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PHOTO: BRIAN LOCKHART

FALL CLASSIC: The ninth annual Fall Classic Police Hockey Tournament got underway at Honeywood arena on Thursday, December six with police officers from around the region taking part. Ontario Provincial Police Sergeant Trent Pickering, along with Detective Constable Mark Taylor of the Dufferin OPP, and community services officer Shannon Gordanier, Sue Snider and Lisa Post, from Community Safety Partners, and team representatives, Mark Taylor and Al Britton. The tournament raises funds for several local worthwhile causes.

'Thankful Together' Soup Haus to serve Christmas Day dinner in the community

Written By MARNI WALSH

Christmas Day falls on a Tuesday this year, and as such it will be free dinner as usual courtesy of Soup Haus at Trinity United Church in Shelburne.

"Our commitment to Soup Haus is to serve every Tuesday year round," says Troupe Adore owner and founder of Soup Haus, Sohayla Smith. "Holidays don't change the need for the complimentary service we provide - it feels almost more important to do it on days like Christmas Day."

Ms. Smith says, "Christmas is a time of joy in celebration of the birth of Christ, but also of hardship and loneliness for some, and if we can make someone feel loved, welcome, and well fed, then our job is well done."

The December 25th Soup Haus dinner is sponsored by Compass Church Shelburne Kids Zone @ Heritage Festival. "Soup Haus

strives to bring the community together in an effort to lovingly care for each other," says Sohayla Smith, "hand in hand with our partners, sponsors, and volunteers. The season to give isn't just at Christmastime - we have the opportunity every day of our lives to positively affect those around us."

Along with Compass Church, Soup Haus has many partners, sponsors and donors generously sponsoring their efforts throughout the year, including, their location partner Trinity United Church, Giving Table sponsor Shepherd's Cupboard Food Bank, GVM Integration Inc., Shelburne Transporter, Literary Ladies Collingwood, Primrose Park, Museum of Dufferin, TFS Roofing Systems, Spawfect Grooming, Cassie Elchorn, Oatman's, the Kinette Club of Shelburne, and produce sponsor ta'Pisani Farms.

Sohayla Smith says her organization's philosophy is "We always have more than

enough to give - sometimes we feel like we don't, but each and every one of us has plenty to offer. We give what we feel we can, when we are able to, in a way that we are comfortable doing so. What we give can be as simple as time, attention, supper, a greeting, respect, conversation, acceptance, and a smile - and it is often worth so much more than we realize to the recipient."

Ms. Smith refers to John 6:35-37: Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. "I think that says it all," she says, "We welcome everyone. We pay everyone equal respect."

Continued on Page 3

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Shelburne Solstice and Services this Christmas season

Written By MARNI WALSH

Trinity United Church in Shelburne is just one of many local churches offering solstice and services this Christmas.

Trinity begins the season this Friday with a reading presentation of Charles Dickens' classic tale "A Christmas Carol." The evening is a fundraising initiative for Partera, one of Trinity's partners in peace building, with \$20 tickets available at Trinity Church, IDA Pharmacy, or at the door. Plum pudding will accompany the reading.

Trinity United Church will offer a Solstice Service on Friday, December 21st at 7:30 pm. "A service reflecting on the light and dark in a season of both celebration and sorrow," Reverend Bist says it is one of her favourite services. The Solstice Service will include a full choir and "wonderful, thoughtful music and reflection" followed by a "gentle time of visiting and informal communion" and refreshments.

On Christmas Eve, Trinity will hold a Candlelight Service starting at 7 pm. The service will include traditional family carols and

readings as well as the choir. As always, the historic church will be a beautifully decorated sight on Christmas Eve. Child care is provided.

December 25th, Soup Haus will host a free dinner from 6-8pm for Christmas Day. Reservations are appreciated at www.souphaus.ca.

Trinity's sister church, Primrose United, will hold Christmas Service on December 23rd at 9 am. Reverend Bist says, "This is a lovely, morning service" with the choir, traditional carols and the reading of the Christmas story. "There is always a friendly, and lovely, light breakfast offered as well."

Abiding Place Ministries at the Mel Lloyd Centre, 167 Centre Street in Shelburne, will hold their Christmas Concert with the singing Reverend Mark Curtis on Sunday, December 23rd at 10 am. On the evening of Monday, December 24th at 7 pm Abiding Place will hold a Christmas Eve Service with carols and fellowship.

Rev. Stephanie Pellow says St. Paul's Anglican Church, on Owen Sound Street in Shelburne, will hold their family Christmas

Eve Service with the story of the Nativity and Holy Eucharist at 4:30 pm on December 24th. Their Children's Pageant will be held Sunday, December 23rd at 9:30am.

Crossroads Community Church invites the community to an evening of seasonal celebration on Sunday, December 23rd from 7-8pm at 485289 Dufferin County Road 11, in Shelburne.

Compass Church in Shelburne will hold two one hour candle light services at 4pm and 7pm at Grace Tipling Hall on Christmas Eve. Free tickets may be reserved at www.thiscompass.com.

For more information on additional churches and services refer to local listings at www.townofshelburne.on.ca.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER: Local churches will be holding a variety of services throughout the Christmas season, including a special presentation of "A Christmas Carol" - a reading by performer Jeffrey Cottam with music by Bruce Ley this Friday December 14th at 7:30 pm at Trinity United Church in Shelburne. A fundraiser for Partera International Peace Initiative, \$20 tickets are available at the door.

Continued from FRONT

Soup Haus to serve Christmas Day dinner

"Supper will be a beautiful and plentiful feast of turkey and roasts, mashed potatoes, gravy, Yorkshire pudding, veggies, eggnog, gingerbread, cakes, and cookies galore, served with coffee, tea, and an extra helping of love. There will be a little gift under the tree for each dinner guest as well, to make Christmas extra bright."

Reservations are requested for this supper and guests are asked to make them well in advance so Soup Haus volunteers can prepare - ideally by December 21st. Reservation by website contact form: www.souphaus.ca; reservation by email: souphausrestaurant@gmail.com; reservation by facebook: www.facebook.com/souphausrestaurant; reservation by phone: 519-217-2151 (please leave a message stating reservation for Christmas Supper, first name, and number of guests with a call back number.)

However, Ms. Smith says, "We always prepare for a few last minute guests, and walk-ins are never turned away, especially not for Christmas dinner."

Soup Haus Christmas dinner will be served free to guests on Tuesday, December



PHOTO: MARNI WALSH

CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR ALL: It's a Soup Haus Christmas with chefs Sohayla Smith and Josh Oatman of Troupe-Adore. A free Soup Haus Christmas dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 25th from 6-8pm in the Trinity United Church basement gallery.

25th from 6-8pm in the Trinity United Church basement gallery. The dinner will be accompanied by a beautiful display, including a Christmas tree, lights and festive table décor.

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Orwell

I rarely, if ever, use a quote from another person to pass on words of wisdom or some other profound utterance, especially on my Facebook page.

Why pass on a quote from the Dalai Lama, Abraham Lincoln, or Winston Churchill? Most likely their words are no more important than something your mother, father or grandfather or grandmother once said to you.

They are people you don't know and those famous quotes were all written by some ghost writer who spent weeks working on a speech that is only approved by the speaker then reiterated in front of an approving crowd.

However, I came across a gem from George Orwell the other day that is so pertinent to modern society I believe it is worth repeating.

George Orwell, for those who don't know, but I'm sure almost all of you do, was a 20th century writer, essayist and journalist who seemed to have great insight when it came to the workings of society. In fact, his name has become synonymous with a society where, as he somewhat predicted, the state is overly concerned with the activities of its citizens.

'Orwellian' is a situation, idea, or societal condition that is identified as being destructive to the welfare of a free and open society. Among his many well known sayings and quotes, Orwell once wrote, "The further a society drifts from the truth, the more it will hate those that speak it."

It seems that idea is becoming true in our society.

In large part, 'the truth' is whatever you believe it to be. That's why various denominations of the same religion all claim to possess the true knowledge and divine understanding of ancient scriptures while dismissing the 'truth' of the 'other church' down the street.

It also explains why the Russian version of the Second World War taught in their schools is a lot different from the way it is taught on this side of the pond.

It is no secret that truth in our society has become wildly distorted over the past few years thanks to politically correct nonsense that is determined by a small handful in society.

The problem is many people are believing what they are told by a small group determined on swaying public opinion – even when the counter arguments are apparent

and valid.

Reports from international news agencies have been hugely skewed in favour of opinion rather than fact.

It's not that hard to find out what's really going on – you just have to look for it.

There are plenty of non-mainstream media that are getting stories and the truth out while state and agenda sponsored media refuse to report it or even admit incidents have taken place.

That includes our own state-sponsored news media which is notorious for leaving out facts when the facts get in the way of the agenda.

See for yourself – just read over daily news reports and observe when information is missing and when it's not.

According to their version of events, the RCMP only releases descriptions of wanted criminals if they happen to fit the description of a politically correct agenda. Judging from the comments section of these news stories, there are a lot of people who have come to the same realization that these reports are heavily edited and information removed to suit program.

As the sports editor at the Citizen – the newspaper of record for Dufferin County –

my job is fairly straightforward. A team either wins, loses, or ties a game. There's no in-between.

Editorial content is provided in the way of interviews with coaches and players.

If I decided to fudge results, scores, team standings or any statistics to favour a town's teams, you can bet I would be hearing from players, coaches, parents, and team and league executives in very short notice.

When it comes to international news however, many people are accepting the reports as accurate without considering the source. This is where the truth becomes distorted – and when that happens, you end up with a situation just as Orwell claimed.

This is not new in society – it has happened before with dire consequences. When the majority start to believe a lie, they turn on those who still hang on to the truth.

The difference these days, is that with the availability of media to be broadcast almost anywhere, the truth can still be found despite what the agenda-driven media and propaganda outlets report.

You just have to look for it.



BRIAN LOCKHART FROM THE SECOND ROW

Editorial

Could anything be done?

ONE STORY GIVEN precious little attention by most Canadian newspapers concerns an investigation by the federal Competition Bureau into a deal by the country's two largest newspaper chains that eliminated competition in 36 markets through the closure of that many publications.

Just over a year ago, on Nov. 27, 2017, Torstar Corp. and Postmedia swapped 41 publications and instantly closed all but five of them, throwing untold numbers of employees and contractors out of work.

Apart from those who lost jobs, the biggest losers were the readers, who in most cases lost their major source of local news – papers like the Collingwood Enterprise Bulletin, St. Marys Journal Argus and Orillia Packet and Times – and were left with tiny tabloids wrapped around a couple of dozen flyers.

Today, newspaper competition is a thing of the past, apart from Toronto, which now has five dailies (the Star, Globe and Mail, National Post, Sun and Star-owned Metro freebie), and a handful of markets, including Orangeville and Caledon, where Torstar's Metroland subsidiary is up against publications owned by relatively tiny London Publishing.

How did this all come about, and is there anything that could be done to mitigate the damage?

As we see it, the current situation has its roots in the formation of large newspaper chains and the eventual withdrawal of one of them, the Thomson Corp., which correctly forecast much lower profit margins for its publications.

Over the years, the former Thomson papers changed hands multiple times. The Orangeville Banner went to Conrad Black's Hollinger Corp., then to Osprey Media and finally to Metroland, in the process shrinking from a twice-weekly broadsheet publication to the current weekly tabloid which contains a tiny fraction of the news it once gave readers.

Newspapers everywhere have suffered

major losses in revenue as a result of Internet-based competition and retailers' love affair with flyers.

As one small example, the Toronto Star has seen its classifieds shrink from a full section of the paper to a couple of pages, while department store and supermarket advertising which once filled many pages has virtually disappeared.

But while all newspapers suffered, none did more so than the Postmedia dailies and weeklies, all of which carried huge debt loads as a result of having been sold multiple times before arriving in the Postmedia stable, where they are now owned by a U.S. hedge fund.

So what, if anything, can be done about it? Despite the obvious fact that the deal between Torstar and Postmedia was designed to eliminate competition, it was structured so as to eliminate any chance of successful prosecution under the Competition Act, with no money changing hands and all the closings notionally taking place when two local publications came under joint ownership.

The best the federal government has done thus far is to announce plans to give tax credits to subsidize labour costs at news media outlets.

Perhaps the best we could hope for would be a finding by the Competition Bureau that there was, indeed, collusion between Torstar and Postmedia and to recommend the resurrection of local publications that were clearly doing a better job of serving readers than the "flyer wraps" that survived the deal.

There's surely no doubt that Torstar could easily take such action in places like Collingwood, Orillia and St. Marys, or that the revived publications could be at least marginally profitable, thanks to the increased flyer revenue and the absence of local competition.

One other thing Ottawa could do is monitor local advertising rates to make sure that the big chains set similar rates in markets where they have a monopoly and those where they face competition.

Short Editorial

Wrong Agenda

There was certainly a chill in the air when Canada's *Atlantic* was cancelled over the weekend.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford, in fact, threatened to walk out if his province's concerns were not addressed by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

This is called hardball politics.

Trudeau had to deal with a tougher crowd than last time, of course. While this was the fourth meeting that Trudeau has had with first ministers, it was the first communal sit-down since he lost Liberal allies following provincial elections in Québec, Ontario and New Brunswick.

So, he had a tougher row to hoe.

While Trudeau may have wanted to focus on his obsession of saving the planet through a "job-killing carbon tax" on Canadian taxpayers, the premiers and territorial leaders wanted to dial in on issues affecting their provinces economies – like the oil crisis, the downturn in the industrial sector and the burdensome costs of asylum-seekers.

Premier Ford told reporters that queue-jumping refugees have already cost Ontario taxpayers some \$200 million with no end in sight and very little federal compensation.

And then there is the looming the shutdown

of the General Motors plant in Oshawa.

This is no small matter. Many of our readers have intimate connections with General Motors, either having retired in our neck of the woods or still have friends or relatives working the assembly line.

These should be Trudeau's concerns right now, not greenhouse gas emissions and taxation.

And how about the aluminum and steel tariffs that are hurting our automotive sector, a key player in the economy of our province?

But, according to reports coming out of Montréal, none of these issues run Trudeau's agenda.

He wants to save the world by taxing the modest pollution created in Canada while the air in the Indian city of Delhi is equivalent to smoking two packs of cigarettes a day.

First things first. Alberta is literally dying on the vine because it cannot get its oil to tide-water.

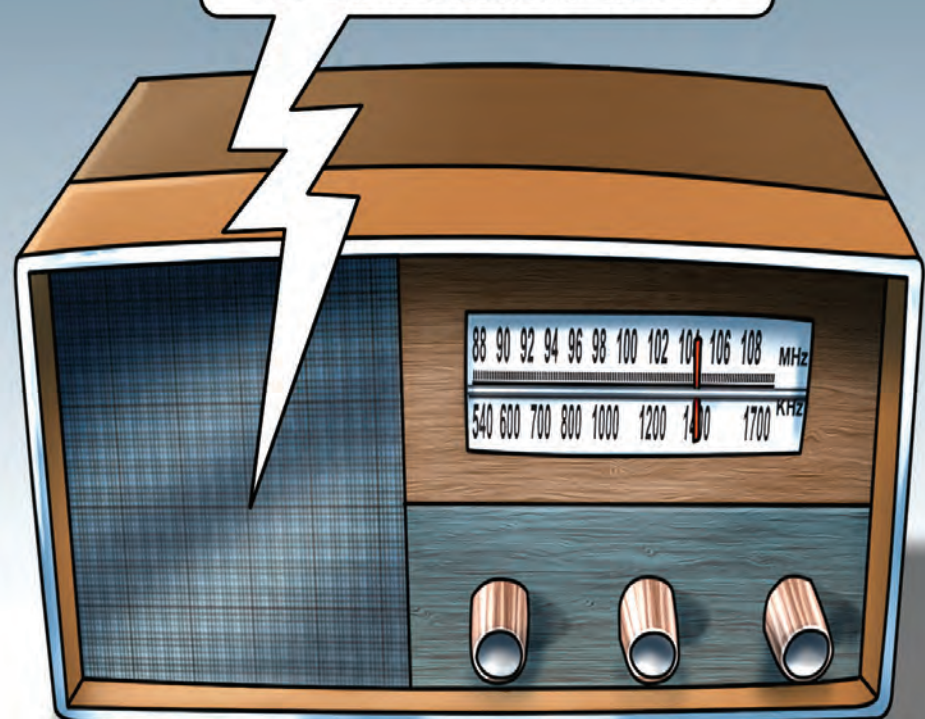
Alberta premier Rachel Notley was particularly incensed by Trudeau's agenda, and who can blame her?

Electorally speaking, she's done like dinner. Her re-election hopes are grimmer than grim.

She needs a miracle – or an immediate pipeline – and neither are about to happen.

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HatsOnDufferin & Shelburne Police partner up to keep community warm

HatsOnDufferin is a non-profit organization whose goal is to ensure that every child, person, and family within our community has a hat to keep warm this winter. What began as a social gathering of individuals with a passion for the craft of crocheting quickly evolved into a socially responsible community minded initiative. It is their belief that an increased awareness of poverty issues will help spur and support other community minded poverty reduction initiatives. The winters in Dufferin may be cold but the hearts, hands, and generosity of our residents will always be warmer.

HatsOnDufferin has donated hand crocheted and knitted hats to every school in Dufferin County and are now reaching out to other community partners to help ensure everyone can stay warm this winter.

Over 500 generous volunteers from the local communities created thousands of winter hats for this worthy initiative.

On Friday December 7th 2018, Constable Carey Widbur of the Shelburne Police Service accepted 50 handmade hats from Chief Hat Maker Stephany St. Louis.

"Shelburne Police officers will keep an eye out for anyone in our community needing a hat to stay warm – from young children to seniors, and everyone in between", remarked Sgt. Paul Neumann. "If anyone knows of a person who needs a hat to help battle the Dufferin County winter, call the Shelburne Police Service at 519-925-3312, or drop by the station; and we will get one of these beautifully crafted hats to them. Thank you Stephany St. Louis and all the hat making volunteers for being part of what makes this community great!"

OPP crack illegal firearm & drug ring

Several Ontario residents face numerous charges following a multi-jurisdiction investigation into trafficking of illegal firearms and illegal drugs in the Greater Toronto and Golden Horseshoe areas of Ontario.

Noting a rise in domestically-sourced guns, Project RENNER began in April 2018 as a high-level Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau (OCEB) investigation targeting an organized

crime group that had been producing restricted and untraceable firearms by using unregulated parts. This group manufactured these illegal guns for mass distribution to multiple criminal cells in Ontario.

At a news conference today, OPP Deputy Commissioner Rick BARNUM and representatives from the project's partner agencies unveiled details of the investigation and evidence seized during the eight-month probe. Project RENNER was conducted by the OPP-led Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit (PWEU) in partnership with the Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS), Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS), Hamilton Police Service (HPS), Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS), Peel Regional Police Service (PRPS) and the OPP Provincial Asset Forfeiture Unit. Members of the Toronto Police Service, Barrie Police Service, London Police Service, and the RCMP took part in the takedown. The investigation was also supported by The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC). More than 400 individual police personnel were involved in executing 39 search warrants late last week at locations across the Greater Toronto Area.

During the course of the investigation, the project team combined to seize 14 handguns, six long guns – including a machine gun and an assault rifle – numerous prohibited weapons and devices – including four silencers, grenades, a conducted energy weapon (stun gun) and body armour – 1.2 kilograms of cocaine, 30 grams of methamphetamine, 13 grams of heroin, 66 fentanyl tablets and \$85,000 in Canadian currency. In addition, four vehicles and a residential property were seized as offence-related property. As part of a parallel investigation, police seized three kilograms of cocaine and one kilogram of fentanyl.

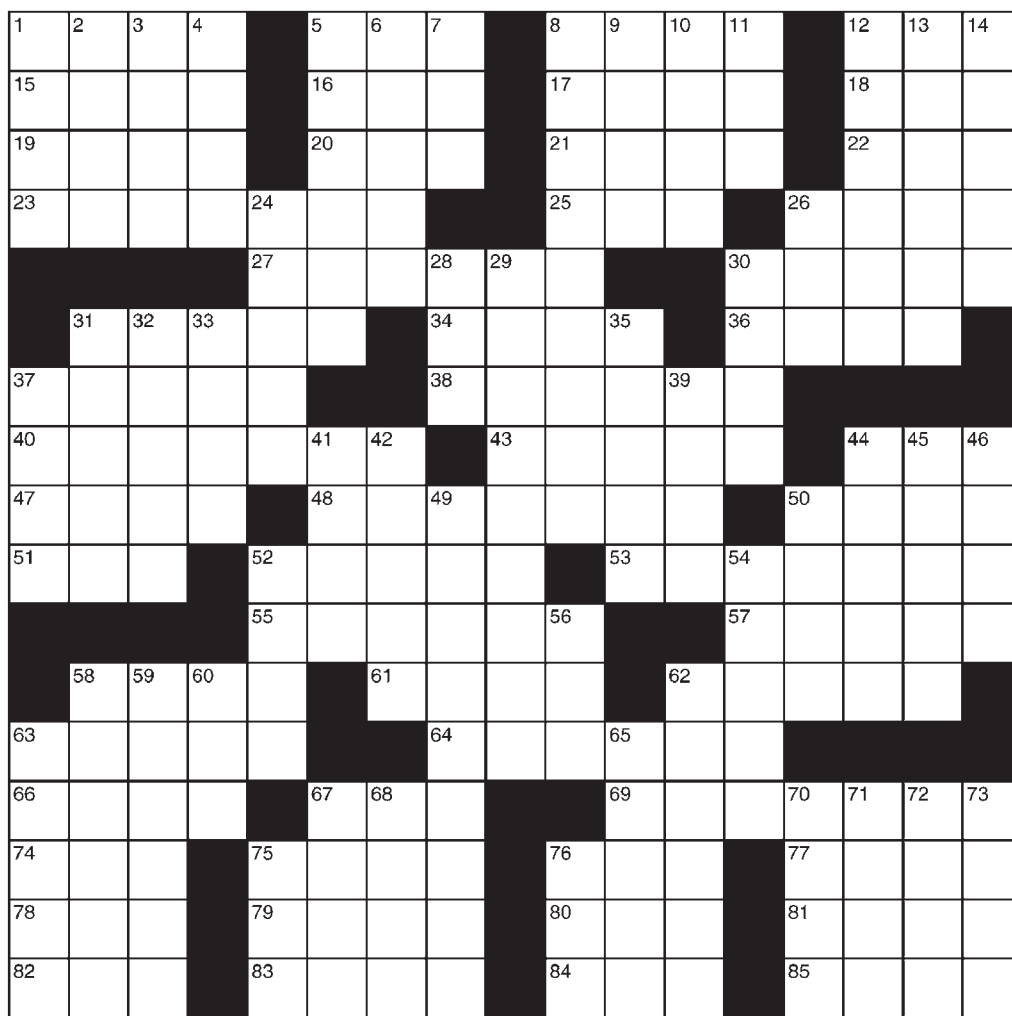


SUBMITTED PHOTO

BIG DONATION: On Friday December 7th 2018, Constable Carey Widbur of the Shelburne Police Service accepted 50 handmade hats from Chief Hat Maker Stephany St. Louis.

X CROSSWORD

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ACROSS

1. Pawn
5. Hog's pad
8. Hindu attire
12. Chop roughly
15. Look at amorously
16. Pedal digit
17. Ball of yarn
18. Squeeze
19. Slender
20. River inlet
21. Exchange allowance
22. Desert garment
23. Ousting
25. Beat it
26. State firmly
27. Drill
30. Monkey business?
31. Commencement
34. Curved support
36. Firecracker sound

DOWN

37. Rapidly
38. Down in the dumps
40. Obscure place
43. Long for
44. Fort Worth sch.
47. Attitude
48. Authorize
50. Switch
51. Some
52. Request urgently
53. Spotted feline
55. Place for shadow
57. Outback dog
58. Meager
61. Abnormal breathing
62. Gambling game
63. Underground chamber
64. Nastase's game
66. Mislay
67. Undies item
69. Be magnetic

DOWN

74. Choose
75. Cattle stall
76. Deal a blow
77. Nothing but
78. Bishop's office
79. Recover
80. Night before Christmas
81. Snatched
82. Be mistaken
83. Lazy
84. Feminine pronoun
85. Pot bet

8. Bird frightener
9. Pond organism
10. Horse check
11. "Sands of ____ Jima"
12. Angelic abode
13. Actress Anita ____
14. Fatigued
24. Period of indulgence
26. Timber tree
28. Run into
29. Alligator's kin
30. Assist Billy the Kid, e.g.
31. Utensil
32. Golden brown
33. Soreness
35. Shack
37. Rectangular pilaster
39. Moistureless
41. Depend
42. Muslim ruler
44. Pluck
45. Ship's load
46. Coiffure
49. Delicious
50. Turn
52. Impudent
54. Lyrical poet
56. Burrow
58. Appropriate
59. Mother of pearl?
60. Ajar, in poems
62. Acrid
63. Nearby
65. Innocent
67. Produced offspring
68. Teheran money
70. Roster
71. In a minute
72. Thicken
73. Toddler
75. Fraternity letter
76. Chuckling sound



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Renowned playwright Dan Needles visits Shelburne Public Library

Written By ROSE DOTTEN

If you haven't attended one of the Coffee, Conversation & Books make this the one you do!

We will welcome the final author featured in the CC&B series, Wayne Townsend, to Jelly Craft Bakery and Cafe on Wednesday, December 19th @ 7pm! Email jnoble@shelburnelibrary.ca to register for an evening full of discussion on Dufferin County. This wonderful, community-centered program will be continuing in 2019—stay tuned for the excellent, local author lineup!

Teen Scene:

Teen Gingerbread houses are up and waiting for your votes in the library! All you have to do is grab your ballot, fill it out, and put it in the vote box. The winner will win a nice treat in advance of the holidays! Our final Teen event will be the last meeting of our Pizza & Pages Book Club on Thursday, December 20th @ 6pm. Keep your eyes and ears open for our Teen Programming plans for 2019!

Children's Programs:

Our Tween the Pages Book Club begins in just over a month! Sign up now in the Children's Library or by emailing children@shelburnelibrary.ca. This is a bi-weekly group on Fridays 3:30 – 4:30 pm for children ages 7-12. We will spend each week listening to our novel read aloud, and then working on activities that expand on what has been read. The next Sleepy Story Time will be on

Thursday December 20th, from 6:15pm - 7:15 pm. Snuggle up in your PJs and listen to an hour of stories in the children's library. This Sleepy Story Time will be filled with stories about Santa and all things holiday and Christmas!

Books & Babies: Tuesdays, 10:00 am - 11:00 am - Bundle up your little one and visit this drop-in group for parents and children 2 years old and under. A group full of great conversation, and a safe place for children to socialize with others their own age.

PAWS To Read: Tuesday afternoons, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm.

Mac-the-therapy-dog is available for 15 minute appointments with children who would like to practice their reading to a great listener, Mac. Please book an appointment by calling the library at 519-925-2168.

LEGO Club: Wednesday afternoons, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm. This drop-in program for children ages 6-12 has a brand new build challenge every single week. As your child's skills grow they can also attempt the weekly "Expert Build Challenge". Several Snap Circuit kits are also available to explore while visiting LEGO Club. Watch our team LEGO structure grow as members complete challenges and add a block to our team build every week. This month our builds have involved real snow and ice in the library!

Story Time: Friday mornings, 10:30 am - 11:30 am. This is a drop-in group full of singing, dancing, and stories. Each week we have a themed craft that connects to what we learned from our story. Visit Story Time,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

NEEDLES VISITS SHELBURNE: Dan Needles at the Shelburne Public Library, Library Literary Event, Sunday December, 10th with a large audience in attendance enjoying the humour Dan always brings out in his presentations, books, and plays.

and leave with new friends and amazing art creations! For the month of December we will be creating holiday decorations that could be perfect gifts for friends and family.

NEW BOOKS

Fiction:

- Queen of the north by Anne O'Brien
- The secret wife by Gill Paul
- The temptation of forgiveness by Donna Leon

- Perfect death by Helen Fields
- The Mitford murders by Jessica Fellowes
- Depth of winter by Craig Johnson
- Perfect silence by Helen Fields
- Blood communion by Anne Rice
- Ill will: the untold story of Heathcliff by Michael Stewart
- Codename Villanelle by Luke Jennings
- One in a million by Lindsey Kelk
- Winter in paradise by Elin Hilderbrand

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PHOTO: MARNI WALSH

FOR A GOOD CAUSE: Bill French (right) represented the Shelburne Lion's Club at Foodland selling tickets for Jim Cheyne's lovely handmade Christmas rocking horse to excited customers. Mr. Cheyne has been raising funds for the Lion's Club for well over 20 years with his beautiful craftsmanship. Mr. French says tickets sales for the rocking horse have consistently raised in the area of \$1200 every year to help support the local charity work of the Shelburne's Lion Club. Tickets will be sold at No Frills and Foodland until December 16th with the draw for the lucky winner to take place December 19th.

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Retirement Sale

OWNERS GREG & HEATHER SAY FAREWELL.

We have all seen a lot of change in the retail sector, but even more so we've had many changes in our personal lives. After much thought and consideration we have decided to wind down Holmes Appliances & Music Shop and invest our time and energy enjoying retirement.

At press time we are not sure whether any one else will take over the business, or whether we will simply be closing the doors in the not too distant future, but whatever happens we want to say **THANK YOU!**

They say "it takes a village" and in our case that has certainly proven true. It has been an exciting experience for us since buying our father's business in 1987. We cherish all the support and encouragement from everyone over the years – family, other retailers in Shelburne, our "can't live without them," part time staff (past and present) all our unique suppliers, advertisers, industry friends, and above all - Our customers (and customers who became friends) from Shelburne and area, Dufferin County and all over the world: Without you there would have been no Holmes Appliances & Music Shop.

We thank you for this unforgettable chapter in our lives. On to new adventures, and see you in the community!

Greg and Heather Holmes

P.S. Thank you for continuing to support small businesses and local stores. Your patronage, friendship and loyalty really does make all the difference.

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Natalie Merritt-Broderick publishes In This Moment of Freedom

Written By **CONSTANCE SCRAFIELD**

"This is my first book," Natalie Merritt-Broderick confirmed. "I've been writing long enough and finally decided I needed to take that leap of faith before I die."

Hastening to assure us of her good health and not actually in fear of an imminent end, she went on, "There are 60 poems, written over lots of years."

She loves to travel and to write while she is a different place, saying, "A vacation is a great place to lose yourself. I do a lot of writing when we go to St. Martin."

Her ambition to publish is born "because I've always wanted to be an author – it's something I've always wanted to do. Too many people have dreams of a life time and never do it. I told myself, this is what you always worked for and now it's time to do something about it."

She really enjoys writing poetry, writing as she does, spontaneously, "My poetry is free flowing – I let what comes just come – I've learn along the way that, when I'm in the zone, I'm great; if I try to force it, it does not work."

"I've been writing since I was 13. It was probably when I was in my mid-20's when I started writing poetry. The ease of poetry is it's a quicker way of telling something."

When I found out I wasn't going to be able to have children – that's probably around when I first found poetry. It was a way of

dealing with the emotions of not being able to have kids.

"We didn't adopt – more just dealing with the fact of not having kids while others were. My poetry is about my personal life – a mix of different things I've been and then things I've seen and it comes into life."

In addition to her writing, Ms. Merritt-Broderick has become, "a creative Acrylic Pours: abstracts. I'm working on that."

"Now, I'm doing vendors shows. I've been reaching out and signing up for them. People get to know who I am. At the moment, people don't know me because I've been at home doing my art work and writing my poetry. So now, I have to get out and let people know what I'm about."

Briefly, her personal history is that she was born and raised in Guelph. "I got divorced in my 30's and just recently got married in 2016. I was 28 years in the corporate world and I left in 2017 to work on my creative life."

Ms. Merritt-Broderick and her husband moved to Orangeville in 2009. "He grew up in Shelburne. When his father died we bought the Shelburne home. He has been very supportive."

Coming to this intensively arts community, Ms Merritt-Broderick remarked, "I know how important the art world is up here, so I felt comfortable reaching out to the art community. At the vendors' markets, I take my art and I have my book with me. It's also in BookLore and the Shelburne Library and

Orangeville Library.

"I've done well with the book. I've been really pleased; people have said to me they relate to certain poems. They say, 'I enjoy your writing' – that means a lot to me."

In the early days of publishing, it is natural to experience some self-doubt, she reflected this by mentioning, "I didn't trust in myself as a writer. I published through 'create a space' on Amazon. I got great help with an individual from Quebec who helped me with my social media."

"I can be on social media, although I try not to spend a lot of time but enough to let people know what I'm doing with my writing and my art."

She began her Acrylic Pours art with paint-

ings and then, "I'm now doing objects – vases, Christmas ornaments, pumpkins – skulls. If I think I can pour paint on it, then I do."

"I was on YouTube and I happened to come across pourers. I'm not a drawer as such but I love colours and started on the canvases. Then I saw someone pouring on a vase and I thought that was fun. I love being creative and I love colour."

Writing poetry "...teaches me about myself and I hope that others, when they read them, will learn something about themselves and the world in general. I don't have a set theme. There'll be things that just pop into my head. Now, I have the feeling I want to write a book about lessons in life that helped me. I haven't wrapped my head around that yet."

Centre Dufferin's Co-op Corner

Student: **Jessica Rice**

Placement: **Shelburne Home Hardware**

This week Jessica Rice from Centre Dufferin District High School shares a little bit about her Co-operative Education experience at High County Veterinary Hospital.

High County Veterinary Hospital is an animal care facility that offers services such as puppy, kitten, adult and senior care, surgeries, dentals, radiology, wellness testing, food and over-the-counter product sales. Other facilities associated with High County are Dufferin Veterinary Hospital in Orangeville and Caledon East Veterinary Office in Caledon East.

For my Co-op I have been working with an outstanding team of individuals every day in the clinic. As part of my placement I get to watch appointments, help check-in and check-out clients and their wonderful companions. I assist the veterinarians and veterinary technicians when drawing blood, giving vaccinations, preparing for surgeries, trimming nails, monitoring surgeries and counting prescriptions. Throughout the day I also help keep the clinic tidy. I would not have been able to learn something new every day without the help of Tabitha, Lorie, Barb, Georgia, Dr. Harron, and Dr. Haines, all of whom have taken time out of their day to train me and help me understand the field of veterinary care.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

VET HOSPITAL: Barb Darling (left), of High County Veterinary Hospital, Jessica Rice (second left), Centre Dufferin District High School Co-op Student, Christine Harron (second right) of High County Veterinary Hospital and Lorie Harrington (right) of High County Veterinary Hospital

Other jobs that associate with High County Veterinary Hospital are Client Service Representatives, registered Veterinary Technicians, Laboratory Technologist, and Pet Groomers.

Every year High County Veterinary Hospital makes donations to the Shelburne Public Library for their silent auction, they sponsor the local pet show along with providing co-op positions for students at Centre Dufferin D.H.S. These are just a few things High County Veterinary Hospital does for our community.

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PHOTO: BRIAN LOCKHART

GOOD OL' HOCKEY GAME: The ninth annual Fall Classic Police Hockey Tournament got underway at Honeywood arena on Thursday, December 6 with police officers from around the region taking part.

Ninth annual Fall Classic Police Tournament takes over Honeywood

Written By **BRIAN LOCKHART**

There was a full day of action on the ice at Honeywood arena during the ninth annual Fall Classic Police Hockey Tournament held on Thursday, December 6.

Around 50 hockey players including police officers and friends came out for the event which featured a full day of hockey while raising money for several local good causes.

Officers from Dufferin and Peel Region played on different teams.

"This tournament is a fundraising effort for Community Safety Partners and several other causes," explained organizer Detective Constable Mark Taylor of the OPP. "We've been partnered up with this organization for nine years."

Community Safety Partners operated several programs in the region.

"We cover Dufferin, Caledon, and Alliston," explained executive director, Sue Snider. "Our child safety programs in schools are in most Ontario schools. We do road safety, child protection and safety, and internet safety programs."

The tournament also raises funds for other local programs and this year they will also

be assisting an officer who has become ill.

"We're donating to the the Shelburne Food Bank as well as donating to the family of an officer who has become ill due to cancer," Detective Constable Taylor said. "We'll be giving some money to his family to help with snow removal and things like that. The tournament is strictly for charity. There's no winners or losers."

While players on the ice were skating in support of the event, there was still a lot of talent on display as the teams battled it out throughout the day.

The tournament is fortunate to have the support of several local sponsors. AIR-fx Heating and Air Conditioning (Leo and Janet Rooyakkers), Geo Thermal - Geo Carriers (Mike Wallace), Andrew Adams, Ontario Provincial Police Association, Shelburne Foodland (Sandy Bell), Champ Burger (Stan Dimakos), Jamison and Son's Roofing, Rotomill, Abflex Rubber Inc. (Kirk Angel), The High Rise Group of Toronto, Molson's Breweries, Creemore Springs, Huron Tractor (Chris Hare), Mansfield General Store, Sun Life Financial (Peter Quinlan), Northern Matt & Bridge, and Mike Fazackerley, all contributed to the success of the tournament.

Our Readers Write

Consulting firm gaffe

Your recent article "Consulting group identifies 12 'big moves' to revitalize Shelburne" compelled me to write you a few words.

One assumes that when a consulting firm is hired, they have expertise and knowledge not available to the municipal staff. One also feels that the firm would discuss issues with the municipal staff. To make recommendations based on erroneous information about the existence of a truck bypass shows that neither of the above statements were correct in this case. We moved to the area in 83 and people were calling for a bypass then. To not know that one doesn't exist says a lot about the firm that presented the report.

Secondly, a recommendation was made to enhance Main Street by "...narrowing the sidewalk areas". The minimum width of a sidewalk in my opinion should allow two couples to pass each other without anyone having to give way. There are enough items blocking sidewalks already that pedestrians often walk in single file around a chicane of sandwich boards, utility poles etc.

My recommendation, make your sidewalks pedestrian friendly.

Hugh Molesworth
Amaranth resident

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

GRACE SWIDERSKY

TEAM: SHELBURNE WOLVES PEEWEE AE
POSITION: CENTRE

Playing hockey since she was just four years old, Shelburne Wolves peewee centre, Grace Swidersky, brings a lot of experience to her team.

"I like the fast pace. I like everything about it," Grace said of why she likes playing hockey. "I like being friends with the guys outside of the rink."

When she's not on the ice, Grace also plays volleyball and basketball with her school.

CDDHS Royals juniors start season with huge push

Written By **BRIAN LOCKHART**

The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals junior boys basketball team have moved into first place after a couple of convincing wins to start the season.

The Royals won their first game of the season 64-32 over Erin District High School on Thursday, November 28.

Their first home game of the season on Monday, December 3, against Norwell District Secondary School turned into a blow-out by the time the first quarter ended with the Royals ahead by 35.

In the second half the CDDHS team was

ahead by 59 points.

The final was an 82-17 win for Centre Dufferin.

"It was a good game, a good team effort," said Royals forward, Griffen Ladner. "We moved the ball a lot and played our plays - I think that was a major factor in why we won this game. We never let up on defence - ever."

The team has a good solid core of talented aggressive players who know how to position themselves and set up plays.

"We knew we had a very strong team," said coach Chris Sales. "We've got to work on some things. That team (Norwell), they've

only had one practice. We've played three games - one exhibition and two regular season, that showed today. We got to work on our zone and got to try a few different things on defence. We went hard for the first quarter then after that, we said don't run up the score. That's good discipline. We were pressing and doing all the stuff we normally would do for the first quarter. Then we had different people bringing up the ball. We switched it up."

The team finished up the week with a 67-17 win over Emmanuel Christian High School on Wednesday, December 5, to give them a 3-0 record.

The Royals had a December 12, game against Norwell District with results not available at press time.

The Centre Dufferin team will be back on their home court on Monday, January 14, to host Erin District High School.

Game time is 4:00 p.m.



PHOTO: BRIAN LOCKHART

KILLING THE COMPETITION: The Centre Dufferin District High School Royals junior basketball team host Norwell District Secondary School in the gym at CDDHS on Monday, December 3. The Royals hammered NDSS with an 82-17 win and are in first place in the District 4 standings.

Christian Perspectives: Love, love, love

It's that time of year again. Christmas. And whether you are part of the Christian tradition or not, you will be swept up in its effervescence, as much fueled by economics and politics as anything remotely having to do with the birth of a baby over 2000 years ago. The school holidays are built around the tradition of Christmas in Canada. It is, whether some like it or not, part of the history of our country as a Christian nation. This may be changing, but still, the Christmas season has left an indelible mark upon our culture. And so, here we find ourselves, in the season where advertisers, television and film implore us to be happy, to spend money, and to celebrate. This is not always a welcome, or terribly intelligent or nuanced message. And in our current culture of push and shove, we might well wonder if peace on earth is but a fool's dream. And as goodwill for anyone seems in short supply, may appear as yet another failed promise.

Someone once remarked to me, that Christmas for ministers must be like the Super Bowl - the big event around which much energy, money and time is spent, and supposedly, the minister as quarterback, gamers much attention, and perhaps, hopefully, praise. Nothing, in my experience of being a minister could be farther from the truth.

Yes, it is true that time is spent in putting together extra services for the season. There are choir rehearsals, the hanging of the greens in the sanctuary, and various gatherings around shortbread to be anticipated. But too, there is a heaviness of heart as tensions arise in many families over money and household dynamics. Held up to the air brushed perfection of families on screen and in magazine, our own homes may seem tarnished, diminished in some unknown way. Some families may be gathered around a dying parent, or still grieving from a loss of a beloved one this last year. Christmas time seems to shine a light on our domestic situations, exposing our perceived inadequacies and anxieties, or our very real life and death struggles.

And that is a great source of sadness to ministers, and to all people who to think deeply about the heart of humanity, which, in truth, beats as a collective.

So, here, for what it is worth, is what I think the Christian Christmas story informs us all about our own families.

They are perfect exactly as they are at this very moment. Yes, with their complications. Yes, with their muddle. Yes, with their sorrows and upsets and yes, even with their anger and distress. They are perfect when we can align our sight through a different lens and see their loveliness and beauty in the midst of their disorder.

The family of the Christmas story, after all, was quite a muddle. A single mother carrying a child of unknown parentage. A confused fiancé trying to do the right thing. No money. No roof over their heads. No one there to help or care for them but some barn animals. No future, or so it would seem.

And yet, and yet, as the story is told, it was love that redeemed everything. A mother's love for a child in the face of adversity. A man's love for a woman in the midst of the frightening unknown. The company and sweetness of God's wonderful, humble creatures who know nothing of ambition or avarice. And then, and then, the wonder of a sky lite with glory, with chorus, with blessings, for all people everywhere - a harmony of goodness and joy and hope sprinkled like fairy dust on everything and everyone.

This is the power of love in the midst of adversity, this is the power of choosing to love when all around us would advise us of its foolishness. This is the heart of the Christmas story. It is the choosing to love, to be love, to grant love, right in the midst of our trials. The power it unleashes is unrepresented. And it covers everyone in its miracle.

May your Christmas season this year be blessed with a richness of new understandings and a deep and abiding gratitude for all that you are, all that you have, in birthright and possibility.

And may you know yourself to be Beloved. For this is the true nature of humanity.

Rev. Candice Bist
Shelburne & Primrose United Church

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CHRISTADELPHIANS

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

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JUST NORTH
OF 25TH
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WEST SIDE

The things you say about others, also say a lot about you. - Mark Amend

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. - Matthew 5:16

Please visit us at: www.shelburnechristadelphians.ca

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Proton 11:15am (Southgate Rd 4)

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HELP WANTED



The Township of Mulmur Invites applications for the position of BY-LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (Part-Time Contract or Consulting)

Reporting to the CAO, the By-Law Enforcement Officer is responsible for the enforcement of the Township of Mulmur by-laws including issuance of tickets, entering properties, taking pictures, and presenting evidence in Court. This role requires the Officer to patrol properties and take pictures of by-law infractions, as instructed.

We are seeking an enforcement professional with a post-secondary degree/diploma in Regulatory Law or related field with a demonstrated interest in Regulatory Law. Our ideal candidate has experience in a related field.

We are seeking an individual with a desire to enforce by-laws and is capable of documenting matters with pictures and written evidence. The ideal candidate should demonstrate the ability to exercise discretion and sensitivity, and present oneself in a professional manner and as a credible witness in court. Satisfactory passing of a vulnerable sector check, and proof of qualifications will be required of any successful candidate(s) for this position.

Days may vary each week; approximately 10 hours/month. Please submit cover letter & resume as one PDF document to tatkinson@mulmur.ca attention Tracey Atkinson, CAO, no later than Friday, January 4, 2019 at 1:00 pm.

We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only candidates to be interviewed will be contacted. Personal information collected will be used in accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act for the purpose of candidate selection. The Township of Mulmur is an Equal Opportunity Employer and accommodations are available for all parts of the recruitment process, upon request.

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MEMORIAM
Verduin, Piet Sr.
 Passed away peacefully at Dufferin Oaks on Thursday, December 6, 2018 at the age of 93. Loving husband of the late Daatje. Beloved father of Greg (Mary) and Steve (Susan). Proud grandfather of Matthew (Cecelia), Terry (Robyn), Peter (Sara) and Katie (Chris) and great-grandfather of Arabella, Elliott, Sam, Will, Emma and Owen. A private family service will be held at a later date. If desired, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated. Online condolences may be placed at www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com

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