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**\* WEEKLY \***

\* GUELPH'S OFFLINE ALT-WEEKLY \* FREE EVERY THURSDAY \*



The best of what's happening every week here in Guelph  
 \* and \* Year-Round Hiking Aplenty \*  
 \* AGG's Windfall Light Exhibit \* Idioteque bring The Bends \*  
 \* plus \* What's Going on With The Bench \* Trivia Answers \*

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Hello all and thanks for picking up another week's edition of *net*, Guelph's offline micro-alt-weekly. We love seeing folks adding some colour to these so keep reaching out to show us your work if you've spent some time being artistic with the weekly. Feel free to tag us in a photo or catch me on Wednesday afternoons as I make the rounds with my trusty canvas bag filled with ten pounds of *net*.

The summer has officially arrived and the weather is... well. It's here. No *FIFA* sanctioned hydration breaks for us though as we plan to keep rolling straight through the summer and have some great content lined up over the next few months.

I feel the need to mention that this is the first edition of *net weekly* printed from our apartment. A stretch-goal we made quite early in the endeavor was to be able to take back that final step of the process, and now we can, thanks in large to the "tips" from our buymeacoffee link on the [netweeklyguelph.com](http://netweeklyguelph.com) website.

This week's issue takes a look at the nice and sometimes not so nice weather past-time of hiking here in Guelph, TMN tells us their thoughts on the *Windfall Light* exhibit currently running at the *Art Gallery of Guelph*, I caught up with *Idioteque*, a *Radiohead* tribute act ahead of their performance of *The Bends* at Sonic Hall this weekend, and our food writer G.G reached out to the city to get more info on what's going on with The Bench. All that and the answers to last week's trivia about Guelph downtown eateries past and present.

Thanks for reading, remember to keep an eye out for our neighbours and those who may be more vulnerable to the summer heat. See you again.

- Michael

**All here!  
All year!**



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Saturdays • 8AM-1PM • 2 Gordon St

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**net**  
NET WEEKLY GUELPH

Michael K Newton - Founder/Many Things  
G.G. Ill - Food  
TMN - City, Culture, Cover Illustration

Made by real people. Printed in our apartment.  
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trying to help you stay off your phone just a little bit more since April 30th 2026.

**Aimee Copping** girlsplains *The Great American Songbook* 8PM/\$15/PWYC **La Poche**, 40 Quebec St

Hamilton's **Superstar Crush** with **You Might Be Sleeping** and **Misinformation** 10PM/PWYC **Jimmy Jazz**, 48 Macdonell St

--- SUNDAY JUNE 28 ---

*Markets on the Court* hosted by **The Hive** - 11-3pm every Sunday, **the tennis court on the hill** at 75 Dublin St. N ••

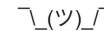
*Unofficial Queer Running Club* 9:30am/FREE/PWYC DONATION meeting at **Common Ground Studio**, 44 Essex St ••

--- MONDAY JUNE 29 ---

*Guelph Jazz Society Drop In Parade Band*, b.y.o instrument or borrow one, 6:30PM, S.E Corner of **Exhibition Park** ••

Open House/Makers Meetup - 8PM - **Diode Community Workshop**, 700 York Rd. ••

--- TUESDAY JUNE 30 ---



--- WEDNESDAY JULY 1 ---

**Canada Day Celebration** organized by **Super Crawl**, \*Fireworks\*, Food Trucks, Vendors, Games 3PM/FREE **Riverside Park**, 709 Woolwich St

*(Maybe)* a nice middle of the week day-off from work, when few things are open, time is a currency and today is a blank cheque. Anytime/FREE, **Anywhere** ( or maybe check to see if one of the spots that carry net are open and pay them a visit)



**A Friendly Guide**  
PWYC = Pay What You Can  
(\$) Sugg. = Suggested "PWYC" Price  
AA = All Ages  
19+ = Alcohol Served/ID Required  
ADV = Advanced Ticket Price, more at door  
•• = Weekly Recurring Event

**Want your event or show listed in NET?**  
call the hotline at **1-800-805-5818** and leave a clear message with details of the event.

**Not totally turned off by the Internet?**  
There are several great *ONLINE* resources to find out what's happening here in Guelph and these four are especially worth mentioning...

[www.guelphspotlight.ca](http://www.guelphspotlight.ca)'s Online guide  
[@musicguelph](https://www.instagram.com/musicguelph) and [@exhibitionistmagazine](https://www.instagram.com/exhibitionistmagazine) actively reposting events on Instagram  
[www.whatsupguelph.com](http://www.whatsupguelph.com) e-mail blasts

## on the big screen

*The Mustang Drive-In* is now running 7 nights a week through Summer.

**The Breadwinner** (PG) @ The Mustang Drive-In, Nightly, 11:15

**Pressure** (PG) @ The Bookshelf, Thur 8:00

**Jason and The Argonauts** (PG) @ The Bookshelf, Thur 5:00

**Toy Story 5** (G) @ The Mustang Drive-In, Nightly 9:35



**The Bookshelf** listings were not yet available. **The Mustang Drive-In** is located at 5012 Jones Baseline, Guelph

There are two cineplex theatres in Guelph located at both 485 Woodlawn Rd. W and 85 Clair Rd. E. Outside of special interest screenings, those listings can be found at [cineplex.com](http://cineplex.com)

Princess Cinemas has two locations in Waterloo and their programming is worth the drive.

# whats going on

--- THURSDAY JUNE 25 ---

**Open Art Circle** - drop in accessible art program 3pm / FREE - **Art Not Shame**, 119 Wyndham St. N. ••

Live jazz every Thursday - 7:30 / \$15/PWYC  
**La Poche** 40 Quebec St ••

Ed Video's **The Image Makers** 7PM/FREE  
**Silence** 46 Essex St

**Anna Wiebe and Her Band**, 7PM/PWYC  
**Loose Goose**, 30 Wilson St

**Stone Serpent** book launch 7PM/FREE **Red Brick Cafe**, 8 Douglas St

**Karaoke** with host **Stale Dale** 10PM - 19+ PWYC/FREE at the **Jimmy Jazz** 48 Macdonell St. ••

--- FRIDAY JUNE 26 ---

**Rolling Fridays** roller skates, Rollerblades and wheelchairs welcome, helmets required for all, 6:30 / FREE **Exhibition Park Arena**, 70 Division ••

Anita Valentine's **Pride Party Drag Show** with performances from **Anita Velntine, Kezbo, Yu Reinas** and **Gina Tortellina** 7:30/\$20 DOOR/19+ **The Cornerstone**, 1 Wyndham St

**Radiohead Tribute 'Idioteque'** perform 'The Bends' 7PM/AA/\$25 adv **Sonic Hall**, 12 Wyndham St *SEE FEATURE*

**The Attic** and **Meteor Heist**, 8:30/\$15/PWYC **Brothers Brewing**, 15 Wyndham St

**Drag Bingo Pride Edition** hosted by **TroyBoy Parks** and **Molly Keul** 8PM/\$15 **Raging Bull Dart Lounge**, 84 Lewis Rd

**Dr. Mike & The Night Nurses** live reggae 8PM/NO COVER **Fixed Gear Brewing**, 20 Alma St

**Guelph Museums Fourth Friday** featuring live performance by **Mr. Sauga**. doors 5pm show 7PM/AA/DONATION/PWYC **Guelph Civic Museum**, 52 Norfolk St

**House/Disco djs Little Flame** 10PM/PWYC **Jimmy Jazz** 48 Macdonell

--- SATURDAY JUNE 27 ---

**PARKRUN** the **Eramosa River Trail** every Saturday morning 5KM volunteer led run/walk - 9am Start - FREE - **85 York Rd** ••

**Guelph Farmers Market Strawberry Social** face painting and kids activities, 8AM/FREE **Guelph Farmers Market**, 2 Gordon St

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**The Good Games** festival, various sport competitions, installations, activations, family activities, food trucks, beer garden, festivities 10am/FREE both Saturday and Sunday, **University of Guelph**, 50 Stone Rd E

**Summer Solstice Night Market** ft local food, vendors, live music 6PM/FREE **Guelph Farmers Market**, 2 Gordon St

**Kenya Cultural Festival** celebrating culture, music, dance and food 11:30/FREE, **Riverside Park**, 709 Woolwich St

CBL Baseball action with the **Guelph Royals** hosting the **Barrie Baycats** 7:05/\$12 **David E Hastings Stadium**, 70 Division St

**PRO WRESTLING** presented by **365 Pro Wrestling** 6:30/\$25 ADV, **Red Chevron Club**, 34 Elizabeth St

## on the horizon

### NEWLY ON SALE SHOWS AND HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEAR-FUTURE

*Many many artists* at Hillside Festival, July 17th, 18th, 19th at Guelph Lake Island.

*Shiv and The Carvers with Ruby Doom and Miracle Fraud* at Sonic Hall July 17.

*Fiver and Tube Top* July 23rd at the A.N.A.F.

*Apple of Basilisk* July 24th at the J Jazz.

Peter Elkas, The Fembots, The Pintos at Sonic Hall, Aug 28th.

Tribute acts to *The Eagles, ABBA, Neil Diamond, AC/DC, The Highway Men, Frankie Valli, The Beatles* at the River Run Centre this Fall Season.

*The Weather Station* at Sonic hall, Oct 21

A municipal election October 26th (*Happy Halloween!*). Devils Night *Hybrid Club*.

Tommy Youngsteen performing *Fleetwood Mac's Rumours* at Sonic Hall in October and *Wannabe - A Spice Girls Tribute* at Sonic Hall in November.

A heavy dose of CanCon with *The Stampeders, Matthew Good, I Mother Earth, Men Without Hats* and *Big Wreck* visiting The River Run Centre between November and March

The realisation that by this time, next year, you'll be in the last quarter of the decade. Start the project you've been putting off now.

# city

## Guelph Offers Opportunities for Year-Round Hiking

Strangely enough, I first got into hiking in Toronto. I was an outdoor kid growing up in Sarnia, riding my bike wherever I pleased and taking myself for swims in Lake Huron and the St. Clair River. I biked on park trails and went for walks, but we weren't a hiking or camping family. After moving to Toronto for school, I spent hours on the waterfront trail that stretches west and east across the shore of Lake Ontario, and eventually found myself making my way north along the Don Valley and into Crother's Woods. In the summer-hot city, surrounded by metal and glass I found myself craving the thick sounds and feel of trees and trails and arriving there, locking my bike to a street sign, and giving myself over to the steep and winding trails made me fall in love with a new side of the city. Honking car horns, sirens, and the clang of streetcars gave way to cicadas and breeze-through-leaves. I suppose I became a hiker.

Guelph allowed me to expand this newfound love of mine with kilometers of hike-able trail nestled right into the city proper. I picked up a copy of the Waterloo, Wellington & Guelph edition of *Loops & Lattes* by Nicola Ross (a great resource!) and got to work.

My first (and favourite) Guelph hike started for me in my home zone of the west end. The Speed River Trail starts and ends officially at Niska Road, but it's also accessible from an entrance near the Guelph Wastewater Treatment Plant. Admittedly, this isn't the most inspiring place to start and end a hike, but once you get past the plant, the trail opens up to the embrace of cedar trees and flowing water. The trail has several gorgeous lookout points - Google Maps even has a dedicated entry for the "Speed River Bench". It is a great bench, to be fair. There are little brooks that wind toward the Speed with little bridges peppered throughout to help you along your way. I've done the hike in every season now, but late spring is when the trail really comes alive. When you hit the sweet spot where the trails are dry enough after the winter thaw but before the mosquitoes completely take over, you're in for an inspiring 6.5 kilometre loop - well maintained by the *Guelph Hiking Trail Club*.

Expanding from there, I enjoyed the view of the city from Starkey Hill, easy trails that cross and intersect across The Arboretum, The Ignatius Centre, and finally, my second favourite area to hike in Guelph: Preservation Park. Preservation Park can easily be a choose-your-own adventure

type hike where if you're looking for a quick and easy after work nature walk or a more moderate 8km plus, you'll find it here. You can even expand your foray into adjacent Hanlon Creek Park if you want to make a half day out of it. The nonstop whoosh of Hanlon Parkway traffic is stifled by the carpet of pine needles and soft mud. Blue sky opens up in spots where the trees are thinner, and cool shade abounds in the thicker spots. Creaky but well-kept boardwalks will help you across the mushier parts of the terrain, and rich scented cedars make the few uphill climbs worth the effort.

Part of the fun for me in finding these city hikes is crossing the rest of the city on foot to get to them. For me, my hike starts when I leave my place, even if the first bit of that walk is going to be on spotty sidewalks sandwiched between busy roads. Abundant front yard gardens, sighing trees and lawnmower buzz tell us that nature won't be contained by the dotted lines on AllTrails and this time of year, when new growth explodes in its insistence, is the perfect time to go out and find it.

-TMN



If I am to chime in on anything hiking it has to be my winter solstice marathon walks. Mid-December 2024 I told myself I wanted 'one-more' win for what was a really crummy year. I challenged myself to walk the distance of a marathon, bordering the City of Guelph, within the span of daylight on the shortest day of the year. I'd never done anything like this before, the closest would be biking a century ride (100km) within the city of Toronto but I'd never ran or walked anything close to a marathon *intentionally*.

I layered up for the -12 Celsius weather and left the apartment at first light, 7:51 the morning of December 21st, and headed down Paisley Rd with little training or planning, I just wanted this 'win' and I wanted to do it while exploring the city I live in. I packed an ancient mp3 player loaded with archival broadcasts of *Coast to Coast AM* with the late Art Bell. I listened to three of those episodes in row, including one with a woman who claims to have remembered her entire birth. It was fascinating. I was totally locked in, entirely in my own universe, bundled up and making a good pace as I walked out of the West End towards Northview Park, on the very corner of the city near the GORBA trails.

REPRINT

# hiking cont'd

From there, I cut back down Victoria, heading up Eastview Rd to find a *McDonald's* I didn't know existed. I took Watson through the new neighborhood and back into the Ward via a side-walk-less York Rd. I made my way up through the Arboretum and found myself locked in the gated retirement community adjacent. My first unfortunate backtrack of the walk. I made it out to the *Longos* at the south edge of the city, taking the beautiful Westminster Wood trail system that once again, I did not know existed.

From there, I hugged the corners of the city all the way home. There's not much action to describe, a lot of walking, a lot of listening to myself think. I ended up hitting my goal at

## culture

### Windfall Light at the Art Gallery of Guelph

*Windfall Light* takes its name from the Dylan Thomas poem *Fern Hill* and both Thomas and the artists in this exhibition have managed to capture the fleeting impermanence of summer and the unfettered sense of possibility that many kids feel once they've cast off the shackles of school. The thing you wait all year for that seems to be on its way out as soon as it comes. The morning light, the long shadows as the daylight fades, the messy growth of trees and gardens, and the sudden electric darkness of a summer night storm.

Walking up to the second floor of the AGG I was met first with a green wall, specifically, the light baby-green of an unfurling leaf or the sweet bottom part of a stalk of grass pulled from the ground. I always consider the paint colour on gallery walls - when curators depart from the white cube, it's usually for a reason. These walls want you to know that summer has arrived, but she won't be here for long. Beside the vinyl paragraphs contextualizing the show hangs two oil paintings by Monica Tap. Tap's paintings immediately brought to mind the darkness to be found at the edges of summer. The evenings spent outdoors in good company with the day coming to a slow close and before you realize it, blanketed with stars, surrounded by chirping and flying things, dramatic shadows cast by fire. With these paintings inviting me further into *Windfall Light*, I was enamoured.

Moving through, I was struck emotional by Takao Tanabe's *The Land: Spring* and James Lahey's *Nocturne*, hung side by side opposite Tap's canvases. Lahey's smooth oil is a horizon, dark and foreboding. It's the moment before a summer storm breaks - electric air, the smell of rain, mud, grass. It's uneasy but so familiar

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42.03 km walked in 7 hours and 36 minutes, in the parking lot of *The Manor*. I beat the sun.

I repeated this activity again last Winter Solstice but with added ice, and will likely continue this as long as I am able to. As someone who still pauses when referring to Guelph as home, draining my body and mind to touch it's corners in one-go certainly helped me understand the perimeters of where I've chosen to live.

Walk for 42 kilometres or one, but take these hazy mornings and humid afternoons as an invitation to find some trees and breathe a little easier - ticks, mosquitoes, and gated communities notwithstanding.

- Michael

TMN, Net

and it reminds me of being a kid riding wild under big skies, waiting for the storm to break the heat. Tanabe brings us a horizon in daytime, golden and glowing while the corn is still low. The electric green of soy fields and acid yellow of canola - the out-the-window view of long car rides under an unbroken blue sky. That horizon is quiet but buzzing, empty but full of life. It's where people labour, it's where our food grows. It's where a kid in the backseat of a dodge spirit in the early 90s sings along to "Something Happened on the Way to Heaven" by Phil Collins.

Moving through the space, each artwork seems to evoke different moments of summer. As noted in the curatorial statement, "this exhibition does not describe summer directly so much as linger within its thresholds". John Chalmers' *Elora Quarry Series* consists of black and white images of adolescents on the threshold of adulthood enjoying Elora Quarry in the early 80s, moments marked by cigarettes, a playboy bunny tattoo, a leather vest and daisy dukes, bare feet and confidence.

Next week I'll be writing about the other exhibition currently on at the AGG, but for this week, I encourage you to stop by to experience this show. While we are on the heels of solstice and the days are as long as they're going to get, you won't regret spending some time pondering the look, feel, and memory of summer. I've touched on only a few works in this write-up, but the show is threaded through with water, dappled sunlight, sunrise and twilight, and even a small watercolour impression of a quiet graveyard casting long shadows in the late afternoon sun. And if you can't get out this week, no worries and no need for FOMO here. *Windfall Light* is on until August 30. I'll see you next week with my thoughts on Couzyn van Heuvelen's CAMP.

# food

## The Bench: What's Going On and How You Can Help

On June 4, The Bench — the meeting spot/food bank/soup kitchen that operates at the corner of Wyndham and Woolwich — was served a notice from Wellington-Dufferin Public Health that they were, as The Bench posted on their Facebook page, "required to immediately discontinue the distribution of home-cooked meals, pre-made sandwiches, and baked goods that were not prepared in certified commercial kitchens or under approved food-handling standards."

A tall order for a volunteer-run, unincorporated, grassroots hunger-alleviation initiative! Since then, The Bench has gotten an influx of donations, from cash to food prepared by local restaurants (shout out City Pizza for donating some pies and Nguyen's for donating an incredible 112 sandwiches to The Bench), but there's kind of no long-term solution to this kind of thing other than playing by the (very costly) public-health rules.

Yeah, food safety is important. But it's remarkably frustrating to live in a jurisdiction where charitable efforts to help alleviate food insecurity are punished with bureaucracy. I reached out to the City to ask whether council has any power to push back against a Public Health order, and if council has any plans to assist the group.

## music

### Canada's Premiere Radiohead Tribute 'Idioteque' bring The Bends This Friday

**Net:** Can you introduce yourself and your fellow band mates and what roles you all cover in *Idioteque*?

**Don, Idioteque :** Hey, I'm Don Scott and I sing leads and also play guitar in *Idioteque*, playing the role of Thom Yorke. Though sometimes I'm greedy and I get to play a few cool Jonny Greenwood guitar parts too. We also have Jessica Stuart on guitar, vocals and glockenspiel, Charles Tilden on guitar, vocals, percussion, and many bleep bloop machines making weird noises, Teri Parker on keys and percussion, Liam Smith on bass, and Ernesto Cervini on drums, vocals, and other bleep bleeps. You may notice we have 6 members rather than *Radiohead's* 5 - we all cover a variety of sounds, and especially guitarists all get to trade playing leads, rhythm and weird FX parts regardless who plays them in *Radiohead*. For Teri, she picks up all the strings and piano stuff as our dedicated keys whiz!

**Net:** This date at Sonic Hall is highlighting 1995's *The Bends*, approximately how much of the *Radiohead* catalogue does *Idioteque* know how to play?

**Don:** Yes, we're playing *The Bends* full album note-for-note, as well as an opening set of tunes from all the other albums. Hmm, my notes tell me

GG III, Net

Mayor Cam Guthrie, through communications advisor Mark MacKinnon, advised that council can't override a Public Health order. He also said that while he believes council is aware of the Public Health order, there are no plans to engage The Bench, "however, the city is thankful for the services they provide. We have made emergency grants available to them in the past for other services. Further, the city does have annual Well Being Grants which organizations like theirs can investigate further and potentially apply for funding opportunities from the city."

As the city heads into a municipal election, I hope that The Bench and groups like it are considered in candidates' platforms. If not for the work they do, then for the needs of the clientele they serve. In the meantime, if you want to donate, find The Bench on Facebook to see what they need today.

Anyway, back to the fun stuff — here are last week's trivia answers!

1. "Let's eat";
2. noodles or rice;
3. Sausage Bros.;
4. antojitos;
5. The Fat Duck;
6. The Other Brother;
7. 20,000;
8. Piñata;
9. China Park;
10. Franchetto;
11. One;
12. GCVI

we've covered 85-90 songs now, including B-sides, depending if you count a couple side project tracks - we've done a few songs from Thom Yorke's solo work and by *The Smile*. We've done full album concerts for *The Bends*, *OK Computer*, *Hail To The Thief*, and *In Rainbows*...so far.

**Net:** Top Three *Radiohead* Albums?

**Don:** *In Rainbows*. *OK Computer*. *The Bends*. Though on another day I might swap one for *Kid A* or *Hail To The Thief* depending on my mood.

**Net:** Top Three *Radiohead* Songs?

**Don:** People often ask this, and I don't think I could narrow it to 3. But for today's mood, I'll say: Just. Exit Music. Everything In Its Right Place.

**Net:** Best bit, or your favourite moment, be it a chord change, production trick or lyric from any *Radiohead* song?

**Don:** I'd have to say the section after the drums kick in on Exit Music, then where Thom goes up high and sings "Now, we are one..." To this day, whenever I hear the recording or sing that part with *Idioteque*, I get full goosebumps. I don't know what's going on, it's just built into the song.

*Idioteque* perform *Radiohead's The Bends*, note for note this Friday night at Sonic Hall. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased from [sonichall.ca](http://sonichall.ca)

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