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ENJOYING HOCKLEY'S FINEST: Hockley Valley Resort invited local craft brewing companies in to sample their products at Hockley's Slopeside Grill and Ski Cafe on weekends this ski season. This offers patrons a unique apres-ski experience and gives local brewers an opportunity to share their craft with visitors from near and far. Pictured here is a group from St. Catharines enjoying a sample from Hockley Valley Brewing Company.

PHOTO: VICKI MEISNER

Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seeback hosts first Town Hall meeting on agriculture

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

One of Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seeback's goals for the new year, in which he discussed throughout the election, was hosting his own Town Hall meetings in his home riding.

The first Town Hall meeting took place on Jan. 23 at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex in Shelburne.

"During last fall's election, one of my campaign promises was to host Town Hall meetings throughout the riding on a regular basis," said Mr. Seeback. "Following the election, I worked quickly to deliver on this promise by bringing the first meeting to Shelburne, to give my constituents in the northern part of my riding an opportunity to raise any issues of concern that I should be aware of as their Member of Parliament. I look forward to hosting the next Town Hall in Caledon, in March, to provide constituents in the southern part of my riding the same opportunity."

This meeting was based around discussing agricultural issues in the riding and working together with the community and individuals to come up with some resolutions.

One of the main topics discussed was the impact trade disputes with China were having on local farmers in the Dufferin-Caledon area, and lack of support they have been afforded by the federal government.

"The issue of limited market access for soybean and canola producers, as a result of unresolved trade disputes, is an issue which came up again and again during and following the election," said Mr. Seeback. "The U.S. has provided a \$28 billion market facilitation program to support American producers; however, the current Liberal government has failed to provide any comparable measures for Canadian producers, making it even harder for them to remain competitive."

Seeback explained to attendees that he indeed has raised this specific issue at the House of Commons in Ottawa prior to the holidays and continues to await action.

"I raised this issue in the House of Commons before the Christmas holidays and yet, farmers in my riding are still waiting for action by this government. I will continue to demand results for Dufferin-Caledon producers, as I return to Ottawa next week when the winter session of Parliament be-

gins," said Mr. Seeback.

The first meeting was an eye-opener for Seeback. He is grateful for residents of the community who came out to bring forward issues that need to be addressed.

"I think it went really well. There was a pretty good turnout, almost 50 people showed up. They really opened my eyes to a whole host of issues that are going on within the riding, not only issues surrounding farming, but issues surrounding infrastructure in some of our smaller and rural municipalities. We have really serious infrastructure needs, that are being ignored right now by the federal government, and that was really eye opening to me," MP Seeback said.

Seeback has already raised these infrastructure concerns at the House of Commons this past Monday, proving once more of his commitment to the issues arising from communities.

MP Seeback's next Town Hall meeting will be on March 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bolton United Church on Nancy Street.

For more information about MP Kyle Seeback, please visit kyleseeback.ca.

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Shelburne Council declares February to be Black History Month

Written By PETER RICHARDSON

Council on Monday heard two interesting presentations, in an otherwise uneventful evening.

The first, from Alethia O'Hara-Stephenson pertained to declaring February Black History Month in Shelburne, as part of the greater effort to see it declared in all of Dufferin County. Alethia brought with her, three students from CDDHS in Shelburne, who were there to represent, the Youth Advisory Committee, a group from within the school, promoting diversity and acceptance of multi-culturalism.

Her presentation recognized many of the early black settlers in the County, including, George Hannahson, William and Mary Ghant and Richard Pierpoint, who settled in East Garafraxa, after a distinguished career as a soldier in the British army.

Alethia also paid tribute to more recent prominent black leaders such as Shelburne Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson, Phil Dewar, Alton Stephenson and Andrew and Juli-Anne Charles, who coincidentally followed her presentation with one of their own, for Streams Community Hub.

Council accepted the presentation and proclaimed February as Black History Month in Shelburne. They also authorized the raising of the Pan African Flag, for the month, with the raising ceremony to be held Feb. 3 at 9:00 a.m.

It was likewise decided, that portions of an art display, scheduled for February, at the Museum of Dufferin, would be hung in the Town Hall gallery, if possible.

Streams Community Hub

Following this presentation, Andrew and Juli-Anne Charles, a husband and wife team from Shelburne, who have organized a federally incorporated, youth focused, arts centred charity, Streams Community Hub, made a presentation asking Council to help them build a facility to house their charity and

provide space within which to run their programs.

The ask was for Council to donate the land upon which to build the campus, in Fiddle Park, at the East end of town. The buildings themselves, would be a pop-up modular design, based on using shipping containers modified for this purpose. Used successfully in other endeavours, the construction model, is extremely cost effective, easily enlarged and totally removable if necessary. The charity, currently has helped 200 youth and has amassed over 1,700 volunteer hours doing it.

To assist in the construction of the building, Streams has joined forces with Giant, a world leading company in the use of containers, for other than shipping purposes and have come up with an intriguing campus design using custom modified modular container construction. The area required would be less than an acre and the proposed cost only about \$4 million when complete. Using this concept, the buildings can be added individually as time and finances allow and the whole project is fully modular and will easily interconnect with existing components.

Council was highly supportive of the presentation, as representation of the arts is truly lacking in Shelburne, and Streams whole purpose is to inspire youth through the use of the arts, be that music, performing or cooking. There was however, some hesitation regarding Fiddle Park. It was thought that the park was too far from town and there was no easy access, or walkability at this time. Also, the strategic plan for the park is still being compiled and there are numerous potential uses. Additionally, no real infrastructure exists for Fiddle Park and building it would be very expensive.

Instead, Council asked if Streams was open to partnering with an existing complex, such as the CDRC. Currently, the recreation centre is under utilized but more importantly, all the infrastructure is in place, including parking and it is walkable from most of Town. There is also space for addi-

tional buildings as described in the presentation. In all, it would offer many amenities at little cost and still be able to provide for the structural ideas of the presentation. Andrew Charles said they would definitely be open to discussions, especially as this would allow almost instantaneous progress. Since a large part of their funding is grant based and having a space facilitates a better grant process, this might be a major win for both Streams Community Hub and the Town of Shelburne.

Other business

In other business, Council heard the final Financial update from Treasurer Carey Holmes for the last quarter of 2019. They were told that the financial audit will be conducted in early February, which would show the entire 2019 year end picture.

The library requested the use of Grace Tipling Hall for their March Break activities and the waving of the \$300+ rental fees, which Council agreed to after some discussion about the fee wavering. Deputy Mayor

Anderson questioned whether or not this fell in line with the adopted policy and was told by Clerk Jennifer Willoughby, that it did, as the upper limit had been set at \$500. The Deputy Mayor commented that Council had discussed how much money they were losing by waiving all these rental fees and that it amounted to a considerable sum, hence the setting of the limit. Coun. Lindsay Wegener thought that each case needed to be decided upon its own merits and that in this case, as the Town was receiving a benefit for its school children, perhaps the waiver was warranted. Mayor Anderson agreed, but was still concerned about lost revenues in general. He was assured by the Clerk that since the setting of the limit, requests had actually been reduced and that Council could revisit the limit if it so wished, by reviewing the applicable by-law.

Before going into closed session, Council acknowledged the nominations for two individuals to receive Community Excellence awards.



PHOTO: CHRIS GILLESPIE

TIME TO TAKE THE PLUNGE: February 17th is the Shelburne Police Service's Polar Plunge for the Special Olympics at Fiddle Park

Shelburne Police offering incentives to participate in annual Polar Plunge

Written By MARNI WALSH

Organizers at the Shelburne Police Service (SPS) are offering new incentives for fundraisers to participate in the third rendition of the Polar Plunge and all its frosty fun on Feb. 17.

The goal this year is to raise \$15,000 in support of the Special Olympics - the preferred charity of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police. This is the same goal the SPS set last year, when the event went on to raise \$36,000, making it the most successful Plunge for funds raised in a community the size of Shelburne, and fifth in the province over all.

Cst. Jeffrey McLean, lead organizer for the event since 2017, says "The Polar Plunge for Special Olympics has proven to be a great opportunity to bring the community together in

a fun way, for a great cause. I am proud to organize the event and am truly proud of the success it has had in our community"

New incentives for the 2020 Plunge in Shelburne include: a Polar Plunge waterproof pouch for raising \$150; a Polar Plunge waterproof pouch and Polar Plunge Scarf for raising \$300; all the above prizes plus a 30 oz Yeti thermal cup for raising \$1000; a prize for best costume (individual and team); tickets to a Leafs' alumni box at an upcoming 2020-21 season game for the highest fundraiser in the province; and a prize for the highest fundraiser at each Plunge, yet to be confirmed.

Additionally, "We are in the midst of organizing a raffle for Toronto Maple Leaf box seats," says Constable McLean.

Continued on Page 6

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Other people's money

No one working on a budget ever comes in under-budget.

To clarify, no one working with a budget supplied by someone else's money ever comes in under-budget.

If it's your money that is paying for a project, that's a whole different story. You will be keeping a very close eye on what is being spent.

If you're building an addition to your home, no doubt you will ask for receipts, monitor how much work is being done, and supervise the situation.

You don't want an unscrupulous contractor billing you for a load of lumber if he takes half of that load and ships it off to another build site and pockets the difference for himself.

If you have an honest contractor with a solid crew, there's a chance you could save a few bucks in the end.

Producing a big-budget movie costs a lot of money. If you're the person financing it there is a production schedule. If you have hired a director for a salary and points on the final project, he too, is involved in the financial success of the final print.

If you have a film shoot that is schedule for a week at a location, but your director works quickly and wraps it up in three

days, everyone financing the film comes out ahead. Clint Eastwood is notorious for a quick turn-around and saving big bucks on a movie set.

But that only happens when it's your money that's on the line.

Most people in business, publicly funded institutions, or even organizations that run on mix of public money and donations, knows what happens to budgets.

If a department is allotted, just for example, \$80,000 for a year, and closing in on the end of the fiscal year they have spent only \$70,000, do they happily report they have \$10,000 left over?

No. The usual thing is to spend that final \$10,000 on something – anything – to make sure you've spent the entire budget.

The common thinking is, if you come in under budget, the following year you will be give the lesser amount because the bigwigs and bean counters who control the purse will think that is all you need.

Running anything on a budget takes some thought. It takes thought from the people allocating the money and it takes some thought from the people spending it.

It's not too often those two groups have a genuine meeting of the minds.

What I don't understand is when people

always seem to complain when a government announces budget cuts. It doesn't even matter which political party is in power or how they are trying to reduce spending.

For some people, reducing a budget always means a disruption or elimination of some service.

Elected government officials are in office to serve the people. That means you, and me, and your family, and neighbors, and every citizen of this country.

Part of that responsibility is spending tax money wisely.

At the municipal level, spending is quite transparent, and for the most part, municipal governments do a good job of keeping tabs on where the money goes.

As a taxpayer, you can easily show up at a city or town hall and find out where every dollar is spent.

However, at the provincial and federal levels, most people really have no idea how the entire financial system works other than reading the headlines that the government will spend an allotted amount of money on a certain project.

Spending other people's money – as in ours, the taxpayers' – is easy. Being fiscally responsible is the duty of every

elected official. This isn't some Third World banana republic where tax dollars and bribes fill the bank accounts of government officials.

So, you are building that new addition to your home and looking at the invoices. Your labour costs seem higher than expected while the amount of work being completed doesn't seem to match your expectations.

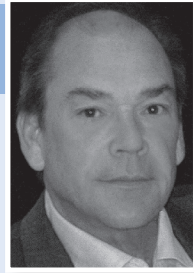
You call in another independent contractor to examine why your budget is quickly disappearing.

After examining the job site, the new contractor tells you, "He's got three supervisors on site, all his brothers-in-law, and he's charging you \$40 per hour for each supervisor to watch three workers doing the framing and electrical. No wonder it's costing you so much. You're spending \$960 per day to keep three guys employed while doing absolutely nothing."

Most likely you will have an immediate discussion with your contractor.

Budget cuts don't always mean less service, they can mean working smarter.

BRIAN LOCKHART FROM THE SECOND ROW



Editorial

Health teams may face challenge

ONE BIG REASON offered for the fact that the SARS epidemic of 2003 killed 44 Ontario residents but only four British Columbians is that a Vancouver hospital was far better prepared than any hospital in Ontario.

Ultimately, roughly half the Ontario deaths were health care workers who, unlike their colleagues in B.C., weren't properly protected in treating SARS patients.

A lot has happened since 2003, one of the latest developments being the creation by the Ford government of a single agency, Ontario Health, and local Ontario Health Teams, to replace the Local Health Integration Network (LHINs) created by the previous government.

The local agency, the Hills of Headwaters Collaborative, is responsible for the health care of the roughly 120,000 residents of the Dufferin-Caledon riding.

Unlike most of the other Ontario Health Teams, the local one has a single hospital, Orangeville's Headwaters Health Care Centre, which obviously does not have all the facilities found at Toronto's Sunnybrook hospital. That particular facility is treating the first two confirmed cases of the potentially deadly coronavirus, which originated in Wuhan, China and by Wednesday had taken 132 lives.

One question not yet answered by the authorities here or in China is when someone who contracts the virus becomes contagious. Is it only when the potential carrier has symptoms or several days earlier?

It is known that since the virus can be transmitted without any physical contact between the carriers and those around them, all those on the plane that carried the two Sunnybrook patients from China to Pearson Airport last week are apparently being monitored for the disease.

One question facing our federal government is what, if anything, to do about the roughly 250 Canadians known to be in Wuhan province, about half of whom have indicated a desire

to return home. If Canada does follow the United States and several other countries in bringing their citizens home by chartered aircraft, can they be quarantined somewhere long enough to detect carriers of the virus?

In the circumstances, no one knows whether there will be any significant spread of the disease in Ontario and all we've been hearing from Health Minister Christine Elliott is that the system is working and anyone with flu-like symptoms should come forward to be tested for the virus.

The main advice being given is for everyone to wash their hands frequently and to use hand sanitizers where they are available.

How serious is the problem? Thus far, the death toll is almost miniscule by comparison with the worst pandemic of modern times, the Spanish Flu of 1918 that probably took 50 million lives and likely played an important role in ending the First World War.

Today, although we have vaccines that combat most of the influenza viruses, only about 30 per cent of Canadians will bother to get flu shots and far more will likely die this year from the flu than from the Wuhan coronavirus.

If the lessons learned from SARS provide the protections clearly needed, Ontario should do as well as B.C. did in 2003, when only one health care worker and three other residents died from SARS. But what if the disease becomes a real pandemic?

Perhaps something that should be considered in Ontario is a test of the Ontario Health Teams' ability to deal with such an emergency situation by having local drills that would familiarize the health care workers with the precautions they must take to protect themselves as well as those with the pneumonia-like disease symptoms.

And in the meantime, one couldn't imagine a better reason for everyone to get the flu shots that have been available since November!



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Local resident to audition for popular TV show The Voice

Written By MIKE BAKER

A Dufferin County singer is counting down the days as she prepares herself for the opportunity of a lifetime.

It's been a whirlwind few months for local musician Sara Rose. Following the release of her second album 'We Could Be Beautiful' this past November, Ms. Rose recently revealed to the Citizen that she has been asked to attend a closed audition with a view to participating in the 18th season of the hugely popular U.S. TV show The Voice.

"It kind of took me by surprise," Ms. Rose admitted. "They have an open mic audition down in Nashville, so I applied for that and they ended up offering me a closed audition in Boston. It's not a guarantee at all, but it's a huge, huge opportunity. I'm nervous, but also incredibly excited."

The Voice has been a staple on top American network NBC for almost a decade, having premiered in April 2011. Carried by CTV in Canada, the show aims to find currently unsigned talent and propel them into the public eye. The series employs a panel of four coaches, who critique artists' performances and attempt to guide their teams of selected artists through the season. The winner is determined by viewers, who vote for their favourite act on a weekly basis.

In the show's 17th season, which ran from Sept. 23 to Dec. 17 last year, 20 acts competed for the right to be named the overall winner. In the end, country singer Jake Hoot took home the top prize - \$100,000 cash and a record deal with Universal Music Group.

Explaining the format of the closed audition, Sara says she will be able to play four songs for a panel of judges - no, not the likes of Kelly Clarkson or Blake Shelton, think more show, or network executives. Once Sara has performed all four of her songs, she will be notified whether she has made it to the next stage.

So, what is she hoping will take her there? "For the first three songs, I'll be able to play my guitar and sing at the same time. I've decided I'm going to perform 'Weak in the Knees' by Serena Ryder, 'Slow Hands' by Niall Horan and 'Drunk' by Ed Sheeran," Ms. Rose said. "Then, I have to play one more song with just a track, no instrument, so for that I'm going to do 'Glitter in the Air' by Pink."

She added, "I know the first three songs quite well as far as performing them go. I know 'Glitter in the Air' as well - that song is just my favourite song in the whole entire world. If you listen to the lyrics and the emotion of that song, it sums me up as



SUBMITTED PHOTO

GOING MAINSTREAM: Local musician Sara Rose is preparing to head down to Boston for a casting call to potentially appear on the 18th season of the hugely popular U.S. show The Voice.

a person perfectly. It's kind of like 'here, this is me'.

The audition will take place on Feb. 22. Should Sara be successful, she will move on to the executive auditions, which are being held in April. If she makes it past the executives, Sara may get a little air time, as she will perform in front of the celebrity judges in the blind auditions.

While music has been a part of Sara's life since she was a little girl, it's only in the past couple of years that she's started to think seriously about forging a career in the industry. Following the success of her two albums, Sara has started to think outside the box regarding how best to propel herself in the industry.

That's where The Voice came in. While she admits to being a big fan of the show, and other shows like it, think American Idol, Ms. Rose says this is her first time applying to potentially appear on one.

"It's honestly such a special feeling. I applied with a cover, but also included songs off my album that just came out. I wanted to see if that could get me anywhere, and I guess it did," Sara said. "I wasn't expecting anything. I applied back in October, and heard back shortly after the New Year. It was just such a shock when I got the news. The Voice is a huge show, watched by (millions of people)."

Even though Sara is no stranger to the stage, having performed hundreds of times in dozens of locations all over Ontario, she admitted that, while the prospect of performing on such a grand stage was a little daunting, it's something she plans to take full advantage of.

"Nerves would be normal for everybody in a situation like this. What is preparing me most, other than practicing, is just being myself," Sara said. "Music, as long as you dive into a song with emotion, it doesn't

matter who is watching. At the end of the day, music is music and if you be yourself, that's all that matters."

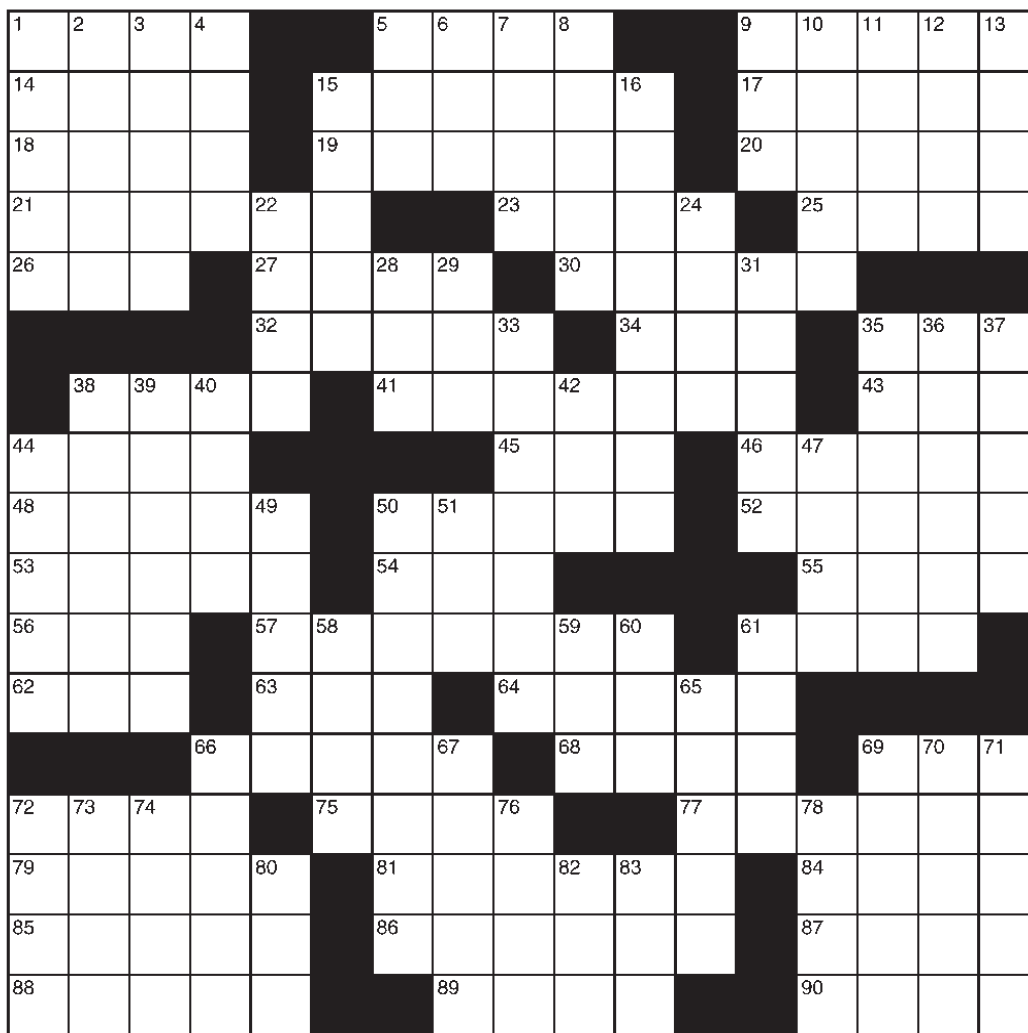
When asked what she was most excited about, other than potentially being cast on the show, Sara said meeting Kelly Clarkson would be a particular highlight.

"I grew up watching these types of shows. I'm a huge fan of Kelly Clarkson, and watched her journey on American Idol. She was one of the coaches last year. She won't be at the first audition, but if I did get through and get to meet her, wow," Sara said with excitement. "At the end of the day, no matter what happens it will be a cool experience."

She concluded, "Everyday, music is just at the forefront of what I do. It makes me who I am. To have an opportunity like The Voice, to be that person and share music with the world essentially, it would be a dream come true."

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ACROSS

- 1. Barrel
- 5. A legal wrong
- 9. Church song
- 14. Network, as of nerves
- 15. Accomplice
- 17. Heart chambers
- 18. Branding ____
- 19. Rum drink
- 20. Gist
- 21. Brunch quaff, often
- 23. Enlarges
- 25. Give a PG to
- 26. Kind of rally
- 27. Math course
- 30. Doorway
- 32. Aromatic compound
- 34. Shipboard yes
- 35. Indian title
- 38. Flat-bottomed vessel
- 41. Jot

- 43. Were the victors
- 44. Bubbles
- 45. Take legal action against
- 46. Organic compound
- 48. Shenanigan
- 50. Dumbfound
- 52. ____ and onions
- 53. Poem division
- 54. Decay
- 55. Lincoln's coin
- 56. Greek letter
- 57. Felon's friend
- 61. Ice-cream drink
- 62. Draw from
- 63. Shoe part
- 64. Papal vestment
- 66. Stringed instrument
- 68. Heroic verse
- 69. Northern toymaker
- 72. Spotted cavy
- 75. Sightseeing trip

- 77. Black eye
- 79. Agave root
- 81. Pique
- 84. Invasion occasion
- 85. Follies
- 86. Vacillate
- 87. Nil, to Newcombe
- 88. Genuflect
- 89. Restaurant
- 90. Water pitcher

DOWN

- 1. Kink
- 2. Cliff hanger?
- 3. Trample
- 4. Gambling game
- 5. ____ close for comfort
- 6. Unit of resistance
- 7. Toga
- 8. Tot rod?
- 9. Drivel

- 10. Narration
- 11. Oratorio part
- 12. Dryer fuzz
- 13. Partner
- 15. Despots
- 16. Punk rocker
- 22. Mulligan's dish
- 24. Eye woe
- 28. "____ fleece was white . . ."
- 29. Masterpiece
- 31. Kidney-related
- 33. Italian menu option
- 35. Pivot
- 36. Mouse, e.g.
- 37. Like xenon
- 38. "Moonlight ____"
- 39. Short snooze
- 40. Neglect
- 42. Couple
- 44. Element
- 47. Flaky mineral
- 49. South American raccoon
- 50. Eat at another's expense
- 51. City property
- 58. Cowhand's footwear
- 59. Crude mineral
- 60. Sharp blow
- 61. Netting
- 65. Successful dieter
- 66. Merit
- 67. Of trivalent gold
- 69. Establish a trust fund
- 70. "____ It to Beaver"
- 71. Certain chicken
- 72. Recreational area
- 73. Prayer conclusion
- 74. Sheltered bay
- 76. Roster
- 78. Unoccupied
- 80. Moray, e.g.
- 82. Radio-wave letters
- 83. Realize

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Fair Ambassador Committee on panel at OASS Convention



PART OF A PANEL: The Shelburne and District Fair Ambassador Program has been honoured with the opportunity to be part of a discussion panel at the 2020 Provincial Agricultural Society Convention in Toronto. (Left to right) Sarah Bannon, Carly Phillips, Fair President Larry Braiden, Megan Timmons, and Kelsey Phillips.

Written By MARNI WALSH

The Shelburne Fair Board announced this week that their Ambassador Committee has been asked to participate in a panel discussion at the 2020 Convention of Ontario Agricultural Societies in Toronto.

The annual convention, which takes place at the Sheraton Parkway Conference Centre from February 13 to 15, features speakers, panels, exhibits, entertainment and training programs valuable for fair organizers across the province.

The Shelburne Fair Ambassador Committee is made up of the 2019 Junior and Senior Ambassadors and past Ambassadors, including sisters, and former Ambassadors, Kelsey and Carly Phillips.

"So far, all our past Ambassadors since 2016, have remained a developing part of this amazing committee," says Kelsey Phillips.

The current committee includes: Kelsey Phillips, 2008 Ambassador; Carly Phillips, 2016 Ambassador; Megan Timmons, 2018 Ambassador; Sarah Bannon, 2018 Jr. Ambassador; Emma Holmes, 2017 Ambassador; Madison Wall, 2019 Sr. Ambassador; and Abby Litt, 2019 Jr. Ambassador.

In the future," Kelsey Phillips says, the committee "hopes to be able to include more interested past Ambassadors" as members in the future.

"We are excited that we have been asked to participate in the panel discussion featuring Ambassador programs at the annual OASS Convention," says Kelsey. "We hope to continue developing the Shelburne program with more opportunities, invitational speaking events, public representation, skill development, and, of course, a \$1000 bursary and amazing prizes.

Ms. Phillips says she and her sister "benefited greatly from the Ambassador pro-

gram." She says their goal on the committee "was to offer those same opportunities to other youth in the community." She says they continue to develop "the former rural Agricultural Ambassador Program to reflect today's youth interests, career motivations and needed skills to enter the workforce - all while representing the highly important role of agricultural in today's modern world."

Realizing the importance of raising funds for the Ambassador Program, the committee, under the sister's leadership, worked hard on money making initiatives, including, pancake breakfasts, spaghetti dinners, a live cake auction, and the derby car sponsorship fundraiser - which allowed the public to sign the ambassador derby demolition car by making a donation to the Ambassador Program.

"We have also introduced numerous activities to the fair, run solely by our committee and ambassadors," Kelsey Phillips told the Free Press. "We believe this gives the Ambassadors a true chance to connect with children on fair weekend, while developing their impromptu public speaking skills in front of an audience."

The committee says one of their favourite events at the 2019 Fair was their "very first pink derby car." The Ambassador Team won 1st in the figure 8 heat with Kelsey Phillips in the driver's seat, and second in the overall 4-cylinder class with Brian Burke as the driver. The committee members say they have already purchased their 2020 derby car for this September's fair.

The theme for this year's Shelburne and District Fair is "Preserving the Harvest." 2020 Junior Ambassador, Abby Litt and Senior Ambassador, Madison Wall will be representing the Shelburne Fair at the Polar Plunge on Feb. 17 at Fiddlepark in Shelburne. Follow the Fair Ambassadors on Facebook @ Shelburne Fair Ambassadors.

Continued from FRONT

Shelburne Police Service offering incentives to participate in annual Polar Plunge

"Last year, we had 70 plungers, where this year, we currently have 35 registered," says the Constable. Teams registered so far include: Country 105 Gang; the Glenbrook Grizzlies; Impact Martial Arts; Pete's Deli; Shelburne Family Chiropractic; the Shelburne Donut Patrol; Shelburne Taekwondo; Special Olympics Dufferin; St John Ambulance Orangeville; and Top Gun - 164 Air Cadets.

Cst. McLean, a Shelburne native, has been a police officer with the Shelburne Police Service since 2015. He says, "Since 2012, the Shelburne Police Service has raised approximately \$173,700 for the Special Olympics with approximately \$56,000 of that raised in the first two polar plunges."

In December 2019, PC McLean says he "formally challenged the organizers of the Peel Regional Police Service (PRPS) Law Enforcement Torch Run organizing committee to jump in the Shelburne Plunge." He says,

"A counter challenge was issued to the Shelburne Police Service, to plunge in Peel. SPS will have a team at the Peel Plunge, named the Shelburne Donut Patrol. As of yet, the calls for the PRPS participation in Shelburne, have gone unanswered."

"I want to thank the community for the amazing support on the Special Olympics initiatives over the past eight years," says Constable McLean. "These events have brought the community together for an amazing cause. The Special Olympians are truly an inspiration to us all and their determination and commitment deserves recognition."

The 2020 Shelburne Police Service Polar Plunge will take place at Fiddle Park on Feb. 17; registration is at 11:30 a.m. with the Plunge beginning at 1:30 p.m.

For further information visit www.polarplunge.ca/shelburne or the Shelburne Police Service Facebook Page.

Correction notice

A story in the Shelburne Free Press on Thursday, January 16, regarding the upcoming Shelburne Multicultural Day, stated that the event will be held on Saturday, May 2, at the Centre Dufferin Recreation

Complex. This is incorrect. The event will be held on Saturday, May 2, at Centre Dufferin District High School.

The Free Press regrets this error.



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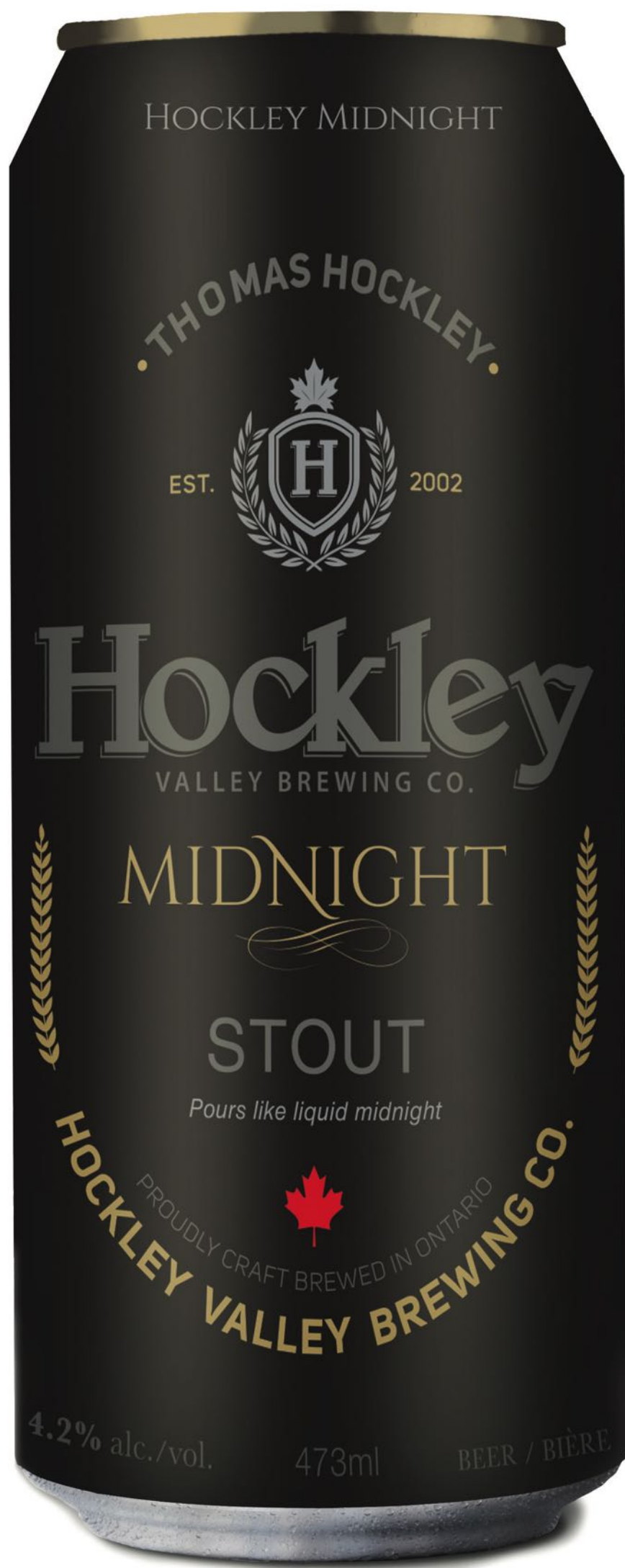


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SHELBURNE SPORTS

Senior league standings tight heading into playoffs

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

With one weekend of games left on the regular season schedule, the Western Ontario Athletic Association Senior League is seeing one of the tightest battles it has ever had with four teams tied in second place with 32 points.

The Ripley Wolves are in the top spot with 36 points and an 18-3 record.

The Shelburne Muskies, Clinton Radars, Saugeen Shores Winterhawks, and Seaforth Centenaires

all have 32 points.

That could all change by next weekend. Clinton and Seaforth have completed their 22 game game schedule. Shelburne still has one game to go and the Winterhawks have two games left on the schedule.

The Muskies could move up a notch with

a win this weekend. With two games left to play, Saugeen Shores could move up to claim second place with a couple of wins.

In the middle of the pack the Tillsonburg Thunder has 26 points – one point ahead of the Durham Thundercats and the Minto 81's who both have 25 points recorded this season.

The final few games will see a lot of effort as teams try to get those final few points and move up in the standings.

The Muskies were on the ice on Saturday (Jan. 25) night at the Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex.

They left the ice with a 3-1 win.

It was a good follow up for the squad after they travelled to Clinton the previous night to take on the Radars and had a decisive 8-2 win.

With teams so close this year it is going to be a wild playoff run. Fans can expect some high caliber hockey and some close games.

The Muskies have had a good fan base this year and the crowd has enjoyed watching the Shelburne team win on home ice.

The Muskies will play their final game of the regular season at the CDRC on Friday, January 31, when they will host the Saugeen Shores Winterhawks.

Game time is 8:45 p.m.

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PHOTO: BRIAN LOCKHART

SEASON ALMOST OVER: The Alliston Hornets battle the Schomberg Cougars at the New Tecumsth Recreation Centre on Friday, January 24. Junior C hockey is down to the final few games of the regular season. Teams are going through the final few battles to get a couple of extra points and move up in the standings to start the playoffs. The Alliston team left the ice with a 6-1 win in this game.

Junior C hockey schedule down to final few games

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Junior C hockey schedule is down to the final few games as small town hockey in the region gears up for a playoff run.

In the North Carruthers Division of the Provincial Junior Hockey League, the Alliston Hornets are way in out front with 70 points – 18 points ahead of the second place Stayner Siskins.

The Alliston team leads the entire League and is six points ahead of the Lakeshore Canadiens of the West Stobb division.

The Hornets had an 11 game winning streak snapped on the weekend (Jan. 25) when they took a 4-1 loss to the Orillia Terriers.

The Stayner Siskins are in second place with 62 points. They slipped to third spot for a while but bounced back with a couple of recent wins to over take the Orillia Terriers by a single point after the weekend.

Orillia slipped into third place but will be a strong contender one the playoffs are underway.

The Terriers have won 24 of 39 games so far this season.

From the north end of the Division the Penetang Kings move up a notch in the

standings and are now in fourth place – tied with the Schomberg Cougars with 37 points.

The Kings have won 18 of 38 games so far this year. Schomberg had 17 wins after 41 games.

The Caledon Golden Hawk have struggled this season after having a fairly decent start to the year. They are now in sixth place with a 14-24-1 record including two overtime losses.

Two points behind Caledon, the Midland Flyers are in the number seven spot. Midland has had an up and down record over the past few seasons.

They currently have 29 points. In the basement, the Huntsville Otters have only won ten of 39 games this year to put 21 points on the record.

When the playoffs get underway, Alliston will meet Huntsville in the first round. The second playoff berth will be a toss up at this point between Stayner and Orillia. Orillia could move back into second place with a couple of wins.

Penetang and Schomberg will meet in the first round.

The final regular season games for the Carruthers Division are slated for Sunday, February 2.

Shelburne Muskies



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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

OWEN STINSON

“I like the fast speed and all the drills we get. It's pretty fun to do,” said Shelburne Wolves peewee rep centre, Owen Stinson, of why he likes playing hockey.

Owen and his team are currently in the OMHA playdowns.

When he's not on the ice, Owen plays ball hockey with the Shelburne Shooters, lacrosse with the Shelburne Vets, and baseball with the Creemore Braves.

Owen said he plans to play hockey as far as he can go.

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Medical officials working to protect communities from coronavirus

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

A 53-year-old man travelling from Wuhan, China, presented mild symptoms of the coronavirus this past Saturday in Toronto. The man was ushered to the hospital only a day after returning to Toronto and remains at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre.

The virus was first discovered in late December when the World Health Organization (WHO) was alerted to a new virus that had affected several pneumonia cases in Wuhan City. On Jan 7, Chinese officials confirmed that the virus was indeed a new contagion which is a part of the common cold family such as SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) and MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome).

The coronavirus is described by WHO as having been transmitted from animals to humans and affecting humans by respiratory symptoms, fever, cough, and shortness of breath and in more severe cases pneumonia, kidney failure and in some cases death.

Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Christine Elliott, released a public statement on Jan. 22 to inform Ontarians of the precautions and steps medical officials are taking in regards to this new virus.

"I want Ontarians to know that their health and wellbeing is my top concern. While the risks posed by this new coronavirus to Ontarians remains low, the province is actively monitoring and is fully prepared to respond. ...

"Today, to strengthen the ministry's ability to monitor any coronavirus cases, our government is adding novel coronavirus as a designated disease reportable under Ontario's public health legislation. Now, physicians, hospitals and other care facilities will be required to report a suspected or confirmed case of the new coronavirus to their local medical officer of health. The local public health unit can then quickly and effectively take all necessary measures to investigate, complete lab tests, and do case and contact management to prevent and control further spread of the infection."

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health is preparing precautions and working with local health care partners and hospitals to



FILE PHOTO

CONTAGIOUS CONTAGION: Hospitals and health care professionals across Ontario are on red alert following two confirmed cases of the coronavirus in Toronto.

protect residents and communities from the virus.

"Public Health is working closely with the Ministry of Health, local hospitals and health care providers to ensure residents are protected even if the risk is low," said Dr. Nicola Mercer, Medical Officer of Health and CEO of the local public health unit.

"Our mandate is to protect the health and safety of our communities and we will continue to be vigilant about this situation while keeping your local health care provider and hospital informed with the latest information."

Due to the unknown factors regarding this new virus, several area medical facilities and hospitals are keeping a wide ear for new information and updates throughout the days and weeks.

Sandy Critchley, Director of Quality Improvement, Planning and Performance

at Headwaters Health Care Centre, explains that Headwaters is confident concerning the preventive measures taken and is constantly keeping in contact with medical officials and the media for more ongoing information.

"As part of our standard practice, patients come to triage and are asked a series of screening questions which includes questions about their travel history. We have recently added a specific question to the travel history screening which asks people whether they have travelled to Wuhan City, China in the last 14 days.

"Anyone who has a cough or respiratory symptoms is asked to wear a surgical mask. Masks are available at all entrances, at triage and throughout the hospital.

"If someone has been identified to have travelled in the last 14 days from Wuhan China, our staff would wear an N95 Mask (mask with a respirator) as a precaution and

the patient would be placed in an airborne isolation room in our emergency department for a physician assessment and tests.

"Headwaters has a microbiology and laboratory where standard tests are sent for analysis. If nCoV was suspected, those lab samples would be sent to the Toronto Public Health Laboratory for analysis."

She said patients would be kept in the hospital until they are well enough to return home. This timeframe would vary depending on the patient and their specific condition.

Test samples would be sent to the Toronto Public Health Laboratory for analysis.

She said Headwaters "closely monitors information available on emerging pathogens. We will continue to monitor the information and trends in the coming days and weeks and as new information becomes available we will update our protocols. We remain confident in the infection prevention and control measures put into place in airports to screen those travelling to affected areas," said Ms. Critchley.

"We are appreciative of the information available through media outlets that encourage those with travel histories to affected areas and experiencing symptoms to call ahead to alert providers and allow them to prepare for your arrival. We believe that the lunar new year travel activity could provide an opportunity for this virus to spread to additional hosts, but risk of the virus presenting locally is currently relatively low."

Public Health says that anyone or anyone they know who has recently travelled and returned from Wuhan City and has symptoms such as, respiratory symptoms, fever and/or cough, shortness of breath or breathing difficulties to immediately see physician. They also highly suggest international travelers should avoid close contact with people who are sick, wash their hands, avoid farms or wild animals and cover mouth and nose to help stop the spread of infection.

"We suggest that people take reasonable steps to protect themselves and their loved ones from all viruses by washing their hands regularly with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub. These practices help protect the spread of the flu and other viruses," said Ms. Critchley.

Searchers believe missing Melancthon husky may have been stolen

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

One of the most terrifying feelings when owning a pet, is to have him or her go missing.

A beautiful husky with bright blue eyes, and striking red fur has been missing since Jan. 2 and may have been stolen from his Melancthon family.

Owner Mik Hayward and members of the community have been on the search for two-year-old Darce, and now have a strong suspicion that he may not be missing after all.

Aid 4 Paws, Search and Recovery team was called for assistance to help locate Darce. Aid 4 Paws has been in operation since 2015 and consists of several trained and experienced volunteers who are dedicated to locate and bring home missing animals. The Facebook page provides information and details about the missing animal and consistent updates on sightings and progress of the search.

On Jan. 7, the post was updated stating, "This two-year-old Husky boy left his property when sudden gun shots took place & scared him off. He is microchipped & is wearing 2 collars & tags.

Darce is very bonded to his family & brother. He is friendly but probably scared. Please don't pursue him, he'll think it's a game and run off. Being a Husky, he could run very far!"

Strong suspicions have led those in the search to suspect that Darce has been found but not reported. Several steps to relocate the missing husky have been taken, but haven't worked out yet.

"He's a beautiful husky and in spite of everything we've done so far to locate him, which would normally work, there's some



SUBMITTED PHOTO

HELP BRING DARCE HOME: Two-year-old Husky Darce has been missing since Jan. 2. Now, the people leading the search suspect he may not be missing after all.

strange events around this particular case which leads me to strongly suspect that this dog was found by someone," explains France Lajeunesse, founder of Aid 4 Paws. "He was either kept, or maybe something happened and they're just not reporting it."

She added, "The owner and the family have done everything and then some to find Darce."

Darce went missing from 30 Side Road and 3rd Line between Honeywood and Badjeros. He wears two black collars clipped with a

tag with the owner's phone number and is micro-chipped, but the micro-chip can only identify the dog if found and scanned by a vet or animal services, not locate his/her whereabouts.

Aid 4 Paws and the family have posted 60 large neon signs as well as more than 600 flyers all around the area to spread the word about Darce.

"There's been a significant amount of online marketing for him, and one of the posts, somebody just flippantly commented that a

dog had been dead on the side of (County Road) 124 and the corner of 15th Side Road. When we reached out to this woman and questioned her a little bit more, she just gave an intersection and then stopped responding to us," explained Ms. Lajeunesse. "The trail is completely cold. We've had absolutely nothing."

When finding an animal that you may not know, it is vital to report the animal to the proper authorities to make sure the animal goes back to its home. Animals are property in law, and should not be harboured if they don't belong to you. You should do everything in your power to make sure the loved animal makes it safely back to their family and their home.

Mr. Hayward is grateful to the online community as the word spreads about Darce.

"People sharing on the internet is amazing. People call me from everywhere. That is the best thing right now," he said. The post on the Aid 4 Paws Facebook page has been shared almost 700 times.

He added, "My dog isn't just running around free. He wouldn't do that, most dogs don't. They go to people, so it's not like I'm going to find him walking around in the forest. At the beginning I was searching on foot, but couldn't find anything. I think now it's just trying to spread the word. All I know is my dog is gone, and it's weird. I just want my dog back, and I think someone has him because he'd be home otherwise."

The search for Darce continues and the owner alongside the Aid 4 Paws team encourage those who have any information on the missing husky to contact Aid 4 Paws or Mik Hayward. For more information, visit the Aid 4 Paws Facebook page.

Shelburne Free Press

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JOB OPPORTUNITY

Business name: Blue Mountain Plastics Inc.
 Business Address: 485387 30 Sideroad, Shelburne Ontario L9V 3N5
 Title of the Position: Sorter - Recyclable Materials
 Language of Work: Basic English
 Wage: \$16.00/hour, monthly bonuses (\$16.25 after 3 months probation)
 Terms of Employment: Full time, permanent, continental shifts (36-44 hours per week)

Job Duties:

- Sort, pack, crate and package materials and products
- Perform other laboring and elemental activities
- Operate various equipment and production machinery
- Transport raw materials, finished products and equipment throughout plant manually or using powered equipment
- Assist machine operators, assemblers and other workers
- Maintain clean and safe work environment and equipment

Benefits package offered:

Monthly bonuses based on achievement of productivity targets, Medical/Dental coverage, Life insurance

Skills Requirements:

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Dependability and team player
- Must be able to function in a fast paced environment
- Ability to do repetitive work and attention to detail
- Ability to follow plant policies and guidelines
- Effective interpersonal skills
- Positive attitude is a must
- Ability to work under pressure
- Physically demanding job, must have the ability to stand for extended periods, be able to crouch, bend and kneel, and must be capable of lifting 50LBS
- Able to work flexible hours, night and day shifts, overtime and weekends as required
- Previous experience in the manufacturing/processing industry would be an asset

Work site environment: Dusty, loud environment with strong odours. Seasonally high temperatures and humidity levels.

PLEASE MENTION CODE SFIS IN YOUR APPLICATION WHEN APPLYING FOR THIS JOB

Blue Mountain Plastics is an equal opportunity employer. Students, youth, visible minorities, indigenous people and newcomers to Canada are welcome to apply. Please let Blue Mountain Plastics know if you require accommodation during the hiring and selection process and we will work with you to make appropriate arrangements.

Contact Information:

Telephone: (519) 925-2929 ext 263 Email: apply_0300-0001@bluemountainplastics.com
 Fax: 519-925-0744
 Mailing address: 485387 30 Sideroad, Shelburne Ontario L9V 3N5

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
CENTRE DUFFERIN RECREATION COMPLEX
 Applications are being received for the positions of:
2020 Seasonal Summer Season-June through August
SUMMER POOL DECK SUPERVISOR and
SUMMER LIFEGUARD/INSTRUCTOR

The CDRC Board of Management is seeking positive, team-oriented individuals to fill the above mentioned positions. Under the direction of the Recreation Program Coordinator, the successful candidates will be involved in a diverse range of job activities to provide successful summer day camp programs. The successful candidates must be available to work scheduled weekday shifts and attend all scheduled staff meetings and training sessions prior to and during the summer season. The positions will require some physical requirements and requires strong interpersonal and communication skills in order to work well with other staff, children, volunteers, parents and the general public. A background in child supervision and recreation would be an asset.

Full details for all these positions including hours of work and wage ranges, are available on the Town of Shelburne website at www.shelburne.ca

Resumes for the Summer Pool Dec Supervisor and Seasonal Lifeguard/Instructor positions will be received until 3:00pm on Friday, February 14, 2020 by email or in person, addressed to:

Emily Francis, Recreation Program Coordinator, Centre Dufferin Recreation Complex
 200 Fiddle Park Lane, Shelburne, ON L9V 3C9 Email: efrancis@shelburne.ca

Please note position applying for on cover page.

We thank all applicants for their interest and advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted

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 February 1st at the
 Shelburne Curling Club.
 Your presence is a gift to him.

OBITUARIES

Smith, Avery

Passed away peacefully at Southlake Regional Heath Centre, Newmarket on Sunday, January 26th, 2020 in his 84th year. Loving husband of Linda; loved father of Joanne Thompson (John), Cindy Claus, and Sharon Giles (Howard); cherished grandfather of Michael (Erin), Jennifer (Steve), Jenn, Matthew (Keri), Courtney (Brad), and Carson (Amanda); great-grandfather of Ryleigh, Bradyn, Jaxyn, Jaykob, Hadley, and Emry. Avery will be sadly missed by many relatives and friends.

A Celebration of Avery's Life will take place on Friday, January 31, 2020 at the Royal Canadian Legion, Shelburne Branch 220 (Museum Room) from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Heart & Stroke Foundation or the Royal Canadian Legion Shelburne Branch 220.

Online condolences and donations may be made at www.imfunerals.com
 In Memoriam Funeral Services Inc. has been given the honour to serve the Smith Family.

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<p>WANTED</p> <p>FIREARMS WANTED FOR FEBRUARY 8th, 2020 LIVE & ONLINE AUCTION: Rifles, Shotguns, Handguns, Militaria. Auction or Purchase: Collections, Estates, Individual Items. Contact Paul, Switzer's Auction: Toll-Free 1-800-694-2609, info@switzersauction.com or www.switzersauction.com.</p> <p>WANTED: OLD TUBE AUDIO EQUIPMENT. 40 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>	<p>MORTGAGES</p> <p>1st & 2nd MORTGAGES from 2.90% 5 year VRM and 2.69% 5 year FIXED OAC. All Credit Types Considered. Serving all Ontario for over 36 years. Purchasing, Re-financing, Debt Consolidation, Construction, Home Renovations...CALL 1-800-225-1777, www.homeguardfunding.ca (LIC #10409).</p>			

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Cobwebs & Caviar, Shelburne's own Aladdin's Cave, always full of treasures and never ceases to surprise. This unique clothes, gift, fabric & quilt store has so much to offer. It is a hub of activity any day of the week. Owner AJ Cavey or her helpful staff are usually on hand to offer their expertise with all the goodies in store. AJ's philosophy is to bring you reasonably priced products that make you giggle & tickle your fancy. Their speciality is not only quilting but also fabulous, unique clothing & gifts for any occasion.

The store has an array of different classes from paper piecing to machine quilting. The regular classes and demos are popular with not only the locals but quilters that travel from great distances! They are organized during the week and also on weekends for

those that are weekend quilters. Wouldn't you love to have your own private shopping party? Well you can, just you and nine brackets or more brackets of your closest buddies, relatives, crafty friends... With the store all to yourself and 9 friends for three hours on a Sunday afternoon. We'll supply the Nibbles you supply the bebies! Limited dates available.

Don't forget they also tune up and repair sewing machines. The first Tuesday of each month, Ralph is here offering knife & scissor sharpening services and tuneups. Plus you'll get a coupon for your next visit to Cobwebs, when you bring your machine for servicing.

There is a great selection of fabulous clothing lines by Dex & Dex Plus, Charlie Paige, Papillon & Red Coral. Bring on the sunshine! Ladies Night is another popular event as well as the recent addition of their fashion show! They are the perfect stop for retail therapy! You even have the convenience of having your gifts wrapped & ready for the recipient! Come for the selection, stay for the giggles.

Follow their Facebook page, Instagram, Twitter and their website for upcoming events, the latest trend, sales & new product reveals! You can even shop online & have it shipped or ready to pick up in-store.

Remember shopping local supports local families! Shelburne is a small town with a big heart with lots of local gems! They need your support so more businesses will want to call Shelburne home. Feel free to call the store 519-306-3000, email cobwebsandcaviar@gmail.com or pop in at 147 Main St West. Shop is open Tuesday-Friday 10-5 with extended hours Thursday until 8! Saturdays 10-4.

Cobwebs looks forward to helping you find the perfect gifts, fabrics, clothing & treasures. You are sure to leave with a smile!

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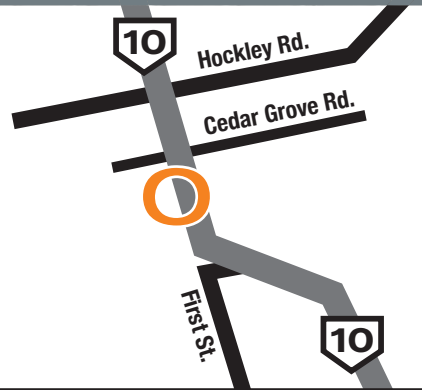
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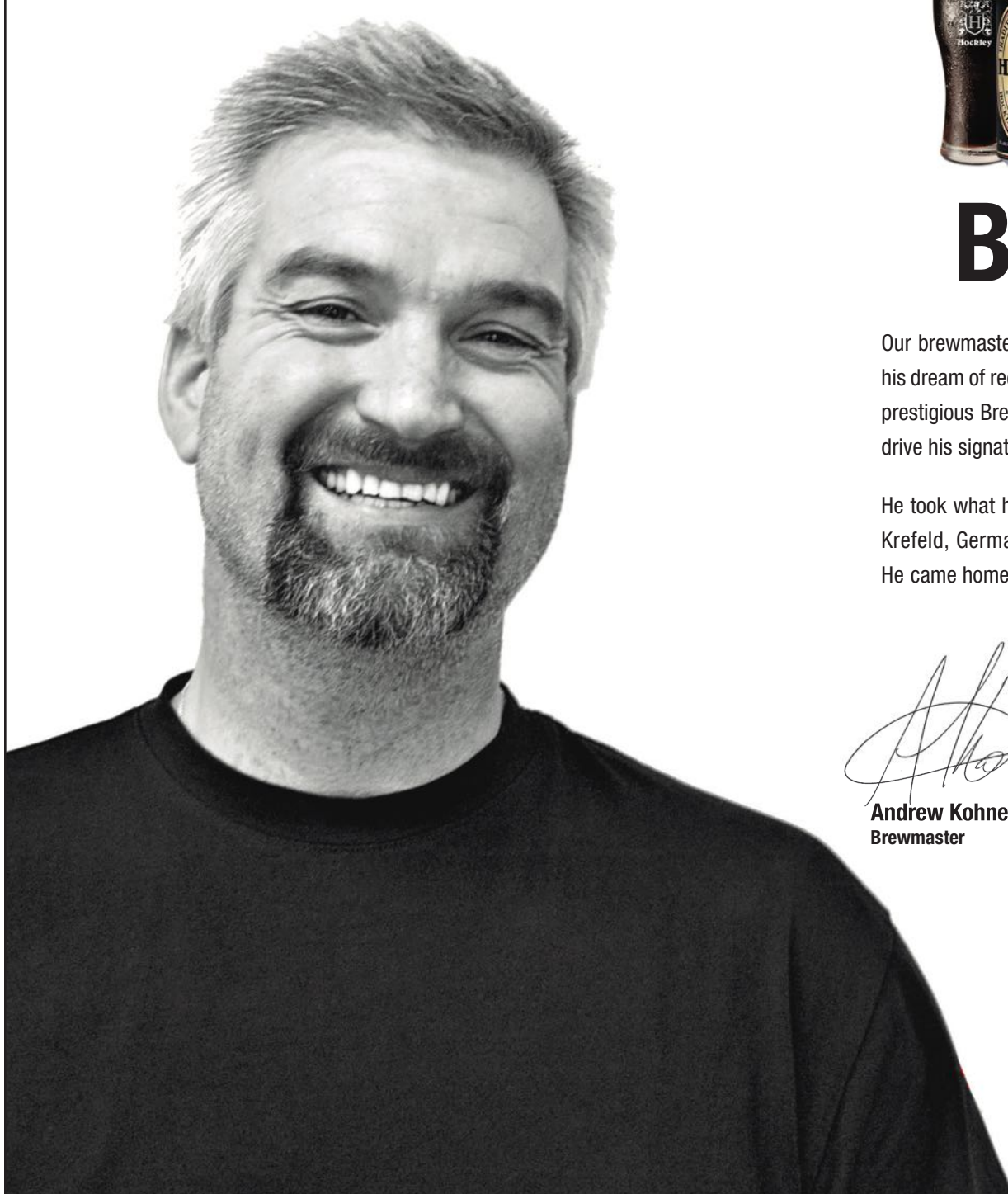
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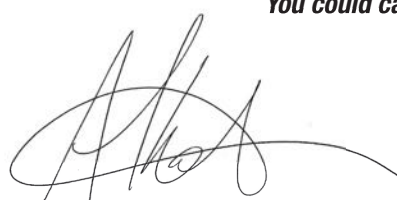
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