

A Message From
Kyle Seeback, MP
Dufferin-Caledon



RURAL INTERNET

The lack of true high-speed internet across Dufferin-Caledon is unacceptable. It's a problem experienced across much of rural Canada, which has been exacerbated by COVID-19.

I raised this issue in the House of Commons in February (watch at www.kyleseeback.ca/internet)

before the virus struck, as many constituents had already contacted me then expressing their concern about the lack of access in this riding.

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In response to these calls, my Conservative colleagues and I founded a special Rural Internet Caucus earlier this year.

We're developing and presenting constructive solutions to the federal government that can and will ensure high-speed internet infrastructure in rural areas. Our latest development was a launch of a Consultation Process to Connect Rural Canadians by 2021. You can review the statement by my colleague, MP Rempel Garner, our Shadow Minister for Industry and Economic Development, as well as the final report of the Connect Canada initiative at:

www.kyleseeback.ca/internet

While visiting my website, I invite you to participate in a brief survey to share your thoughts on internet access in Dufferin-Caledon.

We will continue to press the Liberal government to act on our recommendations to bring connectivity to rural Canada by 2021. It will take considerable effort; however, it is possible by working together.



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PHOTO: PAULA BROWN

PLAYGROUNDS OPEN: Ashley and Ryan Ulrich brought their 19 month old son Grayson and three week old daughter Brielle to Greenwood Park on Friday, July 17. With the Ontario government announcing the majority of the province moved into Phase 3 of the economic reopening, playgrounds in all Phase 3 areas have now been officially reopened. For more, see Page 2.

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Shelburne police officers 'still absorbing' Council's decision to disband local force

Written By PAULA BROWN

It has been a week since the decision was made, by Shelburne Town Council, to disband Shelburne Police Services and bring in OPP, and the decision is still sinking in for SPS officers.

"Right now everybody is just trying to absorb that this has happened, because it honestly doesn't seem real yet," said Jennifer Roach, president of the Shelburne Police Association.

"Everybody's sad to see Shelburne police go, it's 141 years of history, and we're all very proud to work here. I mean, we all made a conscious decision to choose the Town of Shelburne for our police employment," Roach added.

Shelburne Town Council held a special council meeting last Wednesday (July 15), where they voted unanimously in favour to bring OPP in to police the town, disbanding the local force that has been around since 1879.

"We had a feeling just given the financial situation, and after reading the CAO's report

and seeing the comparison with our costing versus OPP costing, we weren't surprised by the outcome," said Roach.

During the process leading up to the council's decision a recent survey commissioned by the Shelburne Police Association showed that the local force's officers would find the transition to OPP to be "desirable". One of the questions in the survey asked Shelburne Police officers how they felt about the transition to OPP and all respondents (100%) noted it would have a positive effect on job satisfaction, and provide additional opportunities for advancement and access to better training.

"Everybody in general is very happy to have a decision," said Roach. "At least we can move forward now."

In an interview with the FreePress Mayor Wade Mills spoke about the consensus he has seen from officers in the days since the decision was made.

"I think the general consensus is that everybody is just happy that a decision had been made," said Mills. "There's some certainty again."

Mills also added "They deserve the decision one way or another so that they can have some peace and stability in their lives again."

With the decision now made, the necessary paperwork has been sent in by Town staff members accepting the proposal made by the OPP. The process of disbanding the force will look similar to the process taken by Orangeville Council following their decision to disband the Orangeville Police Service in December of 2019. An official request to disband the local force will be submitted to the Ontario Civilian Police Commission (OCPC), who will sign-off on the disbandment.

Preparing for the transition Roach says they have an idea of what to expect after watching Orangeville go through the process, but they are also still taking in the decision.

"Right now we're just absorbing that it's even happened and then next steps are getting paperwork together to start the application process," Roach said.

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Playgrounds and parks reopen in Shelburne with Phase 3 move

Written By PAULA BROWN

Taped off no more. After months of being closed off to the public due to COVID-19, Shelburne playgrounds lost their caution tape and officially opened for public use at noon on Friday (July 17).

While the parks were open the number of attendees was small in the Friday mid-afternoon heat. Ryan and Ashley Ulrich, who brought their 19-month old son Grayson and three week old daughter Brielle to the park, were part of the small group of 12 people at Greenwood Park in Shelburne.

"I actually went for a drive to get my eyebrows done and I didn't know they were open and I said to him 'look I see kids at the park, let's go,'" said Ashley. "There wasn't a lot of people here, so we thought we'll take a nice walk and get out of the house."

The reopening of the playgrounds marks a return to a sense of normalcy after four months, which parents have said has been

challenging not only for themselves, but for their children too.

"It's been hard trying to entertain him," said Ashley. "We don't have a fenced in yard so it's trying to contain him in the backyard, it's hard, and we don't have a park to entertain him with so it has definitely been a struggle for us."

Nicole Morin, who brought her sons Cadan and Jace, sat and watched on as the two boys climbed across the jungle gym.

"It was pretty shocking especially for the kids, they didn't really have that much to do anymore - they were at home," said Nicole talking about the original closure of the play structures. "They would play in the backyard and what not, but mostly just stayed indoors."

With the playgrounds now open, the Town of Shelburne included a reminder that they are not going to be regularly sanitized, something that has not deterred the families who say they are taking precautions.

"I usually always have hand sanitizer so



PHOTO: PAULA BROWN

PLAYGROUNDS OPEN: Brothers Cadan and Jace play on the playground at Greenwood Park on July 17, the first day that parks reopened since the COVID-19 pandemic

anywhere we go they always wash their hands," said Nicole also saying that with the lower COVID-19 cases it has brought down panic towards the pandemic.

"We'll make sure we wash our hands," said Ashley. "Obviously we hope that if anyone is

sick they wouldn't come out to the park, but we'll still use proper precautions."

For the children, they're happy to be back and few nerves about the return.

"At first I was [nervous] but now I'm not, I got over that," Cadan said.

Council explains their police vote

Written By PAULA BROWN

Shelburne Town Council voted unanimously for the disbandment of Shelburne Police Service (SPS) in a special council meeting on July 15. Each council member took a moment to speak before giving their vote of "yes". This is a completed transcription of their comments.

Mayor Wade Mills

To provide some context as to where we are tonight I do think it is helpful to go back to the beginning.

During the last term, the last council received a formal report known as the Walter Fetty report from the then Shelburne Police Services Board which indicated that the existing Shelburne Police Service facility was no longer serving the needs of the service. Three options were outlined in that report and those included the construction of a new building, the renovation and expansion of the existing facility or the purchase of an existing building that would then in turn require retrofitting to suit it to the police service's needs. During those discussion the last coun-

cil decided that it was the prudent thing to pursue an OPP costing as a way of surveying an additional option outside of the major capital expenditure involved in providing a new police facility. At the time Mayor Bennington said quite accurately that 'we don't have a police problem in the town of Shelburne but we do have a police facility problem'.

This current council was then elected and took office part way through that first OPP costing process. In the end, this council devised a plan that affectively solved the facility problems and on that basis this council voted unanimously last July to keep our municipal police service. This accommodation plan that was considered last year called for the renovation and expansion of the current facility at a cost of approximately 3.9 million dollars; 3 million of which would have been raised through borrowing. Was this a perfect plan? No, it certainly wasn't and at the time we heard time and again that the plan was going to push the town to its financial limits.

Still, this council resolved to try and make that work and we voted as we did to keep our Shelburne Police Service on that basis.

Fast forward then from July 2019 to December 2019 and the town of Orangeville's council voted to transition to the OPP.

All of a sudden the game changed. This decision by the Orangeville council had a ripple effect on us and it meant higher cost for dispatch and supervision going forward as well as the removal of any possible future partnership options that would have improved or strengthened the longer term sustainability of the Shelburne Police Service. Faced with this new reality, this council voted unanimously in January of 2020 to obtain a second OPP costing. That costing is now in and the analysis has been completed. The staff report which we received tonight that contains that analysis has been in the public realm since last Friday and we've all had an opportunity to carefully review it and we've had an opportunity to ask questions this evening. The analysis and the facts underlining that analysis paint a very clear picture which is unfortunately this.

Our ability to continue with a municipal police force is just no longer financially sustainable. What we still do not have a policing problem in the town of Shelburne our problems now have grown to include not only the facility but also dispatch, supervision and most importantly from my perspective the long term financial sustainability of the service itself.

Continued on Page 9

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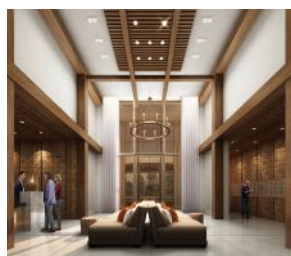
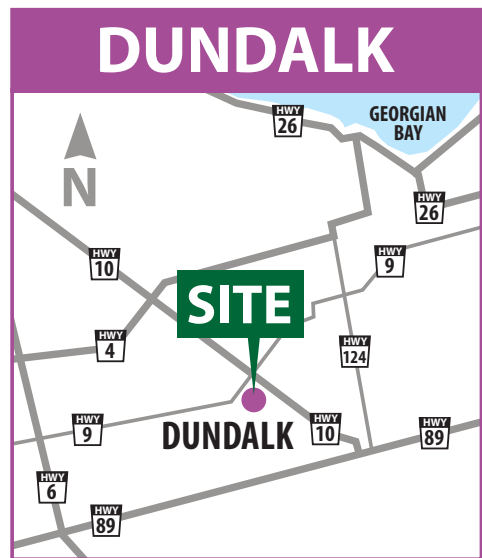


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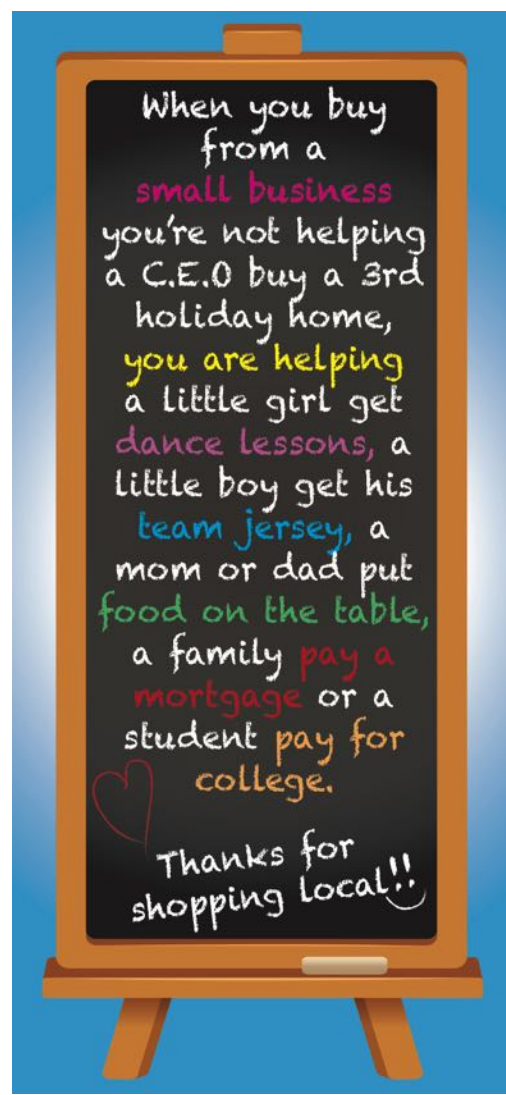
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Local gym owners excited to open after four month lockdown

Written By ALYSSA PARKHILL

Now that Dufferin County has officially moved into Stage 3 of recovery from COVID-19 as of Friday (July 17), local gyms and sport facilities are now open for the first time in four months.

“Because we are a gym, we knew right from the beginning that we would be one of the last ones to open, that was quite clear,” said Hannah Sine, one of the owners at Towne Fitness in Shelburne.

Forced to close back in March, Towne Fitness opened their doors for the first time in months on Monday (July 20), an experience that Sine said was “pretty exciting”.

“I likened it to the first day back at school, it was very exciting because we have worked so hard for opening,” said Sine. “I

just couldn’t wait to get here this morning to open the door to our first member and we had a member at the door at 6 a.m. waiting to come in.”

With the gym open for returning and new members, Sine says that there have been a few changes to follow health guidelines. Removing equipment for spacing, personalized cleaning kits for clients, and common touch cleaning are some of the tactics the gym has implemented. Key fobs that are given to members even help track who has been in and out of the gym.

“We have a brand new protocol when you come into the gym all our returning members and new members are required to sign a membership declaration,” said Sine. “That means they are aware of the protocol in place to make this a safe environment, and

that all the changes have been explained to them by a staff member.”

Impact Martial Arts, owned by Shelburne councillor Kyle Fegan, also announced on Monday that the dojo would have a gradual reopening starting on Wednesday (July 22) with karate classes.

While karate classes are open, Fegan said they are still playing the waiting game to allow the start of judo.

“Judo is a very, very close contact sport,” said Fegan. “We’re still in the waiting pattern for that because it’s not been approved.”

Within the dojo, protocols that follow health guidelines have been put in place to ensure safety, it’s a process that Fegan says has been difficult. Protocols within the dojo include smaller class sizes, blocking off mats for six feet distance, and limiting the number

of parents allowed to watch – they’ve also had personalized face masks made.

“One of the things that we are offering to all of our students is that we will sell them masks that are actually branded for the club,” said Fegan. “They can have pride of club membership.”

While face masks have been made mandatory in the area by Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, they aren’t required to be worn when working out.

The World Health Organization (WHO) released a guideline that says masks should not be worn during exercise as they reduce the ability to breath and that maintaining a safe distance from other users is the important prevention during exercise.



PHOTO: BRIAN LOCKHART

HEADLINE HERE: Laura McArthur and Nikki Trumpler, of Silver Willow Farm Rescue in Mulmer visit with some of the miniature horses that are currently at the farm. Silver Willow takes in abused, injured, and neglected farm animals. While some can recover and be adopted out, others will spend the rest of their lives at the 100 acre property.

Silver Willow Farm is a haven for injured, sick & abused farm animals

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

For farm animals that are old and sick, abandoned, or abused, quite often there is no place for them to go when they finally are released from the situation in which they were trapped.

At Silver Willow Farm Rescue, no farm animals are turned away.

The farm is a shelter for animals that have had a hard life, are injured, or simply have no where else to go.

Laura McArthur has been operating her farm rescue since 1996.

Laura has a lifetime of experience caring for all types of farm animals. She works with OSPCA officers, police, stock trucks and transport drivers as well as emergency care veterinarian services, to get animals to her farm.

With the larger animals it can be a dangerous situation transporting an injured or sick animal to their new home.

While many animals can recover and be adopted out, some may never leave the farm and will spend the rest of their lives there in peace and safety.

The farm is filled with many different animals including horses, cows, pigs, ducks, chickens, and sheep. One loft in the barn holds pigeons of various breeds that have been neglected.

“This was supposed to be my retirement plan, but things didn’t quite work out that

way,” Laura mused. “Instead, I’ve got two full time jobs. It started off with mostly horses and then I realized there was a huge need for rescue for farm animals. Since the start of factory farms there has been a huge need for animal rescue. The old farm where there is a few cows and they treat them well and they are out in the sun – it’s not like that any more. Factory farms create awareness – people don’t want these animals suffering. There’s animals that fall off of trucks, there’s OSPCA rescues. There wasn’t anyone to do this. I was the only farm in Ontario that took in farm animals – no questions asked.”

Silver Willow is unique in the fact that it specializes in farm animals. They don’t accept domestic dogs or cats or other similar house pets.

While some animals are kept together by breed, others are mixed in the pens and seem to get along fine. Some are skittish around people due to former abuse, while others welcome a visitor and a pat on the head.

It costs a lot of money to feed and care for these abandoned and abused animals, and the farm welcomes sponsorships to help cover the costs.

They are currently having a bottle and can drive so donations of those items can be dropped off at the farm as well.

Silver Willow farm rescue is located on 5 Sideroad in Mulmur, just east of Mansfield.

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Chibbs is an adorably sweet guy. He loves to give and get affection, and make the cutest faces. Chibbs gets along very well with other cats. He is very relaxed but is so happy to have human company!

Chibbs is neutered, microchipped, flea treated, vaccinated and dewormed. Adoption fee is \$150.00

Check our facebook page to see the other kitties looking for their forever home. Donations always needed to help care for the cats as we are not funded at all, and rely on donations and fundraisers. If you would like to volunteer as well we are always appreciative.

Chibbs

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Limitations	No waste from industrial, commercial, or institutional sources. No white goods, garbage, or recycling. No unidentified/unknown materials. No drums of materials.

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Visit dufferincounty.ca/waste for updates and a full listing of acceptable materials and limitations. For Residents of Dufferin County.



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Public Notice


Please be advised that the above Fire Services will be transferring emergency dispatching from Orangeville Police Service (OPS) to Tillsonburg Fire Dispatching Services, as of Monday, July 27, 2020 at 8 a.m.

If your home or business is monitored by an alarm company, please notify them of the change in the emergency dispatch phone number to 519-842-3229. For alarm testing, please call 519-842-2481.

All emergency calls will still be reported using 911.

For additional information or questions, contact your local fire service administration.

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Seeking Volunteers for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Community Advisory Committee

The County of Dufferin is seeking volunteers for a recently established Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Community Advisory Committee. On July 9th, County Council approved a mandate for the committee to advise County Council, make recommendations and provide a monitoring and measuring role to help ensure that the County applies a diversity, equity and inclusion lens to its policies, services and programs. The full Terms of Reference can be found here: <https://www.dufferincounty.ca/diversity-equity-and-inclusion-community-advisory-committee>.

Committee members must be a County of Dufferin resident, business owner or stakeholder who has an understanding of the impacts of racism and systemic discrimination on marginalized people and meet the following general qualifications:

- be familiar with overall community issues
- have demonstrated knowledge around diversity, equity and inclusion
- be able to build meaningful relationships and connections within the community

Council shall strive to ensure Committee membership reflects the diversity of the community with particular focus given to marginalized groups who have traditionally faced systemic discrimination including but not limited to Blacks, Indigenous peoples, people of colour, and people who identify as 2SLGBTQI+.

To apply for a position on the committee, please submit a letter of interest outlining how you meet the qualifications above; what you see as a significant challenge with respect to diversity, equity and inclusion in the County of Dufferin; and what you hope the committee will be able to accomplish.

Letters of interest should be forwarded to info@dufferincounty.ca or put in the drop box at 55 Zina St, Orangeville by August 15, 2020.



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"T.F.E. Claridge, Publisher 1903-1964 Fred M. Claridge, Publisher 1964-1974 Thomas M. Claridge 1974-2012 The Free Press and Economist was formed from the amalgamation of The Shelburne Free Press (est. 1875) and The Shelburne Economist (est. 1883) in 1928."

Local history

For a country that is only 153 years old, our nation has accomplished a lot.

Born out of 3.5 million square miles of wilderness, plains, and arctic tundra, what has been accomplished in a century and a half is remarkable.

However the path that brought us to where we are has countless untold stories that should be studied on the local level.

I grew up a stone's throw away from the spot where General Isaac Brock fell during the Battle of Queenston Heights.

He uttered his last words, "Push on brave York Volunteers" while mortally wounded and being tended to by one of his aides.

At least that's how his death was recorded in the history books. Most likely his real last words were more of a gurgle considering he took an American musket ball through the heart at close range.

One of the most impressive memorial monuments in the country stands near the spot with a statue of Brock raising his sword to lead the charge.

The history of that region is well documented and rather storied with several important battles from the War of 1812 having taken place.

There are several forts along the Niagara

River including Fort Erie, Fort George, Fort Mississauga, and Fort Niagara on the other side of the river. Numerous cairns and cannon mark important historical places where an event occurred.

When I was in elementary school a classmate of mine and his father were exploring the upper river banks during a time when the water level was unusually low. He found a strange round object in the mud and dug it out.

It was confirmed by the local museum to be a six pound cannon ball from the 1812 era at the time when the British and Americans lobbed daily shots across the river at each other just to let the other side know they were still there.

While the events of that period are well documented and well known, there were a lot more things happening across the country that aren't as well known.

The local region around Dufferin County has its own fascinating history.

The region started receiving settlers in the 1820's who were hoping to prosper on new land in a new area.

By the 1850's, there were several well established towns as more people moved into the area. Some of those towns were real "Little House on the Prairie" type settlements with

farmers on the rural land and local businesses in town.

Stage coaches provided travel along the routes between villages. Most settlements had a mill, blacksmith, cabinet maker, post office, general store, and all the business that made a town function.

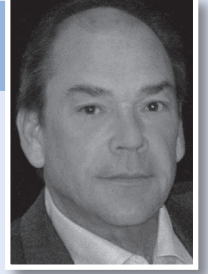
There was also an unusually high number of hotels and taverns along major routes. It seems the early settlers really, really enjoyed a drink.

By the time the 20th century rolled around, many of those small towns had all but vanished. People moved on to better opportunities. In some cases the railroad bypassed a town which pretty much meant its future was in jeopardy.

There are remnants of these early towns. In some cases an old church is still standing or the school house is still there, but converted into a home. There are quite a few cemeteries that dot the area and probably many more grave sites that were forgotten and reclaimed by the land.

Some towns are remembered only by a simple sign that states the former name of the four corners. Other towns have completely vanished and are now reclaimed as farmland.

BRIAN LOCKHART
 FROM THE SECOND ROW



In some areas, the names of local families reflect the bloodline of the early pioneers.

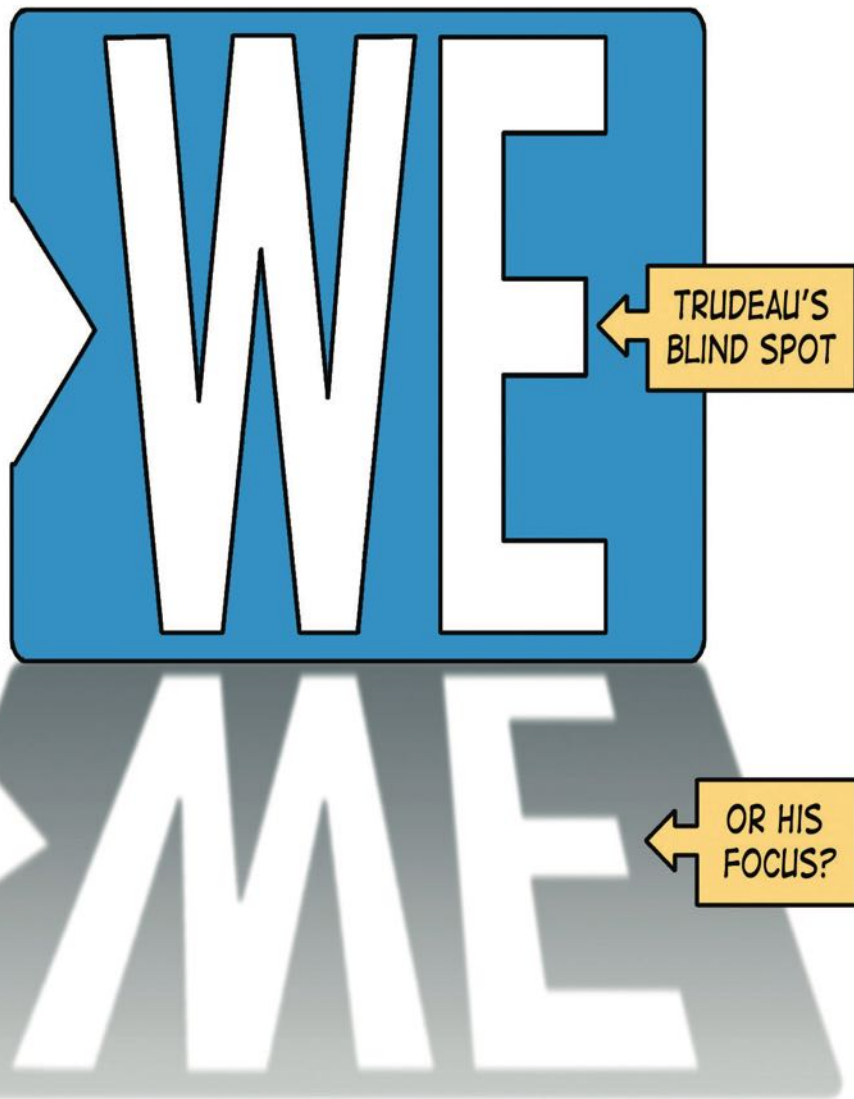
The early years of the region have been documented by historical societies and the Museum of Dufferin is dedicated to keeping local history alive, but it seems schools don't teach anything to do with local history.

I'm sure some teachers do have kids complete projects on local past events, but after asking the children of friends who who are in school, not one kid recalled learning anything about local history.

I'm sure there are plenty of fascinating tales like someone's great-great-great grandfather who rode shotgun on the stage route through Amaranth between Brampton and Owen Sound.

It's important to keep local history alive.

It tells the story of how the area became what it is now and it also serves to remember a lot of brave people who ventured into unknown territory armed only with a couple of horses, a wagon, and a lot of determination.



Editorial

No baseball in Canada

IT LOOKS AS IF this will be a year in which Major League Baseball will retreat to playing all its games in U.S. cities and without any fans in the stadiums, thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although both the City of Toronto and the Ontario government had tentatively approved the idea of Toronto Blue Jays playing their home games in the Rogers Centre, the federal government concluded that it would be far too risky to have American teams allowed in to Canada when the U.S. border has been closed to all but essential travel until at least August 21.

And as if there was any doubt as to the need to extend the border closing, that seemed to vanish Wednesday with disclosure of the fact that for the first time in months there were more than 1,000 deaths in the U.S. from the coronavirus in a single day, with the death toll having reached 145,000 compared with under 9,000 in Canada.

And as if to illustrate the seriousness of the situation, for the first time since April, U.S. President Donald Trump addressed the problem on TV and in a shift in rhetoric on facial coverings, encouraged Americans to wear a mask if they cannot maintain social distance from people around them in an effort to curb the spread of the coronavirus.

And in his first briefing focused on the coronavirus pandemic in months, Mr. Trump told reporters at the White House "it will probably unfortunately get worse before it gets better. Something I don't like saying about things, but that's the way it is."

Just why he chose Tuesday for the brief press conference didn't become clear, and he read most of the advice from a prepared text, but at least it included a call for everyone to stay six feet from others and to wash hands frequently.

Some observers saw the president's message as mainly a response to recent opinion polls showing him as well below Joe Biden, the presumptive Democratic presidential candidate.

As cases rise in states around the country, including in polit-

ically important states such as Florida, Texas and Arizona, the president is seen as having shifted his tone to try to get the number of cases under control.

"We're asking everybody that when you are not able to socially distance, wear a mask, get a mask. Whether you like the mask or not, they have an impact, they'll have an effect and we need everything we can get," he said. He added that he was getting used to masks and would wear one himself in groups or when on an elevator.

The president also urged young Americans to avoid crowded bars where the virus could spread.

Closer to home, there were some worrisome statistics in the wake of the relaxation of rules aimed at reducing the spread of COVID-19, particularly among residents aged 20 to 40.

Toronto Mayor John Tory is pushing Ontario Premier Doug Ford to impose more rules on bars and restaurants – such as early closing times and additional occupancy limits – as part of the provincial government's plans to reopen the economy of Canada's most populous city.

Mayor Tory tweeted Sunday morning that he'd sent a letter to Premier Ford requesting "additional measures" intended to help stem further spread of COVID-19, recommendations that come as Toronto is eyeing entry into the third and final stage of the province's reopening process.

"While many of these measures are already Toronto Public Health guidelines and recommendations, they are not included in the province's legal regulation," Tory wrote in the letter, which was dated Saturday. "I believe ensuring these are requirements rather than recommendations will help ensure compliance and ultimately, protect the health of our residents."

It will certainly be interesting to see whether it is mainly the rules for bars and restaurants are as important a cause in fresh outbreaks as social gatherings where one or more persons is an unwitting carrier of COVID-19.

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Early pioneer town Whitfield slowly faded into history

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

With Ontario being a fairly new place in terms of world history, its past is well documented in local historical societies and museums.

When you take a drive along the rural roads and past fields of corn, wheat, and soybeans, you can pass through an area without realizing you just visited a ghost town without even stopping the car to take a look.

Ontario is filled with crossroads and dots on the map where thriving settlements once existed but now are lost in time and remembered only by a small sign and most likely a cemetery where the remains of early settlers repose for eternity.

The village of Whitfield in Mulmur, was once a thriving but small community that was first settled around 1832. It was located around the area of what is now Centre Rd. and the 10 Sideroad.

It was during the early decades of the 19th century when people started moving into the region and surrounding area in central Ontario to build farms.

Towns and villages in Ontario were usually settled for one of two reasons.

Running water was a main factor in deciding to start building. Running water meant a source of power to run a mill. Once a mill was established, supporting business would spring up around it.

The second consideration when setting up shop was a crossroads. A crossroads meant

traffic from both local people and passersby. It was the place you could open a general store or hotel.

Whitfield went through a few different name changes. For a while it was called Beechnut Corners.

They finally settled on Whitfield when the post office opened in 1854 and they had to have a permanent name in order to receive mail.

Whitfield grew into a thriving, but small community with a population of around 125 souls.

It was a real 'Little House on the Prairie' venture with town folks who tended shops and businesses and surrounding successful farms that worked the land.

During the height of activity the town had three stores, two saw mills, a blacksmith shop, a lime kiln, school, wagon maker, cabinet maker, and a post office.

There was two taverns – that's a lot for a population of only 125 – and three churches so the locals could wash away the sins of Saturday night drinking, on Sunday morning.

By the early 1900's, Whitfield started to decline as people moved on to seek out new opportunities.

Over time, the buildings started to disappear.

The Methodist church was closed in 1925 and eventually demolished, however the cemetery remains and was given a facelift in recent years after decades of neglect.



PHOTO: BRIAN LOCKHART

FORGOTTEN TOWN: The Anglican church, Christ Church, is the most prominent reminder of Whitfield, a once thriving little village in Mulmur. The town reached its peak in the 1870's, then faded into history as people moved on. The land was reclaimed and turned into farmland.

The town school house is still standing but is now a private home.

The Anglican church, Christ Church, was built in 1874, and still stands on the corner at Centre Rd.

However, it is not active and currently windows and doors and boarded up and there is no access.

In 1970, all the tombstones were moved from the cemetery beside the church and placed side by side in an area behind the building where they remain today.

Whitfield as a town eventually faded into history, however, there are still descendants of the original settlers in the area.

Bottle drive underway as local group bids to bring splash pad to Shelburne

Written By PAULA BROWN

The Shelburne Splash Pad Committee is holding a bottle drive to help raise funds to bring a splash pad to the Shelburne community.

"We wanted to kick off with something fun," said Alexandra Georgie, co-chair of the committee. "We thought it was a really great idea to do a bottle drive with it being the summertime and more people are having their adult beverages."

The bid to bring a splash pad to town has been an ongoing project for the last few years by the Shelburne Rotary Club and is being organized by the Splash Pad Committee, headed by co-chairs Alexandra Georgie and Rotary member Sandra Gallagher.

"We've been looking for a project in the town that we can do and the splash pad has come up several times," said Gallagher. "So that's when we decided to work towards getting a splash pad going."

"There are a lot of surrounding communi-

ties that have a splash pad and for myself and the group it's just a fantastic activity to have available to children and families within our community," said Georgie.

In Oct. of 2019 the Splash Pad Committee met with Town Council to present the project. The initial presentation outlined a draft of the projected design, locations for the splash pad, costs for the project and fundraising. The committee met again with council in early 2020 where the location for the splash pad was decided to be Greenwood Park.

"The past year has really been about a lot of research, making sure we are organized

and making sure we have all of the facts that will lead us to the most success," said Georgie.

The committee presented a fundraising goal of \$300,000 based on researched costs and has raised \$75,000 through a private donor and through a Rotary Club donation says Gallagher.

After seeing the success of the bottle drive for other businesses and organizations in the community, the committee decided that a bottle drive would be the first method of fundraising.

"We thought it was an easy fundraiser to do and people seem to like doing bottle

drives, donating their bottles to a cause," said Gallagher. "We thought it was one of the easier projects to get started on at this point in time."

Georgie also noted the implications following COVID-19 into the committee's choice to use a bottle drive as the first method of fundraising.

"We don't want to stress anyone out in the community, including small business with going and asking them for funds right now."

The Splash Pad bottle drive will take place from Aug. 3 to Aug. 8 and bottle can be dropped off at Shelburne Family Chiropractic.

Shelburne man facing drug trafficking charges

Written By PAULA BROWN

A 26-year old Shelburne man and a 16-year old Melancthon teen are facing charges in relation to a drug trafficking investigation by Caledon OPP.

Executing a search warrant for a residence in Shelburne on July 16, officers seized what was suspected to be cocaine, a cutting agent, and drug trafficking paraphernalia. A pickup truck was also seized by officers.

The Caledon Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) led the investigation with the assistance of Dufferin CSCU, OPP Emergency Response Team (ERT) and Shelburne Police Service.

Cory Stoneham, 26, from Shelburne is charged with possession of a schedule 1 substance (cocaine) for the purpose of trafficking and the possession of proceeds of property by crime under \$5000.

A 16-year old Melancthon teen is charged with possession of a cocaine for the purpose of trafficking.

Both will appear in an Orangeville court room on Sept. 14.

If you have any information in relation to this investigation, please contact Caledon Detachment Community Street Crime at 905-584-2241 or toll-free at 1-888-310-1122.

You can also provide information anonymously by contacting Peel Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477) or online at www.peelcrimestoppers.ca.

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ACROSS

- 1. Slapping noise
- 6. Top
- 10. Tattered cloth
- 13. Educated
- 15. Batting order
- 17. Holiday night
- 18. Dry creek bed
- 19. Esoteric
- 20. Diaper fastener
- 21. Command to oxen
- 22. Zoo creature
- 24. Pledge an oath
- 26. Facial expression
- 28. Gradual
- 31. Pudding
- 34. Desire for food
- 35. Glorify
- 36. Fa's follower
- 38. "Yes ____" (Sammy Davis, Jr. autobiography)

- 39. Seat request
- 40. Treeless plain
- 42. Shoot the breeze
- 45. Scatter rug
- 46. Burden
- 49. Active word
- 51. Kind of feeling
- 53. Lass's counterpart
- 55. Type of chisel
- 57. Alpine ridge
- 59. Cartridge-box contents
- 61. Unit of energy
- 63. Busybody
- 64. Bugle call
- 67. Hen's mate
- 69. Demean
- 70. Entire range
- 71. Chalcedony
- 72. Notwithstanding
- 74. Sketch ____
- 77. Brief doze

- 78. Asian wild ass
 - 81. Grating
 - 84. Some sons: abbr.
 - 85. Plump
 - 86. Supply with oxygen
 - 87. "The Bard," e.g.
 - 88. Bamboo, e.g.
 - 89. High male voice
- DOWN**
- 1. Buck
 - 2. Whittle
 - 3. Fishing implement
 - 4. Back in time
 - 5. Old pronoun
 - 6. Tweety, for one
 - 7. Set up tents
 - 8. Mediterranean or Caspian
 - 9. Large wine cask
 - 10. Parrot
 - 11. Fly a plane

- 12. Category
- 14. Theme
- 15. Rural road
- 16. Former Spanish coin
- 23. Sad cry
- 25. Twist
- 26. Window part
- 27. Lodging place
- 29. Give a view
- 30. Ornamentation
- 31. Jazz or Magic
- 32. Along the middle
- 33. Spaghetti or linguine
- 34. Entirely
- 37. Dairy-case selection
- 41. Declare
- 43. Go-between
- 44. Mesa
- 47. Own up to
- 48. Wry
- 50. "Blue ____"
- 52. Sign of crying
- 54. Ship's crane
- 56. Neckline style
- 58. Sit a spell
- 60. Shooting star
- 62. Alum
- 64. Consider
- 65. Pass by
- 66. Alliance
- 68. Last Greek letter
- 69. Guitar's relative
- 70. Brace
- 73. Relay
- 74. Design
- 75. Singing voice
- 76. "The ____ Hunter"
- 79. Likewise not
- 80. Had a snack
- 82. Steep flax
- 83. Strong rage

SHELBURNE SPORTS

Junior golfers enjoying summer training at Shelburne Golf & Country Club

Written By PAULA BROWN

It is mid summer on the links at the Shelburne Golf & Country Club, and a line of junior golfers practice their swings on the driving range.

Golf pro, and Hall of Famer, Sam Young walks down the line encouraging the kids while offering advice on their swings.

For young golfers, learning the game under the tutelage of a professional golfer means they will learn the nuances of the game and are coached on the small things that will make a big difference when they are on the course.

The lessons they learn will stay with them for life.

For Chloe and Clark Kirkham, practice is almost as much as playing the course.

Eleven year Chloe has been golfing for two years and picked up the game from her parents.

"My dad loves to play and I wanted to play it myself," Chloe said. "I asked him to teach me and he brought us out here."

She said she learns a lot from the practice sessions.

"I like how they teach me new things and how to do it properly," Chloe said. "If I'm doing something wrong they teach me how to do it right."

Chloe is now at the level where she is entering tournaments.

At seven years old, Clark is now a veteran after first swinging a club when he was just three years old.

"I like that it's challenging and takes a lot of skill," Clark said of why he likes the sport. "I learn how to not scull the ball. Putting is a little harder than driving."



PHOTO: BRIAN LOCKHARD

BIG SWING: Junior golfer, Chloe Kirkham, shows good form during practice on the driving range at the Shelburne Golf & Country Club while her brother Clark waits his turn. The Junior program at the Club teaches young golfers all the proper techniques to be successful on the golf course.

Clark demonstrated how to get on one knee to read the green.

He has already played in two tournaments.

"I like coming out on the course for training because I can hit balls," he said.

The Junior golfer program at the Shelburne Club is busy and has produced some very good results with young golfers.

Toronto Argonauts linebacker all set to run training sessions in Orangeville

Written By BRIAN LOCKHART

The Orangeville Outlaws will get some much need training this summer despite the fact that the League has cancelled the season.

Toronto Argonaut linebacker, Nick Shorthill, has offered to run training sessions for the team at Westside Secondary School, the Outlaws' home field, beginning in early August.

The Outlaws had to cancel their indoor

spring training when the COVID-19 crisis caused most sporting venues and activities to come to a screeching halt in March.

Outlaws players have been idle since then other than individual training.

Shorthill was drafted by the Montreal Alouettes with the 13th pick in the 2015 CFL draft.

After playing 35 games with the team over two years he was traded to the Hamilton Tiger-Cats where he spend three seasons.

Shorthill signed with the Argonauts during

the 2020 free agency period.

Prior to his CFL career, he spent four years at McMaster University where he was a Vanier Cup Champion, CIS All-Star, an president's trophy winner as Most Outstanding Defensive Player.

Outlaws players in the Atom and Peeewe divisions will begin training on August 3.

Bantam and JV division players will get their chance starting on August 4.

These are strictly no contact training sessions and players will be on the field in

shorts and t-shirts rather than football gear. They will however be wearing cleats for grip on the grass.

Strict social distance protocols will be in place to ensure a safe environment for players and coaching staff.

Team coaches will also be on the field to work with the players.

All football league games were cancelled earlier this year when it became apparent that it would not be feasible to have a summer season.

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EMPLOYEE of the week

ASHTON MACDONALD
"I love everything about it," said lifeguard, Ashton MacDonald, of why she likes her job as a lifeguard at the CDRC pool. "I really like teaching the most."

As a lifeguard, Ashton is qualified to teach all levels of swimming.

She has been a lifeguard for three years.

"It's going to be different this year," Ashton said of restrictions at the pool due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "I think we can make it work and we can still teach kids how to swim."

location
CENTRE DUFFERIN RECREATION COMPLEX

position
LIFEGUARD

County votes to acknowledge local Indigenous history at meetings

Written By PAULA BROWN

Dufferin County councillors had a brief discussion on land acknowledgment last week, after a motion was brought forward to have one at the beginning of each county council meeting.

During the council meeting on July 9, Mono Deputy Mayor John Creelman put forward the motion to have a land acknowledgment at the beginning of each council meeting to recognize the Indigenous peoples that lived in Dufferin County, and as an element of reconciliation.

Mr. Creelman was questioned by Coun. Bob Currie about what the land acknowledgment would entail.

“What it entails is coming up with an appropriate wording that identifies the Indigenous population that was here long before you and I were, and acknowledging their stewardship of the land at that time,” Mr. Creelman said in response to the question, adding that it was important to recognize Indigenous peoples’ role in the history of the land and the future of it.

Both the Town of Shelburne and the Town of Orangeville read a land acknowledgement before council meetings. Orangeville Mayor Sandy Brown described Dufferin County as a nexus point for a number of Indigenous groups.

“The wording of our particular land acknowledgment was the result of some in-depth research and consultation of local elders,” said Coun. Brown.

Dufferin County Cultural Resource Circle is an Indigenous-led, not-for-profit organization that works in Dufferin and has been a resource in the curation of land acknowledgment within the county. They acknowledge the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe including the Ojibway, Potawatomi and Odawa of the Three Fires Confederacy.

“Dufferin was pretty well all bush whenever the settlers came in here, so I’d just like a little more clarification as to what you are going to acknowledge.”

Warden Darren White told Mr. Currie about the Indigenous communities that lived within his municipality of Melancthon, saying there was a very significant Indigenous population.

“Whether it was bush or not is a little bit beside the point I think,” said Warden White. “We’re just looking to acknowledge those who came before us, those who worked hard on the land, and those who were predecessors of us on the land.”

In the vote for the motion, Warden White said he saw none opposed and the motion was carried.

“It was all bush,” said the Amaranth mayor.

Dufferin Waste Services launches new ‘Sort It Out’ recycling campaign

Written By PAULA BROWN

Dufferin County Waste Services has launched a campaign, Let’s Sort it Out, to raise awareness on commonly misplaced items that are found in the blue box.

“Residents are one of the most important parts of a successful recycling system,” said Scott Burns, Director of Public Works for Dufferin County. “Everyone’s commitment to properly sorting materials into the blue box, green bin, and garbage helps our program to be environmentally conscious while also being cost effective and efficient.”

The campaign will start on Monday, July 27 and will highlight one item each week to provide education on how to sort it in waste bins, and why it is not accepted in Dufferin County’s blue box program. Last summer Dufferin Waste had another program where they distributed over 4,500 door hangers in residential areas to provide feedback and education on items found in resident’s blue boxes to help properly sort misplaced items.

“Misplaced materials like plastic bags and facial tissue in the blue box are ultimately sorted and removed as contamination at recycling facilities, then disposed of as garbage,” said Burns. “This comes at a price and can also impact commodity sale revenues that our program relies on to help offset costs.”

During the campaign last summer data was collected that showed that the top five misplaced items that were found in blue boxes included plastic bags, take-out containers, and coffee cups which fall under garbage; paper towel, napkins, tissues (green bin); and un-rinsed containers for recycling.

“The County’s online Waste Guide and the Dufferin Waste app can help to answer questions about where to put an item,” said

Residents are being asked to continue to direct any inquiries relating to stray animals to the Orangeville & District Animal Centre line at 519-942-3140, or by emailing orangevilleaco@ontariospca.ca.

Anyone looking to reclaim a lost pet will be able to contact the SPCA and arrange for a staff member to collect the pet and transfer it back to Orangeville. Residents will not be required to travel to the Stouffville facility, where lost animals will be temporarily housed.

Burns. “Acceptable materials can occasionally differ between municipalities, due to recycling facilities or availability of markets, and it’s important to know what goes where in Dufferin.”

The campaign will begin on July 27 and can be followed on Join in Dufferin and on Dufferin Waster social media accounts. For more information on the program you can visit www.dufferincounty.ca/waste.

“The Let’s Sort it Out campaign is aimed to help us all further refine our efforts at the curb. Every bit helps,” Burns said.

Orangeville & District SPCA facility closed for a month for urgent renovations

Written By MIKE BAKER

The Ontario SPCA Orangeville & District Animal Centre will be temporarily closed until August 24 as it undergoes a variety of renovations.

The building, located at 650 Riddell Road in Orangeville, is scheduled to receive necessary renovations to its HVAC system. All animals in the centre have been transferred to other SPCAs and humane societies in the area, where they will continue to be cared

for and offered up for adoption.

As the local SPCA also takes care of all animal-related services for the Town, temporary measures have been put in place to ensure services are uninterrupted during the facility’s closure.

All calls relating to stray animals, both during and after business hours, will be redirected to the Ontario SPCA Provincial Education & Animal Centre in Stouffville, who will then coordinate with Orangeville-based staff members to ensure a timely response.

Any injured or sick domestic animals picked up by SPCA staff will be taken directly to a veterinarian for assessment, and, if required, transported to Stouffville for further care. Injured or sick wildlife will be taken to a local vet, and then transferred to a wildlife rehabilitation centre. Requests to pick up dead animals will still be handled by local SPCA staff on a case-by-case basis.

For more information on the Orangeville & District Animal Centre, visit ontariospca.ca/Orangeville.

For more information on the Orangeville & District Animal Centre, visit ontariospca.ca/Orangeville.

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- The Persuasion by Iris Johansen
- Her last flight by Beatriz Williams
- Summer darlings by Brooke Lea Foster
- Lake life by David James Poissant
- The Mist by Ragnar Jonasson
- People of the canyons by Kathleen O’Neal Gear & Michael W. Gear
- If I were you by Lynn Austin
- On Ocean Boulevard by Mary Alice Monroe

Non-fiction:

- The Sirens of Mars by Sarah Stewart Johnson
- Heida by Steinunn Siguroardottir
- Countdown 1945 by Chris Wallace

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THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

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OBITUARIES

Mountford, Doris Isabel

Passed away peacefully at Dufferin Oaks on Monday, July 20, 2020 in her 101st year. Loving wife of the late Cecil. Cherished mother of Lewis (deceased 1992) (the late Joyce), Elaine (the late Don) Wallwin, and Marlene Cunningham. She will be lovingly remembered by Glenn Cunningham. Beloved grandmother of Brian (Angela), Maureen, Kim (Ryan), Karen (Nunzio), Tammy (Randy) and Daryl (Marissa). Great-grandmother of Danielle, Jackson, Ashley, Maegan, Kayla, Ileana, Cecilia and Alex. Predeceased by brothers Norman (the late Betty), Murray (Doris) and Kenneth (the late Norma) Wallace and her sister Jean (the late Norman) Galbraith.



Visitation was held at the Jack & Thompson Funeral Home on Thursday, July 23, 2020 from 1-2 p.m. The funeral service followed in the funeral home chapel at 2:00 p.m. Interment took place at Shelburne Cemetery. If desired, donations to Dufferin Oaks Auxiliary or the charity of your choice would be appreciated. Online condolences may be placed at www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com

Mary Stamena Peterson (Nakeff)

Passed away on July 17, 2020 at home surrounded by her loving family in her 86th year. Wife of the late Glen Peterson. Loving mother of Darlene (Bill), Diane (Bill), Debbie (Greg), Dale and Bruce (Sue). Grandmother of 12 and great-grandma of 12. Loving sister of the late George, Nick, Brian, Helen and survived by Bob. Remembered by extended family and friends. Special thank you to Dr. Dela Cruz, Heather, Stephanie and Amy from Bayshore Nursing. A private family service will be held. Donations to a charity of your choice would be appreciated. Online condolences may be placed at www.jackandthompsonfuneralhome.com



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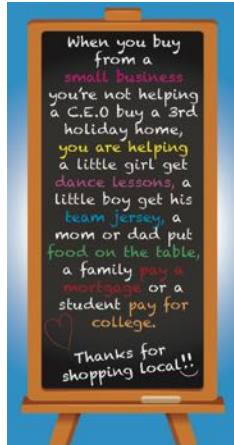
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Continued from Page 2

Each member of Shelburne Council takes time to explain their police vote

Mayor Mills contd.

They say that misery likes company and whether or not that's true it's important to note that we are not alone in this struggle. Small municipal police services around the province are facing similar issues and municipal councils are being left with a difficult decision of transitioning to the OPP or considering amalgamations or contracts for service with other larger neighbouring services. Unfortunately, we in the town of Shelburne no longer have any of those options available to us as there are no other municipal services in close proximity.

So in the final analysis it comes down to this for me. Municipal policing in the Town of Shelburne is just simply no longer financially sustainable and we are without any additional partnership options to consider. Therefore a transition to the OPP is inevitable either now or in the very near future. If we lack the courage to make the difficult and responsible decision that is require now than what we are doing is effectively delaying the inevitable and we are allowing the Shelburne Police Service an institution with over 100 years of proud service to suffer a slow and painful demise. I'm not prepared to allow that to happen. The institution itself deserves better than this and more importantly our officers deserve better than this.

To those who are still concerned to the level of service that we can expect for the OPP I would remind you of the survey results that we just saw tonight from our own Shelburne officers. In a number of critical service areas our own officers are telling us that we can expect to see no change or perhaps even a positive impact as a result of an eventual transition to the OPP. I know that many people are fearful of change but when it comes to this one I for myself am going to trust the judgement and options of our own officers instead of those providing emotional commentary on social media.

Finally in closing I do want to speak directly to the member of Shelburne police service. As your Mayor I will be forever grateful for the service that you have provided to our community. Your dedication to serving our community for decades is a true testament to the level of commitment that you have both individually and collectively. The Dufferin OPP detachment will be lucky to have you join their forces and I look forward to seeing you continue to serve our community all be it in different uniforms. My pledge to each of you is this, and that is to make sure that this professional transition for each of you is as smooth as possible. I know that you and your families have endured a stressful couple of years and I have no intentions of making that any more difficult. We've heard your concerns and we understand that you do not want this inevitable transition to be put off or prolonged any further. That is why I put forth the motion that I have tonight and I do hope that the rest of council will support it.

Deputy Mayor Steve Anderson

For those who are viewing live and for those who are going to be watching this video subsequently, I think it is important to make very clear that none of us anticipated being here tonight making this decision. When we made the decision to keep the Shel-

burne police quite some time ago, we made that decision after listening to community, looking at our finances and understanding the value that the Shelburne police bring to our community.

We've heard from the CAO on a number of occasions that Council was provided with new and unexpected costs, and I think that is very important to point out, that has made the keeping of Shelburne Police no longer financially feasible. At the end of the day we are elected to make decisions that are financially prudent for our community, and to protect and respect taxpayer's dollars. I think the decision we are making tonight will do just that.

Without question each and every one of us value the services SPS has brought to community, and I agree that it's time to rip of the band aid and do what we need to do today.

Coun. Walter Benotto

That's quite the speech, it's going to be hard to follow the mayor's speeches. On my part, I'm going to agree with a lot of what mayor said. I've been on Council quite a while. I can go back in history and remember as part of Council's commitment, at one point we did go to Orangeville and try to amalgamate with them. It was denied at that point by the Orangeville Council to move forward with amalgamation which is unfortunate because if we had done that back then, we would still be able to have a Shelburne police force now, and that's going back almost 20 years.

I agree with the mayor, we cannot continue the way we are right now. Some point down in the future, some council somewhere will decide to go to OPP seeing the cost to the taxpayers. The cost is becoming unbearable to the taxpayers, it's going to continue to rise at higher rate, now it's double possibly higher than that in future. Even with the current building proposal down the road, once again it's not going to meet the needs of any police and we're going to have to look at something else.

It's unrealistic. I've had long conversations with our Chief and he has told me in the past, this is going back almost two terms ago, that small police forces are something that is eventually going to be eliminated in the province. That's the way the province is going. They won't come out and do it straight out, they don't want to have small police forces, doing it through other means making it more difficult for smaller police to continue to operate.

I personally would love to keep the Shelburne Police Force. They are something I would have fought for tooth and nail but I've come to realization it's just not something that can continue, it's not something I can continue to fight for. It's unfortunate. I think they're fantastic, they always do a fantastic job. Myself like everyone else we're always scared of change, always scared of what the future will bring.

As the survey has said, we're going to see same faces in the town, the majority of them, and they're going to continue to serve us. Even after the three year time frame I'm pretty sure a lot of those officers, they're from small town, they've lived here, they grew up here and I don't believe they have huge intentions to move on and moving away. They're going to continue to serve. Even if they do

they will teach the new officers that come into town and help them to transition to be a part of the town. We've had officers change over the years, I've gone through three police Chiefs in my time, just in my term on council along with a lot of changes of officer's faces. When I started out to where I am now, I've seen changes in the officers. New officers come in, they become part of the community and this will continue with OPP.

So I'm prepared to go forward and that's why I've seconded the motion. While I hate losing Shelburne Police, I think and I agree with the mayor let's just do what they said. Rip the band aid off and let them go out with dignity as a proud force. I'd like to thank each individual officer at the police force for all service they have had for us.

Coun. Lynda Buffet

The decision tonight that I came to was a very difficult one, because I was hoping tonight that I would hear from other members of Council that they wanted to support continuation with the police service. I realize after listening to some of the comments from the current police force that they would be happier moving on and transitioning to OPP. Which to me was very disappointing to hear.

I did want to point out some of the other financial aspects of this change, just to bring to everyone's attention it is not just a straightforward, black and white issue. Basically, when we look at the comparison for costing for OPP and the costing for Shelburne Police, we start off with being in a deficit of \$5.4 million, and it takes us five years to break even. Then at that point, we're look at costing that's been provided to us, that can't be guaranteed on the actual costing to have OPP provide that service. My concern is that the fact that, right now, having gone through COVID-19 pandemic, the provincial government, like every other government, is going to have significant debt. Can they guarantee these costings that we have put in place in front of us right now can be that? They couldn't guarantee it last year, they can't guarantee it this year and certainly that's going to have an impact on us

As far as the costing Carey put together on Friday, it pointed to fact that costing would be about \$1,067 per household on average, which works out to \$15.44 per month to keep the Shelburne Police. Adding to that, is also worthwhile thinking about the fact that we've more tax revenue coming in from growth we have commercially, industrially and residentially, so that will help to offset that.

Having said all of that, and looking at all those figures, it appears to me that it doesn't matter what we look at, the decision has already been made to transition to OPP. I still would like to support the Shelburne Police, but I will go along with whatever the majority of Council decides.

Coun. Kyle Fegan

None of us at this table were expecting to be here so soon after the last decision was made. The decision for Orangeville certainly did launched us into this position and it is an unfortunate one. We all fought very hard last time to keep our police service, and it's still a position that if it was financially feasible, I certainly would fight tooth or nail for as well.

It's been mentioned before and worth noting again, it's been said we don't have a policing issue. We never have in my experience within Shelburne, and I don't foresee that being an issue going forward either.

It is with a heavy heart unfortunately that looking at all details, all the facts, looking at every possible avenue, I just don't see a financially responsible way that this force will be sustainable going forward even in the near future.

As we saw from the survey, it would be very unfair of us and would be a very big disservice to the men and women in uniform who have served us so well for, for so long to delay this any further and drag them through the mud any more. They're tired of the yoyo syndrome, and it's not fair to keep doing this to them. That's we're my position is with a heavy hear unfortunately but that's why I'm going to have to support this.

Coun. Shane Hall

I'm also very disappointed that we're even here tonight. Last year I truly felt we had this issue dealt with as at that point it was an accommodation issue. At that point we further burdened our residents with this.

Tonight is no longer about dealing with an accommodation issue, it's really about dealing with the fallout from undisclosed documents as well as agreements and those related impacts. Obviously from the Chiefs own concerns, we have to take action. And that action obviously leads us to where we are tonight.

I do have however struggle with the lack of transparency when it was needed most, and that of course was when we started this process and final made our initial decisions back last summer. Based on the facts laid before me tonight, I can financially no longer support the burden that it places upon our residents and as such I will be supporting the move to the OPP.

Coun. Lindsey Wegener

I'd like to begin by thanking town staff for once again devoting time to provide us with information, as that's not an easy task and the OPP for also providing a presentation again.

This decision has not been a welcomed or easy one for myself or any of us. We have once again found ourselves in the position of deciding the future of Shelburne's policing service. With the recent decision of Orangeville's policing direction, and new information regarding the operation of SPS and the significant costs involved in meeting those important requirements for optimal and proper operation, I must consider the financial impact on the town.

As we have stated, this is not a result of lack of service from the SPS. The officers on our force have continued to deliver exceptional service and I thank them greatly for that.

As once again I have devoted countless hours to this decision, the weight of taking into account approximately 10,000 peoples safety and financial capabilities is heavy on my soul. Why is this? Because I live here too, and my decision affects us all. I believe our officers deserve better than the rollercoaster of uncertainty they have been given.

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