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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

STUFF-A-CRUISER: Shelburne Police officers collected donations outside of Heather and Tim's No Frills on Friday (Dec.4), for their annual 'Stuff-a-Cruiser' campaign. Donations given filled three quarters of the SPS trailer. Donations go to both the Salvation Army Food Bank and Dufferin Child and Family Services (DCAFS).

Shelburne Police kick of the annual 'Stuff-a-Cruiser' donation campaign

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Shelburne Police Services (SPS) collected donations for the first night of its annual "Stuff-a-Cruiser" toy and food campaign, last Friday (Dec. 4) and will be back to collect more on Dec. 11.

"The response from this great community we serve was truly impressive. Even during these challenging times, the community has taken the time to support those in need," stated SPS Sgt. Paul Neumann following the first donation night. "We were set up at Tim and Heather's No Frills this evening and filled the police trailer about three quarters full with groceries, toys, and household items."

Neumann added that the local police ser-

vice had over \$1000 worth of cash and gift cards donated.

The annual 'Stuff-a-Cruiser' event has been a tradition held by Shelburne Police for around two decades, and is run by officers volunteering their time. The event looks to collect items to give to both the Salvation Army Food Bank and Dufferin Child and Family Services (DCAFS).

"Even though there's COVID-19 and even though we're about to become OPP, we feel the need in the communities [has] never been greater in this 20 years," Sgt. Neumann told the Free Press. "We have a lot of families struggling, stuck at home, and not having their usual, so anything we can do to help out those families or those people that are alone - giving them some cheer, is what

we're after."

Shelburne Police are looking for donations of non-perishable food items, cash donations and gift cards, while new toys in their original packaging and new clothes are being accepted. Gift cards and cash donations are being encouraged this year, due to COVID-19.

SPS note that the gift card and cash donations make it safer for DCAFS and the Salvation Army to distribute.

Continuing with the annual event despite COVID-19, Sgt. Neumann said, "I hope it's, it's a reminder to them that people are still out there."

SPS will be collecting donations on Dec. 11 between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. outside of the Foodland/ Giant Tiger plaza.



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Know the gathering limits in your area before you choose to entertain with family and friends indoors. Indoor gatherings are not permitted in regions in Grey-Lockdown.

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Community rallies around Shelburne boy diagnosed with leukemia

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

It started with a black swollen eye and a scheduled MRI by their doctor, but before they could make the trip down to SickKids hospital, blood tests confirmed an early diagnosis of leukemia.

Three-year-old Hunter, a Shelburne local, was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia (AML) in October, and is preparing to start his third round of chemotherapy before Christmas.

According to the American Cancer Society, AML is one of the most common types of leukemia in adults, accounting for only one per cent of all cancers; AML is generally seen in older people.

Going in to check his eye, Hunter's mother, Shelby Squirrel said a cancer diagnosis is never something you expect to hear.

"Leading up to that date, there was absolutely nothing showing that he was sick or anything," said Squirrel. "He was perfectly healthy kid and so other than this black and swollen eye we wouldn't have ever known that he... had leukemia until it showed up in his blood."

Continuing she said, "They told us that we had caught it super early."

Once they had received Hunter's diagnosis, his family started preparing for his treatments, which include four rounds of chemotherapy at SickKids hospital in Toronto.

Prior to his chemotherapy, Hunter undergoes a lumbar puncture as well as bone aspirate, says Squirrel, then he goes through eight to 10 days of a chemo treatment cycle and then they wait for his counts to go back up.

"It's fairly hard to try and tell a three year old that he has cancer," said Squirrel. "He knows for the most part that he's sick, but he doesn't know what cancer is. He knows he's in the hospital for a reason and he's there to get help and that he's going to get better."

While Hunter goes through his treatments, the family has been staying in Toronto at the Ronald McDonald House, having been home only twice since October. With COVID-19 restrictions, only one parent is allowed in the hospital room at a time with him, and to hold onto their spot at the Ronald McDonald House they can't leave it vacant for more than 24 hours at a time.

"We've had to make it so we switch over at night and one of us goes to the Ronald McDonald House and the other one stays at bedside was Hunter for the night and then the following we switch back off."

Staying in the city, the family has had to



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Huddle Up: Three-year-old Hunter, from Shelburne, has been receiving chemotherapy at SickKids hospital in Toronto, after being diagnosed with AML, a type of leu-

also deal with the financial setbacks that come along. In the hopes of offsetting the burden, extended family members have started the Huddle Up For Hunter initiative.

"I don't know how you financially balance it or how you emotionally balance it," said Karen Cottingham, aunt of Hunter and one of the organizers of Huddle Up For Hunter. "You're isolated, you're having to choose; I can't imagine all the emotions they're going through."

The group has created a number of fundraising events, including donation jars with orange ribbons placed in businesses, a bottle drive, and a raffle drive.

"We can't be around Hunter at all and normally if somebody is in the hospital, you drop food off at their house, you go down to the hospital, you help them out and do whatever you can, but we can't do any of that because of COVID," said Cottingham. "We thought this is a way that the community and our friends and family can be involved and hopefully raise some money to help them."

The name 'Huddle Up for Hunter,' Cottingham said, comes from the idea of a COVID-19 style hug.

"You can't actually be close, but you know, the feelings are there," she said.

At the time of print, Huddle Up for Hunter has raised through its bottle drive approximately \$1,400 for the family and with more to count, donations are expected to be around \$2,000. A raffle drive will be held on Dec. 23 which includes six prizes, with tickets available at Cobwebs and Caviar in Shelburne.

Donations for Huddle Up for Hunter will be collected until the end of December.

"It's unbelievable the phenomenal support Shelburne has given us," said Cottingham.

WDG Public Health recommends move to "Red" zone following increase in cases

In meetings with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David Williams, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Medical Officer of Health and CEO Dr. Nicola Mercer has recommended that the region move to the "Red - Control" level of the provincial COVID-19 response framework. There has been a significant and troubling increase in cases over the past week along with increased hospitalizations prompting this recommendation.

"I want to tell every resident of our region in the strongest possible terms, that COVID-19 is spreading very quickly in our community. The rate at which cases continue to grow - especially in the last few days - requires immediate action," said Dr. Mercer.

In addition to measures already in place in the region, moving to the "Red - Control" level would include limitations on gathering sizes, and new restrictions on businesses and other spaces as detailed in the COVID-19 framework.

"Moving to Red will place significant pressure on every resident and business in our region," said Dr. Mercer. "My preference is always to use less-intrusive and targeted approaches, but the current situation

requires we consider all the tools available to us to halt the spread of the virus. Please continue to support our local businesses that will be impacted by this decision by shopping local for pick up or delivery."

"Each of us has the power to choose actions that help prevent the spread of the virus, that keep us safe, that keep our friends and family safe," said Dr. Mercer. "I'm asking every one of us to make those choices starting right now. Going to a dinner party or gathering right now may mean that your family is dealing with COVID-19 over the holidays."

If the Cabinet follows Dr. Mercer's recommendation, the change to the "Red - Control" would be announced on Friday (December 11) and take effect on Monday (December 14). The earliest the region would be eligible to move back to "Orange" would be 28 days from December 14.

"Today, the federal government approved the first COVID-19 vaccine for use in Canada. We can see hope on the horizon," said Dr. Mercer. "Please, please do everything you can to make sure that we all make it over the finish line together."

COVID-19 outbreak declared at Headwaters Health Care Centre

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

An outbreak of COVID-19 has been declared at Headwaters Health Care Centre by Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH).

Headwaters Health Care Centre confirmed through a press release last Friday (Dec. 4), that four positive cases of the virus had been identified in the hospital's medical in-patient unit (F wing).

"The outbreak has been declared because we have one patient with presumed hospital-acquired COVID-19 and currently three associated staff members testing positive from COVID-19," the local hospital said in its press release.

Public Health declares outbreaks in facilities such as hospitals when one or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 are within the facility.

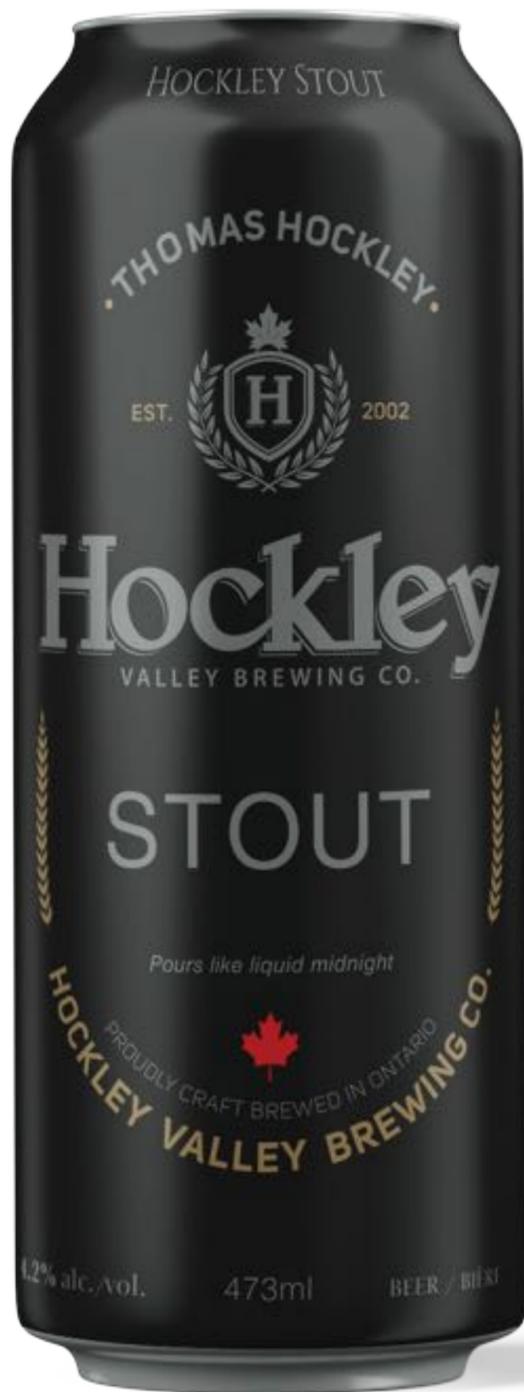
Since the declared outbreak, patients

in the affected wing of the hospital and patients discharged from the unit, who were under the care of the three staff members that tested positive have been informed of the outbreak and notified by Public Health. The local hospital said that the staff members are now self-isolating.

Headwater Health Care Centre, as part of their infection control and prevention precautions, has closed the medical in-patient unit (F wing) to new admissions as well as ceased transfers to and from the unit, unless the level of care requires it.

The hospital also said they have enhanced cleaning of the unit and are reinforcing the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), hand hygiene, and physical distancing.

An outbreak of COVID-19 was previously declared at the hospital in late March by WDGPH, with seven staff members and one patient testing positive.



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Alternatives to democracy

It was in the middle of the night on July 17, 1918, when Tsar Nicholas of Russia, along with his wife, four daughters, son, and several loyal aids were awakened and taken to a basement room and told to wait.

It was for their own protection, they were told, as anti-Bolshevik forces were approaching the house and they feared it might be fired upon.

A few minutes later, a group of Bolsheviks and communists entered the room and informed them of the real reason they were there.

The entire family was murdered in cold blood – including the Tsar, their aids, and their five innocent children.

It was the Bolshevik's way of telling the public there was no chance of going back.

What better way to eliminate your competition than by killing them all and their future generations?

Between 1976 and 1979, Cambodian so called 'prime minister' Pol Pot carried out genocide on his own people. He eliminated anyone who could be considered a threat to his power. That included anyone with knowledge, political enemies, people who appeared not to follow the party line, and those deemed

'bad elements.'

If you didn't agree with having your children taken away to live in a collective and taught by party members whose job it is to indoctrinate youth, or you read something that wasn't on the approved list, you would be shot and buried in a farm field so your body would be used as fertilizer.

A friend of mine and fellow journalist visited Cambodia a couple of years ago. He reported back that it was a beautiful country with a very friendly population. However, as a nation they were incapable of doing anything.

Pol Pot's elimination of anyone with knowledge, and that included anyone who held a university degree in something like engineering or medicine, meant the entire knowledge base of the country was destroyed. Decades later they have not recovered from that and simply do not have the ability or knowledge of how to build a bridge, a railway, or any other kind of infrastructure.

Romanian dictator, Nicolae Ceausescu, found his transition from leader of the country to that of ordinary dead citizen when he and his wife were machine gunned to death in the back alley of military barracks by several really angry soldiers in 1989.

BRIAN LOCKHART
FROM THE SECOND ROW



In the west, for the most part, we avoid transitions of power at the point of a gun.

You go to the polls, you cast your vote and hope your candidate wins. If they don't, you can try again in a few, usually four or five years.

The last general election in Canada ended with a minority government – meaning the popular vote did not elect the new leader. In fact far from it, but that's the way the system works.

While a lot of people were disappointed, there were no riots on the streets and no yahoos in pickup trucks firing weapons at people's homes who had the audacity to plant an opposing party sign on their front line.

Down south, this debacle of an election and the resulting rallies in the month since, are an affront to both the democratic process and civic pride.

The election is over, yet there are still these ridiculous rallies and riots from both sides on city streets with many of them resulting in violence.

Standing on a street corner and yelling insults to passing motorists is no way to prove your point – if there really is one.

The U.S. likes to present itself as the world's greatest democracy, yet the behaviour on the

streets of late indicates many don't believe in the democratic process, and would gladly receive a dictator as the new leader provided he was on 'their side.'

Waving a banner in your neighbour's face or getting in a punch-up on a street corner because the other guy is wearing the wrong colour only deepens the divide of an already divided nation.

If these people would pack up their banners and flags, stow their rifles and pepper spray, and turn their passions to something else they really may be able to do some good with all this time they have on their hands.

For years the U.S. has been proud of the peaceful transition of power that follows a federal election.

However that tradition is fading as the hatred grows.

It's time to get back to some common sense thinking and political decorum before the first family is someday invited to the basement for their own protection.

Letters to the Editor

Doug Ford and his government seem to be late to implement everything associated with the Covid-19 pandemic: late to attend to the needs of the long-term care homes; late to implement the needed lockdown for the second wave of the pandemic, late to develop an implementation plan for vaccines, etc.

However, he is right on time when it comes to serving the needs of his developer friends: advancing the Highway 413 project which will only serve to open up Greenbelt areas for development; legislating Ministerial Zoning Orders (MZOs) to by-pass planning controls, sneaking Schedule 6 into Bill 229, ostensibly a Finance Bill, to undercut the power of Ontario's 36 Local Conservation Areas' abilities to protect wetlands. Not difficult to see where his priorities lie.

Harvey Kolodny
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Email us your letters at:
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Why so serious?

It's safe to say that 2020 is unlike any year we've experienced. It will go down as a historic year with watersheds moments, that you almost feel like you're drowning in them.

How can one describe this year? Volatile, unpredictable, apocalyptic? Pretty much any negative word can be associated with 2020.

I could just say Covid-19 and leave this column at that.

Easily the defining moment of this year, of a generation probably. Covid-19 has changed the world in every single way, its grip still firmly in place everywhere.

I remember first discussing it, New Year's Eve 2019, and my mom was talking to my uncle about hearing a virus somewhere in China, I was opening the fridge, turned around and said it was reported in Wuhan, and what it was called.

When it was declared a pandemic, chaos broke. The world seemed to be falling apart. All the works of fiction that dealt with an event like this became true, revealing how fragile we are as a species, bringing out the best and worst in us. Now, words like lockdown, quarantine have taken on new meaning, and social distancing and facemasks are part of our everyday lives. The global recession, shutdown of events, travel; Covid-19 has been an Earth-shattering moment.

When this is all over, what things will go back to normal? What things will permanently change and become the new norm? What things are gone forever? The fear of unknown,

the unpredictability, that unfortunately will be carried over in 2021.

Clearly, I could take up this whole newspaper talking Covid, so it's (probably?) best to move on.

There were the California and Australia wildfires, Britain leaving the European Union, and the shocking deaths of celebrities such as Kobe Bryant and Chadwick Boseman. There was the impeachment of President Donald Trump, and his successful acquittal.

We in Canada experienced our worst mass shooting in Nova Scotia, which unfortunately didn't get the coverage I think it should have.

Of course, the second biggest event was the Black Lives Matter movement, calling for racial justice after the deaths of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor involving police. Initially in the United States, it spread rapidly around the world, becoming a global event.

And to cap off the year was the U.S. election. With arguably the most contentious election in the country's history, it saw record voter turnout, and several days of nail-biting coverage to finish vote counting, before Joe Biden was finally declared the winner. But we only remember Trump's handling of election night and the days and weeks that followed. An election unlike any other.

Looking back through history, there are several years that pop up for historical reasons. 2001 for 9/11 and the subsequent War on Terror. 1989 for the start to the end of Cold War. 1929 for beginning the Great Depression. 1945 for the atomic bombs, end of World War 2, and start of the Cold War. And 1918 for the end of World War One and the Spanish Flu pandemic.

But these years either had one or two defining moments, that although were history changing, didn't keep piling on top of one another.

JASEN OBERMEYER
READY, SET, REPORT



In particular though, 1968 really stands out as being very similar to 2020, especially in the States. Well known as the peak of the counterculture, there was the Vietnam War that took headlines, the Tet Offensive breaking the American public's morale and support of the war. 2020 is Covid. There was the Civil Rights movement, and the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. This year was the death of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter movement/protest. And interestingly, through all these worldwide protests and destructive riots, U.S. President Lyndon Johnson shockingly announced his intent to not seek re-election that year, after previously winning one of the largest shares of the popular vote in history. He seemingly accepted defeat through all the turmoil and not wanting the job as the country was tearing itself apart, while this year on the other end of the spectrum, you had Trump falsely declaring victory, refusing to concede, and is poised to be dragged out of the White House kicking and screaming.

Both 2020 and 1968 are nation breaking, Earth shattering years, but 2020 takes it with the pandemic.

Though many things that have happened this year will carry into the next, there appears to be some hope with strong vaccine candidates, and Joe Biden taking office.

The weight of 2020 has been difficult to carry. In the years, and decades that follow, the new generations, how will this year be remembered? How will it be documented and told? What works of fiction, inspired by everything, will come out of this?

Though we all want to say "F*#\$ 2020," and quickly move on, perhaps we need to learn from it. As the saying goes, "those who don't learn from history are bound to repeat it."



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Local police warn residents of overdue payment fraud

Over the past few years the news has been filled with warnings about various types of scams. The most famous is one that appears mostly everyone is familiar with – the taxes owed scam or you will get arrested.

As the public becomes more aware of some of these scams, the fraud artists make adjustments and try new approaches.

Shelburne Police is currently investigating a fraud where a resident lost \$1900.00 in a

scam. In this incident the scammer posed as a Hydro One employee stating that the victim had to pay an outstanding balance immediately or their power would be cut off. The scam artist directed the victim to a Bitcoin ATM to make the required “payment”.

“Reputable companies do not call at random and make bold claims like this” states Sgt. Paul Neumann. “Never send money in any form to anyone or any company that

you haven’t first verified. No matter how convincing the caller appears to be, a reputable company will never stop you from verifying your outstanding balance or any other claim they make. Take the time to call the company directly using a number you look up yourself – not a number provided by the caller. These scam artists try to draw you in by presenting a few true facts and then expressing urgency to the situation. Always

take the time to verify any potential transfer of money you didn’t initiate”.

If you have been contacted by one of these scam artists but did not lose any money, please report the incident directly to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre online at www.antifraudcentre-centreantifraude.ca. If you lost money through a scam, report the incident directly to police.

OPP release report on preparedness for responding to indigenous calls

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has released the annual report on its Framework for Police Preparedness for Indigenous Critical Incidents for 2018-2019.

Entrenched as an OPP critical policy since 2005, the Framework guides the police response to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous issue-related conflicts. The release of this report is in keeping with the recommendations in the Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry (2007).

“The OPP is pleased to share the Annual Report on the Framework for Indigenous Critical Incidents 2018-2019. A recognized best practice by the Ipperwash Inquiry, the Framework represents the OPP’s ongoing commitment to embrace a measured response to all major events and critical incidents. This critical policy provides direction, with a focus on open communication and respectful relationships, in support of public safety, maintaining order and preserving the peace.” - Acting Indigenous Policing Bureau Commander Loris Licharson.

The Framework: promotes an operationally sound, informed and flexible approach to resolving conflict and managing crises in a consistent manner;

demonstrates accommodation and mutual respect of differences, positions and interests of involved Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities and the OPP; and promotes and develops strategies that minimize the use of force to the fullest extent possible.

The OPP Framework relies heavily on dialogue, communication and relationships with the clear objective to preserve the peace, prevent offences and enforce the law in a neutral manner that respects and protects the rights of all involved parties.

The Report of the Ipperwash Inquiry (2007) declared the Framework a “best practice” and recommended that the OPP prepare an annual report on its use and post it on the OPP website. The annual report provides examples of how the Framework has been applied and a statistical summary of implementation for the preceding year.

In 2018-2019, the Framework approach was applied in 542 incidents, including critical incidents and major events and/or protest activity, both Indigenous and non-Indigenous.

To provide greater insight to the public, the Framework itself has been posted to the OPP website at <https://www.opp.ca> since 2016 accompanying the annual reports on its use.

OPP investigate fatal collision on Hwy 9

Officers from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Caledon Detachment are investigating a fatal motor vehicle collision that occurred on Highway 9 west of Airport Road in the Town of Caledon.

On Thursday, December 3rd, 2020 at approximately 11:54 a.m., OPP responded to a two-vehicle collision on Highway 9. The collision involved two motor vehicles - a white Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV) and a black pickup truck.

Initial investigation revealed that the white SUV was exiting from a private lot that houses several businesses, when it was struck by the pickup truck travelling westbound on Airport Road.

Caledon OPP and other emergency services responded to the scene immediately to assist the parties involved. The driver of the SUV, a 78-year-old from Caledon, was transported to a hospital, where the driver succumbed to the injuries sustained as a result of the collision.

The driver of the pickup truck was

treated at the scene and didn’t report any injuries at the time.

The investigation is ongoing. Anyone with information regarding this collision is asked to contact the Caledon OPP Detachment at (905) 584-2241 or toll-free at 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca. When you contact Crime Stoppers you stay anonymous, you never have to testify, and you could receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000 upon an arrest.

Highway 9 is closed between Airport Road and Mountainview Road while the Traffic Collision Investigation Unit (TCI) conducts their investigation.

If you witnessed the collision and wish to speak to victim services, Caledon/Dufferin Victim Services can be reached at 905-951-3838.

Family of victim in 2018 fatal crash finally gets some closure

On December 4th, 2020 a final court date was held via telephone conference in regards to the fatal vehicle crash that occurred on October 19th, 2019 on Airport Road in Mulmur Township

37-year-old Jamie FINNY of Angus pled guilty to Careless driving causing death. They received a 3-year licence suspension and a \$5000 ! fine. The Justice of the Peace commented that despite the monetary fine, they will have an unrepayable debt for the rest of their life.

Family of Pastor Dale HOCH, who was killed as a result of the crash, were on the line to hear the sentence. In an email to the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) they stated “no sentence can compensate for our loss.”

OPP want to remind drivers that driving a motor vehicle is a big responsibility, not to be taken lightly. All of your attention needs to be on the road and avoid any distractions.

X CROSSWORD

PUZZLE 422

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- 10. “Go ____, young man”
- 11. Close by
- 12. Specialty
- 13. Chirp
- 15. Squalid sites
- 16. Cover protectively
- 22. Reporter’s question
- 24. Charger
- 26. Riding whip
- 27. Owl’s question?
- 28. Animosity
- 30. Infer
- 31. Meal course
- 32. Picket-line crosser
- 34. Rot
- 36. Andean climber
- 37. Lustrous cotton fabric
- 38. Shiny
- 39. Laconic
- 42. Showy flower
- 47. Shade of color
- 50. In motion
- 51. Reason
- 53. Skinny one
- 54. “All ____ Jazz”
- 58. Male cat
- 60. Heighten
- 63. Not mine
- 64. Bar, legally
- 65. Tan
- 66. Later
- 70. Uncle’s mate
- 71. Editor’s word
- 72. Buttlike formation
- 74. Big cat
- 75. Hired thug
- 76. Poker stake
- 79. CIA’s former rival
- 80. “You ____ My Sunshine”
- 81. Cleo’s nemesis

ACROSS

- 1. Moved slowly
- 6. Quarrel
- 10. Float through the air
- 14. Indian coin
- 15. String
- 17. Plenty, once
- 18. Garnish
- 19. Shudder
- 20. Parched
- 21. Net
- 22. Bird’s “arm”
- 23. Manor
- 25. Head woe
- 27. Come again?
- 29. Soak flax
- 30. Push down
- 33. Detest
- 34. Detection device
- 35. Attire
- 37. Army NCO
- 40. Western clock zone
- 41. Ride a bike, e.g.
- 43. “The ____ Shoes”
- 44. Bistro brew
- 45. “____ Gang”
- 46. Subside
- 48. Craggy peak
- 49. Drink cubes
- 50. Etna’s output
- 52. Among
- 55. Santa has one
- 56. Dreg
- 57. Islamic ruler
- 59. Cheddar or provolone
- 61. Peter, Paul & Mary, e.g.
- 62. Oppression
- 64. Athens vowel
- 67. Muslim leader
- 68. Declaration
- 69. Hunting expedition
- 71. Conceited

- 73. Water growth
- 77. Dance costume
- 78. Yamaguchi, e.g.
- 81. Negative atom
- 82. Straightforward
- 83. Way out
- 84. Go swiftly
- 85. Brazen
- 86. Greek consonant
- 87. Pasta variety

DOWN

- 1. Compress
- 2. Uncalled for
- 3. Heroic poem
- 4. Maybe
- 5. Finger count
- 6. Embroidered
- 7. Prudish one
- 8. Islet
- 9. Private eye

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When you buy from a small business you're not helping a C.E.O buy a 3rd holiday home, you are helping a little girl get dance lessons, a little boy get his team jersey, a mom or dad put food on the table, a family pay a mortgage or a student pay for college.

Thanks for shopping local! ❤️



Local Christmas Tree Farmer talk demand and shortages in industry

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought on a number of shortages throughout the year, and with Christmas now two weeks away, local Christmas tree growers are seeing a higher demand for real trees.

"Last weekend was our official opening weekend and we had probably five times as many people as we had last year on our opening weekend," said Gary Adams, owner of Adams Tree Farms. "We've had a pretty steady stream of people coming for the last two weeks."

Adams Tree Farms, located just outside of Shelburne in the Township of Amaranth, is a family owned tree farm started by locals Gary and Dee Dee Adams. The farm, which was started in the late 1980s, specializes in the growing of both Balsam fir and Fraser fir trees.

Adams Tree Farms opened their fields up to the public officially on Nov. 27 for this season, and along with other growers across Ontario, they have been seeing an increase in the number of families looking to cut their own tree.

"On our first opening weekend in November, usually we might have maybe 25 families in the whole weekend," explains Adams to the Free Press. "It's generally our second, third weekend, depending on when Christmas falls maybe the fourth weekend, that is our busiest, but we were really busy compared to our normal opening weekend."

Adams said that he was expecting by the end of their second weekend open to have surpassed their sales from the previous season.



PAULA BROWN PHOTO
TREE FARM: Gary Adams, owner of local tree farm, Adams Tree Farms, stands next to one of his trees for sales, seeing an increased demand for Christmas trees this season amongst concerns of an industry shortage.

Speaking to the increase in families attending the farm to cut down their own tree, Adams attributes it to boredom brought on by COVID-19.

"I believe that they're just bored and tired of sitting around the house," said Adams. "Because of this pandemic, the social distancing, they don't get too far away from home, so it's nice to be able to get out and roam a little bit."

With families flocking to the fields to cut down their own trees this holiday season, the local farm has also seen a demand from wholesale retailers. Adams Tree Farms has previously sold their trees to wholesale retailer and nurseries in the GTA, but stopped in 2004 when they began their 'Harvest Your Own' operations on the farm.

Adams said that he has been receiving calls from wholesale retailers from the GTA since the end of October.

"I've turned down probably 15 wholesale buyers in the last month that wanted to buy 300, 400, 500 trees," said Adams.

The Christmas tree farming industry has been dealing with a shortage for the last couple years, stemming from the 2008 global recession, which saw farms cutting back on the number of trees they planted, creating smaller crops.

From when they're planted, the trees take upwards of 10 or more years to reach maturity before they can be cut down and utilized properly.

While other Christmas tree farms might be experiencing shortages for customers this year, Adams said that despite the spike in demand, his tree farm won't have that problem.

Frosty the Snowman scavenger hunt takes over Shelburne

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

If you live in Shelburne, you might have noticed a snowman decoration popping up in different locations throughout the town – the local scavenger hunt is part of a community effort called Shelburne's #FindFrosty.

Shelburne's #FindFrosty was created by local residents Dylan Farrows and Thomas Lynch, as a way to spread some holiday cheer, while dealing with the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The community wide event started when a snowman decoration posted online went unclaimed. Seeing an opportunity to do something fun for not only themselves but for the community, Farrows said they picked up the Christmas decoration and began placing it in different locations around Shelburne.

"We just decided, let's hide it around town, and see if people will move around with it and take pictures," explained Lynch adding that the adventure was partly inspired by the Shelburne painted rocks event that took place during the summer.

With the COVID-19 pandemic, a number of holiday events that typically take place in the community have been cancelled. Farrows said that hunt for the figure, who has now been dubbed "George Peel," allows the community to get out of their homes.

"I think it brings back the idea of Christmas is supposed to be fun with family kind of thing," said Farrows. "It gives people the opportunity to go out, walk around, look at Christmas lights and hang out with family and friends at a time where we can't really do that."

Farrows and Lynch encourage residents in Shelburne to move the snowman themselves, and to leave hints to its whereabouts on the groups Facebook page.

The local adventure started at the beginning of December and will run until the end of the month.

"It's going to bring a lot of Christmas joy back, all year round we've been kind of down and this is the time to be joyful, and to celebrate the time that we have with people," said Farrows.

"It's fun for everyone in the family," said Lynch.

CAREGIVERS IN THE HILLS

Providing an unpaid caregiver with an i.d. card. It's a simple concept that can have a big impact for caregivers.

This is Kat, a local caregiver with her son, Atlas and his assistant dog, Harris.

Caregivers in the Hills is a program developed to provide recognition and validation of the caregiver role within healthcare; recognizing the caregiver as an essential partner in care and part of the healthcare team.

Caregivers in the Hills is partnering with The Alzheimer Society of Dufferin County and Dufferin Child and Family Services caregivers in Phase 1 of the program.

Visit our website to participate in our survey:
www.yourvoicehillsofheadwaters.ca

info@hillsofheadwaterscollaborative.ca
f @hhcollaborative

STUFF A CRUISER!

All donations go to the Salvation Army Local Food Bank and Dufferin Child & Family Services.

Items such as Toys in original packaging & new clothes accepted. DUE to COVID-19, the safest way to donate this year is with Gift Cards & Cash.

Thank you every one in advance for your generosity.

SATURDAY, DEC. 11TH

from 4pm to 9pm at Foodland/Giant Tiger Plaza

Headwaters Ontario Health Teams celebrates one year anniversary

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

The Hills of Headwaters Collaborative celebrated their one year anniversary as part of the Ontario Health Teams (OHT) last Sunday (Dec. 6).

"It's been an incredible year in so many ways, and we are proud of how our community has pulled together," said Kim Delahunt, co-lead of Hills of Headwaters Collaborative, as well as president and CEO of Headwaters Health Care Centre.

Hills of Headwaters Collaborative in December of 2019 became one of the first of 24 teams approved to join the new Ontario Health Teams (OHT) model that looked to revamp the health care system across Ontario by organizing and improving delivery of health care. At its launch last year, the Collaborative consisted of a total of 36 different health care-related agencies and numerous local family physicians. The Province now had 42 teams that cover 86 percent of Ontario's population.

"From the first announcement about the Hills of Headwaters Collaborative one year ago, I have been impressed with the commitment and co-operation between the different community partners," said Dufferin-Caledon MPP Sylvia Jones, in a press release for the one-year anniversary.

"We began with an excellent foundation of teamwork between all the services who provide patient care, and the work that is demanded of all our health service during the pandemic is proof that the Collaborative in Dufferin-Caledon is an effective team."

Launching months before the Coronavirus pandemic hit the Province, Ontario Health Teams have pivoted their focus to supporting community response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Collaborative had three key priorities to improve health care, including improving integration of mental health and addictions services across the community, creating an integrated palliative care team, and enhancing service and



OHT: On Dec. 6, 2019 partners gathered at the Dufferin County Paramedic Headquarters for the announcement of the Hills of Headwaters Collaborative. SUBMITTED PHOTO

programs for individuals with complex health care needs.

In a press release from the Hills of Headwaters Collaborative on Dec. 7, the Collaborative noted the achievements they have been able to do in their first year.

According to the Collaborative, they've expanded access to mental health and addictions services with an Integrated Mental Health team, supporting providers during the COVID-19 pandemic, established a foundation for patients with complex needs, launched the Community Wellness Council, and improved the connection between primary and specialized health care.

The Community Wellness Council (CWC) consists of patients, caregivers and advisors from within the region and evaluate plans created by the OHT. The CWC was part of the making of washable gowns as a way to support frontline workers during COVID-19.

Bob Borden, patient family advisor and chair of CWC said the partnerships allows for active participation in co-designing for the work connecting the health and care systems in the community.

Shop With Purpose raises over \$5,000 in 2020

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

An Orangeville women has raised over \$5,000 this year through her "Shop With Purpose" fundraisers and markets, where 10 per cent of each vendor fee is donated to a different not-for-profit each month.

Jessica Medeiros founded Shop With Purpose in March of last year and has since supported countless local not-for-profit organizations, such as Bethell Hospice Foundation, Community Living, Headwaters Healthcare Foundation, Choices Youth Shelter and the Alzheimer Society of Dufferin County.

"A portion of everything that we do goes to a cause, which is how we end up donating, what we donate," said Medeiros.

Last year, over \$2,000 was raised for charitable organizations in the community.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic struck Orangeville, markets were hosted in-person but they've since went online.

In addition to the markets, Medeiros also hosts general fundraisers. Most recently, she held Zoom visits with Santa and coming up on Dec. 13 is a COVID-19 safe Santa Selfies event for Dufferin Child and Family Services (DCAFS)

"For that [event] we've created an entire office for Santa, like with an inflatable tree, a fire place - it literally looks like the North Pole inside this room," she enthused.

The not-for-profit's that are selected each month are generally determined by Shop With Purpose's following on Facebook, which is approaching 1,500 people.

Once every three months she puts out a message to get a list of organizations that are meaningful to her audience and sees if they're accepting cash donations.

Prior to starting Shop With Purpose, Medeiros was a small business owner within the market scene but found she was more interested in creating the events then selling at them.

"I actually work for a not-for-profit, DCAFS, here in Town, so I'm involved a lot with the whole not-for-profit world. I know how hard it is to actually fundraise and get those dollars that are needed every month and every year to keep programs running, so I wanted a way to give back to the community while still supporting our local businesses," Medeiros explained.

Back when the markets were held in-person, the not-for-profit organization that was being fundraised for each month would set up a booth to spread awareness and collect direct donations.

"The community, they show up, they show up for every event we're running, whether it's virtual or in-person, they're always asking how they can help," Medeiros lauded.

Looking ahead to 2021, Shop With Purpose is launching a virtual magazine for small businesses and the local community, which will run quarterly.

Medeiros said she hopes some in-person markets can be hosted next year as well.

In the meantime, she told the Citizen that

it's important for everyone to shop local as much as possible this holiday season.

"There's so many great people out there who are running small businesses," Medeiros noted.

Shelburne
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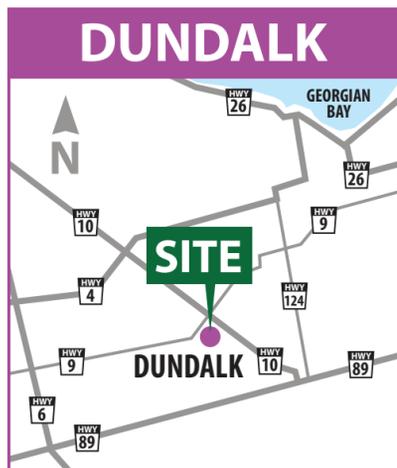
Photo Credit: Anthony Dragunyc



Artist's Concept

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Youth generates over 12,000 lbs of donations for food banks

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

Research shows when people engage in acts of kindness it has a ripple effect and a 12-year-old boy from Orangeville learned this firsthand through his Food Bank Street Challenge.

Jaylen Padayachee, with the help of his father Koven and his six-year-old sister Isabella, sent out letters to all the houses on his street, notifying them that he's collecting non-perishable food for the Orangeville Food Bank and he ended up with over 300 lbs.

"Once we found out how much food we collected, we thought if everyone in Orangeville did this, we would be able to get a lot of food for people that are struggling at this time," said Jaylen.

He started challenging his friends and since that time, the Orangeville Food Bank has passed 7,000 lbs of donations, as a direct result of the Food Bank Street Challenge and an additional 5,000 lbs has been collected in other communities, totalling 12,000 lbs.

"What Jaylen and his family started has just had a huge ripple affect in our community, but not only our community, this went from here and it went to Guelph and from Guelph, it went to the GTA," said Heather Hayes, Executive Director at the Orangeville Food Bank.

"It has just literally rippled across the Province in support of people's neighbours, friends and family."

The challenge has reached as far as Brooklyn, New York and Australia, in addition to Kitchener, Milton, Etobicoke, Mississauga, and Owen Sound.

There's a Facebook page called, "Food



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bank Street Challenge" where individuals can post how many donations they've collected, find information on how to participate, and challenge three friends of their friends to keep it going.

Jaylen said his initial goal was raising 10,000 lbs of food donations in total, but since he's already passed that target, he's now hoping to raise 25,000 lbs by the end of the year.

Over the weekend he finished collecting donations at his fifth street, as he's continued to collect non-perishable food along roads that haven't yet donated through the challenge.

"It really doesn't take much time, but I think, especially during this time, the feedback from people in the community has been great," Koven noted.

"When we go to the doors to pick up donations, people are waiting at the windows to say 'hi' and 'thank you' and give thank you notes. So I think a lot of people want to help during this time, a lot of people want to donate, and they just didn't know how."

Koven told the Citizen, it's important to note that the street challenges are mostly organized and ran by youth.

"It's just a great way to teach our young kids, just how important it is to give back and think of others during this time, especially during Christmas... so it's a good message, at the same time as well," he explained.

"That's why a lot of families have jumped on it, saying this has been great for our family, we needed some sort of positivity in our lives."

Hayes said Jaylen's challenge couldn't have come at a better time as the Orangeville Food Bank is taking in less donations, since schools are unable to host food drives this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This is a way for us to make sure that we've got our shelves stocked and people have a way to bring some meaning to the seasons right now. It's a tough time for everybody, whether you're having difficulties with food insecurity or whether you are just feeling the strain of COVID fatigue," she noted.

This year the government has provided some support to food banks but in a typical year, 97 per cent of food and donations to the Orangeville Food Bank come from the public, so they're critically needed each year, especially during the holiday season.

"All of the food that we're receiving from this food challenge right now, this will carry us through until April, this is the most critical time of the year for us. If we don't receive those donations now, we won't be able to make it through until April," Hayes warned.

A representative from Food Banks Canada noted that 70 per cent of their donations come during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons.

Hayes said she's grateful that Jaylen's challenge has caught people's attention and

gained so much traction locally.

"We love the support. Anybody who's interested in participating, that would be fantastic. I think people have an idea in their head about who accesses the food bank and it's not the people who you think it is. It truly is your neighbours, the people who live beside you, down the street, you have no idea what goes on behind closed doors," she noted.

"It's your friends, it's your family, here at the food bank, we can tell you that it's all walks of life who come."

There's likely going to be an increase in the numbers of people accessing the Food Bank heading into next year and many of those accessing it might be doing so for the first time, said Hayes.

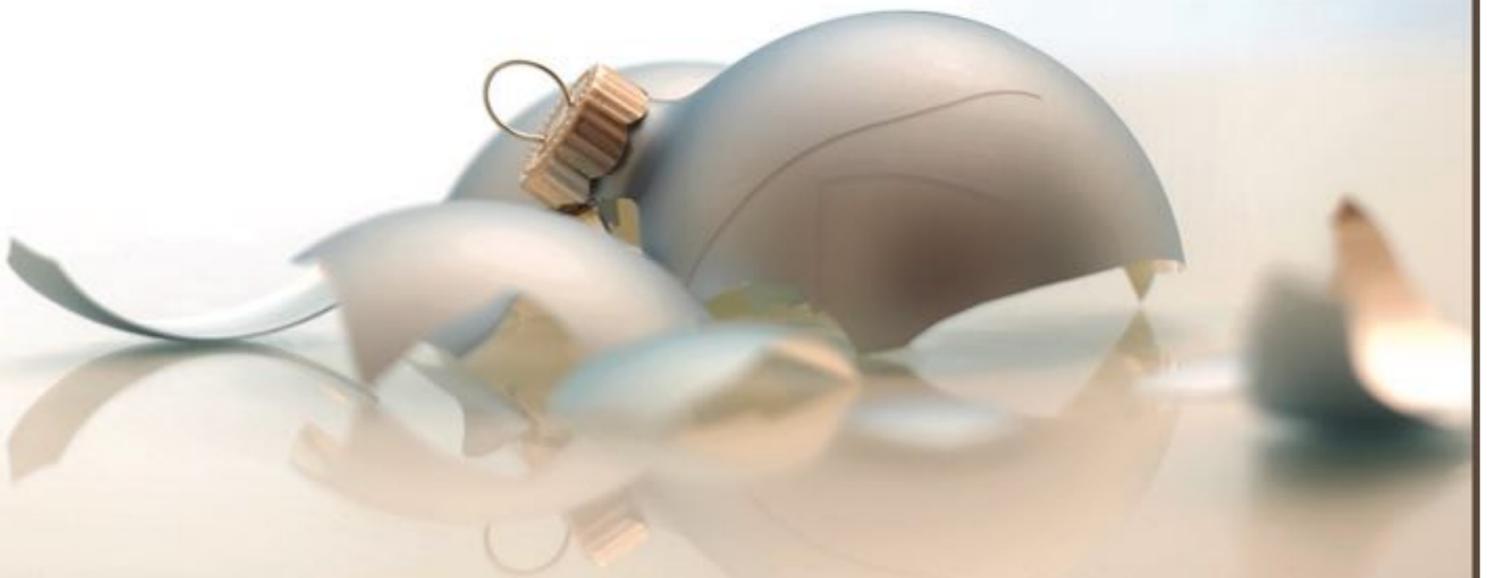
"COVID has caused so many people difficulties and because the economy is not as healthy as it use to be, people have lost their jobs and we suspect that we will see more middle class families coming to the food bank, needing to access services," she explained.

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, those accessing the Orangeville Food Bank cannot enter the building and have to utilize a drive-thru or walk-up model, which will likely remain in effect for at least six months, according to Hayes.

Jaylen and Koven say they hope to make the Food Bank Street Challenge into an annual event and maybe branch into fundraising for different organizations in need for the future.

The pair are excited to see how many pounds of donations are collected by the end of the year and if they can hit their 25,000 lbs target.

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Santa Claus is coming to Shelburne this year via Zoom

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

For Shelburne residents, the first weekend of December marks the beginning of the festive season with the Santa Clause parade, but this year locals had to do without seeing the jolly man in a red suit face-to-face, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“With the COVID-19 numbers, we needed people to be safe,” said Ed Crewson, chair of Shelburne Business Improvement Association (BIA). “Encouraging them to come out for Santa photos and encouraging them to stand and view a parade could be exposing them to harm, and we don’t want to have a super spreader event.”

The decision to cancel the local Santa Claus parade was made by the BIA during a regular meetings back in August. At the meeting the BIA also cancelled the photos with Santa event that takes place at Jack Downing Park.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Crewson said that the BIA spoke of holding other events but with rising numbers chose not to.

Despite the cancellation of the local Santa Claus parade, the Town of Shelburne has announced through a press release that

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be appearing in a virtual call via Zoom from the North Pole.

“The Town wanted to continue the tradition of the Santa Claus Parade, in a year when so much has been cancelled and using Zoom is a creative way to keep everyone healthy and still bring Santa to Town,” said Carol Maitland, economic development and marketing coordinator for the Town.

Santa will be making the call from his office in the Reindeer Barn and according to the Town’s press release, will be talking about the North Pole, the reindeer fight, his favourite stories and the Naughty and Nice list. Mrs. Claus will also be showing her workroom, giving a behind the scenes look at the workings of the North Pole.

The Zoom call will happen on Dec. 12 at 2 p.m., the event is free and can registration is available online at the Town’s website.

Shelburne Library shares new books, information

The Shelburne Library is committed to helping you with suggestions in selecting reading material and we will put together a selection of books tailored to your interests. Please call (519-925-2168) or email us at info@shelburnelibrary.ca to help you through the process.

Our objective is to provide you with the service you need during these times.

Our Curbside hours have been extended to better serve you! Pickup times will be Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 12 – 6 p.m., Thursday 2 – 8p.m., and Saturday 12 – 4 p.m.

Teen Scene:

Have you registered for Teen #WinterReads2021 yet? Download the Beanstack app and register to participate in this reading challenge just for Teens, which runs December 1st, 2020 – January 31st, 2021! If you complete the challenge you will be entered into a draw for a \$25 BookLore gift certificate.

Each week we publish a video to accompany the Teen Take & Make bags on Tuesdays at 4 p.m Here are our upcoming events:

Peppermint Bath Bombs- Tuesday, December 15th

Cinnamon Ornaments- Tuesday, December 22nd

Registration for the January Teen Take & Make kits is now open! Please register only for the events in which you are interested at <https://forms.gle/xQHhJsxYFab292uEA> If you need help registering or have any questions, please email jwys@shelburnelibrary.ca.

Children’s Programs:

The Children’s craft bags for the month of December have been distributed to all those families who registered. However, you can also watch story time and create your own craft by following the instructional videos posted on Fridays @ 10am.

LEGO Club: We are posting new build challenges every Wednesday. Did you get time to build something really awesome? Share a picture with us by tagging us on social media, or email it to children@shelburnelibrary.ca.

Sleepy Story Time: Thursday evenings just got a whole lot cozier! Jump into your PJs and join us for a fun addition to your bedtime routine - Streaming Live on the Shelburne Public Library Facebook and Instagram pages, every Thursday at 7:00 pm.

Story Time: Our Story Time craft bags have become a huge hit! Each Friday at 10:30am a brand new Story Time video is released. These videos are great to watch on their own, but are even more fun when you’ve picked up your bag full of take-home Story Time crafts! We sing songs together, listen to a story, and then follow the instructions for the crafts in our craft bags.

Need more information about any of our programs? Call us at 519-925-2168, or email children@shelburnelibrary.ca.

If you would like to sign up for monthly emails regarding all of YOUR Library’s Children’s events, please email children@shelburnelibrary.ca and we will add you to our online Children’s Newsletter subscription.

NEW BOOKS

Did you know you can browse all our new books if you login to our website? www.shelburnelibrary.ca. They are always listed on the home page of KOHA, our library’s catalogue. In order to place a hold, you will need your library barcode number and your password. If you have forgotten your password, please contact us and we will set one up for you! Start browsing! And enjoy our new books!

Fiction:

- The whispering house by Elizabeth Brooks
- The forgotten daughter by Joanna Goodman
- House of corrections by Nicci French
- Truly, madly, deeply by Karen Kingsbury
- The law of innocence by Michael Connelly
- Before the crown by Flora Harding
- Fortune and glory by Janet Evanovich
- Hidden in plain sight by Jeffrey Archer
- The fires of vengeance by Evan Winter
- Non fiction:
- Prince Philip revealed by Ingrid Seward
- Fast asleep by Dr. Michael Mosley
- Everyday fresh by Donna Hay
- The good fight by Jana Kramer & Michael Caussin
- No time like the future by Michael J. Fox
- The science of why: volume 5 by Jay Ingram
- Lose weight like crazy by Autumn Calabrese
- Hold on by Peter Toohey



2020 has been a year of unprecedented hardships for everyone.

The Executive of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 220 in Shelburne decided to stay closed for the health and welfare of our Veterans and Members.

It was an extremely hard decision, that was not taken lightly.

As the year draws to an end, we want to extend our deepest and heartfelt appreciation to all monetary donations and empties to help with the upkeep and maintenance of the branch.

- | | |
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| Neil & Ester Flear | Danny & Kelly Machen |
| Fran Newmaster | Wade Mills |
| Ross & Mary Warman | Lindsay Wegener |
| Janet Manschitz | John & Pat Keller |
| Main Street Dental | Al Widbur |
| Dave & Crystal Johnston | Steve & Kim Arnold |
| Paul & Corrie Downey | Chris Lewis |
| Duncan & Teresa Patterson | Larry & Rose Haskell |
| Dawn Young | Monday Afternoon Euchre |
| Jennifer Lapschies | Brent & Lara Hadfield |
| Dale Smith Banks | Larry & Shirley Hall |
| Sandra Wallace | Ruth Madill |
| Ian & Dianna Wallace | Alison Nevett |
| James Kurtz | BJ & Greg Hand |
| Ken & Kimberley McClellan | Ernie Schneider & Linda Bowman |
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| Bob & Bett Baird | Martin & Holly Wade |
| David Needham | Ron Shaw |
| Robert Greenwood | Margaret Taggart |
| Alethia O'Hara Stephenson | Gary Heaslip |
| Megtay Solutions | Althea Casamento |
| Wednesday Night Dart League | Ron Webster |

Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!

If we missed someone, please accept our sincere apology.



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SHELBURNE SPORTS

PJHL now looking at February start for regular season

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

Fans of Junior C hockey will have to wait for a couple more months before they will even have the possibility of seeing their team on the ice this season.

The Provincial Junior Hockey League has announced a projected start date of February 1, 2021 for the regular season.

The League had originally planned to get on the ice in early December. That was changed to January 2, after it was realized a December start wasn't feasible.

After a recent meeting of League Governors the new date was announced pending

“the permission of all health authorities and governing bodies and will take into account the safety of our players, coaches, staff, and fans,” according to a statement released by the League and League Commissioner, Terry Whiteside.

Some PJHL clubs have already been on the ice for practice and player development sessions.

The League has formed a committee called the COVID Response Committee to take a proactive approach for regular season scheduling, playoff formats, and return to play policies to ensure they have the right information for proper methods to ensure a

safe return to the ice.

“We’re continuously communicating with the PJHL Board of Directors and team Governors on safe and effective measures to get our league back on the ice,” said Devon Young, committee chair. “We’re focusing a lot of our efforts on how the regular season and playoffs will be scheduled in such a tight time frame, as well as ensuring we are providing everyone with a safe and sound plan to return to the rinks.”

Some teams in the league have played exhibition games, but no fans were allowed in the building. Teams are required to play only another team that is in their Health

Unit Region, and they must take a two-week break before going up against another team in the same region.

Unlike Minor Hockey organizations that are playing three-on-three or four-on-four hockey, the Junior teams are playing with five skaters on each team.

The League will have more information closer to the February start date.

If that date is deemed not suitable to start hockey by health authorities, chances are the entire season will have to be scrapped and hopefully reconvened next season.

Hockey teaches important lessons to young players

If you spend a fair amount of time in hockey arenas as a player, parent, coach, or fan, you’ve probably seen young players arriving for a game wearing a shirt and tie before heading to the dressing room.

Players are taught that dressing up while representing the team shows respect for the sport, your opponent, your teammates, and the fans.

Many young players thrive on the responsibilities on the ice and that translates to a sense of independence off the ice as well.

You can help players develop a sense of responsibility by using the sport as an example.

For example, a young player complains that their equipment smells bad. Instead of

taking over, teach them to take the initiative to properly air it out so they can realize that things don’t get done on their own.

Asking young players to help out with hockey related tasks, something they are already familiar with, is a good starting point to teaching responsibility.

The same strategy can be used to teach players respect, time management, healthy eating, and how to stay organized.

As kids move up the ranks in hockey, they can be taught ways to be responsible and they will soon start learning something on their own.

At the U9 level, kids should know how to say ‘please and thank you’ to arena staff and coaches. They should be carrying their own

stick and putting on much of their equipment themselves.

By U13, they should be packing their own equipment and making sure they have everything they need. They can start learning about leadership on the team, such as leading stretches in warm-ups. At the end of the season they should personally thank their coaches for the effort they have put into the season.

At U15, players should be setting goals at the start of the season. They should learn how to speak to the coach at a one-to-one level when taking instruction. They should also be cleaning their equipment and doing their own laundry for sports jerseys, socks, etc.

U17 players who are taking the sport seriously, should be learning healthy eating to keep fit on the ice. They should also try to work with others to organize a community volunteer event for the team. By this age they can also find a part-time job to help pay some equipment.

They can also volunteer at the rink or within the association. This not only provides for good experience on a resumé, it can possibly go towards volunteer hours needed for a high school graduation.

Hockey is a great sport and a fun experience for players who enjoy it.

Using hockey as a foundation can teach players many more valuable life lessons.

With notes from the OMHA.



Please join the Shelburne & District firefighters as we collect new unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items this holiday season. This years even runs from **November 12 - December 12.**

All Donations can be dropped at the Firehall, Thursday and Friday nights from 7-9 p.m. and Saturdays from 12-4 pm.



Environment activists speak out against Province’s attack on Conservation Authorities

Ontario government’s proposed amendments to Bill 229, Schedule 6 are a shocking escalation of attacks on public safety, natural values and safe drinking water

The Ontario government brought forward amendments to its proposed legislation that attacks Conservation Authorities, which will allow the provincial government to order dangerous development projects to proceed against the science-based decisions of Conservation Authorities in a manner that threatens public safety and environmental values all across the province.

These new, and never previously discussed, amendments expressly force Conservation Authorities to issue permits for development, even if it will cause flooding or erosion and jeopardize human health and safety, if the government issues a Minister’s Zoning Order (MZO). They also force Conservation Authorities to accept and implement “pay to slay” agreements with developers to allow natural values to be wiped off the landscape for a fee.

This proposal appears to be aimed specifically at retroactively forcing the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority to issue a permit for the destruction of 50 per cent of the provincially significant Lower Duffins Creek coastal wetland complex against the Authority’s stated opposition. The MZO issued for this development is being challenged in court by Ecojustice on behalf of Ontario Nature and Environmental Defence.

“The provincial government is circum-

venting the planning process and shutting down public consultation and now they are ending the ability of any “nuisance” bodies like Conservation Authorities to apply laws that protect wetlands, floodplains and source water protection areas,” said Caroline Schultz of Ontario Nature.

“After hearing articulate and sustained opposition from tens of thousands of Ontarians, all 36 Conservation Authorities, farmers and almost every municipality in the province, this government has decided to double down and legislate a requirement for Conservation Authorities to put the public at risk and destroy our future to make a few developers rich,” said Tim Gray of Environmental Defence.

Environment Defence and Ontario Nature reiterate that Schedule 6 must be withdrawn before this budget bill is passed, and full public consultations on how to enhance the ability of Conservation Authorities to protect public safety and the environment in a time of climate crisis must be held.

Environmental Defence is a leading Canadian environmental advocacy organization that works with government, industry and individuals to defend clean water, a safe climate and healthy communities

Ontario Nature protects wild species and wild spaces through conservation, education and public engagement. Ontario Nature is a charitable organization representing more than 30,000 members and supporters, and more than 150 member groups across Ontario.

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



As a track and field athlete, Cody Harlow competes in the 50m, 100m, 200m, sprints and the long jump.

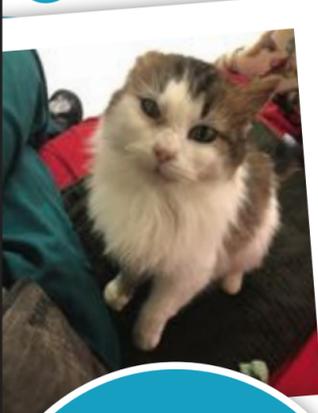
“I started running in elementary school doing the 400m,” Cody said of his start in the sport. “I like running the 200 the most – it’s a good distance. I also like running the 100.”

Cody is a valuable member of the school’s Special Olympic team and is currently training for upcoming competition.

CODY HARLOW
TEAM: CDDHS TRACK AND FIELD

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PAULA BROWN PHOTO

WINTER WONDERLAND: Mark Glassford is using his Christmas decorations at his Edelwild home to raise donations for Victims Services.

Dufferin man uses Christmas decorations to generate donations for Victim Services

Written By PAULA BROWN
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Dufferin resident uses Christmas decorations to raise donation for local non-profit

By: Paula Brown

A blow up singing Christmas tree, Snoopy flying a plane, snowmen, nutcrackers, and countless LED lights. One Orangeville resident is using his Christmas decorations as a way to give back to the community.

Mark Glassford has always been big into decorating for Christmas, but for the last four years he and his wife, Gert Glassford have decorated the front lawn of their Edelwild home in Orangeville to raise donations for Caledon Dufferin Victims Services.

"For Christmas time, to do this for a cause is better than doing it just for yourself," said Glassford. "I've found that it's about giving, not about receiving and I'd rather do this and give this for a cause like Victim Services."

The fundraising effort, Glassford tells the Citizen is inspired by his own experience with loss as a child. In 1977, his childhood home burned down in a fire and when returning to school in the January, he wore his Christmas presents – a pair of corduroy jeans, a checkered shirt and a new winter jacket.

"What happened was the school raised for our family \$1,700 from moms and dads just donating and giving back," said Glassford. "I said to my wife, we need to do something."

Forty years later, inspired by the event, Glassford started raising donations for the local Victim Services. Each year they ask families that visit the decorated lawn taking pictures or walk through to bring gift

cards or presents to give to the organization.

"That's the best feeling you get, total strangers that come by and love it," said Glassford, standing outside his home.

Dorothy Davis, Executive Director at Caledon Dufferin Victim Services spoke with the Citizen about the annual fundraising effort and its importance to the organization.

"It's huge for us, we're a small organization so we don't have a fundraising department, we don't have individuals dedicated to going out and raising fund for us," said Davis. "The fact that they spontaneously did this and are engaging the community in which they live, all the efforts we do is to work in that same community. We're working together in partnership, and that really feels good, when members of the community step up and assist us in supporting victims."

Typically Glassford would collect cash and present donations, but with COVID-19 restrictions they're asking those donating to give gift cards.

The event has become bigger each year for Glassford, but he is hoping that it will begin to be done by others in the community as well as in other communities.

"It needs to get bigger where it gets recognized in other communities," he said.

During weekdays, the home will have its lights and decorations on from 6 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. and for the next two Saturdays (Dec. 12 and Dec. 19) the home will host Santa Claus.

Caledon Dufferin Victims Services will be open over the holiday 24/7, those looking for assistance or for more information can go to www.cdvs.ca or call 905-951-3838.

'Share the Warmth' campaign progressing well this year, over 200 items donated so far

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

In an effort to combat the cold, Gould Team – Remax launched its "Share the Warmth" campaign, which is a hat and mitten drive that runs until Dec. 18.

So far, over 200 items have been donated to the local office, located on 115 First Street, and more are always welcome.

Remax's 16 offices in southern Ontario are competing against one another for the hat and mitten drive to see who can get the most donations, and all the donations are going to Good Shepherd Centres, who will distribute them to homeless shelters and people in need.

"This initiative is three years old with us now as a company, as a whole, but it's very competitive amongst the offices because we all challenge each other to raise the most numbers per office," explained Jerry Gould, owner of Gould Team.

"It's just good camaraderie... we all want to see who can raise the most."

Each year, Gould Team chooses a different item to donate. The first year they donated new socks and last year they donated books for kids to children hospitals across Canada.

The Cambridge office typically raises the most donations, since it has around 300 agents, but Mr. Gould noted that per agent, the Orangeville realtors always come close to first place.

Agents challenge each other when dropping off donations to top one another's contributions, which keeps the donations coming in.

"I've called out other agents from other offices and it's really funny, I remember... we bought out Walmart, bought up all their socks, there was not a sock left on the shelf," Mr. Gould recalled.

"We also cleared out two dollar stores, the Gould Team did, this year, of all their mitts and hats and scarves."

He told the Citizen, apart from the friendly competition, the agents enjoy

knowing that they're supporting a good cause, particularly this year because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

"This year more than ever, it's very, very important to donate because there's a greater need this year than there has ever been in history," Mr. Gould stressed.

While not everyone at the Remax offices, participating in the hat and mitten drive celebrates Christmas, everyone gets into the spirit of giving, he said.

Some of the clients at Gould Team have knitted mittens and hats to donate and anyone interested in supporting the initiative is welcome to visit their office (115 First Street) and drop some items off.

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OBITUARIES

JUDITH MAY TAGGART (NEE WILKINSON)

It is with great sadness that the family of Judith May Taggart announces her passing on Wednesday December 2nd, 2020 at the age of 58 years. Judy was a loving wife to Dan for 32 years and proud mother to Wesley (Rebekah), Jason (Clare), Shannon and Sarah (Kyle). She was the beloved daughter to Grace and the late Jack Wilkinson. She will be remembered by her brother Joe (Jane) Wilkinson as well as her many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and dear friends. Judy was predeceased by her sister Pat (Zenon) and brother Paul. Judy recently retired after spending over 35 years with the Ontario Government in Service Ontario and the Ministries of Agriculture, Transportation and Education. She was a keen member of 4H Canada and the beautiful Dairy Princess for Peel District. She was an avid runner completing many marathons with her best friend Lorraine Johnston by her side and her family cheering them on. The journey was too short Judy and yes, the lake is beautiful. We will be having a celebration of life for Judy in the spring/summer of 2021. Memorial donations may be made to Simcoe Hospice, Sick Kids Foundation or the charity of your choice.

Love always.



CARD OF THANKS

Card of Thanks ANDERSON, ROBERT (BOB)

Heartfelt thanks to our family, friends and neighbours for their expressions of sympathy and outreach during the loss of our beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather on November 1, as a result of Covid. The pandemic restrictions made it impossible for many people to pay their respects in the usual way. Rest assured that we knew your thoughts were with us. Lovingly ministered by his sister, Norma Godbold; carefully arranged by Shawna and Christine of Jack and Thompson Funeral Home; and surrounded by immediate family, interment was held on Tuesday, November 17 at Shelburne Cemetery. It was a snow-covered, windy, bitter cold, yet sunshine filled day. Not unlike many days Bob embraced doing his favorite pastimes – hunting with friends, ploughing snow for strangers and caring for his farm stock. A day he would have loved!

With sincere appreciation, Beryl, Betty, Ian, Dale, Lynn & families

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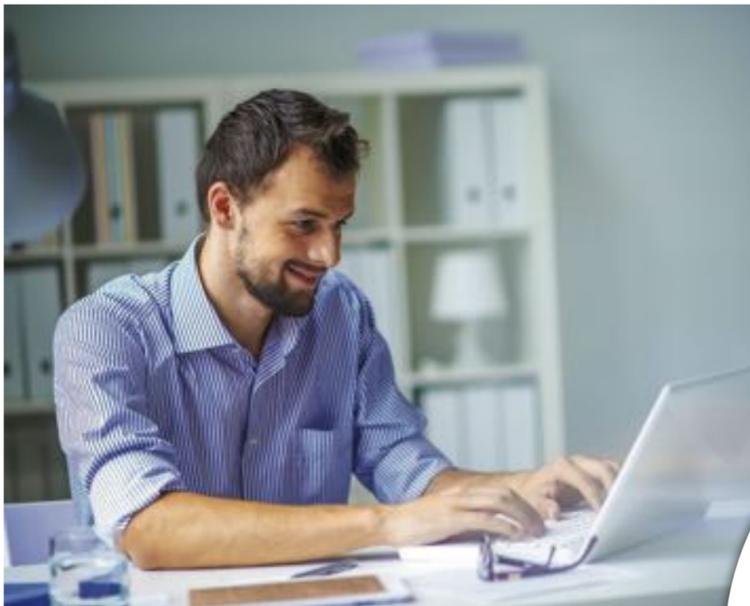
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Kindergarten registration starts Jan. 5

Kindergarten registration for the Upper Grand District School Board is just around the corner. Registration for new UGDSB Junior Kindergarten (JK) and Senior Kindergarten (SK) students for September 2021 will take place virtually between January 5-22, 2021.

The process for Kindergarten registration is fully online this year. Parents and guardians are required to pre-register their child online. Once pre-registered, parents and guardians are asked to contact their child's home school to make a virtual appointment to verify documentation. Registering online

can be done at www.ugdsb.ca/kindergarten, between January 5-22.

The online pre-registration process allows families to fill out the pre-registration form when it's convenient for them. If parents and guardians require assistance pre-registering online or do not have access to technology, they are asked to contact their child's home school.

Once parents/guardians have pre-registered online, contacted their child's home school to arrange a virtual appointment, and verified documentation with the school, the registration is complete.

Toy, food, clothing drive at TSC Stores Dec. 11-12

Written By SAM ODROWSKI

An Orangeville resident is working to make Christmas a little more cheerful for less fortunate individuals.

Grant Rowley has partnered with All Canadian Lawn Care and TSC Stores to host a toy, clothes, and food drive for the Orangeville Food Bank, Salvation Army, and Choices Youth Shelter on December 11 and 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The event will take place in TSC Stores' (207311 Highway 9) parking lot and Rowley's goal is to fill Canadian Lawn Care's enclosed trailer as well as the bed of his own truck and his friends' trucks with donations over the weekend.

A gift card and donation box will also be available for Family Transition Place (FTP), since they cannot accept physical dona-

tions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

There's no target in terms of the number of donations collected, but he said they've definitely got the space to take in whatever's dropped off.

Rowley's been involved with toy drives in the past and said he was motivated to host his upcoming event because of the economic turmoil created by Canada's Coronavirus outbreak.

"With the whole COVID [pandemic] going on, I want to give back to the community of Orangeville to try to help out the people who are having a hard time," said Rowley.

He told the Citizen, anyone who's looking to spread a little holiday spirit this December should stop by the fundraiser on Dec. 11 or 12 and drop off a donation.

Celebrating veterans at the Shelburne Legion



SUBMITTED PHOTO

GIFT TIME: Shelburne Legion President Lesa Peat (right) and second vice president Liz Whitten (left) handed out Christmas gifts to veterans on Nov. 25 while at the Legion's regular bi-weekly veterans meeting. Allan Wargon (centre), receiving his present, is the legion's oldest veteran at the age of 95.

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<p>ocna Ontario Community Newspapers Association</p> <p>REACH HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF CUSTOMERS IN ONTARIO EACH WEEK IN OUR WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS!</p> <p>Your Classified Ad or LOGO Ad would appear in weekly newspapers each week across Ontario or regions of Ontario in urban, suburban and rural areas.</p> <p>For more information Email: kmagill@rogers.com</p>	<p>DAVISON</p> <p>ATTN: ONTARIO INVENTORS!! Need Inventing Help? Call Davison!! Ideas Wanted! CALL DAVISON TODAY: 1-800-256-0429 OR VISIT US AT: Inventing.Davison.com/Ontario FREE Inventor's Guide!!</p>	<p>\$\$ CONSOLIDATE YOUR DEBT NOW \$\$</p> <p>HOME OWNER LOANS FOR ANY PURPOSE!!</p> <p>ASK ABOUT OUR DON'T PAY FOR A YEAR PROGRAM</p> <p>Bank turn downs, Tax or Mortgage arrears, Self-Employed, Bad Credit, Bankruptcy - We Can Help! Even in extreme situations of bad credit.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Borrow:</td> <td>Pay Monthly:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$100,000</td> <td>\$420.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>\$200,000</td> <td>\$ 841.21</td> </tr> </table> <p>LARGER AMOUNTS AVAILABLE !!Decrease monthly payments up to 80%!! Based on 3% APR. OAC</p> <p>FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY NOW BY PHONE OR ONLINE: 705-259-3974 or 1-888-307-7799 www.ontario-widefinancial.com ONTARIO-WIDE FINANCIAL 1801347inc FSCO Licence #12456 !! WE ARE HERE TO HELP !!</p>	Borrow:	Pay Monthly:	\$100,000	\$420.60	\$200,000	\$ 841.21	<p>ST. LAWRENCE RIVER CRUISING</p> <p>Celebrate the Beauty and History of Canada's Rivers</p> <p>4 - 7 night calm water cruises on a replica steamboat Meals, attractions, and entertainment included</p> <p>Departures from Kingston, Ottawa, Quebec City</p> <p>VACATION SAFELY IN CANADA Request our complimentary brochure</p> <p>CALL 1-800-267-7868 www.StLawrenceCruiseLines.com 253 Ontario St., Kingston, ON (TICO #2168740)</p>	<p>BETTER OPTION MORTGAGE</p> <p>DECLINED BY YOUR BANK? WE CAN HELP! 1st, 2nd, 3rd MORTGAGES Debt Consolidation Renovations, Tax Arrears Mortgage Arrears, Debt problems</p> <p>CONSOLIDATE YOUR DEBT NOW!!! CUT MONTHLY PAYMENTS UP TO 75%</p> <p>No Income, Bad Credit Bankruptcy, Proposal Power of Sale Stopped!!!</p> <p>FREE APPRAISALS CALL US FIRST FOR A FREE CONSULTATION 1-800-282-1169 www.mortgageontario.com (Licence #10969)</p>
Borrow:	Pay Monthly:									
\$100,000	\$420.60									
\$200,000	\$ 841.21									
<p>HEALTH</p> <p>GET UP TO \$50,000 from the Government of Canada. Do you or someone you know Have any of these Conditions? ADHD, Anxiety, Arthritis, Asthma, Cancer, COPD, Depression, Diabetes, Difficulty Walking, Fibromyalgia, Irritable Bowels, Overweight, Trouble Dressing...and Hundreds more. ALL Ages & Medical Conditions Qualify. Have a child under 18 instantly receive more money. CALL ONTARIO BENEFITS 1-(800)-211-3550 or Send a Text Message with Your Name and Mailing Address to (647)560-4274 for your FREE benefits package.</p>	<p>ADVERTISING</p> <p>The printed community newspaper is by far the favourite source of local news and information in communities large and small across Canada. Time spent with a community newspaper is virtually unchanged compared to two years ago and not surprisingly, the predominant reason for reading printed community newspapers is local information, including news, editorial, sports, entertainment and events.</p>	<p>WANTED</p> <p>WANTED: OLD TUBE AUDIO EQUIPMENT. 50 years or older. Amplifiers, Stereo, Recording and Theatre Sound Equipment. Hammond Organs, any condition. CALL Toll-Free 1-800-947-0393 / 519-853-2157.</p>								



Boxing Month

December 1st to January 4th

FINANCE¹ A

2020 **KICKS**[®] SR FROM

0% APR FOR UP TO **84** MONTHS O.A.C.

OR GET A

90-DAY FINANCE PAYMENT DEFERRAL⁸ ON SELECT 2020 MODELS.



SR model shown²

PLUS GET A **WINTER TIRE PACKAGE AT NO CHARGE**³



STANDARD INTELLIGENT EMERGENCY BRAKING⁵



AVAILABLE BOSE^{®6} HEADREST SPEAKERS



BEST-IN-CLASS FUEL EFFICIENCY (NON-HYBRID)⁷



VISIT [NISSAN.CA/OFFERS](https://www.nissan.ca/offers) OR CONTACT YOUR LOCAL NISSAN DEALER.

OFFERS APPLY TO NEW AND PREVIOUSLY UNREGISTERED MODELS AT AUTHORIZED PARTICIPATING NISSAN DEALERS IN CANADA BETWEEN DECEMBER 1, 2020-JANUARY 4, 2021. ¹REPRESENTATIVE FINANCE EXAMPLE BASED ON A NEW 2020 KICKS SR. SELLING PRICE IS \$20,058 FINANCED AT 0% APR EQUALS 84 MONTHLY PAYMENTS OF \$310 MONTHLY FOR A 84 MONTH TERM. \$0 DOWN PAYMENT REQUIRED. COST OF BORROWING IS \$0 FOR A TOTAL OBLIGATION OF \$20,058. ON APPROVED CREDIT, RATE MAY VARY DEPENDING ON CREDIT AND OTHER FACTORS. ASK YOUR DEALER FOR DETAILS. ²MODEL SHOWN \$26,058 SELLING PRICE FOR A NEW 2020 KICKS SR. ³WINTER TIRE PACKAGE AVAILABLE WITH THE RETAIL PURCHASE/LEASE/FINANCE OF ANY NEW AND PREVIOUSLY UNREGISTERED 2020 KICKS MODEL REGISTERED AND DELIVERED BETWEEN DECEMBER 1, 2020-JANUARY 4, 2021 FROM AN AUTHORIZED PARTICIPATING NISSAN DEALER IN CANADA. QUALIFYING TIRES, RIMS, INSTALLATION AND BALANCING NOT INCLUDED. MAXIMUM VALUE OF \$600 (EXCLUSIVE OF FEES AND TAXES) ON WINTER TIRES. NO CASH SURRENDER VALUE. LIMITED QUANTITIES AVAILABLE. TIRE SIZE AND BRAND MAY VARY. DEALERS ARE FREE TO SET INDIVIDUAL PRICES. SELECTING TIRES OF A HIGHER VALUE, REQUIRES CUSTOMER TO PAY THE DIFFERENCE. CUSTOMER WILL NOT BE CREDITED ANY DIFFERENCE BY SELECTING TIRES OF A LOWER VALUE. CANNOT BE APPLIED TO PAST TRANSACTIONS. CONDITIONS APPLY. SEE YOUR DEALER FOR DETAILS. ⁴INTELLIGENT EMERGENCY BRAKING CANNOT PREVENT ALL COLLISIONS AND MAY NOT PROVIDE WARNING OR BRAKING IN ALL CONDITIONS. DRIVER SHOULD MONITOR TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AND BRAKE AS NEEDED TO PREVENT COLLISIONS. SEE OWNER'S MANUAL FOR SAFETY INFORMATION. ⁵AVAILABLE FEATURE. BOSE IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF THE BOSE CORPORATION. ⁶BEST-IN-CLASS (NON-HYBRID) FUEL CONSUMPTION RATING IN THE DESROSIERS SUBCOMPACT SUV SEGMENT. ⁷90-DAY FINANCE PAYMENT DEFERRAL IS NOT COMBINABLE WITH 0% FOR 84 MONTHS. OFFER IS AVAILABLE ON SELECT NEW AND PREVIOUSLY UNREGISTERED IN-STOCK 2020 KICKS (S/SV/SR) VEHICLES THAT ARE FINANCED THROUGH NCF, ON APPROVED CREDIT, AND DELIVERED FROM AN AUTHORIZED NISSAN DEALER IN ONTARIO BETWEEN DECEMBER 1 AND JANUARY 4. PERIODIC FINANCE PAYMENTS ARE DEFERRED FOR 90 DAYS. CONTRACTS WILL BE EXTENDED ACCORDINGLY. INTEREST CHARGES (IF ANY) WILL NOT ACCRUE DURING THE FIRST 60 DAYS OF THE FINANCE CONTRACT. AFTER 60 DAYS, INTEREST (IF ANY) STARTS TO ACCRUE AND THE PURCHASER WILL REPAY PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST OVER THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT, BUT NOT UNTIL 90 DAYS AFTER THE CONTRACT DATE. CUSTOMERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DOWN-PAYMENT (IF APPLICABLE), LICENSE, REGISTRATION AND INSURANCE PAYMENTS UPON CONTRACT SIGNING. CONDITIONS APPLY. SEE DEALER FOR DETAILS. ALL PRICING INCLUDES FREIGHT AND PDE CHARGES (\$1,830), AIR-CONDITIONING LEVY (\$100), APPLICABLE FEES, TIRE CHARGE (IN ONTARIO THIS FEE COVERS THE COST TO NISSAN CANADA OF COLLECTING AND RECYCLING TIRES), MANUFACTURER'S REBATE AND DEALER PARTICIPATION WHERE APPLICABLE. LICENSE, REGISTRATION, INSURANCE AND APPLICABLE TAXES ARE EXTRA. OFFERS ARE AVAILABLE ON APPROVED CREDIT THROUGH NISSAN CANADA FINANCE FOR A LIMITED TIME, MAY CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE AND CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS EXCEPT STACKABLE TRADING DOLLARS. VEHICLES AND ACCESSORIES ARE FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY. OFFERS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR CANCELLATION WITHOUT NOTICE. TAXES EXTRA. SEE YOUR PARTICIPATING NISSAN DEALER OR VISIT [NISSAN.CA/OFFERS](https://www.nissan.ca/offers) FOR DETAILS. CERTAIN CONDITIONS APPLY. ©2020 NISSAN CANADA INC.