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Sunny



Saturday:
Mainly
Sunny



Sunday:
Mainly
Sunny



Monday:
Risk of a
Thunderstorm

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Freshly Baked

It was the final Tottenham Vendors Market of the summer on Sunday, Aug. 30. Liz Christo, of Loave It Sourdough Microbakery, brought her sourdough products to the market. Visitors loved the fresh bread and unique flavour of sourdough products. Read a full story on Page 11.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

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Serving Your Community Since 1986

Hat Trick Fundraiser raises nearly \$22,000 for Stevenson Memorial Hospital

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Three local municipalities came together in the spring to support the future of healthcare and raised \$21,893.39 for Stevenson Memorial Hospital (SMH) through the 2026 Hat Trick fundraiser.

The event took place on April 19, 2026, bringing participants together from across the communities for a day of hockey, camaraderie, and community spirit.

The funds were presented to the Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation (SMHF) during a cheque presentation on June 16.

Once matched by the Morningview Foundation, the actual amount that will go to the Foundation is \$43,786.78.

The Township of Adjala-Tosorontio, Township of Essa, and the Town of New Tecumseth supported the fundraiser.

“This game was the definition of teamwork with three municipalities coming together in one shared purpose,” said Adjala-Tosorontio Mayor Scott Anderson. “From the mayors who led the charge, to our councils, staff, foundation partners, volunteers, sponsors, and the players whose commitment made the matchup possible, this event was powered by community spirit.”

“The great success of the event came from the unwavering support and dedication of our municipal councils, staff, SMHF, volunteers, hockey players, referees, sponsors, and the loud and proud fans”, said Essa Mayor Sandie Macdonald. “Together we raised more than just funds; we raised hope for a healthier future. Teamwork turns shared compassion into stronger healthcare, breaking down borders to ensure everyone receives the best



SCORING FOR STEVENSON – The Hat Trick fundraiser, held in April and supported by three local municipalities, raised nearly \$22,000 for Stevenson Memorial Hospital (SMH). Presenting the cheque are Sylvia Biffis from the Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation (SMHF), New Tecumseth Mayor Richard Norcross, SMH CEO Dr. Ted Vandevis, Essa Mayor Sandie Macdonald, Adjala-Tosorontio Mayor Scott Anderson, and Thomas Mackinnon.

BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

healthcare services they deserve. Moving SMHF forward together as one!”

The funds will support SMHF’s Because of YOU, \$80 million redevelopment campaign, which looks to build a new, modern hospital.

“This year’s Hat Trick game is a wonderful example of what we can accomplish when our communities come together around a common goal,” said Richard Norcross, Mayor

of New Tecumseth. “I’m incredibly proud of our strong municipal partnerships and the generosity of everyone who contributed to a meaningful cause. With every dollar supporting our hospital’s foundation, this event has helped to advance Stevenson’s redevelopment and ensure access to quality healthcare for our residents.”

“We are so grateful to the organizers, par-

ticipants and the three municipalities for their support,” said Dr. Ted Vandevis, CEO of Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation. “Every contribution brings us closer to transforming healthcare for our community, and this fundraiser was another wonderful example of people coming together to make a difference. It was wonderful to see all three municipalities working so well together.”

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Nottawasaga OPP seeks witnesses and driver as one-year anniversary of fatal collision passes

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

A right rear air deflector was located at the collision site.

Aug. 24, 2026 marks the first anniversary of this fatal collision and police continue to follow investigative leads in an attempt to bring closure to the family.

Police are asking the driver involved to come forward, as they may not have realized a person was on the roadway.

Additionally, anyone who was in the area at the time and who may have dashcam or security footage is urged to contact the Nottawasaga OPP at 1-888-310-1122 and reference E251145368.

Anonymous tips can be submitted to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or online at ontariocrimestoppers.ca

Police investigators are still seeking answers and appealing to the public for information one year after a fatal collision involving a pedestrian and a vehicle in New Tecumseth.

At approximately 1:30 a.m. on Sunday, Aug. 24, 2025, OPP officers responded to a report of a pedestrian struck by a vehicle on the 13th Line near Adjala-Tecumseth Townline.

A 23-year-old male was pronounced deceased at the scene.

The vehicle involved, a 2020 to 2025 Ford Escape, is believed to have fled the scene.

BRIAN SAUNDERSON

MPP - Simcoe-Grey

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*Together, let's make every day,
a better day, in Simcoe-Grey!*

Simcoe County and nurse practitioner-led clinic expand services

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The County of Simcoe's Social and Community Services Health Care Clinic has relocated to the lower level of 250 West Street North in Orillia.

The relocation is intended to provide a larger, more accessible space to better support residents experiencing acute healthcare needs and other complex social and health challenges.

The expanded clinic has grown from one clinic room to two, increasing capacity for

low-barrier healthcare services delivered in partnership with the Huronia Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic.

Co-located with the County's Social and Community Services office, the space connects residents with healthcare, housing, income support, some HART Hub/Simcoe County supports, homelessness prevention, and other community services in one location.

The enhanced facility will support the HNPLC Children's Clinic three days per week and provide space for an additional HNPLC Nurse Practitioner.

"This expansion enhances the County of Simcoe's commitment to improving access to services and supporting the health and wellbeing of residents through integrated, community-based care," said Simcoe County Warden Basil Clarke.

"By bringing healthcare and social supports together in one location, we are helping residents access the services they need in a more coordinated and accessible way."

An open house will take place on Nov. 9, 2026, from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the new clinic location.

"The Huronia Nurse Practitioner-Led

Clinic is proud to be a part of the relocation and expansion of the County of Simcoe Social & Community Services Health Care Clinic," said Malcolm Morum, Executive Director, Huronia Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinic.

"This new space will strengthen access to timely, community-based care and create greater opportunities for collaboration among healthcare and community partners. We are pleased to be part of an initiative that will have a meaningful and lasting impact on the health and well-being of individuals in our community."

New Tecumseth council receives year-end Budget Variance Report

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

New Tecumseth council received the 2026 Budget Variance Report at the Aug. 24 council meeting. The report details forecasted 2026 year-end operating and capital projections as of June 30, 2026.

The town's operating and capital projections for 2026 include:

- An operating budget is forecasted to have a surplus of \$26,797.

- The Water and Wastewater operating budgets are forecasted to have a surplus of \$337,105.

- Overall capital projects are forecasted to have an unfavourable variance of \$1,495,000.

The 2026 Town, Water and Wastewater Operating Budgets were adopted on Oct. 30, 2025.

In accordance with sound financial management practices and budgetary control standards, council receives quarterly and

year-end operating results. These reports provide projected year-end operating results and status updates on approved capital projects, including enhanced reporting for projects identified as high-profile under the Town's Capital Project Administration and Reporting Policy.

Financial results: Town operating budget

At the end of the second quarter, staff are reporting a forecasted surplus of \$26.8K, with a forecasted favourable revenue variance of \$72K and an unfavourable expenditure variance of \$45.2K. These results are preliminary in nature and may change as more information becomes available.

Financial results: Environmental

At the end of the second quarter, staff are reporting a forecasted surplus of \$337.1K, with a forecasted favourable revenue variance of \$350K and an unfavourable expenditure variance of \$12.9K. These results are

preliminary in nature and are expected to evolve as additional information becomes available and the year progresses.

Financial results: Capital

The Town's 2026 Capital Plan includes 148 capital projects with a total value of \$189.7M. Based on expected project timing, staff estimate cash flows of \$93.9M in 2026 and \$95.8M in 2027.

Staff is forecasting that an additional \$1.5M will be required beyond the approved 2026 capital plan. Capital projects are funded through reserves rather than directly through property taxation. As a result, any cost increases would place additional pressure on reserves but would not directly affect the tax levy.

Significant additional funding

Project funding of \$1.5M for the Industrial Parkway Sanitary Pump Station Upgrades was approved by Council Res #2026-119 on March 23, 2026.



NEW SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION – The new public elementary school in Tottenham is progressing on time, with the land cleared and foundations being laid. The as-yet unnamed public school will be located on McGahey Street. The new school will provide 426 new elementary school pupil spaces.
BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

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Editorial, Letters & Opinion

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

~ Stanislaw Jerzy Lec

Is it real? Or is it....?

There was a tagline, and a very successful one, created by a cassette tape manufacturer years ago, when people listened to music on tape.

The line was: "Is it real, or is it Memorex?"

The Memorex company was telling potential customers that their cassette tape recording ability was so good, it was like having the band in your living room when you played one of their tapes.

There was a lot of truth to that.

Prior to Memorex, cassette tapes were not widely used to listen to music because the quality could not match vinyl.

Cassette tapes had a kind of muddy sound with no real clarity for music. They were fine for recording someone speaking, but not for listening to music.

However, cassette tape technology improved over just a few years, and tapes became just as good as vinyl records for listening to your favourite band. You could also listen to tapes in your car or while walking down the street, while vinyl required a record player on a sturdy, unmoving surface.

Tapes didn't last long – they were replaced with CDs, which offered the same mobility and better sound.

I still have a bunch of old cassettes, and will put one in my tape deck when I want to hear Billy Vera and the Beaters or Joe Jackson. Yes, people make fun of me for still having a tape deck.

Technology is always getting better. The better it gets, the faster new technology is discovered and replaces the old stuff.

We have entered the age of Artificial Intelligence where programming and computers can do the thinking. AI technology is getting better all the time.

I recently had a telephone discussion with a 'person' when I called a help line. A quick recording prior to being connected explained that I would not be speaking to a real person, but a computer generated voice.

The conversation was so real that halfway through, I forgot there wasn't a real person on the other end of the line. This computer generated person even knew when to laugh when it was appropriate.

There are a lot of good things that could come from AI.

However, there is a dark side that comes with this new technology.

Recently, Bill Gates, the co-founder of Microsoft, gave an interview and brought up the dark side of AI.

Gates is largely responsible for the reason you have a working computer, and his company changed history and the way we live. I think his opinion matters when it comes to technology.

AI, Gates said, "will either be the greatest equalizer ever invented, or the worst source of injustice."

He claims AI can cause massive unemployment and economic turmoil, as well as serious consequences in the hands of criminals.

He went on to say that technology industry executives are downplaying the threat of AI, because they are putting profit over precautions.

I'm sure there are quite a few professions that will be directly affected by AI.

I already get ads on my Facebook page where you can submit a person's name and personal details, and AI will create a song about the person with singers, a full band, and original melody – and none of it is created by an actual musician.

I would think the engineers of the world are also closely watching what is happening with technology.

Engineering is an exact science that relies heavily on numbers. Will AI become the standard for engineering planning based on its ability to know exactly the

materials and strength needed to build a new bridge?

The world of high tech should also be worried. AI can create new computer programs that will replace those people who currently are the masterminds behind current computer technology.

Of course, the dark side of AI includes the criminal element. Already, the technology has scammed people out of money because it has replicated a family member's voice and the victim believes they are speaking to a child or grandchild.

What other schemes can criminals mastermind to separate you from your money?

Will AI be able to access bank accounts, infiltrate government agencies, or spy on individuals while posing as something it isn't?

AI will have a lot of good things to offer over the next few years, however, the downside could easily tip the scales to more harm than good if left unchecked.

The time is now to take control of the technology and make sure the dark side that Mr. Gates says may happen doesn't control the future.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



Stepping forward with Dolly

I didn't know what to expect when I was called to Newmarket's Margaret Bahen Hospice three years ago last month.

The call didn't come from a family member or immediate loved one, but rather on behalf of a man I considered a friend.

Gordon Barnes was a very active member of the Aurora community who found many ways to serve the community he loved, and give back to it as well, in ways large and small.

He and his wife Marie could often be found at the local farmers market on Saturday mornings where, hand-in-hand, and later, as time began getting the better of them, hand-on-walker, quietly distributing homemade barley sugar lollipops they made in antique molds salvaged from an earlier incarnation of Laura Secord.

They were each instrumental in furthering their creative interests and building vibrant communities around them, while Gordon created a lasting legacy locally by serving on committees ranging from environment to active transportation, all the while remaining an active voice on the topics from the sidelines when taking a term off from the committees.

Our professional paths crossed many times over the years, but this one was different.

Terminally ill, the Minnesota-born Barnes had one final message for the community he helped shape – the importance for people who are here today to ensure the citizens of tomorrow have the best possible start in life.

As it happened, one of the key ways people could do just that, he believed, was to join singer, actress, business tycoon, and all-around global icon Dolly Parton on her own mission to give kids the foundations they need to be all they can be.

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is a free book-gifting program on both sides of the United States-Canada border, "devoted to inspiring a love of reading in young children. Through the program, enrolled youngsters can receive a monthly high-quality, age-appropriate book in the mail, free of charge.

She expanded her eponymous Imagination Library into Canada in 2006.

Since its establishment on our side of the border 20 years ago this year, they

have now distributed more than five million books across the country through scores of partners at the community level.

"Before he passed away, my Daddy told me the Imagination Library was probably the most important thing that I had ever done," said Parton at the time of its foundation in Canada. "I can't tell you how much that meant to me because I created the Imagination Library as a tribute to my Daddy. He was the smartest man I have ever known but I know in my heart his inability to read probably kept him from fulfilling all of his dreams.

"Inspiring kids to love to read became my mission. In the beginning, my hope was simply to inspire the children in my home country, but here we are today with a worldwide program that gives a book a month to well over three million children.

"Of course, I have not done this alone. The real heroes of our story are the thousands of local organizations who have embraced my dream and made it their own. They raise millions of dollars each year and wake up every day with a passion to make sure their kids have every

opportunity to succeed.

"It's been quite a journey but we still have so much more left to do... Let's share this dream that all children should grow up in a home full of books. The first step is always the hardest, but you'll never know unless you try."

While the local organizations who are making all this possible are indeed heroes who are doing the heavy lifting, the message Parton shared through her Imagination Library is, I think we can all agree, a classic example of her trademark understatement – in everything but her classic look.

Since Parton's sudden passing on August 25 – and I say sudden as, despite how transparent she was about her illness in recent months, it seems almost unfathomable for such a bright, larger-than-life light to be extinguished – it is clear that just about everyone was touched or impacted by her in some way.

BROCK WEIR
BROCK'S BANTER



Continued on Page 11

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Nancy Roman Telescope

Last Sunday (Aug. 30) a Falcon Heavy rocket delivered the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope onto a direct transit trajectory to its permanent home at the Lagrange Two Point (L2) 1.5 million km. from Earth. In 100 days, it will reach its station, power up, and start observing the universe.

Astronomers will use it to try to understand the nature of dark matter, which makes up most of the mass in the universe (but some say may not even exist).

It is expected to find up to 100,000

new exoplanets circling other stars, and may be able to spot ones even smaller than Mars. Current methods can only see much bigger ones.

It will test a new technology called a coronagraph that may one day be able to detect life on some of those planets by analyzing the light reflected from them. It would be nice to have a better answer to scientist Enrico Fermi's famous question "Where is everybody?"

The Nancy Roman telescope reflects well on the human race and particularly on the United States, which has devoted

a great deal of money over several generations to seeking scientific answers to such questions. However, it cannot be denied that there is another side to the coin.

We are marking a couple of anniversaries this month. It has now been four and a half years since Russian president Vladimir Putin launched an unprovoked surprise invasion of Ukraine, and half a year since U.S. president Donald Trump launched an equally unprovoked surprise attack on Iran.

The 'anniversary' device is a bit shabby, admittedly, but it is justified because the other parallels between the men are so strong. Both launched their attacks in the confident but utterly ignorant expectation that victory would come in days or a few weeks at most. Both are now trapped in wars that they cannot win, but also cannot find an exit from.

Quibbles are always possible about such sweeping statements, of course. Putin would certainly lose power and probably lose his life if he gave up his war now, but Trump could still 'declare a victory' and walk away intact. Only his overweening pride keeps him looking desperately for a 'win' that is not available.

There's nothing new about this kind of behaviour. History offers us hundreds of examples, and if you could expand your sample to include the numberless little groups of hunter-gatherers who fill our long-forgotten pre-history then you would probably find hundreds of thousands of scaled-down examples of the same sort of behaviour.

In fact, primatologists are now finding similar behaviours, even the same apparent psychology, in our closest biological relatives, the chimpanzees (who also fight wars). But let's stick with humans, and admit that a great deal

GWYNNE DYER
OUR WORLD TODAY

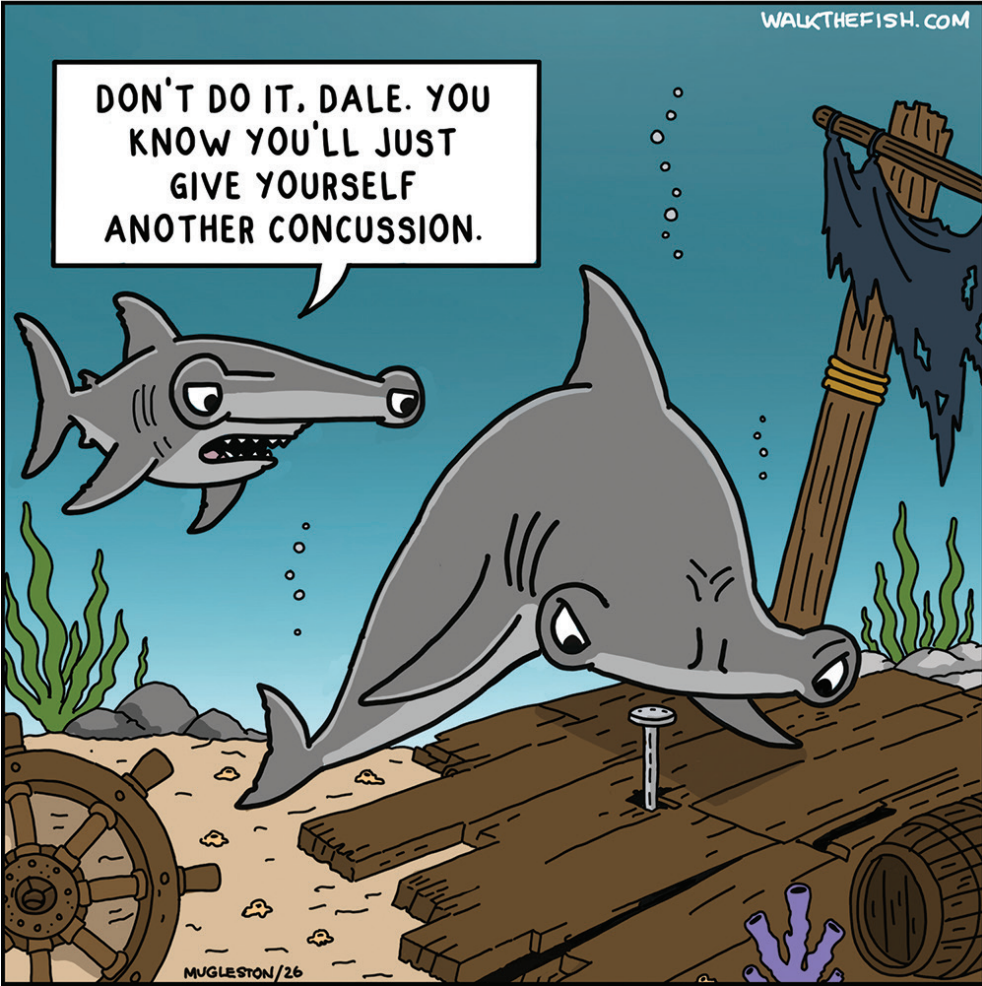


of our culture still derives from our long hunter-gatherer past.

Well, of course it does! How could it ever have been different? It's perfectly legitimate to visualize Trump and Putin as scantily clad warriors with bones in their noses, as long as you remember that there's an invisible bone in your nose too. Moving from tiny bands to big civilizations was probably a good idea, but there was bound to be a lot to sort out.

There has even been a suggestion that we are now encountering the Great Filter, the notion that intelligent civilizations may emerge on many planets in a universe with so many bazillions of stars, but that most of them are too weighed down by the baggage of their past to adapt to their new circumstances.

Continued on Page 10



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CLUES ACROSS

1. Manila hemp plant

6. Turkish river

10. Something to read

14. In a way, initiated

15. Popular Apple TV series

17. King Charles is part of it

19. Earlier

20. Foot (Latin)

21. Zodiac sign

22. A browning of the skin

23. Remain as is

24. Turfs

26. It's used to slaughter animals

29. Volcanic crater

31. The mother of Jesus

32. One's life story

34. One-time Liverpool coach Slot

35. Counterparts

37. Jacob __, American journalist

38. Digital audiotape

39. River in South

Africa

40. Kimono sashes

41. Rooting somewhere

43. American spy

Aldrich

45. A way to call for

46. Taxi

47. Pancakes made of buckwheat flour

49. Swiss river

50. Popular type of video game (abbr.)

53. Have surgery

57. Formal withdrawal from a union

58. Performs spoken improv

59. Greek war god

60. 2,000 lbs.

61. Helps to evade capture

CLUES DOWN

1. Swedish rock group

2. "Friday Night Lights" director Peter

3. Currency exchange fee

4. Feline

5. Folk singer

DiFranco

6. Ghostly pale from distress

7. Rapid eye movements

8. Monetary unit of Macao

9. Lawmakers

10. Colorless mineral

11. At some prior time

12. American protest singer

13. Opener

16. Seldom

18. Relaxing places

22. Touchdown

23. From end to end

24. Kids love him

25. Metal-bearing solid

27. Skin care product manufacturer

28. Thirteen

29. Angry

30. Member of a Semitic people

31. One-thousandth of an inch

33. Former CIA

35. Most lemony

36. Engage in

37. Mass of fish eggs

39. Food supplies

42. Backbones

43. American real estate investment firm

44. Megabyte

46. "Three Coins in the Fountain" songwriter

47. Dutch colonist

48. Full-grown pike fish

49. Emergency prep expert Edwards

50. Flute

51. Dismissive sound

52. Slang term for marijuana

53. Young women's association

54. Cosmopolitan city

55. Narrow isthmus in Thailand

56. Pointed end of a pen

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

COMMUNITY VOICE

Let’s turn the yellow school bus green for a healthier, cleaner future

As we near the end of summer, thoughts turn from cottage vacations to back-to-school planning – and to images of the iconic yellow school bus, rolling down the hill to pick up our kids and grandkids, some for the first time.

The yellow school bus – a symbol of childhood journeys to new adventures, friendships and learning. What if that school bus was also a symbol of greener futures? A symbol of sustainability, climate action and climate hope – a demonstration to our children that we are committed to making their future better!

It is not an impossible dream. Electric school buses (ESBs) have proven to be safe and reliable. The health and climate harms of diesel make switching to ESBs the smart choice.

Exposure to diesel exhaust causes respiratory inflammation and decreases lung function. It is a human carcinogen and has been linked to many other health effects. Based on Health Canada estimates, exposure to diesel exhaust causes 2.2 million acute respiratory symptom days, 170,000 asthma symp-



tom days and 3,000 child acute bronchitis symptom days annually. Emerging evidence suggests that exposure to diesel exhaust can impede brain function and learning.

Children are at greater risk of health effects associated with traffic pollution because their bodies, brains and lungs are still developing. They breathe more air proportionate to their body weight than adults, they spend more time outdoors, and they are closer to the ground where vehicle emissions are concentrated.

In major Canadian cities, exposure to traffic pollution has been shown to be higher among children in lower-income than in higher-income neighbourhoods. With almost

half of all schools in Canada within 200 metres of high traffic roadways, some children have higher exposure both at home and at school.

Switching from diesel to ESBs is a step towards healthy learning environments and better health outcomes for all children. With annual emissions from Ontario diesel school buses estimated to be over 200,000 kg of nitrogen oxides, 8,000 kg of particulate matter, along with other air pollutants, eliminating these harmful pollutants can have significant health benefits.

Diesel buses also emit greenhouse gases (GHGs) – the root cause of climate change. Electrification of school transportation is an important part of Canada’s plan to reduce GHG emissions from the transportation sector, which accounts for 22 per cent of national emissions. Making the switch to ESBs, especially if powered by electricity generation that does not itself contribute to air pollution, can provide both health and climate benefits. What’s stopping us?

Learn the facts* about ESBs at: healthyenvironmentforkids.ca/esb-child-

health-benefits/. Share resources with neighbours, parent groups and school officials to dispel myths. Advocate to school boards to prioritize converting polluting diesel buses to ESBs. Investing in ESBs is part of the solution to improve children’s physical and mental health, and to help them succeed academically!

Facts

- With incentives, the total cost of an ESB can be about 21 per cent lower than diesel
- ESBs are less likely to catch fire than diesel buses
- ESBs have been shown to run reliably across all seasons in Canada
- ESBs can meet the daily range requirements of many routes

This week’s Community Voice column was written by Helen Doyle, B.Sc., CPHI(C) of Greys for Green in New Tecumseth. She is passionate about spreading the word about the interconnections between human health and the environment, and mobilizing action for planetary health.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Open letter re: opposition to Banting Homestead development

Dear Trustees,

I am writing to convey my strong disappointment regarding the Board’s decision to select the Banting Homestead and Heritage Park property as the location for the new Banting Memorial High School. This decision fails to recognize and respect the histori-

cal, cultural, and agricultural importance of the Homestead.

The Banting Homestead holds particular significance because Sir Frederick Banting’s nephew, Edward Banting, intentionally entrusted this property to the Ontario Historical Society.

His aim was to ensure the land would be

preserved for the benefit of the public, rather than passing it on to his own children. Recognizing the importance of this intent, the council at that time designated the entire Banting farm as a historical site.

This action was prompted when the Ontario Historical Society considered selling the property to developers, which led

to a hearing before the Ontario Municipal Board—a hearing that OHS ultimately lost. Repurposing this land for development runs counter to both Edward Banting’s wishes and the council’s commitment to preserving local heritage.

Continued on Page 11



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HOMES

Alliston Vision Centre provides \$25,000 donation to hospital foundation

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Alliston Vision Centre has made a lasting impact on local healthcare with a \$25,000 donation to the Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation's 'Because of You' campaign.

The donation will go toward the foundation's efforts to help fund the redevelopment and future of Stevenson Memorial Hospital.

As part of their contribution, Alliston Vision Centre will have the opportunity to name a room within the new hospital, creating a lasting connection between their business and the community they serve.

"Strong communities are built through caring for one another," said Joie Nguyen of Alliston Vision Centre. "We are proud to support the redevelopment of Stevenson Memorial Hospital and invest in the future of local healthcare."

The donation recognizes Alliston Vision

Centre as a Gold Business Champion through the foundation's new Business Champion program. The program recognizes local businesses that go above and beyond in supporting the future of healthcare in the community.

Recognition levels are based on the amount of a contribution.

"Support from local businesses like Alliston Vision Centre plays an important role in helping us build a stronger future for healthcare in our community," said Dr. Ted Vandevlis, CEO of Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation.

"Joie and Alex are visionary in more ways than one as they are not only helping to build our new Hospital, they are also establishing their young family and business in our community."

He added, "Their \$25,000 gift will make a meaningful difference, and their decision to name a room creates a lasting legacy that will be part of our new Hospital for years to come."



VISION FOR THE FUTURE – Alliston Vision Centre has donated \$25,000 to Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation to help fund the redevelopment of Stevenson Memorial Hospital. Alex Dinh and Joie Nguyen present a cheque to Dr. Ted Vandevlis, CEO of Stevenson Memorial Hospital Foundation.
BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO

Voter eligibility and registration requirements outlined ahead of upcoming municipal election

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Municipal elections will be held across Ontario in late October.

To vote in the election, you must meet the eligible voter criteria.

You are eligible to vote in the election if you are a Canadian citizen, are aged 18 or older, and you qualify to vote in the municipality.

There are three ways that you can qualify to vote in a municipality.

You can be a resident elector if you live in the municipality. You may own, rent, or live



in shared accommodation where you do not pay rent, or live in the municipality but do not have a fixed address.

This is the most common type of eligibility.

You can be a non-resident elector if you own or rent property in a municipality, but it's not the one where you live.

While you can be a resident elector in only one municipality, you can be a non-resident elector in any other municipality where you own or rent property.

You can vote as the spouse of a non-resident elector if your spouse owns or rents property in the municipality or municipalities other than the one where you live.

You do not qualify as a non-resident elector if you do not personally own or rent the property in a municipality. For example, if the property is owned by your business or your cottage is owned by a trust, you do not qualify.

If your municipality has wards, you must

vote in the ward where you live. If you are also the owner or tenant of a property in another ward or your spouse owns or rents a property in another ward, you are not permitted to vote in that ward instead.

If you are not certain whether you qualify as a non-resident elector, you should check with the municipal clerk.

Under the Municipal Elections Act 1996, municipal clerks conduct elections and must be satisfied that a person is eligible to vote before adding their name to the voters' list.

Municipal clerks may seek legal advice if they are not certain of a person's eligibility to vote.

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Arts & Local Events

Sunday Music in the Park holds final concert at Keogh Park



SHREDDING – It was the last weekend for the Sunday Music in the Park Series in Tottenham on Sunday, Aug. 30. Local residents have been enjoying the Sunday concerts all summer long. The Beet’n Boomers perform the last show of the summer. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**



SOLO ACT – There was a good turnout for the last concert of the summer at the Sunday Music in the Park series at Keogh Park in Tottenham on Sunday, Aug. 30. The day featured two bands and one solo performer. Singer Amanda Gervasi performs as the solo act for the final concert. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**



JAMMING OUT – The Sunday Music in the Park series completed its summer run at Keogh Park in Tottenham on Sunday, Aug. 30. The final concert featured two bands and one solo performer. Willie and the Turncoats were the first to perform. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**

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SPORTS

NEW TECUMSETH TIMES



OUT AT SECOND – A player makes the catch for the out at second base during a Tottenham Ladies Lob Ball game between Tottenham Chiropractic and Pilsbury & Pen at County Park in Tottenham on Monday, Aug. 24. Tottenham Chiropractic won the game 25-6. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**

Knights and Brewers advance to senior NBDL championship

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It's going to be the Bolton Brewers and the New Lowell Knights who will be battling it out for the 2026 North Dufferin Baseball League senior championship after both teams won round two of their playoff series.

The Brewers had a come-from-behind victory when they dispatched the Owen Sound Baysox in a series that went five games.

Owen Sound finished first in the league standings this year. Bolton was down in fifth place at the end of the season.

Their second-round playoff series got underway on Aug. 15, with Bolton coming out on top 8-4 in Game 1.

Bolton was ahead by two when they won 6-1 in Game 2 of the series.

Owen Sound rebounded with a 5-1 win in Game 3.

The series ended on Aug. 21, with Bolton winning Game 4, 7-2, to earn the right to

advance to the championship.

In the other second-round series between the New Lowell Knights and the Ivy Rangers, it was going to be a tough outing for both teams.

The New Lowell Knights finished in second place in the league.

The Ivy Rangers finished close behind in third place.

Game 1 of their second-round series started on Aug. 16 and ended with an 11-1 win for Ivy.

New Lowell responded in Game 2 with a 6-0 win.

The Knights took a lead in Game 3 with an 8-4 win.

Game 4 ended with an 8-8 tie.

The series was over when New Lowell left the diamond with an 11-6 win in Game 5.

The NBDL senior championship series will start with Game 1 on Saturday, Sept. 12.

The full schedule has not been announced yet.



RUSHING THE BASES – A player scores during the third inning of the Tottenham Beeton Softball Association U19 championship game between Team Orange and the team sponsored by Arnold Crescent Animal Hospital at County Park in Tottenham on Saturday, Aug. 29. Minor softball has now wrapped up the 2026 season. **BRIAN LOCKHART PHOTO**

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Caledon and Brampton residents charged in 2025 home invasion in Alliston

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Nottawasaga OPP have charged two individuals in relation to a robbery that occurred in New Tecumseth in 2025.

At approximately 4 p.m. on May 28, 2025, Nottawasaga OPP responded to a report of a robbery at a residence on Anderson Road in Alliston. Prior to the officers' arrival, the suspects fled the residence on foot northbound towards Beattie Avenue.

As a result of the investigation, members of

the Nottawasaga Major Crime Unit, with the assistance of the Peel Regional Police Tactical Unit and the OPP Tactics and Rescue Unit, executed multiple search warrants at addresses in Brampton and Caledon shortly after 5 a.m. on Aug. 19, 2026.

Two involved parties were located and placed under arrest.

As a result of the investigation, Gurjap Dhadda, 24, of Caledon has been charged with:

- Robbery with a Weapon
- Pointing a Firearm
- Disguise with Intent

- Conspiracy to Commit Indictable Offence
- Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Under \$5,000

The second accused, Pavittar Dhillon, 23, of Brampton, has been charged with:

- Conspiracy to Commit Indictable Offence
- Both accused parties were held in custody pending a bail hearing.

The charges have not been proven in court.

If anyone has information in relation to this investigation, contact the Nottawasaga OPP at 1-888-310-1122 and reference occurrence number E250679174.



Reports from concerned citizens to police result in three impaired drivers arrested

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Concerned citizens reporting suspected drunk drivers to police resulted in three people being charged with impaired driving-related charges over a period of five days.

Shortly after 1:30 p.m. on Aug. 22, Nottawasaga Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers received a report of a red Jeep travelling westbound on Highway 89 toward Alliston.

The vehicle was reportedly driving into oncoming traffic and swerving onto the shoulder.

The vehicle was located by police, and as a result of an investigation, the driver was arrested.



Shortly before 8:30 p.m. on Aug. 25, police received a report that a customer who had been consuming alcohol at a local establishment in Alliston was observed entering a vehicle and driving away. Officers con-

ducted patrols and located both the vehicle and driver matching the description that was provided.

Following an investigation by Nottawasaga OPP, the driver was arrested.

Police received a report of a black truck swerving and over-correcting on Victoria Street in Alliston shortly after 12 a.m. on Aug. 27.

The vehicle was located, and during the police investigation, they observed drug paraphernalia.

The driver was arrested and transported for evaluation by a Drug Recognition Expert.

As a result of these investigations:

Joseph Cheney Dellanno, 39, of Kirkfield, was charged with:

- Operation While Impaired – Blood Alco-

hol Concentration (80 plus)

- Operation While Impaired – Alcohol and Drugs

- Dangerous Operation

Albert Mikalajunas, 65, of Pickering, was charged with Operation While Impaired – Blood Alcohol Concentration (80 plus).

Florentino Martinho, 50, of Alliston, was charged with Operation While Impaired – Drugs.

All three accused had their driver's licenses suspended for 90 days, and their vehicles impounded for seven days.

They were subsequently released and are scheduled to appear before the Ontario Court of Justice in Bradford at a future date to answer to the charges.

Charges have not been proven in court.

Continued from Page 5

Our World Today: Nancy Roman Telescope

It doesn't have to be a specifically 'hunter-gatherer' past, but every intelligent species (if any) must have a pre-civilised past before it develops a civilization. If it retains some behaviours that were useful in that past but are potentially lethal in a high-tech civilization, then the Filter takes them out.

Our own now-almost-global civilization is in a multi-generational transition from what you might call Late Hunter-Gatherer (human sacrifice, slavery, nuclear weapons) to something more appropriate to our current state of knowledge and social skills. It's only natural that almost everything comes

as a mixed bag.

Like the Nancy Grace Roman Space Telescope, for instance. Its origin was a project for the US National Reconnaissance Office for a new spy satellite that would practically be able to read a newspaper from orbit – typical H-G stuff. A number of prototypes were

built before the project was cancelled in 2005.

Soon afterwards, the NRO told NASA that it had some high-resolution optical telescope hardware available for free. NASA said yes, please, and \$4 billion and twenty years later there it is.

Everything is mixed. Don't despair.

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Tottenham Vendors Market welcomes Loave It Sourdough Microbakery

BY BRIAN LOCKHART
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Sourdough bread has been baked since ancient times and is still a favourite for many people.

It uses a leavening agent containing naturally occurring yeast and lactobacillus bacteria. During fermentation, it produces lactic acid that gives the bread its distinctive taste.

Liz Christo, of Loave It Sourdough Microbakery, brought her sourdough bread to the Tottenham Vendors Market on Sunday, Aug. 30, and got a lot of attention from visitors

who loved her fresh bread.

Christo has created a microbakery in the basement of her home near Tottenham.

"I had to do everything needed for a health inspection, including installing two sinks," Christo said of setting up a home bakery. "They came in to do an inspection. We have an oven that can do up to 24 loaves at a time. I've been doing sourdough since COVID, but started the microbakery just a while ago. Our first market was the Tottenham Community Week."

Sourdough baking uses a process where the yeast is 'grown' and needs constant atten-

tion to keep it going. This is unlike the normal modern method of buying yeast to add to baking.

"Instead of using commercial yeast, sourdough uses 'wild yeast', as it is called," Christo explained. "You can make a sourdough starter by adding water and flour. You do that for five days and it starts to ferment. You use just one spoonful and you add it to your dough instead of the yeast. It's a bit of a slower rise – instead of taking one hour to rise, it takes three to five hours to rise. The wild yeast ferments your flour so it's easier to digest."

Christo bakes full loaves as well as smaller-sized breads.

"My main thing is loaves," Christo explained. "Everything is in loaf form. I have three different sizes. There are medium sizes and mini-sizes."

Christo is hoping to expand her customer base. While she has enjoyed selling her product at markets, she would also like to carry it in local stores that appreciate a fresh, unique product.

You can learn more about Loave It Sourdough Bakery by visiting the website at www.loaveit.ca.

Continued from Page 4

Brock's Banter: Stepping forward with Dolly

Countless people around the world were, of course, impacted by her beautiful voice and her storytelling songbook – to offer just one personal anecdote to illustrate this point, when I worked abroad in East Africa in 2007, the newsroom came to a halt every time a song from Dolly Parton, Kenny Rogers (or both!) came on the radio to allow for an office-wide singalong.

Others gravitated less towards Dolly the singer, and more towards her output on film – 9 To 5, Steel Magnolias, The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, and more – and television, as well as streaming. The bonus being that that voice followed her in whatever she tried her hand.

A friend of mine shared in the days following her death how, as a young boy who had moved to North America from Italy when he was little over 10, overwhelmed with the culture shock of being in a new school, with new people, immersed in an unfamiliar language, he found something of a safe harbour in the flashy lady he saw on TV.

Another friend, a trans woman, found acceptance in the person of Dolly Parton when, in her world, there was precious little acceptance to go around.

Another reminiscence that struck me was from a parent whose child was distraught by the news – not necessarily being a fan of Parton the entertainer, but

rather simply in her role as "the lady who sent me books."

Dolly Parton, despite her self-deprecation, proved the old adage that not all superheroes wore capes. Above and beyond her boundless talent and international work for literacy, she supported countless charities in ways large, small, and unheralded; invested much of the money she made to support communities and marginalized populations in need; and perhaps most importantly and effortlessly served as a living, tangible representation of what simply what it means to be a good person.

It might sound simple on the surface, but in today's present world where so many of those individuals who have amassed great wealth are more inclined to use it to amass power, profile, and pursue even more treasure for their coffers, it is a potent reminder the difference each of us can make if motivated to do so.

Few of us have the resources at our fingertips to make as profound a difference on the world around us as Dolly Parton did, but, as her story so powerfully illustrates, no matter how humble our beginnings, and, for that matter, no matter how humble our presents, all it really takes is a good heart and taking that first step.

We would all do well to remember her belief of "the first step is always the hardest, but you'll never know unless you try,"

or even the advice she gave to listeners as radio psychologist Shirlee Kenyon in the 1992 film Straight Talk: "Sometimes

you've got to just honk your horn. If you don't, nobody's gonna know you're coming."

Continued from Page 6

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Open letter re: opposition to Banting Homestead development

After more than a decade of discussion, it is concerning that the Board has not disclosed which alternative sites were evaluated. Transparency is crucial, especially when decisions impact sites of heritage and influence public trust within the community.

Furthermore, the proposed school is planned to accommodate fewer students than the current building. In the 1960s, when a significant addition was needed, students attended classes in shifts to allow construction to proceed. With today's advances in technology and construction methods, rebuilding on the existing site could be managed far more efficiently, avoiding the need to sacrifice valuable heritage land.

The Banting farm continues to operate as an active and productive agricultural enterprise. Constructing a school adjacent to this farm introduces unnecessary difficulties for the farmer and necessitates conducting

an Agricultural Impact Assessment. This requirement further highlights the incompatibility of the proposed development with the surrounding farmland.

Most importantly, what example are you demonstrating to the next generation if you disregard the intent of people's wishes and the preservation of our shared history? The

Banting Homestead is not just a parcel of land—it represents a living legacy linked to one of Canada's most significant medical discoveries.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the Board to reconsider its decision, investigate alternative locations, and engage in meaningful consultation with the community.

Sincerely,
Donna Jebb

New Tecumseth
Former student of BMHS



OBITUARIES

FOREVER IN OUR *Hearts*

Mitchell, Andrew 'Andy'

It is with profound sadness at our loss that we announce Andrew has been reunited with his loving family. On Monday, August 10, 2026 at Southlake Health. Andrew in his 92nd year, beloved husband of the late Dorothy Cunningham (née: Earl). Loving father to his son the late Ian (Jacqueline) Mitchell and father of Anne (the late son-in-law Ian) Finch.

Sadly missed by his caring grandson Keagan and his granddaughters Morag (Vince) and Helen (Kevin) and his five great-grandchildren.

Fondly remembered by his niece, Diane (Ron) Blanchard, nephews Larry Gough, the late Billy Gough and Andrew (Lowise) Gough as well as their families in Syracuse, New York.

Forever in the hearts of his extended family and friends. His dedication and loyalty shone through as a long-time employee of Rheem Canada. Cremation has taken place. A Graveside Service will be held at Resthaven Memorial Gardens (2700 Kingston Rd., Scarborough, Ontario) on Saturday, September 12, 2026 at 2:30pm. If desired, Memorial donations may be made to the charity of your choice. Online condolences and memories may be left for the family at www.RodAbramsFuneralHome.com.



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SEPT 25TH - Currency / Art / Jewelry Auction

OCT 8TH - Locked & Loaded Sale

OCT 9TH - Gas and Oil Auction

- Pumps, signs, cans, toys

NOV 23RD-28TH - Straight Shooter Sale

DEC 11TH - Antiques, Collectibles & Quality Household Items

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