

The Paris Independent

Issue #201

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 2025

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High Tea and High Honour in Brant



(MICHELLE MALVASO PHOTOS)

Standing on historic ground, former Ward 1 Councillor Steve Schmitt, Mayor David Bailey, Town Crier Larry Davis, and Ontario Lieutenant Governor Edith Dumont gather at the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead during a special High Tea event celebrating civic leadership and local heritage on July 11. More photos on page 3.

PARIS INDEPENDENT STAFF

Staff Contribution

The Honourable Edith Dumont, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, visited the County of Brant on Thursday for a prestigious High Tea event hosted by Mayor David Bailey at the historic Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead.

The event, held July 11, brought together community leaders, elected officials and honoured guests for an afternoon of celebration and reflection on civic engagement and local heritage.

Following opening remarks from Her Honour, Lynn MacLean, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, delivered a special presentation inside the Homestead. Guests were then escorted to the Pavilion for High Tea.

The ceremony was led by Master of Ceremonies Steve Schmitt, with Town Crier Larry Davis officially opening the proceedings with a ceremonial Call to Order.

Among the dignitaries in attendance were Brantford-Brant MP Larry Brock, Glanbrook-Flamborough-Brant North MP Dan Muys, Brantford-Brant MPP Will Bouma,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Residents concerned over proposed 71-unit West River Road development

CASANDRA TURNBULL

Managing Editor

A proposed 71-unit townhouse development on West River Road sparked significant concern from some residents during a County of Brant Council Planning meeting held July 8.

The development, proposed by Pinevest Homes through MHBC Planning on behalf of West River Developments Inc., would rezone the vacant property at 73 West River Road from R1-58 to a site-specific RM1 zone. The plan also includes a public park zoned OS1, a new private street network, and visitor parking.

The lands, occupied by a dwelling and former accessory structure demolished in November 2024, are located on an arterial road designated for a mix of low to high-density developments. Permitted uses include single, semi-detached and rowhouse dwellings. The rezoning would allow for increased driveway widths and greater lot coverage. Future Site Plan Control and Draft Plan of Condominium applications are still required.

MHBC Planning advised that several technical studies have been completed in support of

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Concerns Raised Over Proposed West River Road Subdivision During County Council Meeting

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the application, including environmental, archaeological, transportation, and stormwater management reports, along with a planning justification report and tree preservation plan.

During the public meeting, resident Laura Ruuska-MacKay of 81 West River Road spoke on behalf of concerned neighbours. She raised serious environmental concerns related to the development, particularly the impact on a woodlot located on the property.

Ruuska-MacKay said the black walnut, red oak and basswood trees in the woodlot were planted in 1994 with assistance from the Ministry of Natural Resources, under an agreement that the area would remain untouched — including the underbrush.

She claimed that in March 2023, prior to the developer’s environmental impact study, logging crews entered the site early in the morning and cleared part of the woodlot. “It was basically an ecological disaster,” Ruuska-MacKay said. “I wondered how they could do this knowing the forest is part of Brant’s Natural Heritage System.”

She added that the cleared vegetation may have compromised the study’s findings, stating that “baseline conditions must reflect the undisturbed site so that the study can accurately measure the ecology of the area.”

Ruuska-MacKay urged council not to approve any aspect of the plan that would alter or encroach on the woodland and demanded the natural heritage and significant woodland designations remain in place.

Ruuska-MacKay also had concerns with the proposed number of lots for the small parcel of land, citing it will bring problems with traffic, infrastructure, overpopulated schools and population increases in general. “There has been/will be quite a population influx with the development of the golf course and that is enough,” she stated in correspondence provided ahead of the council meeting, adding “At some point, I believe it’s in our community’s best interest to stop and look at how the major growth in population is affecting local residents.”

Fellow resident Nicole Promolo, of Bendemere Road (formerly Paris Links Rd), also voiced frustration, referencing the nearby Grand Estates development. She said she is currently living through the disruption of that project and cautioned council about approving further growth without adequate planning.

They came back with 749 homes after the original 800-



This is an aerial view of 73 West River Rd where a 71-unit development is being proposed by Pinevest Homes. The proposed development is among a large area of land current underdevelopment – the Grand Estates – located on the former Paris Grand Golf Course property. Some area residents are concerned with the removal the property’s surrounding woodlot of black walnut, red oak and basswood trees designated as part of Brant’s Natural Heritage System.

home plan was deemed too much, she said. Now another 71 are being proposed. We have already approved more than enough development to meet growth requirements for the next couple of decades, she noted.

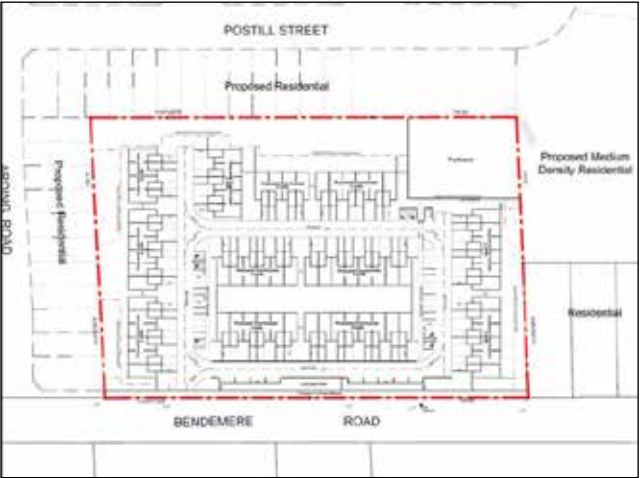
Promolo called on council to “tap the brakes” on new development approvals until issues related to infrastructure and school capacity are addressed.

Coun. Steve Howes reflected on the property’s history, noting that the original owner had once proposed just six dwellings on the site. That request evolved over time into a plan for 200 homes before being scaled back to the current proposal.

Coun. John Peirce acknowledged community concerns about school overcrowding but clarified that municipalities do not control school construction. He asked Ruuska-MacKay whether she opposed the entire development or just components affecting the woodlot. Ruuska-MacKay responded that her opposition was directed at any elements that would impact the woodland or change its designation.

Coun. David Miller echoed Promolo’s concerns about wastewater capacity. Jeremy Vink, Director of Planning and Development for the County of Brant responded that upgrades to the wastewater treatment plant are planned, and while current infrastructure is nearing capacity, it can still accommodate some additional growth.

Coun. John Bell questioned the logic of accepting a development proposal that would encroach on the County’s



The proposal is to rezone the parcel of land from R1-58 to a site-specific RM1 zone. The plan also includes a public park zoned OS1, a new private street network, and visitor parking. Residents are concerned with the increased pressure more development will put on local infrastructure and area schools.

Natural Heritage System. Vink clarified that this was only a public meeting, and no formal staff recommendations have been brought forward to council. Council received all public and developer submissions as information. The comments will be reviewed by County staff before any decisions are made.

Lieutenant Governor celebrates community and heritage at high tea in Brant County

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Cambridge MPP Brian Riddell, and several members of Brant County Council.

Guests were invited to hear the Lieutenant Governor speak about her visit to the County and her experience at the opening ceremonies of the Special Olympics Summer Games.

Following her visit, several Brant County Councillors shared gratitude for the opportunity to attend the event. Paris Councillor Lukas Oakley said Her Honour encouraged everyone to “make miracles” for young people, who she described as the leaders of tomorrow.

“I got to speak to Her Honour about my own journey and the work we are doing here in the County to try to make for a better future for my generational peers and future generations with affordable housing, walkable communities, and more,” said Oakley.



Pinkies up and spirits high! Guests raise their teacups in celebration during a special High Tea with Ontario’s Lieutenant Governor Edith Dumont at the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead on July 11.

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Mayor David Bailey shares a laugh with Ontario Lieutenant Governor Edith Dumont as they admire the High Tea spread at the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead on July 11. The event brought together dignitaries and community leaders for an afternoon of celebration and civic reflection.



Pinkies up and spirits high! Guests raise their teacups in celebration during a special High Tea with Ontario's Lieutenant Governor Edith Dumont at the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead on July 11.



(MICHELLE MALVASO PHOTOS)

Politics, pastries, and plenty of charm! MP Dan Muys, MP Larry Brock, and Ward 2 County Councillor Lukas Oakley enjoy a spot of tea and a moment of camaraderie at the Lieutenant Governor's High Tea at the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead.

Weekend Quiz

By Jake Grant

- 1. When was Oxford University founded?
- 2. Carlo Mastrangelo was a member of which 1950s band?
- 3. Which iconic ship sailed the Pilgrims across the vast Atlantic to land in North America in 1620?
- 4. What is the name of the famous sea monster in Scotland?
- 5. What do you call a female sheep?
- 6. What was the first DVD shipped by Netflix?
- 7. What do the letters of this boy band spell out "NKOTB"?
- 8. Who does Pocahontas fall in love with?
- 9. In Greek mythology, who rules the underworld?
- 10. Who is the youngest driver to ever compete in an F1 race?

This week's answers are found on pg. 13

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Proposed Woodslee Avenue subdivision development sparks debate at Brant County Council Meeting

CASANDRA TURNBULL

Managing Editor

A proposed 228-unit subdivision at 71 Woodslee Ave. drew both support and concern during a public meeting held July 8 at the County of Brant Council Planning Meeting.

The zoning bylaw amendment and draft plan of subdivision were presented by Arcadis Professional Services on behalf of developer Pinevest Homes. The application seeks to re-zone the northside property from light industrial to a modified residential multiple medium density zone, paving the way for a mix of traditional townhomes, back-to-back townhouses, and two seven-storey mixed-use buildings. The plan also includes 35 affordable housing units and ground-floor commercial space.

"We've been working at this one for quite some time," said Bob Stewart of Pinevest Homes Inc. "We've been working away trying to develop a plan that checks all the boxes in the Official Plan," including affordable housing. "I think we have found a plan that works well for the area."

Under the County's Official Plan, the subject lands fall within a special policy area that mandates the inclusion of affordable housing and an agreement with the municipality. The project would roll out in three phases, with the affordable units slated for Phase 2.

The development includes:

- 90 traditional townhouse units
- 48 back-to-back townhouse units
- Two mixed-use buildings with 150 units, including 35 designated affordable units
- Ground-floor commercial space
- Two parking spaces per townhouse unit and additional visitor parking

However, the proposal met resistance from local business owner Andrew Guiducci of Molten Metallurgy Inc., who operates two nearby properties on Woodslee and Lee avenues. Guiducci expressed concern about the continued loss of industrial land in Paris, noting several closures in the area and the challenges residential encroachment poses for industrial operators.

"There's not a lot of businesses left in the north end and we need more businesses in the area, but you can't do that without the lands," he said. "A reinvestment with the businesses will help the community. It's kind of tough to have a community if there are no employers."

Guiducci raised concerns about potential conflicts arising from proximity to residential areas, such as noise, truck traffic and odour complaints. "Even when the complaints are found to be false or baseless, the disruption, stress and aggravation to industries is detrimental," he said, citing the business's four-decade history and recent expansions that support over 30 employees.

He requested a full environmental impact study in collaboration with the Ministry of the Environment and existing industries before any zoning change is approved, including recommendations such as tree hedging, berms, sound walls or fencing to mitigate impacts. "With this, Molten Metallurgy Inc. would withdraw our objection," he stated.

Coun. Steve Howes said he appreciated the business perspective. "There is a demand for small industrial and warehousing in the community," he said, asking if a buffer zone could be created should the project proceed. Howes also wondered if one of the two dedicated parking spaces per townhouse unit included garage parking, noting that most residents fail to

use the garage for parking.

In response, Stewart said he was open to working with County staff and neighbours on potential buffers and confirmed that one of the two townhouse parking spaces per unit would be the garage.

Coun. Lukas Oakley called the proposal "largely encapsulating everything we want in our Official Plan."

However, Coun. John Peirce clarified a point raised by Guiducci about the closure of Pinty's Delicious Foods, saying it was not due to residential encroachment but rather corporate restructuring and plant consolidation.

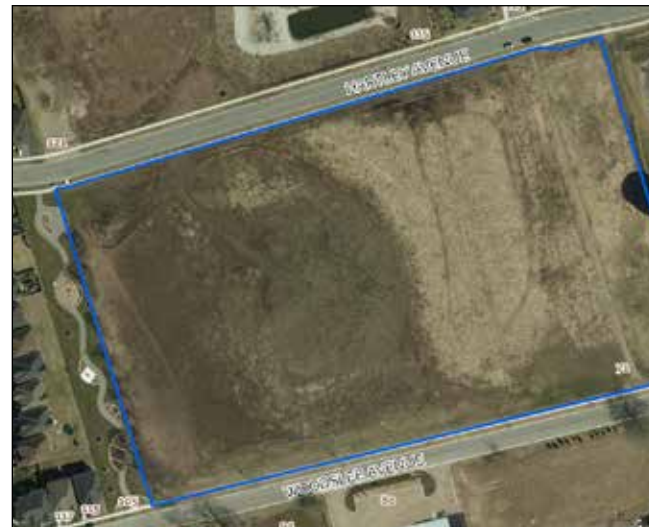
Coun. David Miller expressed concern about potential odour complaints from new residents. "As a former soccer coach in Paris, I've noticed during the evening there were often odours coming from Molten Metallurgy," he said, wondering how the county could protect the local business from an onset of complaints.

All comments and presentations were received as information only, with the matter referred to staff for further review.

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Pinevest Homes presented a draft subdivision plan to construct a total of 288 residential units on this parcel of land located at 71 Woodslee Ave. In addition to townhouses, there could be two mixed-use buildings with 150 units, including 35 designated affordable units.

Rodeo reward: Local youth presented with new bike after safety event



Remember the Bicycle Rodeo hosted last month by the Optimist Club of Paris to promote cycling safety? The event wrapped up with a grand prize draw, and the lucky winner, Harrison Winchester, was recently presented with a brand-new bicycle—thanks to the generous sponsorship of Robin McNaughton Co-Operators Inc. Pictured from left to right are Cameron from Canadian Tire, Kim Risi representing Robin McNaughton Co-Operators Inc., Harrison Winchester, and his father, Mark Winchester.



A total of 90 traditional style townhouses are proposed for a new subdivision at 71 Woodslee Ave in Paris. The townhouses would include two dedicated parking spaces, one in the garage and one in the driveway.

Temporary stop signs installed at busy West Paris bypass intersection



a temporary three-way stop, designed to ease traffic flow and improve safety at Keg Lane / Brant Oxford Road since, which has seen increased traffic in recent months as motorists opt to use the West By Pass route to avoid construction in Paris.

CASANDRA TURNBULL

Managing Editor

Temporary stop signs were installed at the intersection of Keg Lane and Brant-Oxford Road on Thursday, July 10, in response to mounting safety concerns and traffic delays along the West Paris Bypass.

The move follows months of complaints from motorists navigating alternate routes during the Downtown Dig construction, which has significantly impacted traffic flow through Paris' core.

With many drivers using Keg Lane to avoid the downtown congestion, a bottleneck had developed where the road meets Brant-Oxford Road — a stretch where vehicles regularly travel at speeds exceeding 80 km/h. The lack of traffic control at the T-intersection was causing increasingly risky turning manoeuvres and raising concerns among local residents and road users.

The new signage creates a temporary three-way stop, designed to ease traffic flow and improve safety. According to the County of Brant, the configuration will:

Allow westbound traffic on Keg Lane to turn more safely onto Brant-Oxford Road

Give southbound traffic on Brant-Oxford Road a controlled opportunity to access Keg Lane

Help manage congestion through the intersection during the construction period

Although the temporary stop may cause brief delays for north-south traffic, County officials say the safety benefits outweigh the inconvenience.

"We're asking all drivers to remain cautious and alert as the community adjusts to this change," said County staff in a release.

A permanent solution is in the works. During a June Administration and Operations Committee meeting, Mark Eby, the County's Director of Infrastructure, told councillors that full traffic signals are planned for the intersection, but final designs from a consultant are still pending. Eby noted the draft design was submitted in March, but red tape has delayed its finalization.

In the meantime, Eby endorsed the three-way stop as a necessary interim measure.

The stop sign installation required co-ordination between municipalities, as the County of Brant does not own all roadways involved. The County worked with Blandford-Blenheim Township to bring the plan to fruition.

Paris Coun. Steve Howes said he hopes the new signs will also help reduce speeding along nearby Trussler Road.

Aguas Frescas for Léo: Sip to Save a Child's Sight at La Trenza Fundraiser



There will be a refreshing fundraiser at Paris Winney Mills outdoor market this weekend to raise money for Four-year-old Léo who is battling a rare eye cancer. His family is fundraising for the chance to get him into a clinical trial in New York that offers a potentially life-changing treatment that could save both Léo's eye and his vision.

CAROLINA SAENZ

Paris Independent Contributor

They say it takes a village to raise a child — and sometimes, to help save their sight.

Four-year-old Léo has been bravely battling a rare eye cancer, undergoing months of treatment in Montreal. Recent tests, however, have delivered heart-breaking news: the tumour remains active and is growing. The only option left

in Canada is to remove his eye. But there is hope.

A clinical trial in New York offers a second chance — a potentially life-changing treatment that could save both Léo's eye and his vision. The catch? It must begin within weeks, and the upfront cost is more than \$70,000 USD — only partially covered.

That's where the community comes in.

La Trenza Tacos at The Paris Winney Mills Co. is hosting a special fundraiser on Sunday, July 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., during the Mid-Summer Fest Outdoor Market. Stop by for a refreshing agua fresca — traditional Mexican drinks made from scratch — with all proceeds going directly toward Léo's urgent treatment.

"These drinks are made with love and inspired by Léo's Mexican roots," said his mother, Jade

Gobeille. "Every sip supports his healing. Thank you to everyone who is buying a drink or sharing our story. Your support means the world."

Cool off with a refreshing drink — and make a life-changing difference. Featured flavours to include Jamaica (hibiscus iced tea), Horchata (rice-based creamy coconut delight), Sandía (watermelon), Strawberry Lime (made with local berries), and more! Can't attend? Donate or share Léo's story through GoFundMe at www.gofundme.com/help-leo-vision

Together, we can help give Léo the chance to see a brighter future.

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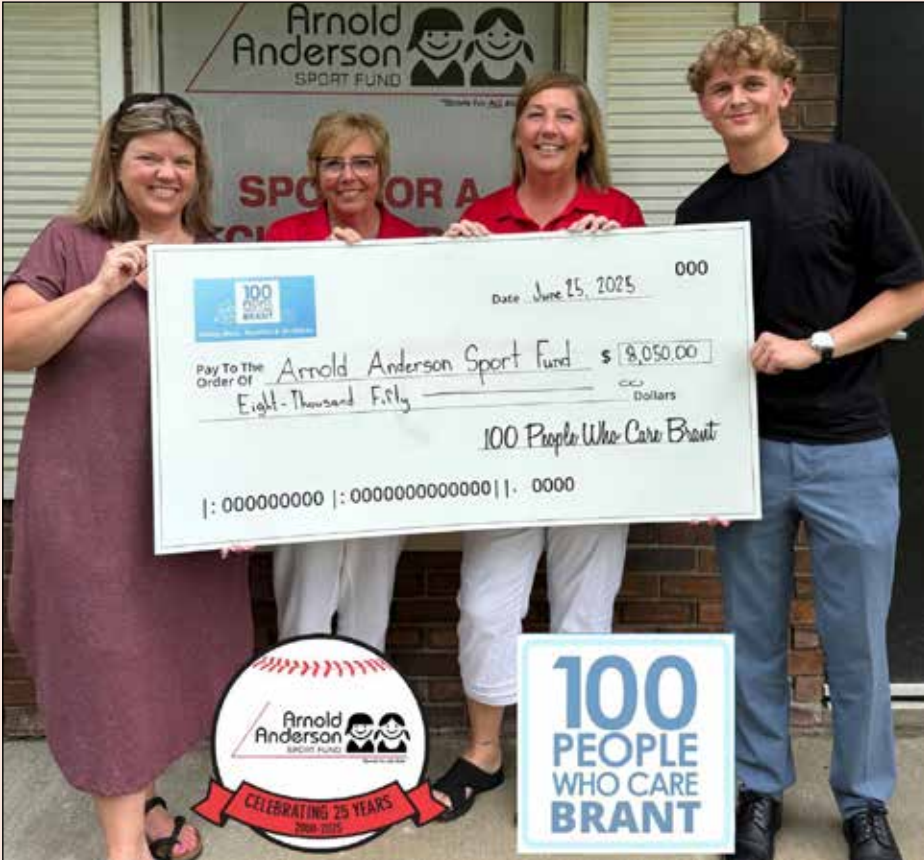
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100 People Who Care Brant donates \$8,050 to support local youth sports



100 People Who Care Brant members completed another giving circle, fundraising and presenting a cheque for \$8,050 to the Arnold Anderson Sport Fund. The generosity of those who contributed ensures over 20 kids from Brantford, Brant County, and Six Nations will have their sports registration fees covered this year. In a year where Arnold Anderson Sport Fund applications are up 35%, this boost in support couldn't have come at a better time. Pictured presenting the cheque on behalf of 100 People Who Care is Andrea Clendening and Callum Thomas. 100 People Who Care Brant was formed four years ago and the dynamic group of individuals from Brant County, Brantford and Six Nations of the Grand River have raised over \$110,000 for more than a dozen different non-profit agencies in this region. The group's principal model is simple, members make a nominal donation each giving cycle emphasizing the power in numbers.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

where the shows made their way to other County of Brant communities like Burford, Scotland and St. George.

Wilkinson said the performances at parks outside of Paris suffered from low turnout - including one of his own at Scotland Optimist Park in 2023.

The county has kept one non-Paris location on the schedule this year: the TF Warren Group Cainsville Community Centre, where pianist-vocalist Olga de Wit will be

performing on July 22 and saxophone-fueled duo Wind and Wire on August 12.

This year, the County of Brant is also collecting non-perishable food items at all Music in The Parks shows in support of local food banks. Monetary donations are not being accepted. Music in The Parks performances will be taking place every Tuesday night (and select Fridays) until August 26. Locations and artists can be found on the County of Brant's website at brant.ca/MusicInTheParks.



(EDWARD LANDER PHOTO)

Wayne Wilkinson (left) and Norm Shaver (right) are Two of A Kind, a classic rock band that's been playing 50s and 60s hits in and around Paris for the past 25 years.

Vibrant mural celebrates 65 years of Sales Decorating Centre in downtown Paris



(CASANDRA TURNBULL PHOTO)

Artist Erin McFadden, Kristine McGee, daughter of Sales Decorating Centre Owner Susan Kelley and Ken Pringle stand in front of the completed mural located on the backside of Sales Decorating Centre, accessible from the municipal parking lot. Commissioned by Kelley, who had dreamed of the project for years, the mural brings vibrant colour to an otherwise dull space. A tribute to creativity and community, the artwork includes a heart etched into a tree trunk—a nod to original owners Herb and Ann—and reflects the store's deep roots and 65-year legacy in downtown Paris. As for other personalized touches, the mural is inspired by the store's connection to colour and creativity.



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HISTORIC PARIS

PARIS PAST: Brief history and legacy of sports in Paris



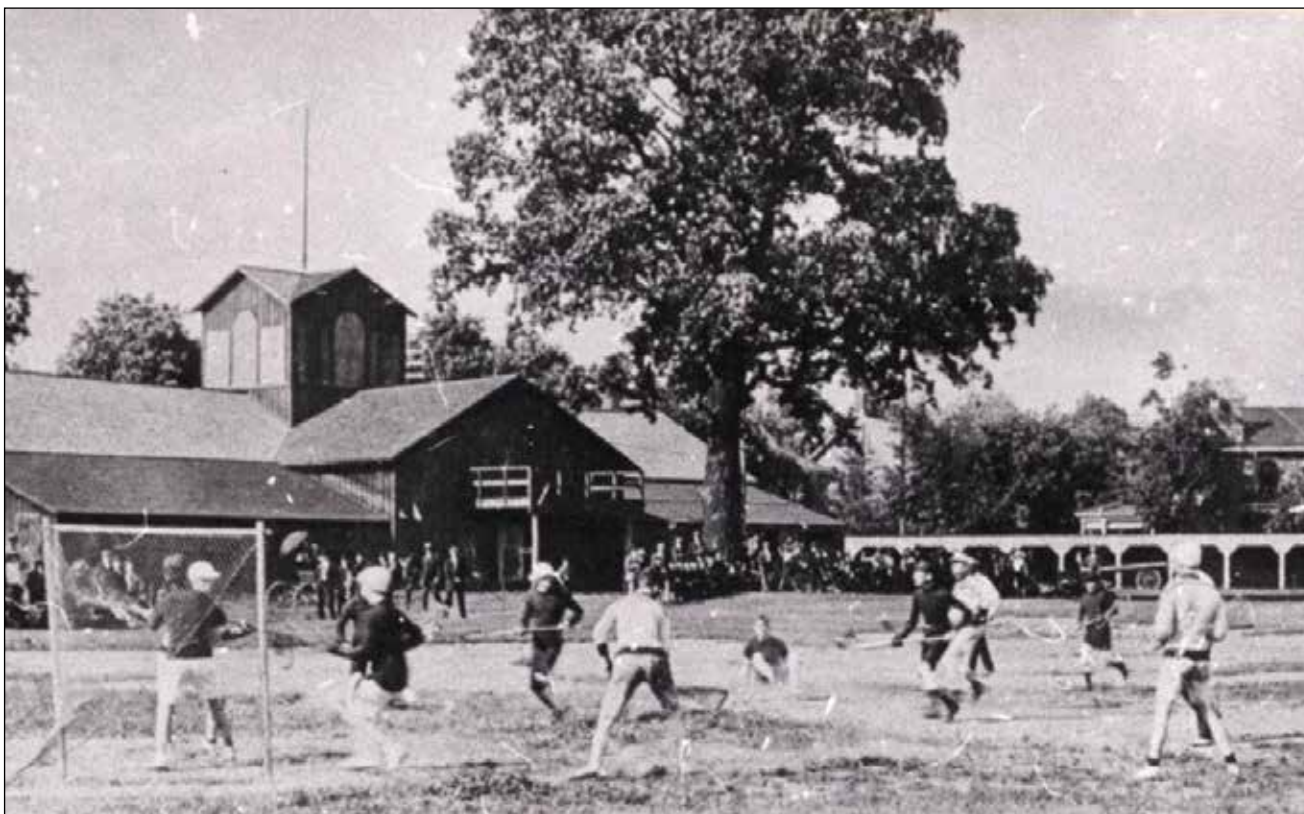
By Chris Whelan

The sporting journey of Paris commenced in the winter of 1843 with the establishment of the Paris Curling Club. A group of 23 spirited Parisians, predominantly of Scottish descent, took to frozen Watt's Pond with determination. Opting for the use of stones over wooden blocks, they commissioned John Smith to craft 12 stones, heralding a new era for curling in Paris. Their inaugural victory against a club from Galt set the stage for a series of triumphs that would define the Paris Curling Club.

Cricket soon found its way to Paris, with local teams engaging in matches that stretched from the river flats to the newly constructed Riverview Park. The sport flourished, with the local cricket club engaging in matches with teams as far away as Toronto. In 1879, Henry Oliver represented the all-Western Ontario team in London, England, showcasing Paris's cricket prowess. However, the aftermath of World War I coupled with natural disasters led to a decline in cricket's popularity, marking the end of an era.

Lacrosse emerged as a beloved pastime among Parisians by 1865, lacrosse had captured the hearts of many Parisians, with grueling matches testing endurance and skill. The rivalry between the Paris Brants and Gibson's Six Nations Warriors culminated in a series of intense showdowns, cementing lacrosse's place in the town's sporting legacy.

The late 19th century ushered in a new wave of sport-



A game of Lacrosse takes place on the old fairgrounds, circa 1885.

(PARIS MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTO)

ing trends in Paris. Roller skating gained traction, drawing crowds to the Fall Fair Exhibition Hall turned skating rink. Concurrently, bicycling captured the hearts of Parisians, with the Paris Bicycle Club producing champions like Ralph Axton.

Lawn bowling found its place in Paris in 1884, with games played near the present-day Presbyterian Church. The formation of the Paris Lawn Tennis and Bowling Club solidified the town's enthusiasm for this leisurely yet strategic sport.

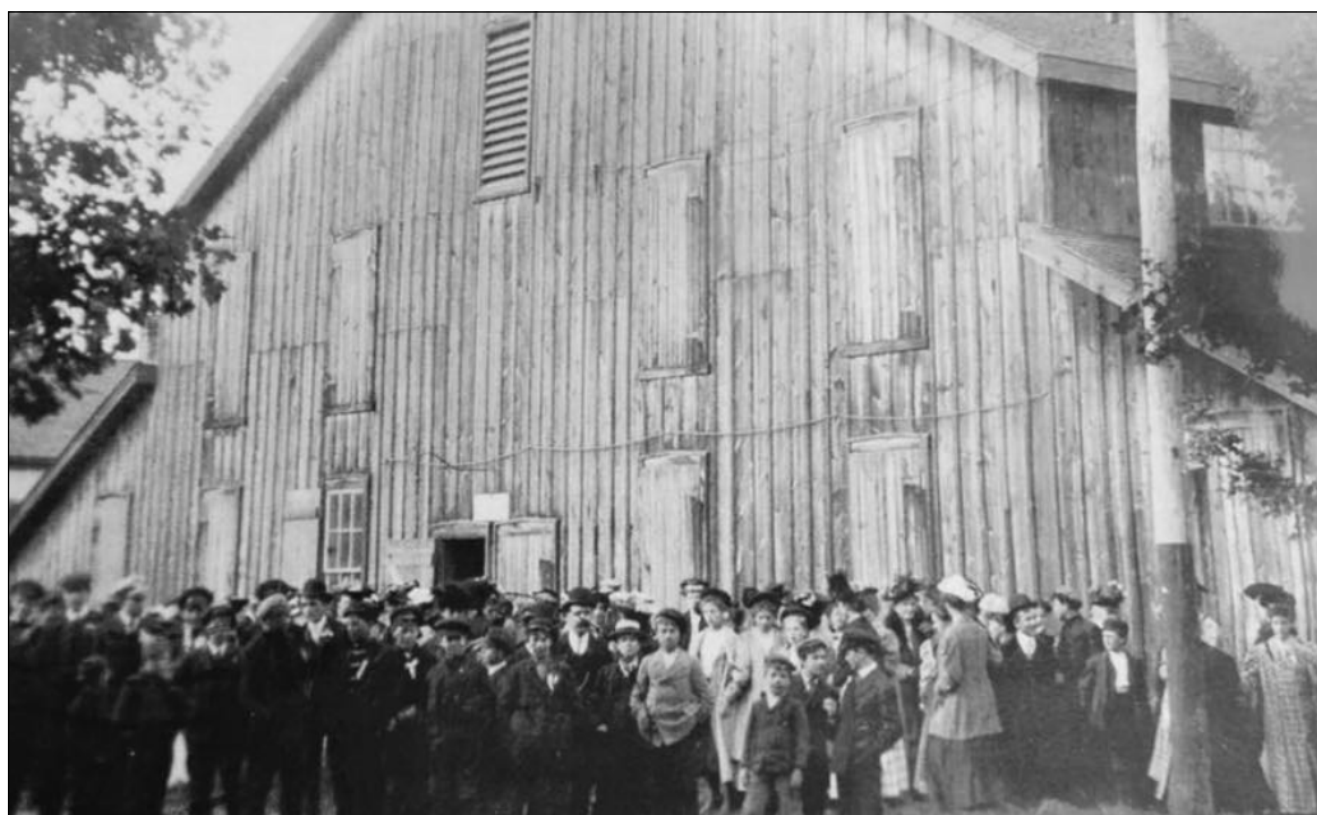
Organized baseball took center stage in Paris as early as 1870, with a diamond leveled off at the Agricultural Park in 1904. This marked the ascent of baseball as the town's most popular summer sport, leading to the formation of

several boys' leagues and a men's softball league.

Hockey skated into the hearts of Parisians in 1885, leading to the formation of a competitive team that clinched several championships. The team's victories resonated beyond the town, including the prestigious Ontario Intermediate Championship in 1903 solidifying Paris as a force to be reckoned with in the world of hockey.

By 1902, the gentle greens of Paris welcomed the sport of golf. The Paris Golf Club took root, attracting members to the lush fields north of Lions Park. Over time, the club evolved, moving to a new location along the tranquil banks of the Nith River after 1920, marking a new chapter in Paris's sporting legacy.

As the years unfolded, Paris, Ontario became a melting pot of sporting diversity, each discipline contributing to the vibrant athletic culture of our town. From the icy rinks of hockey to the sunlit greens of golf, the legacy of sports in Paris endures, a testament to the enduring spirit of its residents and the timeless allure of athletics.



The Paris Roller Rink, pictured here on Elm Street around 1907, was destroyed by fire in 1920.



The cricket grounds were located in Riverview Park situated below Homestead Road along the Grand River, pictured here circa 1880s.



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Alison Beaton: Pioneering Excellence in Granite & Quartz

In the heart of Paris, Ontario, Brantford Granite & Quartz stands as a testament to the entrepreneurial spirit and dedication of Alison Beaton and her husband, Paul. Celebrating their 10th anniversary in 2025, this small family-owned business has become a cornerstone of the community, serving Brant and its surrounding areas with distinction and pride.

Alison's journey into the granite industry is a story of courage and determination. Leaving behind a secure job in municipal government years ago, she embarked on a path less traveled to pursue her dream of business ownership. The unwavering support of the community from the outset has been instrumental in the success of Brantford Granite & Quartz, a testament to the quality and dedication that Alison and her team bring to their craft.

A notable aspect of Alison's story is her gender in an industry predominantly led by men. Despite the challenges, she has carved a niche for herself, showcasing not only her resilience but her capacity to thrive in a competitive landscape. Supported by her husband, Paul, a risk-taker and master problem solver, Alison manages the day-to-day operations and financial aspects of the business, while he oversees the technical and maintenance facets, jokingly referring to himself as the 'janitor'.

What sets Brantford Granite & Quartz apart is not just its leadership but its commitment to excellence and quality. Operating out of a 5,000 sq ft showroom, the business offers a diverse selection of granite and natural stone, sourced meticulously to meet the highest standards. Additionally, the company stocks a range of renowned quartz products, including Cambria, Hanstone and Vicostone,



catering to the diverse needs and preferences of their clientele.

The backbone of Brantford Granite & Quartz lies in its state-of-the-art equipment and a team of experienced professionals. Utilizing laser templating for precision measurements and boasting an 8,000 sq ft onsite fabrication facility equipped with a CNC bridge saw, the company ensures custom cuts and finishes that exceed expectations. This dedication to technology and expertise translates into superior craftsmanship and customer satisfaction.

While based in Paris, Brantford Granite & Quartz extends its services to the Brant, Haldimand/Norfolk, and Oxford areas, solidifying its reputa-

tion as a trusted partner for all things granite and quartz. Their commitment to serving the community goes beyond mere transactions; it is a testament to their ethos of integrity, quality, and personalized service that sets them apart in a competitive market.

In conclusion, Alison and Paul Beaton embody the spirit of entrepreneurship, resilience, and innovation. Their journey from humble beginnings to a thriving business is a testament to their unwavering dedication and commitment to excellence. As they continue to serve the community with passion and integrity, their legacy as pioneers in the granite and quartz industry is sure to endure for years to come.



Brantford Granite & Quartz operates out of this 5,000 sq ft showroom. The business offers a diverse selection of granite and natural stone, sourced meticulously to meet the highest standards and stocks a range of renowned quartz products, including Cambria, Hanstone and Vicostone, catering to the diverse needs and preferences of their clientele.



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Special Olympics Ontario Summer Games a triumph in Brantford and Brant County

CASANDRA TURNBULL

Managing Editor

Despite bouts of challenging weather, the 2025 Special Olympics Ontario Provincial Summer Games concluded as a resounding success in Brantford and Brant County from July 10 to 13.

Lindsay Hamilton and Geno Reda of TSN co-hosted the opening ceremonies at the Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre. The Honourable Edith Dumont, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, delivered a keynote address touching on the theme of unity and perseverance.

Brantford Police Chief Jason Saunders noted the Games went beyond competition. “It was a celebration of courage, determination and the incredible power of the human spirit,” he said.

Deputy OPP Commissioner Kari Dart praised the athletes’ perseverance as an inspiration to all, while Six Nations Police Chief Darren Montour welcomed the athletes and offered his congratulations.

Former Paris resident Zac Dalpe, an honorary chair of the Games, also participated in the opening ceremony by leading the crowd in the Special Olympics cheer and encouraging participants to stay dedicated but most of all, to

have fun.

Presented by the Wayne Gretzky Foundation and TD Canada Trust, the Games welcomed over 1,000 athletes from across the province to compete in five sports: athletics, bocce, golf, soccer and softball. Hosted by the Brantford Police Service in partnership with Six Nations Police and the Ontario Provincial Police, the event celebrated the remarkable achievements of athletes.

The competition served as a qualifier for Team Ontario selections for the 2026 Special Olympics Canada Summer Games in Medicine Hat, Alta.

This year’s Games included several notable firsts. A dedicated women’s soccer division made its debut, laying the groundwork for Ontario’s first women’s team at the national level. In golf, the addition of Level 5 play introduced 18-hole competition at the provincial stage.

The bocce competition opened at the Six Nations Recreation Complex with a special community celebration that honoured Indigenous culture and inclusion.

As the 2025 Provincial Summer Games drew to a close, athletes, families, and supporters gathered one last time for a moving closing ceremony filled with heartfelt speeches, well-earned accolades, and exuberant celebration.

Dignitaries and organizers delivered remarks recognizing not only the athletic achievements seen throughout the

Games, but also the courage, determination and sportsmanship demonstrated by every participant. From personal bests to team triumphs, the athletes were honoured for their dedication, resilience, and unwavering spirit.

Brantford Mayor Kevin Davis attended the closing ceremony and shared a heartfelt message on social media: “To the athletes — you made us cheer, you made us smile, and most importantly, you made us proud. To the families, coaches, and support teams — thank you for being the foundation behind these champions. And to the hundreds of volunteers, organizers, and community members — your dedication made this event a true success.”

Special acknowledgment was also given to the hundreds of volunteers who worked tirelessly behind the scenes — from timekeepers and team liaisons to medical staff and event coordinators. Their thankless efforts were instrumental in creating a safe, seamless and inclusive experience for all involved.

Members of the Rotary Satellite Club of Paris and the Rotary Club of Brantford came together to serve dinner to athletes and coaches, with meals provided by Strodes of Brantford. It was a fitting finale to a weekend that showcased not only athletic excellence, but also the power of community coming together in support of something truly meaningful.



Brantford Softball team earned Silver medals in the Baycats Division at the Special Olympic Summer Games held in Brantford from July 10 – 13th.

(MICHELLE MALVASO PHOTOS)



The Timmins Diggers (red shirts) beat the Orillia Hurricanes (blue shirts) 12-7 to earn bronze medals at the Special Olympic Summer Games. Softball games were held at Green Lane Sports Complex.



A determined Manitoulin athlete powers past first base as the opposing team gears up for a play during an action-packed Special Olympics softball game.



A player from the Welland Champions team gets under the ball to make the catch during a July 13th game at Green Lane Sports Complex. Welland lost 13-7 to London in the bronze medal of the Barnstormers Division.



A Special Olympics Brant athlete connects with the ball during a high-energy at-bat, showcasing focus, determination, and the thrill of the game. During round robin play, Brantford tied Timmins Diggers 6-6, won against the Orillia Hurricanes 12-3 and lost to Almaguin Legion 10-6



A Special Olympics Brant athlete makes a strong throw from the outfield during a spirited softball game, as teammates rally together in the true spirit of sport and inclusion.

PARIS SPORTS HEROES:

Paris' own LPGA star Jennifer Kirby



Paris' own LPGA star Jennifer Kirby

(BRANTFORD & AREA SPORTS HALL OF RECOGNITION PHOTO)

SCOOP STEWART

Paris Independent Sports Reporter

Jennifer was a natural athlete as she came from great stock, her mother Sandra was a fabulous high school athlete and her father Ken was an excellent athlete himself. He was a star goalie for the Scott Colonel midgets all Ontario championship and made it as far as the Sudbury Wolves, a junior A team in the OHL.

Jennifer Kirby's journey into the world of golf was not by design but by chance. At the tender age of 8, she ended up at the Oaks of St George, accompanying her older brother to a golf camp. Reluctantly taken along by her parents who didn't wish to leave her at home, Jennifer's first steps into the sport were more of a happenstance than a deliberate choice. Nonetheless, as she tentatively swung a club on that fateful day, her journey into the realm of golf commenced.

As the seasons changed, Jennifer's sporadic swings evolved into a daily routine on the golf course, accompanying her brother Patrick. Despite initial objections from him and his friends, her determination and growing skill level transformed her into a formidable player. By the time she was 11, Jennifer clinched her first Golf tournament victory, marking the beginning of a string of successes.

Her prowess on the green caught the eye of Team Canada, leading to a seven-year stint with the Canadian Women's National Golf Team. This opportunity paved the way for her to compete in prestigious championships world-

wide, all the while honing her skills under the tutelage of renowned coach Sean Foley.

Jennifer's dedication and talent propelled her to the upper echelons of the golfing world. Competing in various tournaments, including the US Junior Girls Championships, she continued to excel, eventually attracting the attention of college scouts in the United States. Her academic prowess and golfing achievements opened doors to numerous scholarship offers from Division I schools.

Choosing to further her education and athletic career, Jennifer enrolled at the University of Alabama, where she not only excelled in golf but also shone in her academic pursuits. Graduating with a degree in Business, she fondly reminisces about her college years as the best of her life.

Transitioning to professional golf after her collegiate success, Jennifer's tenacity led her to win several tournaments, eventually earning her LPGA tour card. Despite facing challenges in a fluctuating golfing landscape, she persevered, always introducing herself proudly as hailing from Paris, Ontario.

After four years on the professional circuit, Jennifer decided to retire, feeling a sense of accomplishment and a desire for new challenges. Returning to academia, she pursued and earned her MBA from the University of Central Florida, graduating with top honours.

Today, Jennifer resides in Sarasota, FL, content in marriage and motherhood, cherishing the arrival of her first child in 2025. Reflecting on her golfing days, she acknowledges the thrill of competition and the joy of continuous



PARIS YOUTH SOFTBALL

Saturday, July 5

U9 Girls win 14-0 against Norwich/Otterville (tournament)

U9 Girls lose 2-1 against Innerkip (tournament)

U9 Girls win 4-0 against Ayr (tournament)

U9 Girls win 7-0 against Innerkip (tournament)

U9 Team 2 win 7-6 against Burford

U11 Girls lose 12-2 against Hickson

Sunday, July 6

U17 Team 1 wins 16-15 against Kitchener

Monday, July 7

U11 Team 1 lose 21-13 against Princeton/Drumbo/Plattsville

U9 Girls win 12-3 against Sweaburg

U13 Team 1 win 16-7 against Princeton/Drumbo/Plattsville

Tuesday, July 8

U9 Team 1 win 7-6 against Burford

Wednesday, July 9

U11 Team 1 wins 16-10 against Burgessville

Thursday, July 10

U17 Team 1 lose 5-1 against Lynden

U11 Team 1 lose 22-10 against Innerkip

Friday, July 11

U11 Girls lose 19-18 against Embro

improvement, eagerly anticipating the possibility of joining the seniors' tour in the future.

For Jennifer Kirby, the story of golf is not just about victories and accolades but a testament to perseverance, passion, and the relentless pursuit of excellence in all her endeavors. As she lived life, she played golf the same way, with honesty and integrity. Congratulations Jennifer on your newborn we will be keeping an eye open for the next Kirby Golf Star.

Always a pleasure... till next time I'm Scoop Stewart.

The Paris Independent

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Paris Duffers at Burford Golf Links



Billy Beechey's 1974 baby blue Camaro Z 28 (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

SCOOP STEWART

Paris Independent Sports Reporter

Friday Paris men's golf results... Another picture-perfect day unfolded at the magnificent Burford Golf and Country Club, setting the stage for an unforgettable round of golf filled with triumphs, surprises, and unforgettable moments.

MVP

Dino Kitchen stole the spotlight with a jaw-dropping performance on the back nine, showcasing flawless precision and incredible recoveries that left spectators in awe.

Winners of the milk

Dino Kitchen and Paul Barber emerged victorious, their skills unmatched on the course, closely followed by the dynamic duo of Johnny Fever and Greig Graham, and the formidable team of Dick Berg and Tommy McCullough.

Drive of the day :

While the golf drives were impressive, the showstopper was Billy Beechey's grand entrance in his stunning 1974 Z28 baby blue beauty. Talk about making an entrance, Billy!

Worst dressed

Straight from the trailer park Terry Brown wearing his sleeveless polo shirt down to his knees, one argyle sock and one that was white at one time. To top it off, he wore a pair of sandals that looked like they had been on one too many Grand River canoe trips

Quote of the day :

Amidst the swings and putts, the day's most memorable line came from the enigmatic Black Jock Shlock: "I'm not a real doctor, but I like to pretend to be one on Friday afternoons."

Good guy award:

The prestigious 'Good Guy Award' was rightfully bestowed upon Steve Kopp for his unwavering friendship and his ever-helpful nature, embodying the true spirit of camaraderie on and off the green.

From outstanding plays to unforgettable moments and a touch of humour, Friday's golfing extravaganza at Burford Golf and Country Club was truly a day to remember! Until next week, remember to keep it where it's mowed, Scoop Stewart signing off, *always a pleasure...*

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. 1096

2. The Belmonts

3. Mayflower

4. Loch Ness Monster

5. Ewe
6. Beetlejuice

7. New Kids On The Block

8. John Smith

9. Hades

10. Max Verstappen

The Paris Independent Pick Up Locations

PARIS

- Brant Sports Complex
- Brave Waves Swim School
- Canadian Tire
- Cobblestone Public House
- Cowan Community Health Hub Pharmacy.
- Detour Café Paris
- Dog-Eared Cafe
- Egg Smart
- Elberta Farms Country Market
- Farah Foods
- Grand River Estates
- Horsfall's Auto Service
- Jay's No Frills
- John M Hall The House of Quality Linen
- Le Petite Marche
- Mary Maxim
- Northville Pharmacy
- Paris Beer Company
- Paris Health Store

Paris Inn

- Paris Jewellers
- Park Lane Terrace
- Paris Branch--County of Brant Public Library
- PrimaCare Community Family Health Team
- Queensview Retirement Community
- Rexall Pharmacy
- Royal Canadian Legion Branch 29
- Sales Decorating
- Secret Lunch and Catering
- Sobeys
- Stacked Pancake & Breakfast House Paris
- Stillwaters
- Telfer Place Retirement Residence
- Tim Hortons - Rest Acres
- Tim Hortons - Paris Road
- Tim Hortons - Grand

River St N

- The Gem Marketplace
- The Grand Bayou Cajun Kitchen
- The Paris Wincey Mills Market
- Walter's Greenhouses & Garden Centre
- Wright's Variety Store
- Willett Urgent Care Centre

BURFORD

- County of Brant Library - Burford
- Foodland
- Nelley's Bake & Brew

PRINCETON

- Jim's Lunch
- Sinden Feed & Seed Inc.

ST. GEORGE

- County of Brant Library - St. George
- Freshmart
- Tim Hortons — Brant Rd

Burford Lions Art Cadman Park Wins Ward 4 in County's Park Showdown

The County of Brant's "Park vs. Park" summer showdown is heating up as Burford Lions Art Cadman Park takes the top spot in Ward 4.

This beloved community park won voters over with its scenic walking trails, peaceful creekside setting, and strong local charm. From summer concerts to family picnics under the pavilion, it's easy to see why this gem emerged as a favourite.

The winner of Ward 5 had not yet

been announced as of press time. Residents can check the County's website this week to see which park claimed the final ward title.

With all five ward-level winners selected, the championship round opened on Monday, July 14. Residents are encouraged to vote for their favourite finalist, with the park that receives the most votes hosting a community celebration this fall.

The "Park vs. Park" contest fea-

tures more than 50 parks across the County of Brant, competing in a friendly, ward-based bracket. Each week from June through early July, residents voted for their favourite parks by clicking the thumbs-up icon beneath each park's photo on the County's Engage Brant website.

The final round of voting runs from July 14 to 28, with the overall winner to be announced at the end of the month.



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Rooted in tradition, growing with passion: Moore Farms offers a true taste of local life

CASANDRA TURNBULL

Managing Editor

For over a century, Moore Farms has stood as a proud symbol of agricultural heritage in our region. Now celebrating 109 years of continuous family stewardship, this Century Farm is more than just a place to buy fresh produce—it's a place where community, connection, and country living come to life.

From raising majestic Longhorn and Black Angus cattle to cultivating fields of juicy strawberries and vibrant pumpkins, Moore Farms is a seasonal destination and a year-round cornerstone of local food and farming. With a bounty that includes everything from garlic and green beans to zucchini, potatoes, and more, it's no surprise that their popular pick-your-own programs are a favourite for families.

"We believe in keeping it local," says the Moore family. "We frequently trade with other nearby farms to stock our store with a wide variety of fresh, locally sourced products. It's a way to support each other and offer our customers the best our region has to offer."

But Moore Farms isn't just about crops and cattle—it's about creating experiences. Their new Junior Farmers immersion program introduces children aged 6 to 12 to life on the farm, combining hands-on activities with hearty meals from the on-site Longhorn Smokehouse. A delicious fusion of Texas inspiration and farm-fresh ingredients, the Smokehouse features Farmer Alan's famous brisket, crafted with a signature dry rub that's quickly earned cult status. Menu favourites include loaded Smokehouse nachos, sizzling quesadillas, and their top-selling Longhorn smashburgers.

Moore Farms is also thinking of those who laid the groundwork for today's farming traditions. Seniors enjoy Tuesday discounts, sweet treats, and thoughtfully prepared mini meals—nutritious, portion-friendly dishes made from the same local ingredients that define the farm's mission.



The Longhorn Smokehouse food truck gives guests a delicious fusion of Texas inspiration and farm-fresh ingredients. Venture out today and try one of their top-selling Longhorn smashburgers.

Even during the depths of winter, Moore Farms keeps its doors open, welcoming customers with warm hospitality and mountains of snow piled high around the store. And from May through October, the farm truly comes alive with free monthly live music and artisan markets. Featuring talented local musicians and a curated lineup of artisans, these events offer a family-friendly atmosphere complete with a free petting zoo—thanks to vendor fees that go directly back into the event.

Whether you're picking berries in July, shopping for holiday goods in December, or digging into a plate of brisket year-round, Moore Farms invites you to experience the heart and soul of local agriculture.

Find out more at www.mooreberries.ca

Follow them on Facebook and Instagram for the latest updates, events, and behind-the-scenes farm fun.



Moore Farms is a seasonal destination and a year-round cornerstone of local food and farming.

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Paris Night Market Celebrates 10 Magical Years



What began as a hopeful idea a decade ago has grown into one of Southern Ontario's most beloved summer events. The Paris Night Market returns to the Paris Fairgrounds on July 18 and 19, marking its 10th anniversary with a tropical twist — promising lights, laughter, and a little bit of magic at every turn.

This year's celebration features more than 150 artisan vendors offering one-of-a-kind finds, along with a dynamic lineup of entertainment designed to keep the energy high all night long. The event kicks off at 5 p.m. on Friday and 4 p.m. on Saturday, transforming the fairgrounds into a lively hub for locals and first-time visitors alike.

The market is more than a shopping destination — it's a place to reconnect. Families gather, friends reunite, and strangers become part of a shared community experience. For many, it has become a summer tradition not to be missed.

Evening entertainment includes a thrilling fire show at 7 p.m. each night, followed by pop-up performances every half hour until 10 p.m. Fan-favourite stilt-walker Doug Hunt will once again roam the grounds, towering above the crowd with his signature charm. Visitors can also enjoy live "Lanterns & Music," axe throwing, tropical resort games, an adult watermelon-eating contest, and a Saturday night outdoor screening of *The Proposal* under the stars. (Bring your lawn chair!)

This year's market also offers a much-needed reprieve for residents navigating the challenges of the ongoing Downtown Dig. Organizers hope the event will serve as a positive draw for visitors and a boost to the local economy.

"Yes, traffic might test our patience but

is that really anything new?" said organizer Christine Ivany. "More people in town means more feet through the doors of our small businesses. The hope is that visitors stay a little longer, spend local, and help keep Paris thriving, even through the dig."

Reflecting on a decade of memories, Ivany expressed gratitude for the market's growth and community impact.

"From the very first night, the response was incredible. But over the years, it's grown into something even more meaningful. I've called Paris home for 24 years, and it means the world to be able to create something this special right here in my own community. We feel so privileged to have this chance to share this night — whether you've been coming for ten years or it's your first visit — you're going to love it."

The Paris Night Market is produced by All Canadian Events, the team also behind the popular Great Canadian Butter Tart Fest. With the support of more than 25 staff and a dedicated family-run crew, every detail is crafted with care.

So whether you arrive in full tropical attire or just as you are, the Paris Night Market welcomes you with open arms.

Event Details:
Friday, July 18, 2025 — 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday, July 19, 2025 — 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Paris Fairgrounds

Admission:

- Ages 10+: \$10
- Kids 3–9: \$5
- Under 3: Free

Cash only at the gate. Service dogs only. Advance tickets available at www.allcanadianevents.com



WEEKLY Horoscope

July 16 - July 23, 2025

ARIES
Mar 21 - Apr 20

Aries, your confidence is shining and people see it. Stay grounded—midweek may test your patience, but you've got this.

LIBRA
Sept 23 - Oct 23

Libra, it's time to embrace some social events, or at least get them on the calendar. Practice your small talk and get ready to mingle. You will be ready to be the life of the party.

TAURUS
Apr 21 - May 21

You are craving creature comforts, Taurus. This week you might be happy with keeping things slow and relaxing. You also may want to splurge on a treat.

SCORPIO
Oct 24 - Nov 22

Scorpio, if you've been holding on to secrets, one may slip out this week. It could be a confession or a breakthrough, but it will be intense to reveal.

GEMINI
May 22 - Jun 21

Gemini, this week your brain may be best compared to a Wi-Fi signal. In other words, moving fast, seeking new information and maybe a little glitchy. Slow down enough to focus on necessary tasks.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23 - Dec 21

You may be halfway out the door and ready for some adventure, Sagittarius. Spontaneity will look good on you this week, but reserve some time for your responsibilities.

CANCER
Jun 22 - Jul 22

Cancer, you might be feeling tender this week, and others may be realizing that you're giving off warm-and-fuzzy vibes. That will suit you at home, but you may need to be more firm at work.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22 - Jan 20

Take inventory of what you have accomplished thus far and enjoy what you have built, Capricorn. You don't need to prove anything because you've been rocking it.

LEO
Jul 23 - Aug 23

Your charisma is showing this week, Leo, and people could be eating it up. You're giving off lead character energy right now, but don't forget to let others share some of your spotlight.

AQUARIUS
Jan 21 - Feb 18

What to-do list, Aquarius? Your ability to focus on tasks and knock them off one by one is monumental this week. Your brain definitely has been firing on all cylinders.

VIRGO
Aug 24 - Sept 22

This week, Virgo, you're all about getting organized. Use whatever tools you need to sort out what matters most.

PISCES
Feb 19 - Mar 20

Someone might surprise you this week with an unexpected compliment or an offer of help, Pisces. Accept either gladly and then figure out how to pay it forward.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- JULY 16**
Corey Feldman, Actor (54)

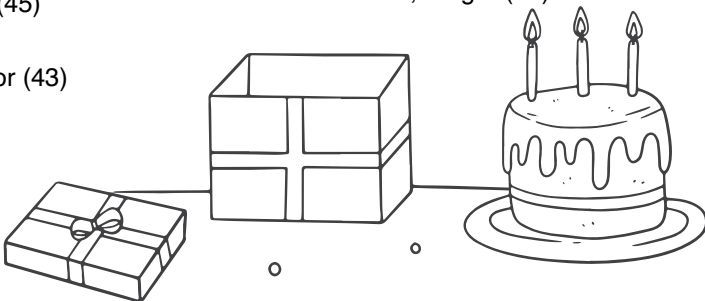
JULY 17
Queen Camilla, British Royalty (78)

JULY 18
Kristen Bell, Actress (45)

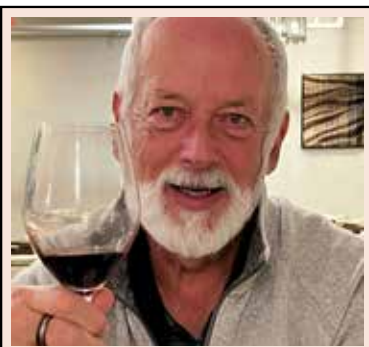
JULY 19
Jared Padalecki, Actor (43)
- JULY 20**
Gisele Bündchen, Model (45)

JULY 21
Romeo Santos, Singer (44)

JULY 22
Selena Gomez, Singer (33)



OH, THE PLACES WE'LL GO: Five star dining in a lake-side village



By Paul Knowles

Waskesiu, Saskatchewan is not exactly a bustling urban centre. Permanent population of this resort town, located within Prince Albert National Park, is something stretching bravely toward 100 people. Of course, that multiplies geometrically in high tourist season, when thousands of visitors arrive in Waskesiu to enjoy the lake, the forests, the zip lines, and the art galleries and shops that are rather typical of a tourist resort.

What is definitely NOT typical of a lakeside community of this size is the restaurant located a short stroll from the beach – Restaurant Pietro, a five-star foodie delight that is a stunning surprise for any casual visitor... like me.

I was in Waskesiu during a really fine golfing trip, hosted by Tourism Saskatchewan. Our last two days of golf were at Elk Ridge, just south of Prince Albert National Park, so our hosts took us to dinner at Restaurant Pietro. When I saw the town, I was expecting a tourist-town, pub-style menu.

What we got, instead, was one of the dining highlights of my life. The fare is described as “quality, local food, made with love.”

Restaurant Pietro is the creation of three culinary partners – Gary Gagne, Garry Findlay, and Chef Evan Niekamp. The restaurant was founded 12 years ago, and from the outset has been committed

ted providing a superb, eclectic menu, and top-notch service.

The concrete evidence of that can be summed up in two words: “Caesar Salad”. I don’t know when the last time you had Caesar Salad done right, made at your table by an expert, but when the process unfolds before you, it’s a work of art.

At Pietro, it’s Gary (who explains that he’s the unpretentious one, with only one “r” in his name) who prepares the salad. He brings a loaded tray of ingredients, chats and tells stories as he works, and ultimately presents diners with the best Caesar salad they are likely to taste anywhere.

And then he admits that he doesn’t eat Caesar salad. After decades of making them – thousands and thousands of them – he’s content to leave that pleasure to his customers!

He’s also content to share his Caesar secrets with anyone – when I expressed appreciation for his work, he brought a cookbook to the table – and it included his own recipe for Caesar salad. And he was happy to let me grab a photo, so now I possess the recipe – if not the expertise.

One detail that impressed me was there is almost as much attention given to the creation of the croutons as there is to the other elements or the salad. And that in microcosm is the secret to the wonder that is Pietro’s – attention to every detail! Another example – it’s a smallish restaurant, but Chef Evan insists on butchering their own top tier steaks on site!

The other Garry – he of the “pretentious” two “r”s – is the wine expert, but is also very happy to wait on tables. Like his two partners, he is a devout believer in their enterprise. When he first came to Pietro’s, he knew a good thing when he saw one, and insisted that he be more than an employee – he would be a partner, or nothing.

He told me that the remote location of the five-star establishment

makes for a perfect lifestyle – the partners and their staff work hard during tourist season, and then are free to vacation or work elsewhere the rest of the year. Garry spends several weeks skiing, in the winter months.

And yes, the staff does work hard. The place is full, all the time – reservations are essential. But the staff I saw all seemed to be enjoying themselves. That includes the kitchen staff – I was invited to step into the small cooking area, where the magic happens, and even the guy washing dishes was laughing.

The food? I started – wisely – with Caesar salad, and then took Garry’s recommendation, a had-dock special. I know – ordering an ocean fish in land-locked Saskatchewan may seem silly. But it was amazing, served with lobster and shrimp, risotto and fresh asparagus.

The wine? I bucked tradition, and went for red, even with fish, and the Merlot was terrific. Most of the wines on their menu are \$20 per glass. The wine list draws high praise from customers who post reviews on line.

My dessert choice was a white chocolate crème brûlée. ‘Nuff said.

There is a paragraph on the restaurant’s website that is so apt that I am going to risk being accused of plagiarism, and quote it directly: “It takes more than exquisite cooking to make a memorable meal. Set in beautiful Waskesiu, we at Pietro believe an intimate atmosphere in the right location, personal and attentive service and great company are what separates a delicious dinner from an unforgettable experience.”

And that, it was. Unforgettable.

Paul Knowles is an author and travel writer, and Past-President of the Travel Media Association of Canada. To contact Paul about travel, his books, or speaking engagements, email pknowles@golden.net.



The feature of the day at Restaurant Pietro, as recommended by Garry Findlay.



Waskesiu streetscape; a village of less than 100 inhabitants welcomes thousands every summer.



One of the art galleries and boutiques in Waskesiu.



The unpretentious entrance to Restaurant Pietro.



Gary Gagne with all the ingredients for his amazing Caesar salad.



The maestro at work!



Waskesiu Lake.

(PAUL KNOWLES PHOTOS)

Riddles

What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years?
The letter M.

I'm not alive, but I can grow. I don't have lungs, but I need air. What am I?
Fire.

What can travel around the world while staying in the same corner?
A stamp.

What can be cracked, made, told, and played?
A joke.

The more of me you take, the bigger I get. What am I?
A hole.

What can fill a room but takes up no space?
Light.

What comes down but never goes up?
Rain.

What has many teeth but can't bite?
A comb.

What has four wheels and flies?
A garbage truck.

Sudoku

4	3	6						
2					9	1		5
	1		6		7	4		8
	4	3	7		6	2		
1			4				7	3
			2	9	3			
	9		1	7			4	
6		1						2
	5						8	1

Solutions on page 19

Sponsored by:



PET OF THE WEEK

PRIMROSE, DAHLIA, IRIS, FERN & STELLA

Meet our Pets of the Week:

Primrose, Dahlia, Iris, Fern and Stella just started laying eggs. They will produce a variety of brown, green and even blue egg shells. Their favourite things to do are catch bugs and dig in the garden.

Stay tuned for more heartwarming stories every week from Paris Veterinary Clinic.



Word Search

PICNIC ESSENTIALS

Z C Z K N I S E H C I W D N A S M S H I
P H N V Q V C O O L E R G Q I Y X K F J
G E E Z X I Q H C F B Z T Y R E T A W M
T E E Q U I O F W D B S K C B G Z B I C
I S R T Q J I R E K A E P S M V X T H D
E E C K I Q A J T R W D G X Y J P T M M
A B S Q D I A S R F K P N A P K I N S I
A G N W E F T A A W T B A S K E T C I A
F V U M M Y M T S J R E S K C A N S Y G
I V S N X T K F H D S T K E R G O S U P
G C H F M B A W B D S O B N V G O S U S
X G E S P S U U A M X W G R A M B U D N
Q Y D P D H O G G D Q E A B R L B N Q C
V B L S A H L K S F S L E E O W B G F R
X T W W I C M U H P E E H L Y T V L J A
L T C C Y N K Y G Y R T M C O I S A K C
X Z G R P G K S N E U A U A X U B S C K
N B Q I M G E F T H C J Y Z G R B S L E
A H H E D Q C F S M T E K E L F F E T R
G N U B U E L X L E M O N A D E T S W S

- Blanket
- Basket
- Cooler
- Napkin
- Sandwiches
- Fruit
- Snacks
- Cheese
- Crackers
- Thermos
- Icepacks
- Lemonade
- Water
- Trashbag
- Sunscreen
- Bugspray
- Sunglasses
- Towel
- Speaker
- Games

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EMAIL TO INQUIRE INFO@THEPARISINDEPENDENT.COM

JULY 19 & 26

Walk & Welcome - Free guided one hour tours of downtown Paris at 9:30 am and 11 am. Hosted by Tasty Road Trips Food Tours. Register and start your day navigating and planning your Paris adventure.

TUESDAY, JULY 22

Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting - The Knights of Columbus will hold their monthly meeting on Tuesday July 22, 2025 at Sacred Heart Parish Hall starting at 7:30 pm. Use the Queen Street parking lot door to enter.

JULY 21-25

Free Kids Program - Intergalactic Voyage Summer Camp. Join us for this five-day club running from July 21-25 from 9 am to 11:30 am, games, music, bible lessons, snacks and true life stories. Open to children ages 5-12. Register now to secure your spot www.parisbaptistchurch.org or call 519-442-3541.

JULY 26 & 27

Grand River Champion of Champions Powwow - held at the Ohsweken Speedway on July 26th and 27th. Annual Powwow Celebrations, we are looking forward to this year's Grand River Champion of Champions Powwow. We welcome Powwow singers and dancers from across Turtle Island. Smoke Dance (Haudenosaunee Style) Special. Over 100 Craft and 40 Food local and indigenous artisans. This event is open to the public, everyone welcome.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

Primacare Community Family Health Team Presents Grief Talks Education Series: July 30th beginning at 5:30 pm, upstairs at the Wilkin Boardroom, 25 Curtis Ave N Paris. Feature speaker is Tammy Adams, a Certified Grief Recovery Method Specialist supporting individuals Canada-wide.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

The Brant County Men's Probus Club Meeting -Being held on Tuesday August 12, 2025 at 10 am at the Sherwood Restaurant 799 Colborne Street in Brantford. Our speaker will be Dr. Josh Neposolan talking about his world travels. New members are always welcome.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

The Knights of Columbus Monthly Meeting - To be held on Tuesday August 26, 2025 at Sacred Heart Parish Hall starting at 7:30 pm. Use the Queen Street parking lot door to enter.

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

The Brant Men of Song and the Brant County Singers will be holding an evening of Chora-oke - Held on Monday August 25 at Sydenham-Heritage United Church basement (120 Sydenham St. starting from 7 pm to 9 pm. All men and women are invited to see our choral activities and enjoy an evening of song.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 26

The Brant County Men's Probus Club Meeting -Being held on Tuesday August 12, 2025 at 10 am at the Sherwood Restaurant 799 Colborne Street in Brantford. Our speaker will be Dr. Josh Neposolan talking about his world travels. New members are always welcome.

The Paris Independent

Contribute to your local community newspaper! Send articles, sports or event recaps, and photos to stories@theparisdependent.com

Memories of summer in Canada: A tribute to community and entertainment

STONES Around Town

By Jeff Johnston
(a.k.a. Stones)

Ah, summer, and here we are, another Canada Day gone by. Congratulations to all as it is a great honour and a privilege to be Canadian. It harkens back to days gone by when, as Wayne Morrison told me, for a typical end of week evening we would catch the band's 1st set at the Royal, 2nd set at the Paris Inn (run by Mr. Hubachuk, I believe), 3rd set at the Arlington. In my timeline, Mr. Ferguson owned it (RIP Chipper), or reverse order depending on what bands were playing. An earlier mentor in my life, Larry Heath, had the shuffleboard. Who am I kidding, Jerry was one too. Entertainment seemed easy to find, and it still is. The Grand Bayou, the Paris Inn, the Paris Beer Company, The Dog Ear'd Café, The Paris Pub, the Legion and others

still have great entertainment to be found on a given night.

All the talent to be found here when you look back, bands like the Morrison Hotel, Rusty Stone, Dirty Laundry, Tumbling Dice (Danny, Chris Adams, Harry Rich - I'm leaving out people, sorry), Shayne Lahay, Jimmie Moore, Art Mackenzie's many bands (RIP Mountain), and let us not forget a personal favourite of mine, Bob Banks, Shawn Blackmore, Chris Starks, Wardy, Kevin Bethune, and Gary Wright (RIP Gary, always). Of course, I must give a shout out to the late great Terry Sumsion for all our Brantford fans (RIP Terry) and cheers to our esteemed Editor-In-Chief Chris Whelan and his band the Shanigans. Even when I was out of town at a younger age, the last call at the Royal would ring out or the Paris Inn. Sometimes, I'd stay local to catch the hometown bands. I saw my fellow blues brother at the Paris Inn in a band called Sucking Wind. Why go to Brantford? There is so much to do in Brant County, so get out and about. Lead with a smile and kindness, you know, the Paris way.

Here's a few more unrelated, random thoughts that only locals might realize!

There is a speed sign that runs



Pictured is a famous Paris band, Dirty Laundry. From left to right, Bob Banks, Art McKenzie, ?? and Wayne Morrison.

by solar power going up the mile hill from Washington, and as long as I can recall, it has never worked. You know why? It's in the shade. It's funny.

Have you noticed the lights at the dam are so beautiful, so much

so that they are on during the day? I told Dad, and Old Gordie said, "You're lucky he's not a taxpayer anymore. Who's paying the hydro bill?" (Honestly, they are).

Have a safe summer, and re-

member, as Croosh says, safety is a six-letter word and a seven-day concern. Please have a safe and happy summer and remember "leave no stone unturned!"

CLASSIFIEDS

EMAIL TO INQUIRE INFO@THEPARISINDEPENDENT.COM

COMING EVENTS

2025 OUTDOOR MARKET SERIES - at The Paris Wincey Mills 31 Mechanic St. Paris. For more information call 519-774-0600 or email eliesther.rivera@gmail.com
DATES: Sunday, May 18; Sunday, June 22; Sunday, July 20; Sunday, August 24; Sunday, September 28

WANTED

I will pay cash for antiques and collectibles. Coca Cola, Pepsi or any pop company. Brewery items - Kuntz, Huether Labatts, etc. Old radios and gramophones, wristwatches, pocket watches, old fruit jars - Beaver Star, Bee Hive etc. Any old oil cans and signs - Red Indian, Supertest etc. Any small furniture. If you are moving or cleaning out stuff please contact me – 519-570-6920.



ARNOLD ANDERSON SPORT FUND
25th Anniversary

Everyone Welcome!

FREE

FILL THE PARK

FAMILY FUN DAY
SATURDAY, JULY 26, 2025

Arnold Anderson Stadium, Brantford

✓ INFLATABLES ✓ GAMES ✓ PRIZES
✓ BALLOON ARTISTS ✓ FACE PAINTING
✓ ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES



12 PM - 1:30 PM

Red Sox game to follow at 2 pm

We need you! **Volunteers Needed**



Seeking volunteers to assist at our Saturday BBQs.
We need your help.
No membership or experience needed, we will train.

All positions available, set up, prep, cooking, order taking, and cash.
Shifts are 11:30am to 5ish

This could be a great opportunity for highschool students.
Contact Barry Humphrey - 705-872-2348



The Paris Independent

THIS COULD BE YOUR AD HERE!

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO!

SUDOKU ANSWERS								
4	3	6	8	5	1	9	2	7
2	7	8	3	4	9	1	6	5
9	1	5	6	2	7	4	3	8
8	4	3	7	1	6	2	5	9
1	2	9	4	8	5	6	7	3
5	6	7	2	9	3	8	1	4
3	9	2	1	7	8	5	4	6
6	8	1	5	3	4	7	9	2
7	5	4	9	6	2	3	8	1

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