

October 2026

Economic and Community Development Month



ROBERT FRANZ
PLAY IT FORWARD
INSTRUMENT LIBRARY

A new partnership is providing previously owned musical instruments to inspire a new generation of musicians.

The **Rotary Club of Canada South**, Windsor Symphony Orchestra (WSO), Windsor Public Library (WPL), and the City of Windsor have teamed up to launch *The Robert Franz Play It Forward Instrument Library*. The initiative will collect donated instruments, prepare them for lending, and make them available free of charge to Windsor-Essex residents through the Windsor Public Library system.



Rotary 
Club of Canada South

WSO
Windsor Symphony Orchestra

WINDSOR
PUBLIC LIBRARY

 **THE CITY OF WINDSOR**
ONTARIO, CANADA

Named in honour of the late Maestro Robert Franz (1968-2025), whose passion for music enriched countless lives throughout Windsor-Essex, the program aims to remove financial barriers to music education while encouraging creativity, learning, and participation in the arts.

Maestro Robert Franz

March 10, 1968 —
September 2, 2025



Instruments may also be donated in the following ways:

- 1) At the Windsor Symphony Orchestra: During regular business hours, Monday from 12:00–5:00 p.m. and Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., at The Capitol Theatre, 121 University Avenue West, Windsor, ON N9A 5P4.
- 2) Before a WSO concert: Instruments may be dropped off before any Windsor Symphony Orchestra concert.
- 3) Instrument Pickup by Rotary Club of Canada South: Have an instrument to donate but unable to drop it off? Members of the Rotary Club of Canada South would be happy to arrange a convenient pickup. Simply email canadasouthrotary@gmail.com to make arrangements.



Accepted donations include guitars, violins, violas, cellos, trumpets, trombones, clarinets, flutes, saxophones, percussion instruments, and other portable musical instruments in playable or repairable condition. Donors are also encouraged to include cases, bows, mouthpieces, music stands and other accessories where available.

Pianos will not be accepted due to transportation and storage requirements.



Following collection, donated instruments will be transferred to the Windsor Symphony Orchestra where they will be evaluated, repaired or refurbished if required, and prepared for lending.

Once approved, instruments will be catalogued and made available through Windsor Public Library. Borrowers will require a valid adult Windsor Public Library card and will be able to borrow instruments for a three-week period, with renewals available when instruments are not reserved by another user.

The Windsor Symphony Orchestra will provide donated instruments to Windsor Public Library on a monthly basis, with the first collection expected to be available for public borrowing beginning December 1, 2026.



Our Club received great media coverage resulting from the press conference held at the Capitol Theatre on Oct. 14, 2026. Not bad for a Rotary Club in its first month of being chartered!



*A Very Special
"Thank You!"*



To our RCCS Committee:

Pam Mady

Mary-Ann Stark

Peter Lanthier

PEACE POLE DEDICATIONS
Peace Walk Together on the Gordie
Saturday September 26, 2026
 Rain Date Sunday October 4, 2026

May Peace Prevail on Earth

Meet at Malden Park for the Peace Pole Dedication. Matchett Rd. entrance, west of soccer fields. If you preordered a red shirt you will get it here. **10** Meet at Riverside Park on West Jefferson for the Peace Pole Dedication. If you preordered a blue shirt you will get it here.

Travel to the parking lot on Sandwich St., across from the pedestrian bridge entrance. **10:30** Travel to the parking lot at Historic Fort Wayne. Enter, then left, left.

PASSPORT CHECK
 You **MUST** have your Passport, Enhanced Drivers License, NEXUS Card, or Passport Card. Even if you are going halfway and coming back. Real-ID is NOT ENOUGH

Start the walk to the middle of the bridge! **11** Start the walk to the middle of the bridge!
 You did it! Meet in the middle for photos and fellowship! **11:30** You did it! Meet in the middle for photos and fellowship!

 **Rotary** District 6400 

On September 26, 2026, District 6400 Rotarians and friends gathered on both sides of the border to dedicate a Peace Pole. After the ceremony, attendees walked across the Gordie Howe International Bridge from their respective sides and met in the middle.



What is a Peace Pole?

Peace Poles carry the message of peace, May Peace Prevail On Earth, in the languages of the world. They are recognized as the most prominent international symbol and monument dedicated to peace on earth. Peace Poles have been planted on every continent in over 200,000 communities by friends and supporters working in unison to uplift the consciousness of humankind.

They serve as reminders to cultivate peace in thought, word, and action while symbolizing humanity's shared desire for a world at peace and in harmony with all of creation.

Windsor Basketeers 2026 Campaign

Our Club is proud to participate in this year's campaign, led by our very own Mary-Ann Stark, by donating 3 baskets of household essentials for women transitioning from Hiatus House to a new home of their own.

If you haven't done so yet, please sign up for your donation – Antoinette sent an email on October 5 with the list of what is being collected. Bring your items to our November 5 meeting where we will pack them in totes.

This year's drop-off day is scheduled for **Saturday, November 21st from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon at The Safety Village in Forest Glade**. Please reach out to Mary-Ann at fourreds@outlook.com if you can help out that day.

*Basketeers got a great write-up in the October 2026 edition of Biz X Magazine!
Congratulations Mary-Ann!*

Small Baskets = Big Support For Basketeers Campaign

By Deborah Jones

Windsor Basketeers has launched its 2026 campaign with a simple message for potential donors: size doesn't matter.

As part of a national volunteer organization, Windsor Basketeers assists women transitioning from shelters by providing baskets or lidded storage totes containing household necessities such as dishes, cookware, towels, and linens. These practical gifts help transform an empty residence into a welcoming home and offer encouragement during a difficult life transition.

Last year, Windsor Basketeers collected 77 baskets and \$1,200 in gift cards, which were distributed to women transitioning from Windsor's **Hiatus House** women's shelter (HiatusHouse.com) to a new, safe home of their own. Since the launch of the Windsor chapter in 2019, local donors have contributed 357 baskets and totes, along with \$10,000 in gift cards, helping hundreds of women begin again with dignity and hope.

The need for support remains significant, as women continue to rely on organizations such as Hiatus House to escape domestic violence and build independent lives.

This year, coordinator **Mary-Ann Stark** hopes to make the program more accessible by reminding donors that a meaningful gift does not have to be large or expensive.

"We recognize that many families are carefully watching their budgets right now, and we don't want cost to be a barrier to helping someone in need," says Stark. "A smaller basket filled with a few thoughtful essentials can make a big difference to a woman starting over."

Donors can consider creating themed baskets, such as a Kitchen Essentials Basket (dish towels, dishcloths, measuring cups, a mixing bowl, food storage containers, a can opener, pot holders, and basic cooking utensils) or a Bathroom Essentials Basket (bath towels, hand towels, washcloths, a shower curtain, bath mat, storage containers, or a small first-aid kit).

"When a woman receives a basket from us, she sees more than the items inside," adds Stark. "She sees kindness, compassion, and a tangible reminder that people in her community care about her future."

The 2026 campaign also reflects the



Mary-Ann Stark (left) and Hiatus House Executive Director Sylvie Guenther raise their hands — and the bar — as they celebrate the generous basket donations at The Safety Village drop-off day on November 30, 2024. Photo courtesy of Windsor Basketeers.

growing partnership between Windsor Basketeers and the **Rotary Club of Canada South**. Stark joined Rotary in 2025 to help increase awareness of the program and make it easier for local residents to become involved.

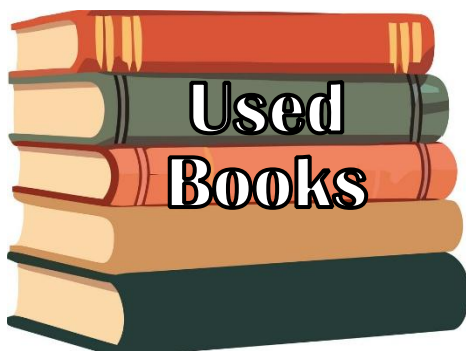
Individuals, families, workplaces, community groups, and service clubs are all encouraged to participate on **Saturday, November 21, 2026 from 9:30 a.m. to noon** when Windsor Basketeers is accepting filled baskets and lidded storage totes at the **Zekelman Safety Village**, 7911 Forest Glade Drive in Windsor.

For more details on how to donate, the annual campaign and contact info, go to: Basketeers.org/chapter/Windsor. **X**



Our first donation as a chartered Club was made to the Canadian Aviation Museum at our Meeting on Oct.1, 2026.

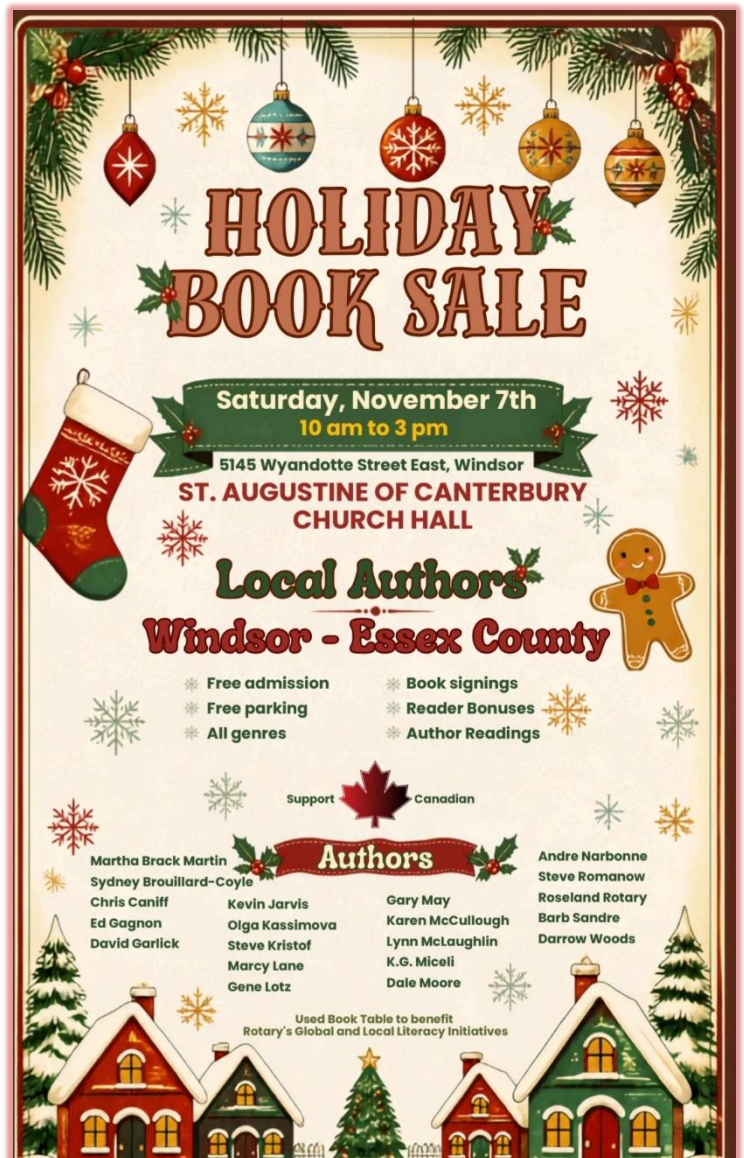
The \$500 is to be used as an early bird draw for an online raffle.



Please bring your Used Books to our next meeting on Nov.5, 2026.

All proceeds of the sale of used books will benefit Rotary's Global and Local Literary Initiatives.

Contact Gisele Seguin,
Chair of the Literacy Committee
for more details.





Burger Battle Passports are READY!

...and already selling like hotcakes!

The 5th Annual Burger Battle is bigger and better than ever!

There are 24 restaurants participating this year in the 'BOGO FREE" Burger & Fries Meal promotion that starts January 4, 2027. And best of all, there are 7 new restaurants to explore!

The \$25 Burger Battle Passports will be available at our Nov.5 meeting for you to sell to your friends and family on consignment.

Passports will also be available at all participating restaurants and can be purchased directly from our website:

www.canadasouthrotary.ca/burger-battle-2027/

*Burger Battle
Passports
make great
Stocking Stuffers!*



We'll be promoting / selling Burger Battle Passports at these local Holiday Markets.

We're still looking for volunteers to help on Sunday, Nov.29.

Please contact Paula Talbot if you can help.



Sunday, Nov.1, 2026
Lasalle Event Centre

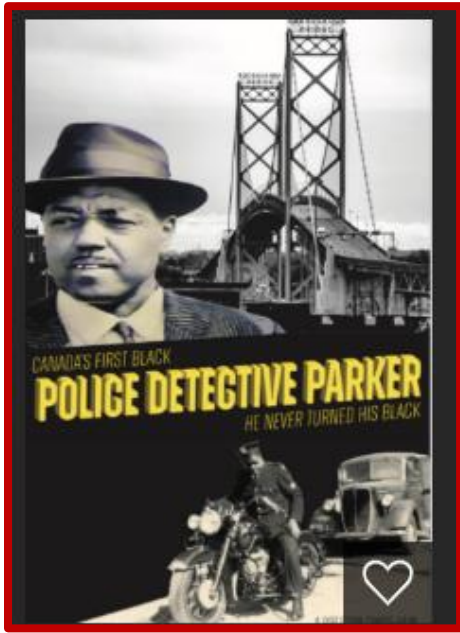


Saturday, Nov.14, 2026
WFCU Centre



Saturday, Nov.28, 2026
Sunday, Nov.29, 2026
Cdn. Transportation Museum

Social Events



**Alton C .Parker
was a proud Rotarian**

Our November Social Gathering is planned for **Sunday, Nov.8,2026** for the **11:00am** viewing of WIFF's **"Police Detective Parker"** film.

Alton C. Parker became the first Black police officer in his hometown in 1941, later rising to become Canada's first Black detective. In an era marked by deep racial bias, he broke barriers within the Windsor Police Force, confronting skepticism and systemic obstacles. Through skill, resilience, and determination, he earned the respect of colleagues and the community. His journey reshaped perceptions within law enforcement and helped spark broader social change, leaving a lasting legacy of possibility.

He became affectionately known as "Uncle Al" as he and his wife Evelyn held a summer picnic party for hundreds of neighborhood families for many years.

To order your ticket, go to www.windsorfilmfestival.com

Plans to meet for lunch after the film are underway ... details will be provided.

Please let Wendy Asher know if you plan to attend.



Gatherings of the Rotary Club of Canada South are held on the first Thursday of each month at the Ciociaro Club.

Mix & Mingle: 5:30pm – 6:00pm

Dinner & Meeting: 6:00pm – 7:00pm



Rotary District 6400  *Be a Difference Maker*

DG Kim's Club Visit
Thursday, Nov.5, 2026



Annual General Meeting
Thursday, Dec.3, 2026



Celebrating Birthdays in November:

Pam Mady – November 14



Upcoming events of our neighbouring Clubs.

Visit www.rotary6400.org for more details.

The Rotary Club of LaSalle Centennial presents the

Rotary
Club of LaSalle Centennial

TRIVIA CHALLENGE

with chicken & pasta buffet
Quiz master: Mack Flash Entertainment
Proceeds will support our local and international Rotary projects.

Friday, November 13 • 6:00 pm
St. Nicholas Macedonian Orthodox Church Community Centre
5225 Howard Ave, LaSalle, ON N9H 0J2
To request tickets, please email lasallecentennial@gmail.com

For information or to become a sponsor
Email: Lasallecentennial@gmail.com
Or go to: Rotarylasalle.ca

Table of 8 - \$400 or single tickets \$50 ea.

**KINGSVILLE MUSIC SOCIETY /
ROTARY CLUB OF KINGSVILLE SOUTHSHORE
2ND ANNUAL**

MUSIC TRIVIA PALOOZA

**FRIDAY
6
NOVEMBER**

DOORS 6PM / GAME STARTS 7PM
TABLE OF 8 \$450 / SINGLE \$60
FREE OG PIZZA / CASH BAR
LIMITED SEATING
SIGN UP WITH QR CODE

SUPPORTING YOUTH BASED PROGRAMS IN OUR COMMUNITY

**GROVEDALE
ARTS AND CULTURE CENTRE**
103 PARK STREET KINGSVILLE

MORE INFO: WWW.KINGSVILLEMUSICSOCIETY.COM

Rotary Club of Kingsville Southshore

THIS ISN'T YOUR
PARENTS' PLAYLIST

MUSIC BINGO

A FUNDRAISER FOR
WYANDOTTE ROTARY CLUB

NOT YOUR TYPICAL BINGO NIGHT.
WE'RE PLAYING THE SONGS YOU KNOW AND LOVE!

**WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 4**
F.O.P LOUNGE
822 Oak St, Wyandotte MI

DOORS OPEN
6:00 PM
MUSIC STARTS
7:00 PM

**\$30
PER PERSON**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
checkout.page/s/rBMMJtG14jXJB

PIZZA INCLUDED CASH BAR PRIZES

Rotary
Club of Garden City

GARDEN CITY ROTARY PRESENTS

DOWNRIVER MUSIC BINGO!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH

RADCLIFF CENTER
1751 RADCLIFF RD, GARDEN CITY, MI

WIN GREAT PRIZES!
BASKET RAFFLES
60/60 DRAWING
LIGHT SNACKS CASH BAR
NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR BEVERAGES PERMITTED

SUPPORTING SPONSOR
JORY
CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

INTERESTED IN SPONSORING THIS EVENT?
SUPPORT THE ROTARY CLUB AND GAIN VISIBILITY FOR YOUR BUSINESS.
CONTACT ROBERT WELCH@JORY.COM

OPEN/GENERAL SEATING. RESERVED SEATING AVAILABLE WHEN 8+ TICKETS PURCHASED IN ONE TRANSACTION.

DOORS OPEN
5:30 PM
EVENT
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
TICKETS
\$20 ADVANCE
\$25 AT DOOR

SCAN QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS

**ENTER TO WIN
DETROIT LIONS
GAME & GEAR RAFFLE**

Support the Rotary Club of Southgate by purchasing a raffle ticket for a chance to win!

TICKETS - \$20 EACH

GRAND PRIZE
TWO (2) THANKSGIVING DAY 2026
DETROIT LIONS VS CHICAGO BEARS TICKETS + TWO (2) JERSEYS, HATS, AND SHIRTS

The drawing will take place at
Rotary Club of Southgate Meeting
Logan's Roadhouse
13305 Eureka
Southgate, MI 48195
Thursday, November 5, 2026
at 12:30PM
Cash or check (payable to Southgate Rotary)
NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

**TO PURCHASE TICKETS, CONTACT:
ANY SOUTHGATE ROTARIAN OR KEVIN AT
DOWNRIVER_129@YAHOO.COM**