claim is used, it must also include a qualifying statement to indicate whether the food product is made in Canada from imported ingredients or a combination of imported and Canadian ingredients.

There is no official logo for 'Made in Canada' on food products, so look for qualifying statements.

These include:

• Made in Canada from domestic and imported ingredients.



BUY CANADIAN – Many people are choosing to buy Canadian-made products. It is important to be aware of which products are fully Canadians and which may have ingredients from other sources.
BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

• Made in Canada from 100% Canadian (ingredient name) and imported ingredients.

• Made in Canada from imported ingredients.

When the claim '100% Canadian' is used on a label, this means all of the ingredients, processing, and labour used to make the food are Canadian.

By being informed of what different labels represent, you can choose products that meet your needs and stay within the purchasing guidelines you have decided for yourself.

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EXCELLENT SOURCE OF PROTEIN 22g PROTEIN PER 125 g SERVING



SALE

Swiss

ONLY **3.99** each Stuffed, Breaded Chicken 142 g Choose from 4 varieties.



SAVE $3

16.99 Chicken Strips 680 g



SALE

French Onion Wonton

5.99 each Soups 255 g - 400 mL Choose from 5 varieties.



SAVE $5

12.99 Deep Dish Chicken Pie 907 g
Also available, Deep Dish Beef & Vegetable Pie 800 g
$12.99 SAVE $5

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SAVE $2

17.99 Dessert Bar Variety Pack 675 g



SALE

16.99 Blueberry Bliss Cheezecake 600 g



SAVE $2

17.99 Haddock Tenders 8-12 PIECES 454 g



Buffalo Sauces included

SALE

Parmesan

11.99 Cauliflower Bites 450 g

SAVINGS FOR ONE SINGLE SERVES 275 g - 340 g



SALE

ONLY **5.99** each 22 VARIETIES

Homestyle Shepherd's Pie



Cabbage Rolls

STRESS-FREE SUPPERS



Creamy Rosé Chicken & Pasta

SAVE $2 each



Beef Lo Mein

19.99 each Meal Kits 840 g - 907 g 8 VARIETIES

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Gourmet Double Pepperoni

Bruschetta

11.99 each SALE
FLATBREADS
460 g - 515 g
5 Varieties



SAVE $2

17.99 Mini-Skewers 20 SKEWERS 500 g 2 Varieties

Chicken and Pineapple



SAVE $2

9.99 Fried Battered Pickles 10-12 PIECES 390 g



SAVE $2

12.99 Fried Battered Mushrooms 300 g

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ALL COOK AT 450°F



SAVE $3

14.99 Italian Style Beef Meatballs 89-95 PIECES 907 g



SALE

11.99 Shrimp Tempura 13-15 SHRIMPS 340 g



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SALE

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