

TORONTO'S VOICE

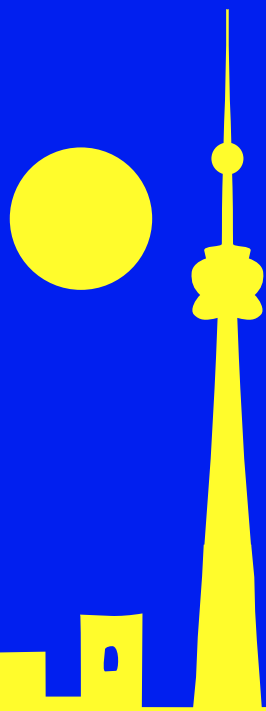


Photo by Dave Milbourne

August / September / October / 2026

CLEAN AIR NEEDED

Backyard's Statues - North York Hope For New Life



Photos by Barry Thomson



Dienela Hernandez Oxámendis

Photos by Jim "Carlos" Reid

For the short time, Dienela has been in Toronto she has already been performing in this city's leading Latin clubs. With over eight years experience starting in her home land Cuba.

As a professional vocalist she has studied , Salsa, Bolero, Bachata, & Cumbia. Studied at numerous leading musical institutions, and has won many international competitions. Appeared on Cuban TV. also her steller performances in Havana, Cuba's top night clubs.

Dienela has graced the stage at the embassies of Cuba, Mexico, Russia, & Venezuela. She also performed at the famous National Hotel of Cuba, Havana.

In 2021 secured a contract with the group , Take it Fresh performing in luxury hotels for seven months in Antalya, Turkey.

I have met, Dienela but not seen an alive performance. Although her husband , photographer & engineer , Jim "Carlos" Reid sent me a video of her dancing ,and singing in a top notch club in Havana. Very impressive, all the right moves, an all round performer you might say. Not surprising she has gained much attention here in Toronto.

Dave Milbourne



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My Son the Hurrican Band

Photo by Barry Thomson



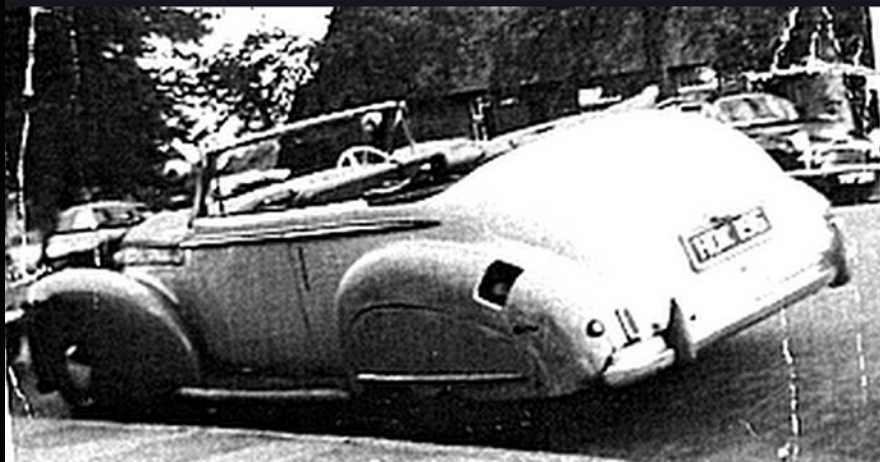
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Way back in 1961 I was mangaging a cocktail bar at this holiday camp. Three young lady art sudents staying at the camp presented me with this sketch before they returned home. Obviously they had been watching me going, and coming in my collectors convertible with some attractive females. *Dave Milbourne*



For interested car buffs. This was a 1949 Humber Super Snipe Convertible big 6 cylinder Mark 11 Tickford body only 125 were ever produced.



Brian Blade



Danilo Pérez



John Petrucci

WAYNE
SHORTER
TRIBUTE
TO



WAYNE
SHORTER
TRIBUTE
TO

Photos by Barry Thomson



Tribute to Wayne Shorter
The Panáfrica Suite

The Danilo Pérez
Orchestra

Photos by Barry Thomson



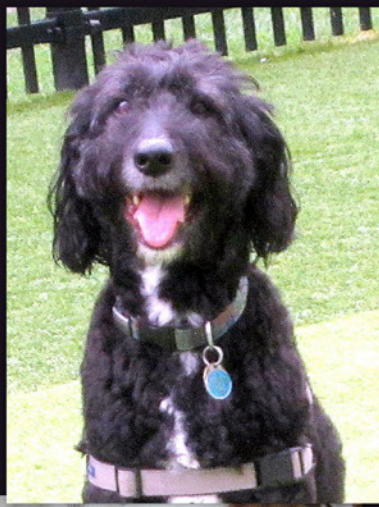
David Clayton Thomas

September 13.1941 - June 24. 2026

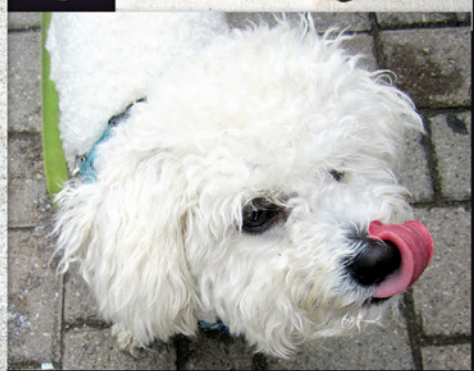
This excellent shot was taken by veteran jazz photographer, Barry Thomson 2005 with publisher & columnist Dave Milbourne (R) I had only met David on a couple of occasions, one thing for sure you knew he had come from the rough side of the street. From his early days working R & B clubs on the Yonge Street strip. To world wide recognition with Blood Sweat & Tears. His inimitable voice was " raunchy" it echoed his tough past. Even chatting to him it was quite clear he would take no nonsense from anyone. When this photos was taken I asked him if he would autograph his photo for a paraplegic friend on mine in Cuba, who was confined to a wheel chair..He also happened to be a big fan.. David was more than pleased to do so.. If only he could have ssen the pleasure he had given to my friend in the wheel chair. His friends had gathered around him as he showed them the autographed photo that David Clayton Thomas had signed especially for him. Now, David has passed on with over 20 recordings to his name. Gone But Not Forgotten , Dave Milbourne

Dave's Doggies

Photos by Dave Milbourne



HAPPY
DOGS





TRIBUTE to OLIVER JONES
Sept 11, 1934 - July 22, 2026



Dave Young, Oliver Jones, Norman Marshall Villeneuve
Bass Drums

Photos by Barry Thomson

Ranee Lee Oliver Hal Hill
Jazz Vocalist Jazz Broadcaster



TRIBUTE to OLIVER JONES

Sept 11 1934- July 22 .2026

top L, Oliver with Oscar Peterson (R) with Sam Sneiderman. Centre with Dave Young & Norman Marshall Villeneuve. Also with Norman & Dave in trio. bottom left.

All shots taken by jazz photographer Barry Thomson at the Montreal Bistro between 1995 -1996

When Oliver came on the scene in Montreal Oscar Peterson joked "I think I had better leave town". A superb tribute coming from a Jazz Giant.



Trick Shots the Dave Holland Band

Photos by Barry Thomson





The AMMOYE BAND

Photos by
Barry Thomson



MICHAEL KAESHAMMER

*Photos by
Barry Thomson*



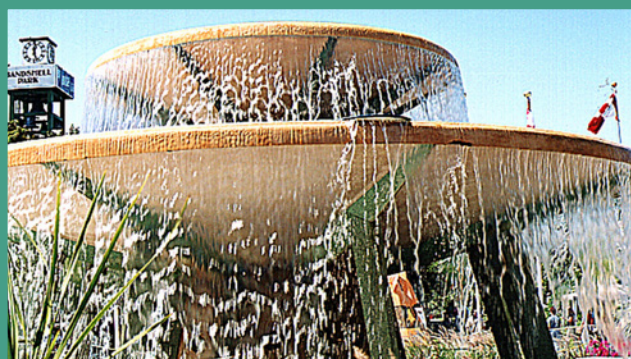
Sunnybrook & Wilket Creek Park Dogs , Ducks & Runners *Photos by Dave Milbourne*



WARRIORS DAY Canadian National Exhibition

Photos by Martin & Barry Thomson





Day and
Night Time
The
Giant Fountain

CNE

Bandshell Park

Photos by
Barry Thomson





The Giant Ferris Wheel

Canadian
National
Exhibition

Toronto
Ontario

Photos by
Barry Thomson



Evening Shadows



Photos by
Barry Thomson



Publisher's View

So, Toronto continues to sink into an abyss of crime, pollution, and congestion. There is a legal terminology "Failure to Act", that is what most of our politicians are guilty of. Also why our city is in the state we find ourselves in. First, pollution, on regular day we are probably the most polluted city in North America. Not surprising due to the Wild Fires we were easily pushed over the brink to become the most "Polluted City in the World", I repeat, the most "Polluted City in the World". This has been caused by unfettered construction, concrete, concrete and more concrete. No green space to go with it.. Wouldn't it be nice if we could have a large park in the centre of our city, like Central Park in New York. Something to soak up the toxic air we are forced to breath. Incidences of dry eye syndrome are on the rise due to the dust in the air. Also respiratory problems because of the contaminated air we are forced to breath. Recently there has been an attempt to expand, Billy Bishop airport allowing for commercial jet aircraft. Insanity! this would drastically increase the already over polluted city of Toronto. Once again total disregard for the air we are forced to breath. Fortunately due to the efforts of Mayor Olivia Chow, and, Councillor Josh Matlow, that was stopped. Full marks to these two politicians. Of course we heard from, Premier Doug Ford, and his supporters, that it was blocked by a "Fringe Group". Well if you call the inhabitants, and those who work in Toronto a "Fringe Group", you are obviously completely out of touch. Not to mention other large groups who feel we all have the right to breath clean air... I'm twenty two stories high in a building right at Yonge & Eglinton. & Mt Pleasant Road. Facing south west, most days when I look south over the city, there is a constant smokey haze hanging over it, shameful.

Congestion well every motorist is aware of what they have to contend with, poorly surfaced roads, high insurance, and high gas prices. Now they have the "Invasion of the E Bikes" to deal with. Totally unregulated, most no identification plates or insurance, no recourse if they are involved in an accident. In the past week I have witnessed dangerous behaviour with these E Bikes. One, a woman on an E scooter with a baby strapped to her back, riding in the middle of the road. Another a man with a young boy on a E scooter swerving from the road to the side walk, no sense. Finally, and nearly a nasty accident an E regular motor bike size doing around 30 kilometres an hour, drive from the road on to the sidewalk, just missing many pedestrians. Causing them to jump out of the way with fear of getting hit. Already we have seen E bikes and scooters involved in accidents causing serious injury. Once again our politicians are sitting on their hands "Failure to Act".

Crime, as we are all aware of, often sounding like "The Wild West", shootings nearly every day. The influx of guns, drugs, and illegal immigrants pouring across our porous borders is a catastrophe. Recently the police have found notorious gang leaders living among us. All due to the break down at our border control, more scrutiny is obviously needed. I hold our Minister of Justice responsible for "Failure to Act" on the concerns of our police departments. For years they have expressed their disappointment at the failure to overhaul the criminal justice system especially as it applies to violent crime. Bail Reform being just one of them, also serious sentences for serious crimes, not just a slap on the wrists. How are you expected to deter individuals with criminal intentions, unless you show them you mean business. Not surprising you hear more crime is committed because of unemployment. Which is ludicrous, and only stigmatizes the unemployed. We have excellent unemployment benefits as well as welfare. Nobody is going to starve or go without a roof over their heads. When I first came to Canada the position I had waiting for me, was not available due to the person deciding not to retire. The only job I was offered was working in an assembly plant working for Douglas Aircraft. In Downsview. Ontario. Take it or leave it, but no unemployment money because you have only just arrived here. Lucky I had some funds to keep me afloat. As they say "Beggars can't be choosers". So here I was commuting from Toronto to Downsview on public transport couldn't afford a car. This went on until my original job became available. During this time I was sharing a basement apartment with another guy, from England. The point I'm making, is, even though I was in dire circumstances at that time, I didn't turn to crime to make a fast buck. Crime is usually committed by those who want to make money without working for it. Don't try and psychoanalysis the problem, there has always been good and evil. If you break the law you should receive suitable punishment for the crime you have committed.

Publisher, Dave Milbourne

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Deadline date for November Issue October 15th 2026.

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Edited by **Rick Nixon**

Layout by J.J. Johnston

Website designed by **TNP GROUP - THINK 'N' PIXELS**

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